



POSITIVE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:
Read by Andrew Van Hook
“Don’t let the fear of striking out get in your way” ~ Babe Ruth

CONGRATULATIONS to Justin and Megan Reed, on the birth of their baby girl, Mackenzie Ryan Reed! Born 3/1/13 at 10:14pm weighing 7lbs 12 oz. and 19 ½ inches long!

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.

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. And the more days they miss, the harder it is to catch up.

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!

ATTENTION PARENTS/GUARDIANS: There was a letter sent home with your child this week addressing bus note procedure and end of day dismissal guidelines. Please be sure to read it carefully to become familiar with our new guidelines.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:
3/12 & 3/14 – After School Learning Center
3/13 – Homework Club

PHOTO COPYING PROCEDURES: This is a reminder that all photo-copying for the PTA and/or other groups must be done in the downstairs copy room. Please be sure to sign in at the front office and get a visitor pass to do so. Also, all flyers must be distributed through the main office, first being approved by Mr. Cullen. No hand-outs are to be given directly to homeroom teachers. Thank you for your cooperation. ~ *The Administrative Team*

TREPS: This year’s Marketplace will be held on Thursday, March 21st from 6:30 – 8:00 in the Stillwater School Gym. Your presence will make it even more special for these very talented sixth graders. Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 14th. Please use this time to be working on your products!

GUITAR CLUB: Looking for a fun and educational after school activity? Signup for our **FIRST** ever Guitar Club! Students will have the opportunity to learn the basics of playing guitar in a group setting as well as concepts of music theory, history and popular music. Learning music has many benefits: improves concentration, discipline, abstract thinking, self-esteem, and is a lot of fun and a great way to meet new people. Students may bring their own guitars or rent one for a small fee. The club will be on Mondays after school for grades 4-6, starting at the end of March. For more info, email dante.cornella@stillwaterschool.net

AUTISM SPEAKS BENEFIT: The Newton Theatre has scheduled an Autism Awareness concert to benefit Autism Speaks, Autism NJ, Reed Academy and Celebrate the Children on Sunday, April 14th at 3:00pm, featuring Brady Rymer & The Little Band that Could! The show will be sensory friendly, inclusive of all and children are encouraged to be themselves, move around, dance and have fun! For further information, please call 973-383-3700.

MULTICULTURAL CLUB
Fifth graders and their parents have been traveling around the world in our Multicultural Club meetings! Last week we visited Asia where we solved some country puzzles, shared fun facts, looked at pictures and artifacts, listened to music and even did a little weaving, an important skill in southeast Asian countries. This week we took a trip to Africa to enjoy some traditional folktales. Acting out scenes from the folktales really helped bring these important oral histories to life. While visiting Africa, club members learned about how different the lives of people in this amazing continent are from our own. We’re looking forward to continuing the journey next week! *Miss Corter & Miss Scheider*



SCHOOL COUNSELING CORNER: Try these simple problem solving steps when working with your children. 1) What’s the problem? 2) Think about what to do. 3) Try an idea. Some great problem solving ideas: talk it out, get help, avoid sending an “I” message, compromise, take turns, ignore, and share.
Ruth Najemian - 973-383-3998

STILLWATER REC BASKETBALL: Please come out and support our Stillwater Rec Girls & Boys Basketball teams on Saturday March 9th! Our first game starts at 8:00am and the last game is at 12:00pm. As this will be our last game at home before tournaments, we hope that you ALL can come out and show your support!

PRESCHOOL PERFORMANCE: The preschool class is busy rehearsing for their upcoming performance of, The Bunnies Are Not in Their Beds, a children’s story by Marisabina Russo, on March 26th. Immediately following the performance is our class Spring Egg Hunt and our Bunny Brunch. The children are anxiously awaiting to shine on stage! Coming soon to our bulletin board is photos of our star performers. Stop by and take a look! Autographs will be given by request only. We are looking forward to Spring! *Mrs. Pierson*

YOUTH ART MONTH: **Congratulations** to our very own Art Teacher, Melissa Hayes, who has recently taken on the responsibility of being the Sussex County Chairperson for the Art Educators of New Jersey Youth Art Month. This new endeavor will be beneficial for representing Stillwater School in support of advocacy for the Arts and public relations. A few of Ms. Hayes’ new responsibilities include: meetings with other chair members, organizing student artwork from all of Sussex County, attending dinners and receptions, working with SCA & HC Gallery in Newton to organize and display artwork, hosting two artist receptions during the month of March at the Gallery.

The main purpose of Youth Art Month is to emphasize the value of art and art education for all children and to encourage public support for quality school art programs. Each county in the state is asked to submit 6 pieces of artwork to represent the county. This artwork is selected by a panel of art teachers in each county and must be created by students of current AENJ members. In addition, each county chair is asked to organize and host a student exhibition on the county level. All AENJ art educators are invited to pick four pieces of student art, from grades K-12, to represent their school. This year the 2013 Y.A.M. exhibit will be on display at the Sussex County Arts & Heritage Council Gallery, 133 Spring Street. Newton, NJ from March 7th – 21st.

Four Stillwater students have been selected to represent Stillwater School on the county level; Elizabeth LoCascio, Sylvia Atnip, Laci Rosenfeld and Christopher Nicol! A reception for participating student artists will be held at the gallery on March 8th, from 6⁰⁰ – 7:00pm. A very special Congratulation goes to Elizabeth LoCascio! Her outstanding work of art was one of six chosen by the panel to represent Sussex County at the AENJ state Y.A.M. show. A reception for the top four artist and art teachers will be held at the Trenton State House on March 1st, 2013.

Youth Art Month is a national annual observance each March to emphasize the value of K-12 art education for all children and to encourage support for quality school art programs.



FITNESS FOR HEROES EVENT!

When: **Friday, March 15** - Maryann Maikisch from the American Red Cross will kick off the Heroes program during the students’ lunch periods.
Monday, March 18 – Friday, March 22 - 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, March 22 - The Fitness for Heroes Event will take place during periods 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9.

Where: Gym – A variety of fun fitness stations will be set up!
Why: To get exercise and raise money for the 2013 Heroes for the American Red Cross program.

*Parent help would be greatly appreciated!! If interested, please contact Mr. Reed, Mrs. Hayes, or Ms. Radimer ASAP.
*No younger siblings please.
*PTA will be providing water bottles to all participating students!
*We are looking forward to a great event!!

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION: If your child will be 3 or 4 years old on or before October 1, 2013, you may register him/her for preschool for the 2013/2014 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.

THE NORTHWEST JERSEY READING COUNCIL is sponsoring the Young Author's Conference Poetry Festival on Saturday, March 23, from 9:00 -12:00. This year the conference will be held at the Green Hills School in Greendell, NJ. It is a wonderful experience for any student who has an interest in poetry or enjoys reading or writing. This year John Grandits is the featured poet and author. Also speaking will be Matty Putnam, writer of the featured New Jersey Herald column, Matty's Book Bag. There will be writing workshops for the students to attend. Please contact your child's teacher or the main office for a copy of the registration form.

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

FUNDRAISERS

MARKET DAY: March order forms went home this week. NEW THIS MONTH: Petite Banana Breads, Wood Roasted Wild Salmon and GoGo SqueeZ Apple Strawberry. March is Pie Month! There are eleven kinds of pies to choose from; Raspberry Lemonade Pie, Strawberry Rhubarb Pie, Decadent Chocolate Cake, Mint Brownie Blast Pie, Key Lime Pie, Lemon Cake, Fruit Medley Deep Dish Pie, French Silk Pie, Peanut Butter Cup Pie, and Classic Apple Pie. Market Day also has many of your favorites, ranging from entrees all the way to desserts and breakfast too! **FREQUENT BUYERS:** Make two purchases of \$40 (pre-tax) between February and April. Then, place a third order of \$40 (pre-tax) in May to receive your FREE EcoBags at your May sale pick-up. If your order totals \$90 (pre-tax), don't forget to input the code MARBONUS at checkout to receive your FREE Peppercorn Pork Loin. Paper orders due back to school by March 19th. Cut-off to place your order online is 11 pm on Wednesday, March 20th. Pick-up date is Tuesday, March 26th. Questions, contact Cheryl Castner, 973-579-3182.

OPEN MIC NIGHT: On Saturday March 9, 7-10pm, Harmony Hill United Methodist Church will be hosting its monthly Open Mic Night, which is open to all styles and 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.

STAMPEDE 5K and MILE RUN: The 18th Annual Stampede 5-kilometer Race and Mile Fun Run will be held Sunday, May 19th at 10:00am in Lodestar Park. The race will be partially on pavement and part cross country. Live music, goody bags, and homemade post-race food, plus prizes for the top three overall male and female finishers and age group prizes underscore the allure of this popular event! In addition to the marquis 5K, a Mile run follows. Proceeds benefit The Bears Youth Running Program & Polar Bears Track & Field Program – dynamic running curriculums that teach children the many positive physical and mental benefits of the sport of running. Please contact Coach Laurie Gordon at LaurieGordonRun@aol.com or call 973-271-6624.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP PTA TRICKY TRAY: Saturday, March 9, at McKeown School, One School Rd., Hampton, NJ. Doors open at 5:00pm, calling begins at 7:00pm. No admission fee. Refreshments will be available. Hundreds of prizes including regular trays, specials, and super-specials valued at over \$200.

KITTATINNY HIGH SCHOOL TRICKY TRAY: To benefit Project Graduation. Friday, March 22, 2013. Doors open at 6:00pm. Free admission! If you would like further information, please call 973-383-1800 x. 1140

SPRING DANCE AT FREDON SCHOOL for 4th-6th grade students hosted by the Fredon 6th grade class. Friday, March 15, 6-8:00 pm. \$8 advance and \$10 at door. Questions. . . Contact Alli Kruck at 973-495-7998 or krucks@mac.com

SPRINGFEST GARDEN SHOW: March 14-17, 10am-5pm Daily, at Sussex County Fairgrounds, Augusta, NJ. Newly expanded Garden Displays, Marketplace, and Café. Speakers include Margaret Roach. New – Designer Sheds! www.springfestgardenshow.org

SPRING YOUTH RUNNING: Spring "Running Bears" is open to kids in grades 1-6 and will start on Thursday, April 11th and run until June. Practices will be held every Thursday from 4:00 - 5:00pm at Lodestar Park pavilion. Children of all abilities are welcome, and our volunteer coaches make practices both educational and fun! Cost is \$15.00 per child. If you would like an application, please contact Coach Laurie Gordon at LaurieGordonRun@aol.com or call 973-271-6624.

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 or 973-579-9414.
- **BOOK SWAP:** Our Annual Book Swap event will take place on Friday, March 15th at 7:00 pm in the All Purpose Room. It is a wonderful evening of book sharing. A few special Stillwater Community members will share their favorite books, reading them aloud. Book swappers are encouraged to bring good books for swapping, wear their pajamas, and even bring something to snuggle for during the story time. Milk and cookies will be provided as a part of the sharing. A flyer will be sent home with more information. The flyer requests an R.S.V.P. so we may place an accurate milk order. Thank you! Any questions, please contact Danielle LoCascio at dl@locascio.com 973-901-1110.
- **FITNESS FOR HEROES:** Our Physical Education teachers will be holding a Fitness for Heroes Event on March 22 during school hours. We are in need of parent volunteers to help with the event that day. If you are available during school hours, and would like to volunteer to help, please contact Mrs. Hayes at mary.hayes@stillwaterschool.net or Mr. Reed at justin.reed@stillwaterschool.net We are also in need of donations of small water bottles (8 oz.) so that each student will have one that day. If you are able to donate 8 oz. bottles of water to the event, please drop them off at the main office to the attention of Mrs. Hayes or Mr. Reed. This promises to be a fun event for everyone, and we look forward to working with you!
- **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
- **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 Connelly at 910raw@gmail.com
- **OUR NEXT PTA MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH AT 7:00PM. ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!!**