

Wales Window

Website: www.tantasqua.org/wales

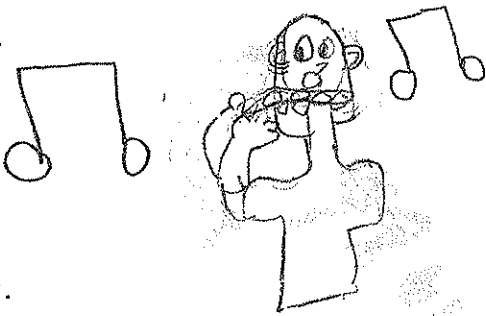
Next School Committee Meeting: February 11th – 6 pm
School Committee Voicemail: 245-7571 ext. 132

February 2015

COMING EVENTS

Winter Concert: February 3

Illustration by: Hailey /Gr. 4



Join us for an enjoyable afternoon of music including our vocal and instrumental students on Tuesday, February 3rd at 2:00pm.
(Snow Date – February 10th at 2:00pm.)

UNION 61 INTEGRATED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM AND APPLICATION 2015-2016

School Union 61 is pleased to offer a language based preschool program for children age 3 and 4. Together a teacher and teaching assistant(s) will stress language, motor, and social development to a class of 15 preschool children. The program offers either M-W-F or T-Th half-day sessions.

In order to be eligible for preschool, your child must be three (3) years old by August 31st and be independently toilet trained.

All transportation is provided by parents. All children will be screened as a part of the application process. Screening dates and times will be assigned and notification of your child's screening will be mailed directly to you.

Children currently enrolled, four year olds and then siblings will be given priority. Should more children seek enrollment than available spaces participants will be selected by age from oldest to youngest.

If interested in applying to our preschool program please complete the application (see last page of Wales Window) and return by April 17, 2015.

All students, regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness, have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any occupational/vocational education programs offered by the district.

RECESS:

Please remember that the students **do go outside** for recess if the temperature (including wind chill) is 20° F or above. Please dress them according to the weather to keep them warm and dry. *Children should have boots for outside and shoes/sneakers for inside.* Also, please consider sending an extra change of clothes and socks on wet days.

We feel strongly that all children need to go out for recess. If children are well enough to attend school, they are well enough to play outside. Children will be kept indoors for recess for valid medical reasons and with a doctor's note.

CONNECT-ED:

To listen to the last messages you received, simply call 1-877-REPLAY-1 or 1-877-737-5291 from the phone that you were originally called on. You must call from the same phone that the system called you on to replay the message.

Health Office News:

Knowing Your Child's Medical History

When providing emergency care, doctors, nurses, and emergency personnel like paramedics will have many questions about a patient's medical history. And even the most organized parent might not be able to remember the details of a child's health history in a stressful situation.

That's why it's important to keep a comprehensive record of your kids' health information nearby. In many cases, this information can help a medical professional make quicker

diagnoses and decisions during an emergency, when each second counts.

Some hospitals have computerized medical records that keep all medical information about a patient in one place. So when you get to the hospital, everything about your child's history will be available. But it's still a good idea to update your family's records because something like a medication may have changed since the last visit.

Keeping Track of Medical Information

Refer to the categories below to create a complete health record for your kids; if applicable, also use the hospital's computerized record.

Keep one copy of the record in an accessible place at home (such as on the refrigerator) or by the phone, one in each car, one at each parent's workplace, and one in each parent's bag or wallet. Also send a copy to your kids' schools or childcare, and give one to any regular caregivers, along with the name and number of your doctor.

Allergies

Record on your list any known allergies your child has to medications, both prescription and nonprescription, and any known allergic reactions to insect stings and bites and food allergies. In addition, some kids may have latex allergies. In many cases, allergy information helps medical personnel discover a cause for problems like swelling or difficulty breathing.

Medications

Certain medications can't be taken together, so paramedics need to know **all** medications (prescription and

nonprescription) your kids take before they can administer certain drugs.

A child's symptoms also could be due to side effects of medications, which is another reason it's important to report everything being taken. In addition, you need to know the doses, the dosing schedules, and when and how much of the medications were recently taken.

Pre-existing Illnesses or Conditions

Pre-existing illnesses or conditions can have a great impact on the kinds of tests or treatments administered during an emergency. If your child has any health problem — from diabetes to epilepsy to asthma — emergency medical personnel must know. For additional protection, kids with chronic conditions (long term) should wear an identifying bracelet with this important information on it. This kind of immediate notification can help doctors save a child's life.

For a child with special needs, you and your doctor can fill out a form created by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). The Emergency Information Form (EIF) for Children With Special Needs can be found at either aap.org or acep.org and can be updated as needed.

As with any other health record you create, keep the form in an easily accessed place at home.

Hospitalizations and Operations

List the dates your child has been hospitalized, the reasons for hospitalization, treatments received, and the types of operations performed. This information may help during and following an emergency situation.

Immunizations

Keeping an updated record of all your kids' immunizations is important. If you need help remembering or compiling this, the staff at your doctor's office can assist you. Be sure to include information about any reactions to an immunization, such as seizures, high fever, or severe discomfort.

Height and Weight

When calculating medication doses, it's very helpful for doctors to know a child's approximate height and weight. (Be sure to keep this updated, since kids can grow quickly.)

It's relatively easy to compile your child's medical history, and it could mean saving critical minutes — when they count most!

Reviewed by: Steven Dowshen, MD
Date reviewed: September 2013

Box Tops for Education:

Don't forget to send in your General Mills boxtops.

Just a friendly reminder we do not collect soup labels. Thank you.

PTF NEWS:

Wales Elementary School Night at the Springfield Falcons is Saturday, February 28th. All tickets are \$13. Information has been sent home regarding ticket orders. All ticket orders must be in by February 11th and tickets will be sent home in the Wednesday envelopes on Wednesday, February 25th.

Wales PTF will once again be teaming up with Original Works to offer you many different items that will feature your child's artwork. Look for art work and order forms to come home in March. Items will again be ready for Mother's Day and it's a great way to purchase special gifts for the rest of the year too. We do have sample items from this company. Stop by school if you would like to check them out.

Please remember that Boxtops are collected throughout the school year. We have recently received a check from Boxtops for Education for \$653.54. Thank you for your support and for saving Boxtops. The Stop and Shop Supermarkets A+ Bonus also continues. If you have a Stop and Shop card, please register it so we get credit for your purchases. All of these fundraisers require no selling and minimal work yet greatly benefit our school. We appreciate your support of these programs.

From the Cafeteria:

- If you have had a change of income and feel you may qualify for free or reduced lunch, please contact the school for an application.
- ***Please note:*** charges are ***not*** allowed! Feel free to pay in advance if it is more convenient.
- Absences are recorded and credited. If you have any questions, call Nancy Gilley at 413-245-7748.
- When paying weekly using our envelope system, please fully complete the front of the envelope. Make sure to include your child's name, dollar amount, etc. ***This will ensure proper credit to your child's account.***
- ***JOIN OUR BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM!!!*** The school lunch reimbursements and food supplied by government programs are based on participation. An additional ten children

participating in our school breakfast/lunch program will increase reimbursements while at the same time provide your child/children with the benefits of a balanced meal. Let's rejuvenate our nutritional commitment and help keep our school lunch program functioning on a healthy stable level.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

Regular attendance at school is a key component in providing children with a quality education. Along with extended absences, many children arrive late and leave early – missing important parts of their school day. Please try to schedule appointments and outside school activities during non-school hours. Your support in this area is greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS – DELAYED OPENINGS EARLY DISMISSALS

An automated CONNECT-ED phone call will be sent to notify parents of school closings, delayed openings, and early dismissals. ***Please make sure that your contact information is current!***

Save those returnable cans:

Grade 5 is collecting cans to raise funds for their Outdoor Educational Trip.

Please bring your clean returnables to the receptacle located at the school.

LUCKY SHAMROCK
CALENDAR

Fifth grade students are hard at work raising funds for their annual trip to The Ecology School in September. They are selling calendar raffle tickets in the amount of \$10. You have 31 chances to win a prize – a winner is drawn each day. By purchasing a ticket, you are helping a worthwhile cause and could be a winner every day. Thanks for your support!!!

“BE LIKE BRIT”

Congratulations to the students at the school for donating 139 food items and \$70.00 for the “BE LIKE BRIT” foundation. You can find out more information about this non-profit organization at belikebrit.org. Cherylann Gengel, mother of Britney, will be at the school in early February to talk about all of the good works that have been done in Haiti in honor of her daughter.

WALES TV CELEBRITIES

Robert Bishop and Leo Yutzler recently appeared on the “Wales Watch” which can be seen on the local access channel to discuss books that they have read in school this year. They did a great job and represented the high quality of work that occurs on a daily basis in every classroom.

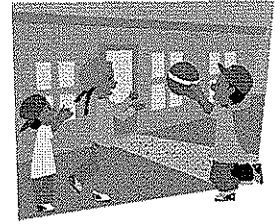
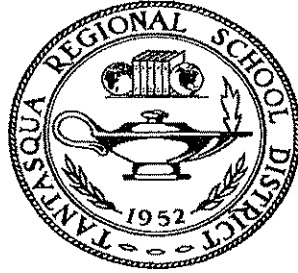
Students will be featured on this program periodically. If your child has any interest, please contact Howard Wyte, Keith Hood or Leon Givner at wales5access@gmail.com

Dates to Remember

February

- | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 2 | School Council 4pm |
| 3 | Winter Concert 2pm |
| 10 | Winter Concert 2pm
(snow date) |
| 11 | School Committee Mtg. 6pm |
| 13 | School Banking |
| 16-20 | No School – Winter Vacation |
| 27 | School Banking |

Tantasqua Regional/School Union 61 Districts



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Children currently enrolled, four year olds, then siblings and town residents will be given priority. Should more children seek enrollment than available spaces participants will be selected by age from oldest to youngest.

If interested in applying to our preschool program please complete attached application and return by April 17, 2015.

**UNION 61 PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL PROGRAM APPLICATION
WALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

School Year: 2015-2016

Date: _____

Child's Name: _____
 First Full Middle Last

Gender Male _____ Female _____

Date of Birth: _____

City/Town/State of Birth: _____

Father's Name: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Telephone #: _____ Work Telephone #: _____

With whom does the child live? _____

Have you ever applied to our Preschool before? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please indicate when: _____

If no, has your child been enrolled in another preschool? _____

If so, name/address of program: _____

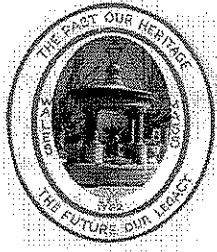
Has your child been screened by a Union 61 School before? Yes _____ No _____

Class assignments will be determined according to the following criteria:

1. returning students, 2nd year in Union 61 school
2. oldest to youngest new applicants
3. Sibling of Preschool Student

Students will be assigned two or three day slots at the Teachers and or Director Discretion. We will try to accommodate work and daycare schedules. However, we cannot guarantee any particular request.

Applications need to be returned no later than April 17, 2015.



TOWN OF WALES IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2015

- February 16 Town Office closed for President's Day
- April 15 Town Caucus 7 p.m. at the school**
- April 20 Town Office closed for Patriot's Day
- April 21 Last day to turn in nomination papers for Town Election
- April 29 Last day to register to be eligible to vote at the Annual Town Meeting & Town Election*
- May 16 Rabies Clinic 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fire Station Fee \$11.00**
- May 20 Annual Town Meeting 7 p.m. at the school**
- May 25 Town Office closed for Memorial Day
- May 26 Annual Town Elections noon to 8 p.m. at the Senior Center**
- July 4 Town Office Closed for Independence Day
- September 7 Town Office closed for Labor Day
- October 12 Town Office closed for Columbus Day
- November 11 Town Office closed for Veteran's Day
- November 25 Town Office closes at noon
- November 26 Town Office closed for Thanksgiving Day
- December 24 Town Office closed in observance of Christmas Day

*On April 29th the Town Clerk's office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. and again from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. for voter registration. As required by M.G.L. Ch 136 §12, on the State legal holidays listed above, the Town Office is closed and no Boards or Committees conduct business.

You may use this form to return your dog license request

Did you remember to include your current rabies certificate and a stamped return addressed envelope? *Thank you!*

TOWN CLERK
P.O. Box 843
Wales MA 01081-0834