



WESTBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL

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WMS PARENT NEWS

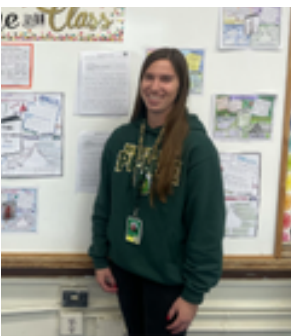
Hello and welcome to Westbury Middle School's Parent & Family Newsletter! Please stay subscribed to this newsletter for important information throughout the school year. Enjoy the winter break! We return on January 6, 2025.

Educators of the Week

This week's Educator of the Week is Dr. Lipkin, a teacher who embodies the spirit of #HereForKids, wearing it like a figurative tattoo that defines every action she takes. With compassion, dedication, and an unwavering love for her students, she goes above and beyond to nurture, support, and empower each scholar. Her humility shines through as she invites her students to be a part of her recognition, believing wholeheartedly that they bring out the best in her just as she does for them. A master of her craft, Dr. Lipkin excels in every area of education, seamlessly integrating rich extension activities during Dragon Time to challenge and inspire her students. This week, her scholars soared high as they analyzed the poem "Words are Birds" by Francisco X. Alarcón, diving deep into the content with enthusiasm, critical thinking, and creativity—thanks to her expertise and commitment to their success. She expanded their learning through an interdisciplinary approach, having students discuss different bird species and the climates they inhabit. Her classroom is not just a place of learning; it's a space where students truly take flight, flourishing academically and personally.

We are excited to celebrate Ms. Fraser as our Educator of the Week! Her inspiring dedication to the Professional Learning Community (PLC) process, particularly her impactful work with critical questions 3 & 4, has strengthened our collaborative efforts and kept a sharp focus on student growth. Ms. Fraser is not only a role model for our scholars but also a champion for fostering meaningful learning experiences. Her commitment to serving our English Language Learners (ELLs) is especially noteworthy. In a recent 6th-period class, she led an engaging discussion about the character of Ebenezer Scrooge from "A Christmas Carol". Through thoughtful questioning, she encouraged scholars to describe Scrooge's traits and connect their insights to textual evidence. This activity not only deepened their understanding of the text but also helped them develop critical thinking and analytical skills. The result was a classroom buzzing with insightful contributions and meaningful dialogue—a true celebration of student voice and critical thinking. Ms. Fraser proves that she's no "Bah, Humbug!" when it comes to inspiring both her students and her colleagues. Her energy, passion, and creativity are a gift to us all.

This week's Educator of the Week exemplifies dedication, creativity, and continuous growth. Known for her collaborative spirit, she works tirelessly with the new HMH curriculum, tailoring activities and assessments to meet the unique needs and interests of her scholars. Recently, after reading an excerpt from *The Book of Unknown Americans*, she guided her scholars through a reflective process using a mind mirror organizer to help them step into the character's shoes. This led to a perspective paragraph and a mind mirror poster to synthesize their work. Her bulletin boards, both inside the classroom and in the hallway, proudly display the scholars' final literary analysis posters, showcasing their critical thinking and insights. Her classroom is dynamic, engaging, and fun, and she consistently seeks feedback to refine her teaching practices, providing an outstanding learning environment for her scholars. We are so fortunate to have her as part of our WMS family!





WMS MONTHLY EVENTS

JANUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 SCHOOL CLOSED Winter Break HAPPY NEW YEARS!	2 SCHOOL CLOSED Winter Break	3 SCHOOL CLOSED Winter Break	4
5	6	7 FACE Family Vision Board Night @ Westbury Arts 6-7:30PM	8	9	10	11 College Awareness Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	1 Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) 9-11AM
19	20 SCHOOL CLOSED Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	21 PTSA/Title 1 Mtg 6PM Winter II Sports Begin Curriculum Mtg.	22 BOE Action Mtg 7:30PM	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 SCHOOL CLOSED Lunar New Year	30	31	



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