



THE HAPPY HOLLOW HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER
December 13, 2013

Navigate the Newsletter:

If you find yourself pressed for time, use this guide to help you skim and scan.

- Principal's Quote and Note ~ Doing It All: Common Core, High Standards...and the Power of Patience
- An after-school traffic reminder
- Dress for the Weather
- Lost and found before the break...
- December/January dates to remember
- Specialist updates
- PTO Updates/Calendar

“There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treats its children.”

~Nelson Mandela~



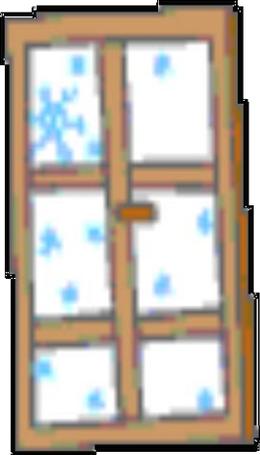
PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

December, 2013

Dear Friends,

In the above quote, Nelson Mandela captures the essence of our important work and, too, represents the consideration that Wayland uses when approaching the process of child rearing ~ our “society’s soul”. ~ We work to build a community that treats children well so that when they reach maturity, they will be able to contribute to the world with strong academic and social character.

You choose to live in Wayland because you partner with our schools to bring about an education that sets our children on a path toward successful and fulfilling lives. You care about the kind of people they will be ~ you care about what they learn and how they learn it; and when there are troubles, you study what happened and work to make the corrections that will help those that follow.



December is a time of reflection. There are holidays, vacation time and somehow ~ it is a new term when we return. One of the many good things about the field of education is that there are so many times to begin again. December seems to mark one of those times. Report cards come out in January ~ and then ~ we begin again. So as we come close to the break and this fast-paced time of year, I would like to share the content of an article written by Jennifer L. Roberts ~ a Harvard professor who also chairs the doctoral program in American Studies. She wrote an article called ***“The Power of Patience: Teaching students the value of deceleration and immersive attention.”*** She has brilliantly partnered her fast-paced, high-powered curriculum ~ including broad use of digital technology in her approach ~ with a powerful pedagogical practice. She teaches her students how to be patient to decelerate in order to offer opportunity for deeper, more reflective learning.

I bring this to your attention because as vacation comes, there will be that time that arrives with the New Year’s celebration ~ the return to school, work and our next chapter on our year’s journey. It is a time second to the start of school when students feel apprehensive and maybe even a bit sad to let go of all the celebration and relaxation.

We are living in a time when we assess and measure. We look for constant growth and we want it to fit well with a numerical affirmation that becomes a student profile, a school rating, a district rating, a state rating ~ the numbers must show improvement. However, the human machine doesn’t always work that way. The human is also developmental. Everyone takes different amounts of time to arrive at key benchmarks. We can all arrive where we need to be, but the time and tenacity is different from individual to individual. Therefore, this time of year offers us a chance to see the glass as half-full. We are half-way through this segment. Some may even need

time that goes beyond the end of the school year, and they should have that time with the knowledge that they are in the process ~ they need to be patient. We need to be patient too.

Ms. Roberts reminds us of something I have held as my mantra since beginning my career 30 years ago, “Education is a journey not a race.” Ms. Roberts puts it this way, “Today, patience is a form of control over the tempo of contemporary life that otherwise controls us.” She uses art history as her forum for forcing students to slow down, to be observant and to persevere. She suggests that we all need to do this in order to navigate everything that our new century holds for us.



It is an exciting time as the field of education is moving in a direction where every child is considered capable and able to learn ~ and to keep on learning. Like no other time, we are trying new strategies and copiously charting growth over time. My message at this time of year is to make certain that we are giving our learners the gift of time. When the new report card comes out it will offer year-long measurement ~ meaning that many will not exceed expectations because the benchmark is meant to be reached at the end of the school year. This means our conversations with students will have to change. We must teach them to be patient and to persevere. We must convince them that their journey is life-long. I will write more about the report card and these discussions in January. But for this time of year ~ for this month ~ I would like to request that you take some time to review the first half of the year with your child/children.



1. Find out what has been working well and name it.
2. Find out what has been hard and name that as well.
3. Discover why something might feel challenging or hard.
4. Brainstorm some strategies as a professional sports team would when going into a late segment of a close championship game.
5. Talk about practice. How is the practice going? All skills grow with practice.
6. How are social relationships developing?
7. How does your child feel about his/her class, classmates and overall work to date?
8. How is he/she grading his/her efforts? What can be different heading into term two?

If you begin with these eight points of reflection, I guarantee you will be ready to discuss the new report card. You will begin to slow the process and contemplate the strategies that will make the next leg of the journey increasingly more productive and satisfying. Ms. Roberts is teaching this process.

“There are infinite depths of information at any point in the students’ education. They just need to take the time to unlock the wealth. And that’s why, for me, this lesson about art, vision, and time goes far beyond art history. It serves as a master lesson in the value of critical attention, patient investigation, and skepticism about immediate surface appearances. I can think of few skills that are more important in academic or civic life in the twenty-first century...”

If ‘patience’ sounds too old-fashioned, let’s call it ‘time management’ or ‘temporal intelligence’ or ‘massive temporal distortion engineering’. Either way, an awareness of time and patience as a productive medium of learning is something that I feel is urgent to model for – and expect of – my students.”

Nelson Mandela said, “There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treats its children.” ~ If we make it our part to begin the New Year by teaching our children the art and skill of being patient ~ if we slow down the race that has become part of our modern practice ~ we will most certainly be treating them in a manner that will reflect the kind of society that we dream of ~ one that will be better for their children and children after that...

Happy Holidays! Happy vacation! Take care. Be safe. Be well.

All best,



Jim Lee
Principal

This and That from the Principal’s Office:

Traffic Tip ~ Please do not park in the fire lane or on the hill that leads to it ~ even after school hours. There is a small amount of room for cars to back out of the spaces in front of the school. When people park in the fire lane, it is an accident in the making. ~ Also, it is against local and state laws !

This goes for BASE hours as well. There is never any parking allowed in the fire lane or on the hill that leads to that lane.

Dress for the Weather: Please continue to check the weather each day to ensure that your child is dressed for the day’s temperature. We have many days that the temperature and weather fluctuate. These changes come upon us quickly this time of year and can be really cold on little hands that don’t have gloves. Sad faces line the edge of the hot top when snowpants and boots are needed...



Lost and Found:

Please check the lost and found before you leave for the winter break. We have many items and it would be great if the children could have them at home for the vacations. Thank you!

December and January at Happy Hollow:

Friday, December 20th	Full day of school Holiday Recess begins at 3 p.m.	
December 21 – January 1	Holiday Recess	
Thursday, January 2	Classes resume	
Monday, January 21	NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Day	
Thursday, January 30	Chorus Concert	Happy Hollow Gym 7:00 PM

WAYLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

GIFT-GIVING GUIDELINES



Gifts Given TO THE TEACHER:

- Public school teachers, as municipal employees, may not accept gifts valued at \$50 or more. Nor can staff members accept (from one family) a number of smaller gifts which together are worth \$50 or more.
- A teacher accepting a gift of less than \$50 from a current student may be required to disclose that gift if it creates the appearance of a conflict of interest.
- A teacher may accept a group gift of up to \$150 per year from his or her class as long as the gift is identified as being from the entire class, and the identity of the contributors and the amounts given are not identified to the teacher. In addition, no individual family may make a contribution of \$50 or more to a group gift.
- Gifts to individual teachers may be given in the form of gift cards as long as they are in accordance with these limitations.

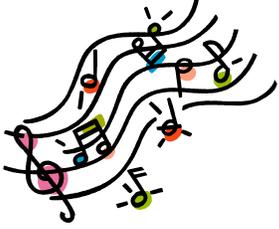
Gifts Given TO THE CLASSROOM OR SCHOOL:

- Gifts of \$200 or more to individual classrooms, schools, or the district (as opposed to the teacher) require School Committee approval and acceptance. Gifts of less than \$200 may be approved and accepted by a principal or the superintendent.
- Classroom gifts in the form of cash must be deposited and processed through a town account, although reimbursements may be made after an authorized gift purchase.
- Under no conditions can gift cards be given as a classroom gift since they cannot be deposited in a town account.

Gifts In General:

- The School Committee policy recommends: "In lieu of gifts to individual teachers, parents are encouraged to make contributions to school support organizations such as the PTO, CAPA, Boosters, and the Wayland Public Schools Foundation."
- Finally, many teachers truly experience "Thank You" notes as one of the best gifts they can receive.

Curriculum Corner



Music Notes From Ms. Pohl

The **2nd Grade** students are working on their singing, rhythm, and percussion instrument skills in music class each week. Currently we are studying melodic direction as we work on singing and playing melodies that move up and down. The children are having fun conducting up and down patterns on the xylophones using their feet. Envision the movie “Big” where Tom Hanks walks on the giant piano to play “Heart and Soul” or the Museum of Science stairs that play music as you walk. In the music room colorful dots on the floor represent the keys of the xylophone and as the conductor walks on the dots the class plays the up and down melodies on their xylophones. Each of the children are eager for a chance to be the conductor.

3rd Grade students are eager to start playing recorder in music. We are anxiously waiting for them to arrive in the mail! In the mean time we are working on our music reading skills. The students practiced drawing the treble clef sign and labeling the line and space notes. We are having fun playing a game where the students toss a bean bag onto a giant size floor music staff and are asked to work with their team to identify the note.

Ms. Aronian’s **4th Grade** students have really shown their creativity in music class! Using a piece titled “Rondo Alla Turca” by Mozart the students performed the rhythms from this piece using rhythm sticks. The real fun began when cooperatively in groups the children created their own beat patterns with the sticks. They performed them for each other and with Mozart’s music. Each group had a unique pattern that matched the beat. They were truly entertaining to watch!

5th Grade students are having fun with a Zimbabwean Marimba piece called Mbira Jam. The syncopated rhythm of this piece is both infectious and challenging to play. We combined a high, middle, and low part together to create harmony. Thanks to the wonderful world of Youtube we watched some impressive examples of Marimba ensembles and Mbira musicians from Zimbabwe to understand the roots of this style of music.

CHORUS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
Our winter concert is Thursday, January 30th at 7:00 pm



Art News!

Drop Into Art Friday 12/13 at 8:10 am for Grades 4 and 5. Free! Stop in and create! Check our art web page for future "Drop Into Art" friday dates. You will also find curricular updates and new additions to our gallery!

<https://sites.google.com/a/wayland.k12.ma.us/happy-hollow-art-program/highlights-from-2009-2010>

Reflections On An Art Class

What could have been described as "Just Colorin" on the iPad today, was more exciting than one might imagine. First graders who are new to the use of the iPad in art class, were introduced to "Brushes", a drawing and painting app. They set out to explore the color palette and the various sizes of the brushes. These first graders worked in pairs and on their own. Every iPad showcased a unique set of explorations which took on a life of its own. The students were engaged in an adventure which prompted questions as diverse as the color menu. Connections they were making in their exclamations included

"This reminds me of programming!"

"Why do I get this texture in my brush?"

"How do I go to the gallery?"

"I did it and now I have to save!"

"It makes a video of your work!"

"Can I watch how you drew that?"

"How do I enlarge, reduce, zoom in?"

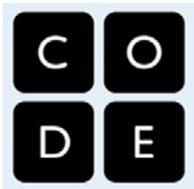
In one art period, the learning that took place around art concepts as well as technology was accelerated because of the iPad. It is December and it was time the first graders were introduced to this device in art class. Students learned more concepts by painting digitally today than they could have learned in one period painting manually. Does one replace the other? Absolutely not. One feeds the other.

Children have a tremendous desire and need to use their hands and they arrive in art class wanting *just that*. Using our hands and traditional materials is what we do in our weekly 45 minute art classes: We work the materials and learn the concepts. The iPad, used at all the grade levels, is a tool. It is brought out to teach, reinforce and explore concepts in art. It does not take the place of the materials.

A fourth grade class took photos of their completed Fall art projects today and placed them into a digital collage using an iPad app. Now they have a digital image of their portfolio which they have the option to send only to their parents! All 4th and 5th graders will work toward this goal this year. Another exciting project anticipated for these two grades in 2014 is animation! Stay tuned and be sure to follow all of our art activities and view our gallery at:

<https://sites.google.com/a/wayland.k12.ma.us/happy-hollow-art-program/highlights-from-2009-2010>

Technology News for Grades 1-5 from Ms. Crozier



Computer Science week is December 9th - December 15th. All computer classes will participate in the [Hour of Code](#). The Hour of Code is an opportunity for every student to try computer science for one hour. Millions of students will be participating in demystifying code. At the elementary level, we have been exposing children to programming for many years. We build the foundation for programming in Kindergarten by introducing the Beebot (a WPSF Grant that was funded several years ago). We will continue to use Beebots, Probots, MicroWorlds, and Scratch in our technology program. However, during the next two weeks, we will use the [video tutorials and lessons](#) provided on the Code website.

First and second grade classes will use the Angry Birds and Light Bot lessons. Third and fourth graders will use some of the Tynker lessons and Scratch. Fifth graders will use the Khan Academy - An introduction to JavaScript.

Below is a synopsis of computer class activities leading up to the Hour of Code lessons.

1st Grade: Students were learning to use Kid Pix 3D. Each week we would explore several tools. The children have been exploring: pencil, paintbrush, bucket, mixer, rubber stamper, text tool, eraser, oops guy and the water pump. Kid Pix 3D is always a first grade favorite. I really enjoy watching them explore and share their drawings.

2nd Grade: We began to explore several geography websites to support the classroom work in this area. Links to activities can be found under "For Students" - "Computer Lab Links". We also began to explore Google Earth with the children. We ran into a few technical glitches so we will revisit Google Earth once that has been resolved.



3rd Grade: Students were using online versions of two important reference tools - dictionary and encyclopedia. The Encyclopedia Britannica website has several tools in one! The link is under "For Students". Our long term project is related to an electrical invention. Students worked in groups to research an invention (this piece has been completed). When we return from the December break, students will present their research. Stay tuned...

4th Grade: Students are writing a small moment story in google docs. We have been working on adding descriptive details to their writing. This will move their writing beyond just a series of events. Students are using Kid Pix to illustrate pictures for their story. Students shared their writing with me in a classroom shared folder. We talked about permissions to folders and appropriate online behavior. Permissions for the folder allow all members to see each other's writing piece, but only the "owner" of the file can edit the file. For the purposes of this assignment, students do not need to see or edit other students' stories. I am leaving comments for each student to help them progress with their story.

5th Grade: Students have almost completed a Digital Superhero Comic Strip. Students designed their own digital superhero whose goal is to protect digital citizens. Students used Kid Pix to illustrate and depict their superhero saving the day. Students then exported their Kid Pix pictures as jpegs. Lastly, students will bring their pictures into iMovie to create the comic strip. We will finish up this project after the December break.

5th Grade Tech Crew - It has been wonderful working with the O'Connor Tech Crew. They are wrapping up their responsibilities and will pass on the reins to Ms. Candini's class. Thank you to all of the families for your support. And to the children for your commitment and dedication to this volunteer program.

HEALTHY HOLLER

Jeanne MacDonald, RN



News From the Health Room December 2013

Important information:

- There have been cases of strep throat and pneumonia here at Happy Hollow.
- If your child has complaints of headache, stomachache, with or without fever and/or sore throat and their complaints do not go away, then you should take them to their doctor for a throat culture. Some rapid strep tests done in the doctor's office have been negative, with the throat cultures being positive 48 hours later.
- Children diagnosed with "strep" throat need to be on an antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school, so they are not contagious to others. Student's that are coughing should stay home from school until their coughing subsides or is evaluated by their physician.
- If medication is required during school time, please ask your pharmacy for a "school bottle" labeled from the pharmacy with medication name, dose, and frequency. We will also need a parent permission form/note.

FLU

- Flu mist is available thru your school nurse. Please call me if interested at 508-358-6051.
- With the flu season upon us, more children may be sent home that come to school with colds/coughs. Your child's health is an important concern. It is critical that children get the rest that they need to recover from both bacterial and/or viral infections.



OTHER INFO:

- Please dress your child appropriately with the winter months upon us (coat/mittens/boots/snow pants, change of clothes)
- Children should have a daily snack/drink provided from home
- Please check your cell phone throughout the day as parents will be called if your child needs to be sent home.
- The most important first line of defense against germs is good hand washing. Please continue to reinforce this at home. We will continue to educate children here at school.

Lice check:

- January 7, 2014 at 8:45am.
- Please meet in the school lobby for instruction



Please feel free to contact the health room with any concerns at 508-358-6051.
Happy Holidays and stay healthy!

Jeanne MacDonald RN

Jeanne_MacDonald@wayland.k12.ma.us

2013-2014 PTO Events: Happy Hollow Save the Date

Together We Can Make It Happen!

Dates subject to change

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Are you looking to get involved at school? We are in need of volunteers for many unique opportunities. Most of these volunteer opportunities require only a small time commitment, but have a huge impact on our schools and our children.

Take a peek at the events calendar and contact the committee head to learn more or email Amy Simmons at:

happyhollowpto@gmail.com.

EVENT	DATE/TIME	CONTACT
Cultural Enrichment	Ongoing	Alexia Obar & Seta Abrahamian
Just Like Me	Throughout the year	3rd Grade: Laura Byrne & Jamie Janoff 4th Grade: Jen Bonner
5 th Grade Activities	Events/Dates TBA	Tamara Kolz
Nutrition Challenge		
PTO Board Meeting	Dec. 13 (F) at 9:00 Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Holiday Teacher & Staff Appreciation	Dec. 16 (M)	Jill Zukerman & Samantha Richter
Fitness Challenge		
Gift Your Child: Part 2, Backpack Auction	January 2014	Amy Simmons
Lice Checks	Jan. 7 (T) at 8:45	Jeanne MacDonald
PTO Board Meeting	Jan. 10 (F) at 9:00 in the Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Chinese Folk Art Performance	Jan. 25 (S) 2:00-4:00 HS Auditorium	Nan Li
Adult Social – Broomstones Curling Club	Jan. 25 (S) 7:30-11:00 pm	Amy Simmons
PTO Board Meeting	Feb. 7 (Fri) at 9:00 in Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Lice Checks	Feb. 25 (T) at 8:45	Jeanne MacDonald
PTO Board Meeting	Mar. 7 (Fri) at 9:00 in Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Fifth Grade Roller Kingdom Trip	Mar. 14 (F) after school	Marci Alvarado
Bingo Night	Mar. 28 (F)	Alexia Obar
World's Fair	Mar. 29 (S) 1-4 at Loker	Becky Lloyd
PTO Board Meeting	Mar. 4 (F) at 9:00 in Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Talent Show	April 4 (F)	Vicky Sin
Lice Checks	April 29 (T) at 8:45	Jeanne MacDonald
Earth Day Events	TBD	Katrien Vander Staeten
PTO Board Meeting	May 2 (Fri) at 9:00 in Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Florence Adler Walk/Run	May 10 (S) registration 9:00 at Wayland Middle School	
Fifth Grade Play	May 22 (Th)	Kristin Neprud
Annual PTO Meeting & Thank you Breakfast	Jun. 4 (W) at 9:00 am HH Caf	Amy Simmons
End of Year Picnic	Jun. 9 (M) at 5:30 pm Rain Date: Jun. 11 (W)	Cathy Caulfield
Book Fair	Jun. 9 & 10 (M & T)	Lynne Cribben & Gretchen Dresens
Teacher & Staff Appreciation Event	Jun. 5 (Th)	Jill Zukerman & Samantha Richter

PTO Volunteer Needs



TEACHER APPRECIATION HOLIDAY LUNCH – Contributions/Volunteers needed!

Monday, December 16th at Happy Hollow

It's time for the Teacher Appreciation holiday lunch! Please follow the directions below on how to sign up to add your contribution and/or to volunteer!

We're using VolunteerSpot (the leading online signup and reminder tool) to organize our upcoming activity. **Please sign up for Teacher Appreciation Holiday Lunch - here's how it works in three easy steps:**

1. **Click this link** to go to our invitation page on VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/2LsW84..>
2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on VolunteerSpot).
3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots - VolunteerSpot will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

Note: VolunteerSpot does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact [Jill Zukerman](#), and she will sign you up manually.

PTO News & Events

PTO BOARD MEETING – All are welcome!

Friday, December 13th at 9:00 in the Loker Library (January 10th will be our first board meeting of 2014)

The Happy Hollow/Loker Board meets monthly, usually on the 1st Friday of the month at 9:00 am in the Loker School Library. These meetings are open to the entire membership and everyone is encouraged to attend with any questions, ideas or suggestions. Little ones in tow are always welcome!



BROOMSTONES CURLING SOCIAL – Save the date!

Olympic Kick-off Party at Broomstones Curling Club – PTO Adult Social

Saturday, January 25, 2014 7:30-11:00 pm - Tickets are limited to the first 80 people!

If you missed the PTO Adult Social at The Chat, do not fear – more fun is planned for 2014! Join the Claypit Hill, Happy Hollow and Loker PTOs at Broomstones Curling Club on Saturday, January 25 from 7:30-11:00 pm for food, drinks, good company and CURLING! Yes, that's right, you can learn to curl and then compete in a mini-Olympics to be held later in the evening! \$25/person includes appetizers and curling time. Cash bar will be available. Tickets can be purchased on-line at: <http://waylandpto.org/2012/08/elementary-ptos-paypal/>. For questions, contact Tracey O'Rourke (taora@verizon.net).

PROVIDENCE BRUINS GAME

Sunday, February 9th at 3:05 pm at the Dunkin Donuts Center in Providence

The PTO invites you to join us for a trip to Providence to see the Providence Bruins play the Springfield Riverhawks on Sunday, February 9 at 3:05 pm at the Dunkin Donuts Center. We have a rate, and tickets will be \$17/person, including a free cap for all kids attending! Order forms went backpacks – for more information or for an extra order form, please contact Amy Simmons at Happyhollowpto@gmail.com. A great holiday gift idea, and a fun community event!



group
home in



A BIG THANKS TO ALL THE FAMILIES WHO PROVIDED GIFTS FOR THE PTO FOSTER CHILDREN'S TOY DRIVE!

For the 6th consecutive year, Happy Hollow families have provided gifts for over 50 children for the holidays. In many cases, these are the only gift these children receive during the holiday season. It's wonderful to see the generosity of the families in our community. Thank you also to Kylie Williams and Jennifer Harding who helped coordinate this year and will take over next year to continue this tradition.



LOST AND FOUND

The lost and found bin is overflowing with lost clothes! Please come and take a look. Any non-claimed items will be donated on **December 20th**.

Happy Hollow Hurrah!

HAPPY HOLLOW HURRAH

Many thanks to...

Alexia Obar, Jenny Harding and Kylie Williams for organizing the annual Happy Hollow holiday gift drive for children in foster care!

Cathy Caulfield for a great pre-holiday rush adult social at The Chat in November!

And many thanks to those we might have left off this list! If there's anyone who's helped out that you wish to acknowledge in future newsletters, please email the information to Andrea O'Brien at aobrien68@gmail.com.

Welcome 2013-2014 Board

President & Townwide Rep	Amy Simmons
Vice President	Andrea O'Brien
Treasurer	Pamela Cerne
Ways and Means	Abby Brogan & Heidi Renneker
Secretary	Cathy Davies
Social	Cathy Caulfield
Kindergarten Rep & Townwide Rep	Lisa Lappi
Kindergarten Rep	Christine Walsh
Past President	Stephanie Leong

Visit us online at <http://www.happyhollowpto.org/>



SAVE THE DATE:

The 26th Annual MLK Community Celebration
will be a Tribute to **Nelson Mandela**.

Date: Friday Jan. 24, 2014,
Time: 6:00- 7:15 Dinner 7:30 - 9:00 Program,

Place: WMS

Please join us as we celebrate in this community event. Dinner, Program and Children's Crafts.
Any questions please contact the METCO Office [508-358-3755](tel:508-358-3755).

Class of 2016 Fundraiser

Christmas Tree Removal

Tired of dragging your Christmas tree to the transfer station? The Wayland High School Sophomore Class would like to help you out! We will come to your home, pick up your Christmas tree, and bring it to the transfer station.

When: Saturday, January 11, 2014

Time: 9 am – 3pm

Cost: \$17 (\$10 for senior citizens)

To sign up for tree removal, please email Janet Manning at Janet_Manning@wayland.k12.ma.us by *January 5*. Please include your name, address and phone number in your email. Once we receive your request, we will send you a confirmation. If you have any questions, please call Janet Manning or Molly Kooshan (Class of 2016 Advisors) at 508-358-3723.

Happy Holidays!



