



Shaping Futures Together

June 2025

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Families,

Welcome to the last few days of the 2024-2025 school year!

Each year, in the June Newsletter, I like to take the opportunity to thank our numerous volunteers who have assisted staff and students throughout the school year. Every volunteer effort, whether it is in person during school or at home in response to needs in school, contributes to our sense of school community and helps to shape the positive climate of our school. We greatly value and appreciate this partnership.

Thank you!

Two of our most essential parent volunteer groups are our school PTO and our Auction Committee. Our PTO provides many opportunities for our students to experience cultural and educational events. This is made possible through fundraising efforts that they organize over the course of the school year. PTO also organizes special contests, such as designing the new school sign, and they orchestrate staff appreciation and conference night meals for staff.

Our Auction Committee is another parent group that regularly provides a tremendous service to our students and families. Their time and dedication to planning and running the annual Goods and Services Auction enables every student to attend their culminating class trip to Washington, D.C., free of charge. Families of students in grades 4-8 need to be actively involved in the planning of the Auction, but we also need contributions from all families for success! We will need to continue our fundraising efforts so that this important and educational tradition can continue for our students. The Auction Committee will begin meeting in August or September to get the planning started for next year's Auction in November.

On **June 10**, Mrs. Farrell-Denke will showcase the talent of our instrumental music players in a concert performance. The performance will take place at 10:00 a.m. in the school gym. Please join us if you are able to celebrate the growth and achievements of this hard-working group of students.

Eastford Elementary School Newsletter

June 2025

June 11 will be our annual field day. Students in grades PK-4 will participate in outdoor activities in the morning, and students in grades 5-8 will participate in the afternoon. It promises to be a fun and active day to celebrate everyone's hard work over the course of the school year. Students should wear school colors – blue and white – to show their school pride! The PTO will be facilitating a pizza lunch and frozen treats for all students on June 11. Please reach out to classroom teachers if you have questions about field day or the pizza lunch option, or if you prefer that your child not participate in the pizza lunch. Students should plan to bring a water bottle, their usual snack and beverage, and some snacks to go along with their pizza for lunch. Students will be given two to three pieces of pizza each.

Graduation for our grade 8 students will be held on Thursday evening, June 12 at 6:30 PM in the school gym. More graduation information will be communicated to grade 8 families as needed.

Our **Trimester Awards Ceremony** for the third trimester will take place on Thursday afternoon, June 12, at 2:30 in the school gym. We will begin with our younger students and work our way up to the older students.

The **last day of school** for students is **Friday, June 13**. It is a FULL DAY OF SCHOOL because the Board of Education eliminated the last scheduled day, a half day, on June 16. There is **no after-school childcare on June 13**. All students must go home either as a car rider or on the bus.

EES will be participating in the **Governor's Summer Reading Challenge** over the summer. This is a great opportunity for students to maintain reading skills over the summer. Additional information will be sent home with students in the report card on the last day of school. We do not **require** any additional summer work for students, but we strongly encourage students to remain engaged in learning over the summer. Many of our online platforms, such as IXL and Reflex math, continue to be open for students, and the more that students read and practice math skills, the easier their transition will be in the fall. There are also many subtle ways that families can include reading, writing, and math in their everyday plans over the summer. For example, you can give your child a budget amount and have them research and help plan an itinerary for a day trip. Have them calculate how much dinner out would cost by estimating the amount for each member's dinner. Set a time each day where the whole family stops to read, or a time where everyone unplugs and enjoys a board game or outdoor activity together! Check out local library summer programs – many offer more than just reading! Sign your child up for a program through a neighboring community organization such as the YMCA in Putnam or the Community of the Arts in Mansfield.

I am excited to announce some staffing changes that will take place at the beginning of next school year. Last month, I announced that Mrs. Diane Barlow, our reading and math Interventionist, is retiring after over 30 years of service to Eastford Elementary School. Mrs. Lori Crocker-Lincoln will leave her teaching position in grade two and take over the

Interventionist position. Mrs. Elizabeth Rhynhart will loop with her current students and assume the grade two position. Mrs. Samantha Boccacio, our building substitute, will be teaching grade one next year. I am confident that the expertise and training of these fine educators will be an asset to our students in their new roles.

School will resume for students on **Wednesday, August 27, 2025**. The school calendar is available on the school's website at www.eastfordct.org. Click on the 'For Families' tab and then 'Yearly Calendar.'

I would like to extend my thanks once again to the entire Eastford Community for your support and involvement in making this a productive school year for both students and staff. I look forward to our continued partnership in the future and wish for you a safe, healthy, and relaxing summer break. The school office is open over the summer, so feel free to stop in if you have questions or suggestions that you would like to discuss.

Sincerely,

Carole McCombe



Kindergarten News – Ms. Garvie

Can you believe the end of the school year is already here? In the month of May, the children had plenty of engaging lessons and activities to keep them busy. During reading and writing times, children showed habits of success by sustaining their attention for longer periods of time.

We finished up our unit in math, understanding numbers 11-19. We will end the year with a quick review of flat and solid shapes, then do Unit 8, which is a review of all the math units!

During recent science lessons, the children have learned all about forces. We had so many fun activities to support our unit, including using a wrecking ball to knock down a wall without damaging the nearby buildings and bumper bowling! Other fun activities this month included planting spider plants for Mother's Day, tracking the growth of our radish plants, and our last trip to the Eastford Public Library.

It has been such a pleasure having the opportunity to teach all these wonderful children! We have developed such a great classroom community, and I will miss them all dearly next year. Have a great summer and stay in touch!

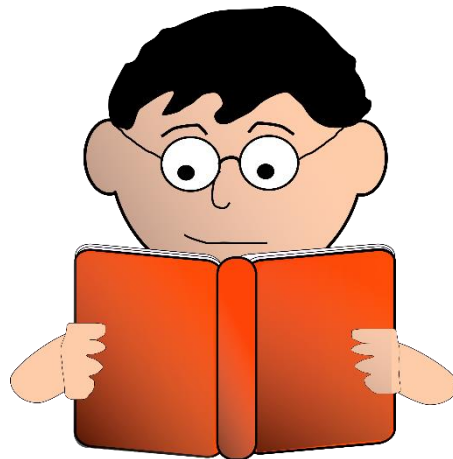






Grade 1 News – Mrs. Rhynhart

It's June! What a wonderful year we have had - but we are not done yet! The first graders will continue to develop their math skills this month as we focus on telling time to the hour and half hour, as well as reviewing the skills we have learned throughout the year. We will complete our social studies unit on economics as we learn about jobs and spending and saving money. We will also learn how to be assertive and keep ourselves safe with lessons from our Child Protection Unit. We recently enjoyed a wonderful trip to Roger Williams Park Zoo! The weather held out, and we all enjoyed seeing and learning about the animals (even in the "fragrant" rainforest exhibit!) We also enjoyed two trips to the Loos Center in Woodstock to see theater adaptations of the children's stories, Ada Swift, Scientist, and Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! Both shows brought much laughter and enjoyment! The end of the school year is also a time to have fun with our classmates and celebrate all our hard work throughout the year, which we will do on June 11 - field day! It has been a wonderful year with an awesome group of first graders who have worked so hard and learned so much! I will miss all of you over the summer! Thank you to the first-grade families for all of your support throughout this year. I wish all the first graders and their families a fun and safe summer filled with happy memories!



Grade 2 News – Mrs. Crocker-Lincoln

Engaging Summer Ideas for Up and Coming Third Graders.....

As we welcome the excitement of summer, it's important to remember that learning doesn't have to stop when school lets out! Here are a few ideas to help your soon-to-be third grader stay sharp while enjoying their break:

1. Read Every Day

Make reading part of your child's daily routine. Whether it's a trip to the Eastford Public Library, a quiet afternoon reading under a tree, or a bedtime story, regular reading helps build vocabulary, comprehension, and imagination. Be sure to let your child choose books that interest them.

2. Make Math Practical and Fun

Math can be part of everyday life. Practice addition and subtraction at the grocery store, measure ingredients while baking, or play math games like Yahtzee or card games.

3. Write with a Purpose

Encourage your child to keep a summer journal, write letters to family members, or create comic books and stories. Writing for fun helps children express their thoughts clearly and improves their spelling and grammar!

4. Explore the Outdoors

Nature is full of learning opportunities. Go on nature walks, start a simple garden, or visit local parks. Bring along a notebook for sketching or taking notes about plants, animals, and weather. These activities help develop observation skills and scientific thinking.

5. Get Creative

Arts and crafts, music, building projects, or even cooking are excellent ways to engage problem-solving and fine motor skills.

6. Ask Questions Together

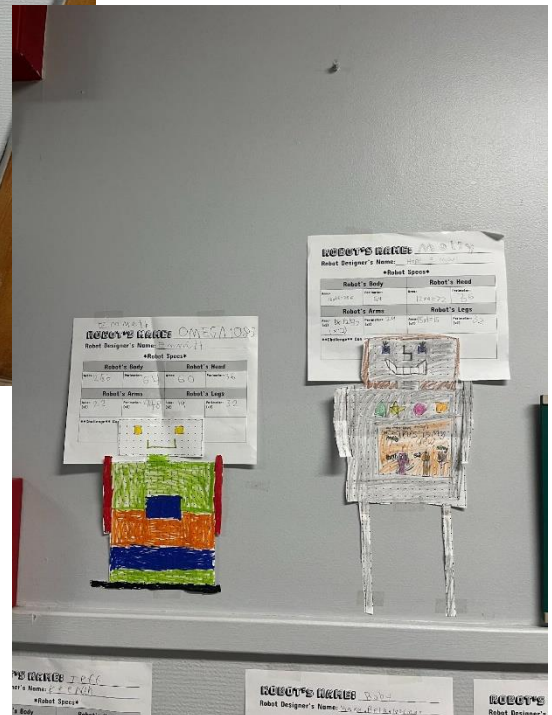
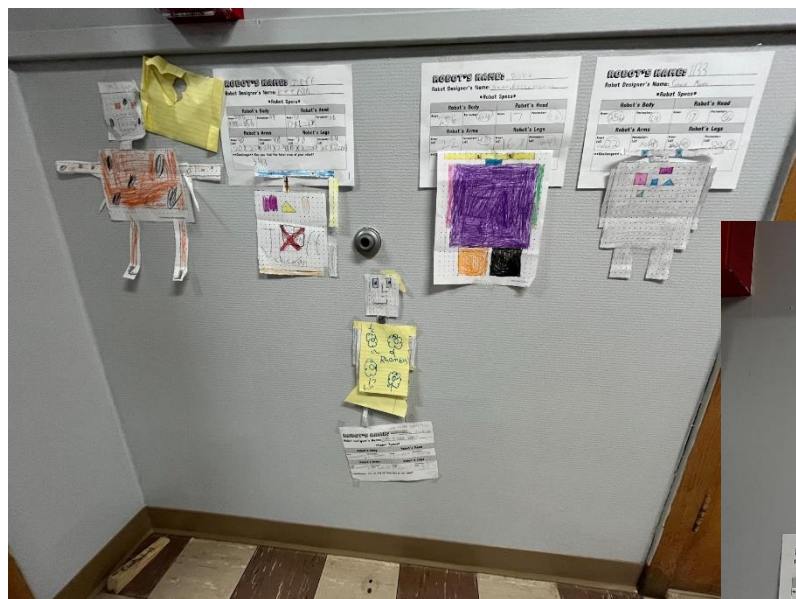
Encourage curiosity by exploring your child's "why" questions. Look up answers together, visit museums or science centers, or watch educational videos together. Modeling a love of learning shows your child that discovery doesn't stop at school.

Wishing your family a summer full of fun, adventure, and discovery!

Grade 3 News – Mrs. Bisson

Third graders have been busy creating park designs and robots in math! We took everything we learned about area and perimeter and used that information to design a park with several features. Then, we used grid paper and certain specifications to design our very own robot!

We have also been learning all about the history of Eastford in preparation for our Bus Tour in June. Did you know that Eastford once had 6 different schools? Each school had only one teacher, teaching grades 1-8! Third graders learned about the importance of churches in Eastford and how Eastford runs the town government. Next, we will be learning all about the famous citizens of Eastford.



Grade 4 News – Ms. Dill

As summer break approaches, I want to emphasize the importance of continued educational practice. Research shows that students can lose up to two months of academic progress without consistent engagement during the summer. Encouraging your child to read, explore math games, or engage in educational activities will help keep their skills sharp and ready for the new school year. Family outings can be an educational and fun approach, too! Six wonderful educational field trips to enjoy in Connecticut, perfect for summer learning and exploration, include:

1. **Mystic Seaport Museum (Mystic)** — Dive into America's maritime history with hands-on exhibits and historic ships that make learning about the past exciting for all ages.
2. **Connecticut Science Center (Hartford)** — Spark curiosity with interactive science displays covering physics, biology, and technology, encouraging critical thinking and discovery.
3. **Mark Twain House & Museum (Hartford)** — Step into the world of one of America's greatest authors in his beautifully preserved home, offering rich literary and historical insights.
4. **The Beardsley Zoo (Bridgeport)** — Explore wildlife conservation and biology at Connecticut's only zoo, home to native and exotic animals.
5. **Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History (New Haven)** — Experience natural history up close with impressive dinosaur fossils, minerals, and cultural artifacts that engage learners of all ages.
6. **Meigs Point Nature Center (Guilford)** — Connect with nature through trails, live animal exhibits, and environmental education programs that inspire stewardship and outdoor learning.

These trips are a great way to keep your child's learning active and fun all summer long! I'm wishing all Eastford families a fun-filled summer vacation packed with adventure, learning, and plenty of sunshine! Together, we can ensure a successful transition back to the classroom in the fall.

ELA – Mr. Salsich

Celebrating Our Visual Poetry Unit!

Dear Families,

I'm so excited to share what we've been working on in our 5th–8th grade ELA classes—we just wrapped up a powerful and creative visual poetry unit, and I couldn't be more proud of your students!

Throughout this unit, we explored three different forms of poetry that blend words with visual expression:

- Concrete Poems – where the shape of the poem reflects its subject.
- Blackout Poems – created by selecting and highlighting words from existing texts to reveal hidden poetry.
- Haiku Poems – short, structured poems that capture a moment or emotion, often inspired by nature.

Each grade level was introduced to these forms in a way that matched their skills and needs. I used differentiated instruction so that all students—regardless of level—could engage with the content and find success. The results were not only beautiful, but incredibly thoughtful and inspiring.

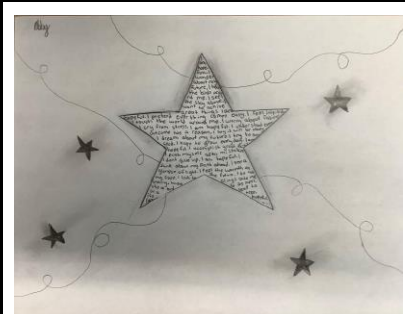
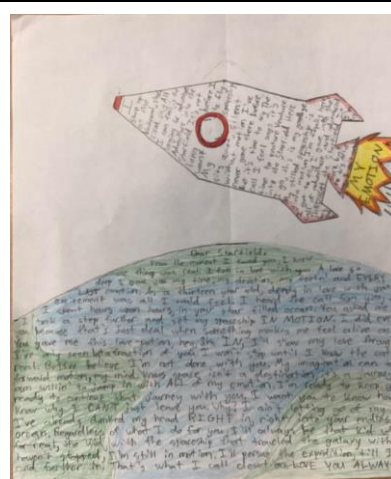
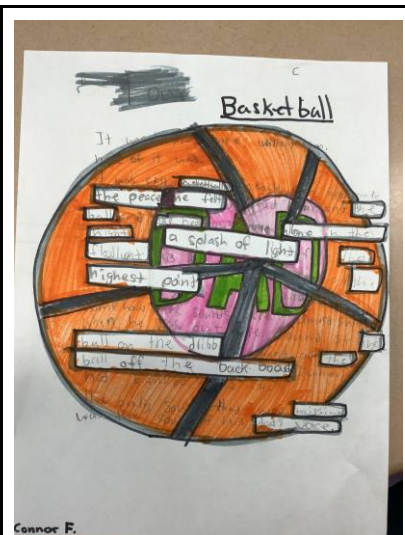
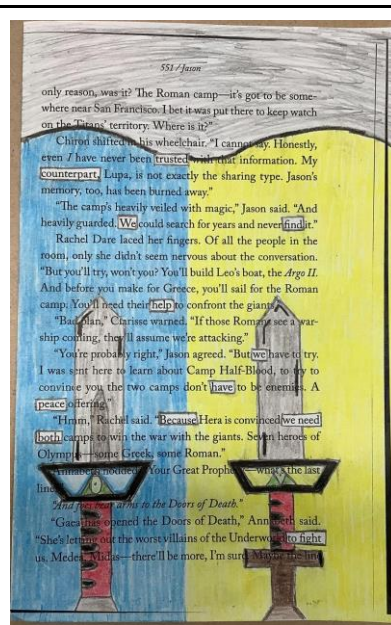
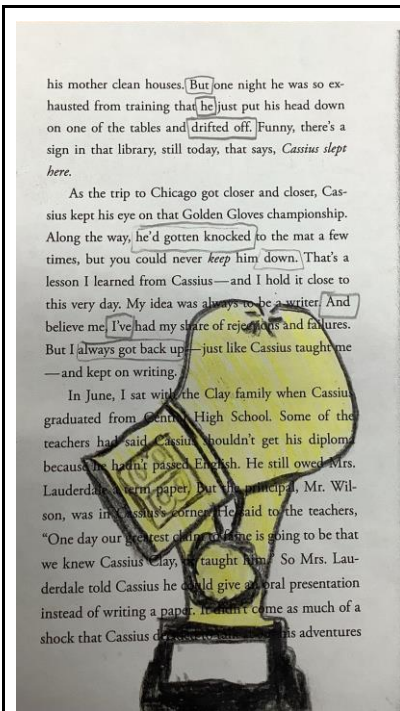
I've been blown away by the creativity, insight, and effort your students put into their work. Their poems show humor, depth, sensitivity, and a strong sense of voice. I'll be including examples of student work with this newsletter so you can see just how impressive and expressive their poetry turned out to be. I wish I could include many more, because they all worked very hard on them.

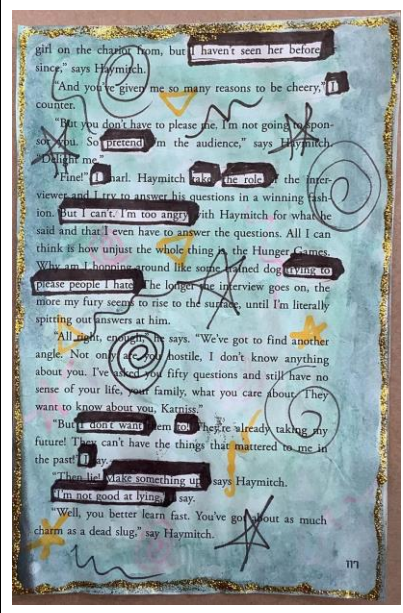
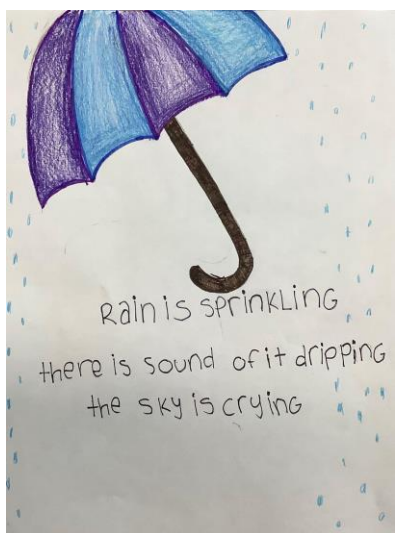
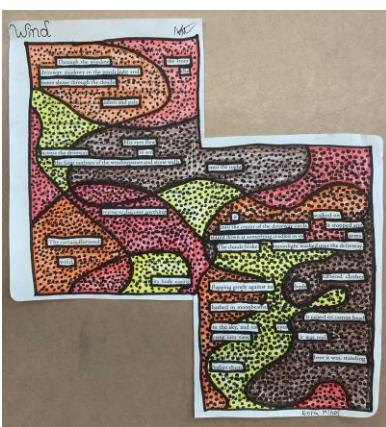
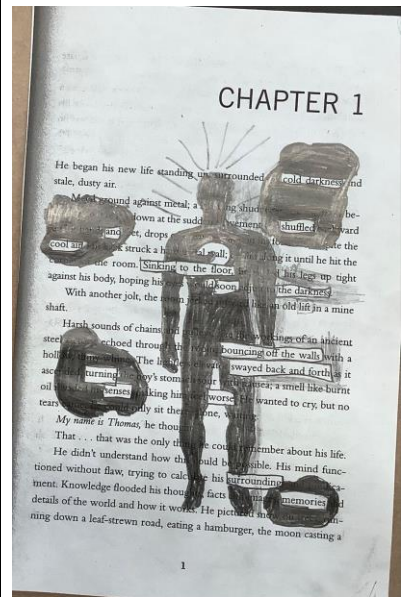
As a way to celebrate and preserve their hard work, I'm also putting together a digital book featuring photos of their visual poems. I'll be sharing it with you all soon so you can enjoy and revisit their amazing work anytime.

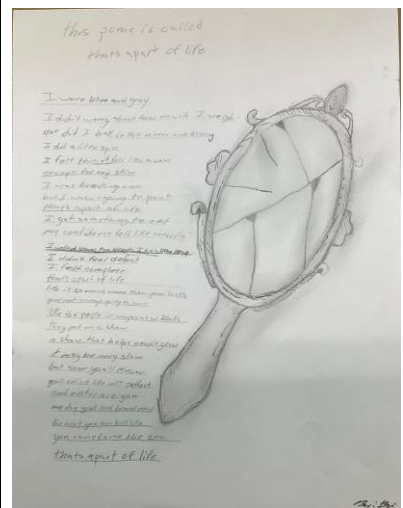
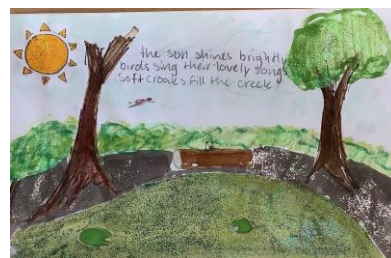
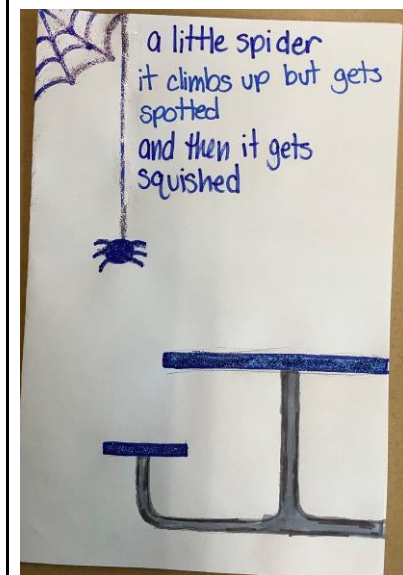
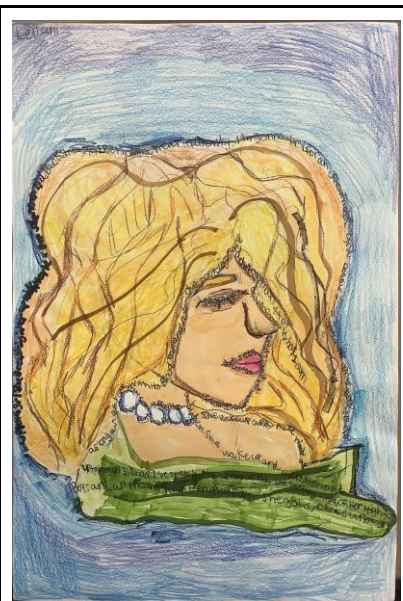
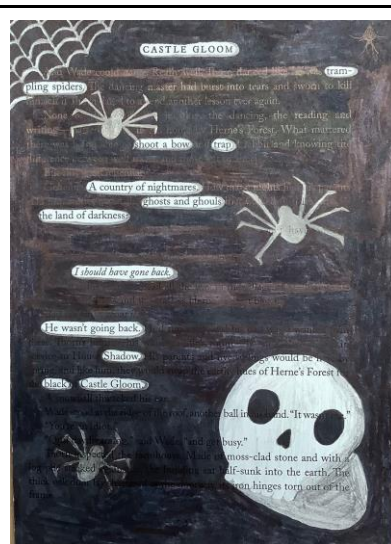
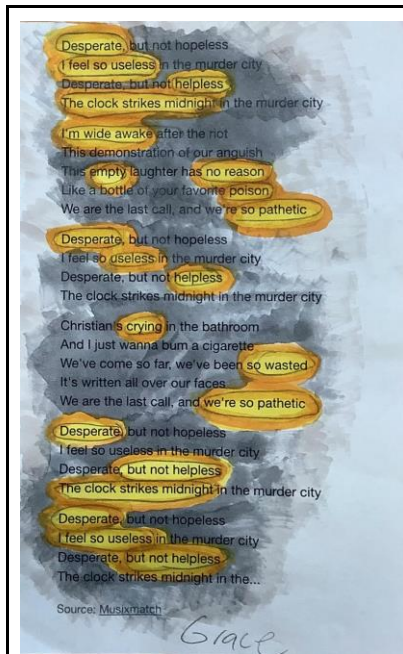
It's been a joy to see students connect with language in such a visual and meaningful way. I hope you enjoy their work as much as I have enjoyed guiding them through the process.

Warmly,

James Salsich







Science News – Mrs. Mead

The middle school science classes are wrapping up another year of investigation and learning.



Here, students in fifth



grade discover chemical

reactions, while students in eighth grade review electrical circuits and electromagnets.



Seventh grade students will wrap up this year in

environmental science by designing a low-cost water filtration device, a follow up to a sixth-grade engineering challenge to design and build a rainwater collection system that withstands a rainstorm and prevents the water from evaporating.

Congratulations to all for their growth and progress this year, and best wishes to the graduating eighth graders for a fun and exciting upcoming trip to Washington, D.C. and the future that awaits them in high school and beyond.

Social Studies News – Mr. Kernan

As we wrap up another exciting year in Social Studies, our students have been hard at work exploring the people, places, and events that have shaped our country and our world. From the early 1800s to the edge of modern American history, here's a snapshot of what we've been learning across the grades.

In Grade 5, students dove into the complex and often tense years between 1820 and 1854 — a time when our country was struggling to deal with the issue of slavery without falling into civil war. We explored key legislation like the Missouri Compromise, the Compromise of 1850, and the Kansas-Nebraska Act. These laws were all efforts to keep the peace between the North and South, even as the issue of slavery threatened to tear the nation apart. Guiding much of this legislation were influential Senators like **Henry Clay**, known as "The Great Compromiser," **Daniel Webster**, a strong voice for unity, and **John C. Calhoun**, who defended states' rights. While Presidents came and went, these Senators stood at the center of America's most pressing debates, holding the nation together during the turbulent antebellum years.

In Grades 6 and 7, our focus shifted from civics and economics to the powerful forces that shape our planet. We've been learning about earthquakes, volcanoes, and tectonic activity, especially around the **Ring of Fire** — a zone of high volcanic and earthquake activity that circles the Pacific Ocean. We also explored Hawaii's unique geological story, from its formation by underwater volcanoes to its path toward becoming America's 50th state. These studies help students see how geography and Earth's natural forces have influenced human history and continue to affect lives today.

Grade 8 has been deep in the world of podcasting as students created episodes about the life and legacy of **Ulysses S. Grant**. Through research and storytelling, students traced Grant's rise to command and his critical role in the Union victory during the Civil War. The climax of our unit focused on the **Battle of the Wilderness**, where Grant's leadership and aggressive tactics began the final push to defeat Confederate General Robert E. Lee. The students have done a fantastic job analyzing Grant's military strategies and understanding his historical impact.

Farewell to the Class of 2025!

Finally, we want to give a heartfelt **congratulations to the Class of 2025!** You've grown into thoughtful, curious learners, and we wish you all the best as you head into high school. Keep asking questions, keep digging deeper, and remember — history is always happening.

Have a wonderful summer!

Library & Media Center – Mrs. Bibeault

A HUGE shout out to our EES library volunteers,
Ruth Barlow and Jenny Gillett!
We APPRECIATE you!!!!

Woodstock Academy Student Author Visit

We were excited to welcome Clara Dowdle, a junior at Woodstock Academy and the author of two published children's books, for a special reading session with our students in grades 1-3 and 8. Clara's books focus on the Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC), a fundraising event that supports cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Her latest book, *Dragonfly Hope*, introduces children to PMC Kids Rides and the importance of giving back to their communities. Clara's visit was a celebration of reading, and a good reminder of the impact students can make!



This fall, Clara is organizing the first-ever Quiet Corner PMC Kids Ride for children ages 2–10, hosted by the WA Scholar-Athlete Honor Society at Woodstock Academy. PMC Kids Rides encourage children to use their energy and fitness to support cancer research in a fun, community-oriented way. For more information about how students can volunteer or participate in the fall Quiet Corner PMC Kids Ride for children, see the flyer in this month's newsletter.

To learn more about Clara's work and her books, visit www.doafightscancer.com.



EES Media Center – Mrs. Bibeault

LIBRARY BOOKS

May 30th has come and gone—
Let's get those library books back where they belong!
PLEASE RETURN ALL LIBRARY BOOKS

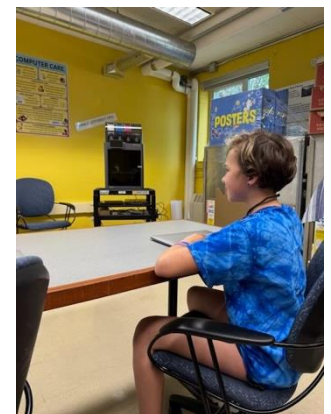
Students Dive into 3D Printing!

Students had the opportunity to explore the world of 3D printing during an after-school activity with Ms. Mead and Mrs. Bibeault. They watched a short video introducing Tinkercad, a 3D modeling program, and demonstrated the basics of how a 3D printer works. Students spent some time checking out the filament, the material used in printing, and watched as the Bambu X1E printer printed a bulldog. After choosing a simple design, their objects were printed!

This was an awesome hands-on experience, giving students a fun way to learn about design, technology, and creativity.



*Stay tuned for more 3D printing
opportunities next year!*



Scholastic Book Fair

Get excited for Summer Reading!



Buy 1 Get 1 FREE

(includes everything, books, erasers, pens, posters, etc.)

June 2-6, 2025

in the EES Library

M-F 9:00am-3:30pm

Th 3:45pm-6:00pm

Students attend the Book Fair with their teachers during the school day, but we'd love to see families too! **Families and community members can visit the Book Fair on Thursday, June 6 from 3:45 to 6:00 pm in the EES Library. Enter through the library door by the roadside entrance. Everything is Buy 1 Get 1 FREE and everything is taxable, including books.**

The eWallet is a fabulous way for your child to have a digital payment method. Before the fair, set up eWallet for worry-free, cash-free purchases. Anyone can contribute! Share each child's eWallet so friends and family can add funds and give your kids more books to enjoy. Visit the bookfair webpage <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/ees2> to create an eWallet for your child. The eWallet is your child's digital payment account which needs to be set up before each book fair.



Share the Fair is a special giving program that is part of the Book Fair, made possible by generous supporters like you! *(This replaces the EES Book Fairy who gave children books in the past.)* Donations go directly toward helping students at our school who may need assistance in getting new books. Your support means more kids can leave the Fair with a book in hand—and feel the excitement and joy of discovering their next great read! Copy and paste to donate to **Share the Fair** <https://shop.scholastic.com/stf/fund?orgUCN=600042817>.

If you can't make it to the fair, then shop at our school's Online Book Fair. All orders ship directly to your home, and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Your online orders will also benefit our school by earning points that the school can use to purchase more books or needed supplies.

Email Mrs. Bibeault @ library@eastfordct.org with any questions.

A new eWallet must be created for each Book Fair

To create an eWallet

An eWallet can be created as soon as May 12.

Go to your school's book fair page, <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/ees2>

1. Scroll down to **Get started**. This will take you to the Scholastic sign in page.
2. You will need to sign into the same Scholastic account you used to create the first eWallet
3. Select **I'm a parent creating an eWallet for a student**
4. Type in student's first and last name. **Type in teacher's last name only, no teacher first name**. Select student's grade level.
5. Choose **Create eWallet**
6. Choose how to fund your eWallet by clicking under the correct choice, **eGift card balance** (amount on eWallet from last Book Fair) or **credit card**.
7. Invite family & friends to help fund your child's eWallet. Choose this option to send family members a link to contribute.



THE QUIET CORNER CT PMC KIDS RIDE!

Sponsored by the Woodstock Academy Scholar Athlete Honor Society

Do you like riding your bike?

Do you want to help others?

If you answered "YES," then LISTEN UP!



**Kids use their fitness to fight
CANCER!**

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025

9 - 1pm

For ages 2 - 10 year

at

WOODSTOCK ACADEMY

**57 Academy Road
Woodstock, CT**



Ride Day Schedule

- 9-10 am: Registration/
Opening Ceremonies
- 10-11am: RIDE!
- 11 - 1pm: AFTER PARTY!
Food, Music, Raffles,
Games & more!

SIGN UP NOW at www.kids.pmc.org

KID RIDERS & STUDENT/ADULT VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

Registration fee is waved for the first 20 sign ups!

All funds support the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute & the Jimmy Fund

P. E. & Health – Mr. Cody



P.E:

PreK-3: We're excited to share that our K-3 students have been having a wonderful time in Physical Education this month! They've been busy developing essential motor skills, learning the importance of teamwork, and exploring fun ways to stay active and healthy.

From balance and coordination games to relay races and cooperative activities, students are building confidence in their abilities while having a great time with their classmates. It's been a joy to see their enthusiasm and energy in every class!

Grades 4-8 : As we approach the end of the school year, students in grades 4-8 are wrapping up their Yard Games unit in PE. This unit has

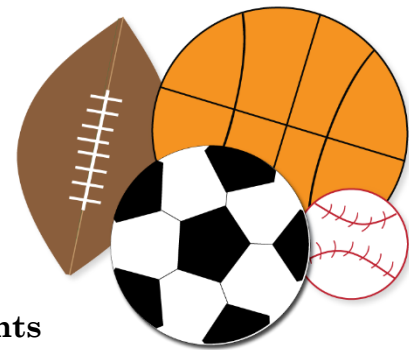
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been a fun and active way for students to practice communication, strategy, and good sportsmanship through games like bocce, ladder toss, cornhole, and more.

To finish out the year, students will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of traditional sports-like games during each class. These choices will allow them to stay active, enjoy the outdoors, and end the year with energy and fun!

We're proud of the effort and enthusiasm students have shown and look forward to a strong, spirited the year.



finish to

As always, please make sure your child is dressed to move so they can participate safely and comfortably.



Health:

Grade 5: We are proud to share that our grade 5 students have successfully completed the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program! Throughout the course, students learned valuable skills for making safe and responsible choices, handling peer pressure, and building confidence in their decision-making.

We commend all of our students for their engagement, thoughtful participation, and commitment to learning important life skills.

Congratulations to our fifth graders on this achievement!



Grades 5 -8: Students are finishing up the Reproductive Health unit in Health class. I continue to be impressed by the maturity, respect, and thoughtfulness our students demonstrate during this important and often sensitive topic. Their engagement and questions reflect a genuine interest in understanding their health and well-being.



If time permits before the end of the year, we'll also be exploring the positive impact of physical exercise on the body's systems. This will help students connect what they've learned in both Health and PE and understand the benefits of staying active.

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Health Office News – Mrs. Roto



With just a few weeks left of school, I wanted to send out some reminders to families as we wind things down.

Don't forget to send your student with a water bottle and apply sunscreen prior to school. We're outside as much as possible now that the weather has improved, and we are taking advantage of that.

Medications for students that are prescribed either routinely or as needed at school, will have to be **picked up by an adult by the last day of school**. Students are not allowed to carry medications unless they are ordered at "self-carry". If they are not picked up by the last day of school, they will be disposed of. A new order will be needed for the upcoming school year. For those students who are attending summer programs, the medication will still need to be picked up and brought back for the week(s) they attend their summer program.

Lost and found is always a subject that needs to be addressed. Please take inventory of any items your student may have left or lost at school this year. Remind your student to look in the lost and found bin outside of the Nurse's office to make sure they have claimed their belongings. We will not store lost and found items over the summer. Items remaining will be donated to charity.

The State requires school physicals and immunizations to be completed for Pre-K, Kindergarten, and for those students entering seventh grade. If I haven't reached out already, please be aware that I will be sending reminders this summer. We need to receive documentation of the required exam and vaccinations before the first day of school. **Your student cannot attend school without fulfilling this requirement.**

If your student, of any grade, has had a physical exam or vaccination with their provider, it would be helpful to send the documents to the office as well. Some required screenings are included in their assessment and will help me maintain their Cumulative Health Record.

If you have any reason to contact me during the summer months, you can contact the main office, and they will let me know. I will contact you by email to follow up.

Have a great summer and see you when school begins in the fall.

Cassie Roto R.N., B.S.N.

Art News – Ms. Weinland

As the school year comes to a close, it is a time to recognize the creativity, growth, and imagination that students have demonstrated throughout the year. It has been a true joy to watch them experiment with new materials, express their ideas, and bring their artistic visions to life. Below is a glimpse of the incredible work they've created over the past month. I'm so proud of all they have accomplished and deeply appreciative of the families and staff who continue to support and value the visual arts.



Grade 8 students have been preparing for graduation by making bold and meaningful posters that will be displayed at the ceremony.



Grade 6 students painted their own miniature versions of Van Gogh's *Starry Night*, capturing its swirling motion and expressive style using acrylic paint.



Pre-K enjoyed the sunshine with outdoor art; drawing on chalkboards, peering through kaleidoscopes, and chasing bubbles.



Grade 4 painted mini seascapes in acrylic paint, layering colors to show the motion of waves and ocean scenery.



Enrichment News – Mrs. Lynch

May has been a busy month for our Enrichment students!

One group has been working on creating a Readers' Theater piece, using the story, Poppleton, the First Book, by Cynthia Rylant. They will be performing their piece during the first week of June for students in Kindergarten and Grade

One. Second-grade Enrichment students created posters with inspirational messages to encourage themselves to persevere when they face a challenge. They also brainstormed a list of topics they had questions about and that they would like to explore further in the future. We read Chris Van Dusen's book, If I Built a Car, and discussed the concept of "suspending disbelief" (because it made the story more fun to read when you didn't have to worry about the fact that so many events in the story could not actually happen in real life!). As a final project, students will design their own wild and crazy fantasy cars. Since the beginning of April, Mrs. Lincoln has been kind enough to share her second-grade class with me for thirty minutes of Enrichment work each week. We have spent our time exploring what it means to be a creative problem-solver. Initially, we discussed the fact that we all face challenges. (These challenges could be as simple as deciding what to wear, or as challenging as solving a dispute with a classmate at recess.) The concept of Brainstorming was introduced to identify ideas to solve problems. Guidelines for Brainstorming include:

There are no bad ideas.

We do not comment on other people's ideas (positively or negatively).

It is okay to piggyback on someone else's ideas. (Their idea can help you think of another idea or even to expand on their idea.)

The more ideas the better!

To practice using the guidelines for Brainstorming, we named all the things we could think of that we could plant in a garden—and we came up with 65 different items! Next, we discussed what to do with ideas that we brainstormed. We read the book, What Do You Do with an Idea?, by Kobi Yamado, to get some insight. The character in the story helped us to understand that it is important to protect our ideas, to grow our ideas, and to share our ideas with others. We also discovered that it can be extremely helpful to work as part of a team to solve

Eastford Elementary School Newsletter

June 2025

problems. To illustrate some of the character traits needed to solve problems, we listened to the reading of the book, The Boo-Boo that Changed the World: A True Story About an Accidental Invention, by Barry Wittenstein. Through this story, we learned that the everyday Band-Aid was developed by Earle Dickson to solve a very real problem. After reflection, we decided that Earle was successful because he was intelligent, smart, creative, accepted help, a hard worker, inventive, persistent, and used brainstorming.

Finally, working in small groups, students were asked to brainstorm unusual, fun, or crazy ways to use a Band-Aid. Here are just a few of their unique responses:

Make a mask Make it into a sticker
Use it to patch a balloon Make Band-Aid wallpaper
Use it as a blindfold Hang up posters with it
Use it like a piece of tape Make emoji stickers
Use it to catch a fly Use them to make bubble letters
Put it on a stuffie and pretend it has a cut
Who knew a simple Band-Aid could have so many uses?



June 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Mystic Seaport Monday Gr 2-5	2	Acad Supp Gr 2-8	3	Acad Supp Gr 2-8	4
5	6	7	8	no event	9	no event
10	11	no event	12	no event	13	no event
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	ALL ACTIVITIES ARE 3:45 TO 4:45 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED			

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

CONTACT: Cargill Council 64 Coat Program Director John D. Ryan, (860) 928-5873 (voice only; do not text)

Collecting used coats, blankets and baby clothes in Putnam for local people in need on Saturday, June 14

Please clean out your closets now, because on Saturday, June 14, the Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations of clean, used winter coats of all sizes for men, women, and children and clean, used blankets and baby clothing in good condition, for people in need throughout northeastern Connecticut. If you have a winter coat or a blanket, or baby clothes, please bring them to the parking lot at the Cargill Council 64 Knights of Columbus Hall, 64 Providence Street in Putnam on Saturday, June 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We all know that this is a good time of year to clean out your closets, so we're asking you now so we can give the clothing away to local families this fall, strictly on the basis of need. For further information, please call Brother Knight John Ryan at (860) 928-5873 and leave a message.



SUMMER CAMP
GRADES 4-6

JOIN US FOR TECH CAMP!

JULY 7-11, 2025
9am-3pm
Hampton, CT



FACT

FUTURE ACHIEVERS in COMPUTING + TECHNOLOGY
Summer Technology Camp

HAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
380 Main Street • Hampton, CT
Cost: \$325 for the week • Snacks Provided

REGISTRATION and
CAMP INFO HERE.



SCAN ME

eastconn.org/techcamp



More Information: techcamp@eastconn.org
860-455-1507 • eastconn.org/techcamp

EASTCONN reserves the right to modify, cancel, or reschedule programs due to insufficient enrollment, unforeseen circumstances, or other factors. All participants must complete required registration forms and meet eligibility criteria. EASTCONN is not responsible for lost or stolen items, personal injuries, or damages during program activities, except as required by law. Please contact Andrew DePalma at adepalma@eastconn.org for accommodation requests or questions about program details. Program fees are non-refundable unless otherwise stated.



SCAN TO REGISTER HERE



2025 SUMMER VOLLEYBALL

DEVELOP AND IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS AS YOU PRACTICE AND SCRIMMAGE OVER 6 WEEKS THIS SPRING. WOODSTOCK ACADEMY'S GYM ALLOWS FOR 3 COURTS PROVIDING THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACCOMMODATE PLAYERS WITH VARYING ABILITY & EXPERIENCE.

DIRECTOR & COACH: JEFF BOSHKA
CURRENT ASSISTANT VARSITY COACH @ WA
30 YRS COACHING EXPERIENCE

QUESTIONS?
 EMAIL: JBOSHKA@GMAIL.COM
 PHONE (401) 864-5283
 SPACE IS LIMITED

Woodstock Academy Gym
 57 Academy Rd
 Woodstock CT

COACHES:
MIKE MCKEON-MILLBURY HIGH
SCHOOL HEAD COACH. 20 YRS
COACHING EXPERIENCE

HEATHER ALLEN-FORMER DI CORNELL
UNIVERSITY PLAYER

PRICE: \$150
 PER SESSION

VENMO: JEFF-BOSHKA
 PLEASE PUT NAME OF PARTICIPANT IN VENMO MEMO

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS 5:30-7PM
WHO? GIRLS & BOYS ENTERING GRADES 4-12

SUMMER SESSION 1:
 JULY 7, JULY 9, JULY 14, JULY 16, JULY 21, JULY 23

SUMMER SESSION 2:
 JULY 28, JULY 30, AUGUST 4, AUGUST 6, AUGUST 11, AUGUST 13

HYBRID OPTION:
 Pick any 6 days from either summer session 1 & 2

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm&ogbi#inbox/FMfpgzQbdrTsCJPnprnZXSHCJVqkZJfj?compose=DmwnWrRqhSGqplTvpxpkkhXcRdfmtwJPNc...> 1/1

**PUTNAM MIDDLE SCHOOL
PBIS COMMITTEE PRESENTS...**

**SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER!!**



ACADEMY



venmo

**SCAN HERE TO
PAY WITH VENMO**



**SUMMER SLAM 2025
@PUTNAM MIDDLE SCHOOL!!!**



**WHERE: PUTNAM MIDDLE SCHOOL
35 WICKER ST.
PUTNAM, CONN.**

**WHO: FOR BOYS AND GIRLS
ENTERING GRADES 3-9
WHO LOVE TO PLAY BASKETBALL!!**

**WHEN: MONDAY-FRIDAY,
JUNE 23RD - 27TH, 2025**

**FEE: \$130 FOR A SINGLE SESSION
\$225 FOR BOTH SESSIONS
SAVE \$35 FOR FULL DAY CAMP!!**

**TIME: SESSION I
8:30 TO 11:30 A.M.
SESSION II
12 - 3 P.M.**

WWW.THEHOOPACADEMY.COM

**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:
COACH GEORGE HARDISON - (860) 625-4968
THEHOOPACADEMY@GMAIL.COM**

THEHOOPACADEMY

THEHOOPACADEMYBASKETBALLCAMP

**Eastford Public Library 2025 Summer
Reading Program for Children and Adults 6
Weeks of Fun for Everyone! We kick things off
with a Summer Solstice Event Friday, June 20th at
6 p.m. Yoga in the Park**



- Week 1 Summer Solstice (6-21/6/26)**
- Week 2 Magic in the Garden (6/28/7/3)**
- Week 3 Butterflies in the Garden (7/5-7/10)**
- Week 4 Art in the Garden (7/12-7/17)**
- Week 5 Bees as Pollinators (7/19-7/24)**
- Week 6 Farm to Table (7/26-7/31)**

**Please register
for all events!**



WINDHAM-TOLLAND 4-H CAMP
326 Taft Pond Rd Pomfret, CT 06259
www.4hcampct.org



PUT SOME FUN IN YOUR 2025 SUMMER!
June 22 to August 16, 2025

Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp, located in Pomfret Center, Connecticut, has provided summer camp experiences for thousands of youngsters for over 70 years. The camp has both overnight and day camp programs for boys and girls 6-15 years of age. The camp is located on 270 acres containing woodlands, cabins, recreation areas and scenic lakes. The Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp maintains a state license and ACA accreditation. Campers need not be 4-H members.

Our caring, camper-centered, college-aged and trained staff is committed to providing a safe, educational, and fun experience for every child. Including a full time Registered Nurse.

All campers have the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs each week including:

- | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------------------|
| • Arts & Crafts | • Fishing | • Outdoor Education |
| • Low and Mid High Ropes courses & Climbing wall | • Sports | • Zip-line |
| • Swimming | • Drama | • Canoeing & Kayaking |
| • Self-defense | • Dance | • Knitting |
| | • Archery | |

4-H Camp offers a variety of specialty programs also available on a weekly basis for an additional cost.

Wood Fiber Crafts, Horseback Riding, Farm camp and Cow camp

CAMP PRICING 2025

- Day Camp (ages 6-15)\$395 per week (Lunch & Snacks Included)
- Resident Camp (ages 9-15)\$620 per week
- Teen Leadership Program (ages 15-17) \$375 per week
- Overnight Clover Camp (ages 7-8)\$330 per session (3 Day, 2 Night Sessions)

We follow all
 CDC, State &
 Local
 Guidelines

THEME WEEKS FOR 2025

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Week 1 – June 22-June 27- Cartoon Week | • Week 5 – July 20-25 Outer Space Week |
| • Week 2 – June 29-July 4 – Dragons & Dinos Week | • Week 6 – July 27- Aug 1 –International Week |
| • Week 3 – July 6-11 – Carnival Week | • Week 7 – August 3-8 –Super Splash Week |
| • Week 4 – July 13-18 –Wild Wilderness Week | • Week 8 – August 11-15 – Capture the Flag!
(Day Camp Only) |

Visit our **website at www.4hcampct.org** for Online Registration

E-mail us at registrar@4hcampct.org for a camp brochure or additional information or
 Call the Camp Registrar at (860) 974-3379

**CAMPERSHIPS
 AVAILABLE**
 Call for application

OPEN HOUSES
Sunday, January 12 & Sunday, February 16
Sunday, March 16 & Saturday, April 19
 From 1:00 to 3:00 PM Each Day

**EARLY BIRD
 DISCOUNTS**
 Jan & Feb

An Equal Opportunity Program Provider and Employer

GO THE DISTANCE

2 TIMOTHY 4: 7-8

SPORTS CAMP

Register by June 30th
to receive a T-Shirt!

Limited scholarships available
Email cceastford@gmail.com before
registering if you have a financial need.

July 21 - 25, 2025
8:30 am - 12:15 pm
Ages 4 - 12
\$60 per camper



Brought to you by:
UW Sports Ministry
Congregational
Church of Eastford
Living Proof Church

Held at Eastford Elementary School
12 Westford Road, Eastford, CT
Online signup and payment!
cceastford.org/sports-camp/