



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.

The 6th Grade Parents will be hosting the bake sale at this year's Talent Show on Thursday, March 24th. We need parent volunteers to bake for this wonderful event. Bagged cookies and treats, loaf breads, etc. would be appreciated. Please contact Danielle LoCascio at dl@locascio.com if you can help.

LIBRARY NEWS: Our students have been busy reading literature and informational texts during library time. Pre-K and Kindergarten have been learning the difference between fiction and non-fiction books and some of their features. First grade has been learning author's purpose and how to fill out a KWL chart (what we know, what we want to know, and what we learned) in preparation for a mini research project. Second grade is well into their unit on Folktales and have been reading tall tales and fables. Third grade is starting to explore the different types of text-features found in non-fiction books and how they will help them search for information. Fourth and fifth grade have been working on using text-based evidence to answer essential questions using picture books as mentor texts. Sixth graders have started a book unit on *The Breadwinner*, by Deborah Ellis, "an award-winning novel about loyalty, survival, families, and friendship under extraordinary circumstances. (Amazon review) Most importantly, students are able to check out new books each week and BRAND NEW BOOKS hit the shelves every month!

Important Dates to Remember:

- ❖ **ASLC MEETING DATES: 3/15, 3/22, 4/5, 4/7, 4/12**
- ❖ **OMEGA MAN ASSEMBLY: 3/16 @ 9:15**
- ❖ **SPRING RECESS: 3/25 – 4/1, SCHOOL RESUMES 4/4**

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

KINDERGARTEN NEWS: The kindergarten classes are having so much fun with rhyming words and Dr. Seuss books this month. We talked about weather, learned about different types of clouds and how a rainbow is made. We had fun creating a book about weather. Our classrooms were filled with lots of green and leprechauns in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Subtraction, coins and measurement were reinforced in math. We are all watching for the signs of spring and hoping for the nice warm weather to arrive soon!

SIXTH GRADE NEWS: Sixth graders in ELA recently wrote their own "About the Author" summaries. They included their photo and a brief description about themselves for their writing. Some students pretended that they were already famous writers, while others wrote as if they will become great writers in the future. Stop by the outside of their ELA classroom (A113) and, "meet the author."

ESPAÑOL ~ SPANISH NEWS: *Los Animales* ~ ¡El perro dice guau, guau! The dog says bow-wow! Students in grades K-3 have been learning animal names in Spanish. Songs and videos have been shared to add to the experience and the children have enjoyed learning to talk about their favorite animals in Spanish! Younger students focused on pets and farm animals, while third grade students visited el zoológico to meet the zoo animals!

La Cultura ~ America del Sur y Mexico, South America and Mexico. *Students in fourth grade travelled to Mexico while students in grades 5 & 6 left for South America. Our focus was to study the geography, climate and history of these Spanish-speaking parts of the world. Groups worked to read text, maps, locate rivers and lakes, or solve math codes to reveal facts. Sixth grade students worked collaboratively to design posters for countries they visited, which are on display near the Spanish classroom. The internet became an important resource for the students as they researched these locations. Travel to these areas will continue as we learn about the people and places where Spanish is spoken!

STILLWATER STAFF NEWS: It is not often that Stillwater teachers and staff dress down to come to work, but when they do, they do it for a purpose. Jeans Days for the staff have been a wonderful way to raise funds, and awareness, for many great causes. This year Stillwater School employees have been able to send monetary donations to The Red Cross, The American Heart Association, and Wrapsody of Hope. Along with collecting money on designated Jeans Days, they also contribute canned goods which are given to one of the local food banks.

Don't forget to SPRING your clocks ahead this weekend for daylight saving time! Did you know that Englishman William Willett led the first campaign to implement daylight saving time? In 1905, he thought that the United Kingdom should move its clocks forward by 80 minutes between April and October so that people could enjoy the sunlight. He died before he would ever see his idea become a reality. It wasn't until 1916 that Germany first enacted daylight saving time in an effort to conserve electricity. Although we spring ahead this weekend, not everyone in the United States will. Hawaii and Arizona are two states that do not observe daylight saving time. Even though we will lose an hour this weekend, daylight saving time means we are closer to spring! This information was obtained from www.history.com.

STUDENT SUBMISSION: Recently in 6th grade science, we have been having a lot of fun. We are building five floor skyscrapers. We must complete a five paragraph essay to tell why our structures will survive an earthquake. We have to draw a plan to see how we are going to shape our structure. Our material list will include one adhesive such as hot glue or tape and the size of the pieces of paper we will need. We have been put into groups of two and three for our construction. Each team has chosen a floor of their tower to place a bag of pennies. Once the pennies are in place, the structure will be put through an earthquake by Mrs. McMahon. Every 6th grader is looking forward to the construction!

Submitted by Shannon Blide and Olivia O'Meara

STUDENT SUBMISSION: Lately in Stillwater School, the fifth grade students have been studying about our past, the Declaration of Independence and the Revolutionary War! Fifth grade has fabricated colossal posters for the ABC's of the Revolutionary War. Students are having a great time in this unit, but what can come next?

Submitted by Hazel Fronczkowski

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

KRHS TRICKY TRAY: To benefit Project Graduation 2016, on March 18th at Kittatinny Regional High School. Doors open at 6:00 and drawing starts at 8:00. **Lots of great prizes, specials, and super specials.** Admission is free and no one under 18 is permitted. Free coffee/tea and baked goods, other food available for purchase. For more information call 973 383 1800, ext. 1140

KCAA ANNUAL BEEFSTEAK DINNER: Saturday, April 9th at the Fredon Rec Center. All you can eat and soft drinks provided for \$40.00 per ticket. Fun begins at 7pm with lots of amazing raffles and music by the Snake Oil Willie Band. No tickets sold at the door. Email questions to kittatinnyfootballassociation1@gmail.com.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Fairview Lake YMCA is hosting their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 20th. Come early! Egg hunt times are PreK-2nd grade at 2:00pm, 3rd-6th grade at 2:30pm, and 7th grade at 3:00pm. The Easter Bunny will be hopping around camp, and there will be eggs, crafts, games and fun for the whole family! \$10.00 per family. Phone Karen King at: 973-383-9282 for further information.

6TH GRADE RECOGNITION PARTY FUNDRAISER: FRIDAY NIGHT FUN FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SIXTH GRADE! Please join us on Friday, March 18th from 7:30pm – 9:00pm at All American Indoor on Route 57 in Hackettstown. Advance tickets are \$10.00 or pay \$12.00 at the door. For more information, please contact Melissa Kramer at mkramer02@yahoo.com or text/call 862-268-6227. **ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE SIXTH GRADE RECOGNITION PARTY!** Flyers were sent home with your child - please return with your payment. Checks should be made out to: Stillwater 6th Grade Recognition. Visit: www.allamericanindoor.com

FREDON SCHOOL SPRING DANCE: March 18th 6pm-8pm the Fredon 6th Grade REC is having a Spring Dance for 4th-6th graders from Fredon, Stillwater, Hampton and Sandyston. Pay at the door \$10 admission. Concessions will be available from \$1-\$3 dollars. Come on out and have some fun with your friends. Any questions please contact Stacey OToole [201-264-7905](tel:201-264-7905) or Kim Mafaro [973-534-2882](tel:973-534-2882).

6TH GRADE RECOGNITION PARTY FUNDRAISER: Come join us for ICE SKATING at Skylands Ice World on April 2nd from 4-5:30pm. Tickets are \$10.00 each. To purchase your tickets, please contact Tanya Amabile at tjamabile@gmail.com or text/call 973-534-4719. **ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE SIXTH GRADE RECOGNITION PARTY!** Look for flyers to be sent home also.

Kittatinny Regional High School will host "Hidden in Plain Sight" on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 7PM. Presented by the Center for Prevention and Counseling, this educational exhibit and presentation to prevent youth drug use is suitable for parents, other adult community members and any adult who works or cares about young people. A reproduction of a teenager's bedroom will be on display for participants to observe, becoming familiar with where and how teens might hide drugs or paraphernalia. Seemingly innocent items, commonly used by youth, could actually indicate a substance abuse problem. This awareness event will allow adults to be more proactive in helping a young person who might be using drugs. Hear from prevention specialists and law enforcement about local drug trends and how to prevent youth substance abuse. Would you be able to recognize signs of use and intervene before they become impossible to ignore? Don't leave it to chance! A proactive attendee at a recent presentation had this to say: "I am a Registered Nurse working in a pediatric office, my children are grown but I attended to see what is new in the neighborhood. It was as real eye opener and I took back a lot of information to the office with me!" For more information, please contact Tina Aue at The Center at [\(973\)383-4787](tel:9733834787) or email tina@centerforprevention.org.

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: A special thank you to Jen Domaracki for chairing this fundraiser! The PTA Spring Gertrude Hawk Sale orders are now in! Orders will be labeled in the downstairs hallway for pick-up after 3:15PM. Thank you for your participation! Online ordering is still available through March 19th at www.gertrudehawk.com using group code **119141**. All proceeds benefit the Stillwater PTA. For questions, please contact Jennifer Domaracki at jennifer@dahlhousedesign.com.

TALENT SHOW: This year's Talent Show will be held on Thursday, March 24th from 6:30-8:30PM. Rehearsals are held every Monday, (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. 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. **PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO TALENT SHOW REHEARSAL ON MONDAY, 3/14.**

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!

Family Trays: Please consider donating a family tray. Each family to donate a tray will receive a free sheet of level 1 tickets!

Pre-Sale Tickets: Pre-sale ticket packages are now available- \$30 includes: 5 sheets Level 1 tickets, 6 Level 2 tickets, 2 Level 3 tickets-A \$6 savings. Please send order form and payment together in one envelope to: the PTA mailbox at school labeled: PTA-Tricky Tray Ticket Pre-Sales Attn: Jen Kraft or mailed to: Tricky Tray Pre-Sales, PO Box 12, Stillwater, NJ 07875. Checks should be made payable to *Stillwater PTA*. **ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 8, 2016.** Tickets will be distributed the night of the event under the contact name. For questions or more information, please contact Jen Kraft at stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com or (973)229-2990.

Table Reservations: \$35 per person, which includes a Ticket Value Pack. Must reserve for groups of 4 or 8 (groups of 4 will be combined to make tables of 8). Reservations are limited and taken on a first come, first serve basis so reserve soon! Full payment is required in order to book a reservation. Contact Jen Kraft at stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com or (973)229-2990 for questions.

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 aconnelly@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!

BOX TOPS UPDATE: Congratulations Box Top Clippers- Last year we earned our school a total of \$1,401.16! So far this year we have earned \$582.10! Keep clipping! Thank you to Mrs. Makarevich for organizing this fabulous fundraiser!

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: 3/24- TALENT SHOW, 4/15 – Tricky Tray