



## Weekly Bulletin November 20, 2015

*Our primary purpose is to improve student achievement  
 Visit our website at [www.bethel.k12.ct.us](http://www.bethel.k12.ct.us)*

### Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Over the past several weeks the issue of social media usage by 9-11year olds has become an area of focus at Johnson School. Most, if not all, social media sites and apps require students to be 13 years of age to sign up. That said, social media usage by fourth and fifth graders is not appropriate. Sites such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Vine, and Whisper are not suitable for children at this age. Although some sites such as Youtube and Minecraft are popular and often accessed, parents need to be particularly vigilant as they offer an opportunity to chat with strangers and potential predators. Additionally, texting, iChat, and iMessaging leaves a digital footprint and has the potential for misuse and is particularly worthy of increased parental supervision. Please join me in a commitment to keeping our children safe. Many children don't realize the consequences that come with social media. They underestimate how easily accessible their information is, and can forget that others are watching their online activity.

### Example illustrating the Terms of Use and Age Limitations:

The screenshot shows the Instagram website's 'Terms of Use' page. On the left, a sidebar lists various help topics, with 'Report Something' highlighted. A blue arrow points from this link to the 'Basic Terms' section of the main content area. The 'Basic Terms' section includes the following text:

**These Terms of Use are effective on January 19, 2013.** To access our previous Terms of Use, please [click here](#).

By accessing or using the Instagram website, the Instagram service, or any applications (including mobile applications) made available by Instagram (together, the "Service"), however accessed, you agree to be bound by these terms of use ("Terms of Use"). The Service is owned or controlled by Instagram, LLC ("Instagram"). **These Terms of Use affect your legal rights and obligations. If you do not agree to be bound by all of these Terms of Use, do not access or use the Service.**

There may be times when we offer a special feature that has its own terms and conditions that apply in addition to these Terms of Use. In those cases, the terms specific to the special feature control to the extent there is a conflict with these Terms of Use.

**ARBITRATION NOTICE: EXCEPT IF YOU OPT-OUT AND EXCEPT FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF DISPUTES DESCRIBED IN THE ARBITRATION SECTION BELOW, YOU AGREE THAT DISPUTES BETWEEN YOU AND INSTAGRAM WILL BE RESOLVED BY BINDING, INDIVIDUAL ARBITRATION AND YOU WAIVE YOUR RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN A CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT OR CLASS-WIDE ARBITRATION.**

**Basic Terms**

1. You must be at least 13 years old to use the Service.

Thank you in advance for your support.  
 Alison Salerno  
 Principal

## Morning Drop off Procedures

If you are driving your child to school please use the outside lane. For the safety of each child, please drive your child to the cross walk at the end of the building. Since there is a long line up of cars dropping off in the morning, please make sure your child is prepared to leave the car as soon as you stop at the crosswalk. A teacher is on duty until 8:10 to assure it is safe for your child to cross the street.

## Attendance Reminders

Please remember that all daily absences/tardies **must** be reported to the attendance line even if you have notified your homeroom teacher.

An absence is only considered **excused** (for the first 9) if a **follow-up note from the parent** is sent to the homeroom teacher when the student returns to school.

The District's Family School Partnership Committee is seeking volunteers to serve on the committee. The mission of the Family School Partnership Committee is to create family participation initiatives and program/s for the Bethel K-12 schools that unifies organizations within the district towards the common goal of growing student achievement. The committee meets approximately 5 times per year from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Please contact Dr. Kristen Brooks at [brooksk@bethel.k12.ct.us](mailto:brooksk@bethel.k12.ct.us) or at [203-794-8613](tel:203-794-8613) if you are interested or have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

## Emergency Closing of School Due to Inclement Weather

Snowflakes will soon be flying! So with this in mind it is very important to have a plan in place for your child should the superintendent close school early due to inclement weather. Children become very anxious if they don't know where they should go on the day of an unexpected closing of school. Thanks for your help.

The Bethel Public Schools are committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Bethel Public Schools do not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut State and/or Federal nondiscrimination laws and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The Bethel Public Schools do not unlawfully discriminate in employment and licensing against qualified persons with a prior criminal conviction. Inquiries regarding the Bethel Public Schools nondiscrimination policies should be directed to:

Dr. Kristen Brooks (Title IX District Coordinator)  
Assistant Superintendent of the Bethel Public Schools  
1 School Street  
Bethel, CT 06801

## November Calendar

- 25 Early Dismissal 12:56 p.m.
- 26 Thanksgiving No School
- 27 Thanksgiving Recess No School

# Johnson School PTO News



**R.M.T. JOHNSON SCHOOL**  
RESPECT • READY • RESPONSIBLE • PROUD



## Upcoming Events

- ◆ 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Pizza & Movie Night  
11/6 @ 6pm
- ◆ 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Pizza & Movie Night  
11/13 @ 6pm
- ◆ Veteran's Day Assembly  
11/17 (*Date Change*)
- ◆ Fall Spirit Wear  
November
- ◆ Holiday Shoppe  
December

## Next PTO Meeting

- ◆ Nov 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9:15  
(*Date Change due to Veterans Day Assembly*)

## Future PTO Meetings

- ◆ Dec 21<sup>st</sup> @ 9:15
- ◆ Jan 19<sup>th</sup> @ 9:15
- ◆ Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 9:15
- ◆ March 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 9:15
- ◆ April 26<sup>th</sup> @ 9:15
- ◆ May 17<sup>th</sup> @ 9:15
- ◆ June TBD

facebook



R.M.T. Johnson School PTO

## Upcoming Events

**Family Pizza & Movie Nights:** We are currently asking for movie suggestions on the Johnson Parent Network group on Facebook. Voting for the movie will take place the week before the event during school hours. We will then announce the winning movie selection. RSVP dates are a week prior. Please remember to RSVP in order to have enough pizza and popcorn!

**Veteran's Day Assembly:** This is a wonderful school event and the PTO is happy to supply breakfast for our Veterans.

**Fall Spirit Wear:** Calling all Johnson Families! Don't miss this opportunity to get your Johnson Spirit Wear. A color flyer is attached and a paper copy will be sent home this week.

**Raffle Tickets:** Remember that for every school or PTO event that your child attends he/she will receive a raffle ticket for a free Kindle at the end of the school year!

**Flyers:** All of our flyers are now posted to our Facebook Page and the School PTO website.

## Past Events

**Kidstuff Fundraiser:** Thank you to all who participated in our Kidstuff Fundraiser! We raised \$2,200 for our school! Coupon books can still be ordered.

**Scholastic Book Fair:** Thank you to the chairs of our Fall Book Fair; Sue Lohle, Tracy Chimbo & Kristin Riolo and the all the volunteers that helped out that week. The book fair was a huge success, raising \$2,100!

**Reading Campout:** The rain did not deter us! The Reading Campout was also a success. Thank you to the school for this wonderful event.

**JohnsonFest:** It was a chilly evening and fun was had by all who dared to come out! Be on the lookout for our next parent social event, most likely in January. "Let's connect and get to know one another!"

**Pumpkin Decorating:** Thank you to Bobbi Jo Beers & Caroline Baia for chairing! 86 children joined in the fun. Pumpkins were decorated with paint, glitter, funny faces and feathers. Donuts, cider & goldfish were enjoyed by everyone.

November, 2015