



Important Dates to Remember:

- ◆ **ASLC MEETING DATES:** 2/9, 2/11, 2/16, 2/18, 2/23, 2/25
- ◆ **100TH DAY OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION:** 2/11
- ◆ **YEARBOOK SALE:** 1/25 – 2/26
- ◆ **AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION WEAR RED DAY:** 2/5

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ABSENTEE CALLS: All absences must be reported directly to our dedicated attendance line **by 9:30am - 973-383-3227**. Kindly keep this number handy. **DO NOT** call the main school phone number or use the personal voice mail of our nurse, Maureen Beckman. The nurse's voice mail should be used for health concerns other than attendance.

SCHOOL HOURS: The school day is 8:25 AM until 3:00 PM for all children. **Whenever possible, ALL children should be strongly encouraged to take the bus in order to ensure that they are on time. WALKERS AND/OR CHILDREN WHO ARE DROPPED OFF BY THEIR PARENTS SHOULD NOT ARRIVE TO SCHOOL PRIOR TO 8:15 AM.**

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: Students need to be in school every day to stay on track. Teachers' lesson plans are carefully constructed to introduce new concepts, reinforce them with learning activities, and then move on to new skills and ideas. When children aren't in school they can easily fall behind. The more days they miss, the harder it is to catch up. **Families will be contacted via a mailing after a child accumulates four unexcused absences, again when a child accumulates five to nine unexcused absences, and finally when the child has ten or more unexcused absences. Letters are automatically generated by our data system.** After ten unexcused absences, if the district determines that the compulsory attendance law has been violated, a court referral may be made, as required by district policy and New Jersey State Law (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6). Please ensure that if your child is absent that you follow up with written documentation to avoid an unexcused absence. Definitions of excused absences can be found on the district website under the *Parent Resources* tab.

BUS STOP REMINDER: Parents/Guardians – It is important that you are at your child's(ren's) bus stop on time. If you have not signed a waiver stating that your child may be let off without someone present, the bus will return your child to school if a designated person is not there to receive them. **A \$25 charge is incurred by the family if the bus has to return to the school with your child(ren).**

SIGNING STUDENTS OUT: All students who are leaving the school building must be signed out by a parent/guardian or **authorized** person. If your child will not be riding the bus home (ex: staying for an after-school activity, or being picked up), a green bus note **must** be sent in that morning to the homeroom teacher. For students attending KEEP or First Impressions, or being picked up on a **regularly SCHEDULED basis**, please write that in a note (preferably on a green bus note) including the details of child's specific schedule, **bus route number**, and a contact person for our records. **Any phone calls, or email requests regarding your child's end of the day dismissal must be made before 12:00pm unless it is an emergency situation.** For requests made after 12:00pm, a decision will be made by administration as to whether or not we will be able to honor that request. Any questions, please contact Mr. Robinson or Mrs. Sager.

EARLY DISMISSAL: Early dismissal time is 12:40. There is no lunch served when there is an early dismissal. Please send your child in with a snack.

yearbook sale!

2015 – 2016 Yearbook Sale will run from
January 25th – February 26th.

Cost is \$17.25 per yearbook

advance orders only!

You will not have the opportunity to purchase a yearbook after February 26th.

Order forms were sent home with your child.
Please make check payable to Stillwater School.
If paying in cash - exact amount only, please.

don't miss out!

PENNIES FOR PATIENTS: This past week, we have collected pennies for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. We are asking families to donate pennies until February 19, 2016. There is a contest among classes to collect the most amount of pennies. Pennies will count toward the class total, but any form of money will be accepted. Our school goal is \$600.00. The homeroom with the most amount of pennies will win a prize of either a pizza or ice cream party, if we reach our \$600.00 school-wide goal. The second place class will receive the second choice. Thank you for participating and helping the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society! **Written by: Shannon Blide, Aylia Mahon, Katie Williver, Collin Amabile, and Megan Halpin**

ALL VISITORS TO STILLWATER SCHOOL MUST SIGN IN AT THE MAIN OFFICE UPON ARRIVAL AND SIGN OUT WHEN LEAVING.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS: For the second year in a row, our Student Council is working with "Coupons for the Community" to collect toiletries/household items for families in need. This will be in collaboration with the 100th day of school, which will occur February 11th or shortly thereafter (weather permitting!). We are asking students in each grade level to donate 100 of their assigned items: **Pre-K – toothbrushes, Kindergarten – tubes of toothpaste, First Grade – boxes of tissues, Second Grade - bars of soap, Third Grade – packs of toilet paper, Fourth Grade – deodorant, Fifth Grade – rolls of paper towels, Sixth Grade – bottles of shampoo, Staff – first aid supplies. Please send in your items as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your generosity!**

2ND MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

FIFTH GRADE: Austin Babcock, Ariana Begraft, Giannina Bennett, Jackson Choma, Joshua Comman, Angus Corpus, Troy Costlow, Reagan DeCaro, Alexa Degan, Ashley Gordon, Megan Hurley, Caedon Jones, Lilly Miller, Carlie Nerlinger, Emily Popek, Carissa Roycroft, Clare Schwartz, Julia St. Clair, Marah Whitby

SIXTH GRADE: Collin Amabile, Summer Andrejack, Abigail Ankrom, Shannon Blide, Ryan Connelly, Steven Dalling, Justin Degan, Adriana Garen, Ashley Geydoshek, Arin Goriscak, Megan Halpin, Abigail LoCascio, Aylia Mahon, Michael Mazzola, Trent Molfetto, Luke Riva, Charlie Throne, Ryan Throne, Isabel Vazquez, Katie Williver

FOURTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES NEWS: Students have been reading about the Civil War and the abolitionist movement in social studies. Students worked with partners to complete various activities using different Google Apps. Some students chose to interview Harriet Tubman or a conductor of the Underground Railroad and will role play that interview in front of his/her classmates. Another option that students were presented with was to research additional information about Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Peter Mott or the Grimke sisters who played a very important role in our nation's history. Those students will present that information in the form of a poster or slideshow using Google Drawing or Slides. I can't wait to see all of the students' work.

THIRD GRADE NEWS: Third graders have had a great time learning about, reading and writing poetry. Some favorite kinds of poems amongst the students have been cinquain, haiku, acrostic and concrete poems. Through poetry, they have studied rhyming and rhyme scheme, themes/main ideas, alliteration, similes, metaphors and other types of figurative language. The students had the opportunity to bring home some of their favorite poems to share with their families and to continue to reading at home. Ask your third grader to tell you what they loved about our poetry unit!

CHECK IT OUT:
Let Your Child Tell the Story

Reading nightly to your child or taking turns doing so is an excellent way to expand reading and vocabulary skills. However, once in a while, put the book down and ask your child to create a story to tell you. You may want to provide the setting (a pirate ship) and a problem the characters must face (stranded on a deserted island). Then, let your child take over telling the story to wherever his or her imagination leads.

One way to introduce new words and concepts is to ask questions during the story. If your child says, "The island was really hot," you could ask, "Was it a tropical island?" Make a point to use these new words in regular conversations thereafter. This is a great way to expand storytelling and vocabulary development.

VOLLEYBALL CLUB: Volleyball Club will begin on Thursday, February 11. Please remember to bring in a green bus note each time we meet. The dates for Volleyball club are February 11, 18, 25 and March 3, 10, and 17 until 4:30 pm.

~ Miss Radimer and Miss McGinniss

FIFTH GRADE NEWS: The fifth graders started the new L.E.A.D. program this week. This drug education program will be in place of the old D.A.R.E. program throughout the state. L.E.A.D. stands for Law Enforcement Against Drugs. The students will complete a ten week program taking place one day a week during Mrs. Steffens' S.S. classes facilitated by Officer LaBar. The first week students had fun getting to know Officer LaBar and spent a lot of time with "getting to know you" questions. Good luck to all of our fifth graders as they participate in this special program.

STUDENT SUBMISSION: 4th Grade Movie Review by Aiden Bello - The movie *Star Wars, the Force Awakens* is the best movie of the saga. It has a lot of cool secrets in it. I saw it opening night, and it was outstanding! The movie's new director is named JJ Abrams. If you see this movie, it will blow your mind. I recommend this movie to everyone. It definitely receives five stars! *****

STUDENT SUBMISSION: Recently, the 5th grade has been learning about the American Revolutionary War. To help them learn, they will start to make a poster of the events that led up to the war. They will write about war events or perhaps items that were used in the war. They will begin reading about someone named Samuel Adams. Throughout the topic, 5th graders will learn many different things that happened in the war.

Submitted by Ashley Gordon

IMPORTANT MESSAGE - OneCall notifications

We will be sending out OneCall notifications throughout the school year, as needed, due to emergency closings, delays, or special announcements. **WE ARE ASKING YOU TO PLEASE CHECK YOUR PHONE FOR MESSAGES RATHER THAN CALLING THE SCHOOL FOLLOWING THE NOTIFICATION.** This will help to eliminate the volume of calls that come in to the school immediately after the message is sent. **Thank you for your cooperation!**

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

OPTICAL ACADEMY: The Stillwater Education Association will be sponsoring the Optical Academy again this year, at the school. Optical Academy is a mobile vision team that provides complete eye exams using digital, state of the art equipment. They also offer an on-site eyeglasses shop, providing prescription glasses, sunglasses, contact lenses, and safety goggles. These services are geared to those who do not have insurance covering eye care; however, all insurances are accepted. Eye exams are only \$30 (add \$30 for contact lenses) and single vision glasses start at just \$29. This event will take place on February 20, 2016 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm at the Stillwater Elementary School. Please make an appointment by calling 1-800-530-2730 or visiting www.optical-academy.com. You do not have to be a Stillwater resident to take advantage of this great resource.

10U PATRIOTS/CRAZE TRAVEL SOFTBALL: Still accepting athletes for the Spring and Summer season. Girls born in 2005-2006 are eligible to participate. Evaluations will be Sunday, February 7th 11-1 at All American Indoor in Hackettstown. Sign up online at blairstownyouthsoftball.org. For more information call Christine at (973) 670-6170.

STILLWATER REC. SOCCER: Registration forms were sent home in January. Register by return mail, OR by coming to our **Registration Event**, Feb. 20th at 11am in the School Cafeteria! Soccer questions will be answered, and refreshments will be available. Rec. Soccer will buy (and accept donations of) used jerseys, shorts, soccer socks, shin guards, and cleats in good condition, and sell them at a small profit to raise needed funds for new soccer balls and goals. Please arrive 15 minutes early if you have soccer stuff to sell or donate. Contact: JimKline@embarqmail.com (973)600-1024 before the 20th if you wish to sell or donate without attending the event.

Stillwater PTA

Please check this section of the newsletter weekly for PTA news, updates, and special events.

You can also visit our website at www.stillwatertwpta.my-pta.org. Like us on Facebook- "Stillwater Twp. PTA".*

SPRING GERTRUDE HAWK CANDY SALE: The Spring Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale is now underway! Order forms (top copy) and money are due **Friday, February 12th**. Please make one check payable to **Stillwater PTA**. Orders are expected to arrive the week of March 7th. Online ordering is also available through March 19th at www.gertrudehawk.com using group code: **119141**. All proceeds benefit the Stillwater PTA. Thank you for your anticipated support! For questions, please contact Jennifer Domaracki at jennifer@dahlhousedesign.com.

VALENTINE'S DAY SALE: This year's Valentine's Day Sale will take place during all lunch periods on Thursday (February 11th) and Friday (February 12th). Parents: If you are able to help with this sale between the hours of 10:30AM-1:30PM on either day, please contact Meredith Reilly at mreilly32@yahoo.com.

DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE: The PTA will be hosting a Daddy/Daughter Dance on Friday, February 12th from 6:00-8:00PM in the school gym. This event is open to all Dads or male father figures. Please RSVP by February 6th to Tim Reilly at (201)450-7666 or treilly@pcti.tec.nj.us. Moms are needed to help with set-up, coordinating decorations, snacks/h'oderves, and clean-up. Contact Tim if you are able to help.

TALENT SHOW: This year's Talent Show will be held on Thursday, March 24th from 6:30-8:30PM. Rehearsals will be held every Monday beginning February 1st (excluding 3/14) from 4:00-5:00PM. **A mandatory Dress Rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, March 23rd from 4:00 – 5:30PM.** We are in great need of a piano player for the show. If you are able to volunteer as our piano player, please contact Justine Mahon at jmarymahon@gmail.com

TRICKY TRAY: Save the date! The Stillwater PTA Tricky Tray will be held on **Friday, April 15th, 2016**. The theme is "The Great Outdoors". Preparations are already underway and LOTS of help is needed to make this a successful event! Please contact Christine Bello at christinebello1980@gmail.com or Karyn Carter at karyn1213@gmail.com if you are able to volunteer your time. **Class Donations-** Please kindly return your envelope with your donation (suggested donation is \$5 but feel free to give what you prefer) and be sure the front of the envelope is filled out with your child's name and teacher's name. Money will be collected by the PTA and then distributed to the Class Coordinator so that they may purchase the tray/basket. Thank you all for your support!

PTA CHAIRPEOPLE: With the many events the PTA provides, we have several parents helping behind the scenes. Part of the job of running a PTA event is putting out flyers to the school to promote the upcoming event. These flyers must be approved by the PTA and administration. Please send all flyers via email to Kristin Oldenburg- stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com for PTA approval and questions. Also, if you would like something submitted in the weekly newsletter regarding your event, please email your submission to Jen Kraft at stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com no later than Wednesday for it to be published that same Friday.

STILLWATER COOKBOOKS (\$3 each) and Stillwater School Car Magnets (\$2 each) are available for purchase! This sale is ongoing throughout the year. If you are interested in purchasing these items or if you have questions, please contact Amanda Connelly at aeconnelly@outlook.com.

SHOPAROO: Congratulations to all those who participate in the Shoparoo fundraiser! TOGETHER we earned **\$610.08** for the 2014-2015 school year!! **That was double the amount from the previous year!** Let's see if we can double it again for this school year! All of the money raised goes directly to the 6th grade Washington, D.C trip. If you haven't signed up for Shoparoo yet, please see the details below to get started. **Thank you to everyone who is currently participating, we appreciate your support! Keep up the good work!**

Check out some great ways to raise money for Stillwater School...

- 1. Have you heard about ShopARoo?** It's an easy way to help support Stillwater School. All funds that are raised go directly to the 6th grade trip to Washington, D.C! Download: ShopARoo today and choose Stillwater School, NJ as your fundraising cause today. Just snap a picture of your grocery like receipts and start earning points (which convert to cash) for Stillwater School. **It's that easy! Really!**
- 2. Keep cutting your Box Tops and Labels for Education!** Be sure to include your child's homeroom teacher when submitting. **3. Shop at AmazonSmile!** Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to 18906 Stillwater PTA. Bookmark the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7214634> and support us every time you shop. **ShopRite stores are also giving away up to \$1 Million to local schools during the 2015-16 school year!** Register your Price Plus Club card at www.ShopRiteForMySchool.com today to start earning cash for your school.

UPCOMING EVENTS: 2/1-2/12- GERTRUDE HAWK CANDY SALE, 2/11-2/12- VALENTINE'S DAY CANDY SALE, 2/12- DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE, 3/24- TALENT SHOW