



The Hurlbutt Buzz

The Hurlbutt Elementary School Newsletter

April 23, 2015

(No. 30)

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	TIME/LOCATION
APR 24	LAST DAY TO PREORDER ALL-DAY RIDE BRACELETS AND T- SHIRTS	https://leagueathletics.com/Store/Store.asp?id=8415&n=&org=westonpspto.org
APR 29	Parent Meeting Gr 2 to Gr. 3 Transition	6:30 PM WIS CAFETORIUM
MAY 4-8	Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week	
MAY 7	Weston Public Schools Art Jam	GR K-12 6-8 PM
MAY 7	Grade 1 Concert (Guertin, Merrifield/Weir, Miller, Quinn)	9:30 AM SH CAFETERIA
MAY 8	Grade 1 Concert (Coleman/Pregman, Driscoll, McNulty, Needham)	9:30 AM SH CAFETERIA
MAY 13	General PTO Meeting	9:30 AM SH CAFETERIA
MAY 13	Kindergarten Concert	9:30 AM LRC COURTYARD
MAY 14 (RAIN DATE)	Kindergarten Concert	9:30 AM LRC COURTYARD
MAY 18	Board of Education Meeting	7:30 PM WMS LRC

MAY 22	Early Dismissal for Professional Development	
MAY 25	Memorial Day	NO SCHOOL
MAY 28	Kindergarten Field Day	
MAY 29 (RAIN DATE)	Kindergarten Field Day	

[Click here for the 2014-2015 Weston District Calendar](#)

TOPICS THIS WEEK

- PTO President's Message
- Raising Resilient Children and Adolescents Program
- LRC Updates - One School One Book Kicked Off!
- Hurlbutt Hosts Bus Rides for Rising Kindergarteners
- 2nd Grade Parents (Rising 3rd graders) - Welcome to WIS Meeting and T-shirts
- Memorial Day Fair Online Store is Still Open Until 4/26 - Buy your ride bracelets now
- April Nutrition News - learn about healthy snack choices
- Deadline extended: 2015 Weston Wall Calendar Art Contest
- Schools Wall Calendar Sponsorship Opportunities Available
- PTO Marketplace
- Weston Parks and Recreation Programs
- Weston Youth Service Programs
- Change the Life of a City Kid by Hosting This Summer
- Weston Public Library - Film about Mies van der Rohe
- Little Explorers Camp runs June 29-July 24th
- Weston Cub Scouts has a new contact
- Weston Girl Scouts

PTO & SCHOOL NEWS

PTO PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So here we are. Vacation is over and we are back and all of a sudden things are getting all kinds of busy. The Memorial Day Fair store is open for one more day before preorders close and I begin to receive the inevitable panic emails from parents who

forgot to place a preorder. No judgements here, as last year I was one of those parents. Not a big deal until you put two and two together and realize that I forgot to place a preorder last year while I was co-chairing the fair. Like I said, all kinds of busy. Next week, you're going to start getting emails about Staff Appreciation Week and all of the different ways you can become involved in that wonderful event. Then the week after that we'll start asking for volunteers to work at the fair and that's when I get to turn the tables and send panicked emails to you! And believe me, I will (both panic and email).

But all that aside, I have something super-duper important that I want to tell you about because it directly impacts your kids in a very profound way. This coming Monday, April 27, Weston Youth Services is sponsoring a workshop with Dr. Robert Brooks entitled "Raising Resilient Children and Adolescents". There will actually be both a daytime and evening session in order to accommodate different schedules. In fact, all of the important details and information can be found below in the informative portion of the Buzz (read: not my newsletter), so please check that out. But while I have you here I would like to give you three reasons why I think we should all consider going to this workshop.

1. We love our kids tremendously.
2. We want to see them be happy and succeed.
3. They are not always going to be happy and succeed.

Sounds simple, right? But here's where it gets complicated. What do our kids do when something doesn't go their way? What do **we** do when something doesn't go their way? Because really, the answer to those two questions is the key. We all read about CEOs of Fortune 500 companies and their stories of monstrously enormous failures and how those failures helped them get to where they are today. Now I'm not sure about you, but sometimes when I have a monstrously enormous failure I'm not that excited about it and I have a hard time turning it into a great story. In fact, I get pretty miffed and I don't easily recognize it as the pathway to greater achievements. Sometimes it just plain bums me out. But I'm starting to realize that it's not the failure that defines me, but how I react to the failure. It's good that I'm learning that at age 41; but I can't help but feel that I would have been better off if I learned it when I was in high school, or middle school, or elementary school or even before that. So while I'm learning this lesson a bit late in life, the same doesn't have to be said for my kids. Given that, I'm really looking forward to this presentation and I hope to see you there.

Have a great weekend!

Yours,
Dan

**Raising Resilient Children and Adolescents with Special
Guest Speaker
Robert Brooks, PhD
Monday, April 27, 2015**

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 pm, Weston Public Library Community Room

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Wilton High School Little Theater

Weston Youth Services, Wilton Youth Council, Wilton Youth Services, and Silver Hill Hospital are hosting nationally renowned psychologist, author, and speaker, Dr. Robert Brooks to discuss how to help children and adolescents to deal effectively with stress and build resilience. Dr. Brooks will be giving the same presentation during the day in Weston and in the evening in Wilton to accommodate parents varying schedules; community members are invited to attend whichever presentation is more convenient. There is no fee to attend and no advance reservations are required.

ONE SCHOOL ONE BOOK ~ LRC (Mrs. Rodko)

On Wednesday, we kicked-off our One School, One Book Program with an all school assembly. This year's title, *Mercy Watson to the Rescue* was revealed. Leading up to the assembly, students received clues about the book. One final clue was Weston Firefighters at the assembly who helped deliver a copy to every student and staff member. (There are firefighter characters in the book). Mercy, the main character, also made an appearance and brought a mini Mercy for each classroom. Books and mini Mercies were courtesy of the HES PTO. Since Mercy Watson loves toast with butter, we've been inspired to collect breakfast foods for the Weston Food Pantry. Donations can be sent in through April 30th. Your child should have brought home a One School One Book parent letter, reading calendar, food collection flyer and Mercy frame and copy of the book. If you would like, affix a photo of your child or family sharing Mercy Watson to the Rescue to the frame and send it back to school to be displayed. Please check the calendar as to which chapters to read each night and to note special events. Check out the HES Mercy website for other info and activities <http://hesosob2015.weebly.com/>. Happy Reading!

HURLBUTT TO HOST BUS RIDES FOR INCOMING KINDERGARTENERS

All kindergarten students entering Hurlbutt in August 2015 are invited to take a short school bus ride and visit the school.

Children attending Community Nursery School, the Early Learning Center at Hurlbutt, Norfield Nursery School, St. Francis of Assisi Preschool, Temple Israel Early Childhood Center and the Westport/Weston Cooperative Nursery School are already scheduled for visits during their regular school hours on either May 12th or 15th.

Children who do not attend one of the above pre-schools will also have an opportunity to visit Hurlbutt on May 12th at 11:30AM. Children and parents will meet in the Learning Resource Center at Hurlbutt. At that time, your children will be checked-in so that they can have a short tour then board the bus for their bus ride. The children will be chaperoned by Suzanne Arnone, incoming kindergarten school counselor, while parents remain at Hurlbutt to chat with Laura Kaddis, our principal and Kim Kus, our assistant principal.

2nd grade parents (incoming 3rd grade)

The WIS PTO is excited to welcome your children to WIS next year. On Wednesday night at the "Welcome to WIS" meeting, the PTO will be selling WIS T-shirts in both children and adult sizes. T-shirts are \$10 each (cash or check) and will be available 15 minutes prior to the meeting. The children wear WIS T-shirts on school spirit days and on assembly days. Stop by and introduce yourself to us, we look forward to meeting you.

Sandy Hart & Bernie Park, WIS PTO Co-Presidents

MEMORIAL DAY FAIR ONLINE STORE IS NOW OPEN! (link included this week)

Planning for the 2015 Memorial Day Fair is in full effect and our online store is open! From now until April 24th (site automatically shuts off at 10 pm) you will be able to pre-order unlimited ride bracelet coupons at \$5 off the gate price; official Memorial Day Fair t-shirts; and back by popular demand, our family sponsorship packages. Please check out the online store for this year's fantastic logo design.

Also new this year, we have added to the value of our STARS sponsorship package. Not only do you get two unlimited ride bracelet coupons, but you also get a FOUR DAY parking pass for the South House lot. In addition, instead of choosing t-shirts with your package you can choose official Memorial Day Fair hooded sweatshirts instead! That's right, new this year we will be offering light grey hooded pullover sweatshirts with the MDF

logo on the back. The STARS sponsorship package is the only way to get these wonderful sweatshirts and there are only a limited number available. So what are you waiting for? Click on the link below now to pre-order your shirts, ride bracelet coupons, and more!

<https://leagueathletics.com/Store/Store.asp?id=8415&n=&org=m.m.m.westonpspto.org>

Thanks as always for your support!

-The 2015 MDF Team

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS **2015-2016 WALL CALENDAR**

BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP

Promote your business to the Weston School community!

A great sponsorship value, this calendar will hang in 500+ homes throughout Weston for more than 12 months.

The Calendar will include important dates and information for all grades of Weston Public Schools that kids and parents will reference regularly. Sponsor art & messages will be interspersed with pertinent information and resources to ensure viewership.

Funds raised will help finance educational equipment and programs for Weston's youngest students at Hurlbutt through the PTO.

Sponsorship Deadline is June 1st: Payment and artwork due

Click on the link to view sponsorship

levels: <https://leagueathletics.com/UserForm.asp?RegID=85227&org=westonpspto.org>

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOL **2015-2016 WALL CALENDAR**

FAMILY SPONSORSHIP

Send a Message of Thanks, Congratulations, Welcome, Encouragement or Love, to your child(ren), teachers, friends, & families in all any of our Weston Schools!

Make them feel special and appreciated while also supporting a great cause. Funds raised will help to finance educational equipment

& programs for Weston's youngest students at Hurlbutt through the PTO.

The Calendar will include Weston High, Weston Middle, Weston Intermediate and Hurlbutt information that you need to know for 2016-2017: PTO dates, events, Board of Ed. meetings, sports, plays, concerts, vacations, delayed opening & back to school nights... plus; vital telephone numbers, local businesses info & beautiful color artwork from our talented students.

Sponsorship Deadline is June 1st: Payment and artwork due Online orders must be paid for online by credit card. Click on the link to view the sponsorship

levels: <https://leagueathletics.com/UserForm.asp?RegID=85228&org=m.m.m.m.westonpspto.org>

WESTON WALL CALENDAR ART CONTEST DEADLINE EXTENDED TO MAY 10th

Do your kids love to draw? Doodle? Paint? Color? Photograph?

All Weston students, grades preK-12th grade are encouraged to spend a few minutes to and create an art contest submission. Drop your art in the basket in the main office or email it to Taract@optonline.net. Subject: ART CONTEST.

You could win a \$50 iTunes gift card!

- Art should be produced on 8.5" x 11" white paper; Landscape layout
- Colorful art with less white space works best
- Label your artwork -- student's name, school, grade, telephone number on the BACK in light pencil or in email
- Art should be family-Calendar appropriate including but not limited to that depicting seasons, specific months and holidays – be creative!
- Art may be dropped off in the HES, WIS, WMS or WHS Main Office in the "Calendar Art" basket
- Photographs & digital images of oil paintings, murals, etchings, etc. will be considered. Files should be emailed to Taract@optonline.net

SELECTION PROCESS:

- Students may submit up to five (5) pieces of art work, although only one submission per student may be selected to appear in the calendar.
- Winners will be notified before the last day of school

Due to volume of submissions, art will NOT be returned.

PTO MARKETPLACE

1. **Stop & Shop:** Click here <http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus/register-card/> and register your *Stop and Shop card* for Hurlbutt. Every time you shop, use your card and a percentage of your total will go to Hurlbutt! It doesn't get easier than that ;)
2. **BoxTops:** Keep clipping those BoxTops and save them for our next contest in the spring!
3. **SCHOOLA:** Hurlbutt Elementary School has opened an account with Schoola. We hope you will join us to raise funds for our school. You have 2 very simple options: (1) send gently used children's clothing (good brands sell more easily) in with your child and have him/her drop it in the box labeled Schoola at the main entrance; or (2) go online to www.schoola.com and request a bag. When you get it, fill it with great clothes that you no longer need, and send it back free of charge. Super simple!
4. **Amazon:** Use the link at www.westonpspto.org for all your Amazon purchases. A percentage of the sales using this link will be donated back to the Weston Schools. Must use the link and not the app.

AROUND TOWN

WESTON YOUTH SERVICES

Free parenting program with guest speaker Robert Brooks Monday April 27th!

Raising Resilient Children and Adolescents

Monday, April 27, 2015

11am - 12:30pm, Weston Public Library Community Room

7 - 8:30pm, Wilton High School Little Theater

Weston Youth Services, Wilton Youth Council, Wilton Youth Services, and Silver Hill Hospital are hosting nationally

renowned psychologist, author, and speaker, Dr. Robert Brooks to discuss how to help children and adolescents to deal effectively with stress and build resilience. Dr. Brooks will be giving the same presentation during the day in Weston and in the evening in Wilton to accommodate parents varying schedules; community members are invited to attend whichever presentation is more convenient. No advance reservations are necessary and there is no fee to attend. For more information visit <http://files.leagueathletics.com/Images/Club/5093/Raising%20Resilient%20Children%20and%20Adolescents%20final.pdf> or call #203-222-2585.

Sensational summer offerings for students in grades 1-12!

We've got cool and creative summer camps for kids of all kinds! Budding chefs can make homemade sushi and pasta in International Cooking, young filmmakers can create stop-motion animation in Imagination and Lego Flix, promising peacekeepers can build the hideouts and vehicles of their favorite caped crusaders in Super Hero Engineering with Legos, and aspiring scientists can experiment with crazy concoctions, cool gases, electricity, and robots in Super Duper Science. Registration is currently underway! For more information on programs, dates, costs, grade eligibility, and to register online, please visit our website at www.westonyouthservices.org

Weston Public Library

Thursday, April 23, 7 pm, Weston Public Library, FREE
Regular or Super: Views on Mies van der Rohe is an award-winning documentary directed by Joseph Hillel and Patrick Demers. In 1967, at the end of a career spanning more than six decades, which included the design of the Seagram Building in New York, the Lake Shore Drive Apartment Buildings in Chicago, and the Neue National galerie in Berlin, architect mies van der Rohe (1886-1969) designed a simple gas station near Montreal. The Weston home

designed by Mies van der Rohe will also be on the Landmark Homes Tour.

HOST A CITY KID FOR A WEEK OR TWO THIS SUMMER - CHANGE THEIR LIFE AND YOURS!

The Fresh Air Fund are looking for more Weston families to host children this summer A week in your home may change a child's life forever - it's the simple things that can make a big difference - running in the grass, watching the stars at night, getting sandy feet at the beach. Fresh Air Fund host families often find it's the highlight of their year too. All it takes to host is room in your home (they don't need their own room, just a bed) and room in your heart. The kids join in with whatever your family is up to - playing on the swings, going to the beach, going to day camp (many local camps will offer free places to Fresh Air Fund kids). To find out more about hosting a New York city child this summer please contact Weston Mom Sarah Thomas [2035570922](tel:2035570922) or smt234@gmail.com. You can also check out the website <http://www.freshair.org> or see this video to find out about a typical stay: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmZ9RbdISZw>

LITTLE EXPLORERS CAMP

Registration is beginning for Weston's Little Explorers Summer Camp. The Little Explorers Summer Camp is open to all children entering grades 1, 2 or 3. This summer we will be exploring the fun and exciting themes of America, Outer Space, Pirates and Hawaii. The Little Explorers Camp is held at WIS from June 29th to July 24th. Fee is \$100 per week. Contact Andrea Russo at 291-1405 for details and to register.

WESTON PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The after school Weston Parks & Recreation flyers are on the Town website for the SPRING sessions of the following:

Sports & Fitness grades k - 5, pool permits and aquatic lessons

(group swimming, springboard diving, water safety class, lifeguard training courses and private swim lessons).

The pool is open for weekend public swim on Saturday and Sunday from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. , Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 6:15 a.m. – 7:15 a.m. and Tuesday & Thursday evenings from 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

If you are interested in registering for any of these programs go to www.westonct.gov and view the flyers.

Please follow the registration procedures.

WESTON CUB SCOUTS

Pinewood Derby, fire station visit, arts and crafts, camping— there's still a lot going on with Weston Cub Scouts this year! If your 1st to 5th grade boy is interested in joining, it's not too late. For more information, contact Tammy Roberts at troberts@emailcorner.net.

GIRLS SCOUTS

Weston Girl Scouts is a wonderful community encouraging girls to be involved in the community, build strong friendships & empower them to be leaders. Visit <http://westongirlscouts.org> for more information

If your daughter is interested in Girl Scouts or if you would like to lead a troop please contact Nikki Lehman at westongirlscouts@gmail.com or call at (203) 451-6459

We are also gathering names for girls and leaders for next year's kindergarteners!

SUBMISSIONS

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 Buzz Editor and/or the Hurlbutt PTO President. Submission deadline is Tuesday – The Hurlbutt Buzz is emailed to all registered PTO Members on Thursday!

1. All write-ups should be in WORD format and the content should be print-ready,
2. If you have a flyer, please submit a brief write-up and we will attach the flyer to the newsletter,
3. If you want to re-run something from the previous week, let us know; review the write-up - does it need updating, i.e., change the wording from “coming home this week” to “you should have received last week”? If so, revise and resubmit,
4. The email address for the Buzz is hesptonnewsletter@westonpspto.org

Thank you for your support and cooperation.