



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

Important Dates to Remember:

- ❖ ASLC DATES: 3/24, 3/26, 4/14, 4/16, 4/21, 4/23, 4/28
- ❖ BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING: 3/23 @ 7:00PM
- ❖ SPRING PORTRAITS: 4/22
- ❖ PTA FLOWER SALE: 5/7 & 5/8
- ❖ SPELLING BEE: 5/20
- ❖ FIELD DAY: 5/29 (RAIN DATE 6/8)

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 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. Matt Robinson or Mrs. Sue Sager.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION: If your child will be 3 or 4 years old on or before October 1, 2015, you may register him/her for preschool for the 2015/2016 school year. Please call Mrs. Eileen Theys at 973-383-3998 to have a registration packet mailed to you, or you may pick one up at the school office. To guarantee enrollment for your child, the completed registration packet must be returned to Stillwater Township School as soon as possible as there are a limited number of spaces available.

SPRING PORTRAITS: Spring Portraits will be done by Schoolcraft, and held in school on Wednesday morning, April 22nd, beginning at 8:45. The photographer will return for any PM Preschool students who will be having their pictures taken. Order forms will be sent home with students when we return from spring recess in April. 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.

2ND GRADE LITERACY CONNECTIONS: Numerous second grade students and their parents participated in a 6 week long program enjoying literature together. The students read various genera's of literature and focused on the important features of literature. Each night students completed engaging follow-up projects that they were able to bring home to share with their family members. All of the families had fun writing and illustrating their own book.

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 9-11 ELA |
| Grade 5 | March 12-13 Math; March 16-18 ELA |
| Grade 6 | March 19-20 Math; March 23-25 ELA |
| Grade 4 | March 26-27 (rescheduled due to snow) |

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!

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: Each year, the Hanna family comes into school to teach their child's class about Ireland. The Hannas have relatives in Ireland and have made trips to the land. This year was Mrs. Estock's class's turn because Connor Hanna is in this homeroom. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna came in March 17 at 2:00pm to share the experience of Ireland and serve soda bread to the class. It is so nice to have community members willing to share their knowledge and time. Thank you.

FIFTH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS NEWS: Are you feeling under the weather? Did you recently have to bite your tongue while arguing with a sibling? Surely these questions aren't meant to be taken literally. These are examples of idioms. An idiom is a phrase or expression whose meaning cannot be understood from the ordinary meaning of the words. Come check out the 5th grade hallway to read more idioms written and illustrated by our fabulous fifth graders. We were all in the same boat, and we all had to complete this fun activity together!

SECOND GRADE NEWS: The Second Grade students are wrapping up their dinosaur study this week. The classes have been working hard on researching dinosaurs, the different dinosaur periods, and the theories behind why they became extinct. Students wrote reports, sculpted and painted their own dinosaurs, pretended to be paleontologists, and even studied some Greek words to come up with their own dinosaur name and meaning! What a fun few weeks it's been!



ART IN THE NEWS:

'Birch Trees' by Ashley Geydoshek, Grade 5 Landscape Design, light/shadow, watercolor technique, Space & Value stand out in Ashley's beautiful Birch Tree painting.

FUNDRAISERS

MARKET DAY: Thank you to all those who placed orders this month. Order pickup is Tuesday, March 24th at 3 p.m. Questions, contact Cheryl Castner at ccastner@embarqmail.com or 973-579-3182

COMMUNITY EVENTS

CLOTHING DRIVE: Synergy Dance Company will be accepting clothing, household items, shoes, linens, handbags – in any condition on Saturday, April 25th from 10:00am – 1:00 pm at 1 Camre Drive Hampton, NJ.

HOPE FOR THE CURE GAME: 1st Annual Kittatinny Girls Lacrosse - Hope for the Cure Game. Saturday, April 4, 2015. As a Girl Scout Silver Award Project, Girl Scout Troop 70838 has taken on the goal of establishing this lacrosse game and we need your support. Please consider ordering a t-shirt for \$13 or donating money to help defray the cost of this game. Concessions items are needed as well as volunteers. Proceeds to benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Games will be played at KRHS - 1:30 Varsity/3:00 JV. Call Hilary Manser at 973-534-1922 for more details.

COMEDY NIGHT: Stillwater Fire Department is hosting a comedy night on May 16 doors open @5:30, dinner @6pm. \$45 per person includes roasted chicken & pulled pork dinner, and 3 comedians. Contact Bill Hughes at 908-362-5073 or hugheswt@embarqmail.com 21 & over.

THANK YOU MOM: Join TYM (Thank You Mom foundation) on Sunday, April 12th starting at 12:00pm for the 5th annual Debbie Ann 5K. Register online at: www.thankyoumomfoundation.org.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Stillwater Fire Department will be hosting an Easter egg hunt will be March 28 @ 12pm at Volunteer Field, Middleville rd., Stillwater.

PIZZA FUNDRAISER: Stillwater General Store – Sunday, March 29 – Friday, April 3, \$1.00 from every pizza sold and \$1.00 from every pound of KARS premium coffee blend sold will benefit the 6th grade class!

STILLWATER PTA

SPRING GERTRUDE HAWK SALE: The Gertrude Hawk Candy orders arrived on **Wednesday, March 18th**. The event coordinator will be available to assist you that day from **3:15pm – 4:00pm**. After this time, please pick up your order after school has closed at your convenience. Orders will be in the downstairs hallway, please use the back door only. Signs will be posted. Please contact Jennifer Domaracki if you have any questions dahlhousedesign@mac.com.

THE BOOK IT PROGRAM: It is time to turn in your February 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 **Friday, May 1st, 2015**. Doors open at 6:00pm. Lots of help is needed to make this a successful event. Any questions, please contact Christy Bello at christinebello1980@gmail.com or Karyn Carter at karyn1213@gmail.com.

***Class Trays:** Class donations were due last Friday. If you haven't sent in your class money, please do so ASAP. We want to distribute the class funds to each class coordinator so they can make the class trays. The suggested donation is \$5 but feel free to give what you prefer. Please send donations in an envelope marked with your child's name, grade, and homeroom teacher ASAP. Contact Karyn Carter- karyn1213@gmail.com with any questions.

***Family Trays:** Please consider donating a family tray. The first collection for family trays will be **Tuesday, March 24 from 2:45 - 3:30** in the school parking lot at the flagpole. Each family to donate a tray will receive a free sheet of tickets the night of the event.

***Pre-Sale Tickets/Table Reservations:** Pre-sale ticket packages are now available- \$25 includes: 5 sheets Level 1 tickets, 1 sheet Level 2 tickets, 2 Level 3 tickets - **An \$8 savings!** New this year! We are happy to offer reserved table seating for your group. Tables must be reserved in groups of 4 or 8. Reservations are limited and will be taken on a first come, first serve basis. Full payment is required in order to book reservation. Groups of 4 will be combined to make tables of 8. We cannot guarantee your group will be together unless the reservation is made at the same time. Table reservations must accompany the purchase of a Ticket Value Pack. Please send reservation form and payments together in one envelope to: the PTA mailbox at school labeled: PTA-Tricky Tray Table Reservations and 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*. For questions or more information, please contact Jen Kraft at stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com.

TALENT SHOW: We are excited to announce that the Talent Show is **ON!** Mark your calendars- it will be held on **Friday, May 29th, 2015**. Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered. We could still use a few more parents to help with building a temporary stage. For more info, please contact Justine Mahon at jmarymahon@gmail.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! If you are interested in purchasing these items or if you have questions, please contact Amanda Connelly at aconnelly@outlook.com.

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 go directly to the 6th grade trip to Washington, DC!** 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. **ShopRite stores are also giving away up to \$1 Million to local schools during the 2014-15 school year!** Register your Price Plus Club card at www.ShopRiteForMySchool.com today to start earning cash for your school. 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.

****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****
Exciting News- We now have a website! Check us out at www.stillwatertwpta.my-pta.org. Thank you to Christine Bello for making this happen and coordinating the website for us!

UPCOMING EVENTS: Cultural Arts trip (4/9), Tricky Tray (5/1), Talent Show (5/29)

****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.**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

OPTICAL ACADEMY: Andover REA will be hosting a Vision Care night with Optical Academy on March 25th from 4pm - 8:00 in the Long Pond School cafeteria. The school is located at 707 Limecrest Road in Andover Township and the entire community and general public are invited to attend. It is preferable to arrange and eye exam appointment via their website www.Optical-Academy.com in advance.

SPRING YOUTH RUNNING PROGRAM: Hit the spring running with The Bears Youth Running Program. Open to grades four through eight, this fun-filled program instills the many physical and mental benefits of the sport of running in our area kids. Children are grouped by ability, and the program includes group runs, relays, races and guest speakers. Cost is \$20 per child for the season. We will meet on Fridays from 4 to 5 pm at the Lodestar Park pavilion in Fredon. Practice will start on Friday, March 20th and run until late May. If you would like a registration form or wish to hold a spot for your child, please call/text Coach Laurie Gordon at 973-271-6624. Space is limited.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Easter Egg Hunt at Kittatinny Regional High School! This year's Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 28 from 10:00am - 12:00pm in the high school cafeteria. The pre-K and Kindergarten hunt will be at 10:30am and the 1st grade and up hunt will be at 11:30am. We will also have face painting, coloring, a prize giveaway, refreshments, and a special appearance by the Easter Bunny! If you have any questions, please call Dan Craig at 973-383-1800, ext. 6723. Hope to see you there!

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.

SPRING DANCE: **PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE** Attention all 4th-6th graders from Fredon, Hampton, Sandyston, and Stillwater. There will be a Spring dance Friday, March 27th at Fredon School from 6pm-8pm, hosted by the Fredon 6th grade class. \$10.00 at the door. Contact Sharon Zupkay at 973 383 9684 or Lisa Toriello 973 579 6955 with any questions.