February 2, 2024

East Lyme Middle School

@eastlymems

A Note from the Interim Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the 100-day mark of this school year already. As I was at bus dismissal on Friday, I noticed the planter in front of the building is showing signs of the bulbs beginning to break through the surface. This transition is amazing since the week prior the planter was filled to the top with excessive rain that collected, then snow, and finally a solid ice pack following the weekend of wintry weather. To me, the symbolic meaning of the bulbs exemplifies the transitions happening within the building.

We are well under way with grade 5 transition planning. Within the coming weeks, we will share information to the families of next year's incoming grade 5 students. Communication and collaboration are occurring between the elementary schools and East Lyme Middle School and a series of evening events are planned.

Additionally, for our grade 8 students and families, East Lyme High School will host a Grade 8 Rising Vikings evening on February 22nd at 6:00 PM. Be sure to save the date! For more information on what to expect, please visit the attached link Grade 8 Rising Vikings. This night is important for families and students to learn about the high school environment and expectations and will be essential for a smooth transition to grade 9. This flyer was added to our Counseling Virtual Office page, found below and on our website.

I am requesting the support of our families to assist our physical education teachers as we share a dress code for physical education classes. This dress code ensures the comfort, safety, and appropriateness within the physical education setting. The dress code helps promote a positive and inclusive environment for physical activity and learning. Students should come to class prepared for P.E. class. Please take the time to review the expectations and discuss them with your child PE Attire. Thank you in advance for your support.

Our Curriculum Fellow update is provided this week by Mrs. McArthur, of the Family and Consumer Science department. The following page provides a detailed overview of opportunities and experiences which our children are afforded. It is my hope that the students are sharing some of these offerings with you as well.

Thank you for your collaboration and assistance. Please reach out with any questions and I look forward to an exciting remainder of the second half of the school year!

Regards,

Claudine Kelly

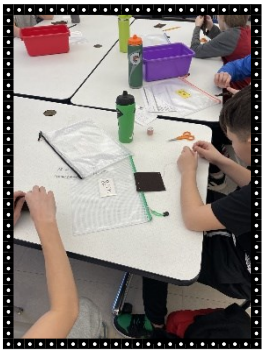
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

Mrs. Oliver and Mrs. McArthur's Family and Consumer Science (FACS) classes have been working hard this year to learn new cooking skills, nutrition information, sewing skills and information about human growth and development. For more detailed information for each grade level, please see our parent letter by scanning the QR code below.

Eighth graders begin the trimester learning about different flavors, then make 3 recipes to explore those flavor profiles. Eighth graders then learn how to machine sew by making a pillowcase. We end the trimester with our human growth and development unit with a focus on relationships.

Seventh graders begin the trimester with a unit on human growth and development. They then work in the kitchen classroom to explore nutrition and kitchen vocabulary and safety. Students will then practice cooking techniques by completing several recipes.

Sixth graders begin the trimester with a child development unit and explore major milestones for kids aged 0-5. Through the hand sewing unit, they learn several different stitches and practice them by making felt monsters inspired by kindergartener drawings from our elementary schools. They will conclude the trimester with a human growth and development unit.



Fifth graders participate in the Challenge unit to learn strategies to handle peer pressure, decision making, internet safety, relationships, self-esteem, and drug prevention. This is a program sponsored by the East Lyme Police Department and is taught by our SRO, Don Hull. Students also complete a human growth and development unit. For the FACS unit, fifth graders get an intro to a nutrition and cooking unit by completing a few recipes based on healthy food guidelines.

Scan Me

East Lyme Middle School

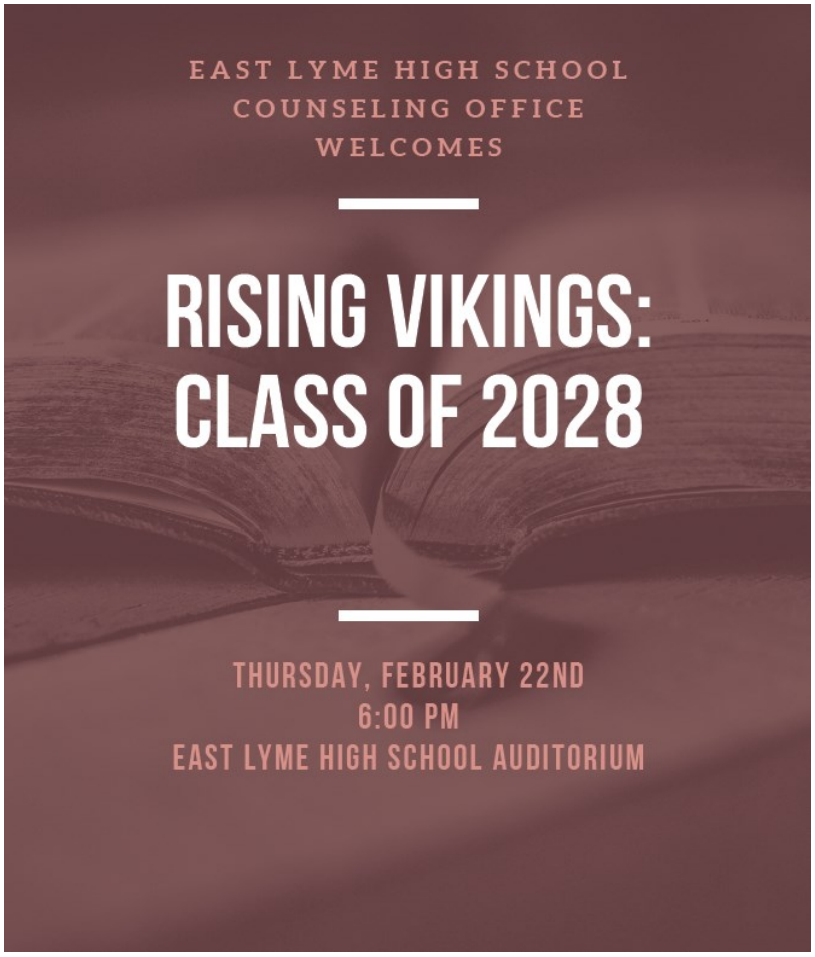
Dates to Remember

February 9th	PTA Sponsored Dance
February 12th-16th	PTA Sponsored Spirit Week
February 15th	Student Early Dismissal; 11:55 AM Staff Professional Day
February 16th	**SCHOOL IS IN SESSION**
February 19th & 20th	No School - School Holiday

ELMS 23/24 Yearbooks On Sale Now!

SCAN HERE TO ORDER TODAY

Yearbook deadline has been extended. Order yours today!



Click here to see the 2024-2025 ELPS Calendar

Counseling Office

Media Center Link

ELMS MEDIA CENTER
INQUIRE READ DISCOVER

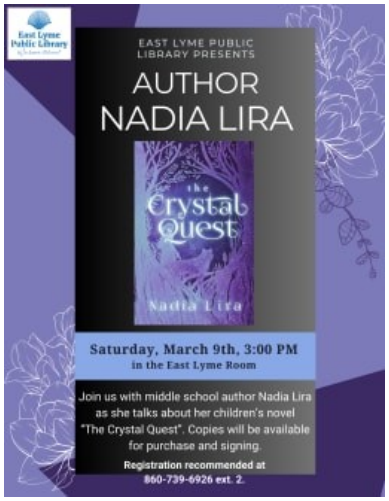
Around Town

STARS TO STEM Regional Planetarium
Winter 2024 Planetarium Series
One World, One Sky
Back to the Moon for Good
Dark Matter Mystery
Admission $30.00 per person.

EAST LYME YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES
KiDs Night
For grades 1st - 8th
Limited Slots
$30 per child
MOVIE TIME
2/2/24
6pm-9pm
Youth Center
Drop the kids off with us and enjoy a night out!
Sign up through Rec Desk to reserve your child's spot.

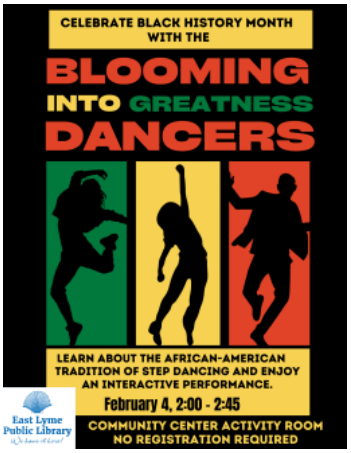
ADMIT ONE
What to expect?
A FUN NIGHT WITH FRIENDS!
Parents will drop their child(ren) off at 6pm and promptly pick them up at 9pm.
Parents will need to sign their child(ren) in and out.
Parents will need to provide a contact number to be reached at.
Attendees will be supervised by Open Center staff.
Attendees can watch a movie, play games, and hang out.
Pizza and water will be included.
ADMIT ONE

Wear your favorite sports jersey on Friday, February 9, 2024 to benefit
THE MIRACLE LEAGUE OF SOUTHEASTERN CT
All monies raised will go towards Phase III of our Miracle League Field, a fully accessible playground!
Donations can be turned in at school or via PayPal
For more info about the Miracle League SECT visit: www.miracleleaguesect.org
Every child deserves... ...a chance to play.
THE MIRACLE LEAGUE OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT


East Lyme Public Library
EAST LYME PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS
AUTHOR NADIA LIRA
the Crystal Quest
Nadia Lira
Saturday, March 9th, 3:00 PM
in the East Lyme Room
Join us with middle school author Nadia Lira as she talks about her children's novel "The Crystal Quest". Copies will be available for purchase and signing.
Registration recommended at 860-739-6926 ext. 2.

East Lyme Youth Services
TALENT SHOW
20 spots open!
Individual & Group Acts
6th-12th graders
Details & application below:
SIGN UP NOW:
APPLY BY FRIDAY 1/19
feb 9th
friday
6:30pm
ELHS auditorium

WINGS of FIRE
Book Party
Wednesday
March 20
3:00 - 4:00
at the
East Lyme
Public Library
Ages 9 and up
Pre-registration required
860-739-6926 ext. 2
East Lyme Public Library


CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH THE
BLOOMING INTO GREATNESS DANCERS
LEARN ABOUT THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN TRADITION OF STEP DANCING AND ENJOY AN INTERACTIVE PERFORMANCE.
February 4, 2:00 - 2:45
COMMUNITY CENTER ACTIVITY ROOM
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED
East Lyme Public Library

TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY!
Saturday, February 3
Visit our Children's Room for a free prize from 9am - 4pm
East Lyme Public Library
We have it here!

The Clubhouse
Come join us and be a part of our inaugural after school program during the winter months at The Clubhouse!
The Clubhouse is located at 36 Industrial Road, adjacent to East Lyme Middle School, offering the perfect opportunity for students interested in sport performance training after school! Take advantage of this opportunity to keep your children off their devices and get them moving!
Our After School Program will run from 3:15 to 4:30PM, Monday thru Thursday (full school days only) starting on Tuesday January 2nd. Each class will be taught by a certified personal trainer from G's Fitness (Christian Brown). This athletic training program will be centered around balance, speed, strength, and agility training/conditioning, and is not an open gym concept.
Christian Brown is the director of Sports Performance training at G's Fitness. He is a certified personal trainer and specializes in the training of youth, high school, and college athletes. Christian's passion in the field of strength and conditioning along with his experience provide his athletes with up-to-date training methods. His custom training programs for speed, strength, and agility have proven to improve performance in his athletes.
*Grades 5 thru 8
*Spaces will be limited
*Sibling discounts offered
PORTION OF REGISTRATION FEES TO BENEFIT ELMS ATHLETIC FUND
www.clubhousect.com/afterschool
January Sessions:
16 dates (January 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31)
Cost: $350
February Session:
14 dates (February 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29)
Cost: $315
SPECIAL OFFER: Sign up now for both sessions (January and February, 30 total dates) and receive special pricing... 2-month package (30 sessions):
Cost: $600

ELMS PTA February 2024

Families,

Thank you for your continued support! We received so many donations for our upcoming PTA-sponsored dance - we are grateful! We also have many volunteers who have signed up to support the evening. Remember we cannot hold these activities without the volunteers. We are still looking for help for the 7th/8th grade dance and decorating. Please consider donating some of your time details below on how to sign up). We hope your child enjoyed Spirit Day on January 12th! We plan to have more spirit days this year, including the upcoming Kindness Spirit Week. Thank you to those who attended virtually or in-person to our meeting on Thursday, January 18. A big thank you to Jeff Newton, Superintendent, who shared the proposed budget during our meeting. Finally, from our spring 2023 PTA-sponsored all-school assembly there is a new painting in the hallway of ELMS. The Emotions into Art assembly incorporated an artist who created 3 to 4 paintings live on stage, set to powerful music while delivering an inspirational message. ELMS was able to keep one of the paintings that aligned with the district's goals on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

EXCITING HAPPENINGS:

NEXT MEETING - We will not be meeting in February due to the shortened month. Our next meeting is March 21st at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria. You can join virtually or in person! More information forthcoming on agenda and zoom link details in March.

Spirit Days: The student leadership team met with PTA officers and a survey was provided to all students gathering information on what spirit days they would like to have! Our next spirit week begins February 12th and ends February 16th! In addition to spirit days to promote kindness we will also collect cans for Care and Share throughout the week and beginning at the dance! Check out this flyer for more information - Kindness Spirit Week

February Dance - The PTA-sponsored dance is scheduled for February 9th! Don't forget that permission slips must be turned in by February 7th with payment, no exceptions due to safety reasons. Have your child dress up sports attire and bring a can for Care and Share for a chance to win an Amazon gift card! Here is the flyer with the permission slip link. To volunteer please use the Sign-Up Genius - Volunteer Sign-up for Dance

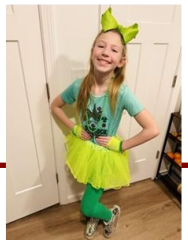
PTA-SPONSORED ASSEMBLY - We have chosen a Spring assembly for March 25th! We are very excited to sponsor a professional BMX athlete who will provide a message centered around motivation and hard work.

8th Grade Committee - A big thank you to Lindsey Adams, 8th grade parent, who will be leading this committee. Please reach out to her at Lindseya.adams@yahoo.com if you are interested in helping to organize this important event! She will be scheduling meetings

FUNDRAISERS - Our next fundraising event will be butter braids which will be happening in late February with delivery in time for Easter. Here is the link for information - https://my.mcmfundraising.com/signup/ZYJR If you'd like to opt out of fundraisers and just donate funds towards the PTA-sponsored activities, please consider using the Alternate Fundraising Form - Alternate Fundraising Form or donate digitally https://schoolfundr.org/fund/elmsptaaltfundraiser

Volunteer Forms: Forms are required to be completed to help with events, per school policy - Volunteer Process Forms

MEMBERSHIP/MEMBERSHIP SITE - Please complete the membership form and return it with your child. You can still be a member. This is required to volunteer at PTA-sponsored events and vote on any items. We are very excited to share that our membership form has gone digital! You can now become a member without sending in checks. Please visit https://elmspta1.memberhub.com/ to join us today. The digital payment platform has a small fee (less than $2).

You can always reach us on the East Lyme Middle School PTA Facebook page too! You can always reach out to any PTA board members with questions or ideas:

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