



Important Dates to Remember:

- ☐ Yearbooks go on sale: 1/28 for \$19.00, online option available to purchase this year, see below for information.
- ☐ BOE Meeting: 1/28/19 at 7pm in Library

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FIRST GRADE NEWS:

The students have been learning about light this month. They have learned about how light travels as a form of energy. Students completed experiments with mirrors. They saw how light can reflect off a mirror. They will be using flashlights to make a puppet show for their classmates.

THIRD GRADE NEWS:

In third grade we are starting our unit on area and perimeter in math. Students will apply what they have recently learned about properties of multiplication to find the area of squares and rectangles. In reading, we are continuing our unit on biographies. Students have been learning about a wide variety of important historical figures. Each student did a wonderful job with their recent biography research project! Following our unit on American Indians in Social Studies, the third grade classes are starting to study European Explorers and early North American settlers.

FOURTH GRADE MATH NEWS:

Students have just finished learning how to divide by 1-digit numbers. Students learned how to work through difficult problems using various strategies such as drawing arrays, finding partial quotients, and using compatible numbers. In our next topic, students will learn how to use operations with whole numbers to solve comparison situations and multi-step problems. Mrs. Celentano has a number of tricks and strategies to teach the students that will help them to master multi-step problems with hidden questions. The fourth graders are ready for the challenge!

SIXTH GRADE SCIENCE NEWS:

Help! The 6th grade homeroom teachers are under attack! The Leader of the Bacteria (Mrs. Ciccolella) is trying to figure out which of their body systems is the weakest. In order to help their teachers fight off the bacteria, sixth graders had to choose a system of the body to study (digestive, circulatory, respiratory, excretory, nervous, muscular, or skeletal) and then work in teams to build a 3-D model of their teacher. Students also had to create presentations to convince the class that their system was the most important. All the systems worked very well together, so their projects - and their homeroom teachers - ended up being in great shape!

SIXTH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS NEWS:

Sixth grade students recently completed their second book report for this school year. Students selected mystery books to read from the library. Students read their book during study hall, library, and homework time. At home each student selected a box to decorate with pictures, drawings, or words to remind them of the book. The container was filled with five deep thinking questions that they wondered about while they were reading, five items related to the story, a written prediction of what might happen next, and a reflection of the overall mystery. Students brought their boxes to school and had the opportunity to share with others during our winter book celebration.

BOOKS AND BEYOND 2019

Attention all 4th, 5th, and 6th Graders!

You are invited to join the Stillwater Book Club! The club will meet on Wednesday afternoons for 5 weeks.

The meeting dates are:

March 6 3:15-5:00 pm
 March 13 3:15-5:00 pm
 March 20 3:15-5:00 pm
 March 27 3:15-5:00 pm
 April 3 3:15-4:15 pm

We will read and discuss the selected book. There will be a culminating project presented on the last day. Permission slips will be sent home next week. Contact Mrs. Then or Mrs. Winay if you would like to participate in this club!

Did you know that next Tuesday, January 29th is National Puzzle Day? National Puzzle Day 2018 Creator, Jodi Jill is a syndicated puzzle columnist. For over 18 years she has created Brain Baffler weekly for readers around the country. Author of over two dozen books, a Hollywood columnist and a huge Disneyland fan, she is the founder of National Puzzle Day reminds everyone on January 29 to take a minute and enjoy a puzzle. Puzzle of all types are honored so put together a board puzzle, do a word search or sudoku, create a riddle, or do a crossword puzzle today! See www.puzzleday.net or www.nationaldaycalendar.com/national-puzzle-day-january-29/

DOUBLE GOOD POPCORN FUNDRAISER: The 6th Grade Recognition committee is doing a Double Good popcorn fundraiser! All proceeds benefit the 2019 End of Year Recognition Party. The party is an end of year tradition for our Stillwater 6th grade students. This is a school wide fundraiser. Order forms & information have been sent home with all students. Sale will run through February 8th. Please help us reach our goal to make this a memorable time for our 6th graders! For questions or additional information please contact:

Traci Trotter at

201-390-2644 or trotts900@embarqmail.com

Thank you so much in advance for your participation & support!!!

YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW for \$19.00

Yearbook forms will be coming home today. There are two ways to purchase a yearbook, using a form sent home or purchasing online. Below is the link:

<http://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A09873794>

or go to:

www.schoolannual.com

Click on Buy Students Yearbook
 Search by School name and State

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Gerhardt at Michelle.Gerhardt@Stillwaterschool.net

SCHOOL STORE NEWS:

Beginning on February 7th the school store will be open the first Thursday of each month during lunch periods. All items are \$1.00 or less. Thank you, Mrs. Riva, Mrs. Najemian, Mrs. Graupe

LIBRARY NEWS:

The Bears are Coming! The Bears are Coming! Stillwater Library invites EVERYONE in the school to bring a bear into school during the month of February. We are having a VERY BEARY FEBRUARY. Bears should be labeled with THEIR name, and THEIR OWNER'S name.

Students in Pre-K through Second grade will be celebrating the month with bear stories and activities during regular library classes. Students in older grades will be invited to participate in writing contests (bear stories, of course). Bear math challenges (can you guess how many bears there are?) and other beary fun ideas designed to make February enjoyable. Bears are invited to stay the month, but if they are too well loved they don't have to. Bears can come to school when your child has library and go home the same day. However, the bears that DO stay will get to meet all those other bears and have all kinds of excitement throughout the month.

Mrs. Picone is in the library all day on Mondays and all of Tuesday morning. But bears can be dropped off anytime starting Friday, February 1. Just make sure they have names clearly pinned on.

VOLLEYBALL CLUB:

Attention 4th, 5th, and 6th Graders - Permissions slips are going home to sign up for Volleyball Club! It will be taking place on Thursdays beginning February 7 and continuing February 14, 21, 28 and March 7 and 14. It will run until 4:15. Please return your permission slip as soon as possible to guarantee your spot in the club.

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTICE OF VACANCY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Stillwater Township Board of Education is seeking a candidate from the Township of Stillwater to fill a vacancy on the Board of Education arising from a resignation. The successful candidate will be appointed to fill this vacancy until December 31, 2019.

Legal requirements for becoming a member of the Board of Education are:

1. An ability to read and write.
2. Citizenship and one year's residence in the district.
3. No interest in any contract with or claim against the Board.
4. To not hold office as Mayor or member of the governing body of Stillwater.
5. Is registered to vote in Stillwater and is not a disqualified voter under N.J.S.A. 19:4-1.

Interested candidates are requested to send a letter of interest on or before Friday, January 25, 2019 to René Metzgar, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and P.O. Box 12, Stillwater, New Jersey 07875.

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 3:06 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.** Morning drop-off is available in the gym from 8:00-8:25 am. Any drop-off after 8:25 is at the main entrance after the buses have unloaded.

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).**

MORNING DROP OFF: Morning Drop off is available in the gym from 8:00 – 8:25 a.m. Any drop at 8:25 or after is at the main entrance after all buses have unloaded.

AFTERNOON PICK UP: Parents will need to wait outside the gym doors and your child/children will be brought out to you. You will be greeted at the doors by a staff member to sign out your child/children. Once you have signed them out, a staff member will bring the students to you at the door.

AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES PICKUP:

If your child is staying for any after school activity, it is your responsibility to pick up your child at the designated time. We know that emergencies can occur, however, there is no one to answer the switchboard after 4:00 p.m. If an emergency occurs please plan for an alternate or emergency contact to pick your child up from the activity.

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.

REAL TIME PARENT PORTAL: Please remember to login to the Real time parent portal and update your child(ren)'s contact information if needed as well as filling out any forms for the current school year.

REMINDER TO PARENTS:

Students are not to bring personal items for play into school. Various balls and equipment for recess are provided by the school. Thank you for your cooperation.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

KITTATINNY YOUTH LACROSSE CLUB REGISTRATION

Registration is \$200 for the Spring 2019 season. A partial payment option is available again this year to spread the cost over several months. Please register soon as possible as teams are filling up quickly!

Kittatinny Youth Lacrosse is excited to announce our 2nd year youth lacrosse clinic open to grades K – 2 boys and girls. Come experience the fastest growing sport in the country! This clinic will be based off of the US Lacrosse Soft Stick Development Program. It will be fun and drill based with the kids broken into small groups and constantly moving and learning the fundamentals in a fun and exciting way. The goal is to eventually field a team for these younger age groups to compete in the NJYLL. The clinic will take place for 5 weeks starting February 25th – March 23rd from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM at the Fredon Civic Center. Kids will need a mouthpiece to participate. All other equipment will be provided at the clinic. Become part of our growing and thriving Kittatinny Lacrosse Family! Go Cougars!

LINK FOR K-2 YOUTH CLINIC

<https://kittatinnylax.sportngin.com/register/form/908711940>

The Kittatinny Travel Softball Program will hold tryouts for those interested in joining the 14U, 12U and 10U teams. The 14u (eligible if you are 14 or younger on 1/1/19) 12u (eligible if you were 12 or younger on 1/1/19) and 10u (eligible if you were 10 or younger on 1/1/19). Tryouts will be held at the Fredon Civic Center on February 3 for 14U tryouts will be from 11:00-12:00, 12U tryouts will be from 12:00-1:00, and 10U tryouts will be from 1:00-2:00. On February 10 tryouts will be held at the Fredon Civic Center for 14U 8-9 AM, 12U 9-10 AM, 10U 10-11 AM.

Community Digital Citizenship Event

Frankford Township School

2 Pines Road Branchville, NJ

Are you challenged by raising a "screenager" or is there one on your horizon?

An event for **parents and kids** alike to help understand today's social media and building a positive digital footprint.

Tuesday, Feb. 5th, 6:45-8:45pm

Register below:

<https://www.smores.com/4ekpy>

Rainbows – Grief Group for Children

The Sparta United Methodist Church is again sponsoring *Rainbows* to benefit our community children. *Rainbows* is a grief group for children who are experiencing loss as a result of a death, divorce, separation, deployment, or incarceration. Life changes such as these alter the entire family system and profoundly impact children. *Rainbows* is a national organization dedicated to creating a safe supportive space to explore feelings, build coping skills, and foster healing. The Sparta *Rainbows* program is staffed with sensitive, caring, and trained facilitators who are devoted to assisting children put their feelings into words, understand grief, and move towards greater acceptance of what has taken place in their family. *Rainbows* is a strong addition to a support network, it is not a substitute for counseling with a mental health professional. If you are aware of families and children that would benefit from such a program please consider sharing our information.

When:

Thursdays, Feb 21,28; March 7-28 (2019)

6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. – first session

6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. – remaining sessions

Where:

Sparta United Methodist Church

71 Sparta Avenue, Sparta, New Jersey 07871

Registration required! Please contact:

973.207.3352

spartarainbows@gmail.com

www.rainbows.org

Stillwater PTA

Please check this section of the newsletter weekly for PTA news, updates, and special events.

You can also visit our websites at www.stillwatertwppta.my-pta.org, and pt-avenue.com. Code: stillwater.

Like us on Facebook- "Stillwater Twp. PTA".*

2018-2019 PTA Executive Board OFFICERS

President, Arlean Konar	Stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com
Vice President, Alicia Gardner	ptavpstillwater@yahoo.com
Treasurer, Kayla Philhower	treasurerstillwaterpta@yahoo.com
Corr. Sec., Tanya O'Shea	Stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com
Rec. Sec., Christine Bello	Stillwatertwppta@gmail.com

The Stillwater PTA would like to welcome back all students, parents, and faculty! We are looking forward to a fantastic school year!

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. 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. 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: Friday, February 8th - Annual Father Daughter Dance

NEXT PTA MEETING: Thursday, March 7, 2019 from 7:00-8:00PM in room A119. **We welcome and encourage all to attend!**