<u>February 8, 2019</u> <u>Issue: 19</u>



Important Dates to Remember:

- ☐ Yearbooks available to purchase online. See below link.
- ☐ BOE Meeting: 2/11/19 at 7pm in Library
- ☐ Report cards sent home: 2/12/19
- ☐ School closed: 2/18/19 President's Day

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

SHOW YOUR LOVE OF READING BY PARTICIPATING IN OUR NEXT SCHOOL SPIRIT WEEK!

Monday, Feb. 25th - Wear wacky socks!

<u>Tuesday, Feb. 26th</u>. In honor of, <u>Oh, The Places You'll Go</u>, wear a college shirt, a trade shirt, or any other shirt that represents where you will go. Students will meet with buddies to read.

Wednesday, Feb. 27th- Hat Day!

Thursday, Feb 28th - D.E.A.R at 9:45am to 10:00.

Teachers and students will line the hallways and read. Wear red and white to Celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday!

<u>Friday, Mar. 1st-</u> Snuggle up with a good book! Bring a book to school and wear pajamas for D.E.A.R time in your classroom. Jeans day for teachers and staff! Donations will go towards a book basket for the Tricky Tray.

FAMILY MATH NEWS:

Third Grade Family Math began on Thursday, January 31st. Openers included toothpick puzzles, cut a card, coin problems, tangrams and a Venn diagram. Activities enjoyed by all were "Sum What Dice" and "Double Digit" both place-value dice games. Congratulations to Mrs. Weeks. She came closest to the goldfish estimation of 990. She estimated 876! Congratulations! -Ms. Grau and Miss Johnson

THIRD GRADE NEWS:

Third graders have been connecting area to multiplication and addition. They created Cheez-It Area projects. Students created an area model with their cheez-its. They then calculated the area and recorded their findings. This week we opened our Opinion Writing unit by enjoying the story I Wanna Iguana by Karen Kaufman Orloff. Students are off to a great start writing their opinions!

FOURTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES NEWS:

Our students are finishing the longest unit of the year. This chapter includes ideas about our newly independent state. We also learn how NJ begins to grow in population. As our population quadruples in the early 1800's, people want faster transportation. We learn how our turnpike, NJ's canals, and our railroads grow. This growth includes faster transportation and new businesses within two big cities of the time, Newark and Camden. Our next unit begins with the Civil War and how our country disagrees on certain issues.

FOURTH GRADE SCIENCE NEWS:

We are watching our seeds grow in plaster of paris. Yes, they are growing in rock. This helps prove how plants can grow within a very limited amount of resources and completing weathering, the science of rocks that can be split by vegetation. The next section in science begins with plate tectonics. We learn to track real-time data about earthquakes that occur on a regular basis. As the earth is constantly moving we will soon understand the concept of how tectonic plates and the ground we live on continually moves. Ask your child to show you the website that tracks real-time data on earthquakes. Amazing to see and very exciting for our fourth graders to share with you.

SIXTH GRADE NEWS:

Students in 6th grade math have been exploring the mathematical relationships of ratios. They learned what kind of ratio defines a rate, and practiced calculating rates through problem solving. Students then applied what they knew about ratios and rates to understand percent. They loved playing the percent memory game and worked together to find the relationship between percent, fraction and decimal equivalents. They were also able to use a hundred grid to show percent using a model. Our next math unit will focus on applying problem solving and algebraic concepts to both plane and solid geometry. Students will look for ways to deconstruct parallelograms, triangles and trapezoids and apply the formula of a rectangle to find the area to each of these common shapes.

Trep\$ NEWS:

The Trep\$ program will begin on February 20th with twenty-seven very eager sixth graders. Trep\$ is short for entrepreneur, which is when a person sees an opportunity to sell a good or service, and takes the risk to do just that. **This year's Marketplace will be on Wednesday, April 10th at the Stillwater School Gym from 6:30 - 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.

YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW for \$19.00

There are two ways to purchase a yearbook, using a form previously 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 Gerkhardt at Michelle.Gerkhardt@Stillwaterschool.net

Attention Volleyball Club Parents:

All pickups for volleyball Club must be at the gym doors at 4:15pm. The doors will not be unlocked until that time. Thank you!

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!

Pictured here is Jack Oldenburg presenting Mrs. Riva a check to be used for activities at HILLS House. The money was raised from a Valentine's Day chocolate sale sponsored by Ready, Willing and Able, a Stillwater Elementary School company that Jack oversees.



DOUBLE GOOD POPCORN FUNDRAISER: REMINDER: Double Good popcorn fundraiser orders are due on Friday February 8th. If you haven't already done so, please submit your completed Order Form Summary Sheet along with payment of cash/check made payable to 6TH Grade Recognition Fund. Please be sure child's name, teacher's name and amount collected are written on all forms & envelopes and returned to school with student to: ATTN: Traci Trotter/Double Good fundraiser-Main office. For additional information please contact: Traci Trotter at 201-390-2644 or trotts900@embarqmail.com

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

ABSENTEE CALLS: All absences must be reported directly to our dedicated attendance line <u>by 9:30am</u> - <u>973-383-3227</u>. 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

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 <u>authorized</u> 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 <u>must</u> be sent in that morning to the homeroom teacher. For students attending KEEP or First Impressions, or being picked up on a <u>regularly SCHEDULED</u> <u>basis</u>, please write that in a note (preferably on a green bus note) including the details of child's specific schedule, <u>bus route number</u>, and a contact person for our records. <u>Any phone calls, or email requests regarding your child's end of the day dismissal must be made before</u> <u>12:00pm unless it is an emergency situation.</u> 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.

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

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 Little League 2019 Registration is now open!

Registration Open: January 7, 2019 through February 23, 2019 Registration will be closed by March 2, 2019.

Kittatinny Little League is open to any child ages 5-15 residing in or attending school in Hampton, Sandyston, Fredon or Stillwater Townships. Children must be 5 years old by April 30th, 2019. \$90/Child

\$170/(2)Children & \$220/Family

A late Fee of \$25/child will be assessed after February 23, 2019. A \$5 snack shack fee per family will be charged at registration.

www.kittatinnybaseball.com

Click register in the top right corner

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). 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.

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 OR 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 <u>www.stillwatertwppta.my-pta.org</u>, 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

treasurerstillwaterpta@yahoo.com Treasurer, Kayla Philhower 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: Annual Father Daughter Dance is tonight!

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