



POSITIVE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:
 Read by: **Angus Corpus**
 "One kind word can warm three winter months"
 ~ Japanese Proverb

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

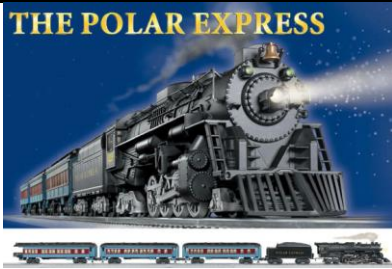
ABSENTEE CALLS: Please call attendance line **973-383-3227** when calling your child out of school. Do not use the personal voice mail of our nurse, Maureen Beckman. The nurse's voice mail should be used for health concerns other than attendance.

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.

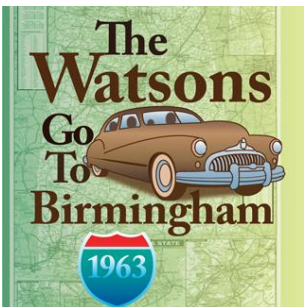
BUS STOP REMINDER: Parents/Guardians – It is important that you are at your child's(ren's) bus stop on time. If you have not signed a waiver stating that your child may be let off without someone present, the bus will return your child to school if a designated person is not there to receive them. **A \$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!



AFTER SCHOOL LEARNING CENTER DATES: 1/7, 1/9, 1/14, 1/16, 1/21, 1/23, 1/28, 1/30
HOLIDAY CONCERT: 12/17 – 7:00PM
PTA HOLIDAY SHOP: 12/17 – 12/19
EARLY DISMISSAL: 12/20 – 12:40PM
HOLIDAY RECESS, SCHOOL CLOSED: 12/23 – 1/1



KINDERGARTEN NEWS: The holiday season is so much fun in kindergarten! The children have been learning about all the different ways the December holidays are celebrated. They have been decorating their classrooms and hallways with lots of beautiful crafts. The kindergarten classes wore Santa hats and sang at the Stillwater Senior Citizen Luncheon. They looked adorable and made lots of people smile! The children also had a very special Polar Express Day. They earned their tickets by reading a simple sight word book to their families. They brought in their bathrobes and slippers and watched the Polar Express movie. We wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year!



SIXTH GRADE NEWS: Sixth graders are beginning a new novel in Language Arts, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis. The book is about a family living during the Civil Rights Movement in American history. Students are also watching videos, doing research, and answering questions in tech class on the Civil Rights Movement.

Q. How does Frosty the Snowman get around?
 A. On an "ice"-icle!
 Q. What does Frosty eat for lunch?
 A. Ice-"berg"-ers!
 Q. What does Frosty like to put on his icebergers?
 A. Chilly sauce!

CONNECT WITH KINDNESS

Students showing good behavior and character are being recognized with "Connect with Kindness" awards. This week we would like to congratulate:

Jacob Torkildson
 Delaney Campanella
 Angilena Wallgren

Katie Williver
 Luke Riva
 Shannon Blide

Keep up the good work!



YEARBOOK NEWS:

CALLING ALL D.C. TRIP PHOTOGRAPHERS!!!
 If you were a chaperone for the 6th grade Washington D.C. trip and would like to help provide photos for the 2013-2014 yearbook, please contact Mrs. Piazza, our Yearbook Advisor. Your help and participation in this matter will be greatly appreciated! Thank you.
melissa.piazza@stillwaterschool.net



2ND GRADE PEDOMETER PROGRAM:

Second graders have completed their pedometer program. Students were very energized and excited to come to class to see if they could earn some more feet. All students did an excellent job and worked very hard to earn feet. Miss Radimer, Mrs. Hayes, and Mr. Reed



2013 RECYCLE-BOWL COMPETITION:

The Stillwater School Green Team recently led our school in a nationwide recycling competition, sponsored by Nestle Purelife. Schools can compete for \$1,000 in prizes for recycling the most pounds per student! From October 21st through November 15th, the Green Team members collected and weighed all of the recyclables in our school. Over the month we collected 1,167 lbs. of recyclable materials, which included bottles, paper, cardboard, milk cartons and cans. Special thanks to our custodians for their help in collecting and weighing some of the materials, and to Mrs. Klimek and Mrs. Makarevich for helping us join the competition. Data was provided to 5th Grade REACH students who determined the grand total and submitted our results for the competition. Thanks to everyone for remembering to recycle and participating in the Recycle-Bowl! Winning schools will be notified in 2014, but we feel we are winners already because we worked together to accept the challenge! **Article written and submitted by the 5th Grade REACH students.*



PRESCHOOL NEWS:

The preschool children are overjoyed with the magic that the holiday season brings. Stories, songs and crafts about Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza are enriching the season and adding to the festivities. The students were very surprised with our classroom visitor, one of Santa's elves, who spent the day with us. He appeared to enjoy the preschool class and also some of the crafts we made which he also participated in. We are sure that our special visitor gave Santa a glowing report on how well behaved the preschool children are and they are sure to be on Santa's "NICE" list. Creating holiday gifts and cards for their families taught them a lesson about the importance of giving. The preschool wishes all of our Stillwater friends and families a happy and healthy holiday season!





Some Stillwater teachers and retirees attended the Northwest Jersey Reading Council's Winterfest to fund scholarships for area high school students attending college. The dinner and raffle is also combined with the reading of a holiday story by teachers from Sussex-Wantage Schools. Stillwater School had several winners of 9 literary baskets and table prizes. Attendees and/or winners were Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Celentano, Miss Conry, and retirees Mrs. Podems and Mrs. Hanifan. The big winner was Miss Jackman who won a Nook!



THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

FUNDRAISERS

MARKET DAY: Thank you to all who have placed orders this month! We appreciate your support. You may pick up your Market Day order on Tuesday, December 17th between the hours of 2:30 and 4 pm. Questions, contact Cheryl Castner at 973-579-3182 or ccastner@embarqmail.com THANK YOU, and have a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

APPLEBEE'S BREAKFAST: on December 14th has been **CANCELLED.** Please contact Jessica Weinberg at 973-222-8814 jessroseben@yahoo.com or Jessica Pappa jesspappa@yahoo.com If you have any questions.

RESIDENTS OF STILLWATER: It has been one year since Super Storm Sandy and there still may be trees leaning on electrical wires in town. If you notice any tree leaning on wires or trees which may be leaning precariously close to wires please report them to the township. Call 973-383-9484 or send an email to clerk@stillwatertwp.com Thank you, Stillwater Environmental Commission.



HELP WANTED: School Bus Drivers needed for Hampton, Fredon, Stillwater, and Blairstown areas; school routes, substitutes, and trips. Class B CDL required. Will train. Call Stocker Bus Company at: 973-383-4704.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

SEASON OF HOPE TOY DRIVE: Project Self Sufficiency & partners are teaming up to bring holiday joy to thousands of children in our community. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Please consider donating a new, unwrapped gift for needy children (infants through teens). Donations will be gladly accepted at Project Self Sufficiency 127 Mill Street, Newton, NJ, Monday through Thursday from 9:00am to 8:30pm, and Friday from 9:00am to 4:30pm. Pick-Up arrangements can be made if needed. Suggested items are: art supplies, books, building toys, learning toys, personal care items, sports equipment, gift cards, pretend play, and electronics. Please call Project Self Sufficiency at 973-940-5300 for a more detailed list of items or for further information, or visit www.projectsselfsufficiency.org.

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING CELEBRATION:

Saturday, December 14th from 6-9pm at the Swartswood Fire House located on Newton Swartswood Rd. (Route 622), in Stillwater. Santa will be available for pictures with the children, along with food, drinks and the announcement of our Home Holiday Decorating Contest winners. We hope to see everyone there - Stillwater Recreation Commission & Stillwater Township.



STILLWATER PTA

HOLIDAY VENDOR/CRAFT FAIR: The PTA Vendor/Craft Fair is TODAY! From 3-9 in the Gym, over 30 Vendors and Crafters will be selling their wares for YOUR shopping convenience! Admission is Free, and there's surely something for everyone on your list. Oh, and did we mention SANTA will be there from 3-5 pm? Come on by and shop! For a list of Vendors, please visit the PTA's FB page: "Stillwater Twp. PTA", click on the "Events" button, and then click on "Stillwater PTA Vendor Fair".

HOLIDAY SHOPPE: The dates for this year's Holiday Shoppe are December 17th -19th. Prior to the event, students will be sent home with envelopes for parents so they can provide them with money for shopping. Volunteers are needed & greatly appreciated! If you can give a couple hours of your time, please contact John Miller at johnhenrymilleriii@gmail.com or (973) 262-2827.

BOOK IT!: Be sure to fill in your book logs and send them in to the PTA mailbox during the first week of each month. Don't forget to supply a name and homeroom teacher. Every child who completes a book log earns a coupon to Pizza Hut for a free pizza! Any questions can be sent to Chrissy Menkins at christinemenkins@aol.com.

TRICKY TRAY: The PTA is in need of a lead chairperson and a family tray collection chairperson for the Tricky Tray. This event is held in the Spring, but requires many months of planning. This is also the PTA's largest fundraising event, so please consider one of these positions! For more info, please contact Trish Hendershot at stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com.

MEMBERSHIP: PTA membership is still underway! Please promptly complete your envelope and return it to the school as soon as possible.

PTA CHAIRPEOPLE: Now that this school year is in full swing, so is your PTA. With the many events the PTA provides, we have several parents helping behind the scenes. Part of the job of running a PTA event is putting out flyers to the school to notify everyone of the upcoming event. These flyers must be approved by the PTA and Mr. Cullen. Please send all flyers to Wendy Kimble via email at stillwaterptavp@yahoo.com for PTA approval. If you have any questions, please contact Wendy via the email address above. Also, if you would like something submitted in the weekly newsletter regarding your event, please email your submission to Jen Kraft at stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com no later than Wednesday for it to be published that same Friday.

STILLWATER COOKBOOKS (\$3 each) and Stillwater School Car Magnets (\$2 each) are available for purchase! If you are interested in purchasing these items or if you have questions, please contact Amanda Connelly at aeconnelly@outlook.com.

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT SHOPAROO? It's an easy way to help support Stillwater School. 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!

DECEMBER'S EVENTS: Holiday Vendor/Craft Fair- 12/13, Holiday Shoppe- 12/17-12/19

OUR NEXT PTA MEETING: Wednesday, January 8th at 3:15PM. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!!