



## Important Dates to Remember:

- Board of Education Meeting - 4/29/19 in Library at 7pm
- Book Fair - May 8-10
- Spring Concert - May 15 at 7:00 pm

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

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### ATTENTION STILLWATER PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

Beginning Monday April 8, 2019 all exterior building doors will be locked for after school programs. This includes the rear door by the elevator and the gym doors. This security measure is recommended by local law enforcement, our school security officers and the Stillwater Safety Committee. If your child participates in after school clubs/events, this will impact pick up procedures.

- Pick up will ONLY take place at the main entrance of the school.
- Clubs will dismiss at their regularly scheduled time.
- Teachers will escort students to the main entrance to be released to parents/guardians.
- If you will be picking up early from a club or ASLC, please notify the main office via green note or email. Early pick-ups must be by 4 pm. Otherwise, the students must remain in their club or activity until the designated dismissal time.

### New for 2019-2020 school year!

Preschool registration for next year's **full day** preschool program is now open for any child who will be 4 prior to October 1st. Packets are available upon request and must be returned by April 1st. Enrollment may become open to 3 year old children if space allows.

### FIRST GRADE NEWS:

First grade students are wrapping up the unit on the moon. We have been exploring the different phases of the moon. Students used Oreos to demonstrate the cycle of the moon. We also went outside to record our shadows and how they change with the movement of the sun.

### FOURTH GRADE ELA NEWS:

The students in Fourth Grade have had a very busy month! For the first time, they have had an opportunity to participate in the Stillwater Spelling Bee. Fifteen students have qualified for the Semi-Final round, where five will move on to the Stillwater Finals. This has been a very fun and exciting new adventure for both the participants and their audience of peers! Additionally, April has been a month filled with a lot of writing practice as students apply the writing skills they have learned throughout the year. They have grown to quickly determine the appropriate writing style needed in different situations and can easily respond with well-organized essays. The students have shown pride in how far they have come and are working hard to continue improving their work.

### FIFTH GRADE NEWS:

Fifth grade Language Arts students have been hard at work researching topics and writing informational/explanatory essays. They learned how to present their information in a clear, logical way for their audience. Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade writers focused on getting the reader's attention in the introduction, supporting their topics and subtopics with facts and details in the body of their essays, and leaving the reader with a strong interest and something to think about in the conclusion. Each student will get to choose a specific topic of interest and organized their research on their google chrome books.

### SIXTH GRADE NEWS:

6th grade history students in Mrs. Steffens' classes just wrapped up a unit on Ancient Greece! They learned about the beautiful geography of the country, the differences and similarities between the city states of Athens and Sparta, as well as the many Gods and Goddesses that they worshiped. Students were given ancient myths and they each had the opportunity to study them and then re-write the myths using modern day scenarios. Students had a great time creating play scripts and acting these out in some classes. Currently we are studying Ancient Rome and Pompeii!

### SCHOOL STORE NEWS:

Beginning on February 7<sup>th</sup> 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 increase the charge to \$75.00.**

**MORNING DROP OFF:** Morning Drop off is available in the gym from 8:00 – 8:25 a.m. Students being dropped off cannot enter the building until 8:00 am. 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**

**Stillwater Township's Memorial Day Observance**

Please join your neighbors this Memorial Day on Monday May 27, 2018 at 10:00am to honor and remember all those who have served our country to ensure our rights and liberties as Americans. The Memorial Day ceremony will be at Veterans Memorial Park on Pond Brook Road. All veterans are encouraged to participate. If you have any questions please call Lou at 862 268 3553.

**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](http://www.stillwatertwppta.my-pta.org), and [pt-avenue.com](http://pt-avenue.com). Code: stillwater.  
Like us on Facebook- "Stillwater Twp. PTA".\*

**2018-2019 PTA Executive Board OFFICERS**

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

**Nominations Committee - The 2019 Stillwater Township PTA nominations committee has nominated the following members for the upcoming elections. Each term is 2 years, being from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021**

**President: Tanya O'Shea**  
**Vice President: Amanda Gilmore**  
**Treasurer: Kayla Philhower**  
**Recording Secretary: Christine Bello**  
**Corresponding Secretary: Samantha Cuff**

**If any PTA member in good standing would like to self-nominate and run opposed for any of these positions, please email your letter of intent to [stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com) and [stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com) NO LATER than April 22, 2019. Elections will take place at our next general meeting on May 2, 2019 at 7:00pm**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Next PTA meeting** - Thursday May 2nd 7pm in room A119. Voting on new board members will take place at this meeting.  
**Mother/Son Event** - Friday, May 3rd. Live Science Magic Show, 6-8 pm in Cafeteria. Please contact Kate Teresi for information.  
**Scholastic Book Fair** - rescheduled to May 8-10th. Anyone interested in volunteering please email [stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com) A link for volunteer sign ups has also been posted on the Stillwater Twp PTA Facebook event page.  
**Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** - Wednesday May 8th. We are currently looking for a chairperson or persons for this event. Please see our Facebook and Instagram pages or email [vpptastillwater@yahoo.com](mailto:vpptastillwater@yahoo.com) if interested.  
**Mother's Day Flower Sale** - during lunches May 9th and 10th. Additional information coming soon.  
**Talent Show** - RESCHEDULED to Friday, May 10th. Rehearsal will be Thursday, May 9th. Additional information coming soon. Contact: Arlean Konar  
**Tricky Tray** - Friday May 24th. Donation requests have begun, please contact Christine Bello for information [Stillwatertwppta@gmail.com](mailto:Stillwatertwppta@gmail.com)  
**Cultural Arts Trip** - Aladdin on Broadway - Sold out!  
**Land of Make Believe Trip** - Monday, June 17th Rain date June 22. Payment is due no later than May 31st.  
**Mother/Daughter Event** - Friday May 31st. Contact: Tara Tosti

***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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.