



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.

FOURTH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS NEWS: Fourth grade classes are beginning a Poetry Unit. Students will be participating in a variety of activities. Students will have the opportunity to read to the "Poet-tree" in the classroom. All children will use clues to complete a scavenger hunt while reading different poems. Lessons will include learning about alliteration and hyperbole. Each student will write a descriptive poem using figurative language on a lollipop cutout for display. Students are encouraged to bring in poetry books from home to share with the class.

THIRD GRADE NEWS: Third graders have been learning about area and perimeter. They learned the equation for area, $l \times w$ and the equation for perimeter, $2l + 2w$. They have been incorporating their multiplication and division facts to find the area and perimeter of different figures. They have been dividing irregular figures into regular shapes to find the measurements. Each day we have discussed how we could use area and perimeter in our daily lives. Students used Cheez-Its to create a shape and then found the area and perimeter!

STUDENT SUBMISSION: This week in social studies we have a test on Ancient India and Buddhism. To prepare for the test on Wednesday we had to perform a type of varna without saying anything. There are four varnas and one other group. These groups are a social class with special jobs. You could not leave and all your descendants would be in that same varna. The five groups are Brahman, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra and Dalits. They all had a job specialized for their varna. Hopefully we all do well on the test and maybe you have learned something new. **Submitted by Abby LoCascio**

STUDENT SUBMISSION: St. Patrick's Day was on Thursday, March 17th. St. Patrick's Day is a celebration of culture and religion. Some traditional St. Patrick's Day foods are corned beef, Irish soda bread, mashed potatoes, and cabbage. Every year I celebrate St. Patrick's Day with my family. Our meal usually consists of corned beef, kale salad with roasted vegetables on top, Irish soda bread, mashed potatoes, and cabbage. St. Patrick's Day is fun, and the food is delicious in my opinion. **Submitted by Delaney Burke**

Important Dates to Remember:

- ◆ **ASLC MEETING DATES: 3/22, 4/5, 4/7, 4/12, 4/14**
- ◆ **SPRING RECESS: 3/25 – 4/3, SCHOOL RESUMES 4/4**
- ◆ **SPRING PICTURES: 4/26**

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

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE – 2016 PARCC

Grades 3 and 4 – April 5 - 8 & 11
Grade 5 – April 12 - 15 & 18
Grade 6 – April 12 - 15 & 18-19
Makeups – April 20 – 22

Grade 4 NJASK Science

May 25

Makeup – June 1

All sessions are held in the morning, so we ask for your help with the following:

- Please ensure that your child is well-rested each day.
- Start each day with a healthy and nutritious breakfast.
- Be sure that your child arrives at school by 8:25 am.
- Please encourage your child to simply try their best to help relieve any test anxiety he or she may have.
- Please keep electronic devices at home.

If you have any questions regarding assessment, please feel free to reach out to Matt Robinson, the district testing coordinator, at (973) 383-6171 or matthew.robinson@stillwaterschool.net

FAMILY MATH: More fun-filled nights of Family Math have happened! Parents and children worked together doing a Hurtle game, a fraction activity, rainbow logic, and calculator paths. Congratulations to Mr. Longcor and Olivia Compton who won the estimation jar of Teddy Grahams and pretzels. The last class of 3rd grade Family Math was held on Thursday, March 10th. Activities enjoyed by all were the "Balloon Ride" game and "NIM". The families participated in "Build a Tower". The highest tower, at approximately 40 inches was constructed by the Compton, Ginsberg and Trotter families. The estimation jar was won by Mrs. Goriscak. We look forward to another Family Math class next year!

SPEECH NEWS: This month, we've been learning a lot about themes related to Saint Patrick's Day including colors, rainbows, shamrocks and what 'lucky' means! This is a perfect time of year to do scavenger hunts. Pretend you are a leprechaun looking for a pot of gold! Set up a scavenger hunt! Write clues on rainbows and look for your own "pot of gold". Get creative! Think of fun places to hide things & explore together! For the older children, try using grade level vocabulary words or the current weeks spelling words to use in your clues. This is also a perfect time of year to talk about seasons, especially spring! There are so many great topics during spring including weather, plants, rain, flowers, and animals. In addition, Spring gives us the perfect opportunity to take learning outside and experience nature! Get outside and plant flowers this spring! Involve your child in the entire process: buying the seeds, the pot, and the soil, planting the seeds, watering them each day, and watching them grow! Have fun getting a little muddy!

FITNESS FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS EVENT: The event was a big success! The students had an opportunity to participate in a variety of fun fitness stations and had a blast! They left the gym drenched and learned a positive message of how it makes us feel to help others in need. Thank you for all of the very generous donations! We raised a total of \$380.00 that will be donated to the American Red Cross! Nice job! We would like to extend a special thank you to the parents that volunteered their time to help out with the event. We really appreciate it! **Mr. Reed, Ms. Radimer, & Mr. Post**

GREENHOUSE PROJECT NEWS: On March 17th, the school was GREEN! Staff and students wore green and donated money to go help projects within the school. Through the National Wildlife Federation, we are looking to certify the grounds as a 'Certified Wildlife Habitat.' We are also looking into helping the bat population through research and possibly building them a bat house. Lastly, donations will help support the current 'Greenhouse Project.' Thank you for your continued support!

STUDENT SUBMISSION: This week on Wednesday, March 16th, our school had Omega Man come. He was a super hero! He taught us to be a dream-maker not a dream-breaker. A dream-maker is someone that follows their dreams and they don't let bullies get in their way of them being who they want to be. A dream-breaker is someone who tells people that they are not smart or they put kids down also known as a bully. He did much more than teach us about bullying, he was able to rip a phonebook in half and had many students go up and help him. He also held two students on a pole and lifted Mr. Reed on his back! This was a great assembly and I hope they do it again next year and for many more years to come. **Submitted by Mackenzie Shea**

TECHNOLOGY CLASS: In the second grade classes, students are researching different dinosaurs in a Dinosaur WebQuest. The students gather information and pictures from different websites. After their research is gathered, the students draw their representation of what they believe their dinosaur looked like when it roamed the earth. Putting this together is a huge task for a second grader and they utilize three programs on the computer.

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

"EVENING WITH THE ARTS" is a one night opportunity for elementary students in grades 4-6 to join high school students in creative workshops. Students will have the chance to sign up for four different events to attend throughout the evening. These activities are structured around the arts and different classes/extra curriculums available at Kittatinny. There are art and drawing demonstrations, singing and instrument techniques, technology printings and robotics, as well as acting and dance for musical theater. Please join us for this free event held at Kittatinny on Wednesday March 23. It will begin at 6pm and run through until 7:45. All students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. The workshops are first come, first served, so get there a little early to sign up for the workshops you like!

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: TONIGHT - 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 SOCCER CLUB: Competitive travel soccer program for boys and girls ages 7 – 12 years will be holding tryouts on Tuesday, May 17th and Thursday, May 19th for the upcoming Fall season. Please contact Coach Simon at simonhamilton1@gmail.com or Coach Dave at AMCCJ8@hotmail.com to register your child and visit: www.kittatinnyssoccer.bonzidev.com for further information!

SYNERGY DANCE COMPANY FUNDRAISER: Dine at Friendly's of Newton on Thursday, March 31, 2016 to support Synergy Dance Company of Hampton and their quest to dance at Disney! Friendly's will generously donate 10% of all proceeds on your dine-in or take-out bill from 5pm – 8pm. For further information please call 973-229-1975.

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. 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.** Parents are needed to help the night of the event. If you are able to help or have any questions, 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!

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