



# The Staples Scoop



Wed., Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009



The Easton PTA & The Scoop wish you and yours  
a happy and safe Winter Break!

## CALENDAR @ A GLANCE

Fri., Dec. 18	School Spirit Day: Theme: <i>Cozy Hat Day</i> ; School Store Open
Wed., Dec. 23	Winter Break Begins; 3:30 pm
Mon., Jan. 4, 2010	School Resumes
Tues., Jan. 12	EARLY DISMISSAL; Prof. Development; 1 pm for SSES; 12:10 pm for HKMS
Tues., Jan. 12	Easton Board of Ed Mtg.; 7:30 pm; HKMS
Fri., Jan 15	Easton PTA Meeting; 9:30 am; Library Community Room; all welcome
Mon., Jan. 18	NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Mon., Jan. 25	<i>Tentative</i> NO SCHOOL – Staff Day

## THE PRINCIPAL'S SCOOP by Kimberly Fox-Santora

While the winter season may not officially begin until Monday, we have certainly experienced our fair share of cold weather. And in looking at our lost & found collection, it would seem that many of our students are remembering to bring warm clothing to school, but are forgetting to take their belongings back home. If you could give a gentle reminder to your children about checking the lost and found, I would be very appreciative.

Since we have already experienced our first school closing, our wonderful webmasters have added a helpful link to the homepage of our school website. I encourage you to check out the Delays & Cancellations link because it provides parents with timely information from CT Weather about school delays and cancellations across our state.

A decision about school closing will usually be made by 6:00 AM, and recorded on the radio, television, e-mail, and school phone greeting. All school events, including evening programs, are cancelled for that day. Typically, a decision about school delays is also made by 6:00 AM, but there have been occasions when a fast moving storm warrants a decision after the students have arrived to school. We will communicate with you through the same mechanisms listed above.

School delays will normally be 90 minutes, meaning the buses will arrive 90 minutes later and school will begin at 10:30 am. Early closing is typically 1:25 pm, but there have been occasions when the closing time has been earlier because of the speed of the storm. The closing time will always be included in the communications we send home.

On a different note, I wish to thank the many parents who have donated to the collections we are running this week. Residents who benefit from the temporary housing services of Alpha Community Services will be very appreciative of the new sheets, towels and toiletries many of you have donated, and students who attend Read School and Cross School in Bridgeport will be very pleased to receive the warm coats and toys you so generously donated.

Your ongoing support and good will are in large part what makes SSES so special. I thank you for your partnership and many contributions this year. May your holidays and vacation be filled with joy with your family and friends.

## SSES Pre-School Registration Is Open

Samuel Staples Pre-School is now accepting applications for its 2010-2011 full day programs for 3- and 4-year olds. For more information, please send an email to [sbarnard@eastonps.org](mailto:sbarnard@eastonps.org) or call 203.459-9689.

## THE PTA SCOOP

- ❖ The **SSES School Store** is open this Friday and is a great source of practical holiday gifts for the student in your life. Come check out the selection of sweatshirts, water bottles and much more!
- ❖ And while you're in the building, swing by the **Lost & Found**, located in the hallway next to the Teachers' Lounge. There may be something you didn't know you were missing. All unclaimed items are periodically donated to charity.
- ❖ Save the Date: **Easton PTA Family Fun with The Harlem Globetrotters** at Harbor Yard. Sat., Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm or 7 pm. Ticket information to follow.
- ❖ Please remember to continue to submit **BoxTops, Labels for Education** and **Tyson A+** program Labels. SSES receives either cash or points for these labels. Please write your teacher's name on the bag and make sure they are not expired. Remember if you are purchasing holiday gifts in the internet to go to the [Boxtop4education.com](http://Boxtop4education.com) website. The school earns a percentage from each purchase from the different vendors.
- ❖ All PTA members should have received a new blue **Student Directory**. If you're not a member, you can still join and get a directory, using the form available at: <http://www.eastonpta.com/membership.html>. Unsure about your membership status? Contact Rachel Rios at 203.445-9885.

## Think Gift Cards 'First'

Easton Special Ed PTA (SEPTA) will continue to sell hundreds of types of different gift cards in different denominations at face value *all year round*. Keep some on hand for those last-minute birthday gifts! We will place an order on the "First" of each month and you will have your cards hand delivered to you within a week. Go to <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/>. Choose from the hundreds of available gift cards and see how they benefit special education. You need to create a log-in using your email address and SEPTA's account number (E2L4B2AB22968). Then send in a check for the total amount to Easton SEPTA c/o the SSES office. For more information or a paper order form, please email [EastonSEPTA@hotmail.com](mailto:EastonSEPTA@hotmail.com) or call Mary at 203.372.2103.

## The Scoop Scoop

The Scoop is published every other Wednesday (for the most part) during the school year and distributed by mail via the Listserv. To add or change your email information go to [www.er9.org/sses/](http://www.er9.org/sses/) and click on "Join Our Listserv".

Next issue: Wednesday, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> 2010. Please submit any information – in MS Word format -- by the Saturday evening preceding publication. Questions and submissions to Cathy Dunsby at [ssesscoop@yahoo.com](mailto:ssesscoop@yahoo.com)

### Important Websites

[www.samuelstaplesps.org](http://www.samuelstaplesps.org)

[www.eastonpta.com](http://www.eastonpta.com)

[www.er9.org](http://www.er9.org)

## THE TOWN SCOOP

### Support ELF's School Teachers Are Really Special (STARS) Program

The Easton Learning Foundation has STARS available to help you recognize those special staff members that make a difference every day. Make a tax deductible donation of \$5 to \$25 and ELF will deliver a beautifully packaged cardstock star to you. Your child can then decorate the star and deliver it to your honoree. All proceeds benefit Easton students and educators by funding teacher grants and cutting edge technology.

To order a star contact Jennifer at 445-0204 or visit our website at <http://eastonlearningfoundation.org/stars.html> for an order form.

*ELF is turning 5!* Please save the date: Sat., March 13, 2010.

**ECC Scoop** -- Please call 203.459.9700 to reserve for Holiday Camps: Dec. 28, 29 & 30; and Jan. 18 & 25; 8 am – 6 pm; members \$50, non-members \$60 per day.

### Register Now for Redding-Easton Spring Softball

Redding and Easton have combined our softball programs for 2010! This new combination extends our relationship with Little League Softball and allows us to develop a stronger overall program for all our girls. Redding-Easton Softball will include:



- Four Age Divisions for girls from 7-14.
- In-House and Inter-Town Play: Bringing Redding and Easton together allows us to expand the number of teams in our Spring Program, while also providing our girls an opportunity to play games with other in-house teams from neighboring towns within our Little League Softball district.
- Skill Building Clinics: With help from the Barlow High Softball Team, sessions will include age-appropriate instruction designed to improve all aspects of our girls' softball skills in a fun and active way.
- Instruction for Coaches: a series of free coaching clinics by Positive Coaching Alliance and Frozen Ropes to help support and prepare our volunteer coaches.
- Summer All-Star and Travel Team Evaluations: If you are interested in representing Redding-Easton Softball in Connecticut District I Little League Softball tournaments and/or the Fairfield County Fastpitch Softball League summer travel program, you must participate in the Spring Program.

Standard registration fees are \$135 for Rookie Division, \$160 for 10U, 12U and 14U. Register by January 15 and receive \$10 off. Please call the Redding Boys & Girls Club with any questions: 938-3166. For more information or to register online, go to: <http://www.leag1.com/Default.asp?snid=271536900&org=rbqcbaseball.net>

### Redding-Easton LACROSSE (RELAX) Registration for 2010

Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM – 1 PM at Joel Barlow High School for Boys and Girls in Grades 3-8 and a NEW K-2 program for Boys. Includes equipment swap, and new equipment and equipment packages for both boys and girls. Meet the coaches. Get all your questions answered! New players welcome. Questions to Cori Distler at [cdistler@reddingps.org](mailto:cdistler@reddingps.org).

**A Huge Thank You....** from Easton Girl Scout Troop #31202! The African Library Book Collection Drive was a tremendous success because of YOUR generous book donations. More than 1,000 books were collected in Easton alone to start at least two new school libraries in the African country of Lesotho. Every contribution, big and small, made a difference and will make a lasting impression on the needy communities that benefit from these libraries. (An interesting fact: The books will be shipped to New Orleans this month to be placed on a cargo ship, and will reach Lesotho in March, 2010!)