West Bridgewater Public Schools Rose L. MacDonald School, Stepping Stone Drive

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Parents & Guardians:

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We hope that curriculum night was helpful and gave you confidence about the grade level teachers' expectations. As a backup to the information you received on Thursday night, please see expectations for homework below by grade. Our student/parent handbook states "homework is a natural extension of the school day and an important part of a child's educational experience." For homework information specific to your child's grade, please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook.

HOMEWORK: Homework is defined as written or non-written tasks assigned by a teacher to be completed outside the classroom. These assignments will complement class work and be relevant to the curriculum.

- ☐ Homework is a natural extension of the school day and an important part of a child's educational experience.
- ☐ Homework encourages self-discipline, pride in one's work, positive self-esteem, and an interest in learning.
- ☐ Homework reinforces the West Bridgewater home/school connection.

If your child forgets a homework assignment at school, please do not try to enter the classroom after regular school day hours. Teachers have requested that once they've locked up their rooms, we do not unlock it to let students or parents back in. Teachers have grade books and confidential materials in their rooms. *Surround Care teachers are absolutely not at liberty to unlock another teacher's room.* The question arises for parents, "What do I do for my child who has forgotten his homework?" Teachers expect students to solve the problem of a forgotten homework assignment either by contacting another classmate, or make it up the next day. A forgotten assignment happens on occasion to everyone & our teachers understand this. It is often through these *experiences* that students become more responsible about remembering in the future or problem solving, a lesson learned better now than in later years. Any questions about homework assignments can be directed to your classroom teacher. If your child is having difficulty with the daily homework, please contact the teacher.

<u>AFTER SCHOOL PRESENCE</u>: Students not engaged in an approved school activity or under the direct supervision of a faculty/staff member must leave the building and all school grounds immediately at the close of school. Loitering and/or failure to immediately leave are grounds for disciplinary consequences. **Students/Parents may not return to classes for forgotten homework without permission from the office staff after school hours.**



RLM FRIENDSHIP GARDEN TO SCHOOL: This week was Taco Tuesday and the students taste-tested fresh tomato salsa with our "I Tried It!" volunteers Ms. Ginger Hayes and Ms. Joyce Wallis. Salsa served at lunch on Tuesday was made from the RLM Friendship Garden

FALL ENRICHMENT COURSES: Our first endrichment class - Zoomania - begins tomorrow, Sept. 30th. Classes are from 3pm – 4pm. Students must be picked up promptly at the bus port, unless arrangements have been made for your child to attend the SC Program. For more info you may contact Mrs. Sandy Churchill at SLCMEC@aol.com.

PPU DISMISSAL: We pride ourselves in running our PPU line smoothly, safely and efficiently. In order to do this we need our parent's help. A "bump in the road" for us are changes made by parents amongst themselves without notifying the school. I would like to explain our system to you so you will better understand the importance of a "change in plan" note/phone call. Teachers receive notes from parents in the morning which are sent to the office. Dismissal notes are then written down on a "Change of Dismissal" sheet. The changes are noted; and if pickup is by another person, we note the change. Our Director of Surround Care has a weekly list done in a similar manner. The two lists give us a check and balance sheet. What throws us off are the "changes made amongst parents" without notifying us. This holds up the PPU line as we decipher the accuracy of the info - "Is the child upset with the change?" - "Is this a normal change?" We know it takes a village to take care of children; and we are grateful for all our wonderful parents/aunts/uncles who are always ready to lend a helping hand. However, please make sure any changes in dismissal plans are brought to our attention. Thank you to all our "veteran" parents who have already been providing us with notes about the changes in dismissal.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING: Meeting - Mon. - Oct. 17th - MSHS - The Learning Commons - 6:30pm.

GR. 2 & 3: CODE TO THE FUTURE: Learn Computer Programming! For more info refer to the brochure sent out last week --7 classes - Oct. 6 - Nov. 17 - \$105. Register online @ www.codetothefuture,com/events. Questions? Call 781 816-2354 or email Dillon.Pierce@CodeToTheFuture.com

<u>BIRTHDAYS WITH THE PRINCIPAL:</u> I will be joining September birthday students, Friday Oct. 28 by grade level for lunch in the conference room. This is a monthly event. The children and I will enjoy this special time together. Students bring a lunch from home or order their lunch,. Summer birthdays will be celebrated year end.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL: Please consider being part of the continuous effort to improve our schools. We are in need of parent volunteers for our RLM School Improvement Council again this year. The School Improvement Council is a group of teachers, parents, community members, and the principal that meet regularly throughout the year to formulate a school improvement plan. The first meeting this year will be Oct. 24 at 3:30. We will set the other dates for the year at the first meeting. Forms to apply are available on the table in the front lobby and can be found on line. You may also call or e-mail Mrs. Everett, School Secretary; and she can send a form home with your child. Her e-mail address is peverett@wbridgewater.com or you may phone her at 508 894-1240 x200.

READING IS FUNdamental: (RIF) Next Tuesday, students will participate in the first RIF book distribution of the school year. Students will get to choose a free book to keep and then participate in a fun activity. RIF's goal is to bring the excitement of reading to our students. RIF is sponsored by the Friends of the Library and is supported through the generous donations of The Howard Trust, Bridgewater Savings Bank, and Mrs. Genuich (Halloween dance coordinator). If you are interested in volunteering at an upcoming distribution or would like to learn more about what RIF does, please contact Laurie Polen at polens@icloud.com. We look forward to next Tuesday!

PTO MEETING: WBPTO provides educational programs and needed supplies and equipment for our students and staff. Come to our next meeting - Tuesday, Oct. 18th at 7pm in the Howard School, to share ideas and see how you can help. Any amount of time you can give is always appreciated!PTO meeting dates: 11/15, 12/20, 1/17/17, 2/7, 3/21, 4/25 & 5/23. Meetings are held at 7pm in the Howard School Library. All parents and staff are welcome!

TWO PTO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO CHAIR EVENTS: The PTO is looking for a chair for Santa's Breakfast and a chair for the Book Fair. Please contact an officer if interested.

MEADOW FARMS FUNDRAISER: You received information last week about the first PTO fundraiser of the year! Our PTO fundraiser is super cool because you can register an account online for your child and receive a unique web link that you can share with friends and family across the country. All purchases through their link will be credited to your student's sales total and put them in the running for one of our incentive prizes! As if online ordering isn't exciting enough (you can still utilize the written form in your child's packet), all purchases will direct ship to your home or the homes of those ordering through your child. Gift Cards, a Kindle Fire and a 18" bike are among our incentive prizes and this is in addition to those offered within your packet through Meadow Farms! One thing to note: If your child received a packet that has another school listed on the front, don't worry. Any school ID will link them to the WB district sales. IMPORTANT INFO TO KNOW: Make checks payable to: WBPTO Order form and money due: 10/07/2016 RLM School ID: 1030191 (if you want to use our school's online id)

HALF DAY: Oct. 26 - Wed. - Noon Dismissal - No Lunch Served - In Service Workshop

GREETINGS FROM THE WILDCAT CAFE!

- ❖ Farm to School: Several varieties of locally grown apples continue to be served in the cafe and we are still able to get juice tomatoes from local farms, including our own RLM garden!. October's Harvest of the Month is Pears!
- ❖ Frozen Fridays: On Fridays, the cafeteria is offering frozen yogurt cups and reduced fat ice cream for sale at lunch. The frozen treats meet all nutrition standards and is available for \$.75. Students packing a lunch can also purchase a treat. Please note that students cannot borrow for extra a la carte items.
- ❖ MySchoolbucks: We offer a convenient way for parents to add money to their child's lunch account and to monitor transactions in the cafeteria. Contact Mrs. Ann Marie Grinder at agrinder@wbridgewater.com for your child's MySchoolbucks ID# to set up an account. School Meal Prices- Lunch this year is \$2.50 and a complete breakfast cost \$1.25. Healthy a la carte items are available for purchase at both meals for \$.50-\$.75.

<u>STUDENT ABSENCES:</u> Absences should be reported to Mrs. Everett at ext. 200. If leaving a voicemail message, make sure you state your child's name and the name of the classroom teacher