



## *Middlebrook PTA Weekly Messenger* Sept 17, 2017

### Middlebrook Quick calendar

Monday	September	18	Grade 8 Parent Open House 7-8:00 pm
Tuesday	September	19	Grade 7 Parent Open House 7-8:00 pm
Wednesday	September	20	MB PTA Meeting 9:00 am Library Media Center
Thursday	September	21	Rosh Hashanah- No School, district offices closed
Tuesday	September	26	Grade 6 Parent Open House 7-8:30 pm
Thursday	September	28	Lockdown Drill

### Middlebrook Six Day Cycle

Monday	September	18	Day 4
Tuesday	September	19	Day 5
Wednesday	September	20	Day 6
Thursday	September	21	Rosh Hashanah- No School, district offices closed
Friday	September	22	Day 1

### PTA News:

#### Note From the PTA President Hillary Morrissy:

This week is a busy one. Open Houses, a No School Day (Shana Tova, Middlebrook!), and our first PTA meeting of the school year. Have you ever considered attending one of our meetings? You don't have to be a member to take a seat, listen, and voice your opinions-- with no obligation to volunteer for anything, I promise. You might just like it and choose to give a few hours of your time to helping out because contrary to popular belief, we are not all Type "A" Do Gooders, in fact, I like to think of the PTA as a mullet: business up front, party in the back. I'll be there, will you?

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## 2017 Annual Appeal

It's that time again. That time when we not so subtly ask you to support our PTA with a financial contribution so we can continue to fund educational programs, activities like Fun Nights and 8th Grade Dinner Dance, and the Gifts & Grants requests submitted by our teachers. We hate to say no to anything, so help us by saying yes-- yes, I will donate \$40 on behalf of my student to support the Middlebrook PTA. You can donate with a credit card by using this handy [PayPal link](#) or by printing out the Annual Appeal letter from your email or from our [www.middlebrookpta.org](http://www.middlebrookpta.org) website and mailing it or sending it in with your student. We could not do it without you! But don't take my word for it, hear it from our students <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKNOhejdEDQ>

## Online PTA Membership and Directories

Over 244 families have joined the PTA, a great start this early in the school year . Your membership and donation dollars support a variety of programs at Middlebrook that enrich the student experience. **Student Assemblies, Outdoor Classroom, Media Center Supplies, Activity Nights, Science & Engineering Fair, Social Opportunities, Weekly Messenger, Photo Day, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Events and Soaring Ahead** are just a few of the programs our PTA supports. *When you join the PTA, you gain instant access to our new online directory.*

Visit <https://wilton.mobilearq.com> , choose parent or teacher registration, enter your email, name and the code "wilton" to join, pay your membership dues and make a supporting donation, if you're feeling generous! Please add [support@mobilearq.com](mailto:support@mobilearq.com) to your address book to ensure delivery of the confirmation email with temporary auto-login link.

## Odyssey of the Mind

**The Odyssey of the Mind Parent Meeting will be held on September 19th at 9:15am & again at 7pm in the Cider Mill Cafeteria.** This national competition fosters team work and creative thinking to solve problems. The meeting will provide parents with information on all aspects of this unique program. This school year is the 3rd year that Wilton Public Schools will be participating in the program and the 1st year we hope to field a team at Middlebrook. We will have veteran coaches in attendance who can talk about their experience with this program. Odyssey of the Mind needs parent volunteers to coach and co-coach this student led team. Visit [www.ctom.org](http://www.ctom.org) for more information about the program. Email Nicola Davies with questions [nicoladavies@outlook.com](mailto:nicoladavies@outlook.com)

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### PTA Gym Clothes

This is just a quick note to thank everyone for supporting the PTA by purchasing gym clothes. All orders, whether placed over the summer or during Walk-Through day have been distributed to students. Please note, no further orders are being taken, and Walk-Through was the last day to place an order. If you have any questions, please email [mbschspiritwear@gmail.com](mailto:mbschspiritwear@gmail.com)

### Volunteer!

Volunteering is a great way to know your child's school and be a part of the Middlebrook community. There are many opportunities to help. **We are still seeking two Nominating Chairs for the school year!** Please visit our website at [www.middlebrookpta.org](http://www.middlebrookpta.org) to access additional opportunities, there's bound to be an event or committee that piques your interest!

### 6th Grade Activity Night: Friday October 20, 2017

7-9:00pm \$5 entrance fee at the door with DJ, Snacks, Open Gym, Games and Fun with Friends!

#### **PARENTS: We need chaperones!**

To volunteer contact: Natalia Ramirez [natalia\\_betancur@hotmail.com](mailto:natalia_betancur@hotmail.com)

### 7th Grade Activity Night Friday October 27, 2017

7:00-9:00 p.m. \$5 entrance fee at the door with DJ, Snacks, Open Gym, Games and and Fun with Friends!

#### **PARENTS: We need chaperones!**

To volunteer go to: <http://signup.com/go/CJsgavLm>

Questions? Contact: Janel Downs [janeld@optonline.net](mailto:janeld@optonline.net) or Lisa Finn [ldbfinn@hotmail.com](mailto:ldbfinn@hotmail.com)

### Parent Advisory Board

The Parent Advisory Board for Special Services & 504 (PAB) is seeking new members. If you are interested in working with parents and administrators on issues and programs related to special services in our school district, please contact us at [PABwilton@gmail.com](mailto:PABwilton@gmail.com). We hold meetings on the second Wednesday of every month (**Sept. to May**) from **9:15-10:45 at the Wilton Public Library, 2nd floor**. For more information on the PAB, please visit [pabwilton.com](http://pabwilton.com)

### Stop and Shop A+ Rewards Program

Those families who frequent Stop & Shop can support Middlebrook through the Stop & Shop's A+ Rewards program. **The program gives money to our school based on all of your purchases made October 6, 2017- March 15th, 2018.** It does not cost you anything and does not impact your gas points. Sign up directly online at [www.stopandshop.com/school-rewards/](http://www.stopandshop.com/school-rewards/) --spread the word to friends and neighbors that we would love to have them support Middlebrook through this program. Even extended family that does not live in Connecticut can sign up if they shop at Stop & Shop. The funds raised will be used for projects that help Middlebrook feel like a fun and friendly place through groups including Team Change and Kindness Club. Of course, we are not asking anyone to change

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their shopping habits or switch stores! This is just an easy way to take advantage of no-cost fundraising with folks who already use Stop & Shop.

### **Box Tops for Education – Please Support This Effort!**

Please donate your Box Tops to Middlebrook School. **Box Tops for Education can be found on hundreds of everyday products from companies like Food Should Taste Good, Yoplait, Kleenex, Scott, Ziploc, Hefty, Old El Paso, Green Giant, Land O Lakes, and Hanes.** Collection boxes are located in the front reception booth, the media center, and the teachers' lounge. Proceeds from Box Tops go directly to the school to help buy new equipment and supplies. **Last year we raised over \$1100! That works out to just 11 box tops per student!** If you would like more information about this program, including participating brands, visit [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com), or contact Jennifer Acerra- Markey at [jtm4jla@optonline.net](mailto:jtm4jla@optonline.net).

### **Science and Engineering Fair Tuesday January 30, 2017**

The Fair invites students to explore and expand their understanding of a science or engineering related topic. Students, working independently or in teams of two, will:

- develop a hypothesis
- conduct their own experiment
- draw conclusions
- organize results into a visual display
- present their project to judges

**Registration packets and a list of important dates will be made available on the PTA website [www.middlebrookpta.org](http://www.middlebrookpta.org) by October 15, 2017.** A number of help sessions conducted by our science teachers and volunteers will be available both before and after entry forms are due Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017. **The Middlebrook Science & Engineering Fair is sponsored by the Middlebrook PTA and the Wilton Education Foundation. For questions or additional information contact Ritu Malik at [ritumalik2000@gmail.com](mailto:ritumalik2000@gmail.com)**

### **Media Center Volunteers**

The media staff would greatly appreciate your help in the school Media Center to assist with a variety of projects. Shifts are extremely flexible- you can pick the time and day that works best for you! Can be weekly/ biweekly/monthly, or just periodically throughout the year! Please contact Claire Carbonier at [carbos@optonline.net](mailto:carbos@optonline.net)

### **Project Adventure**

#### **Looking for Project Adventure Volunteers!**

**Project Adventure is one of the only opportunities you have to volunteer at Middlebrook and work with your child!** Middlebrook's PE Department offers students a chance to climb, swing, and belay on an outdoor ropes course in Fall and an indoor course in Winter. Adults are needed to assist students, the more volunteers the more opportunities the students have to climb! *You can sign up for as little or as much time as you like, but you must take a belay training course and become certified*

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(Rock Climb Fairfield works great).

If you are interested in Project Adventure or have any questions please contact  
Renee Rafferty at [raffertyrenee@gmail.com](mailto:raffertyrenee@gmail.com) or Margo Silvan at [margosilvian@me.com](mailto:margosilvian@me.com)

## Community News

### **Parent's Advisory Board (PAB) Annual Social Event Friday Sept 29 from 6:30-8:30 pm: Parents Night Out.**

**Does your child have an IEP or 504? If so, this is a key event for parents of children with learning differences or disabilities who want to connect.** *It will be held at Wilton Episcopal-Presbyterian Church Organization (WEPCO), 48 New Canaan Road.*

Learn more about Wilton Public Schools and programs, get tips on private services for your child, and/or simply enjoy the company of other parents of children who learn differently. Wine and light refreshments served. **RSVP at [pabwilton@gmail.com](mailto:pabwilton@gmail.com).**

### **Class Project 2022**

Class Project 2022 T-shirts, Hoodie Sweatshirts, plaid Lounge pants, and S'well Bottles can still be ordered, please send an email to Maura Chapey at [chapeys@aol.com](mailto:chapeys@aol.com). The contact person for 2022 Spiritwear is Gail Hanny ([gmhanny@optonline.net](mailto:gmhanny@optonline.net)).

Email [wilton2022@gmail.com](mailto:wilton2022@gmail.com) for information on how to get involved or [2022 Website](#) or [2022 Facebook Group](#)

### **Wilton Youth Council**

WYC's Youth to Youth will have two informational meetings in September 2017. **Join us for a full year of leadership training, community service projects and many fun activities (Lake Compounce, ski trips etc).** For more information, go to our website at:

<http://www.wiltonyouth.org/youth-to-youth>

or Contact Tanya Leonard at [leonardt@wiltonps.org](mailto:leonardt@wiltonps.org)

WYC's PeerConnection is an after school program that meets weekly at Trackside Teen Center. For more information go to <http://www.wiltonyouth.org/peerconnection>. For more information on these and other events, check out our website at [www.wiltonyouth.org](http://www.wiltonyouth.org)

WYC UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**Narcan Training Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 7pm Wilton Library** - learn how to save a life! (as part of our Wilton Youth Council - Wilton Woman's Club initiative)

**Civility: Teaching Children Respect, Tolerance and Empathy in a Complicated World with Alicia**

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**Farrell, Ph.D on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 10am in Wilton and at 7pm in Weston - Locations TBD**

**National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) Support Group**

School is back in session and for many children, so is the academic and social stress that can cause behavioral changes. For parents of children (age 18 and under )with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues.

These groups are free, confidential, safe and led by trained and certified volunteer facilitators who themselves have had personal experiences raising children with these concerns. **The Wilton based support group meets on the 4th Monday of every month - the next meeting is Monday, September 25 from 10am-11:30am in the G & B Cultural Center, 49 New Street in Wilton.** For more information please contact: Beth at [beth44es@gmail.com](mailto:beth44es@gmail.com) or Vanessa at [eliasvanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:eliasvanessa5@gmail.com)

**Looking to Get Involved?**

Wilton Youth Council needs you! We have many programs running and this is a great time to get involved! Questions? Email Vanessa Elias at [eliasvanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:eliasvanessa5@gmail.com). Interested in volunteering? Email Suma Iyer at [sumapiyer@gmail.com](mailto:sumapiyer@gmail.com)