***The Hurlbutt Scoop***
**Hurlbutt Elementary School PTO Newsletter**
**Thursday, September 20, 2012**

 ***SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS***
September 26th – No School (Yom Kippur)
October 8th – No School (Columbus Day/Professional Development)

***UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS***
September 24th – Box Top Clipping Contest Deadline
September 27th – Gift Wrap Fundraiser Deadline
October 3rd – School Photo Day
October 11th – Joint HES & WIS General PTO Meeting, 9:30am, WIS Cafetorium
October 13th & 14th – Family Photo Day at Bisceglie Park
October 15th – Board of Education Meeting, 7:30pm

***SCHOOL & PTO NEWS***

***A MESSAGE FROM SARA SPAUDLING & TAMMY ROBERTS, HURLBUTT PTO CO-PRESIDENTS***

Yikes, what a storm - I hope everyone made it through the crazy weather ok this week! WOW programs started up this week and the kids seem to be really getting into the school year. Just a reminder that school will be closed for Yom Kippur next Wednesday. The box top contest deadline is Monday, so make sure you finish clipping around the house (I know our pantry now houses several boxes with holes in them). The gift wrap fundraiser ends Thursday next week, so please take a look at the catalog or the website if you haven't already. Photo day is coming up on the 3rd of October and I think Shirley is still looking for volunteers if anyone is interested in helping out. Last, but certainly not least, we would like to extend a big Hurlbutt Honey-bee welcome to Dr. Craw!

Sara Spaulding and Tammy Roberts

***BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE***
Tuesday's Board of Education Meeting was cancelled due to the tornado watch. Dr. Kennedy from the NESDEC (New England School Development Council) was to discuss the decreasing demographics of the student population in Weston and what that means for our children. I will let you know when this meeting will be rescheduled.

In a letter dated 9/18 Doctor Palmer let all Weston families know that due to a lapse in Joanna Genovese's administrator certification, she has resigned her employment with the Weston Public Schools effective immediately. The District has already begun its search for an Interim Principal for Hurlbutt to serve for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year. Kenneth G. Craw, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Schools, will serve as Temporary Interim Principal of Hurlbutt until an Interim Principal is in place. The District will commence its search for a permanent Principal of Hurlbutt in January, 2013 with the goal of appointing a new Principal effective on or about July 1, 2013

Sandra Hart, **sandy@sundial.com**
BOE Representative

***GIFT-WRAP FUNDRAISER***
The Gift-Wrap Fall Fundraiser has begun.  A catalog with all the fabulous Innisbrook products was sent home in your child's backpack.  Please look for the important information within the catalog to learn about this great opportunity to raise money for our school. There are fun incentives for the students to earn as they sell the wrapping paper and other gift items to their family, friends, and other people in the community. The fundraiser will run from September 10 through September 27.

If you have any questions, please email me at  **elizatabacchi@yahoo.com**.  I look forward to a successful and exciting family fundraiser!

***LRC NEWS***

*Reading Celebration*

Our school celebrated reading and recognized all of our summer readers this past Friday. Be on the lookout for an article and photos in the Weston Forum. Congratulations to all our readers. A special shout out to the following classes for having the highest participation in our summer reading program (most reading logs turned in):

Kindergarten - Mrs. Harjes

First Grade - Mrs. Needham

Second Grade (tie) - Mrs. Melnyk and Mrs. Larrabee

Storm, the Sound Tiger hockey team mascot, came to our celebration and also visited these classrooms. In addition, every student that turned in a summer reading log was entered in a raffle. The winners received a $10 gift certificate to the upcoming Hurlbutt Bookfair, courtesy of the PTO BookFair Committee. The winners were:

Kindergarten - Chelsea Britz, Tatum Roche

First Grade - Saray Cross, Luke Zielinski

Second Grade - Patrick Socha, Rory McCarthy

Just a reminder, if you ordered Sound Tiger tickets through our summer reading program, they will be mailed to your home. Congratulation again to all who participated in our summer reading program.

*LRC BOOK DUE DATE*

Our first library book due dates are upon us. Notices that reflect all checkouts, including due dates will be sent home this week as a reminder. Each month after this, a notice for overdues will be sent home. Please note the date on the notices as a book may have been returned after the notice was printed. Due dates are always stamped inside the library books. LRC books can be returned any school day. Please visit the LRC website and click the FAQs link for more information about our borrowing policies <http://www.westonps.org/page.cfm?p=497>. Feel free to call the LRC (203)291-1470 if you have any questions. Thanks for helping our students as they learn to fulfill the responsibilities of being library patrons!

*LRC VOLUNTEERS*

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help in the LRC this year. How classes are scheduled has changed this year, but we still rely on the help of volunteers to assist students during book exchange, to tackle the reshelving and work on special projects. Our volunteers help us offer our students a wonderful library. It's not too late to volunteer. Please contact Sam Leuzzi samhleuzzi@gmail.com, our parent coordinator, if you are interested. We'll be holding a volunteer get together/orientation within the next couple weeks. Details will be available soon.

Sharon Rodko, Librarian

***HURLBUTT 2012-13 YEARBOOK***
Believe it or not, we have already starting preparing for the 2012-2103 yearbook. Of course, we need your help. We are looking for photos from last year’s Mother’s Day concert, Field Day and Flag day concerts. We will also be asking for pictures from the first day of school, field trips, class parties, family fun night, recess and any other specials that take place.

Please make sure that these are high resolution photos. You have two options for sending your pictures. You can send them directly to **samhleuzzi@gmail.com** or you can upload directly to the Hurlbutt 2012-2013 Shutterfly share site. Please email**samhleuzzi@gmail.com** to be added to the share site.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact either Sam Leuzzi at **samhleuzzi@gmail.com** or Melissa Chesman at**mhchesman@gmail.com**

***LRC VOLUNTEERS***
The LRC is looking for volunteers to begin on Tuesday, September 18th to help check out books, shelve books and assist students in finding the books they want.

These are one hour time slots and will last the duration of the school year. Based on the number of volunteers who sign up, it may be a weekly commitment or an every other week schedule.

Please keep in mind that there is no guarantee that your child will be in the LRC at this time. Our new flexible LRC schedule involves teachers scheduling the LRC as it supports the curriculum.

The time in the LRC that you support will involve helping several classes borrow free choice books as well as helping with behind the scenes projects. Your time in the LRC is extremely helpful to the staff and all the children.

[**Click here**](https://leagueathletics.com/UserForm.asp?RegID=93631&snid=eLKCX%3FM3X&org=hurlbutt-pto.org) to sign-up online.  The LRC staff truly appreciates your support and assistance.  Thank you in advance!

Sam Leuzzi, **samhleuzzi@gmail.com**
LRC Chair

***HURLBUTT SCHOOL PHOTO DAY***
HES is pleased to announce that this year's school PHOTO DAY is Wednesday October 3!  This is the day where your child's individual and class picture will be taken by a professional photographer at the school.  Mark your calendars!  Order forms will be sent home with the kids in the next couple of weeks - please make sure all orders are sent back with full payment!

Shirley Hwang, **shwang01@yahoo.com**
School Photo Day Chair

***HES & WIS FALL FUNDRAISER - Family Photo Day***
The WIS and HES PTO’s will be sponsoring a Family Photo Day fundraiser on Saturday, October 13 and Sunday, October 14th.  Cynthia McIntyre, a Professional Photographer will be taking the photos.  The $50 session fee will include a portrait session, plus a DVD video of your favorite images set to music.  The $50 session fee will be donated to the WIS and HES PTO’s.  Photos will be taken outside at the shaded path to the pond of Bisceglie Park.  To schedule your appointment online go to [**www.wis-pto.org**](http://www.wis-pto.org/) and click ONLINE FORMS.  This is a great opportunity to get that family portrait you have always wanted and get your holiday cards done early.  There are limited numbers of sessions available so sign up soon!

If you have any questions, please contact Shawn Amato, **amato3@optonline.net** or Laurie Strouch, **LStrouch@optonline.net**.

***BOX TOP SUMMER CLIPPING CONTEST ENDS SEPT. 24!***
CLIP, CLIP, CLIP those Box Tops, COLLECT them in a plastic bag, and TURN THEM IN to your child’s teacher by September 24.  Last year HES raised $1500.  Let’s try to reach $2000 this year!  It is easy.  Our school earns 10-cents per Box Top.  Wow! Contest winners even receive prizes.  Top Earning class earns an ice cream party (with healthy alternative), Top Earning Child wins a 30 min. private art, music or gym class with HES superstar teacher and Top Earning teacher wins a pedicure at a nail salon.  Click here to download the Box Top Collection Contest Sheet.   Hurry, there are only 4 weeks left!!!

***IMPORTANT FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR HURLBUTT***
We need your help to raise additional funds for our kids.  What are these funds used for? They are used for super awesome Family Fun Nights, to purchase additional classroom and playground equipment, and to bring enrichment programs to our kids. See below the VERY EASY fundraising opportunities available:

[**Box Tops for Education**](http://www.boxtops4education.com/)
[**Stop-n-Shop A+ Rewards Program**](http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus)
[**Target’s Take Charge of Education**](https://www-secure.target.com/redcard/tcoe/home)

Please consider committing to one or two of these fundraisers. It is so easy and takes only a few clicks to make your daily purchases produce money for our school. Please click on links above to find out more. Last year our school earned over $4,000 from these easy fundraisers, so if everyone helps a little, the money can really add up.

***2012-2013 WESTON WALL CALENDAR***
The 2012-13 Weston Wall Calendars are on sale now.  [**Click here**](https://leagueathletics.com/UserForm.asp?RegID=92246&snid=eLKCX%3FM3X&org=hurlbutt-pto.org) to order and pay online, your order will be sent home in your student’s backpack (online orders must be paid for via Master Card or Visa).  If you prefer to pay by cash or check, Lang’s Pharmacy has a supply for sale.  Wall Calendars will also be available for purchase at each BTSN.

 ***SOCIAL MEDIA/FACEBOOK***

[**Click here**](http://www.hurlbutt-pto.org/Page.asp?n=27177&snid=eLKCX%3FM3X&org=hurlbutt-pto.org) to find us on Facebook.  Like our page and get updated information in your Facebook newsfeed.

[Click here](http://www.twitter.com/hurlbuttpto_ct) to follow us on Twitter.

***AROUND TOWN***

***FLU CLINIC FOR WESTON STUDENTS AND FAMILY***
Thursday, October 18th, 4:30pm – 6:00pm, Weston High School, 115 School Road.  Walk-in only, no appointments needed. [**Click here**](http://files.leagueathletics.com/Text/Documents/3106/37919.doc) for more information.

***BACK TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE!***
***Help the school, the environment and save money!  Join the Back to School Challenge!***
The WHS Green Club and the Weston Sustainability Committee have joined forces to encourage Weston families to join the Clean Energy Community’s “Back to School Challenge”.  This Challenge, run by Connecticut Light and Power and UI, involves getting at least 31 households in Weston to enroll in the Home Energy Solutions program, and have the energy improvement service completed, by September 30, 2012.  By signing up, you can reduce your energy bills and become more environmentally sustainable!  If we complete the challenge as a community, we can potentially earn $250 for the school!  To schedule Home Energy Solutions, please call 877-WISE-USE (877-947-3873) and use the reference "CEC School.” If you have any questions, please contact Jared Kapel at   **jaredkapel@gmail.com**.

***WESTON YOUTH SERVICES***
*WOW Programs!*
Weston Youth Services wants to remind parents that our WOW! After-School programs are scheduled to begin the week of September 17th!  Don’t forget to send in an alternate dismissal note, in duplicate, every week to your child’s teacher, even if you send a blanket note! Please make a notation on your alternate dismissal notice if anyone, other than yourself, is picking up your child at the conclusion of the program.

Additionally, all classes are scheduled from 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm (unless noted).  Please pick up your child in the classroom promptly at 4:15 p.m.! Please understand that our instructors have commitments after class!

***WESTON PARKS & RECREATION***
[**Click here**](http://www.westonct.gov/programs/48852) for information on the Fall 2012 programs being offered; Sports & Fitness, Dancercise, Swimming & Diving and Adult Programs.

***GIRLS SCOUTS***
If your daughter is interested in Girl Scouts and becoming a Daisy or a Brownie or if you would like to lead a troop from Grades K-2 please contact Mary Fiore at **jmfiore@aol.com**.

There will also be a Girl Scout event, “I Adore the Smore”, for all Girl Scouts and Prospective New Scouts on Sept 29th.  Please contact Mary Fiore if you are interested in coming or need more information on the event or joining scouts, [**http://westongirlscouts.org**](http://westongirlscouts.org/).

***WESTON SWIMMING***
Weston Swimming Registration is open for the 2012-13 Short Course Season.  We are a competitive swim team for kids ages 6-18.  [**Click here**](http://www.teamunify.com/TabGeneric.jsp?_tabid_=31275&team=csws) for more information.

***WESTON LACROSSE***
WANT TO TRY LACROSSE THIS FALL? STILL TIME!  It is not too late to sign up for the Weston Youth Lacrosse Club fall clinic sessions. These clinics, for both boys and girls, are open to ALL levels. Beginners are welcome. Sessions will be run by the Weston HS varsity lacrosse coaches John Matthews and Megan Murphy. The boy's clinics will be offered to grades 1st -8th and girls to grades 2nd -8th.  For dates, times and registration info please visit [**www.westonlax.com**](http://www.westonlax.com/)

***BENEFIT FOR WESTON SENIOR CENTER***
A Fun, Family Event coming to Weston
Alden Sherman Classic Car Show, September 23, 2012, Weston High School Grounds, 10am to 3pm.  Vote for your favorite classic car, race car, modern/exotic car, or motorcycle - this is a "People's Choice" show, [**www.aldenshermanclassic.com**](http://www.aldenshermanclassic.com/).  [**Click here**](http://files.leagueathletics.com/Text/Documents/3106/37914.docx) for more information.

***FREE SWAP & SHOP EXCHANGE PAGE***
For Sale, For Free and Wanted Items for Sale.  Have something to sell or giveaway but can't deal with Craigs List or Ebay?  [**Click here**](http://leag1.com/Exchange.asp?snid=eLKCX%3FM3X&org=westonct-pto.org) to view, [**click here**](http://leag1.com/CPanel/MessageInfo.asp?snid=eLKCX%3FM3X&org=westonct-pto.org&Type=Exchange&Return=/Exchange.asp) to advertise for free.

*If you have something for The Scoop please email your submission (in Word format) to* hesptoscoop@gmail.com***.****Article will be printed as is-content-should be print ready.  Submissions should be relevant to Hurlbutt and the Town of Weston (i.e., town sports programs, Town of Weston sponsored community events or after-school sports programs for students taking place in the Town of Weston).  If there is any question regarding the relevance of a submission, final approval will be determined by The Hurlbutt Scoop editor and/or the Hurlbutt PTO President.****Submission deadline is Tuesday – The Hurlbutt Scoop publishes on Thursday!***