



ព័រទុយហ្គាល់

Greetings from JAC-

It was an exciting week at JAC. We announced our student representatives for Student Council and Garden Club. We are looking forward to great things happening within and outside of our school. Many thanks to the PTO for providing our fourth graders with the Soundwave Enrichment Program from the Discovery Museum. It was a creative, hands-on program that involved making lots of noise.

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 student was flexible during morning meetings (several times) to make everyone feel welcomed. Great work showing respect and inclusion!
- A student showed great inclusion during band today by calmly and respectfully helping a student with their instrument. We are so proud of you!
- A student cleaned up after a classmate even though the mess wasn't his. Way to go!



| Date                   | Event  |
|------------------------|--|
| October 17, 2023       | Picture Day ( <i>Retake Day - December 5th</i> )<br>WEPTO Meeting - 7:00 PM Abbot School Library           |
| October 26, 2023       | <b>Early Release</b> - Professional Development ( <i>11:40 Dismissal</i> )                                 |
| October 31, 2023       | <b>Fall Color and Fun Hat Spirit Day</b> - Wear Orange, Red, Yellow, Purple, Black and a favorite fun hat. |
| November 1, 2023       | Harvest Hustle   |
| November 2, 2023       | PTO Meeting - 7:30 AM  |
| November 10, 2023      | <b>No School</b> - Veterans Day  |
| November 14, 2023      | SAC Meeting - 4:00 PM  |
| November 22, 2023      | <b>Early Release (11:40 AM)</b> - Thanksgiving Break Begins  |
| November 23 - 24, 2023 | <b>No School</b> - Thanksgiving Break  |



### [Online Updates - JAC and WPS Bulletin Board](#)

**JAC PTO Harvest Hustle** - Our annual fun event will take place on November 1st (**Rain Date: November 8th**) during the school day. [Click here](#) for more details.

**[Volunteer for the Harvest Hustle!](#)** We have a limited number of volunteer opportunities available due to the parking. **You must have a valid 23-24 CORI on file with a Westford Public School to volunteer!**

If you are interested, please click [here](#). As always, thank you for supporting our PTO and students!

**[Nurse's Website:](#)** Please check out the Westford Public Schools Health Services website at <https://westfordpshealthservices.weebly.com/>. There are many valuable resources that can be found such as: life threatening allergies, vaccination exemptions, and head lice policies, along with medication forms. Please contact your school nurse for any health concerns or questions

**[News from the SEPAC](#)** - Executive Function Virtual Workshop - October 17th @7pm

Executive functioning skills are a set of mental processes that we use to learn, work and manage our daily lives. Find out more about executive functioning by attending the Westford SEPAC's free virtual event with presenter Kristen Jacobsen, a trained speech-language pathologist and executive function coach and Co-Director at the [Cognitive Connections Executive Function Practice](#).

Kristen provides training and coaching for teachers and professionals nationally. In this practical strategies seminar, parents and professionals will develop a solid understanding of what the executive function skills are and how they impact a student's academic and personal performance. All are welcome to attend this free workshop.

This event is offered in partnership by the Westford SEPAC and Office of Special Education and Social Emotional Learning. Please register to attend this event [HERE](#)

### [From Previous Newsletters](#)



**[Nurse Screenings:](#)** Please [click here](#) for information regarding upcoming screening with Mrs. Fox.

**[CORI's and Fingerprinting](#)** - *The deadline to complete a CORI application for this school year is Friday, December 1, 2023. Applications will not be accepted after this date.*

Field trip chaperones will be required to complete the fingerprint obligation in addition to the annual CORI background check. Please refer to the following link for more information regarding fingerprinting - [Fingerprinting Information](#). *\*CORI and fingerprint approvals for all field trips outside of the school building including trips within Westford.*

Classroom volunteers will not be required to submit fingerprint based background checks but will still



be required to complete an annual CORI background check. If you are interested in volunteering at any point this year (field day, field trips, etc) please be sure to complete a new CORI application for this school year. (Applications done during the 22-23 school year are no longer valid.) CORI applications can be completed at any of our school offices.

### **National Alliance On Mental Illness (NAMI) - Ending The Silence Presentation**

Learn about the warning signs of mental health conditions and what steps to take if you or a loved one are showing symptoms of a mental health condition. This presentation is designed for parents/guardians and family members of K-12 students. Presentations include two leaders: one who shares an informative presentation and a young adult with a mental health condition who shares their journey of recovery. Audience members can ask questions and gain an understanding of an often-misunderstood topic. Through dialogue, we can help grow the movement to end stigma.

- **Date:** Tuesday, November 14, 2023
- **Time:** 7:00 PM-8:15 PM
- **Location:** J.V. Fletcher Library 50 Main Street, Westford MA, Main Meeting Room
- **Register:** Email Brittany Nash, [bnash@westfordma.gov](mailto:bnash@westfordma.gov)

Brittany Nash, B.S, CYT200, SEL\*F  
Regional Community Health and Wellness Coordinator  
Westford Health Department  
North West Public Health Coalition  
[bnash@westfordma.gov](mailto:bnash@westfordma.gov)  
O: 978-399-2564  
C: 978-799-4057



**From the PTO** - Doing some last minute back to school shopping? Why not add the teacher supply closet to your list! The PTO stocks supplies for the teachers to use throughout the school year. Any support is welcome! Check out our Amazon list or purchase items on your own and drop them off at the front or send them in with your child.

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/10EVFKLRO2XW6?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/10EVFKLRO2XW6?ref=wl_share)



**WEPTO Meeting** - Our first WEPTO meeting of the year is going to be on *Tuesday October 17th at 7pm at Abbot Elementary School 25 Depot Street* in the library.

**What is WEPTO?** Each of the K-8 schools have their school based PTO's but WEPTO is the umbrella that they all fall under (EIN, Bond, Accounting) so while you have monthly meetings at your own school we also hold 3 WEPTO meetings per school year (Fall, Winter, Spring). These meetings are generally attended by the principals along with a PTO representative(s) and serve to give any pertinent updates (accounting based typically) along with a time to share information and ideas with one another. Meetings typically begin at 7pm and we usually keep them to 1 hour.

We typically pick the first date this time of year and then announce the mid year (Jan/Feb) and end of year (May/June) dates at the end of the first meeting. Last year we met in person at Abbot in the Fall and Spring and did a virtual meeting in the winter.