



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.** →

FIRST GRADE NEWS: The ants are coming! First grade has started their ant unit. The children are learning about the lifecycle, parts and the habitat of an ant. Be on the lookout for our ant colony in the hallway.

THIRD GRADE NEWS: Third grade students continued to explore biographies during their reading time this week and enjoyed learning about the interesting lives of influential people from around the world. Using a blend of research and reading skills, the students identified the important events in the life of their chosen "hero". They then created a miniature likeness using a variety of materials to enhance the presentation of their biographical research. As we complete our biography unit this week, we will move into our next topic "Our Changing Earth".

FOURTH GRADE NEWS: Students in 4th grade social studies have been learning about immigration. Did you know that in 1880, 42% of those that immigrated to New Jersey were from Ireland? When the main potato crop began to fail, a famine swept through Ireland. Thousands of Irish people left their native country to escape the famine. Students discovered that people from many different countries came to America for a number of reasons. Some people came to make money, some left to find religious freedom and some individuals left to escape poverty or harsh governments. Students formed an understanding and appreciation for our ancestors and the hardships they faced in order to gain the freedom that they long desired.

READING ASSISTANT PARENT NIGHT: Come join us on Monday, April 18th from 6:00-7:00pm in the Stillwater School cafeteria to learn about the Reading Assistant program and how you child can improve their reading proficiency!

Important Dates to Remember:

- ❖ **ASLC MEETING DATES: 4/12, 4/14, 4/19, 4/21, 4/26**
- ❖ **SPRING PICTURES: 4/26**
- ❖ **TAKE DAUGHTERS/SONS TO WORK DAY: 4/28**
- ❖ **SPRING CONCERT: 5/17 @ 7:00PM**

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

FIFTH GRADE NEWS: 5th grade students have been enjoying reading numerous novels this year. The students have chosen novels that spark their interest based on recommendations from their peers and their own research. As a class, the students gather together once a month for a book talk and discuss the novels they chose to read that month. Their goal is to recommend interesting novels to their classmates. Our "Coffee Hour" brings much enthusiasm and love of reading each month!

CHECK IT OUT: "Ten Questions" is a game that promotes several skills, one of which is reasoning with words. One family member thinks of something, which the other players must guess with no more than ten questions. The first question always is "Is it animal, vegetable, or mineral?" This covers almost every possible thing the child could think of. Then, question by question, the field is narrowed to likely possibilities. After the first questions, the remaining questions must be asked so that they can be answered by "yes" or "no." For some children, "Ten Questions" might be too difficult, so make it "Twenty Questions. It's a great way to get your child speaking and thinking!

Spring Portraits will be held during the day on Tuesday, April 26. Schoolcraft order forms will be sent home with students next week. If you choose to have your child's photo taken, complete the order form and enclose payment. **HAVE YOUR CHILD BRING THE ORDER FORM/ENVELOPE TO SCHOOL ON THE DAY PHOTOS WILL BE TAKEN.** If you have any questions, please call the main office.

STUDENT SUBMISSION: On March 24, 2016, we had the Talent Show! We were practicing for many weeks. There were many different kinds of acts such as singing, dancing, and even synchronized swimming! We had it in the gym with the bleachers pulled out and people had to stand and sit on the floor because it was so packed. I had fun performing and so did everyone else who participated in it. In my opinion, it was the best Talent Show they ever had!
Submitted by Katie Williver

**Best Friend
 They are rare,
 They are kind,
 They are there when you lose your mind!
 They are there when you're red and even blue, Your
 best friend is meant for you!**

By: Ariana Santore

STUDENT SUBMISSION: Sussex County Poster Contest - The fourth grade students in Mrs. Celentano's Social Studies classes are participating in the annual poster contest sponsored by Sussex County's Constitutional Officers to help promote awareness of the work accomplished throughout New Jersey's 21 counties. The students will design posters featuring Sussex County. Some ideas for the posters are drawing farms, the Sussex County Horse and Farm Show, Space Farms, rivers, waterfalls, and our beautiful countryside. My idea for my poster is drawing the woods with animals and birds because I love where I live. First place winner will receive a Kindle Fire, second and third place receive \$50 and \$25 gift cards. Also top winners receive free entry to this summer's NJ State Fair, where 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place posters will be on display. Good luck to all my friends in fourth grade!
Submitted by Stanley Zeveney

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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.

KITTATINNY SOCCER CLUB: Competitive travel soccer program for boys and girls ages 7 – 12 years will be holding trying outs 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.kittatinnysoccer.bonzidev.com for further information!

2016 SUSSEX COUNTY IDOL: The search is on! We are looking for talented singers ages Kindergarten through 12th grade. Entry forms and song submission is due by Friday, April 15th to be considered. The contest will be on Sunday, May 1st from 12:00-4:00pm at Sussex County Community College. What a wonderful way to have our children shine as they share their talent with others! For more information, go to: call 973-579-1811. You can also get additional information at: www.sussexcountychamber.org/news_detail_T9_R54.php.

GET RUNNING THIS SPRING: The 2016 Bears Youth Running Program will kick off on Friday, April 8th. The program is open to children in grades 4-8 and includes running based on ability and a lot of fun games and races. The program will be held at Lodestar Park on Route 94 in Fredon every Friday through June from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Cost is \$25 per child for the entire season. For information and registration forms call/text Coach Laurie Gordon at 973-271-6624. Registration forms are also available in the main office.

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".*

TALENT SHOW: A very special thank you to Justine Mahon and Cheryl Williver for coordinating this year's 3rd annual Talent Show! Thank you also to the following people; Mrs. Celentano for helping the show to run smoothly, Mr. Nick for all of his hard work, all of the parents who helped backstage, Laurie Gordon for the fabulous newspaper article truly depicting what Stillwater School is all about, to the administration, teachers, and parents who came to support the students, and last but not most certainly not least- thank you to all of our very talented participants who put on a fantastic show!



TRICKY TRAY: The Stillwater PTA Tricky Tray is quickly approaching! Please join us next **Friday, April 15th, 2016**. Doors open at 6:00pm. The theme is, "The Great Outdoors". Please contact Christine Bello at christinebello1980@gmail.com or Karyn Carter at karyn1213@gmail.com if you are able to volunteer your time.

Family Trays: Please consider donating a family tray. Each family to donate a tray will receive a free sheet of level 1 tickets! The deadline for donations is tomorrow, April 9th.

Pre-Sale Tickets: Last call for pre-sale tickets - \$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!

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: 4/15 – Tricky Tray