

**Salisbury Central School  
P.O. Box 1808  
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Lakeville, CT 06039**

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School Counselor**

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Each fall during Red Ribbon Week, schools across the nation unite to educate children about the harmful effects of drugs and to show them the benefits of a drug free lifestyle. With more than 100,000 schools and organizations taking part during the last week of October, Red Ribbon Week is the largest anti-drug event in the United States. The inspiration for this special occasion was the 1985 death of Enrique Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Administration special agent on assignment investigating drug trafficking in Mexico. To honor him, his family and community members wore red ribbons on the anniversary of his death. This eventually turned into Red Ribbon Week, which was officially proclaimed by Congress in 1988. This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Red Ribbon Week.

During the week of October 22-26, Middle School staff and students will participate in Red Ribbon Week activities. Students and staff will wear red "Live Drug Free" bracelets to show that our school supports the anti-drug event. **All schools in Region #1 will participate in "Red Out Day" on Wednesday 10/24. All SCS students will be encouraged to wear red clothing on this day. There will be an "all school" group photo taken on this day.**

Developmental Guidance lessons will focused on making smart, healthy decisions throughout the year. Ask your middle school child about what a "natural high" is. Ask your child about how he/she would make a difficult decision. Children of parents who talk to their kids regularly about drugs are 42% less likely to use drugs than those who don't; yet, only a quarter of teens report having these conversations. Visit [www.redribbon.org](http://www.redribbon.org) to learn more about this national event and get tips for talking to your kids about drugs. Visit [www.naturalhigh.org](http://www.naturalhigh.org) to see videos that we have watched in class.

The 2018 National Red Ribbon Week theme:

**"Life is Your Journey, Travel Drug Free"**

