

Issue No. 7

December 6,2018

Juan Melián

Dear Charter Oak Families:

This month our PTO brought back an old practice our school enjoyed years ago and that now we are so happy to see returning to our school, CHAT. These are community gatherings organized by the PTO and supported by the school where we discuss specific topics of interest for all of us.

A couple of months ago we started with CHAT on the topic of International Baccalaureate education and what it means to be an IB school. This past week, during the December PTO meeting, our parents came up with the idea of having a panel formed by the Charter Oak Leadership Team address questions, from all of you either sent previously or asked on the spot. For this panel I was joined by Irene Garneau, our Department Supervisor for Early Childhood Education, Kate Jerram, our school's Curriculum Specialist, Kirsten Sanderson, our IB Coordinator, and Tamara Acosta, our new Social Worker.

The questions covered a great variety of topics such as enrichment, communication, climate and discipline, consistency of the IB experience among grade levels, technology, awards and recognitions for students, ways to report back to the community on the family surveys, and much more. We could not get to all the questions so we hope that the experience is repeated and also that you take advantage of opportunities offered at other forums, such as Coffee with the Principal, held the first Friday of every month, where we can continue our community dialogue that I value so much.

Please stay tune for more to come. Our PTO is already working on the next CHAT, in January, on the topic on equity and diversity, which as you may know, is one of the specific areas of focus this year, not only at Charter Oak, but also across the district. My sincere gratitude to those making this happen. Our school is better because of your partnership, your ideas, your questions, and your critical friendship. I look forward to our January discussion.

In the meantime we are already well into the holiday season, which at Charter Oak is marked by a good number of traditional events. Just to mention a few, this December we already enjoyed another outstanding Family Academy, run by our School Family Resource Center, the Winter Concert, this year on Tuesday December 11th, and the *Kid's Night Out, Parent's Night Off, on Friday December 14th, where you can drop your children at Charter Oak for a couple of hours while you enjoy some adult time for yourselves. This is the second year we do it and it is starting to become a solid tradition in our school and a great way to collect funds supporting outstanding learning experiences for our children.*

Thank you for all you do in making Charter Oak such a great community. I wish all of you a joyful and restful holiday break and a very, very happy and productive New Year.

Juan Melián Principal

Queridas Familias de Charter Oak:

Este mes nuestro PTO (organización de Padres y Profesores) recuperó una vieja práctica presente en la vida de nuestra escuela años atrás, las CHARLAS. Estas charlas son encuentros de nuestra comunidad organizadas por nuestro PTO y apoyadas por la escuela donde podemos hablar de temas de interés general para todos nosotros como comunidad escolar.

Hace un par de meses comenzamos con las CHARLAS con el tema de Escuelas Internacionales y lo que significa ser un colegio IB. Esta semana pasada, durante la reunión de diciembre del PTO, nuestros padres organizaron un panel de discusión formado por el equipo de liderazgo de la escuela para responder a preguntas formuladas por los padres de antemano on durante el encuentro. Para esta ocasión tuve el placer de compartir el panel con Irene Garneau, nuestra Supervisora para Educación pre-Infantil, Kate Jerram, Especialista de Currículo, Kirsten Sanderson, Coordinadora de IB y Tamara Acosta, nuestra nueva Trabajadora Social.

Las preguntas cubrieron un buen número de temas tales como actividades de enriquecimiento académico, clima escolar y disciplina, paridad en la experiencia IB en los distintos grados, tecnología, premios y reconocimientos de estudiantes, formas de comunicar los resultados de la encuesta de padres y mucho más. No tuvimos tiempo para llegar a todas las preguntas pero espero que repitamos la experiencia y que ustedes también aprovechen otras oportunidades de diálogo que ofrecemos en otros foros. Por ejemplo, el Café con el Director, que se celebra el primer viernes de cada mes. Estos son encuentros que realmente aprecio y valoro.

Por favor, manténganse al tanto de nuevos eventos. El PTO ya organiza una nueva CHARLA, en enero, sobre el tema de igualdad y diversidad, que como espero ustedes saben, es un objetivo de trabajo específico este año, no sólo en nuestra escuela sino en todo el distrito escolar de West Hartford. Mi gratitud sincera a aquellos que hacen estos encuentros posible. Nuestra escuela es mejor como resultado de su apoyo, sus ideas, sus preguntas y sus críticas constructivas desde la amistad.

Espero con ilusión nuestra próxima CHARLA.

Mientras tanto, ya entramos de lleno en las Fiestas de Diciembre, que en Charter Oak vienen marcadas por un buen número de tradiciones. Por mencionar algunas de ellas, este diciembre ya disfrutamos de otra fantástica edición de la Academia Familiar, bajo los auspicios del Family Resource Center, el Concierto de Invierno, que este año es el martes 11 de diciembre, y el *Kid's Night Out, Parent's Night Off, el viernes 14 de diciembre, día en el que podrán dejar a sus hijos en la escuela durante un par de horas por la noche y disfrutar de tiempo para ustedes sin niños. Es el segundo año que lo hacemos y ya se perfila como una tradición sólida en nuestra escuela y una forma muy eficaz de recoger fondos que apoyen importantes experiencias educativas para nuestros chicos.*

Gracias por hacer de Charter Oak una comunidad tan especial. Les deseo unas Fiestas llenas de felicidad y descanso y un muy, muy feliz Año Nuevo.

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Juan Melián Principal

Save the Date:

December 3rd-7th

School Wide Book Fair



Library

Friday, December 7th

Principal's Coffee

F.R.C.



Monday, December 10th

International Human Rights Day



Tuesday, December 11th

Winter Concert

9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.



December 24th-January 1st

Winter Break

No School!

This is the time of year where germs are spread very easily and it is a good time to remind your children to cover their cough and wash their hands! Please also remember that if your child has had a fever they can't return back to school unless they have been fever free for 24 hours (1 day) without a fever reducing medication such as Tylenol or Motrin.

Please remember that Pre-K students have until **December 31** to get their flu vaccine or they won't be able to participate in school. Flu documentation can be given to the school nurse or Pre-K teachers.

Lastly, with the cold weather here, we just want to remind families to send students to school with the appropriate outdoor recess clothing such as jackets, snow pants, boots, etc. Please also have an extra set of clothing in lockers in case student's get wet or dirty outside.

Stay warm and dry!

Caitlin Manoni and Melissa Wren COIA School Nurses

Student Activities:

Monday, 12/10

<u>monuay, 12/10</u>		
Orchestra– Gr. 5	7:45am	Auditorium
Tuesday, 12/11		
Band–Gr. 5	7:45am	Auditorium
Dunia Grit	,	1 iuurorium
Wednesday 19/1	•	
Wednesday, 12/1		
Gr. 5 Strings Practice	8:05am	Music Room
Club		
Lexia Lab	8:00am	Library
<u>Thursday, 12/13</u>		
Suzuki Tour Group	7:45am	Room 160
Chorus	8:00am	Music Room
Friday, 12/14		
Lexia Lab	8.00	T :1
Lexia Lab	8:00am	Library
<u>Monday, 12/17</u>		
Orchestra– Gr. 5	7:45am	Auditorium
<u>Tuesday, 12/18</u>		
Band– Gr. 5	7:45am	Auditorium
Wednesday, 12/19		
Gr. 5 Strings Practice		Music Room
Club		
Lexia Lab	8:00am	Library
		2
Thursday, 12/20		
Suzuki Tour Group	7.15am	Room 160
Suzuki ioui Oloup	/. 4 Ja111	KUUIII IUU
Classes	8.00	
Chorus	8:00am	Music Room

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

Emergency school closings are infrequent; however, if we have an emergency closing due to inclement weather, please note the school closing times below. Such established times will ensure safe and efficient transport of your children on the roads.

Elementary : 11:45

Middle : 11:00 High : 10:30



MOVING OR CHANGING SCHOOLS?

If you have moved or are planning on moving to another address, it is necessary to contact the Residency Office and inform them of your new address. You may reach them by calling (860)

ATTENDANCE

If your child will be absent or tardy from school, please call our office at

(860) 233-8506

If you are put into our voicemail

system, press 1 to leave a recorded message. Please include the reason for the absence. This procedure will eliminate incorrect absence reporting as well as unnecessary phone calls to your home.

What's Cooking at the FRC

A bouquet of thanks to everyone who participated in Family Academy. We all had a great time baking, beading, building, learning sign language, playing cooperative games and exploring stop action movie making. The next **Family Academy** is scheduled for Saturday, March 30. Please plan to join us.

Two important programs will begin at the Family Resource Center in January. Would you like to become a change agent for children in West Hartford? Would you like to learn how the government and the schools function and how they make decisions? Join us for the **Parent Leadership Training Institute** (PLTI).

PLTI will meet on Wednesday evenings 5:30-9:00 PM at Charter Oak from Jan. 16-May 22, 2019. Family dinner and childcare for children ages 4 and up is provided each week. There is no charge to participate in PLTI but the group size is limited. Please call the FRC at 860-9295575 for more details.

Also coming to the FRC in January is the **Circle of Security parenting program**. Circle of Security is an 8 week research based program that strengthens a parent/caregiver's ability to respond to a child's emotional needs. Circle of Security will meet Friday mornings from Jan. 4-Feb. 22 from 9:30-11:00 AM. Group size is limited and there is a fee of \$36 per person with partial scholarships available. Stop in or call us at 860-929-5575 for more information.



Congratulations to the following students who were Charter Oak International Academy STARS for the month of December!!

> Nived A. Hawk K Annabelle G. Leilyn S. Addyson W. Aran J. Kimberly P. Noah C. Simran M. Jaylah L. Janel B. Anelis L. Nicholas L. Sandy I. Amari L Joanna Z. Kelly F. Trisha B. Elijah A. Angel N. Madison L. Keiliany S. Davih T. M.



Deborah Zipkin, Director

Calling Parent Volunteers!

Share Your Talents in our Exploration Program

We are in the process of planning our second session of the Explorations program for this year, this is an after school enrichment program that will be offered on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 3:20-4:20. This session will be from January 22-February 12, it is a four class session. Do you have an interest or talent you would be willing to share with our students? We are looking for parents to volunteer their time to run a course. We especially need volunteers interested in doing a course for kindergarten and first graders. Our goal is to offer our students opportunities to further explore the world from many different perspectives. We are looking to have our Exploration offerings relate to our school goals of being:

- Internationally Minded
- Inquiry Based
- Action Oriented
- Healthy Minds and Bodies

If you would like to run a course, but not sure what to do, just contact us and we can help you come up with a topic. If interested, the information I will need is:

- Course Title and description
- Day(s) you would like to teach: Tuesdays and/or Thursdays
- Grade Levels Your Activity is Appropriate For (K-5)
- Enrollment Limit
- Email and phone #

If you are interested, please contact Nanette at nanette_paridy@whps.org by Wednesday, December 19th.

WINTER CONCERT REMINDER CHOIR, 5TH GRADE BAND, 5TH GRADE ORCHESTRA, SUZUKI TOUR GROUP

Dear COIA families,

We would like to remind you about the school **Winter Concert** on **Tuesday December 11, 2018**. Performances will be at **9:30am and 7:00pm** in the Charter Oak auditorium. Students should plan to arrive for the **evening performance at 6:30 pm**.

Concert dress for both performances is a white button down shirt with black/dark pants/skirt. Shoes should be dark or black. No sneakers, please. Please feel free to send in more comfortable clothes for students to change into after the morning performance.

If you have any questions email is the best way to contact us but you may also call our voicemail.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Fay <u>elizabeth fay@whps.org</u> (860) 233-8506 x2960

Mr. Vita michael_vita@whps.org (860) 233-8506 x2960

Dr. Zych melissa_zych@whps.org

(860) 233-8506 X 2971



The Family Resource Center sponsored Family Academy on Sat. Dec. 1.

A second Family Academy will be held on Sat. , March 30.

Speaking Another Language at Home Helps your Child in School



Do you speak another language at home besides English? Excellent! Don't stop speaking your native language at home!

Here are some ways you can contribute to your child's education and speak your native language at the same time:

1. Tell your child stories. By telling your child stories, you are developing their vocabulary and oral language skills.

2. When your child brings home a library book from school, sit with them and talk about the pictures. You can understand a great deal about a story by looking at the pictures and talking about what is happening on each page, what will happen next and what happened at the end of the story.

3. Śing songs and share nursery rhymes in your language.

4. Go to the public library and get a library card. There are many wonderful, free resources at the library. Make it a family "field trip" and get in the habit of going on a regular basis.

5. Talk, talk, talk to your child. A meaningful conversation at the dinner table, grocery store or a family event can help a child develop their ideas and questioning skills.

6. Watch educational television programs together and talk about the shows.

7. Read books in your native language to your children. Faxon Library in Elmwood has books in many languages. Check them out!

8. Start a home library for your child. The Family Resource Center has many books in English for 25 cents a piece or 10 books for \$1.00. Let your child pick out some books and begin their own library at home.

9. Talk to your child about the importance of being able to speak more than one language.

Each and every world language has value and speaking more than one language makes them a "world citizen".

If you would like to learn English, there are **free** programs available:

1. The Family Resource Center offers a class for parents of 2-4 year old children, "English for Families and Futures" on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9-12. Sign up in the Family Resource Center if you are interested or call 860-929-5575.

2. West Hartford Continuing Education has ESOL classes in their LifeLearn catalog.

Daytime and nighttime classes are available at many different locations. Charter Oak has classes on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30-8:30. You may register every Tuesday or Thursday night in Room 216. (free child care is also available) For more information: call 860-561-6900 or go online-www.whlifelearn.org

Lillian Rausch, ESOL teacher

Fifth Grade Students Tour the United Nations

The fifth-grade students here at Charter Oak International Academy, along with 18 Conard students, recently had the opportunity of a lifetime. On November 8th, the students got to tour the United Nations building in New York City, accessing prominent areas such as the General Assembly and Security Council Chamber. Students were also able to view and discuss the original draft of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).



This wonderful opportunity would not have

been possible without a generous grant from the Foundation for West Hartford Public Schools (grant donors: Dr. Scott & Cyndi Brown) and a sizable donation from our amazing PTO. Sra. Rich played an instrumental role in organizing the trip. Thanks to all!

In order to prepare, all fifth graders selected and studied key portions of the UDHR. Classes looked deeply at the rights within the UDHR; and examples throughout history when they have been upheld, protected, and violated. During their trip, students looked for ways their selected rights were exemplified throughout the UN.



To ensure that their experience and learning will continue with them beyond the trip, students brainstormed ways that we can stand up for human rights in our everyday lives. Here are some examples:

"We can be brave and speak up; and stand up for our beliefs."

"We can be principled - which is doing the right thing even when no one is looking."

"We can be open-minded to others' ideas."

This work aligns perfectly with our IB philosophy and our focus on peace and compassion, with an international mindset. After the trip, students reflected on their experience and made some amazing observations and connections. The day finished with

everyone coming back together in one of the briefing rooms, where a UN employee spoke with the students about the important work the UN does and what it takes to work there.



Additionally, this trip coincided perfectly with Human Rights Day on December 10th as well as the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In celebration, the fifth graders will be making a video showing how they can stand up for Human Rights in their everyday lives. You won't want to miss it!

Here are 10 facts about the work of the United Nations that you may not know:

1. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the first document to detail the fundamental human rights that must be protected. The declaration was proclaimed by



the General Assembly in 1948. Security of human rights is a key pillar of the UN's work.

2. The annual UN Peacekeeping budget is less than 0.5% of global military spending. The UN currently has 117,000 peacekeepers helping keep peace in 15 operations on 4 continents.

3. The UN's World Food Programme (WFP) provides food and assistance to 80 million people in some 80 countries. Additionally, WFP is planning for the future by developing programs to ensure a more stable food environment.

4. The UN and its agencies help over 1 million women a month overcome pregnancy complications. The UN Population Fund (UNFPA) works to make motherhood safer, among other responsibilities.

5. The UN and its agencies supply vaccines to 45% of the world's children. For example, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are core partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which has helped reduce polio cases by over 99% since 1988.

6. The UN supports about 67 countries a year with their elections. The UN also uses diplomacy to prevent conflict.

7. The UN assists people displaced by violence, conflict, and persecution. The UN and its agencies provide life-saving help to refugees and forcibly displaced people. Today, there are more than 65 million forcibly displaced people around the world.

8. The Paris Agreement on climate change was signed by the largest amount of countries ever in a single day. On Earth Day 2016, 174 world leaders signed the agreement at the UN headquarters in New York. The UN is committed to fighting climate change, and the agreement builds on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

9. The UN brought countries together in 2015 to launch a plan to end poverty, reduce inequalities, and protect the planet by 2030. The Sustainable Development Goals provide a common blueprint for countries to reach a world of dignity for all by 2030.

10. A majority of Americans believe in the importance of the UN. According to a new bipartisan poll released by the Better World Campaign, 79% of U.S. voters believe the UN is needed today. https://unfoundation.org/

RAISING FUNDS, AWARENESS AND HOPE!

PJ Day for the Kids****Save the date!

Suggested Donation- \$1 or More. Wear PJs, Support Kids with Cancer

Friday, December 14, 2018

Since 2011, thousands of children in Connecticut have worn their pajamas to school in support of pediatric patients at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. To date, more than **\$375,000** has been raised for the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders.

Over the last 7 years, participants have worn PJ's in honor of children at the hospital who must wear their PJ's for extended periods of time while fighting cancer or other serious illnesses. As the mom of a cancer survivor, this cause is near and dear to my heart. When my son was 6 months old he was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma, and we received life saving treatment and care from this treasure of a hospital.

Every year, PJ Day for the Kids inspires more and more school children and business leaders to become involved. From new, safer, lifesaving treatments and individual, targeted, genetic therapies to financial and emotional support for the entire family, your donations to PJ Day for the Kids are making a difference for the children at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Together we are making a difference!

Thank you for raising funds, awareness and hope for these brave kids!

Sincerely,

Alanna Goldberg

Speech-Language Pathologist



Checks can be made out to Connecticut Children's Medical Center Foundation or students may bring in cash that I will collect and send on Charter Oak's behalf.

Art News:

Congratulations! Every year Charter Oak International Academy has the opportunity to highlight their talented artists at the West Hartford Town Hall. Student art pieces were selected and they are now being displayed at Town Hall, located at 50 South Main Street in West Hartford on the fourth floor (hallway is on the South Main Street side). The artwork will be up until January 22nd and everyone is welcome to stop by anytime to view the talented artists work! The W.H. Town Hall hours are Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30.

Enjoy!

Mrs. Drown



Congratulations to the following students:

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<u>Pre-K:</u>	<u>1st Grade</u> (Continued):
Yadriel B.	
Domenico D.	Armani R.
Gabriel F.	Brianna S.
Eloise H.	Aricella V.
David J.	Addyson W.
Katrina L.	<u>3rd Grade:</u>
Calvin M.	Cora C.
Raeya RW.	Frances Eikel
2	4 th Grade:
Asher T.	Brandon A.
Kindergarten:	Trisha B.
Mathias C.	Isabella B.
Javien G.	
Matthew M.	Saniya C.
Ryujin S.	Nghi D.
Leilyn S.	Kelly F.
-	Emilio G.
Celina Z.	Elyse G.
<u>1st Grade:</u>	Maya M.
Beatrice A.	Brianna P.
Haylee D.	
Stella G.	Aaron S.
	Maylin S.

Family Resource Center Offers the Circle of Security[®] Parenting[™] Program





"Often our children's needs are hidden in plain sight."

~Bert Powell Co-originator, Circle of Security

The Circle of Security[®] Parenting[™] program is an 8-week researched-based program that supports and strengthens a parent/caregiver's ability to understand a child's emotional needs and how best to respond and support those needs.

Through video examples, handouts and reflective dialogue, caregivers will explore their parenting/attachment experiences in a safe environment and build parenting skills to encourage healthy growth and development.

Circle of Security[®] will be facilitated by Kim Townsend, FRC Parent Educator and Amy Yarbrough, FRC Family Liaison Trained COS-P Facilitators

Dates & Location

Meets 8 Fridays January 4 - February 22, 2019 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

At the Family Resource Center (FRC) Charter Oak International Academy 425 Oakwood Avenue, West Hartford

Important Information

Parents and caregivers of children of all ages invited.

Limited to 8 participants.

Fee: \$36 *Partial scholarships available Please make checks payable to Bridge Family Center

To register, contact the FRC at 860.929.5575 The FRC is a program of the Bridge Family Center





Memorable baseball experiences for all age divisions!

TRAINING \$50!

Players ages 4-6

- Buddy requests
- Tees/coach pitch
- Introduction to baseball
- End-of-year jamboree
- Two days a week

INSTRUCTIONAL \$75!

Players ages 7-8

- Buddy requests
- Machine pitch
- Skill and team building
- All teams make playoffs
- Summer travel options

MINORS

Players ages 9-10

- School-based teams
- Kid pitch
- All teams make playoffs
- Play under the lights!
- Summer travel options

MAJORS

Players ages 10-12

- Larger 50/70 field layout
- Learn MLB-style rules
- All-Team playoffs/All Stars
- Play under the lights!
- Summer travel options

Recreational and competitive Travel teams

Off season options at our own indoor baseball facility!

Fair and balanced teams throughout the league

Open to residents of West Hartford, towns bordering West Hartford, East Granby and Windsor

Turning 13 after April 30th ? Play WHYBL!

West Hartford Youth Baseball League: EMAIL: whybl@hotmail.com WEB: whybaseball.com

PROVIDING THE BEST BASEBALL EXPERIENCES FOR 70 YEARS!



KID'S NIGHT OUT PARENT'S NIGHT OFFI

AN OFFER YOU CAN'T REFUSE!

The Charter Oak 5th Graders thought you might like a few hours to yourself this December! Drop your child(ren) off at Charter Oak for a fun and safe night of games, crafts, popcorn and a movie while you shop, have dinner out or simply enjoy some quiet time.

- WHEN: Friday, December 14, 5:30pm to 8:00pm.
- **WHERE:** Charter Oak cafeteria and gymnasium
 - WHO: Charter Oak students & siblings
 3 yrs and older, must be potty-trained
 *Every child will be matched up with a
 5th grade student *and* parent or
 caregiver.
 - **COST:** \$20 per child, \$10 for siblings Optional \$4 per child includes pizza



DETAILS: We invite children to come in PJs! Please share any information (example: food allergies) that will help us ensure the safety and comfort of your child!

Cut along dotted line and return to school by <u>Thursday, December 7.</u> Contact Manuela with any questions at manoli1712@gmail.com or 860-965-1596. Payment is due at the door - cash/check/ credit card (Visa/MC) accepted. DO NOT send money to school with your child. Thanks! Parent(s) Name & contact:

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Child(ren)'s Names:	
(include ages)	No. of the second se
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ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE 5TH GRADE CLASS ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS. DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME AND APPRECIATED. Nervous about middle school? Unsure what to expect? Do you have questions? We can help!



Please join the three principals of the West Hartford Middle Schools at one of the two upcoming information nights. Topic at each meeting will include: MS transition planning, schedules and classes, and parenting teens.

This is open to ALL West Hartford parents of current 5th graders and is a parent-only event.

Please join us at one of the following sessions:

Monday, February 4, 2019 - Whiting Lane School, 7:00-8:00pm

Thursday, February 7, 2019 - Duffy School, 7:00-8:00pm

8th Annual PDAY FOR THE KIDS WEAR YOUR PAJAMAS TO SCHOOL



In Support of Kids at Connecticut Children's Medical Center!

Students and staff of

are invited to wear their PJs to school in honor of kids at Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

Thousands of children each year spend days, weeks or longer in PJs at the hospital while receiving care. PJ Day for the Kids will help us show our support for these brave kids!

Wear your PJs and make an optional donation of \$1 or more.

Donations will be collected at school on

For more information and to locate your team/school online to make a gift visit: give.connecticutchildrens.org/pjday.

Checks can be made to Connecticut Children's Medical Center Foundation.

All proceeds benefit the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Appropriate attire for school/weather. No slippers for safety, please.



Parent Leadership Training Institute

Concerned about how children are impacted by schools, communities and the environment?

Want to learn how government and education systems function and policy decisions are made?

Ready to strengthen your leadership and advocacy skills to promote the well-being of our children?

If you are passionate about children and want to be a change agent in their lives, please join us for our next Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI)

The Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) is a FREE 20-week program that combines advocacy, leadership and citizenship skills into a curriculum to foster the best interests of children.

- Who: Parents, grandparents, guardians, or people who live or work in West Hartford or who have kids in the West Hartford public schools
 When: Retreat Saturday, January 12, 2019
- Classes Wednesday evenings January 16 May 22, 2019
- **Time:** Family Dinner served at 5:30 p.m. Class meets from 6:00 9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Charter Oak International Academy 425 Oakwood Avenue, West Hartord

Family dinner and childcare are provided for each meeting for children 4 years and older.

To register, call the Family Resource Center at 860.929.5575 and schedule your informational interview. Interviews begin November 30th and class size is limited.

