



**POSITIVE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**

If you think you can – you CAN  
If you think you can't – THINK AGAIN!

**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!

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**ASLC: WILL NOT BE MEETING MARCH 19 AND 21**  
**HOMEWORK CLUB: ADDING SESSION - WED. 3-20-13**

**FAMILY MATH:** More fun-filled nights of Family Math has happened! Parents and children worked together doing a Hurtle game, a fraction activity, rainbow logic, and calculator paths. Congratulations to Shannon Blide and Mrs. Goriscak who won the estimation jar of pretzels and Smarties. Our last class will be held Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Family Math graduation will occur!



**SHINING STARS ARE BACK!:** The teachers have been looking for students who demonstrate good manners and citizenship. These students will be bringing home shining star certificates to be signed by the parents and then the certificates will be displayed outside the cafeteria. Each week 2 names will be chosen for a special gift card generously donated by the PTA. This week's winners are: **Carson Powell and Jacob Jones!** ~ Congratulations!!!!

**TREP\$:** This year's Marketplace will be held on Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:30 – 8:00 in the Stillwater School Gym. Your presence will make it even more special for these very talented sixth graders. You will be amazed by 34 tables of innovative products and services – all developed, marketed and sold by us! ~Miss Conry & Mrs. Bickhardt

**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

**D.A.R.E:** Once a week during a Social Studies period, fifth graders will be participating in Drug Abuse Resistance Education, D.A.R.E lessons. Sheriff's Officer Ed Galinski will be conducting these lessons, as he comes to us with years of experience working with students. This is a ten week course in which students learn about the effects of drug, alcohol, and bullying, and techniques to avoid becoming involved in these. The course has an in-class written essay portion in which three winners are selected, and a graduation at the completion of the activities.

**SCHOOL COUNSELING CORNER:** For parents and students grades 5-12. "Navigating the Internet Age" will be presented at High Point Regional HS Media Center on Mar. 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm. Presented by David Fallon, Special Agent in Charge, Homeland Security, Cyber Crimes/Child Exploitation.

~ Ruth Najemian - 973-383-3998



**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 26<sup>th</sup>. 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



**CONGRATULATIONS MRS. MAHEDY!** I have been invited to participate at the National Conference on Rural Education Research sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as part of the "Project READERS" research they are conducting on rural education. As part of the conference, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is creating a panel of 4 teachers who are participating in Project READERS. I have been invited to represent the PA and NJ Project READERS schools on the teacher panel and to contribute to this year's theme of "Promoting Academic Success of Rural Students" by discussing my experiences as a teacher in this project. ~Janet Mahedy

**GOVERNOR'S TEACHER RECOGNITION AWARD:**



**Melissa Hayes**

Ms. Melissa Hayes, Stillwater Township School's Art teacher, graduated from Montclair State University in 2000, with a B.A. in Art Education. She was accepted into the Masters of Art Therapy program at Caldwell College in 2008. Ms. Hayes has been Stillwater School's dedicated Art teacher for over nine years. She began her teaching career in the districts of Bloomfield and Newark, followed by three years in Edison Township.

Along with the various duties that come with teaching children about art, Ms. Hayes has assumed responsibility of the Art Educators of New Jersey, Youth Art Month Chairperson for Sussex County. She is also the schools' yearbook advisor, school calendar designer, a member of the schools' Safety and O.P.E.N Classroom committees, designer and educator of the schools' Summer Art Enrichment program, host of the 4th grade After School Art Enrichment program as well as the 6th grade Art Club, member and participant of the PTA's Cultural Arts Night, and leader of student mural design throughout the school building.

Ms. Melissa Hayes is extremely honored to be a part of the Stillwater staff and community. Receiving the Governors' Teacher of the Year Award has enlightened a great feeling of appreciation for all of the efforts, hard work, and dedication that goes into her purpose here in Stillwater. Ms. Hayes looks forward to reaching the creative hearts and minds of all Stillwater's youth for years to come. She plans on continuing her professional growth within herself, as an artist, and throughout her Stillwater community.

**GOVERNOR'S SUPPORT STAFF RECOGNITION AWARD:**



**Dante Cornella**

Dante Cornella grew up in Frelinghuysen, and he attended North Warren Regional High School. Dante developed a love and aptitude for music at an early age. He started playing saxophone in fourth grade and played in school band through high school. He also began studying the guitar in middle school and doubled on both guitar and sax in the High School Jazz Band. In 2002, he was accepted to Montclair State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Music.

Dante recently earned certificates for both Music Education and Elementary Education and will be continuing education classes. He began teaching music to others when he was 18 and has instructed hundreds of students of all ages. He is now in his second year as a paraprofessional at Stillwater School and receives great fulfillment from helping students achieve their highest potential. Dante currently lives in Stillwater with his wife Rebecca and their daughter Hannah who was born in October.

**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!

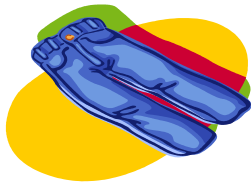
**Why:** To get exercise and raise money for the 2013 Heroes for the American Red Cross program.

\*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!!



**JEANS DAY:** The staff at Stillwater School wore jeans this past Wednesday to again donate to a worthy cause – “Imagine the Love Jeans Day”. Each staff member donated \$5.00 to the Foundation Committee of the Newton Medical Center. There has been a strong effort to reach their local donation goal of \$3,000,000 by March 31, 2013. If this goal is attained, they have an anonymous donation pledge of another \$1,000,000 to reach their fundraising goal of \$4,000,000. This was a very important cause not only because it is a local effort to improve our medical services and facilities, but more importantly these are the doctors, nurses, and facilities that serve our local community. Please visit the link: [www.nmcnj.org](http://www.nmcnj.org) to see a video about the changes at the hospital.

**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 HOUSE:** Camp Auxilium Learning Center, Newton NJ. March 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 11am. Infant program 0-12 Months, Toddlers 12-36 Months, PreK 3, PreK 4, Year To Grow Program & Full Day Kindergarten. Now Registering for the 2012-2013 School Year. For more info, please call: 973-383-2621 Option 1. [www.campauxilium.org](http://www.campauxilium.org)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**STILLWATER AREA VOL FIRE COMPANY:** Annual Easter Egg Hunt! Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 12:00pm (noon) at The Stillwater School.

**SPRING DANCE AT FREDON SCHOOL** for 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students hosted by the Fredon 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://www.springfestgardenshow.org)

Happy   
St. Patrick's Day

## STILLWATER PTA

**PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD OPENINGS:** As of June 30, 2013, the PTA Executive Board will have *three* open positions; President, Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary. 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.

**BOOK SWAP:** Our Annual Book Swap event will take place **TONIGHT** 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. We hope to see you tonight! Any questions, please contact Danielle LoCascio at [dl@locascio.com](mailto:dl@locascio.com) 973-901-1110.

**GERTRUDE HAWK:** Please join us in sending out a huge THANK YOU to Kristin Oldenburg for chairing the Gertrude Hawk candy sale this year! Kristin took this event on, coordinated the sale with Gertrude Hawk and the school and did a wonderful job! Thank you, also, to everyone who sold candy in support of this fundraiser. THANK YOU KRISTIN!

**ROLLERSKATING:** We are also sending out a THANK YOU to Colleen Hurley for taking on our Roller Skating nights again this year. The children love these nights, and we are grateful to have Colleen's help with this event. THANK YOU COLLEEN!

**FITNESS FOR HEROES:** Our Physical Education Teachers will be holding a Fitness For Heroes Event on March 22nd 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](mailto:mary.hayes@stillwaterschool.net), Mr. Reed at [justin.reed@stillwaterschool.net](mailto:justin.reed@stillwaterschool.net) or Miss Radimer at [meghan.radimer@stillwaterschool.net](mailto:meghan.radimer@stillwaterschool.net). We are also in the 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](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 Connelly at [910raw@gmail.com](mailto:910raw@gmail.com).

**OUR NEXT PTA MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 TH AT 7 PM. ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!!**