

District Bulletin



Information contained in this bulletin has been approved by the Office of the Superintendent for distribution on email listservs as a service to community organizations.

If you wish to have something posted in this bulletin, please contact John Cianciarulo at jcianciarulo@westwood.k12.ma.us. Note: Recreation, School, Scouting, Town Hall, and Westwood Sports flyers will be posted a maximum of three times. Flyers from businesses, churches, or outside groups will be posted once.

6

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6

Early Release Day

14

THURSDAY, DEC. 14

School Committee Meeting, 7pm, High School Little Theater

20

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20

Early Release Day



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www.westwood.k12.ma.us



Follow Us on Twitter
[@westwood_ps](https://twitter.com/westwood_ps)



Like Us on Facebook
fb.com/westwoodschoools

One of the most difficult challenges for the Superintendent of Schools is deciding whether or not to cancel or delay school due to inclement weather. Like weather forecasting, the school-closing decision process is not a perfect science. However, it is important for families to understand how the process works. This FAQ document was designed to answer such questions.

Who makes the decision about whether or not to close school?

The Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with the Director of Operations, Westwood's Department of Public Works, the Highway Department, and Westwood Police officials make the final decision by 5:45am or earlier. If made later, parents have little time to make arrangements for childcare, and some school district staff may have already left for work.

What information is gathered to aid in the decision?

There are multiple factors used in deciding whether or not to close school. Information on road conditions, snow accumulation predictions, building conditions such as electricity and heat, parking lot conditions, air temperature and wind chill, and estimated times from the Department of Public Works as to when roads, walkways, and parking lots will be cleared of snow and ice.

How is the information acquired?

District staff monitors state and local weather forecasts. The Department of Public Works and Westwood Police officials provide updates on neighborhood road conditions.

What are parents' responsibilities?

The safety of your child is paramount. On days when weather conditions are questionable, but school remains open, parents are free to exercise discretion and keep children home from school. Parents of young drivers are asked to reinforce winter weather driving skills: allowing extra travel time, reducing speed, and not worrying about being late.

How are days made-up?

As per State regulations, students must attend school for a minimum of 180 days and the school year must end by June 30. If school is closed due to weather, the day will be made-up at the end of the school year.

SNOW DAY FAQ



How do power outages affect the decision?

Inclement weather can affect the timeline for utility companies to restore electricity. If all school buildings have electricity, the goal will be to open school. Other factors also influence the decision, including whether a number of neighborhoods are without power.

What is a delayed opening?

Rather than close school for a whole day due to short-term weather situations, there may be days when the beginning of school will be delayed one hour, ninety minutes, or two hours. **School will simply start later by the length of the delay.** Bus pickup, therefore, will also occur later. For example, if your child is normally picked up at 8:35am, during a one hour delayed opening he/she will be picked up at 9:35am. Lunch will still be available and dismissal will be at the regularly scheduled times.

How is the public notified?

District website (www.westwood.k12.ma.us), Twitter (@[@westwood_ps](https://twitter.com/westwood_ps)), and Facebook (fb.com/westwoodschoools)

School Messenger email

School Messenger phone call ("robo-call"): If the timing is appropriate, a call may be made to home numbers only.

Local Television: [WBZ-Ch. 4](#), [WCVB-Ch. 5](#), [WHDH-Ch. 7](#), [WFXT-Ch. 25](#), and [NECN/NBC Boston](#).

Waiting for television broadcasts is often the least effective means of learning about school closings. It is recommended that you first rely on the resources above. Each station also posts school closings on its website.



Westwood Artists December Marketplace

at the **Fisher School**
830 High Street, Westwood
Friday and Saturday
December 8, 3:30 - 7:00 pm
December 9, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Featuring Westwood MA resident artisans -
ceramicists **Lisa W B Walker & Jane Wojick**,
jewelry makers **Marilyn Brier & Stephanie Hasenauer**,
painter **Carol Ahearn**, photographer **Karen Cagan**,
and fiber artist **Kathy Zola**. Baked goods from
Copper Kettle Bakery and **BiBi's Cafe and Bakery**.

Thank you to the Westwood Historical Society for hosting us.



**NEW ENGLAND
BRASS BAND
*CHRISTMAS CONCERT***



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

7PM

FIRST PARISH OF WESTWOOD

252 NAHATAN STREET

ADMISSION: \$15

\$10/SENIORS & STUDENTS; \$35/FAMILY (5 PERSON FAMILY LIMIT)

Westwood SEPAC

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL



Join us for a Special Guest Speaker:

Tracey Stoll, MEd, BCSE, ACAS

Founder & Executive Director of Learning Solutions in Norwood.

Deciding on Disclosure Presentation:

Talking About Diagnostic "Labels" and Understanding at Home

Knowing when and how to introduce to your child his/her diagnosis, is not clear cut "science." It's a matter of developmental readiness and need. Together we will talk about possible developmental signs a child is ready to discuss diagnosis; how to discuss their diagnosis; what to share around their diagnosis; and how to determine this for your own family/loved one.

Date: Monday, December 11th, 7:00-9:00pm

Location: Westwood High School, 220 Nahatan Street

Park in the front horseshoe parking lot off Nahatan Street. Go through the doors marked "District Administration". Once inside follow signage to Professional Development Room.

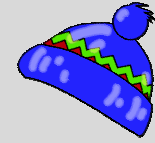
Join our closed Facebook Group: Westwood SEPAC-Special Education Parent Advisory Council

To volunteer, questions, or submit ideas on forum topics email: westwoodsepac@gmail.com

SEPAC Board: Megan Brenk & Meggan Flaherty, Co-chairs • Angela Pomarole, Secretary • Kelly Anderson, Treasurer



Adventure Days for Ages 3-5 years



It is all about having fun! Enjoy a packed day with crafts, stories, games, dramatic play, songs, outdoor play and more! Participants should be prepared for outdoor play. Register for one or more sessions! Please pack nut free snacks, lunch and water bottle.

Adventure Days program is held at the Islington Community Center (288 Washington Street) and staffed by Westwood Recreation staff.

Adventure Days is all about fun! Preschoolers enjoy crafts, stories, games, dramatic play, songs and outdoor fun. Morning and afternoon

Day	Date	9am - 1 pm
Mon	Dec 11	\$35
Tue	Dec 12	\$35
Wed	Dec 13	\$35
Thur	Dec 14	\$35
Fri	Dec 15	\$35
Mon	Dec 18	\$35
Tue	Dec 19	\$35
Wed	Dec 20	\$35
Thur	Dec 21	\$35
Fri	Dec 22	\$35



Registration at
www.westwoodrec.com
781.461.0070



TMS WINTER CONCERTS

WESTWOOD HIGH
SCHOOL



**CHORUS & ORCHESTRA
DECEMBER 4 & 6:
7:00PM**

**BAND & JAZZ BAND
DECEMBER 11: 7:00PM**

Martha Jones PTO

Benefit Night

December 12th, 2017 5:00-8:30pm

BAMBOO

FINE ASIAN CUISINE & SUSHI

55 Ariadne Road

Dedham, MA

781-251-2566

For Menu and Directions visit:

www.bamboogourmet.com

Enjoy a wonderful dinner and help
support the
Martha Jones Elementary
School.

Mention this fundraiser and 20% of
all sales will be donated to the PTO.

*** Includes Take Out ***





P.O. Box 464
Sharon, MA 02067

www.giftsforkidsinfo.com
<http://www.facebook.com/GiftsForKids/>

For over 25 years, the Gifts for Kids program has helped ease the financial burden for families in need during the holiday season. Children identified by human service providers in communities in and around Norfolk County receive holiday gifts through your generosity. This year the need for your help is greater than ever. We are asking for your renewed support so that we may continue to bring joy to families in our community this holiday season.

To sponsor a child: Please email or call (9AM to 9PM) one of the following individuals:

Erin Fitzgerald 18efitzgerald@wpsstudents.org.
Kate Dowd katherinedowd121@gmail.com. 781-784-4405

You will be given the first name, ID #, age, clothing size, and gift preferences or needs of a child. Place **new, unwrapped** gifts in a **securely sealed** sturdy plastic bag. Please include a tag with the child's name and ID # **inside** the bag and tape a **second ID tag** to the outside of the bag. Donations of wrapping paper and tape are appreciated.

Drop-off dates and sites:

WESTWOOD: Monday, December 11, 2017 4:00-6:00 pm
St. Margaret Mary's Parish

WALPOLE: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 4:00 - 6:00 pm
VFW Post #5188 at 33 Robbins Road, off Rt. 27 (next to Johnson Middle School)
Call 508-641-2421 to speak to a GFK volunteer at the drop-off site

SHARON: Thursday, December 14, 2017 4:00 – 6:00 pm
O'Connell Hall, next to Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 59 Cottage Street
Call 508-641-2421 to speak to a GFK volunteer at the drop-off site

In order to deliver the gifts in a timely manner, it is **imperative** that you drop off your donations at these times.

Gifts for Kids is an all-volunteer organization, so your gifts go directly to children. Please become a sponsor or volunteer and help spread the word. We understand if you are unable to spend the guideline of approximately \$100* to sponsor a child. If you would still like to help, please consider making a donation of cash, gift cards, new clothing or unopened toys. *The monetary guideline is a suggestion only and can vary with a child's age, wishlist and shopping prowess. For more information, visit giftsforkidsinfo.com or email giftsforkidsinfo@gmail.com.

If you wish to make a donation, please make your check out to *Gifts for Kids* and send to the above address or donate on our website. Gifts for Kids is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and donations are tax deductible. The tax identification number is 20-3361694. Please save this letter and any of your receipts for tax purposes.

Thank you in advance for your support.
Janet G. Bean
President, Gifts for Kids, Inc.



If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please email me at jgbeangfk@gmail.com or contact one of the individuals listed above. We are an all-volunteer organization and we attempt to contact only those who want us to.

HONK JR. AUDITIONS



The Un-Common Theatre Company is thrilled to announce auditions for our 2018 Young Performers Production of *Honk! JR.* The show will take place in Mansfield on March 9-11, 2018.

Honk! JR. is a heartwarming celebration of being different that is sure to delight audiences of all ages with its sparkling wit, unique charm and memorable score. Witty and hilarious, but also deeply moving, *Honk! JR.* will be a hit for the entire family.

Auditions for students in Grades 1 through 6 will be held on Sunday, December 17, 2017 beginning at 10:00 am BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

When:	Sunday, December 17, 2017 Beginning at 10:00am for Grades 1 to 6
Where:	Mansfield YMCA 40 Balcom Street Mansfield, MA
Time:	By appointment only beginning at 10:00am To make an appointment email auditions@uncommontheatre.org stating your name, grade, age, email address and telephone number. We will email you with an appointment time and more information.

Questions--please check our website or contact Un-Common at auditions@uncommontheatre.org.



Holiday Helping Hands

2017 Food Drive

This food drive will benefit the families of Boston's English High School (the oldest high school in the country) as well as the Westwood Food Pantry during the holidays. Please help us by donating any of the following:

- *Peanut Butter/Jelly
- *Pasta/Sauce
- *Rice/Beans
- *Coffee/Tea
- *Canned vegetables/soup
- *Canned meat/fish
- *Personal Care items

We will be collecting from **November 24th-December 20th**

Donations can be dropped at: **51 Cobleigh St or 48 Margery Ln,
Westwood**

Thank you for your support,
Erin Molchan and Kevin McDonald



Holiday House Decorating Contest

Categories

*Brightest House, Most Inflatables, Traditional
New England Theme*

- Email pictures to:
kscoble@townhall.westwood.ma.us by 12/15
- Include address in the email of the decorated house
- Please include a day and night picture
- Voting ends December 21
- Winners announced December 22

Most likes on Facebook and Instagram Combined





Spring 2018 Registration Is Now Open

Westwood Babe Ruth (WBR) is please to announce Spring 2018 registration is now open. Please copy and paste this link:

<http://leagueathletics.com/Registration/Default.asp?n=92735&org=WESTWOODLITTLELEAGUE.COM>

into your browser and scroll to the bottom of the page to sign up.

The 2018 Registration Fee has again not changed this year!

WBR is dedicated to the advancement of baseball in the town for all 13 to 15 year olds. In the Spring season we participate in the Norfolk County Babe Ruth League (NCBR) with locally surrounding towns. Westwood teams typically play each other and will also travel to Walpole, Medfield, Needham and other nearby towns to play same age teams. There are 2 Divisions - 13 Year Olds and 14 & 15 Year Olds and players of all abilities are welcome. You just have to love baseball, having fun and playing with your friends! Eligible candidates for Spring WHS Baseball teams are allowed and encouraged to play in both leagues. Coaches in WBR are always needed. Registration is also on the link.

The web address below is the hub for Westwood's Spring baseball activities. Please contact Gary Cappuccino, President WBR at gcapp@aol.com or 617-640-1620 with any questions. Hope to see you and your friends on the fields in 2018!

www.ncbrbaseball.com

Westwood Babe Ruth PO Box 413 Westwood MA 02090



ADULT BASKETBALL LEAGUE WINTER 2018

League Coordinator
James Perry, 508-314-2326, perryjames34@yahoo.com

Program Administrator
Taryn Crocker, 781-355-8097, tcrocker@townhall.westwood.ma.us



LEAGUE INFORMATION AND RULES

Where: Westwood High School Gymnasium, 200 Nahatan Street

Ages: 18 and older

Start Date: Tuesday, January 9, 2018 **End Date:** Projected April 11, 2018

Game Nights: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 8:30-9:30 PM and 9:30-10:30 PM

Schedule: Teams will play a 10 game schedule. Top 6 teams will make the playoffs. Players must play a minimum of five games to be eligible to play in the playoffs. Certified referees will referee the games with a scorekeeper. High School rules with modifications will be followed.

Team Fee: \$1200 (Team Min 6/Max 10)

Registration: Team Captain may register online www.westwoodrec.com, at the recreation office or at the pick-up game December 5. To register, team captain must pay full fee and submit a team roster that includes names, emails and t-shirt sizes by December 5. Teams must have a minimum of 5 players and the maximum is 12. All players will be required to sign and submit a Consent and Release form by January 3, 2018. No player will be allowed to start the season until the release has been signed.

Individual Players: Adults who are interested in playing and do not have a designated team contact tcrocker@townhall.westwood.ma.us These individuals will be placed on a team and an individual fee will be assessed.

Pick Up Games: Tuesday, December 5, 8:30-9:30 PM. Teams may also register at this time.
Wednesday, January 3, 8:30-9:30 PM.
Join us to play pick-up games and meet the league coordinator, James Perry.

Weather Cancellations: When Westwood Public Schools are CLOSED, there are no league games that night. If the School Department closes early due to inclement weather, the league will be canceled for that night. Team captains and players will be notified in the event of any cancellations by email.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 5.

www.westwoodrec.com
781-461-0070





**Kindergarten Readiness – 2018
Informational Meeting**

**Thursday, January 4, 2018
7:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.
Little Theater - Westwood High School**

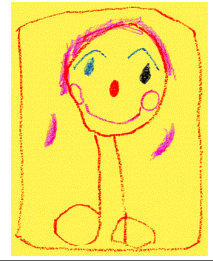
Is your child ready to go to kindergarten next September?

How is kindergarten different from preschool?



Join Deb Gallagher, Downey School Principal, Aprile Albertelli, Westwood Integrated Preschool Director and Nancy Malatesta, School Psychologist to discuss kindergarten readiness. Part of the presentation will focus on whether to send age-appropriate children (5 years old by 9/1) to kindergarten or have them attend an extra year of preschool. Learn what a typical kindergarten day is like in Westwood and the differences between preschool and kindergarten.

For questions contact Janet Lucey (781) 461-9548 or jlucey@westwood.k12.ma.us



MMO Nursery School

288 Washington Street

Westwood, MA 02090

781/326-7448

mmonurseryschool@verizon.net

Registration

2018-2019 School Year

Alumni Families: Friday, January 5, 2018, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

New Families: Saturday, January 6, 2018, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

- Accepting children ages 2 years - 5 years old
- Pre-K Program
- Lunch Program
- Extended Day Program
- School Calendar - September through June

For more information, please call us at (781) 326-7448

or visit our website

www.mmonurseryschool.com



Dear Westwood Residents ~

The Westwood Health Department and Westwood Cares along with our partners in the Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative have created a new public awareness campaign entitled ***Westwood Parents Know***; we hope you will find the information informative.

Westwood Cares is working to educate the community to be aware of the risks of substance use through a series of speaker events. Based on feedback from these events, we have produced a series of posters designed to highlight some additional, factual information to encourage *positive and informed decision-making* around the issue of youth substance use.

The **first poster** emphasizes the Massachusetts ***Social Host Law prohibiting the provision and/or authorization of underage alcohol consumption in a home or any other property under adult control.*** The **second poster** communicates the ***risks of adolescent marijuana use, outlining science and research*** from the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) and other leading health researchers. The third poster speaks about the ***misuse of prescription drugs and the importance of monitoring access by "Locking It Up"***.

We will be introducing the ***Westwood Parents Know-*** Social Host, the Risk is Real and the Lock It Up posters every 6-8 weeks.

Please contact me if you have any questions at lshea@townhall.westwood.ma.us or call 781-320-1026.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Shea, RS/REHS
Health Director

WESTWOOD PARENTS KNOW



Anyone supplying alcohol or allowing underage drinking is breaking the law.

Criminal and Civil Consequences:

- Fine of up to \$2,000, imprisonment for up to one year or both (Mass. General Laws, ch.138)
- Potential litigation and judgment costs for harm caused to or by underage drinkers



COALITION

FACTS & RESOURCES:

www.samhsa.gov/underage-drinking
www.drugabuse.gov

FACEBOOK.COM/WESTWOODCARES