

Wales Window

May 2015

Coming Events!

Next School Committee Meeting: May 21st @ 6pm
School Committee Voicemail: 245-7571 ext. 132

Memorial Day Program/Spring Concert: May 26

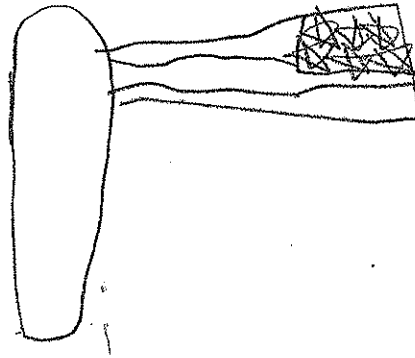
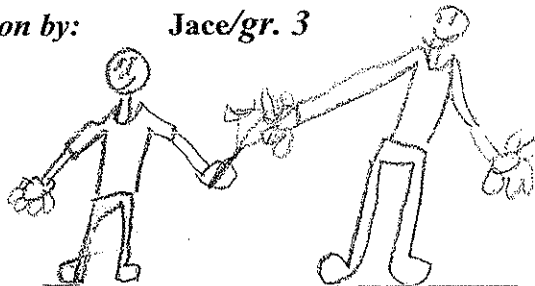
Illustration by: Carly/gr. K

Join us at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26th for our Memorial Day/Spring Concert assembly. Our program will feature a presentation by each grade.

Everyone is welcome!

Volunteer Recognition Day: May 26

Illustration by: Jace/gr. 3



We will be having a “reception” to thank our many volunteers on Tuesday, May 26th at 2:00pm. Our heartfelt thanks for the many hours spent helping our students and teachers.

Wales Preschool:

All children who were born in 2011 and 2012 are eligible for our preschool program. For information, please call 413-245-7748.

Our screening date for new students this year will be held on Thursday, May 28th by appointment only.

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.

Testing Schedule:

The PARCC TEST will be administered in Grades 3-4-5-6 on the following dates: **May 4-29**. Check the weekly update for exact dates for each class.

Message from P.E./Mrs. Hughes:

With the warm weather upon us, please feel free to send a water bottle along with your child on Thursdays as there is no outside water source.

School Dress Guidelines:

Students are expected to display an appropriate appearance when attending school or school related events. Student's clothing should not disrupt, distract, or interrupt the school's educational process. The administration and faculty have developed guidelines for student attire at school.

While in school, students will wear clothing that meets the following standards:

1. No bare backs.
2. No spaghetti straps, tube tops or strapless shirts.
3. No low cut shirts or blouses.
4. No bare midriffs. All shirts must be long enough to be worn tucked in.
5. No bare feet or unsafe footwear.
6. No clothing that uses see-through material unless worn with other appropriate attire.
7. No clothing that displays words or graphics that is obscene and vulgar, violent, sexist, racist, and/or promotes

the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco.

8. No droopy pants or clothing that reveals undergarments.
9. The length of shorts or skirts must be longer than the tip of the student's fingers when his/her extended arm is by his/her side.

The administration reserves the right to determine what is or is not appropriate, and will determine appropriate consequences for non-compliance. The administration may waive restriction in cases involving extenuating medical circumstances.

From the Health Office:

How to Choose & Use Sunscreen

With all the sunscreens available these days (organic or mineral? water-resistant or sweat-resistant? lotion or spray?), choosing the right one for your kids can be tricky. But what matters most when picking a sunscreen is how well it protects skin from UV rays.

How to Choose

Look for SPF (sun protection factor) numbers on the labels of sunscreens. Select an SPF of 30 or higher to prevent sunburn *and* tanning, both of which are signs of skin damage. Choose a sunscreen that protects against both UVA and UVB rays (usually labeled as a "broad-spectrum" sunscreen).

Sunscreen sprays are convenient but should be used with caution. For starters, sprays are easy to breathe in, which can irritate the lungs. Some sprays also are flammable, so you need to avoid sparks or flames when applying them and wearing them. And, sprays make it hard to tell if you have applied enough sunscreen, which increases the risk of sunburn.

Other things to consider:

- Don't use sunscreens with PABA, which can cause skin allergies.
- For sensitive skin, look for products with the active ingredient titanium dioxide.
- If your teen or preteen wants to use a self-tanner sunscreen, be sure to get one that also has UV protection (many offer little or none).

Babies younger than 6 months should be kept out of the sun. When going outside, dress your baby in lightweight clothes that cover arms and legs — and don't forget a hat. If you can't avoid the sun, you can use a small amount of sunscreen on your baby's exposed skin, like the hands and face.

How to Use

For sunscreen to do its job, it must be used correctly. Be sure to:

- Apply sunscreen whenever your kids will be in the sun. For best results, apply sunscreen about 15 to 30 minutes before kids go outside.
- Don't forget about ears, hands, feet, shoulders, and behind the neck. Lift up bathing suit straps and apply sunscreen underneath them (in case the straps shift as a child moves). Protect lips with an SPF 30 lip balm.
- Apply sunscreen generously — dermatologists recommend using 1 ounce (enough to fill a shot glass) to cover the exposed areas of the body.
- Reapply sunscreen often, about every 2 hours. Reapply after a child has been sweating or swimming.
- Apply a water-resistant sunscreen if kids will be around water or swimming. Water reflects and intensifies the sun's rays, so kids need protection that lasts. Water-resistant sunscreens may last up to 80 minutes in the water, and some are also sweat-resistant. But regardless of the water-resistant

label, be sure to reapply sunscreen when kids come out of the water.

- Don't worry about making a bottle of sunscreen last. Stock up, and throw out any sunscreen that is past its expiration date or that you have had for 3 years or longer.

Every child needs sun protection. The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) recommends that all kids — regardless of their skin tone — wear sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher. Although dark skin has more protective melanin and tans more easily than it burns, tanning is a sign of sun damage. Dark-skinned kids also can get painful sunburns.

And remember to be a good role model. Consistently wearing sunscreen with SPF 30 or greater and limiting your sun exposure will reduce your risk of skin damage *and* teach your kids good sun sense.

Reviewed by: Mary L. Gavin, MD
Date reviewed: July 2014

PTF NEWS:

Staff Appreciation Week is May 4th through May 8th. The PTF would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of Wales Elementary School for their hard work and dedication to our children. We have a wonderful staff and we are very lucky.

Thank you very much for your support of our Original Works fundraiser. We did very well again this year. Ordered items are due in soon and we will let you know as soon as they arrive.

We will *not* be having a Book Fair this spring. We will have our next Book Fair in December of this year.

Funds have been allotted to purchase folders and planners for students for the 2015-2016 school year. Funds have

also been allotted for a student presentation in June.

Thank you for all the **Boxtops** that have been sent in this year. Please continue to clip them and remind your family and friends that Wales Elementary collects Boxtops. Also, remember to visit www.boxtops4education.com before purchasing anything online as our school will receive a percentage of your purchase. Please remember to also save your Boxtops during the summer months.

Please remember that Stop & Shop is continuing their **A+ Bonus Bucks program**. Please tell your family and friends that we are taking part. It's not too late to register your card if you shop at Stop and Shop!! Our school will earn cash from the Stop and Shop program.

Another easy way to raise money for our school is the **Target Take Charge of Education Program**. If you have a Target RED card, visit Target.com/tcoe or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate Wales Elementary as your school, then use your REDcard whenever you shop. When you use your REDcard Target will donate up to 1% of your purchases to the eligible K-12 school of your choice.

If you have any questions, suggestions or ideas for next year, please call Dawn at 245-3674 or email us at walesptf@hotmail.com.

Supplies for Art:

We have run low on a few supplies in art class. If you are able to donate any of the following materials it would be greatly appreciated! Thank you for your support! *Mrs. Menard*

- Baby Wipes
- Q-tips Cotton Swabs
- Aluminum Foil
- Colored Sharpie Markers
- Gallon-sized Ziploc Bags

Dates to Remember

May 1	Early Release 11:45am
1	No Preschool
1	Mid-Term
1	School Banking
4-8	Staff Appreciation Week
4-29	PARCC Testing
6	Progress Reports
15	School Banking
19	Mobile Dentist
20	School Committee 6pm
20	Town Meeting 7pm
25	No School – Memorial Day
26	Memorial Day Program/Spring Concert/Volunteer Appreciation
	2pm
28	Preschool/Kindergarten Screening (NO PK Classes will be held)
29	School Banking (last one for this yr)

Safety Notices:

- Please speak to your children about talking to strangers.
- This is also a good time of year to remind your children about bicycle and water safety.