

A Note from the Interim Principal

September 29, 2023



East Lyme Middle School

@eastlymems



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for the wonderful turn-out at Back-to-School Night last week. The evening was well attended and rich with good dialogue and information. It is always wonderful to see so many parents supporting our students at East Lyme Middle School functions.

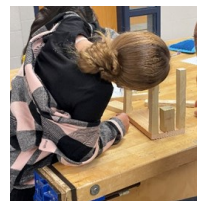
In the following weeks, we will be showcasing updates from various Curriculum Fellows. Staff members will be sharing an overview of content specific curriculum, and an overview of each grade level's focus. This is a wonderful way for families to stay informed of what our students are engaged in during the school day and yet another way to embark in conversation with your children about aspects of their day. In today's letter, you will receive material from Mr. Peter Grant, the technology education teacher.

Enjoy your weekend and as always, please reach out with any questions.

Regards,

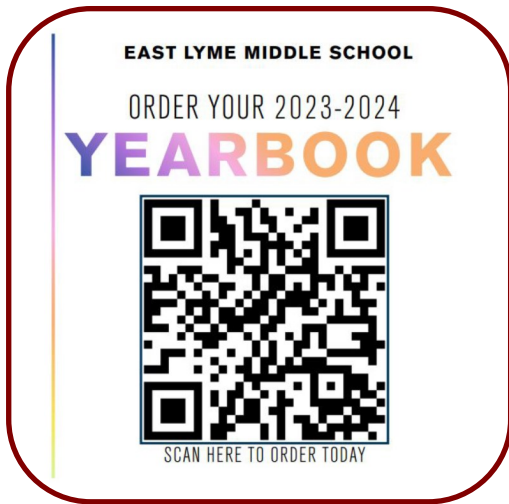
Claudine Kelly

The ELMS Tech Ed department is well underway in our explorations of the many facets of technology education. In 8th grade, we started going over safety in a woodshop and now are beginning to use power tools such as band saws, scroll saws, drill presses, sanders, and miter saws as we complete our introductory unit, the wooden knot puzzle. Once we finish, students will then experience firsthand the engineering design process as they design, test, and improve their own catapults. In 7th grade, students are beginning units in 3D design and 3D Printing using Tinkercad. Students are designing a variety of objects such as dice, Minecraft party glasses, chess pieces, a burger, and a few other smaller objects. Once students are comfortable with the program, they designed, and 3D printed their own keychains! Other 7th graders are also now learning the basics of photo editing using Adobe Photoshop. The 6th graders are wrapping up a unit on the basics of filmmaking and will soon use Adobe Premiere Pro to edit some videos. And our 5th graders are beginning their introduction to the engineering design process by creating their own straw mazes before examining bridges, how they work, and creating balsa wood bridges of their own.



Dates to Remember

October 4	XCountry @ Stonington MS
October 5-6	PE Mile Run
October 9	No School—School Holiday
October 11	XCountry vs. Ledyard MS; Rocky Neck
October 17	Internet Safety Assembly
October 18	XCountry @ Tyl MS
October 23-27	Book Fair
October 25	Taste of The Arts



From our Central Office

Please review the information below regarding enrollment verification for existing students, signing forms in portal, and submitting absence requests in portal.

- > We have a couple of new features in your Infinite Campus Parent Portal
 - A new feature will allow a parent/guardian to submit an absence request through their portal. Available to use starting Sept. 5, 2023.
 - Click [here](#) for the video walking you through the process of submitting an absence request for your student through your portal. Please be aware this will be available starting Tuesday, Sept 5th. This is the most efficient way as it does not require a phone call to the school or a follow up note.
 - Another new feature will allow you to complete and digitally sign some of our yearly forms directly in your portal. Click [here](#) for a video walking you through the process to complete any documents that need your attention.

- > Reminder to complete the 2023-2024 enrollment verification for existing students if you have not already done so.
 - Click [here](#) for a video on how to complete the 2023-2024 enrollment verification process for students already enrolled in East Lyme Public Schools.
 - This will ensure we have the most up-to-date information on you and your students.
 - Please contact Stacey Muscarella with any questions at stacey.muscarella@elpsk12.org or 860-739-3966 ext. 5628.

The [volunteer link](#) is now open for the school year. This is for anyone who is not employed by ELPS and will be working with or overseeing students at any time during a school activity. A couple of things to please note: The application site is on the district website under Offices/Human Resources. Volunteers need to know the process can take up to 2 weeks to become fully vetted.

District News:

[Swim Lesson—Fall Sign Ups](#)

[ELHS Project Grad Golf Tournament](#) October 15, 2023

[EL Police Cadets](#)

[Walk of Horror](#)—7:00-9:45 PM October 6th-8th

ELMS PTA



October 2023

Families,

It was wonderful meeting so many of you during the first PTA meeting on September 14th and during Open House! We hope you will consider membership if you have not already. We are always in need of volunteers and new ideas!

Exciting Happenings:

NEXT MEETING - Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 19 from 6:30-7:30 PM in the ELMS cafeteria.

MEMBERSHIP - Please complete the [membership form](#) and return with your child. You can still be a member. This is required in order to volunteer at PTA-sponsored events and vote on any items.

SPIRIT Wear - Thank you for supporting this fundraiser. The first PTA-sponsored spirit day will be Friday, October 20. Be sure to have your child wear their new gear and/or maroon and white colors. If you are picking up the items you order, the following dates/times will be offered:

Wednesday, October 11th from 5:00-6:30 through cafeteria doors

Thursday, October 12th from 5:00-6:30 through cafeteria doors

FUNDRAISERS - Pie fundraiser runs September 29th through October 13. Delivery date just in time for Thanksgiving will be November 17th. More details will be forthcoming!

If you'd like to opt out of fundraisers and just donate funds towards the PTA sponsored activities, please consider using the alternative PTA form - [Alternate Fundraising Form](#)

PTA SPONSORED ASSEMBLY - The PTA is helping to sponsor the fall assembly on October 17th - Internet Safety! *This presentation heightens students' awareness of Internet safety and potential consequences of using today's ever-changing technology. Students will learn how shared pictures and other technology use can impact their future, how comments on a social networking site can come back to haunt them and how cyberbullying – if not addressed appropriately – can have severe outcomes.*

President: Rita Quiles-Glover ritaglover@sbcglobal.net
Vice President: Nila Kaczor ncascio@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Danielle Deeble danielledeeble327@gmail.com
Secretary: Tina Conlin 3peaparents@gmail.com

Don't forget to join our East Lyme Middle School facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/>



Scholastic Book Fair: Our book fair will run Monday 10/23-Friday 10/27, with Wednesday evening hours during The Taste of the Arts. See the signup genius below. And remember parent volunteers should be completing the *volunteer forms available online*. To volunteer use this link - <https://www.signupgenius.com/.../30E0F4BABAB29A7FE3...>

Volunteer Forms: Forms are required to be completed to help with events, per school policy - [Volunteer Process Forms](#)

Upcoming - Winter dances; November PTA Meeting is: November 30 (rescheduled date)