



Important Dates to Remember:

- ☐ Yearbooks available to purchase online by 3/1:
<http://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A09873794>
- ☐ School closed: 2/18/19 President's Day
- ☐ BOE Meeting: 2/25/19 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

On Monday, February 11th, the Board of Education voted unanimously to hire Mr. William Kochis as Superintendent of Stillwater Township School. After an extensive interview process which included Board members, administrators, teachers and community members, Mr. Kochis' experience as a teacher and principal made him an outstanding candidate. Mr. Kochis will begin July 1, 2019. Later in the school year a formal "meet and greet" the new Superintendent will be planned.

THIRD GRADE NEWS:

Do you have a favorite ice cream? Third graders were excited to put their graphing skills to work! They recorded their favorite ice cream in a frequency table, and then used the class's data to create a bar graph. Everyone did an excellent job! To wrap up our graphing unit, students used sweethearts to sort, tally, and graph the variety of colors in each box.

Families taking the 3rd grade Family Math Class enjoyed the Create a puzzle activity using geometric word vocabulary, Pentasquares, M&M graph and "How Close Can you Get" card game. Warm up activities included a birthday graph, box math, bean salad word problems, a height activity, geoboards and clock activities. Congratulations to Vanessa DeStefano who won the estimation jar of cherry hearts. Mrs. Goedeke won the pretzel estimation jar. We will meet again on Thursday evening of next week.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS:

RACE THROUGH THE STATES: The Race through the States program is nearing the end. The students have given a tremendous effort throughout the program. The pedometers tracked their steps while the students simultaneously learned and practiced basketball skills and concepts during their lessons. Students were moving their bodies and having fun from the second they entered the gym, until they left. For every 10,000 steps, the class earned a state. At this point, classes have earned coloring in approximately half of the United States from their hard work. Excellent job to all of the students! Please remember to keep moving! Mr. Reed & Miss Radimer



ART NEWS:

Our 6th grade art classes recently completed their Portrait Prints. Students were encouraged to draw a self-portrait or a portrait of another student in class that demonstrates an understanding of proportion. This project also involves emotion in art, composition in design, a layered printmaking technique, emphasis, contrast and pattern.

SPEECH NEWS:

The month of February has been all things Valentine's Day! We have been focusing on kindness, caring, being a good friend, and giving each other compliments. With some of the older speech students we learned a brief history of how Valentine's Day originated. With some of the younger speech students, we have been sequencing common events, routines, and tasks with a Valentine's Day twist. At home, have your child explain/describe/sequence an activity such as brushing their teeth. What do you do first? What do you do second? What do you do next? And last? See how many events or routines you can have your child sequence. Make a fun game out of it! The first to correctly sequence 5 events gets to pick the ice-cream flavor! This month, check out the book "Love Monster" by Rachel Bright. It is a fantastic story about love and friendship! Your child will love the silly writing and it has a positive message about being different.

Recent research shows just a few minutes a day of meditation for school age children has many benefits such as:

1. Rise in IQ levels
2. Academic stress goes down
3. Better focus
4. Lower absenteeism and better behavior
5. Happier and more confident students

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

Monday, Feb. 25th- Wear wacky socks!

Tuesday, Feb. 26th- In honor of, *Oh, The Places You'll Go*, 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!

Friday, Mar. 1st- **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.

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.

YEARBOOK \$19.00 Sale until 3/1

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>

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

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 **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).** As of 9/1/19, the Stocker Bus Company will be increasing the charge.

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.

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

We are looking for interested 7th & 8th grade students to play on a coed Fredon/Stillwater rec soccer team. We would begin mid-April weather permitting. Games would be on Saturdays with probably 2 practices per week. Travel soccer players are not eligible to play. If you have questions and/or your child would be interested in playing, please contact Sandy Pender at spender@ptd.net

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.

Online:

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>

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 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! 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:

NEXT PTA MEETING: Thursday, March 7, 2019 from 7:00-8:00PM in room A119.

We welcome and encourage all to attend!