

## POSITIVE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

Read by Andrew Van Hook

*"A man can succeed at almost anything for which he has unlimited enthusiasm" Charles M. Schwab*

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

2/18 & 2/19 (Mon. & Tue.) – Winter Recess – School Closed

**ABSENTEE CALLS:** Please call the attendance line **383-3227** when calling your child out of school. Do not use the personal voice mail of our nurse, Maureen Beckman. The nurse's voice mail should be used for health concerns other than attendance.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

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

**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).** Thank-you for your cooperation!

**BUS NOTE GUIDELINES:** In an effort to provide a safe and sound dismissal for your child(ren), and to avoid end of the day confusion, we are asking you to abide by the following guidelines when changing your child's dismissal arrangements.

**Please send your bus notes to school in the morning with your child.** This will help to eliminate the number of students who need to make a phone call from the office to home. It is important to note that time spent in the office is time he/she is losing in the classroom.

We understand there are occasional situations that require a last minute change in plans. If you discover during the day that you will need to pick your child up at the end of the day, (or need him/her to go home with another student) please call the office to let us know as early possible during the day, so we can follow the steps to assure that the student and teacher receive the information. Please try not to wait until dismissal time to give us this information, unless it's an emergency situation.

Important things to help us in the office to efficiently handle all bus notes:

- ❖ Please **PRINT** your child's name and all other information **clearly** on the bus note.
- ❖ **Always** include your **child's bus number** on the form.
- ❖ If you are requesting that your child go home on another bus with another student, you **must** include the route number of the bus you would like your child to ride on, as well as clearly writing the name of the student he/she will be riding with. You will receive a call from the office if we cannot accommodate your request.

Thank you for your cooperation. Keeping our teachers and office staff well informed will ensure a smooth end of the day process. If you have any questions, feel free to call Dan Cullen at 973-383-6171.

### GUIDELINES FOR DROPPING OFF STUDENTS:

1. Enter driveway near the church, which is a one-way entrance from 8:15am – 8:45am.
2. Please stay in line. Do not pass other vehicles or buses.
3. Drop off students at the curb only and please try to get them out of your vehicle promptly.
4. You may pass a bus parked in the lot during our dismissal, however, we ask that you exercise extreme caution.
5. Should you need to come into the school with your child, please use a parking space to the right when you enter the driveway and escort your child into the school.
6. Visitors must report to the main office prior to going anywhere in the building. This procedure was developed with the safety of your children our only priority.



### SCHOOL COUNSELING CORNER:

This week we enjoyed talking about "connecting our interests to our future careers." It's never too early to talk to kids about their interests and talents and how they can use them in the future.

Ruth Najemian - 973-383-3998

**SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY:** We have established recent procedures to ensure the maximum safety and security of the Stillwater Township School. As of February 1, we are locking the front doors of the school at 3:15pm and are requesting all parents, guardians, or community members using our facility to please enter and exit the school through the back doors located in the hallway by the elevator. All other entrance ways in and out of the school will be locked and secured in an effort to maximize our school safety and security efforts. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation to make the Stillwater Township School a tremendous place to learn and grow.

*Respectfully, Daniel Cullen*

### CONGRATULATIONS 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### Honor Roll Students!

**FIFTH GRADE:** Craig Bickhardt, Joshua Bizik, Danielle Choma, Vaughn Corpus, Rachel Durso, Connor Fritsch, Hunter Humenik, Geneva Loff, Andrew Makarevich, Grace Maruska, Jake Riva, Erin Ross, Carson Throne, Nicole Vassallo

**SIXTH GRADE:** Matthew Cleaver, Julia Geydoshek, Alexandria Gray, Gabriel Grodsky, Nicole Hoelderlin, Gretchen Mayer, Michael Nelson, Ashley Pavlick, Michael Petruzzo, Jillian Rogers, Leah Slobodzian, Julianna Vazquez, Cleary Waldo

**MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILY MATH:** Our group met for their fourth session Tuesday evening, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>. The fun began with our families trying each of the five opening activities. Many of these were "addicting" number games, some allowed us to use calculators, and others gave us practice with fair vs. unfair spinners. In "How Long is a Name?" we used our family's names to calculate the mean, median, mode, and range of our data. In "Raindrops" the idea of probability was introduced, leading to some interesting predictions and discoveries. Ryan Rigby, a Stillwater graduate who attended the session with sister Carly, was the grand prize winner of the contents of the estimation jar (Jolly Ranchers)! Many thanks, as always, to the families for providing tasty snacks each week!

**TREPS:** On Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 35 sixth graders started their journey on becoming entrepreneurs. Students learned the differences between goods and services. Students are now deciding on what goods or services they want to create or perform for the Marketplace. The students enjoyed a group activity in which they were to create a new candy bar and perform a commercial for that bar. A lot of fun was had watching the students perform their commercials. The students learned to work with other students to compromise and be an active participant in the activity.

During a six week period, the students will research and develop the goods or services they will sell or promote at the TREP\$ Marketplace. This year's Marketplace will be on **Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Stillwater School Gym from 6:30 to 8:00.** The event is free and open to the public. The entire community is invited to come and see what happens when you give children the creative outlet and responsibility that comes with starting a business venture. Your presence will make it even more special for these very talented sixth graders. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR BUS NOTES!

*Thank you, Mrs. Bickhardt*

**STUDENT COUNCIL:** Our Pennies for Patients drive will continue until the end of February. Look under couch cushions, check behind the furniture, and peek into car cup holders! All of the money collected will go directly to the Lukemia and Lymphoma Society, which uses money to research and help families with children battling cancer. The top two collecting classes will receive an ice cream or pizza party! Please help the Student Council with this very important event!

**5<sup>th</sup> GRADE MATH: Pizza, Pizza, Pizza.** If you were Super hungry, would you rather eat 4/5, 2/3, 1/2 or 5/6 of a pizza? Your 5<sup>th</sup> grade math student is now beginning the world of fractions! This is one of the three main critical areas of math as defined by the Common Core State Standards. We will now also be learning how to divide and multiply fractions, which was previously taught in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. As to how much pizza I'd like to eat, please give me 8/8.....a WHOLE pizza!!!

## THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

### SPORTS

**ATTENTION ALL SOCCER PLAYERS!:** There will be a 2013 SPRING season for our rec. program. Extra registration forms can be found in the main office or on our website [www.stillwater-rec.org](http://www.stillwater-rec.org). Training will be on Tuesday nights provided by Pure Soccer Academy. Registration deadline is 2/22.

**SOFTBALL:** Stillwater Rec. softball registrations are being accepted until SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17. All girls Pre-K (5 years by 3/1) thru 9<sup>TH</sup> grade are welcome. PLEASE ALSO HELP GET THE WORD OUT TO ALL 7<sup>TH</sup> – 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS AT KITTATINNY! Contact Wendy Fabian with any questions at [weefabian@hotmail.com](mailto:weefabian@hotmail.com) or 973-300-4705. The softball program is looking for a new Program Coordinator.

### FUNDRAISERS

**MARKET DAY:** Thank you for continuing to support this fundraiser AND Harmony Hill UMC. February's order forms have been sent home. NEW ITEMS THIS MONTH: Sweet Potato Encrusted Pollack, Seasoned Wedge Fries, and Fudge Covered Cheesecake Pops. All \$40 orders (pre-tax/pre-discounts) will receive a FREE package of Five Cheese Garlic Toast. Online orders totaling \$90 (pre-tax/pre-discounts) will receive a FREE package of Cheese Ravioli. To receive the free raviolis, please remember to input FEBBONUS at checkout when you place your order. FREQUENT BUYERS: Make two purchases of \$40 (pre-tax/pre-discounts) between February and April. Then place a third order of \$40 (pre-tax/pre-discounts) in May to receive your FREE

EcoBags (3-pack) at your May sale pick-up. Questions, contact Cheryl Castner, 973-579-3182 or [ccastner@embarqmail.com](mailto:ccastner@embarqmail.com).

**SIXTH GRADE RECOGNITION PARTY FLAPJACK FUNDRAISER** at Applebee's Saturday March 2, 8am - 10am. - \$10/ticket includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, and a beverage. All proceeds will go towards the Sixth Grade Recognition Party Please contact Melissa Nelson to purchase or sell tickets. [melissa@tellurian.net](mailto:melissa@tellurian.net) or 973-903-6940.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

**KITTATINNY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL** is interested in community members' ideas on the future of public education. If you are interested in attending the meeting to develop a Strategic Plan on February 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm in the KRHS Auditorium, please RSVP to Mr. Ryan MacNaughton at [macnaug@krhs.net](mailto:macnaug@krhs.net) or 973-383-1800 ext. 1430. If you cannot attend, but would like to receive more information about the process, please contact Ms. Debbie Guidi at [dguidi@krhs.net](mailto:dguidi@krhs.net)

**OPEN MIC NIGHT:** On Saturday, February 16, Harmony Hill United Methodist Church will be hosting its first monthly Open Mic Night, which is open to all styles and to all ages. This event is FREE and is a great opportunity for people of all ages to share their talents, whether they are musicians, poets, artists, dancers or any other form of art. The Open Mic will run from 7 - 10 PM.

### STILLWATER PTA

- **PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD OPENINGS:** As of June 30, 2013, the PTA Executive Board will have two open positions; President and Corresponding Secretary. These positions will be open due to the conclusion of their current two-year terms. If anyone is interested in being nominated for either of these positions, please contact Marilyn Geydoshek at [msc23@ptd.net](mailto:msc23@ptd.net) or 973-579-9414.
- **VALENTINE CANDY SALE:** The annual Valentine Candy sale is NEXT WEEK!! The sale will take place in the cafeteria during all lunches on February 13th and 14th. Should school be closed on one of those dates due to inclement weather, there will be a "snow date" on February 15th. The students will have the opportunity to purchase sweet treats and Smencils for their family members and friends. All items will be priced between .50¢ and \$1.50. If you would like your child to be able to purchase a Valentine Surprise for a family member or friend, simply send them to school on one of the above dates with their money in an envelope, and they can make their purchase during their lunchtime. Any questions, contact Stacy Longcor at 973-300-4733.
- **PTA MEMBERSHIP:** The Stillwater PTA would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You to every single family and school staff members who joined the PTA this year. Having your continued support of the PTA and the students of Stillwater School means a lot to us. The PTA could not do everything it does without your support...many hands make light work. THANK YOU!!!!
- **TRICKY TRAY:** The 2013 Tricky Tray is now underway. An informational letter, as well as a donation form, were sent home with the students last week. This letter includes information about both your FAMILY tray and donating towards your CLASS tray. We are asking for donations of a family tray valued at \$45 (minimum) and a \$5 class donation per child per class. **(Thank You to everyone who has already sent their class and family donations in!!)** With the class donations, the class parent will put together a fantastic tray from the entire class. As an incentive, the first class to have 100% participation will receive a pizza party! For the past three years, we have had classes reach that goal. Please continue the winning streak!!!! Please label ALL class tray donations PTA TRICKY TRAY with the student's name, teacher's name and grade. If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Kimble at 973-214-4643. The Tricky Tray is also on FACEBOOK (Stillwater PTA Tricky Tray). Please "LIKE" that page and check back often for updates and current information. You may also email us directly at [stillwatertrickytray@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwatertrickytray@yahoo.com).
- **TRICKY TRAY:** Planning for this year's Tricky Tray has begun. The Tricky Tray is our largest endeavor and most successful fundraiser of the year. Without the proceeds from it, many of the events and items that the students benefit from throughout the school year would not be able to be offered to them. This fundraiser needs MANY HANDS in order to succeed. If you are willing to volunteer to help with this event, please contact our Tricky Tray Chairperson, Trish Hendershot, at [stillwatertrickytray@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwatertrickytray@yahoo.com). THANK YOU!!!!
- **TALENT SHOW:** THANK YOU TO Justine Mahon for stepping up to chair the Talent Show this year!! In the past, the PTA has held a Spring Talent Show. It is open to all Stillwater School students. There is no judging or prizes...it is simply for entertainment purposes, and it allows the students who participate the chance to be on stage and showcase what they are passionate about. It could be dancing, singing, acting, comedy, etc... It has always been a huge hit with the students. In the past, practices were usually one or two days a week after school, for several weeks, culminating in the Talent Show, which is held at Kittatinny Regional High School. Due to the lack of a chairperson, we have not been able to hold this event for the past few years. Justine has graciously agreed to volunteer to chair the Talent Show this year! THANK YOU, JUSTINE!!
- **BOOK IT:** The Book It reading program is back!! We will be running the Book It! Program for the second half of the school year. Please return your child's January reading log now. Please make sure your child's name and homeroom information are on the log so that they will be sure to receive their Pizza Hut coupon. The top three students who read the most number of books for the combined months of January, February, and March, will each be awarded a Wal Mart gift card! Questions, please contact Chrissy Menkins at [christinemenkins@aol.com](mailto:christinemenkins@aol.com).
- **SPRING CLOTHING DRIVE:** While winter has arrived, it's never too early to start thinking about our Spring Clothing Drive! The drive will take place in early May. Between now and then, please keep the drive in mind when you take the new season's clothing out and put the prior season's clothing away. And, we are not only collecting clothing! Here is a list of things that are being collected: Clothing of any size and for either gender, shoes, gloves, purses, backpacks, ties, belts, bedding (sheets, comforters, pillows), towels, curtains, tablecloths, throw rugs, stuffed animals and disposable diapers (unopened packages). Please consider donating anything you can to this worthy cause. Questions, contact Dawn Tighe, 973-222-8376 or [tighe8@gmail.com](mailto:tighe8@gmail.com).
- **CELL PHONE COLLECTION:** The Stillwater PTA is collecting cell phones to benefit DASI of Sussex County. DASI is a non-profit organization that helps provide counseling and shelter to victims of domestic abuse in need. Please consider donating your old cell phones to this worthy cause. A collection box is located outside the main office. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Robin Waldo at 973-459-8724 or [ms.nut@hotmail.com](mailto:ms.nut@hotmail.com). THANK YOU!
- **COOKBOOKS AND MAGNETS:** We have cookbooks!! The cookbooks are chockfull of recipes from students' families and friends, township residents, and the school staff and administration. Cookbooks are on sale for \$8.00 each. Also available are Stillwater Township School Magnets for \$2.00 each. Purchase a cookbook today and offer your family a new taste at dinner tonight, or purchase a magnet and proudly display it on the back of your vehicle. If you wish to purchase either (or both), please contact Amanda Connolly at [910raw@gmail.com](mailto:910raw@gmail.com).
- **COMING NEXT MONTH:** Rollerskating, Book Swap.
- **OUR NEXT PTA MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6TH AT 3:15 PM. ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!!**