

### **ARTS & CRAFTS**

Ms. Casado, Ms. Iannacone

In this club we will make many different kinds of crafts for different holidays and everyday use. All creative students are encouraged to join!! The club will meet once monthly on a Thursday morning at 7:00 a.m. in room M-2. Students may bring an old shirt to cover their clothing for painting activities.

### **CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

Ms. Vaillancourt

Chamber Orchestra is a select ensemble. Participation in Chamber is by audition only and students must participate in orchestra class in order to participate in Chamber. This group plays advanced level music and rehearses once or twice a week on Wednesday and/or Friday mornings at 7am. Chamber Orchestra performs at both the Winter and Spring Concerts and, in addition, has extra performances throughout the year at various school events.

### **CHESS & SCRABBLE CLUB**

Mr. Lipari – Room U10

Begins Tuesday, Nov. 17 and will meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

The objective of the Chess and Scrabble Club is to give students the opportunity to enjoy these wonderful games every Tuesday afternoon from 2:40 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. The students will have the opportunity to benefit from chess as they strengthen their problem solving skills. These games also teach children how to make difficult and abstract decisions independently, enhances reading, memory, language, and mathematical abilities as the child is faced with situations where his or her critical thinking skills are necessary.

### **DEBATE TEAM**

The Debate Team, coached by Mr. Lipari, will begin gathering our research and formulating arguments in November. We will be meeting on Fridays in room U10, beginning on November 20th in preparation for our annual state-wide competition which will take place in April. Last year's successful team made it to the State Finals and performed valiantly. All are welcome, including FUTURE lawyers, politicians, propagandists, and public speakers.

### **FASHION & JEWELRY CLUB – MAKE IT, TAKE IT AND WEAR IT**

Mrs. Goldman and Mrs. Olivieri

If you would like to make your own accessories and fashions to wear then this is the club for you. It is a place to be creative, let your fashion sense shine and discover new fashion trends. We will meet the first Monday of each month in room W11.

### **FESTIVAL OF TREES**

Ms. Fitzpatrick, Ms. Rosati, Ms. Volinski Room W25

Students will meet to create holiday decorations for a Christmas tree and wreath to be donated to the Festival of Trees Charity Fundraiser in November at the Hyatt Hotel in

Greenwich. All students are welcome to join in the fun to spread holiday cheer for a worthy cause! We will be meeting at the end of October and the beginning of November.

### **GEOGRAPHY BEE**

Mr. Foster

The Geography Bee is a national competition for 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, sponsored annually by the National Geographic Society. It is open to all Western Middle School students. It focuses on knowledge of world geography, including economic and political geography, physical and cultural geography, as well as capital cities, historic places and general questions about U.S. and world geography. All students participate in the preliminary rounds in their classes in November/December. School based championship round: December 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **HAND IN HAND CLUB**

Ms. DeBrisco, Mr. Papini, Ms.Reis, Mrs. McNamara – W-12

We will meet once a month - on Thursdays – October to April

This is an after school club that integrates students of all abilities to participate in fun, social activities and make new friends. Students from each grade level are invited to become a member. We will be meeting once a month and traveling to the Bruce Museum to participate in the Neighborhood Collaborative Program. In addition, we participate in fundraising activities during the year and will join the WMS team to support and walk for NAAR (The National Alliance for Autism Research) in June.

### **HAND SEWING & EMBROIDERY CLUB**

Ms. Bohan – Room C8

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month starting Tuesday, October 6

Open to all who love to sew. Bring your own project you are working on or bring a piece of clothing and learn to embroider by hand. No sign up is necessary.

### **HOMEWORK CLUB**

Ms. Downes – Room M7

Homework Club is a place where all students can come for extra help in all subjects. Help on homework is provided by both teachers and peers. Homework Club meets Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in room M7. All are welcome.

### **INTERNATIONAL CLUB**

Ms. Vargas – M12

International Club will have our first meeting on Thursday, October 15 in room M12. We need your help in planning our meetings; we want them to reflect your interests! We look forward to meeting you.

### **JAZZ BAND**

Ms. Anderson

Jazz Band is offered to 6th, 7th and 8th grade trumpet, trombone, saxophone, piano, guitar, drumset and bass players by audition only. Jazz Band rehearses once a week from the end of September through the end of May. Rehearsal schedule to be determined. Members are required to attend evening performances.

### **MEDIA CENTER**

The Media Center is open every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday after school from 2:45-3:50.

### **NEW CLUB SPORT COMING TO WESTERN! SQUASH!**

(No, we are not talking about the vegetable.)

On September 22nd, we are having an informational meeting to launch this new sport at Western. And, we will be showing a short video for you to see what the sport is like.

Squash is an indoor racket sport that requires speed, hand-eye coordination and strategy. More than 15 million people in 153 countries around the world play it!

If you have played a little tennis or if you are an athlete who wants to try something new, come out and give squash a try.

We will be playing against Eastern and Central clubs as well as other middle school teams in the area. Our goal is also to participate in the National Middle School Championships at Yale in January. We will be asking for reasonable coaching and court fees.

The meeting will be held after school in room M4 on Tuesday, September 22.

If you can't make the meeting but are interested please look for 6th grader Griffin Palmgren or 7th grader Luke Holey or email [bholey@optonline.net](mailto:bholey@optonline.net) or [gpalmgren@yahoo.com](mailto:gpalmgren@yahoo.com)

### **OPEN ART STUDIO**

Ms. Haymon – Room E2

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday after School Semester 1

If you love to paint, draw or create art using the computer, come to the art room after school. The art room will be open from 2:40 until late bus on the selected days. Use of all art materials is free; just bring your own ideas and creativity.

### **ROCKET CLUB**

Ms. Maher-Cochran

If you would like to build Estes rockets the Rocket Club will meet once a week in January and February. No experience necessary, but students will need to pay for their own rockets. Club will meet in W22. Sponsored by Mrs. Maher-Cochran.

### **SATURDAY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

Teachers have created special courses to offer our students on chosen Saturdays from 9:00 am - 11:00am. Topics include Study Skills, Nature Walks at the Audubon, Rat Dissection, Thematic Reading Clubs, and Marine Biology Beach Walks. Notification and permission slips will be sent home with all students as specific activities near.

### **SPELLING BEE**

Ms. Miller

'I' before 'e' except after 'c.' Did you know there are about 50 exceptions to this rule? How well can you spell? The WMS Spelling Bee will take place on Friday, January 15th. This is an exciting event for the whole school. Preliminary rounds will be conducted in LA classes. Winners of the school bee will advance to the regional bee and have a chance to be in the 2010 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Jason Foster, Diana Willie – Room M10

The Western Middle School Student Council consists of Western students interested in serving as a liaison between students and administration in order to improve school operations and programs and to increase understanding and cooperation between students and adult staff. The Western Middle School Student Council will also collaborate with town agencies including (United Way, Red Cross, Boys and Girls Club, amongst others) to model appropriate decision making process for the benefit of the community.

Tentative dates: See Meeting Schedule on the Western Student Council Board located across from the main office.

### **STUDENT SERVICE CLUB**

Ms. DeBlasio. Ms. Brennan –Room W32

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will work together on many different school and community activities. Activities will include the Thanksgiving Food Drive, a Valentine's Day activity at McKinney Terrace, and the Penny War. The club may meet more frequently to prepare for certain events. We will begin holding meetings in October. We welcome all students to come and share new ideas with the club!

### **WMS TALENT SHOW**

Ms. DeBlasio

The annual WMS **Talent Show** will be held on Thursday, February 11 @ 7:00 pm. The Talent Show is open to all singers, musicians, comedians, and dancers from 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Start tuning up those instruments, practicing your notes, and put on your dancing shoes because Talent Show auditions start in January!

### **WMS WESTMEN**

Ms. Davis – Room E-5

Westmen is a select boys vocal ensemble. This group sings in 2 part harmony and rehearses once a week .

The Westmen perform at concerts and various school events. Participation in Westmen is

by audition.

### **WORDMASTERS**

The Wordmasters Challenge is a national analogies-solving contest open to Western Middle School ALP students. Participation in all three competitions builds vocabulary and encourages higher-level verbal reasoning abilities. Complete description and the schedule for all three meets are available through the grade level ALP teacher.

### **YEARBOOK CLUB**

Mrs. Brennan, Ms. DeBlasio, Ms. DeBlasio in Room W32

The Western yearbook includes portraits of all students and a compilation of student information with a specific focus on the graduating 8th grade class. The book is composed of photographs which document events, field trips, clubs, sports, and all other facets of all student life. Learn how to create MEMORIES using digital photography and design. Our first meeting will be in October, and we continue to meet monthly until the final deadline.

### **YOUNG MEN'S LEADERSHIP CLUB**

Mr. Brown, Mr. Marmor

Meeting time & Starting Date TBA

The Young Men's Leadership Club is a place for boys to be able to meet and discuss issues that they may face inside or outside of school. This club will discuss topics such as peer conflicts, peer pressure and how to improve academic achievement. The Young Men's Leadership Club is designed for these young men to not only learn from their group facilitators but for the boys to grow and develop from the experiences of each other and how to become strong leaders. \*10 student limit.

\*If you have any questions, please see the teacher sponsoring the club in which you are interested.

**WESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
SPORTS PROGRAM 2009-2010

**DESCRIPTION**

The middle school sports program provides opportunities for students to participate in both the competitive and recreational arenas of sport.

**INTRAMURALS**

**PHILOSOPHY:** One of the main objectives of the Middle School Intramurals is to provide every student with the opportunity to play and enjoy friendly activity under the supervision of certified staff. While the main focus is recreational, participants may practice game skills learned in physical education class. Activities which are not offered in regular physical education class are also available. These offerings may differ from school to school, and season to season as interest and participation dictate.

Some of the activities which may be offered are:

Soccer	Basketball	Badminton and Racquet Sports	Flag football
Volleyball	Tennis	Jogging/fitness walking	Adventure Climbing

**SCHEDULE:** Intramurals are typically offered four days a week.

Physicals and permission forms are not required for participation in the Intramural Program.

**COMPETITIVE PROGRAM**

**PHILOSOPHY:** The value of increased skills instruction, additional practice time, and interschool competition add to the growth and development of the middle school student. The middle school competitive program provides students with opportunities to nurture their competitive drive while maintaining a high standard of sportsmanship. Team practices and competition provide a forum which fosters respect for diverse athletic capabilities.

When necessary and feasible, the competitive program offers A and B level teams to maximize student participation. The sports which have been selected for this program complement the competitive opportunities throughout the Greenwich community, while considering limitations imposed by facilities, field space, transportation, and staffing. Athletes compete against teams in the Greenwich Middle Schools, private school teams, and selected regional teams as opportunities arise. Games will be officiated by qualified officials.

Sports offerings include:

FALL

Soccer - boys "A"  
Soccer - boys "B"  
Soccer – girls  
Field Hockey – girls  
Co-ed Volleyball

SPRING

Baseball – boys  
Softball – girls  
Co-ed Track & Field

WINTER

Basketball – boys "A"  
Basketball – boys "B"  
Basketball – girls "A"  
Basketball – girls "B"