

March 9, 2018



Important Dates to Remember:

- ◆ YEARBOOK SALE ENDS: 3/9
- ◆ SPRING AHEAD: 3/11
- ◆ EARLY DISMISSAL: 3/12

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ABSENTEE CALLS: All absences must be reported directly to our dedicated attendance line **by 9:30am - 973-383-3227**. Kindly keep in mind, this number is for **Absentee Calls ONLY**. If you need to speak directly to the nurse Maureen Beckman or leave a message for her, she can be reached at 973-383-6171 ext. 216. 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 Mrs. Roberts or Mrs. Roycroft.

THIRD GRADE NEWS: In third grade we started opinion writing! We walked around the school and put on our persuasive writer glasses. Students even tried to persuade the administration to get magazines back in the library! For Love of Reading Week, the third grade teachers read "Oh, The Places You'll Go!" to their classes. Students then researched which country or state they would love to travel to. They researched the location, weather, activities, etc. They created their own piece of luggage explaining where they are going, why they are going, and what they are going to bring. Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

FOURTH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS NEWS: This spring the fourth graders have been working hard on writing personal narratives. The students have been reflecting on lessons they've learned while developing their writing through the addition of figurative language, descriptive details and meaningful dialogue. These great writers all have fantastic stories to tell!

FIFTH GRADE NEWS: 5th grade Language Arts students have started reading a fantastic novel, Maniac Magee, by Jerry Spinelli. The students are enjoying reading and following along with the life of Jeffery (Maniac) Magee in class. This novel touches on important themes like family, racism and courage. The final project for students will be to write a humorous graphic novel on a particular part of Maniac Magee that accurately captures the emotions of all of the characters.

SIXTH GRADE NEWS: 6th Graders are studying Ancient India in history classes. Students are learning about different social classes and how they worked. If a person was born into a lower social class, they were unable to move up for their entire lives. Whatever social class they were born into, they would remain. This means, no matter how smart, or how hard they worked throughout their lives, they were unable to make a better life for themselves. Students have been able to draw parallels to our lives here in American and many discussions have been had about whether or not this type of life was fair. In the next few weeks, we will be visited by Mrs. Begraft. She was born in India, and has many fond memories, information on her culture, and what the kids will love the most, Indian food to try! 6th grade Social studies is a fun place to be!

CHARACTER MATTERS CLUB: The Character Matters Club has been meeting for the past month. The students have enjoyed participating in many activities including singing, dancing and memorizing lines. Due to the snow days we will be extending the club by two weeks. The club will now run through Wednesday, March 14th. ~ **Maureen Riva & Ruth Najemain**



**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
For 2018-2019 School Year**

If your child will be 5 years old on or before October 1, 2018, you may register him/her for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year. Registration packets are available in the school office. You may call Mrs. Lisa Roycroft (973-383-6171) or email her at lisa.roycroft@stillwaterschool.net to have a registration packet mailed to you, or you may pick one up at the school office **between the hours of 9:30am – 2:00pm**. Complete instructions and important dates are included in the packet.

REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION:

- Birth Certificate (original – with raised seal)
- Up to date immunization history – please contact school nurse, Maureen Beckman, with questions at 973-383-6171 ext. 216 or maureen.beckman@stillwaterschool.net
- Physical examination form completed by your child's physician
- Proof of Residency (2) – preferred items are:
 - Copy of deed/mortgage or lease agreement
 - Stillwater residence tax bill
 - Utility bill for Stillwater residence
 - Copy of NJ driver's license with Stillwater address (not a PO Box)

Kindergarten pre-screening dates are planned for **Tuesday & Wednesday, April 10-11, 2018**. An appointment will be scheduled for your child when you return your registration papers.

Registration packets can be returned the week of **January 16, 2018**

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ridge and Valley Conservancy will be offering Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs, a free youth fishing program, at White Lake from April 10-August 30 2018, Tues and Thurs, 3-5:30 pm. Program is for middle school children ages 12-15 (those graduating 6th grade in June 2018 are eligible). Open house informational session on 3/3 at White Lake from 3-5 pm. Sign ups on 3/13 at RVC, 16 Main Street, Blainstown. More info, please call 908-362-7989 or email susi@ridgeandvalleyconservancy.org

Stillwater PTA

Like us on Facebook- Stillwater Twp PTA. You can also visit our websites! www.pt-avenue.com (Code: Stillwater) Keep up to date with our calendar of events, announcements, and sign up to volunteer! You can also visit www.stillwatertwppta.my-pta.org.

CULTURAL ARTS TRIP: The PTA will be hosting a Cultural Arts Trip to see "Anastasia," a Broadway musical, on Sunday, April 15th. The Lakeland bus will leave Stillwater School promptly at 11:00AM and returns at approximately 7:30PM. The show begins at 3:00PM, so there will be time for lunch or sightseeing before the performance. Tickets are \$60 each, which includes 1 mezzanine ticket and transportation. This show is not recommended for children under the age of 7 years old. Tickets are non-refundable. A limited amount of tickets are available and will be sold on a first come first serve basis. Please return the form that was sent home along with payment to the school, c/o Kathy Pevarnik (checks made payable to Stillwater PTA) ASAP. For questions, please contact Kathy at Kathy.pevarnik@stillwaterschool.net

TALENT SHOW: The Talent Show will be held on Thursday, April 26th from 7:00-8:30PM in the gym. Calling all participants! Parent acts are also welcomed. Sign-ups will take place on Monday, March 26th from 5:00-6:00PM in the gym. Practice dates are as follows: April 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 25th from 5:00-6:00PM. Parent volunteers are needed to make this event a success. If you are able to help, please contact Justine Mahon ASAP at jmahon@gmail.com or (908) 625-1710. A canned food drive will also take place during this event.

TRICKY TRAY: Save the date! The Stillwater PTA Tricky Tray will be held on Friday May 18, 2018. Doors open at 6:00PM. This is the PTA's largest fundraiser and is not possible without many hands on deck. We need your help to make this our most successful event ever! Please contact the chairpersons Christine Bello stillwatertwppta@gmail.com or Karyn Carter karyn1213@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you in advance!

PRE-SALE TICKETS & TABLE RESERVATIONS: Now on sale through May 11, 2018! Tricky Tray Ticket Packages are \$40.00 each (\$15 savings). Table Reservations are \$45.00 per person and include 1 ticket package. These will be taken on a first come, first serve basis. Please return your reservation form along with full payment (checks made payable to Stillwater PTA) to the school labeled, Stillwater PTA-2018 Tricky Tray c/o Jen Kraft (PO Box 12, Stillwater, NJ 07875) **NO LATER THAN MAY 11, 2018**. For questions, please contact Jen Kraft at stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com or 973-229-2990.

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. **Please remember we are now digital and all flyers will be attached to the weekly newsletters.** Flyers must be first approved by the PTA and administration by emailing them to Jen Kraft at stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com and Cali Roberts at Cali.roberts@stillwaterschool.net. Also, if you would like something submitted in the weekly newsletter regarding your event, please email your submission to Aneesha Begraft at stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com no later than Wednesday for it to be published that same Friday.

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**. Schools with just 40 supporters are earning an average of \$1000 per year. The top earning grade level at the end of the school year will win extra recess time and a special treat. Thank you for your continued support.

2. Keep cutting your Box Tops and Labels for Education! Be sure to include your child's homeroom teacher when submitting. Please note by downloading the app you can now simply select the items you plan on purchasing or have already purchased and scan your receipt for validation. Your account is linked to Stillwater school when you sign up! Visit the link at: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/bonusapp>

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS: CULTURAL ARTS TRIP APRIL 15, 2018, SPRING BOGO BOOK FAIR-APRIL 24-26, 2018, TALENT SHOW-APRIL 26, 2018, TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON MAY 9, 2018, MOTHERS DAY FLOWER SALE MAY 10 & 11, 2018, TRICKY TRAY MAY 18, 2018

NEXT PTA MEETING: (Elections) Thursday, May 3, 2018 from 7:00-8:00PM in room A119. We welcome and encourage all to attend!