



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.

STUDENT SUBMISSION: ~Submitted by Mia Vazquez

Sunshine, light showers, flowers in bloom
Peonies, forsythia, other flowers too!
Rain in April and flowers in May
In Spring it is warm with nice weather too!
No snow or harsh REALLY cold weather
Go outside and enjoy the SPRING day!

STUDENT SUBMISSION: The sixth graders have learned many things in Mrs. McMahon's science class recently. For a week or two, we have been practicing for the Pope John XXIII Science Olympics. The Science Olympics is when selected students from the sixth grade are chosen due to the amount of effort they put in and because of how they performed in the test experiments that were held during each science class. The experiments involved building a paper airplane that would fly the farthest made of only one piece of paper, building the highest standing tower made of only marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti and building a catapult that would launch a marshmallow the farthest distance possible. Stillwater students participated in the Science Olympics on Thursday, April 21st. Stay tuned for how the sixth grade students performed!

Important Dates to Remember:

- ❖ **SPELLING BEE: 5/12**
- ❖ **SPRING CONCERT: 5/17 @ 7:00PM**
- ❖ **6th GRADE RECOGNITION CEREMONY-6/14 @ 7:00PM**
- ❖ **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL: 6/15**

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

CHECK IT OUT:

Encourage your child to write and tell stories through these fun Ipad Apps for children:

Kid's Journal by App of Approval, LLC is a great app to encourage kids to keep a diary and think about the day. With this app kids can easily record how they feel about the day: Happy/ Okay/ crazy, where there were: home/school/away; what was the weather like: sunny/cloudy/windy. Kid's Journal entries have the option to post a photo and include room for text to add more details about the day.

Tellagami is a free iPad App that elementary school students will enjoy using to create narrated animations. Students can use Tellagami to create narrated animations of their favorite scenes from books that they've read. Or have them use Tellagami to animate parts of stories that they have created from scratch.

Imagistory is a neat iPad App on which children can narrate picture books. The app provides children with wordless picture books. Children are free to record themselves telling a story about the pictures in the books. Children can record and re-record stories as often as they like.

PRESCHOOL NEWS: Preschool News: Once again, the preschool stars out did themselves in their production of "The Bunnies Are Not in Their Beds". The students performed to a packed audience who applauded their acting skills. Parents and teachers are very proud of the preschool actors and actresses for their hard work. The students have also enjoyed learning about ways to help the Earth through stories and songs. Earth Day was celebrated by making and eating a dirt cake with worms! Delicious! REMINDER: The Preschool Graduation ceremony and our ice cream social will take place on Friday, May 27th. The Preschool trip to the Land of Make Believe is June 9th with a rain date of June 10th. We are looking forward to a fun filled Spring!

SECOND GRADE NEWS: Second graders are studying economics. They have learned new vocabulary like goods and services, consumers and producers, and wants and needs. Some literature that the children enjoyed were A New Coat for Anna, How the Second Grade Got \$8,205.50 to Visit the Statue of Liberty, and Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type. It is important for the children to learn that it takes hard work to make the products that they use every day. So, they created flow charts to teach each other how ice cream is made, how paper is made, or how a t-shirt is made. The highlight of our economics unit was a very exciting trip to the Crayola Factory!

NEWS FROM THE NURSE: Spring is finally here and we are already seeing the usual pests that appear with the change of season. Of particular concern this year are mosquito bites. Though the Zika virus has not yet been shown to be transmitted by the mosquitoes in this area, it is prudent to take extra precautions in light of the seriousness of this virus. There are a few things that we can do as individuals to help prevent mosquito bites and the possible transmission of the Zika virus.

Clear the outside property of any container that may collect water and check for standing water frequently, especially after a rainfall. When going outside protect yourself and your family with an EPA registered mosquito repellent. If your vacation travel takes you to a country where Zika is being locally transmitted and you have Zika symptoms, you should consult your health care provider to obtain testing. Symptoms of the Zika virus include fever, a red rash with small bumps, joint pain, and conjunctivitis (inflammation of the eyes).

Pregnant women and all families that may become pregnant should stay abreast of any new information that is released pertaining to the Zika virus in our area and areas that you may visit. You can information on the CDC website or go to www.nj.gov/health/cd/zika/.

BOXTOPS UPDATE: Homeroom Contest Update

Here are the top three leading homerooms in the Boxtops Collection Contest:

Mrs. Ciccolella – 6th Grade
Mrs. Murphy – Kindergarten
Ms. Grau - Kindergarten

*The contest will run until June, so keep clipping and sending those Boxtops in, labeled with the teacher's name!

Elaine Makarevich – Boxtops Coordinator

FOURTH GRADE NEWS: In April, the 4th graders have started learning about fractions and decimals in Math! We can now convert fractions into decimals in order to compare them! We also learned about money and making change. In Language Arts, we are doing an "in school book report" on a character in a book that we were able to pick. We then have to take our character on vacation with us to any foreign country. This project will eventually turn into a suitcase that we are creating using construction paper. It has been a lot of fun to travel with our favorite character to a new place! In Science, we are learning about electricity and circuits. One experiment we did consisted of trying to create static electricity between a comb and a piece of felt in order to then make two pieces of tin foil repel each other. In Social Studies, we just finished our Immigration Project and Play, which was very interesting to learn. We are having a lot of fun in 4th grade!

Written by Peter Mazzola and Teagan Shea

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

KITTATINNY SOCCER CLUB: Competitive travel soccer program for boys and girls ages 7 – 12 years will be holding try 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!

KMFL YOUTH FOOTBALL/CHEERLEADING: REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!! Registration is online only at www.kittatinyfootball.com. NFL FLAG Football available to ages 5-8. Deadline to Register: June 1st. Football Questions: Kyle Nelson [973-271-2307](tel:973-271-2307). Cheer Questions: Tonya Fleszar: [973-534-6943](tel:973-534-6943) or tonyafitness@yahoo.com

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".*

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK: Teacher Appreciation week is next week- **May 2-6, 2015**. Homeroom Coordinators- if you have any questions or concerns regarding planning and coordinating during that week, please contact Justine Mahon at jmarymahon@gmail.com.

The PTA will be hosting its annual appreciation luncheon to honor our teachers and staff on **Wednesday, May 4th, 2015**. We are looking for parents to help with set-up, clean-up, and help during the luncheon. We are also in need of food donations (i.e; sandwiches, hot dishes, salads, drinks, desserts, etc.). If you are able to help, please contact Meredith Reilly at mreilly32@yahoo.com.

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.
- 4. 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: 5/4- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, 5/24-5/26- Spring BOGO Book Fair