Field Trips and Special Programs:

- Gail White Usher from Roseland Cottage presented a program for grade 8 students called Anti-Slavery Debates on Oct. 31.
- Students in grades 6-8 will visit Mystic Aquarium on Nov. 1 and grades 3-5 will travel to Bluff Point on Nov. 8. Both events are due to a grant, "Where the City Meets the Sea," through Mystic Aquarium and EASTCONN. The grant covers transportation, entrance to the aquarium, and the cost of one substitute teacher.
- Grades PK, K and 3 continue monthly walks to the Eastford Public Library for book selection and story time.
- On Dec. 3 grades K-2 will travel to The Center for the Arts at The Woodstock Academy for a play, Pete the Cat.
- Grade 8 Washington DC trip is scheduled for May 14 through May 17, 2019.

Virtual Field Trips:

- November 7 – (Grade 8) – Lure of the West: Smithsonian American Art Museum
- November 16 – (Grade 5) – Solar System Adventure: Science Central
- December 21 – (Grades 2 and 3) – Pioneer Christmas with Charles Ingalls: Sheffield Museum of Rural Life, Canada.

Eastford Readiness Program:
The Readiness Program is full with 17 students. Mrs. Kopplin continues training on the use of the Documentation and Observation for Teaching System (DOTS). This will be used to observe and evaluate student progress toward skills and standards and will replace the Preschool Assessment Framework (PAF). DOTS uses two reporting periods, one at midyear and one at the end of the school year instead of the three reporting periods that had been used. The Program will sponsor a Family Thankfulness Celebration on November 16 in the school library from 9:00 to 10:00 AM.

Eastford Readiness Council Update:
The Council will meet on November 6 at 5:30 pm. They are working on revising and aligning policies to include all components for School Readiness and NAEYC.
Data on Student Progress:
Teachers have completed grade appropriate, fall formative assessments with students. I have met with teachers to review student progress on these assessments and to set goals for the 2018-19 school year. These goals are aligned with my goal focus areas, which are noted below. Teachers also meet at least once a month with our Response to Intervention (RTI)/MTSS (Multi-Tier System of Supports) Team to analyze student data, including formative assessment results, and plan targeted intervention or enrichment according to student needs.

Principal Goals: 2018-2019 Goals are aligned with two broad focus areas:

**Focus Area 1:** Support teachers in improving student growth in the areas of English-language arts (ELA) and mathematics.

**Focus Area 2:** Provide support and feedback to teachers to assist in analyzing student data and developing tiered instructional practices.

High School Updates:
- Grade 8 students will visit QMC on November 7 for a tour and to learn more about the programs offered.
- To date, eight students in eighth grade have requested permission to shadow at local high schools. Three students will be shadowing at E.O. Smith and the remaining will shadow at The Woodstock Academy. Ellis Tech will also allow shadowing this year.
- Mrs. Lessard and Mrs. Harrington are working with students to begin the application process to their schools of choice.

Professional Development:
- On November 1, Beth Harrington will attend a breakfast program at EastConn for school counselors to learn about adult education programs and resources for parents.
- On November 6, Beth Harrington will attend *Improving School Climate by Understanding and Interpreting Bias* sponsored by Prevention Partnership.
- On November 7, Beth Harrington will attend training on understanding NWEA Growth models.
- On November 12, certified teachers will have professional development here at school. Topics include strategies for working with difficult students, understanding NWEA and SBAC growth models and using data to inform instruction, preparing students for rigorous assessments, required training updates – PMT, CPR/First Aid, Mandated Reporter Training.
- On November 17, Rachelle Mauer, Speech/Language Pathologist (SLP), will present at the ASHA (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association) conference in Boston. Her presentation will focus on the scope of practice for SLPs.
- Melissa Lessard will attend a conference on “The Best Young Adult Literature of 2018” on November 27.
Grants:
**PMHP:** We have received word from the state that districts will receive the same level of funding as last year and two trainings have been scheduled for staff overseeing the program.
**LPC:** The LPC grant has been submitted. We are allotted the same level of funding as last year to provide programs and services that support students and families and prevent addiction and substance abuse.
**Security Grant:** I am working on the Security Grant application. This is a reimbursement grant that will cover the costs associated with security related needs. The Safety and Security Committee met in October to discuss potential needs which include upgrading the video surveillance equipment, replacing/repairing classroom doors that do not close completely, purchasing roll-up window shades for the windows in classroom doors, and possibly installing protective film or specialized glass in the window near the office secretary’s desk.
**Safety and Security Plan:** The plan has been updated to follow the revised document template and has been submitted to the Department of Emergency Management.

Fundraising:
- PTO fall fundraising items will be delivered and distributed by PTO volunteers prior to the Thanksgiving break.
- Student council will alternate sponsoring dances for students in grades 6-8 with Union School.
- The Annual Goods and Service Auction will be on Saturday, November 17, beginning at 5:00 pm.

Community and Other Events:
- Volunteers from the Congregational Church of Eastford continue to offer after school enrichment activities for students.
- On November 6, the PTO will sponsor a school-wide assembly featuring a basketball trickster. This event is scheduled for 2:00 pm. Families are welcome to attend.
- Teachers of preschool, kindergarten and the k/1 multiage classroom will host a curriculum night for families on November 8 from 6-7:30 pm. They will share information about academics, state standards, assessment and grading practices.
- A 3-D printer Robotic Hand Building session is being offered to students in grades 5-8 through the UCONN School of Engineering on November 14.
- The local Lions Club is offering a free vision screening for interested families on November 7. They will come to the school with a device that detects vision issues across all age groups. The device can detect lazy eye, astigmatism, nearsightedness, farsightedness, misalignment, and pupil size anomalies.
- Picture retake day will be November 6.
- Putnam Elks Lodge has donated $400 in grant money to EES to purchase books for the school library and they have volunteers who would like to come and read to our grade 3 students. Sarah Boyd, library media specialist, has compiled a list of books to be purchased for the library.
• Parent-teacher conferences will be held on the evening of December 6 and in the afternoon on December 7.
• The PTO will sponsor the Scholastic Book Fair the week of December 3 to coincide with parent-teacher conferences.
• The winter concert is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18 at 7:00 pm.
• The school basketball season will begin with their first game on December 10.