



GREAT NECK NEWSLETTER

February 23, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

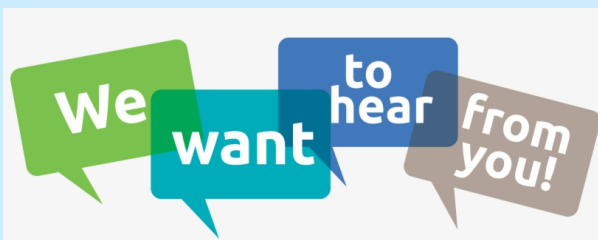
February 23	GN Pasta Dinner & Basket Raffle @ Great Neck	5-7pm
February 28	Dine to Donate– Nana's Byrek	12-9pm
March 7	Early Dismissal– P/T Conferences	12:25pm
March 13	GN PTA Meeting– GN Library	5:30pm
March 24	Save the Date– GN Pool Party	TBD
March 29	School Holiday– NO SCHOOL	



Get a glimpse of what's going on inside the school by clicking [here](#)

thank
you!

Great Neck School would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to our PTA for donating \$500 worth of new recess equipment for our students!



Dear Parents/Guardians:

If there is an educational topic that you would like more information about, please let us know! We're happy to include more information about educational topics in our newsletters.



Early Dismissal on 3/7/2024

Dear Great Neck Families ...

Thursday, March 7th, is an early dismissal day for students (12:15 p.m. dismissal). The afternoon is reserved for parent/teacher conferences.

In November, conferences were scheduled for every student. Our March conferences are only scheduled if your child's teacher and/or you feel a conference is necessary. Your child's teacher will reach out to you should they feel a conference is necessary. If you don't hear from them and you feel that you would like to have a conference, please email your child's teacher. We will offer conferences via Zoom or in-person based on your preference.

As always, I appreciate your support and will happily accommodate all parents who would like to set up a time to speak with their child's teacher. Be well!

With appreciation,

Billie

GREAT NECK FITNESS TEST

HOW TO BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE!

Fitness Testing occurs once a year for students in grades 3-12 all over the country. There are 4 different methods of testing that calculate a student and a school's fitness levels through various exercises. Muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility and cardiovascular endurance are all measured during fitness testing. Throughout the year we practice all 4 areas of testing through different games, exercises and warm up activities. However, a 45 minute class once (and sometimes twice) a week is not enough! We need help from parents and guardians to show the importance of practice outside of school! Practice before bed, after school and/or on the weekends to help improve our schools overall fitness!

MUSCULAR STRENGTH

Otherwise known as our "Push-Up Test", this is Great Neck's biggest area of need. Push-ups are difficult for all ages, especially if you do not practice often. The test is given through a 3 second "cadence" that goes "Down...up...down...up" at which time students are performing push ups. Students must have a flat back during the test, and go down to 90 degrees and back up. Start with 1 or 2 push-ups a night, then gradually increase over time!

MUSCULAR ENDURANCE

Our "Curl-Up Test" follows the same cadence as our push up test. Students lay flat on their back with their legs bent and feet FLAT on the floor. Feet CANNOT lift off of the floor when performing curl ups. Student hands lay flat on the floor and on the "up" cadence students raise their bodies up and slide their hands 4 inches across the floor. On the "down" cadence, students lay all the way back down, making sure to put their heads back on the floor.

FLEXIBILITY

Generally Great Neck's highest scoring test, the "Sit and Reach Test" measures the flexibility of students in each leg. Students sit on the floor with shoes off, and one leg at a time measure how far they can reach on a "Sit and Reach Test box". No need to build or buy a box for practice at home, just simply take a couple minutes each night to practice stretching both legs. It is a great way to cool down your body before going to bed!

CARDIOVASCULAR ENDURANCE

The "Pacer Test" measures a student's cardiovascular endurance, simply put, how long they can run without stopping. The test follows a "beeping cadence" where students must run from one line to another, before the "beep" occurs. Over time the test will increase speed, forcing students to run faster with less time to rest. This is our HARDEST test and it is important to remember running is difficult. Try to be active as much as possible, and run/jog/walk when weather and time allows.

Scoring For Fitness Testing:

Our goal each year is to be in the “Healthy Fitness Zone” for each test. At Great Neck we follow the 15-Meter Pacer test. Each test varies depending on the age of the student at the time of testing. Take a moment to look over scores with your GN student and understand how to prepare for the upcoming testing!

Standards for Health-Related Fitness Zones

I = Needs Improvement Zone (does not meet health-related standard)
 F = Health Fitness Zone (meets health-related standard)
 H = High Fitness Performance Zone (exceeds health-related standard)

Boys

Age	20-meter PACER			15-Meter PACER			One-Mile Run/Walk			Sit-and-Reach			90° Push-Ups			Curl-Ups		
Zone	I	F	H	I	F	H	I	F	H	I	F	H	I	F	H	I	F	H
8	0-22*	23-61*	>61*	0-29*	30-80*	>80*	>12:30*	12:30-10:00*	<10:00*	0-7	8		0-4	5-13	>13	0-5	6-20	>20
9	0-22*	23-61*	>61*	0-29*	30-80*	>80*	>12:00*	12:00-9:30*	<9:30*	0-7	8		0-5	6-15	>15	0-8	9-24	>24
10	0-22	23-61	>61	0-29	30-80	>80	>11:30	11:30-9:00	<9:00	0-7	8		0-6	7-20	>20	0-11	12-24	>24
11	0-22	23-72	>72	0-29	30-94	>94	>11:00	11:00-8:30	<8:30	0-7	8		0-7	8-20	>20	0-14	15-28	>28
12	0-31	32-72	>72	0-41	42-94	>94	>10:30	10:30-8:00	<8:00	0-7	8		0-9	10-20	>20	0-17	18-36	>36
13	0-40	41-83	>83	0-53	54-108	>108	>10:00	10:00-7:30	<7:30	0-7	8		0-11	12-25	>25	0-20	21-40	>40
14	0-40	41-83	>83	0-53	54-108	>108	>9:30	9:30-7:00	<7:00	0-7	8		0-13	14-30	>30	0-23	24-45	>45
15	0-50	51-94	>94	0-66	67-123	>123	>9:00	9:00-7:00	<7:00	0-7	8		0-15	16-35	>35	0-23	24-47	>47
16	0-60	61-94	>94	0-79	80-123	>123	>8:30	8:30-7:00	<7:00	0-7	8		0-17	18-35	>35	0-23	24-47	>47
17	0-60	61-106	>106	0-79	80-138	>138	>8:30	8:30-7:00	<7:00	0-7	8		0-17	18-35	>35	0-23	24-47	>47
17+	0-71	72-106	>106	0-93	94-138	>138	>8:30	8:30-7:00	<7:00	0-7	8		0-17	18-35	>35	0-23	24-47	>47

Girls

Age	20-meter PACER			15-Meter PACER			One-Mile Run/Walk			Sit-and-Reach			90° Push-Ups			Curl-Ups		
Zone	I	F	H	I	F	H	I	F	H	I	F	H	I	F	H	I	F	H
8	0-6*	7-41*	>41*	0-8	9-54*	>54*	>12:30*	12:30-10:00*	<10:00*	0-8	9		0-4	5-13	>13	0-5	6-20	>20
9	0-6*	7-41*	>41*	0-8	9-54*	>54*	>12:30*	12:30-9:30*	<9:30*	0-8	9		0-5	6-15	>15	0-8	9-22	>22
10	0-6	7-41	>41	0-8	9-54	>54	>12:30	12:30-9:30	<9:30	0-8	9		0-6	7-15	>15	0-11	12-26	>26
11	0-14	15-41	>41	0-18	19-54	>54	>12:00	12:00-9:00	<9:00	0-9	10		0-6	7-15	>15	0-14	15-29	>29
12	0-14	15-41	>41	0-18	19-54	>54	>12:00	12:00-9:00	<9:00	0-9	10		0-6	7-15	>15	0-17	18-32	>32
13	0-22	23-51	>51	0-29	30-67	>67	>11:30	11:30-9:00	<9:00	0-9	10		0-6	7-15	>15	0-17	18-32	>32
14	0-22	23-51	>51	0-29	30-67	>67	>11:00	11:00-8:30	<8:30	0-9	10		0-6	7-15	>15	0-17	18-32	>32
15	0-31	32-51	>51	0-41	42-67	>67	>10:30	10:30-8:00	<8:00	0-11	12		0-6	7-15	>15	0-17	18-35	>35
16	0-31	32-61	>61	0-41	42-80	>80	>10:00	10:00-8:00	<8:00	0-11	12		0-6	7-15	>15	0-17	18-35	>35
17	0-40	41-61	>61	0-53	54-80	>80	>10:00	10:00-8:00	<8:00	0-11	12		0-6	7-15	>15	0-17	18-35	>35
17+	0-40	41-72	>72	0-53	54-94	>94	>10:00	10:00-8:00	<8:00	0-11	12		0-6	7-15	>15	0-17	18-35	>35

Waterford Public Schools Announces Open Registration For Incoming Kindergartners and Detailed Information on Kindergarten Waiver and Assessment Process for Early Admission Students.

Waterford Public Schools is announcing open registration for children entering Kindergarten in the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. Based on Public Act 23-208, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, all students are required to have reached the age of five on or before September 1, 2024. This law has also been adopted into Board Policy 5015. Please see below for documentation required for Kindergarten registration:

- **Child's Birth Certificate** - Connecticut law requires public schools to be open to all children who reach the age of 5 on or before the first of September of any school year. Board of Education [Policy 5015](#).
- **Physical Examination Form** - completed and signed by the child's doctor, dated within 12 months of the date of entry into school (*please note that parents may drop off registration paperwork prior to having health assessment documentation. Health assessment documentation must be submitted prior to the start of school*)
- **Proof of Residency** - per Board of Education [Policy 5270](#); which includes a valid lease, mortgage, or residency affidavit.

Kindergarten Registration Packets are available on the Waterford Public Schools' website at https://www.waterfordschools.org/parents_family/information/registration_forms or by request via the elementary school offices (contact information listed below). To assist in projecting enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year, parents are asked to return registration paperwork to the school by March 8, 2024. Please note that incoming Kindergarten students can continue to register after the March 8th date at all of the elementary schools.

Great Neck Elementary School

Principal: Ms. Billie Shea

165 Great Neck Road

Waterford, CT 06385

860-442-2593

<https://gn.waterfordschools.org>
bshea@waterfordschools.org

Oswegatchie Elementary School

Principal: Mr. Joseph Macrino

470 Boston Post Road

Waterford, CT 06385

860-442-4331

<https://osw.waterfordschools.org>
jmacrino@waterfordschools.org

Quaker Hill Elementary School

Principal: Mr. Chris Discordia

285 Bloomingdale Road

Quaker Hill, CT 06375

860-442-1095

<https://qh.waterfordschools.org>
cdiscordia@waterfordschools.org

Kindergarten Waiver and Assessment Process

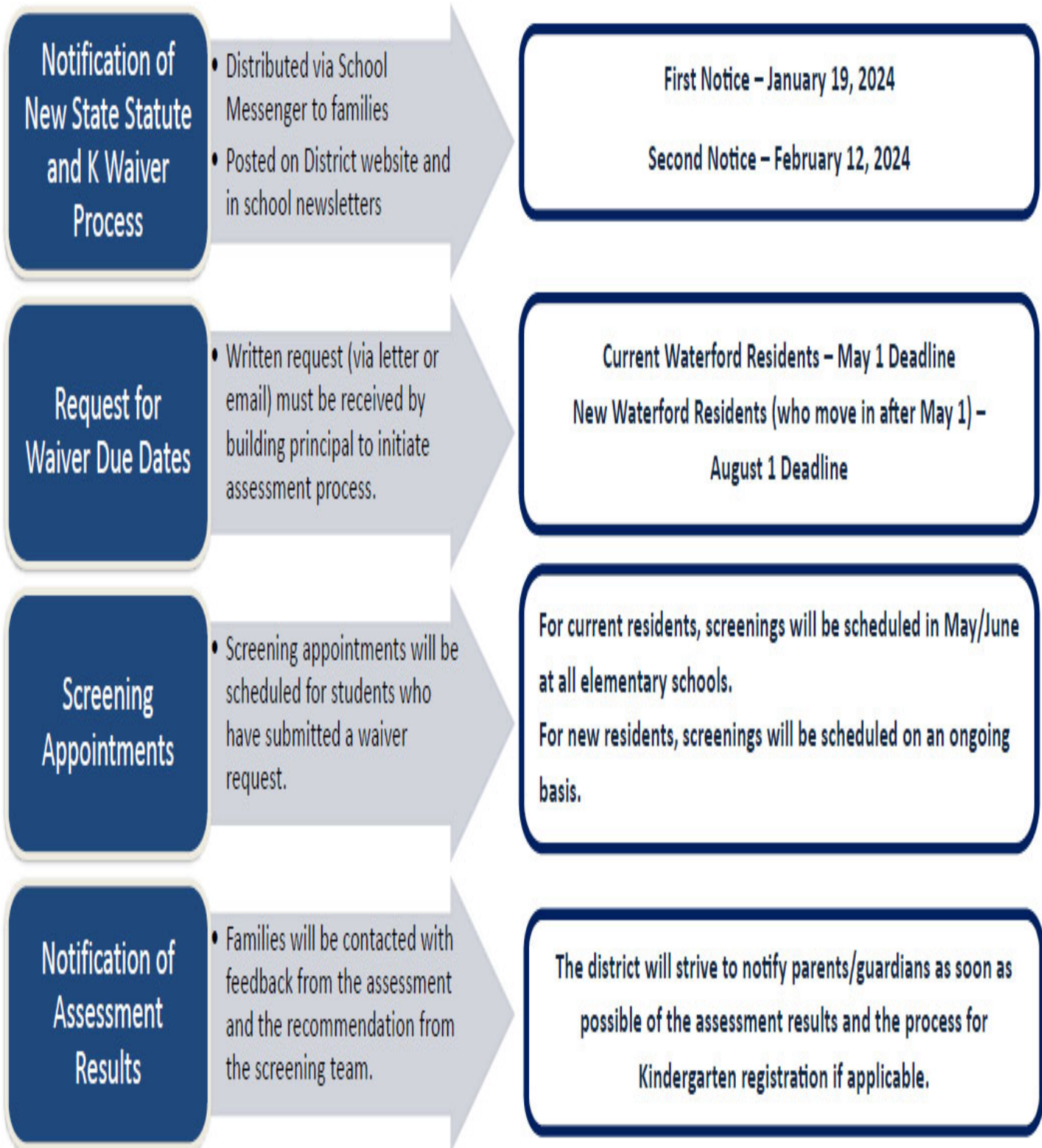
For families affected by the new Kindergarten eligible date, in accordance with state statute, the district will assess a child who does not meet the statutory age requirement if the child's parent/guardian has submitted a written request to the principal of the school seeking early admission to the District. Waiver requests must be received by the building principal to initiate the assessment process no later than May 1st for current residents and no later than August 1st for new residents (who move in to the district after May 1). For families who have submitted a waiver request prior to the above noted deadlines, an assessment screening will be scheduled in May/June for current residents and on an ongoing basis for new residents. Screenings will assess students based on the [Connecticut Early Learning and Developmental Standards](#). Families will be contacted as soon as possible with feedback from the assessment and the recommendation from the screening team. Please see the attached Kindergarten Waiver Process for an outline of key dates and requirements.

Please note that Kindergarten orientation (see dates below) will be open to all Kindergarten eligible students as well as the students in the waiver process. Information will be sent out to parents/guardians at a later date.

Great Neck Elementary School K Orientation Date – May 24, 2024	Oswegatchie Elementary School K Orientation Date – May 24, 2024	Quaker Hill Elementary School K Orientation Date – May 20, 2024
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WPS Kindergarten Waiver Process



Kindergarten registration for students who turn 5 on or before September 1, 2024, will be eligible to register starting February 12, 2024. Parents/guardians of age eligible Kindergarten students are asked to return registration paperwork by March 8th to assist in enrollment projections in the 2024-2025 school year. More information on registration can be found on the district website.



READTORIDE

Read To Ride, Inc.

21 Stott Avenue Norwich, CT 06360

January 31, 2024

Dear Parents,

READ TO RIDE, INC. is a non-profit organization designed to reward children who participate in our reading incentive program. Students in Kindergarten-3RD grade who participate in the Read to Ride program will have the chance to win a bicycle and helmet. Students in 4-5th grade will have the chance to win a \$100 Gift Certificate to Dick's Sporting Goods for their participation in this program. The program is designed not only to exercise the mind through reading, but also the body through exercise. Our mission is to inspire children to create good reading habits and to be physically active.

What does this mean for your child? When your children submit their weekly reading log, they will receive one chance to be entered into the May drawing for a free bicycle and helmet for Kindergarten - 3rd grade students, and a \$100 Gift Certificate to Dick's Sporting Goods for 4-5th grade students. There will be a drawing held for Kindergarten through fifth grade students in May, in which there will be one girl and one boy winner from each grade level.

Please encourage your child to read at home for the set minimum weekly minutes based on their grade level. **This should be above and beyond what is expected of your child for homework at school.**

Kindergarten = 30 minutes

Grade 1 = 40 minutes

Grade 2 = 60 minutes

Grades 3 & 4 = 80 minutes (1 hour 20 min.)

Grade 5 = 120 minutes (2 hours)

The program will begin on Friday, February 23rd and will end on Friday, April 5th. Thank you for encouraging your children to participate in the Read to Ride program.

Sincerely,

THE READ TO RIDE BOARD MEMBERS

Please note: While this letter states this is for K-5, Pre-k students are also invited to read along with a parent and participate.

Officers:
Billy Caron, President
Brandon Hyde, Vice President
Erin Spurgas, Secretary
Peter Maneri, Treasurer

Directors:
Michal Podeszwa, School Liaison
Cynthia Beauregard School Liaison
Bill

Barlow

Denesha

Rich

Members:
William R. Sweeney
Mark Brown

Founding Member:
Ben Lathrop

www.readtoride.org



Target the Problem: Fluency

Fluency is defined as the ability to read with accuracy, good speed, and appropriate expression. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to *read fluently* whether they are reading aloud or silently. When reading aloud, fluent readers read in phrases and add intonation appropriately. Their reading is smooth and has expression.

Children who do not read with fluency sound choppy and awkward. Those students may have difficulty with decoding skills or they may just need more practice with speed and smoothness in reading. Fluency is also important for motivation; children who find reading laborious tend not to want read! As readers head into upper elementary grades, fluency becomes increasingly important. The volume of reading required in the upper elementary years escalates dramatically. Students whose reading is slow or labored will have trouble meeting the reading demands of their grade level.



What the problem looks like

A kid's perspective: What this feels like to me

Children will usually express their frustration and difficulties in a general way, with statements like "I hate reading!" or "This is stupid!". But if they could, this is how kids might describe how fluency difficulties in particular affect their reading:

- I just seem to get stuck when I try to read a lot of the words in this chapter.
- It takes me so long to read something.
- Reading through this book takes so much of my energy, I can't even think about what it means.

A parent's perspective: What I see at home

Here are some clues for parents that a child may have problems with fluency:

- He knows how to read words but seems to take a long time to read a short book or passage silently.
- She reads a book with no expression.
- He stumbles a lot and loses his place when reading something aloud.

- She reads aloud very slowly.
- She moves her mouth when reading silently (subvocalizing).

A teacher's perspective: What I see in the classroom

Here are some clues for teachers that a student may have problems with fluency:

- Her results on words-correct-per-minute assessments are below grade level or targeted benchmark.
- She has difficulty and grows frustrated when reading aloud, either because of speed or accuracy.
- He does not read aloud with expression; that is, he does not change his tone where appropriate.
- She does not “chunk” words into meaningful units.
- When reading, he doesn't pause at meaningful breaks within sentences or paragraphs.



How to help

With the help of parents and teachers, kids can learn strategies to cope with fluency issues that affect his or her reading. Below are some tips and specific things to do.

What kids can do to help themselves

- Track the words with your finger as a parent or teacher reads a passage aloud. Then you read it.
- Have a parent or teacher read aloud to you. Then, match your voice to theirs.
- Read your favorite books and poems over and over again. Practice getting smoother and reading with expression.

What parents can do to help at home

- Support and encourage your child. Realize that he or she is likely frustrated by reading.
- Check with your child's teachers to find out their assessment of your child's word decoding skills.
- If your child can decode words well, help him or her build speed and accuracy by:
 - Reading aloud and having your child match his voice to yours
 - Having your child practice reading the same list of words, phrase, or short passages several times

- Reminding your child to pause between sentences and phrases
- Read aloud to your child to provide an example of how fluent reading sounds.
- Give your child books with predictable vocabulary and clear rhythmic patterns so the child can “hear” the sound of fluent reading as he or she reads the book aloud.
- Use books on tapes; have the child follow along in the print copy.

What teachers can do to help at school

- Assess the student to make sure that word decoding or word recognition is not the source of the difficulty (if decoding is the source of the problem, decoding will need to be addressed in addition to reading speed and phrasing).
- Give the student independent level texts that he or she can practice again and again. Time the student and calculate words-correct-per-minute regularly. The student can chart his or her own improvement.
- Ask the student to match his or her voice to yours when reading aloud or to a tape recorded reading.
- Read a short passage and then have the student immediately read it back to you.
- Have the student practice reading a passage with a certain emotion, such as sadness or excitement, to emphasize expression and intonation.
- Incorporate timed repeated readings into your instructional repertoire.
- Plan lessons that explicitly teach students how to pay attention to clues in the text (for example, punctuation marks) that provide information about how that text should be read.

Browse our fluency library

Learn more about how to build children’s fluency skills through our articles, tips for parents, video, FAQs, and research briefs. Visit our [Fluency section](#) >

BREAKFAST

Breakfast includes: 2 oz. of Grain/1 cup of fruit/8 oz. milk

FEBRUARY 2024 WATERFORD SCHOOLS K-8

One daily Breakfast at **no charge**
to all students
this 2023-24 school year!

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Please visit www.myschoolbucks.com to add funds to your child's account.

Choice of:

French Toast Sticks
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Craisins Milk
100% Fruit Juice

Choice of:

Cinni- Oatmeal Breakfast Round
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Applesauce Milk
100% Fruit Juice

Choice of:

Early Riser Egg hash brown
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Fresh Fruit Milk
100% Fruit Juice

Choice of:

Warm Maple waffle
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Banana Milk
100% Fruit Juice

Choice of:

Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Fresh Fruit Milk

Choice of:

Early Riser Egg hash brown
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Fresh Orange Milk
100% Fruit Juice

Choice of:

Sweet Potato Roll
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Banana Milk
100% Fruit Juice

Choice of:

Mini WG bagels
with strawberry cream cheese
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Strawberry Cup Milk
100% Fruit Juice

Choice of:

Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Fresh Fruit Milk
100% Fruit Juice

Choice of:

WG Goody Ring
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Fresh Fruit Milk
100% Fruit Juice

SCHOOL HOLIDAY
NO SCHOOL

SCHOOL HOLIDAY
NO SCHOOL

Choice of:

Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Fresh Fruit Milk

Choice of:

Cinni- Oatmeal Breakfast Round
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Applesauce Milk

National Banana Bread Day!

Choice of:
Warm Banana Bread
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Apple Milk
100% Fruit Juice

Choice of:

Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Fresh Fruit Milk

National Strawberry Day!

Choice of: Mini bagels
with strawberry cream Cheese
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
Strawberry Cup Milk
100% Fruit Juice

National Pancake Day!

Choice of:
Confetti pancakes
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Apple slices Milk

Choice of:

Early Riser Egg hash brown
Or WG Muffin or Cereal
100% Fruit Juice
Fresh Fruit Milk

SCHOOL HOLIDAY
NO SCHOOL

LUNCH

FEBRUARY 2024 LUNCH K-12

LUNCH PRICES
Elementary \$3.25
CLMS \$3.50
WHS \$3.75
*Second Meal=\$4.25 - Adult Meal \$5.00

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Please visit
www.myschoolbucks.com to add
funds to your child's account.

For the 23-24 school year, stu-
dents qualified for **Reduced sta-
tus** will receive one lunch at no
cost per day

Crispy Chicken Sandwich
on a WG Roll
Seasoned Potato Wedges
Cucumber slices with Ranch
Fresh Apple Milk

Beef Nachos
With Cheddar Cheese sauce
Black Beans Golden Corn
Orange Smiles
Corn Muffin Milk

Italian Combo
Breaded Baked Ravioli
Baked Mozzarella Sticks
Marinara Sauce Green Beans
Warm Italian Breadstick
Diced pears Milk

Mozzarella Sticks
Marinara Sauce Cup
Warm Italian Bread stick
Steamed Broccoli
Diced pears Milk

National Tator Tot day!
Chicken Drumsticks
Dippin' Sauce
Potato Tots Golden Corn
Applesauce Milk

Chinese New Year!
Yang's Orange Chicken (K-5)
General Taos's Chicken (6-12)
Vegetable Fried Rice
Broccoli & Carrots Orange smiles
Fortune cookie Milk

International Italian Food day!
Penne' Pasta with meat sauce
Steamed Green Beans
Warm Dinner Roll
Diced Peaches Milk

Valentine's Day!
Heart shaped chicken
Nuggets with dippin' sauce "Hug"
"Smile" Fries garlic "love" knot
Steamed "sweet" peas Milk
"Be Mine" 100% fruit juice sidekick

Soft Beef & Cheese Tacos
Brown Rice
Steamed Broccoli & Carrots
Diced Peaches
Baked WG Biscuit Milk

National Pizza Day!
Cheese Pizza Slice
Baby carrots Ranch Cup
Cucumber wheels
Apple slices Milk

School Holiday
No School

School Holiday
No School

Crispy Chicken tenders
Choice of Dippin' Sauce
Potato Wedges
Green Peas Dinner Roll
Applesauce Milk

Turkey & Cheese Grinder
Oven Baked Fries
Cucumber slices/Ranch cup
100% fruit juice Sidekick
Milk

Cheese Pizza square
Spinach & Chic pea Salad
with Italian Dressing
WG Cookie
Fresh Apple Milk

Meatless Monday!
Pizza Bites with marinara sauce
Baby Carrots Cucumber Wheels
Ranch Dressing
Apple slices Milk

Beef & Cheese Tacos
Brown Rice Salsa
Fiesta Beans
Mini Corn Muffin
Dragon Punch Milk

National Pancake Day!
Pancakes Syrup cup
Sausage Links
Potato Puffs
Mango Juice Milk

Chicken Alfredo Twist
Steamed Broccoli
Diced Carrots
Warm Bread Stick
Orange Smiles Milk

All grain-based items offered are whole-grain rich which means that at least 51% of the grains in the item are whole grain (WG), all other grains are enriched

A VARIETY OF FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES OFFERED DAILY "Thoroughly cooking meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs reduces the risk of foodborne illness"

Alternate Choice Yogurt Meal AVAILABLE Daily or Alternate Salad meal offered when available (See kitchen manager)

Yogurt Meal =Yogurt, Mozzarella string cheese, baby carrots, raisins, goldfish crackers, dinner roll, milk

Salad Meal=Garden salad with egg, cheese stick garlic knot, fruit choice, milk

Allergy Warning: Menu items may contain or come in contact with wheat, eggs, soy, nuts, and milk

*Menus are subject to change

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

August 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28*	29*	FD	31	

(2 day ~ 2 cumulative)

- 8/28 - ± Staff Convocation
- 8/29 - * PD - No School - PK-12
- 8/30 - First Day of School

September 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
SH	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
SH	26	27	28	29

(19 days ~ 21 cumulative)

- 9/4 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)
- 9/25 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

October 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
SH	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

(21 days ~ 42 cumulative)

- 10/9 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

November 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	PD	8	9	SH
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	School Holiday		
27	28	29	30	

(17 days ~ 59 cumulative)

- 11/7 - * PD No School for Students- PK-12
- 11/10 - School Holiday (Schools Closed for Students), P/T Conferences
- 11/22 - 11/24 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

December 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
School Holiday				

(16 days ~ 75 cumulative)

- 12/22 - Early Dismissal PK-12
- 12/25 - 12/29 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

January 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
SH	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
SH	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

(21 days ~ 96 cumulative)

- 1/1 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)
- 1/15 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)
- 1/18-1/23 - ** Midterm Exams: Early Dismissal 9-12

February 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
SH	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	

(19 days ~ 115 cumulative)

- 2/19-2/20 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

March 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5	6	PT	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	SH

(20 days ~ 135 cumulative)

- ** 3/7 - P/T Conferences: Early Dismissal PK-12
- 3/29 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

April 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	PD	3	4	5
School Holiday				
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

(16 days ~ 151 cumulative)

- 4/2 - * PD No School for Students - PK-12
- 4/8 - 4/12 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

May 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
SH	28	29	30	31

(22 days ~ 173 cumulative)

- 5/27 - School Holiday (Schools Closed)

June 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	LD	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

(8 days ~ 181 cumulative)

- 6/6 - 6/11 - ** Final Exams: Early Dismissal 9-12
- 6/11 - ** Early Dismissal PK-12
- 6/12 - Last Day of School Early Dismissal PK-12



NOTE: Snow days will be added onto the school year as needed.

BOE Approved: December 8, 2023
Revision Approved: December 19, 2023

2023-24 Elementary Letter Rotation Schedule

August 2023				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		30 A	31 B	

September 2023				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1 C
	5 D	6 A	7 B	8 C
11 D	12 A	13 B	14 C	15 D
18 A	19 B	20 C	21 D	22 A
	26 B	27 C	28 D	29 A

October 2023				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 B	3 C	4 D	5 A	6 B
	10 C	11 D	12 A	13 B
16 C	17 D	18 A	19 B	20 C
23 D	24 A	25 B	26 C	27 D
30 A	31 B			

November 2023				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 C	2 D	3 A
6 B		8 C	9 D	
13 A	14 B	15 C	16 D	17 A
20 B	21 C			
27 D	28 A	29 B	30 C	

December 2023				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1 D
4 A	5 B	6 C	7 D	8 A
11 B	12 C	13 D	14 A	15 B
18 C	19 D	20 A	21 B	22 C*

January 2024				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	2 D	3 A	4 B	5 C
8 D	9 A	10 B	11 C	12 D
	16 A	17 B	18 C	19 D
22 A	23 B	24 C	25 D	26 A
29 B	30 C	31 D		

February 2024				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 A	2 B
5 C	6 D	7 A	8 B	9 C
12 D	13 A	14 B	15 C	16 D
		21 A	22 B	23 C
26 D	27 A	28 B	29 C	

March 2024				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1 D
4 A	5 B	6 C	7 D*	8 A
11 B	12 C	13 D	14 A	15 B
18 C	19 D	20 A	21 B	22 C
25 D	26 A	27 B	28 C	

April 2024				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 D		3 A	4 B	5 C
15 D	16 A	17 B	18 C	19 D
22 A	23 B	24 C	25 D	26 A
29 B	30 C			

May 2024				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 D	2 A	3 B
6 C	7 D	8 A	9 B	10 C
13 D	14 A	15 B	16 C	17 D
20 A	21 B	22 C	23 D	24 A
	28 B	29 C	30 D	31 A

June 2024				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 B	4 C	5 D	6 A	7 B
10 C	11 D*	12 A*		



■ No School
* Early Dismissal
Updated 12/20/2023



IMPORTANT REMINDER

Drop-off times at Great Neck Elementary School for **all students** in grades PK-5 are between **8:25 and 8:35 a.m.** Please do not arrive more than 5 minutes early and please DO NOT drop your students off and leave them outside the door without adult supervision. Great Neck Staff come out for arrival to greet and assist students at 8:25 a.m. **Please remain in your vehicle with your child/children** until Great Neck Staff come outside to begin the arrival process. Student safety is important and we want to ensure all students are always supervised.

Dismissal time for Walkers is 3:05 p.m. Students do not come outside to be unified with their parent/guardian/family member until 3:05 p.m. Please do not arrive too early. Recently we have noticed multiple cars arriving before 2:30 p.m. This results in traffic back-ups on Goshen Road. Please do your best to arrive at dismissal time, which is 3:05 p.m. If you need to arrive early, please park in the overflow lot until it is time to pull into the lot. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lastly, **DO NOT under any circumstances** pull into the bus lane during arrival and/or dismissal times. There should not be any vehicles other than school transportation vehicles in the bus lane between 8:15 a.m. and 8:40 a.m. AND between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

We appreciate everyone's willingness to work together to make our arrival and dismissal processes as safe and smooth as possible. For those of you that have other adults picking up your children, please share this important information with them. Thank you.

MATH

News



Ways to Help Your Child Build a Love of Mathematics



Make Math Fun!

Play games, do puzzles, and make up math challenges! Try a family Game Night, learn to play Sudoku or Yatzee!

Explore Math

Show your child how math is relevant to their daily lives, and how they can apply it.

When cooking, measuring ingredients, and dealing with finances, for instance, it is important to understand the concept of math.



Make Connections

Tie your child's interest to math. Put math in context of something that interests them!



Model a Positive Attitude

Modeling a positive attitude toward math is crucial for your child's academic success. You can inspire your child to approach math with a curious and confident mindset



CELEBRATE

Celebrate progress and achievements no matter how small they seem. This can help your child build confidence and motivation. It is more beneficial to emphasize the journey rather than the outcome.



HIGH STAKES **BINGO**

FOXWOODS CASINO

**FRIDAY
MARCH 8TH**

**DOORS OPEN 4:00
GAMES BEGIN AT 6:30**



TICKETS ARE \$20 EACH

PORTION OF THE TICKET PRICE SUPPORTS THE
GREAT NECK 5TH GRADE CLASS PROMOTION

SCAN OR [CLICK HERE](#) TO PURCHASE TICKETS
OR EMAIL GNFIFTHGRADE@GMAIL.COM FOR INFO

*Dine to Donate Fundraiser for
Great Neck Elementary School PTA*



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 2024

12 PM - 9 PM

316 BOSTON POST RD, WATERFORD

860.437.3030

VISIT NANA'S BYREK ON FEBRUARY 28TH AND A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE PTA AT GREAT NECK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO PROVIDE EXTRA RESOURCES FOR THE STUDENTS. TAKE OUT ORDERS RECOMMENDED. LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE. DELIVERY EXCLUDED.



Great Neck Elementary School Yearbook Sales

We are so excited to announce that Great Neck will have its first WHOLE SCHOOL yearbook this year.

The yearbook will include picture day photos, candid shots, and highlights from school-wide events.

This full-color soft cover yearbook is available for \$20.

Yearbooks are now available for purchase online through our yearbook provider, Entourage. Please use the link below to place your order today!

https://link.entourageyearbooks.com/YBStore/YearbookStoreMain.asp?yearbook_id=78055

You don't want to miss out on this great keepsake.

Email: gnfifthgrade@gmail.com with any questions

**NOTE: FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE THE
YEARBOOK AS THEIR END OF YEAR GIFT.
5th GRADE PARENTS, DO NOT ORDER A YEARBOOK!**

Homework Club



Starting February 1

**Every Thursday from
4:00 - 6:00 pm**



**Open to all elementary and
middle school students,
no registration required**

**Tutoring provided by Waterford High School
Honor Society students on a first come, first
serve basis. Parents and caregivers must
remain at the library while their child is
participating.**



860-444-5805
49 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT

www.waterfordpubliclibrary.org

 **WATERFORD**
public library

Youth Winter Reading Challenge

Our Youth Winter Reading Challenge runs until February 26. Pick up a sheet for your age group in the Children's Room or print from our website. For ages birth to 18.

Saturday, February 3, 9:00AM – 5:00PM

Take Your Child to the Library Day

Celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day with us! Kick off the morning with a musical performance from local favorite Steve Elci at 10:30 am then at 2:30 pm we will have a Character Party where we celebrate some of our favorite picture book characters. There will be crafts and activities all day in the Children's Room. All ages are welcome, no registration required. In the event of inclement weather, Take Your Child to the Library Day will be moved to Saturday, February 10.


Bilingual Storytimes: In English & Spanish

Join Ms. Emy for two sessions where we will sing songs and read books in both English & Spanish.

Tuesday, February 6, 5:30PM - 6:30PM

Bilingual Pajama Storytime

Feel free to dress comfy and bring your favorite stuffed animal and a blanket!



Saturday, February 24, 10:30AM - 11:30AM

Bilingual Family Storytime

Recommended for ages birth - five but all families are welcome to join. No registration required.

Thank you to the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut for providing funding for these programs.

Thursdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 4:00PM - 6:00PM

Homework Club


Need some extra assistance completing your homework after school? Stop by the library between 4:00 and 6:00 pm for our weekly Homework Club, run by tutors from the Waterford High School Honor Society. Students in elementary and middle school are welcome, no registration required. Please note, tutors are available on a first come first serve basis. Parents and caregivers must remain at the library while their child is participating.

Monday, February 26, 4:30PM - 5:30PM

Junior Detectives Book Club

If you're a fan of solving cases, this book club is the perfect place to share your passion for the genre. Bring your favorite mystery book to life with fellow Investigators - you choose the book! We will also make a fun craft. Recommended for ages 9 to 12 years old, registration is required.



Mondays, February 5, 12 & 26, 10:30AM - 11:00AM

Family Storytime

Get ready to read and get your wiggles out! Join Ms. Jenna at the library for some fun stories, songs, and dancing. Recommended for ages birth to five years old with a caregiver. No registration is required.

Saturday, February 24, 2:30PM - 3:30PM

Harriet Tubman: A Woman with a Railroad

Join us for an interesting and interactive afternoon of learning with a live performance of Harriet Tubman: A Woman with a Railroad by New London's own Adwoa Bandele-Asante. This program is free and open to all. This program is generously funded by CT Humanities.



DROP IN CRAFTS

Monday, February 5, 4:00PM - 6:30PM

Drop In STEM Adventure: STEM Station

Join us in the Children's Room between 4:00 and 6:30 pm to explore various STEM kits, that were donated by the local Girl Scouts. Recommended for ages 5 and up, no registration required.

Monday, February 12, 4:00PM - 6:30PM

Drop in Craft: Bouquet of Hearts Card

Join us in the Children's Room anytime between 4:00 and 6:30 pm to make a heart bouquet card for your family or friends. Recommended for ages 5 and up, no registration required.



Tuesday February 27, 4:00PM - 6:00PM

Build Club



Stop by the Children's Room anytime between 4:00 and 6:00 pm to build with a variety of STEM sets that we

have! Recommended for ages 4 and older, no registration required.

Tuesday, February 20, 2:00PM - 6:00PM

Boardgame Bonanza

Stop by the library meeting room anytime between 2:00 and 6:00 pm to play one of our many board games! All ages are welcome, no registration required.



Wednesday, February 28, 5:30PM - 6:30PM

Chess Club

Join us for our monthly Chess Club! Students from Waterford High School will be teaching basic chess skills as well as offering a space for more advanced students to practice against one another. Ages 6 and up, no registration required.

GRAB & GO CRAFTS



Heart Friend
Feb 3 to Feb 16



Dinosaur
Feb 17 to Mar 1

Pick up supplies in the Children's Room to make Grab & Go crafts at home, while supplies last.

Step-by-step video tutorial on our Facebook page
([@waterfordpubliclibrary](https://www.facebook.com/waterfordpubliclibrary)).

TEEN CORNER

Thursday, February 1, 5:30PM - 7:00PM

Teen Craft Night

At this craft night participants will be learning how to knit an ear-warmer using only their fingers! Ages 11-18. Registration required.



Thursday, February 15, 5:30PM - 7:00PM

Teen Drop In Craft: Scratch Art Cards



Stop into the Teen Area of the library between 5:30 and 7:00 pm to create a Scratch Art card! Ages 12 -18. No registration required.

READ TO A DOG

Tuesday, February 13, 4:30PM - 5:30PM

Read to Hodges



Saturday, February 10, 10:00AM - 11:00AM

Read to Scout

No registration required, all ages welcome.

Friday, February 2, 11:00AM - 12:00PM

Toddler Craft: Penguin

Join us for a fun crafting session where the little ones will create adorable penguins. For ages 3 to 5 years old, no registration is required.



Friday, February 9, 11:00AM - 11:45AM

Story and Sensory Play

Join Miss Ashlee for a story and then explore multiple sensory stations! Recommended for ages 2 to 5 years old with a caregiver. No registration required.



Wednesday, February 21, 11:00AM - 11:45AM

Toddler Art



This hands on art session is for young ones to explore through process art with the help of their adult. Miss Ashlee will start the session with a short story! For ages 3 to 5 years old, registration is required.

To keep up with all our activities follow us on Facebook and Instagram



@waterfordpubliclibrary



@waterfordlibraryct

Either call the library to register or go to our Calendar of Events page on our website.
www.waterfordpubliclibrary.org 860-444-5805, Adult Ext 2, Youth Services Ext. 3

LEVEL UP PARENTING!

JOIN OUR "LEVEL UP PARENTING?" WORKSHOP
FEATURING INSIGHTS ON ONLINE GAMING SAFETY,
MENTAL HEALTH, AND ONLINE ETIQUETTE FROM...

IDENTIFY SIGNS OF DISTRESS
IN YOUNG GAMERS AND
KNOW HOW TO ADDRESS UNHEALTHY HABITS.



MR. JOE
HYFS

LEARN ABOUT THE PARENTAL CONTROL
FOR POPULAR GAMES LIKE FORTNITE, ROBLOX,
AND MINECRAFT, AS WELL AS THE SECURITY FEATURES ON
PLAYSTATION, XBOX
& NINTENDO SWITCH.

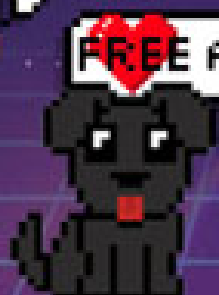


OFc. LANE
WPD

COACH YOUR YOUNG GAMER TO VALUE
RESPECT, TEAMWORK, AND
FAIR PLAY WHEN PLAYING ONLINE!



OFc.
FREDRICKS
WPD



HODGES

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL PARENTS!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH
6:00PM TO 7:30PM

WATERFORD
COMMUNITY CENTER



WATERFORD
Youth & Family
Services





FREE POP-UP
INTERGENERATIONAL SCREENING OF



REMEMBER THE TITANS

Saturday, February 24th,
11:30am to 1:45pm
Waterford Community Center

Come together to honor Black History Month with a catered lunch and a complimentary screening of the beloved modern classic, "Remember the Titans," hosted by Waterford Youth and Family Services, Waterford Senior Services, and our partners from Waterford RISE.



Menu:
Popcorn
Chicken Tenders
French Fries
Lemonade



Free to Waterford residents, but must pre-register with QR code
or go to waterforyouthfamily.recdesk.com/Community/Program
Limit of 4 tickets per household



2024 SPRING BREAK SOCCER CAMP at CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

REGISTER HERE: www.ReubenBurkCoachingCamps.com --or-- mail in this flyer attached with check
April 8-11th, 2024

Boys and Girls Ages 5-15 (roughly)

Monday-Thursday / 9AM - 12pm Noon

CAMP DIRECTORS:

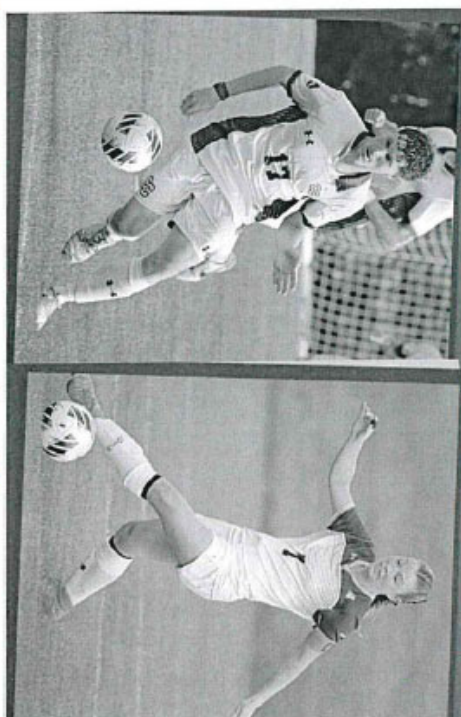
Reuben Burk - Men's Head Coach, Connecticut College

- 2021 NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS
 - 2023, 2021, 2019 & 2018 NCAA Tournaments
- Norm Riker* - Men's Women's Coach, Connecticut College
- 2014 NESCAC CHAMPIONS
 - 2021, 2017 & 2016 NCAA Tournaments

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS:

Andrew Storton - Assistant Coach, Connecticut College Men's Soccer

Mia Santana - Assistant Coach, Connecticut College Women's Soccer



This fun camp is designed to teach and refine campers' skills through small-sided games and technical training. Connecticut College soccer team members will be present to interact with and coach the campers.

Please note, each camper must provide his/her own ball. Each child needs cleats + shinguards too! Please also pack plenty of water + snacks :)

Cost: \$175 (before April 1st), \$200 (after April 1st); \$150 for each additional child - Please pay online (www.ReubenBurkCoachingCamps.com) or alternatively, send checks by mail payable to **REUBEN BURK COACHING LLC**. If paying by check, please mail the check and detached registration form below to:
Reuben Burk, 270 Mohegan Ave, New London, CT 06320 Attn: Men's Soccer Office. For more info please email Reuben Burk at rburk@conncollege.edu

Name: _____ Gender: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Emergency contact: _____ Phone number(s): _____

Email: _____

I, _____, hereby certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of the camper and understand and agree that Connecticut College Soccer Spring Break Camp does not provide medical insurance covering injuries of any nature. The undersigned hereby releases Connecticut College Soccer Spring Break Camp, REUBEN BURK COACHING LLC, its successors, officers, agents, and employees from any and all claims, demands and causes of actions resulting from participation in Connecticut College Soccer Spring Break Camp. I hereby authorize the directors of Connecticut College Soccer Spring Break Camp to act within their best judgment in case of an emergency requiring medical attention. Further, I agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Connecticut College from any and all claims, demands and causes of action that arise from any negligent acts, conduct or omissions attributable to the camper's participation in the Connecticut College Soccer Spring Break Camp.

Signature of parent/guardian: _____

Insurance Carrier: _____ Policy number: _____

Waterford Soccer Club

Spring Registration opens - January 1, 2024

Travel League \$100

Born 2010 - 2015
(2009 8th graders)

Rec League \$80

Born 2016 - 2018

Tykes \$60

Born 2019 - 2020

No Assessments for Spring

Travel open: 1/1/24 - 3/15/24

\$30 Late fees start: 3/1/24

Travel closes: 3/15/24

Rec open: 1/1/24 - 4/1/24

\$30 Late fees start: 3/15/24

Rec closes: 4/1/24

Tykes open: 1/1/24 (Never closes)



REGISTER ONLINE AT:

WWW.WATERFORDSOCCER.ORG

QUESTIONS EMAIL: WTFDSOCCERREGISTRAR@YAHOO.COM



WATERFORD YOUTH FOOTBALL AND CHEER



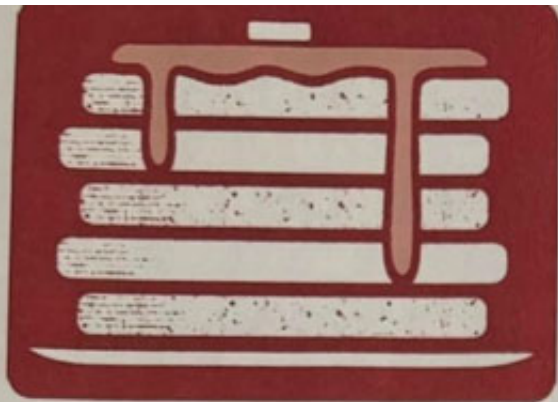
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL!**

**EARLY BIRD \$125
APRIL 1ST/MAY \$150
JUNE 1ST LATE \$175**

**FLAG, PEEWEE, MICROS, JUNIORS, AND SENIOR FOOTBALL.
SIDELINE, MINIS, MICROS, JUNIORS AND SENIOR CHEER.
CREATING FUTURE ALLSTARS STARTS NOW. SCAN THE QR
CODE TO JOIN TODAY.**





Flapjack FUNDRAISER

Short Stacks for a Tall Cause

You're Invited to an Applebee's® Flapjack Fundraiser Event to support

Waterford Football and Cheer League

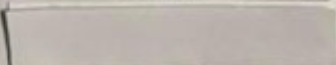
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Tickets: \$10 Date: 03/02/24 Time: 8am - 10am

.....

See organization for ticket purchase prior to event.

**For Ticket Purchases Contact
Kim Welcome**


welckim@aol.com

**Applebee's Location For Event
350 Long Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-3829
(203) 284-9956**

Join Congregation Beth El

On Sunday, March 10, 2024 at 9:45 a.m.

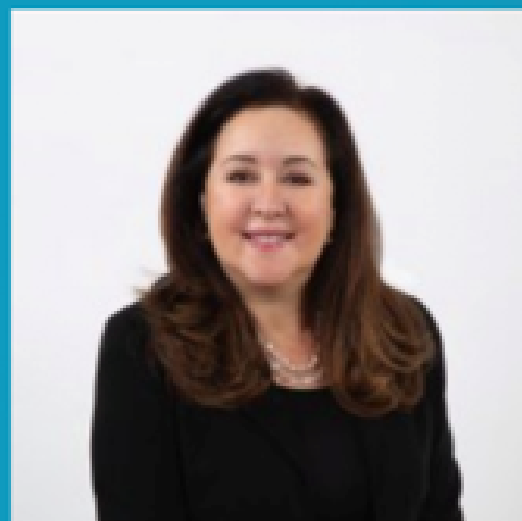
for a special presentation:

**Stand Up to Antisemitism and Hate:
What It Is and What We Can Do
About It Together**

Guest Speaker:

Stacey Gladstone Sobel, Esq.

CT Regional Director ADL
(Anti-Defamation League)



All are welcome!

**RSVP for more information to
office@bethel-nl.org or 860-442-0418**



UCFS Healthcare's School-Based Health Centers and Your School!

The UCFS school-based health centers (SBHC) are a doctor's office inside of your school. The services are provided by an APRN (advanced practice registered nurse)/PA (Physician Assistant) and licensed behavioral health clinician who are experts in adolescent health and are employed by UCFS. The intention of the UCFS SBHC is to supplement the care your child receives at their pediatrician's office.



Services Provided



- Yearly well-child examinations
- Vaccinations
- Sports physicals
- Acute care visits (e.g. sick visits, lacerations, injuries, etc.)
- Chronic care visits (e.g. asthma, ADHD, etc.)
- Mental Health Assessments
- Substance Abuse Screenings
- Counseling (individual, group, and family)

Top 5 Reasons to use the School-Based Health Center

- Convenient same day appointment.
- Removes barriers to care such as lack of transportation.
- Decreases time away from the classroom which improves academic success.
- Improves student's achievement by taking care of behavioral health needs that can make learning difficult.
- Connects students and their families with insurance coverage.

5

Referrals are easy...



- Behavioral Health Referrals can come from students, teachers, counselors, administrators as well as parents/guardians of students.
- Medical visits can be coordinated through the school nurse or directly with our family engagement/medical assistant.
- Working collaboratively with school personnel, families, and local youth services has helped to maximize student support.

To learn More...

School-Based Health Centers are located at Waterford High School and Clark Lane Middle School and are open to all Waterford Public School students.

Scan here to learn about the School-Based Health Center at your school! SBHC line - 860-822-2803



SCAN ME

Your child can get a flu shot at the Waterford Public Schools School-Based Health Center



Protect your child from the flu this season!

Your child can receive their flu vaccine with a signed enrollment and flu consent form.

Did you know?

The CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine for everyone 6 months of age and older as the first and most important step in protecting against this serious disease.

How do I sign my child up for the flu shot?

In order for your child to receive a flu shot, you must fill out an enrollment form and flu vaccine consent form. Enrollment forms can be found on the UCFS Healthcare's website -

<https://www.ucfs.org/services/school-based-health-centers/>
or by scanning the QR code

Please call the SBHC Line at 860-822-2803 to schedule an appointment.

