

A Note from the Interim Principal

October 27, 2023



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your recent visit to ELMS' Taste of the Arts evening. This event is always a fun-filled evening and well attended by our students and their families. I hope that you had the opportunity to meet with our talented Life Arts faculty and see "firsthand" the lessons and experiences which our students get to participate in.

In the month of November, our teachers will be using a tool called the Devereux Student Strengths Assessment, or DESSA. The purpose of the DESSA is to identify which social and emotional skills your student has already learned, and what skills he or she might still need to develop. Data gathered by this assessment will be used by school-based committees and teachers to make informed decisions to support social and emotional development in our school. Please reference the following link [DESSA Letter](#) to parents provided by Mrs. Davis, Director of Student Services.

The curriculum highlighted in today's letter is from Mr. Dan Bohman, ELMS Art Fellow. Please take a moment to review some of the creative projects and mediums he is incorporating into his lessons. Thank you, Mr. Bohman, for sharing and instilling such creativity into the projects and assignments.

Enjoy this last weekend in October and I hope you and your families soak up this exceptional fall weather!

Regards,

Claudine Kelly

Art is rolling along giving students the opportunity to explore their creativity using different mediums. Students in 5th grade are creating their own tile designs using radial symmetry and watercolor. They looked at tile and mosaic designs from Mexico, Portugal and Morocco. 6th grade students kicked off their first trimester with clay. Students created their own templates to create and glaze unique trinket trays using clay slabs and coils. Next, they practiced mixing and blending colors to explore color theory and paint creative color wheels. In anticipation for Native American Heritage Month in November, they are currently learning the history and tradition of making dream catchers using various materials. Grade 7 will be decorating the hallways with paper mâché pumpkins for October. They are exploring exaggerated emotions using different facial expressions in the pumpkins. They will then paint the pumpkins focusing on layered paint for a realistic depiction. 8th grade is in the middle of their large Pop Art Sculptures. Based on the Pop Art movement in the 1950s, students are constructing sculptures based on everyday objects not normally thought of as art and blow them up to a much larger size. They've created an armature using hot glue and cardboard and are now starting to paper mâché the structures to smooth out imperfections and to prepare it for painting.

- Dan Bohman, Art Teacher



@eastlymems

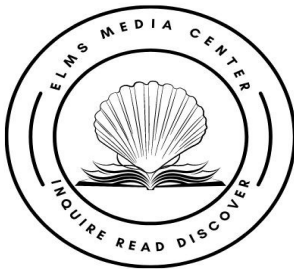


East Lyme Middle School

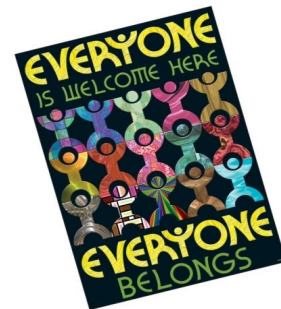
Dates to Remember

November 1	Picture Re-take Day
November 7	NO SCHOOL for Students— Election Day / Staff PD / Red Cross Blood Drive
November 10	Veterans Day Celebration
November 20	Early Dismissal (11:55) Student Led Conferences (12:45-2:45)
November 21	No School for Students— Student Led Conferences

[Media Center Link](#)



[Counseling Office Link](#)



Around Town

[*Be Creative at the Library*](#)

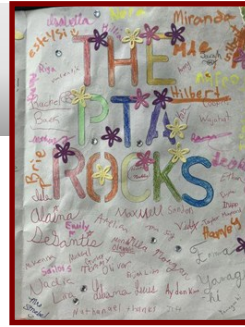
[*Red Cross Blood Drive—November 7, 2023*](#)

[*Niantic Community Church Blood Drive—November 29th*](#)

[*Girls Circle*](#)

[*Leadership Program*](#)

ELMS PTA



President: Rita Quiles-Glover
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3peaparents@gmail.com

Don't forget to join our East Lyme
Middle School facebook page - [https://
www.facebook.com/
groups/1042924832497235/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1042924832497235/)



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, November 30th 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.

Fundraisers - Pie fundraiser delivery date is just in time for Thanksgiving on 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](#)

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

Upcoming - Winter dances

As always, please remember you can always reach out to any PTA-board members with questions or ideas!

