

EASTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHITE BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Meredith Balise, Principal
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December 3, 2018

Dear Families of White Brook Middle School Students:

We hope that you had a pleasant Thanksgiving holiday and enjoyed the time spent with your family and friends. During this season, we are mindful that many individuals are experiencing difficult times. We have many students involved in projects to help support the community through service. White Brook Middle School's WE Scare Hunger campaign collected more than they thought was possible for the Easthampton Community Center in their last food drive. When WE work together, WE can accomplish amazing things. Meanwhile, Peer Leaders raised \$140 for Shriners Hospital through Spirit Day and Trick or Treat for UNICEF raised \$313, more than double what was raised last year!

Once again, in an effort to connect White Brook families within our school community, we would like to create a school directory listing the contact information for students' families. Participating in the directory eases communication between fellow parents for class work, social events or carpooling. If you have not done so already, to have your information included in the White Brook Middle School directory, please fill out the information you would like included, sign the attached form, and return it to school.

December's School Improvement Council Meeting is Tuesday, December 4th at 5:30 p.m in the guidance suite. All are welcome. Report cards will go home on Friday, December 7th. The annual Grandparents Luncheon is Friday the 7th. Reservations are a must. The next Friday Fun Dance is Friday, December 7, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$5.00 per student. Pizza and other refreshments are sold during the dance. There is an 11:30 dismissal for students on Tuesday, December 11th for teacher professional development. Book Fair is December 12-18. Our winter concert for Grade 5 is Wednesday, December 19th at 7:00 p.m. The 6-8 Grade Winter Concert is Thursday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m. Winter break begins on December 24th – January 1st. Classes resume on Wednesday, January 2, 2019. The next payment for the 8th grade Washington D.C. trip is due December 14th in the amount of \$120. Washington D. C. chaperones, please be sure you have filled out your CORI forms and scheduled your appointment for fingerprinting through IdentoGo.

The cold weather has arrived! Please continue to send your child to school with warm coats, hats, gloves and boots when appropriate. If you wish, you may want to send students with an extra set of clothes in case it is needed. We will offer students access to fresh air and exercise at recess time whenever possible—even when the weather is cold. Remember, every day is Easthampton Eagles Day! Students are encouraged show their Eagle pride. Peer Leaders are selling WBMS apparel once again. We are ordering from a new company and there are some

A great place to learn and grow.

new items to purchase. The company is also offering embroidering on certain items. All orders will be placed via the website www.artcraft.com/wbms. Orders will be delivered by December 21st. The money from this fundraiser goes toward all Peer Leader sponsored events including the Grandparents Luncheon and 8th Grade semi-formal.

This is a reminder that students must arrive by 8:15 a.m. every day. It is crucial that students arrive to school on time so that important instructional time is not missed. With the hustle and bustle that comes with this busy time of year, we hope that you will be able to set aside time to find joy in family activities. We encourage you to plan time to share with your children those family traditions important to you. Children remember and cherish these moments spent with you and these special family memories remain with them for years to come. Our very best wishes for a delightful holiday season!

Sincerely,

Meredith Balise
Principal

Jill Pasquini-Torchia
Assistant Principal

A Virtues Pick

GENEROSITY

Generosity is giving and sharing. It is giving freely because you want to, not with the idea of receiving a reward or a gift in return. Generosity is being aware that there is plenty for everyone. It is seeing a chance to give what you have and giving just for the joy of giving. It is one of the best ways to show love and friendship (The Virtues Project, 2002).

You are practicing **GENEROSITY** when you:

- are thoughtful about the needs of others.
- notice when someone needs help.
- give freely without the expectation of reward
- use wisdom about sharing belongings