

## Middlebrook PTA Weekly Messenger – October 23, 2016

### MIDDLEBROOK QUICK CALENDAR

Mon	October	24	WHS/ 8th Grade Chorus Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Clune Center
			<b>Red Ribbon Week Kicks Off</b>
Wed	October	26	Red Ribbon Week Assemblies 9-10 am 7G and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade; 10:20-11:20 am 7R, 7Y & 6 <sup>th</sup> grade
			WHS/ 8th Grade Chorus Concert 7:30 p.m. Clune Center
Thurs	October	27	BOE Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Fri	October	28	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Night 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Mon	October	31	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Trip- Cider Mill Halloween parade 8:20 - 9:00 am
			8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Trip- Cider Mill Halloween parade 9:10 - 10:00 am

### MIDDLEBROOK 6 DAY CYCLE

Mon	October	24	Day 1
Tues	October	25	Day 2
Wed	October	26	Day 3
Thurs	October	27	Day 4
Fri	October	28	Day 5

## PTA NEWS

### Annual Appeal Update from Laura Rowley

Thank you to everyone who has donated thus far, whether through PayPal, by check, or by getting some shopping done during our catalog sale! As of Friday, we had raised \$11,800, with only 29% of families contributing – remember, 100% of students benefit!

Our school community is fortunate to have so many wonderful volunteers who give their time and talents to make our PTA run, but we can't provide all the enrichment we would like to without financial support as well. Please show your support for our Middlebrook PTA by donating to the Annual Appeal. The suggested **tax-deductible** donation amount is \$40 per student and is a great value for the many student programs and events our PTA supports.

Please consider making a donation today – we appreciate all of your support! Middlebrook PTA is a 501(c)(3) organization making your donation **tax-deductible**. To make it easier than ever, you can find our [PayPal link HERE!](#)

### **NEW!!! Join the PTA Online & Get Immediate Directory Access!**

Your membership and donation dollars support a variety of programs at Middlebrook that enrich the student experience. Student Assemblies, Outdoor Classroom, Media Center Supplies,

Activity Nights, Science & Engineering Fair, Social Opportunities, Weekly Messenger, Photo Day, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Events, and Soaring Ahead are just a few of the programs our PTA supports. When you join the PTA, you gain instant access to our **new online directory**. Visit <https://wilton.mobilearg.com>, choose parent or teacher registration, enter your email, name and the code "wilton" to join, pay your membership dues and make a supporting donation! Please add [support@mobilearg.com](mailto:support@mobilearg.com) to your address book to ensure delivery of the confirmation email with temporary auto-login link.

### **BOX TOPS FIRST DEADLINE APPROACHING!**

Hello, parents! Our goal for Box Tops is \$1,000 this year. The only way we can reach this goal is with your help. ***If every student brings in just 10 Box Tops, we will reach our goal.*** It's that easy! Our school receives two checks from the Box Tops for Education™ program each school year. If you turn in your Box Tops before **OCTOBER 28th**, you help boost the amount of the first check we receive in December. Hurry, clip your Box Tops, and turn them in before October 28th. Box Tops do expire so there is no need to hold on to them. You can learn more about this program at [BTFE.com](http://BTFE.com).

### **7th Grade Fun Night is On!**

**What:** 7th Grade Activity Night - DJ, dancing, sports, games, snacks and FUN

**When:** Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm – 9:00pm

**Where:** Middlebrook School (event will take place in the cafeteria and one gym)

**RSVP:** None needed – just show up

**Student Cost:** \$5 entrance fee

**NEW:** This year, we're asking for students to bring a non-perishable food item, paper goods or toiletries to benefit the Wilton Food Pantry!

***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE FUN NIGHT!!*** Please email PTA Volunteers Leigh Heffernan ([llarson351@aol.com](mailto:llarson351@aol.com)) or Johnna Reuter ([jreuter1@optonline.net](mailto:jreuter1@optonline.net)) or sign up through sign up genius at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4faaa82aa4ff2-7thgrade> if you are available to help in what is sure to be a fantastic night for our 7th graders.

### **Middlebrook Band Field Trips**

**Monday, October 31,** 7th grade band field trip to Cider Mill Halloween Parade: 8:20 - 9:00 am

**Monday, October 31,** 8th grade band field trip to Cider Mill Halloween Parade, 9:10 - 10:00 am

**Monday, January 9,** 8th grade band field trip to WHS, 1:00 pm-2:50 pm

Questions? Contact Jennifer Ginsberg with the Middlebrook Band

### **Cafeteria News**

This Thursday, Kaimana Chee is coming in as a guest chef - he's had several television appearances, most recently on Alton Brown's Cuthroat Kitchen! Also, due to popular demand, prices are up! Items are priced inside the lunch lines and menus with pricing are posted both inside and outside the lunch lines. They are also available on the school website.

### **Nurse's Office Message**

**Parent reminder:** If your student is injured or sick and will be missing gym for more than one day, please provide a doctor's note.

### **Are you on Facebook? Join our Middlebrook Community Page!**

It's a great way to stay up to date and share information across our school community. Just search for the group "Middlebrook School Parent Community" and ask to join. This page is for parents of current students at Middlebrook.

### **Reflections Arts & Literature Competition Needs a Co-Chair**

Reflections is a wonderful opportunity that allows students to express their creative side, incorporating diverse disciplines such as visual arts, film production, literature, music composition, photography and dance choreography. One wonderful volunteer has committed. Now we need a second to make this program the best it can be! Please contact Kim Yang at [yi\\_yang\\_us@yahoo.com](mailto:yi_yang_us@yahoo.com) to learn how you can help. Thank you!

### **Project Adventure**

Become involved in one of the few opportunities to work directly with your Middlebrook child – become a volunteer for Project Adventure! What is Project Adventure? The Middlebrook PE Department offers the chance for our middle schoolers to climb, swing and belay on an outside ropes course in Fall and Spring and inside the gyms during Winter. Adult volunteers are needed to assist with belaying. As a volunteer, you sign up for as much or as little time as you would like to give to the classes. To become involved, volunteers must take a belay training course. For further information, contact Salys Magnusson [salysmagnusson@yahoo.com](mailto:salysmagnusson@yahoo.com)

### **Media Center Volunteering**

The media staff would greatly appreciate your help in the school Media Center to assist them with a variety of responsibilities and projects. Shifts are extremely flexible. Pick the time and day that works best for you! Can be weekly/ biweekly/monthly or just periodically throughout the year! If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Claire Carbonier at [carbos@optonline.net](mailto:carbos@optonline.net)

### **COMMUNITY NEWS:**

**Wilton Youth Council - Find us on FB or visit [www.wiltonyouth.org](http://www.wiltonyouth.org)**

**WYC's Y2Y at MB celebrates Red Ribbon Week: October 24-28 "Say it Loud, Live it Louder!"**

**Red Ribbon Week** is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country. Students can sign the pledge wall during lunch waves. Sweatpants, shirts and t-shirts available for purchase starting Tuesday.

**Monday 24th** –RED ACCESSORIES DAY (red hat, necklace, bracelet, bow, tie, sunglasses, etc.)

**Tuesday 25th** –RED SOCKS and SHOES

**Wednesday 26th** –RED SHIRT DAY

\*Morning assembly with speaker JAVIER SANCHEZ – There will be an after-school team building activity with Javier. All students are welcome to join!

**Thursday 27th –RED PAJAMA DAY**

**Friday 28th –RED TO TOE - Wear as much RED as possible! Prizes awarded at lunch to students with the most Red Ribbon Week Spirit!**

**The Cyber Child: Effects of Social Media - Neurological, Social, and Educational Implications**

Tuesday, November 1, 2016 10:00-11:30 AM @ Wilton Library *registration recommended* ([www.wiltonlibrary.org](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org) or 203-762-6334) **and** 7:00-8:30 PM @ Weston Senior Center (inside Hurlbutt Elementary School), 9 School Road, Weston. Chris Parrott leads this presentation on what is the true impact of social media on our children? What are the benefits and pitfalls—neurologically, socially and educationally—to cyber exposure? What are the best strategies for parents to support the overall well-being of their children in today’s social-media-centric world? This workshop answers these questions, leveraging the most current research on the effects of social media on children’s brains and behaviors. Participants explore the cyber social reality that pervades children’s lives and shapes their still-forming identities and social interactions. They will be asked to critically evaluate how their own interactions with children, consciously and unconsciously, are affected by social media and technology. This presentation is appropriate for parents with children of all ages.

**NAMI Support Group for Parents**

Has the back to school honeymoon worn off? Academic and social demands can overwhelm kids this time of year and cause behavioral changes. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) is a Support Group for parents of children with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues. The meeting is free, confidential, safe and led by trained volunteer facilitators who themselves have had personal experiences raising children with these concerns. Our meetings are a place to speak freely and be understood without embarrassment or fear of being judged or treated differently. Parents come from Redding, Weston, Westport, Wilton and towns in the area. Our next meeting is Monday October 24 from 10-11:30am, G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. Information: Beth at 203-984-0123 or [beth44es@gmail.com](mailto:beth44es@gmail.com) or Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or [eliasvanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:eliasvanessa5@gmail.com)

**Trackside**

Trackside is ready to help your Middlebrook student make the most of the new school year with a variety of activities and events at the Teen Center, including free clubs such as Crafts for Shelter Pets, Gamer Club, and Broadway Club. As always, Trackside is open weekdays during the school year from 3 to 6pm and 3 to 7pm on Fridays for drop-in hours. Special events on Friday nights for include dances, parties, video game tournaments, and movie nights. For more information, visit [www.trackside.org](http://www.trackside.org) or follow us on facebook.com/trackside.

**Trackside Donation Drive!**

The Crafts for Shelter Pets Club at Trackside is holding a donation drive for materials to make no-sew pet beds for local animal shelters. Please drop off any unused fleece fabric/material, gently used fleece blankets and/or cotton pillow stuffing to Trackside at 15 Station Rd.

**Board of Education**

Visit the [BOE website](#) for lots of information. Meetings are available for viewing online by [clicking here](#) and on cable channel 78.

### **Middlebrook Weekly Messenger Newsletter Submissions**

This weekly newsletter is reserved for news about information and events related to Middlebrook students. If you would like to submit a school-related announcement for this newsletter, please contact Middlebrook Messenger at [middlebrookmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:middlebrookmessenger@gmail.com) by Wednesdays at noon to be included in the next Sunday edition.