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Dear JAC -

JAC has been busy this week with talk about snow and a snow day, the upcoming solar eclipse, and springtime adventures.

Please [click](#) here for revised Grade 4 & Grade 3 ELA MCAS Schedule due to the snow day on Thursday.

### **Absence Reporting & Dismissal Changes**

- If you are reporting an absence, tardy, or dismissal please contact the Front Office.
  - Call 978-392-4483 (you may press 1 to report an absence)
  - Email [adulong@westfordk12.us](mailto:adulong@westfordk12.us)
- Notifying your child's teacher of an absence is a great, optional step. However, we can't guarantee a teacher will check their email during the day so please notify the Front Office directly.

Enjoy the weekend,  
Ms. Kennelly and Mrs. Hutchinson



**We would like to recognize students who are working to follow S.P.I.R.I.T. each day. One of the highlights of the day is making positive phone calls home!**

- A 5h grade student encouraged a friend to try something new and different in gym class. She is an amazing kid. Keep up the good work!
- A 4th grade student was feeling very sad and had a sad thought stuck in their head. Another student went and found something that would make the student smile and try to forget. So proud of you!
- A 5th grader was very helpful in creating step-by-step instructions for a teacher/student who were new to that specific task.



Date	Event
April 9th	Student Council Meeting - 7:30 AM SAC Meeting - 4:00 PM
<b>April 10th</b>	<b>No School - Eid al-Fitr</b>
April 11th	Literacy Information Night - Click here to view the <a href="#">flyers</a>
April 12th	Spirit Day - Inside Out Day - Wear your clothes inside out
<b>April 15th - 19th</b>	<b>No School - April Break</b>
April 24th	Garden Club - 3:45 Pickup
April 27th	Town Meeting - Trustees Field at Westford Academy
May 2nd	PTO Meeting - 7:30 AM
<b>May 7th</b>	<b>No School - Town Election / Professional Development</b>
May 9th	WPS Art Show - 5:00 PM at Westford Academy
May 14th	SAC Meeting - 4:00 PM
<b>May 16th</b>	<b>Early Release - Professional Development</b>
May 21st	Student Council Meeting - 7:30 AM
May 22nd	Garden Club - 3:45 PM Pickup
May 23rd	Spirit Day - Red, White & Blue Day Gr. 5 Presents The Wizard of Oz - 5:15 PM & 7:00 PM
<b>May 27th</b>	<b>No School - Memorial Day</b>
May 30th & 31st	Grade 5 Adventure Days (Rain Date 6/3)
May 30th	Gr. 4 & 5 Strings & Orchestra Concert - 6:30 PM
June 6th	JAC Field Day (Rain Date 6/7)
June 12th	Spirit Day - Beach Day
June 14th	Elementary Marking Period Ends Gr. 5 End of Year Celebration - 1:00 PM
<b>June 18th</b>	<b>Early Release - Last Day of School</b>



### **5th Grade Adventure Days - May 30th & 31st**

Westford Public Schools is putting together two 5th Grade Adventure Days at East Boston Camps. These days are for all Grade 5 students to come together as a group for two days filled with fun activities such as t-shirt tie-dye, sports, water activities, interactive scavenger hunt, team building activities, etc.

**DATE:** May 30 & 31, 2024 / **RAIN DATE:** June 3, 2024

**ENROLLMENT DEADLINE:** Friday, April 12th

Please complete the [5th Grade Adventure Days Form](#) to enroll your child in this fun day.

### **5th Grade Adventure Days 2024 Volunteer Information**

In order to make 5th Grade Adventure Days a success we need PARENT VOLUNTEERS! Please see our volunteer sign-up: <https://tinyurl.com/volunteergrade5advdays>

There are multiple slots available and are split into half days. You can sign up for as many slots as you are available for. In order to volunteer at 5th Grade Adventure Day you **MUST** be **CORI'D** and **FINGERPRINTED**. Please contact [wpsadventures@westfordk12.us](mailto:wpsadventures@westfordk12.us) with any questions.

### **Updated Guidelines from the MA Dept of Public Health**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has updated its guidelines for Covid-19 and other respiratory viruses. Please review the updates [here](#).

Some important points to remember:

- If your child is not feeling well, please keep them home.
- If your child develops a fever, they should not return to school until they have been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol, Advil, etc.
- If your child has tested positive for Covid-19 or another respiratory virus, and is not symptomatic, it is recommended that they stay home for 72 hours to help reduce the chance of spreading the virus to others.

### **Total Solar Eclipse Education And Fun!**

- Here is a [NASA video explaining a Solar Eclipse](#)
- Although the solar eclipse on April 8, 2024 will not be total in Westford, it will be close with a magnitude of 94% totality!
- Families may wish to use [this simulator](#) to see what the eclipse will look like in Westford, Massachusetts or to see the eclipse simulated in other cities!
- **All Westford students will be given a certified pair of eclipse glasses to take home and use during the eclipse.** It is imperative that no one look directly at the sun (without certified protection) during any part of the eclipse in Westford, as looking at the sun can cause permanent eye damage. Use this link for [How to Use Solar Eclipse Glasses](#) safely.

Happy Solar Eclipse everyone! Let's keep our fingers crossed for a clear-sky day on April 8th!

Jennifer Cataldo (she/her/hers)  
STEM Curriculum Coordinator Grades 3-5



## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Relay for Life at Westford Academy** - On Saturday, June 1st from 4-11pm Westford Academy is hosting a Relay for Life event. We'd love it if you, your family, and friends would join our event. You can start a team [here](#) or look for one to join. You DO NOT have to stay for the whole event.

Additionally, Relay for Life would like to recognize our survivors and caregivers. If you'd like to attend and walk a lap as a survivor, caregiver, or both please fill out this [link](#).

If you have any questions about the event please reach out to Amanda Everett at [aeverett@westfordk12.us](mailto:aeverett@westfordk12.us)

### **Westford Curbside Recycling**

Do you need help determining what can and can't go into your curbside recycling bin? Check out <https://recyclesmartma.org/>. This website provides many resources and answers many questions. It is managed by Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and applies to most communities in MA. This is where the Westford Recycling Commission goes for answers! The guides are provided in several languages as well:

Smart Recycling Guide Your go-to reference for recycling in Massachusetts

Guía de Reciclaje Su referencia para el reciclaje en Massachusetts

Guia de Reciclagem Sua referência para reciclagem em Massachusetts

Smart Recycling Guide Mandarin Chinese 明智的回收指南

Smart Recycling Guide Hindi स्मार्ट रीसाइक्लिंग गाइड

More languages are available [HERE](#).

**WPS Billboard** - Click [Here](#)

**Supportive Parent Solutions:** Parents, guardians and caregivers join us to learn about possible resources and skills and receive support from others if needed. See this [flier](#) for more information. Two sessions run the second Tuesday of each month: 10:30 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. at St. Catherine's Parish Center - Mezzanine Room - 107 N. Main Street. For more info email [nlaviolette@westfordma.gov](mailto:nlaviolette@westfordma.gov) or call 978-399-2503.

## **FROM PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS**

**TriTown ELPAC Meeting** - May 22nd at McCarthy Middle School in Chelmsford from 6:00 - 7:30 PM. Click [Here](#) for Details

**JAC MCAS Schedule** - please click [here](#) to view the revised April schedule.