

HALL SCHOOL DIGITAL BACKPACK

March 28, 2024

Friday, March 29	No School, Good Friday
Monday, April 1	Jazz Band 4:30 - 6pm
Wednesday, April 3	Last Day of Afterschool Clubs
Thursday, April 4	WEALTH
Thursday, April 4	Chamber Singers 2:45-4pm
Friday, April 5	Student Council Dance, 6-9pm
Monday, April 8	Jazz Band 4:30 - 6pm
Tuesday, April 9	Willington Pizza Jazz Band Fundraiser
April 15-19	No School, April Vacation

Hello, Hall Families!

Here are some events and reminders for Hall Memorial School:

Solar Eclipse

On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada. A total solar eclipse happens when the moon passes between the sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the sun. The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk. The following information includes helpful resources from astronomers, the American Astronomical Society (AAS), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) websites.

The moon will begin to pass in front of the sun at approximately 2:15 p.m. on April 8th. The path of the eclipse here in Connecticut will result in approximately 90% of the sun being blocked by the moon at the height of the event – approximately 3:25 p.m. The maximum darkness that Connecticut will experience will occur at that time for 2-3 minutes before gradually brightening back to normal daylight levels. Therefore, 50% occlusion will occur at approximately 2:50 p.m. and again at 3:50 p.m. The moon will completely pass by the sun by approximately 4:30 p.m. Even at its darkest point (3:25 p.m.), experts indicate that light levels will be similar to dusk or pre-sunset light levels and individuals will be able to see their surroundings. By contrast, light levels during a total eclipse would be similar to visibility during a full moon phase. Except during a brief total phase of a total solar eclipse, when the moon completely blocks the sun's bright face, it is not safe to look directly at the sun without specialized eye protection for solar viewing. Since there will not be a total solar eclipse occurring in Connecticut, there is no safe time to view the event without specialized glasses or filters. Viewing any part of the bright sun, even through a camera lens, binoculars, or a telescope without a special-purpose solar filter secured over the front of the optics, will instantly cause severe eye injury. Viewing must only occur through safe solar viewing glasses ("eclipse glasses") or a safe handheld solar viewer at all times. Eclipse glasses are not regular sunglasses. Regular sunglasses, no matter how dark, are not safe for viewing the sun. [Safe solar viewers](#) are thousands of times darker and must comply with the [ISO 12312-2](#) international standard. An alternative to eclipse glasses or a handheld solar viewer, is an [indirect viewing method](#), which does not involve

looking directly at the sun. Commonly referred to as a [pinhole projector](#), this method projects an image of the sun onto a nearby surface. Viewing occurs with the sun at the viewer's back, onto the projected image rather than the sun. Below are websites that may be helpful:

[National Aeronautics and Space Administration \(NASA\)](#): This is the official website of NASA and also provides additional safety information regarding the [eclipse Safety](#) (NASA.GOV)

American Astronomical Society (AAS): <https://eclipse.aas.org/eye-safety>.

Eclipse2024.org: https://eclipse2024.org/eclipse_cities/

Hidden in Plain Sight

In a partnership with Willington Human Services and Ashford Public Schools, Willington Public Schools is pleased to announce that we will be presenting "Hidden in Plain Sight" on Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the Hall Memorial School gym. This program is intended to educate parents and families about the importance of vigilance and information surrounding the use of illegal substances, where children may hide them, and how to find resources and support if someone you know is using illegal substances. Please join us for this very important program! All are welcome!

Dress Code

With the warmer weather approaching, I wanted to remind families about our [Dress Code Policy](#). It is linked in this document for your review. Students who do not meet our Dress Code will receive a warning regarding their clothing. If they do not follow the guidelines set forth again, consequences will be applied. This includes asking parents to bring clothing items to school that meet the dress code, or finding a suitable replacement in the nurse's office. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Washington, DC Trip - Munson's Fundraiser

Munson's chocolates and other treats are IN!!! If you placed an order you have a few choices:

Orders will be available for pick up in the main office during school hours (7:30-3:30). Payment must be made at the time of pick up. Checks should be made payable to the "HMS SAF".

Orders can be picked up at dismissal time if you are picking up your child. Please call the office ahead of time so that we can have the order with us when you arrive to pick up your child at the end of the school day.

Unfortunately, we cannot send orders home with students on the bus.

Soccer News

A coach for the Girls' Soccer team has been identified! We are pleased that Mr. Gary Anderson has stepped up to help us with our season! We are still looking for a coach for the Boys' team! Potential players are encouraged to play some soccer during the spring and/or summer. WAM United and other clubs host spring teams and a list of camps is available here: [Camps & Clinics \(wamunited.com\)](#). More information will be coming later this spring.

Police Presence

Due to the high incidence of speeding on Route 32 in front of the school, we have been lucky to have the police stationed along the road. Please be mindful of this as you are passing through or dropping your student(s) off to school.

HMS Spring Fling

The Student Council is sponsoring a spring dance for our 7th and 8th grade students scheduled to take place on Friday, April 5, 2024 from 7-9 pm. The cost of attending is \$8. Permission slips have been handed out in homerooms.

HMS Jazz Night at Willington Pizza

Our talented Jazz Band will be performing at Willington Pizza on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 beginning at 6:30. Musicians should arrive no later than 6:15 so that they can get tuned up and ready to go! Willington Pizza donates a percentage of all dine in and take out orders to the HMS Activity Fund, and will help to support our Great East trip and other endeavors of our music students.

PTA News

Spirit Wear SALEEEEEEE EXTENDED - 25% off ends on Monday April 1st! No code is needed at checkout! Free shipping on \$60 + orders and only \$5 shipping on all orders under \$60. Below you will find links to each school's personalized website! Please let us know if you have any questions!

For HMS-

https://1stplacespiritwear.com/schools/CT/Willington/Hall+Memorial+Middle+School?utm_source=18442&utm_medium=affiliate&utm_campaign=school-direct

For HMS Staff Members-

https://1stplacespiritwear.com/schools/CT/Willington/Hall+Memorial+Middle+School/collection_detail.html?type=Teachers

The next PTA Meeting will be held at CES on April 11th at 6pm.

Thank you and have a great weekend!

Mary Kay Tshonas, Principal

Flyers:

WPS April Menu

WFD Egg Hunt

Dance Committee Flocking Time

PTA Spirit Ware

WPRD Spring Camp

WPS Hidden in Plain Sight

Cub Scout Pack 82