



### 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 Stillwater School Yearbook Sale  
will end on February 26<sup>th</sup>!

**Cost is \$17.25 per yearbook**

**advance orders only!**

**You will not have the opportunity to purchase a yearbook after February 26<sup>th</sup>.**

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!**

### MORE TOP TEN UNIQUE EDUCATION LAWS

8. It's against the law to bring a dog to school in Cerritos, CA.
9. Those who transport livestock on Florida school buses are breaking the law.
10. In Cheyenne, WY, it is against the law to spit on the steps of a school.

### Important Dates to Remember:

- ◆ **ASLC MEETING DATES:** 2/16, 2/18, 2/23, 2/25, 3/1, 3/3, 3/8
- ◆ **YEARBOOK SALE:** 1/25 – 2/26
- ◆ **DISTRICT BAND CONCERT:** 2/22 – 7:00PM @ KRHS
- ◆ **FITNESS FOR AMERICAN RED CROSS WEEK:** 3/7 – 3/11

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

**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*

**PRESCHOOL NEWS:** The preschool classes are busy rehearsing for their upcoming performance of, The Bunnies Are Not in Their Beds, a children's story written by Marisabina Russo. The performances will take place on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. The AM performance will be at 9:45 and the PM performance will be at 2:00. The children are anxiously awaiting to shine on stage! Coming soon to our bulletin board are photos of our star performers. Stop by and take a look! Autographs will be given by request only.

**MUSIC NEWS:** Each year, Kittatinny Regional High School hosts the All District Band and Chorus. This event is comprised of middle and elementary school students from the Kittatinny sending districts: Fredon, McKeown, Sandyston, and Stillwater. Students in grades five and six are offered the chance to audition and attend extra rehearsals to learn more challenging music and show their dedication to the music programs. Beginning in January, children who showed an interest began practicing together in small groups during the school day. After much hard work, the music department takes a few trips with these talented students to the high school for combined rehearsals with the middle school and other elementary schools. This gives the students an opportunity to make new friends, learn from other music teachers, and rise to the challenge of performing difficult music with a large ensemble. **This year's concert will be Monday, February 22, at 7pm at Kittatinny Regional High School.** If your child is participating, please send in the permission slip allowing them to attend next week's rehearsals and ask for the parent letter with more detailed information.

**FAMILY MATH:** Third Grade Family Math began on Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Openers included toothpick puzzles, cut a card, coin problems, tangrams and a Venn diagram. Activities enjoyed by all were "Sum What Dice" and "Double Digit" both place-value dice games. Congratulations to Katie Longcor who came closest to the goldfish estimation of 990. She estimated 875! Congratulations!  
*Ms. Grau and Miss Johnson*

**KINDERGARTEN NEWS:** The Kindergarten classes have been enjoying activities that center around Valentine's Day, President's Day and the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. These February celebrations provided various fun and engaging learning opportunities. While the students were busy counting down to the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school, they enjoyed hearing stories about two past presidents and learned some interesting facts. The children wrote about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln and learned to identify them and the money that they are pictured on. Identifying and counting money is a skill that we work on in kindergarten and can be reinforced at home.

**SECOND GRADE NEWS:** The second grade is celebrating 100 days of school. We have worked so hard to write informational paragraphs about what we may look like and feel when we are one hundred years old. Then, the children used an app to create a portrait of themselves at one hundred. Please stop by the second grade hall for a peek! The students also explored the number one hundred with different math activities. One challenge was for the students to use one hundred plastic cups to build structures. The cups were grouped in several ways to explore the many combinations of numbers that add up to one hundred. We are so excited to be one hundred days smarter in second grade!

**B-SOCIAL NEWS:** The B-Social Lounge has been filled to capacity each Thursday during study hall. The students have enjoyed interacting with peers and sharing various games and toys. Some lucky second grade students have even earned some Friday visits as recognition for continued outstanding behavior throughout the week! Way to go!

**B-ALIVE PROGRAM:** The B-Alive Program will be visiting Centenary College later this month. The students will begin planning for the purchase of supplies for their container garden. They will meet with a master gardener to learn some tips for planting a successful garden. They hope to showcase their handiwork at the B-Alive end of year celebration in June!

**STUDENT SUBMISSION:** Is it that time of year again? That's right, it's Valentine's Day! February 14<sup>th</sup> is a special day when some people in the world have a valentine and give gifts to them. Some parents might treat their kids to a box of creamy chocolate. Sometimes they give their valentine a red heart shaped box of chocolate too. But don't spend all your money on your valentine! Make some special gifts for your valentine this Valentine's Day. These are some ways you can care for your Valentine!  
*Submitted by Peter Mazzola*

*Don't be a fool, Don't be cruel, Have a valentine this year, So don't have fear, For this is a fun time, So this year have a valentine!*

**STUDENT SUBMISSION:** In 5th grade science class we are learning about bird nests. As a project, we are building our own nests. We are designing special features to help the eggs survive a fall from a tree. This project is very interesting. I can't wait to test out my special nest. This is a very interesting topic.  
*Submitted by Wyatt Wright*

**STUDENT SUBMISSION:** In school, 5<sup>th</sup> graders are learning about goal setting in LEAD. We set our own short and long term goals. Officer LaBar leads the LEAD program. It will end in eight weeks, and in those eight weeks we will learn about health, safety and being social. It is an amazing program, and I am excited for the next eight weeks of LEAD!  
*Submitted by Austin Babcock*

### 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](http://www.optical-academy.com). You do not have to be a Stillwater resident to take advantage of this great resource.

**STILLWATER REC. SOCCER:** Registration forms were sent home in January. Register by return mail, OR by coming to our **Registration Event**, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:JimKline@embarqmail.com) (973)600-1024 before the 20<sup>th</sup> 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.stillwatertwppta.my-pta.org](http://www.stillwatertwppta.my-pta.org). Like us on Facebook- "Stillwater Twp. PTA".\*

**SPRING GERTRUDE HAWK CANDY SALE:** *A special thank you to Jen Domaracki for chairing this fundraiser!*

**VALENTINE'S DAY SALE:** *A huge thank you to Meredith Reilly for chairing the Valentine's Day Sale this week! Thank you also to all of the parents who volunteered their time to help as well!*

**DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE:** The PTA will be hosting a Daddy/Daughter Dance **TONIGHT**, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00PM in the school gym. This event is open to all Dads or male father figures. Please RSVP by February 6<sup>th</sup> to Tim Reilly at (201)450-7666 or [treilly@pcti.tec.nj.us](mailto: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 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30PM. It's not too late to take part in this! Rehearsals are held every Monday, (excluding 3/14) from 4:00-5:00PM. **A mandatory Dress Rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00 – 5:30PM.** We are in great need of a piano player for the show. Parents are also needed to help the night of the event. If you are able to volunteer your time, please contact Justine Mahon at [jmarymahon@gmail.com](mailto:jmarymahon@gmail.com)

**TRICKY TRAY:** Save the date! The Stillwater PTA Tricky Tray will be held on **Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:christinebello1980@gmail.com) or Karyn Carter at [karyn1213@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 [stillwaterptacoresec@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptacoresec@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](mailto: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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.ShopRiteForMySchool.com) today to start earning cash for your school.

**UPCOMING EVENTS: 2/12- DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE, 3/24- TALENT SHOW**

**NEXT PTA MEETING:** Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7:00-8:00PM in room A119. We welcome & encourage all to attend.