February 13, 2015

YEARBOOK SALE!

Yearbook sale will run from January 26th - February 27th. **ADVANCE ORDERS ONLY!**

You will not have the opportunity to purchase a yearbook after February 27th. The cost is \$17.00 per yearbook.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Important Dates to Remember:

* ASLC DATES: 2/24, 2/26, 3/3, 3/5, 3/10, 3/12, 3/24, 3/26

IMPORTANT REMINDER: ALL VISITORS TO STILLWATER

SCHOOL MUST SIGN IN AT THE MAIN OFFICE UPON ARRIVAL AND SIGN OUT WHEN LEAVING.

- **♦ NEWSPAPER CLUB DATES: 2/17, 2/24, 3/3**
- ♦ BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING: 2/23 @ 7:00PM
- SCHOOL WILL BE IN SESSION, 2/17

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ABSENTEE CALLS: All absences must be reported directly to our dedicated attendance line: 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 Whenever possible, ALL children should be strongly encouraged to take the bus in order to ensure that they are on 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. Matt Robinson or Mrs. Sue

FITNESS FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS EVENT!

When?: Friday, February 13th, During the student's lunch periods, speakers from the American Red Cross will talk to the students about how their support will make a difference.

Tuesday, February 17th - Friday, February 20th, the students may bring in a donation to the American Red Cross. Please have your child put the donation in the attached envelope and return to one of the Health and P.E. teachers.

Friday, February 20th, The Fitness for the American Red Cross Event will take place during periods 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9.

Where?: Gym - A variety of fun fitness stations will be set up for the students to do during their gym period. Example of some stations include: Sit-ups, shuttle run, jump rope activities, fun with the Dyna bands + more.

Why?: To have fun while getting exercise and also to benefit the American Red Cross.

*Parent help would be greatly appreciated!! If interested, please contact Mr. Reed, Mrs. Hayes, or Ms. Radimer ASAP.

*(No younger siblings, please)

We are looking forward to a great event! Thanks in advance for your help and cooperation!

ATTENTION 6TH GRADE PARENTS: Please begin gathering candid pictures from over the years of our children - perhaps from a class party, sports activity, playdates, etc. The pictures will be pasted to a collage. We are asking that you please send in a copy and retain your original. All pictures should be forwarded to the school, Attn: Melissa Piazza. Thank you. **ATTENTION PARENTS: In an effort to make up** one of the 6 snow days used, school will be in session on Tuesday, February 17th

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The PARCC Assessment is administered in two parts - the Performance-Based Assessment (PBA) which is held in March and the End-of-Year Assessment (EOY) which is held in late April until mid-May. Below, please find the schedule for your child's grade level for the PBA portion:

Grade 3	March 2-3 Math; March 4-6 ELA
Grade 4	March 5-6 Math; March 9-11 ELA
Grade 5	March 12-13 Math; March 16-18 ELA
Grade 6	March 19-20 Math; March 23-25 ELA
Makeups	March 26-27, and held in afternoons as needed.

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 do their best to help relieve any test anxiety he or she may have.
- Please keep electronic devices at home.

Our students have worked hard all year to prepare for PARCC. We have confidence that our students will perform well and do their very best on this test. Thank you for your help and support!

ST. JUDE'S MATH-A-THON: Math-a-thon books were sent home this week. Please check your child's back pack for them. We are asking that all contribution envelopes be returned by Friday, February 27, 2015 so we can order the prizes. Thanks for all your Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Knapp help and support!

Today, Friday, February 13th, the teachers and staff of Stillwater Elementary wore jeans to donate to the Philanthropic Fund, which provides scholarships to Stillwater graduates. Also, we collected a donation and wore red along with jeans last Friday, February 6th, for the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women Day. Thank you to all who participated!

MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILY MATH: Session five is now behind us, with just one more to go! Opening activities kept our families busy rolling dice, spinning spinners, calculating numerical values of words, and playing number games. We had great fun "gambling" with equivalent fraction pieces during the "Judy's Fractions" activity, and derived several linear equations when we examined points and lines on the coordinate plane. For the first time, we had two winners of the estimation jar full of pretzels; they were David Michelman and Mrs. Michelman! We look forward to one more night of fun with our 5th and 6th grade families!

STUDENT COUNCIL: Student Council has joined "Coupons for the Community" to help provide non-edible essentials (like toiletries and hygiene products) AND to celebrate the upcoming 100th day of school! A flyer went home with the students last week with the details of this exciting event. It also listed the item we are asking each grade level to donate. The donated items should cost \$1 (100 cents!) or less. On the 100th day of school (currently Feb. 19th) there will be an assembly on 2/26 to celebrate, and each class will present their 100 donated items. We hope everyone will participate in this very worthy cause. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

4th GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS: We have just completed a historical nonfiction unit. Students read a group of stories and learned to focus on important details and skills. Many students found this genre difficult to read, but interesting! Last week we started literature circle groups. Some students are reading <u>Class Clown</u> and others are reading <u>Chalkbox Kid.</u> Students are working independently, in small groups, or with partners. They are working at their own pace to complete the activities that are assigned to improve comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills. The theme of the next literature circle unit will be animals and will feature four fantastic books!

2ND MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

FIFTH GRADE: Collin Amabile, Summer Andrejack, Abigail Ankrom, Shannon Blide, Ryan Connelly, Steven Dalling, Justin Degan, Ashley Geydoshek, Arin Goriscak, Megan Halpin, Abigail LoCascio, Aylia Mahon, Trent Molfetto, Charlie Throne, Ryan Throne, Isabel Vazquez

SIXTH GRADE: Jessica Contino, Patrick Franco, Anna Fronczkowski, Kyle Ganning, Amanda Goriscak, Connor Hanna, Leiha Jaretsky, Jacob Jones, Jake Kramer, Zackarie Mabee, Jordan Maruska, Ava Nothstine, Kayla Saraiva, Antonio Sarullo, Jeremy Schear, Cooper Waldo

<u>SAVE THE DATE</u> The next 6th grade activity night will be Friday, Feb. 27th from 7:00-9:00 pm. Students will be coming home with permission slips. Please return the permission slip and money (\$3.00) as soon as possible to one of the P.E. teachers. Thank you.

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

FUNDRAISERS

MARKET DAY: Thank you for ordering last month! February's flyers have been handed out. NEW THIS MONTH: Tuscan Cod, Cookies & Cream Pie Cups, and Special K Strawberry Pastry Crisps. There are two specials this month for those who put their order in online: 1) FREE \$20 to Spend with Shutterfly. You will receive a unique promo code via email after the sale closes. 2) FREE Cheese Ravioli with your \$90 (pre-tax) online purchase. Please remember to input the promocode FEBBONUS when you place your order to receive the free ravioli. FREEQUENT BUYER: Make two purchases of \$40 (pre-tax) between February and April. Then place a third order of \$40 (pre-tax) in May to receive a FREE Set of Collapsible Storage Bowls at the May sale pick-up. All paper orders are due by Monday, February 16th, and all online orders must be input by 11 PM ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH. Please make note of the new order cutoff date (Tuesdays, no longer Wednesdays). Sale pick-up date is Tuesday, February 24th at 3 pm. Questions, contact Cheryl Castner, ccastner@embarqmail.com or 973-579-3182.

GTH GRADE CLASS FUNDRAISER: The Stillwater School's 6th Grade Class of 2015 Recognition Committee will be hosting a 3-Day Long **Pizza & Coffee** Fundraiser on Monday, February 16th, Tuesday, February 17th, and Wednesday, February 18th sponsored by **The Stillwater General Store.** Place your Pizza order by calling: 973-383-5650. Please mention the Stillwater 6th grade class when ordering! **The Stillwater General Store will generously donate:** \$1.00 for every pizza sold, and \$1.00 for every pound of KARS Premium Ground Coffee purchase! Please come out and support our 6th Grade class!!*not a school sponsored event*

COMMUNITY EVENTS

KITTATINNY COUGAR ATHLETIC ASSOC

BEEFSTEAK DINNER: April 18, 2015, \$40 per ticket, Fredon Rec Center. Event begins at 7:00pm. Catering will be by the Brownstone, music by Snake Oil Willie Band. Call 973.579.6424 for tickets - no tickets at door.

ZUMBA PARTY: Come out to get some exercise and help fund our 6th Grade Recognition Party at the same time! Please join us on Friday, 2/27/15 (snow date 3-13-15) for a Zumba party in the All Purpose Room from 7-8pm. The suggested donation is \$10.00.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

LACROSSE SIGN UP: 3rd-6th graders, registration for the Kittatinny Youth Lacrosse Club spring lacrosse season is now open. Act quickly as teams will fill up. A parents meeting will be held in early February with detailed information. Keep an eye out for date and time. Please visit our website, http://www.kittatinnylax.com/ for registration forms and information. Questions may be emailed to the respective boys and girls programs. Come play the fastest growing sport in America. If you have any questions, please contact Hilary Manser at 973-534-1922.

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 onsite 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 21, 2015 from 10:00 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. You do not have to be a Stillwater resident to take advantage of this great resource.

STILLWATER RECREATION LEAGUE: Attention parents! We are looking for dedicated and responsible people to fill key roles to help keep this league running. The league consists of about 200 kids total between soccer, softball, basketball. Only with your help can we keep these activities running for our children. If you may be interested, feel free to come to our next meeting. We meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 7 pm in room A119 at the school. Or you can contact us by email. Jessica Pappa - jesspappa@ yahoo.com, Tami Batwinas - nybblett3@embarqmail.com. Hope to see you there!

PROJECT ALERT RESCHEDULED: Join us at Stillwater School Monday, February 25th 7:00pm - 8:30pm in the Science room (A119) for an interactive and interesting evening! Substance abuse experts present the hard facts about drug use signs, symptoms, and trends in and around Sussex County and the slick marketing techniques that target kids. Light refreshments will be served. Not a school sponsored event. If you have any questions please call Dawn @ 973-383-9484.

STILLWATER PTA

VALENTINE'S DAY SALE: This year's Valentine's Day Sale will be held on Thursday, February 12th and Friday, February 13th during all lunch periods in the cafeteria. We will be selling lollipops for \$1.00 and Valentine Smencils for \$2.00. If your child would like to purchase something, please send money in with them on either of these dates. Checks can be made payable to Stillwater PTA. Any questions, please contact Kristin Oldenburg at stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com.

SPRING GERTRUDE HAWK SALE: The Spring Gertrude Hawk Sale will begin on Monday, February 9th and end on Friday, February 20th. Candy pick-up is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 16th after school. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Domaracki at dahlhousedesign@mac.com.

THE BOOK IT PROGRAM: It is time to turn in your January Book It! logs. Please make sure you have a name and homeroom teacher on them so that you can receive your pizza coupon! When you redeem your coupon at Pizza Hut, ask for your Passport to Reading and sticker. Collect all six stickers and enter to win a \$30,000 prize from Book It!. If you need a log, extras are available in the office or send me your name and homeroom teacher at christinemenkins@aol.com.

TRICKY TRAY: Mark your calendars! The Tricky Tray will be held on <u>Friday, May 1st, 2015</u>. Stay tuned for the next meeting date. Lots of help is needed to make this a successful event. Any questions, please contact Christy Bello at <u>christinebello1980@gmail.com</u> or Karyn Carter at <u>karyn1213@gmail.com</u>.

TALENT SHOW: Attention Parents: We need your help! In order to host a Talent Show this Spring, we need 10 parents who would be willing to volunteer their time in the following areas; advertising, assistance at rehearsals (approx. 5 total), stage hands night of event, etc. We hope to have this event sometime in May, so we will need to know ASAP how many volunteers we have in order to start preparing. The students are really looking forward to this, please consider lending a hand! For more info, please contact Justine Mahon at <u>imarymahon@gmail.com</u>.

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! If you are interested in purchasing these items or if you have questions, please contact Amanda Connelly at aeconnelly@outlook.com.

<u>UPCOMING EVENTS:</u> Spring Gertrude Hawk Sale – 2/9 through 2/20, Valentine's Sale- 2/12 & 2/13**Keep up with what's happening with the PTA and the Tricky Tray! LIKE each page on Facebook! Stillwater Twp. PTA & Stillwater PTA Tricky Tray****PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME PTA MEETINGS IN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR WILL BE CHANGED. PLEASE CHECK THIS NEWSLETTER OR OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE NEW DATES.