Highlights of This Week
Tuesday, 11/22 - Souls4shoes collection ends
Wednesday, 11/23 - Picture Re-Take Day
    - Early Dismissal:
      AMK: 8:35 am - 10:30 am
      PMK: 10:40 am - 12:35 pm
      Grades 1-3: 8:35 am - 12:35 pm
- LUMINAIRA Sale Ends – Return order forms to the office
Thursday, 11/24 - NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving
Friday, 11/25 - NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving

Highlights of Next Few Weeks
Friday, 12/2 - Delayed Opening Teacher Inservice:
    PM Preschool: 12:30 pm - 2:50 pm
    Pre K: 10:35 – 2:30 pm
    PM K: 12:15 pm - 3:05 pm
    Grades 1, 2, 3: 10:35 am - 3:05 pm
    - Movie Night: Grades K-3
Wednesday, 12/6 - Walk to School Day
Wednesday, 12/7 - Holiday Boutique
Thursday, 12/8 - Holiday Boutique
Wednesday, 12/13 - Grade 1 Holiday Concert 9:00 am – 9:40 am
Thursday, 12/14 - Grade 2 Holiday Concert 9:00 am – 9:40 am
Friday, 12/15 - Grade 3 Holiday Concert 9:00 am – 9:45 am

Notes from Ms. Quigley, Principal
We were grateful for a full week of school and for all that happened around school thanks to the efforts of our staff and parents....The students were very excited to talk about the Signature Project and the passion that Patrick Dunning brought to his presentation. Thank you to Amy Crandall and the PTO for bringing this to WAS! A special thank you to the Borough’s Public Works Department for sponsoring the Habits for Habitats.

The Board of Education will meet Monday evening and will decide on the make up days for the days lost at the beginning of this month. We’ll send an email as soon as we have the information.

Enjoy this time with your families in the coming days. Thanksgiving is a time for sharing happy memories and creating new ones with your loved ones! Stay well and safe travels!

Notes from Samantha Ekert, PTO President
Willy Wonka has begun! It was wonderful to see all the excited children at our first rehearsals last week. Between the play beginning and our students practicing for their upcoming Holiday Concerts, the halls are alive with music at WAS! Our PTO website is also alive and well. You must check out our online photo gallery at http://www.chatham-nj.org/Page/7158. Jennifer Lavelle, our Publicity Co-Chair, has added some great photos from our recent PTO events (and even more to come!). Thanks to Jennifer for attending so many of our school events, snapping shots and combing through the endless photos.
By this point in the year we have had our first PTO assembly (a fantastic one I might add!), PTO-funded grade-level field trips, two gifts to the school (flag and solar spotlight), a New Family Picnic, and much more. This is all thanks to your support of the PTO – both by paying dues and your participation in our fundraisers. I continue to thank you for all that you do for our school.

"Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving." ~W.T. Purkiser

May you all cherish your blessings this year and enjoy a special Thanksgiving with family and friends.

From the School Counselor, Lindsey Feldman

*HELPFUL HINTS FOR HOMEWORK TIME*

* Set a consistent homework time
* Find a quiet/comfortable spot in your house to do homework
* Help your child get set up and organized
* Sit nearby so you can answer any questions
* Make sure your child correctly understands the directions of each assignment
* Communicate with your child’s teacher about any homework problems especially if there is crying or it takes longer than 30 minutes.

From LIFETOUCH Pictures...

Dear Parents, Students, and Faculty of Washington Avenue School:

We at Lifetouch would like to apologize for the packaging issues of your recently delivered portraits. We are working diligently to solve some of the unresolved issues. If you have any questions or concerns please call us at (973)-227-5252.

We are truly sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused you and truly do appreciate your business.

Brian Hampton

Traffic Safety in Chatham Borough

A lot has happened in a short amount of time. In response to residents’ appeals, the Traffic Safety Committee has begun investigating how to improve the safety of the intersection at Watchung and Washington Avenues. The committee has several other initiatives underway, as well.

Here are some proposed next steps for continuing to improve local traffic safety:

- **Get connected.** If you’re a Chatham resident who’s willing to contribute in some way to improving traffic safety or if you just want to stay informed, please send your e-mail address to William Marinell at wmarinell@verizon.net so that he can communicate directly with interested parties.

- **Identify issues.** Please write Borough Engineer, Vince DeNave at engineer@chathamborough.org, with concerns about unsafe conditions – e.g., the lack of a critical sidewalk, a dangerous intersection, etc. Mr. DeNave wants input, but needs written correspondence to set processes in motion. Copy other public officials as appropriate (e.g., school principal if it involves a safe route to school, Officer Robert Sweetin at rsweetin@chathampd.org if it involves an enforcement or crossing guard issue, etc.).

- **Participate in the process:** Please attend a Traffic Safety Committee meeting. *Disregard the meeting dates and times posted on the Borough's website and calendar.* The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 13** at 6:45 pm. In 2012, the Committee hopes to meet the first Tuesday of each month at 6:45 pm. All meetings are on the 2nd floor of the Borough’s office building on Fairmount.

The Signature Project

Last Wednesday, the students, teachers, staff and parents met Patrick Dunning of The Signature Project, who inspired us to think creatively and to think big. The response from the children and teachers in our building was fantastic! Several teachers wanted to share with me the fabulous writing responses the children had about the experience. Please see the
school webpage for a link to The Signature Project’s website. This assembly was made possible by our PTO. The collaboration between our school and parents to enrich our children’s school experience is really what makes WAS so special. Thanks to all who made the day possible, especially Mary Quigley and Nick Borgonsoli.

**Picture Re-Take Day**
Picture Re-Take Day has been re-scheduled for **Wednesday, November 23**. By now, you should have all received your completed picture packages, including a class photo. If you still have an issue with your pictures, please contact either Nancy Sordillo at nancysordillo@gmail.com or Lidia Tracy at lidiatracy@optonline.net. If you are not happy with your pictures and you haven’t already asked to be placed on the re-take schedule, please contact Nancy or Lidia so that you can get on the schedule. Your child’s original photo package needs to be returned on the day of the re-take. No additional form or payment is required. If your child was absent and you would like to have pictures taken for the first time, please fill out an order form and send it in along with your payment on the day of re-takes. You must let Nancy or Lidia know so that they can put you on the schedule. Order forms are available in the WAS office.

**Spirit**
The snow may have stopped us from having some fun in November, but please save the date for our rescheduled K-3 Movie Night in December! Come hang out with Mr. A and your friends and family on **Friday, December 2** at 7:00 pm and watch *The Smurfs* movie (rated PG) on a big screen in the WAS gym. The cost is $5.00 per person or $15.00 for all the members of your immediate family. The price includes both the movie and candy/chips/drinks. This is not a drop-off event. Bring a blanket and support this great annual PTO fundraiser! See attached flyer for all the details.

Please support our Annual Winter Accessories Drive for the Family Violence Program/Battered Women's Shelter in Newark. Your donations of new or very gently used winter accessories will decorate the Multi-Purpose Room for our holiday concerts and will then be delivered to women and children in need. Please drop off items in the collections bin located outside the Multi-Purpose Room by **Friday, December 9**. Thank you! See attached flyer for further details.

Our Kidstuff Coupon Book Sale has been a huge success! Thanks for your support of this important PTO fundraiser. If you have not yet paid for a coupon book you still have at home, please send in payment of $25.00 made out to the WAS PTO. If you still have a coupon book that you wish to return, please send it back to school with your child as soon as possible. If you have any questions or wish to purchase additional books for holiday giving, please contact Diane Rooney at gadiliki@optonline.net. Editions from other states and counties in New Jersey are also available.

**Holiday Boutique**
I know it might seem unbelievable, but the 2011 Holiday Boutique is just around the corner! The boutique is a much loved PTO-sponsored event that allows students to get a head start on Holiday shopping by finding that special gift for Moms and Dads, Aunts and Uncles, brothers and sisters, grandparents, babysitters, and anyone else on their list. Sale dates are **Wednesday, December 7** and **Thursday, December 8**. You are more than welcome, encouraged even, to come during your child’s assigned class time to help them shop, or you may send money in with the students. A letter indicating the class schedules for shopping and an envelope to plan purchases will be sent home on the **Monday, November 28**. You should also have received an email detailing volunteer opportunities. If you would like to volunteer for this fun event, please contact Hillary Singer at hillarysinger@hotmail.com.

**Luminaries Sale Begins**
Make your house glow for the Holidays and order your luminaries for your December 24 display. Please fill out the order form attached below and return to WAS with your payment before **Wednesday, November 23**. If you have any questions, please contact Heidi Schenone at schenone@me.com or by phone at 973-665-0393.

**Cafeteria**
We’re off to a great year! Pizza parlor day has been a favorite with the children, with the pancake breakfast being a close second. Additional vegetarian and whole wheat options and smaller snack sizes are just a few recent changes to the menus. The kids are doing a nice job sorting the trash items from their lunches as we continue to recycle and put food items in our bin for the District-wide Rocket Composter. Please continue to encourage your children to sort their trash (and model it at home!). We want to see even less mixed trash in our bins. Just as a reminder you can view your child’s
lunch account at www.PayForIt.net. If you have an outstanding balance, kindly submit your payment. Any questions, please contact Bob McBreen, Food Service Supervisor, at 973-457-2555 or rmcbreen@chatham-nj.org. The District-wide Cafeteria Committee is investigating a variety of organic and healthier food options for both lunches and snacks. We’d love your input! The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 10. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Christine Kania at Kania1@mac.com.

Soles4Souls
Andrea Walker, a Chatham mom, wants your new or gently used shoes to benefit Soles4Souls, a Nashville-based charity that provides shoes to those in need. Since 2005, S4S has given away over 15 million pairs of shoes to souls in over 127 countries, including the United States. This is an eco-friendly opportunity to help people in need while helping save the environment by collecting, distributing, and recycling new or gently worn shoes. To learn more about S4S, please access the website link at: http://www.soles4souls.org.

A donation box will be placed in the entry at WAS until Tuesday, November 22. If you have a large donation - more than 15 pairs - please feel free to call Andrea at 917-846-9953 to arrange a pick up or drop off. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea at smartlyorganized@verizon.net. Thank you for your support!

ONGOING WAS PTO FUNDRAISERS

Box Tops for Education
Keep collecting those box tops! Congratulations Mrs. Sabin’s class for collecting 600 box tops, they are in the running for the pizza party. It’s not over yet, so send in the box tops so your class can still win. The school has collected 2,500 box tops in total - that is $250 of free money for the school. Do your part and send the box tops in!

Additional information on the WAS fundraisers can be found on the WAS website under the PTO. http://www.chatham-nj.org/page/5376

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Boys and Girls Winter AAU Basketball Tryouts
On Monday, November 21 and Tuesday, November 22 Hoop Heaven is holding their winter tryouts. The Winter AAU program includes a minimum of 12-game season (a combination of weekend league games and one tournament) from the beginning of December to the end of February. The program includes one and one-half (1½) hours weekly practice starting the first week of December. For additional information, including Hoop Heaven sites, try-out fees and program costs, please go to www.hoopheaven.com.

Let’s Get Real, Teens and Underage Drinking, What Every Parent Should Know
The Municipal Alliance of the Chathams is sponsoring a panel discussion with professionals on the topic of Teens and Underage Drinking. This event was rescheduled and will now take place in the Chatham High School auditorium on Thursday, November 30 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

Holidays Around Chatham
The Chatham Middle School PTO is inviting all to attend its Holidays Around Chatham House Tour on Tuesday, December 6 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Please see the attached flyer for all the details. Any questions can be sent to chathamhousetour@gmail.com.

See attached flyers below –
Mitten Collection
CEF Tribute Form
Smurf Movie Info
Winter is just around the corner … it’s time for our annual **WINTER ACCESSORIES DRIVE** for the Essex County Family Violence Project

In the spirit of giving this holiday season, please donate new ladies and children’s winter accessories (hats/scarves/mittens/gloves) to this very worthy cause.

Your donations will help decorate the Multi-Purpose Room for the WAS Holiday Concerts and then will be delivered to the Essex County Family Violence Project for distribution to women and children in need.

Please place your donations in the bin outside the WAS Main Office no later than **Friday, December 9th**

Thank you for your support. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

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**COME ONE, COME ALL TO MR. A MOVIE NIGHT!**

**COME SEE THE SMURFS** (rated **PG**) **ON A BIG SCREEN IN THE GYM!**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 at 7pm**

All grades and siblings welcome!

$5.00 per Person or $15.00 per Immediate Family includes chips, candy & drink

Bring a blanket and come hang out with friends and family!
SEE HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE CHATHAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION WITH

A SAMPLING OF RECENT GRANTS AWARDED

**DISTRICT**

2010  Chatham Art Department 2011-2012 Calendars
2010  It's Cool to Be Kind (Anti-Bullying Program)
2009  N.E.T.R.O.O.K.S.
2008  Cyber Center
2006  Pilot Podcast Project MacBook
2006  Genetics/Environmental Study Equipment
2006  ABLE/Learning Difference
2004-06 Lincoln Center Institute for the Arts

**CHS**

2010  Computers for Media Center  Groh
2010  Theatre Set Design  Polan
2010  Building Musical Partnerships  Conti
2010  Geometry Benches  Cordano, Chambers
2009  Earth-Theme Mosaic Using Recyclables  Holzer
2009  Racing into the Future of Design  Mariano
2009  Power from a Drop of Water  Mariano
2007  Stock Market Experience  Mariano
2007  Design and Technology Portfolios Come Alive With Color  Brantley
2006  Habitat Revitalization  Curran
2006  Casting with Information  Gaba
2006  InterWrite PRS RF  Gaba
2006  CougarNet Radio  Gorham
2006  The Study of Intermolecular Forces using Manipulatives and Molecular Modeling  Howson
2006  Mural Works  Herba
2006  Cappella Workshop w/the Yale Jigazzwinkles  Klemper
2006  Ole Vella Los  Savary

**CMS**

2010  Stage Lighting Upgrade  Accardi, Prianzo-Keyser
2010  E-Books and E-Readers for the Library  Connolly
2010  Thematic Storytelling in World Language  Gilgorski, Riva
2009  Bonus! From CMS to the World  DeMattie
2009  CMS Live!  Kesselbrenner
2009  Reading with Graphic Novels  MaTagie, Bakaj, Connolly
2007  Rainforest Researchers  Evans
2007  New Jersey Writers Project  Anderson
2006  It's What's Inside that Counts  Butler
2006  Poetry in Action  Cohen-Michel, Leo, Polan
2006  Digital Storytelling  D'Alessandro
2006  M.A.P. Handbook  Kesselbrenner
2006  Interactive Math Classroom w/Technology  O'Reilly, Klenert, Caruso

**LAS**

2010  Fluency Phones  Keating
2010  Got a Minute for Fluency  McCullough, Adams
2010  Math Facts in a Flash  Bane, Schaefer, Naeer, Robinson
2010  School Scrapbook  Worden, Yates
2009  Global Learning through “Time for Kids”  Keating, Bukan
2009  Utilizing visuals and Literacy Connections  Kelly, Fresema, Cooke
2007  Hands on History  McCullough, Bane, Killea
2007  The Play’s the Thing  Horsinger
2007  Lafayette’s Roving Reporters  Worden
2006  Exploration & Discovery of Native American Cultures  Bakar, Keating
2006  Children’s Hands across the Hall as Mentors Coleman, Bradley, Kiss

2006  Great Swamp Science Safari  Cronin
2006  Singing and Signing: A Patriotic Salute  Hansen, Pofford, Stryker
2006  Building Fluency  Newcombe
2006  Dance Revolution  Raffo, Sigmund
2006  Photojournalism at LAS  Wong
2006  Train your Brain  Yates

**MAS**

2010  Smart Document Cameras  McCarthy
2010  Social Skills Enhancement  Manger
2010  Second Grade Book Talks  Shutman, Kartak
2009  Sound System Overhaul  McCarthy, Leonard
2009  Vera Tiles Promote Learning with Smiles  Casey, Cook, Patton
2009  Butterfly Garden  Cook, Kurtak
2009  Inspiring Authors  Callahan
2007  Fast Plants  Frouz, Kurtak
2007  Fluency Library  Leonard
2007  Learning Morals through Aesop’s Fables  Shutman, Casey
2007  Second Step  Manger, Weiner
2006  Where are you From?  Callahan, McCorry
2006  Let me Tell you a Story  Clark, Palmer
2006  The Great State of New Jersey  Kelly, Leonard, Zimmer

**SBS**

2010  Teaching Beginning Research – Technology  Pesapane
2010  Any Book Reader  Koppaz
2010  “egg-citing” Changes  Conti, Mulford, 1st grade team
2009  Mentor Texts for Writer’s Workshop  Comba
2009  CELEBRATE Experience Black History  D’Alloa, 4th grade team
2009  SBS Brain Bowl  Broyer, McKenna
2007  Who Wants to be the Next Rock Star?  Broyer, McKenna
2007  Discovering Light and Sound  Trombony
2007  The Kids are Climbing the Walls  Dalton, Stevens
2007  Second Step  Manger, Weaver
2006  Classroom Community Centers  Ciccone, Leo, Sleder
2006  I Stack, You Stack, We All Can Cop Stack  Dalton, Stevens
2006  Lively Listeners  Hammond, O’Connor
2006  Readers Theatre Books  Hammond, O’Connor
2006  Together in Rhythm  Slater

**WAS**

2010  Smart Document Cameras  Quigley
2010  Exercise Your Ears with Earobics  Moran
2010  Character Education Book Supply  Turrissi, Volker
2010  Learner Interactive Books  Friedrich
2010  iPod Touch Accessories and Apps  Grusenski, Hasegawa, Luongo
2009  Finding Your Kindergarten Singing Voices  DeMasi, Barnes
2009  Sound System  Quigley, Harris, Shapiro
2009  Pair Up for Better Reading  Luongo, Volker
2009  Seat in the Classroom  Taylor, Monahan, Taylor
2009  How Does Your Garden Grow?  Kuhn, Demasi, Luongo
2009  iRead!  Hines, Patton
2008  WAS Eyewitness News Stream Video  Gutierrez, Kelly, Kuhn, Monahan, Taylor
2007  SMART Board goes to the Movies  Denny
2006  Use Your Words  Hines, Patton
2006  NF: A Garden in the Global Community  Kuhn, Monica
2006  Espanol Para Los Ninos  Tufano

HOLIDAY TRIBUTES BELOW!
Chatham Education Foundation’s
Holiday Teacher Tribute

Finding the perfect gift for your child’s teacher is easy - when you make a gift to the Chatham Education Foundation!

Show your appreciation for your child’s teachers this holiday season by making a donation in their honor to the Chatham Education Foundation. By contributing to CEF in the name of a teacher, administrator or staff member, you will truly make a difference in enhancing educational opportunities in the Chatham public schools. Donations to CEF will be used to award grants supporting educational innovation throughout the district.

For each person honored with a donation to CEF, you will receive a Holiday Tribute Certificate, which your child can proudly present or that can be mailed/dropped off to their school. Furthermore, all donations are tax deductible to fullest extent allowable by law.

YES! I want to contribute to the Holiday Teacher Tribute in honor of the following (a minimum of $10 per person is suggested):

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Total Donation Enclosed: $__________

Donor (as you would like it to appear on the certificate):

Your Name: ___________________________________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________

Email: __________________________________ Phone: _______________________________

Please return this order form with your check made payable to Chatham Education Foundation to: Chatham Education Foundation, Holiday Teacher Tribute, PO Box 81, Chatham, NJ 07928.

Please note: in order to receive your certificates by the week of December 12th, orders must be placed no later than December 9, 2011. Questions? Please contact us at (973) 701-8731 or at info@chathamedfoundation.org.