



POSITIVE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:
Read by: TJ Patterson
“The only disability in life is a bad attitude.”
~ Jimmy Scott Hamilton

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: 1/14, 1/16, 1/21, 1/23, 1/28, 1/30
NEWSPAPER CLUB MEETING DATES: 1/14, 21, 28, FEB. 4, 11, 25
MATHATHON KICK OFF ASSEMBLY: 1/14
SCHOOL CLOSED: 1/20
YEARBOOK SALE: JANUARY 27TH – FEBRUARY 21ST

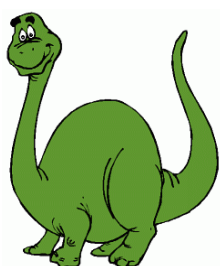
CONNECT WITH KINDNESS

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

- Katie Longcor Jack Nothstine
- Autumn Goriscak Kieran Prichard

Keep up the good work!

ART NEWS: 4th graders are in the process of completing their ceramic pinch pots and are preparing for their peer critique. This lesson was introduced with a review of various clay techniques, as well as, a discussion on the cultural and artistic styles of Native American pottery. The production process began with a sketch of visual ideas including contour lines, pattern, value in shading, and charcoal technique. Next, the good stuff! Our students were able to get their hands dirty with ceramic clay, this part they love the most! They used the clay in a pinch technique to create their final works of art in a 3-dimensional form. After their pottery was fired in the kiln, students continued the production process by glazing their pots. What a success! Our last steps will be to critique each other’s work and review their own artistic journey. Students will also have the opportunity to add a mixed media design to their ceramics with beads, raffia and feathers.



MRS. BESSEMER’S CLASS: Next week we will start a very exciting two week unit on dinosaurs. Everything we do next week will focus around dinosaurs. This is one of the kindergarten children’s favorite units! We will work on the letter “Oo”. The letter “Oo” is a vowel, so we will spend two weeks learning about the short “Oo” (octopus) and long “Oo” (open). Please keep working on the sight words. Also, everyone

should know their address and phone number. This is a great thing to work on at home!

SOCIAL STUDIES: Students in **grade five** are currently working on a Scout-It-Out Colonies power point assignment. They will inform their audience about which colony they believe would be the best place for us to colonize. They will include slides about physical features, climate, resources, and their final predictions and recommendations. **Grade six** students are also working on a power point presentation. Their task is as follows: The most elaborate museum in Egypt has been destroyed due to an earthquake. All of the artifacts and information inside have also been destroyed. The world historians are in a panic because we have now lost all of the information and artifacts that have let us relive ancient civilization. In this museum there were artifacts from all over the world but the Egyptian artifacts had the most damage done to them. The historians and other leaders are now on a mission to travel back in time to get as many artifacts and information as possible to recreate the museum that has been destroyed. It is their mission to travel back in time as historian, artist, architect, or worker and create a power point to show their exhibit.

PEDOMETER “OPOLY”: The Pedometer “Opoly” program has just begun! The students in grades 3-6 will be racing around the giant Monopoly board by trying to earn as many steps as they can during their physical education classes. For every 5,000 steps the entire class earns, their class moves one space around the game board. The students will be learning and practicing their basketball skills for Pedometer “Opoly” lessons. They have been giving a great effort and are having a lot of fun! Good luck to all of the classes participating! Remember to keep moving!

MUSIC NEWS: This week the 5th and 6th graders began a handchime unit. After experimenting and learning some basic information about handchimes, each student chose a handchime that they will use throughout the unit. The students will review note and rest values, how to follow their line in the music and other skills. After several weeks of practice, all the skills will be put together and the students will experience what it is like to be part of a handchime ensemble. Playing handchimes is a great way to introduce and reinforce music concepts while having fun, too

SCHOOL COUNSELING CORNER: The Search Institute offers ways that adults can make a difference in the lives of kids.

1. Support them with love, care, and attention.
2. Empower them with opportunities to make a difference
3. Establish clear boundaries and have high expectations
4. Help them make constructive use of their time
5. Nurture their commitment to learning
6. Instill positive values to guide them
7. Help them develop social competencies
8. Nurture and celebrate their positive identity

ATTENTION PARENTS: Parents, your input is vital regarding our school climate. On my corner of the web-site “the Assistant Principal’s Corner”, please find 3 links to our school climate for parents. The link to my corner can be found on the Stillwater Township School’s web-site at http://www.stillwaterschool.net/pages/Stillwater_TWP Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey. I am asking that it be completed by Friday January 17th.

Sincerely,
 Mr. Cullen

Q. How did the Vikings send secret messages?
 A. By Norse code!
 Q. Why were the early days of history called the dark ages?
 A. Because there were so many knights!
 Q. Who invented fractions?
 A. Henry the 1/4th !
 Q. What is the fruitiest subject in school?
 A. History! – Because it has so many dates!

Yearbooks go on sale January 27th!
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**BOXTOPS UPDATE:** The contest for this year is off to a great start! Thank you to all of our Stillwater School families who have been clipping and submitting those Boxtops! After sorting and totaling, we are ready to ship over 5,000 Boxtops for our school... that equals more than \$500 for our students! Special thanks to 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade REACH Classes for their help. The top 3 homerooms at this time are as follows: #1 – Ms. Conry 1,762 Boxtops, #2 – Mrs. Knapp 767 Boxtops, #3 – Mrs. Winay 439 Boxtops.

**The race is on until June, so keep clipping and submitting those Boxtops to your homeroom teacher!**

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE- OneCall notifications

We will be sending out OneCall notifications throughout the winter months, as needed, due to emergency closings and delays. We are asking you to please check your phone for messages rather than calling the school following the notification. This will help to eliminate the volume of calls that come in to the school immediately after the message is sent. **Thank you for your cooperation!**

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

## FUNDRAISERS

**MARKET DAY:** Happy New Year!! New items this month: Chicken & Cheese Ravioli, Sweet Corn Cob Minis and Kellogg's Frosted Flakes Bowls. All orders placed for our January sale will receive a FREE 2014 Eat Well Calendar AND a FREE GoGo Squeeze Applesauce Pouch. Please return your paper orders to the school by Monday, January 20, 2014. If you input your order online, the cutoff to do so is 11 pm on Wednesday, January 22nd. Questions, contact Cheryl Castner at [ccastner@embarqmail.com](mailto:ccastner@embarqmail.com) or 973-579-3182. Thank you for ordering Market Day, and we look forward to seeing you in 2014!!

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**WINTER RUNNING: POLAR CUBS TO START TODAY, FRIDAY, JANUARY 10<sup>th</sup>.**

Due to last week's storm, we were unable to have the first Polar Cubs practice. The program will start TODAY, Friday, January 10th, at 4 pm at the Fredon Rec Center. You are welcome to sign up today, just

please arrive a few minutes before 4 pm. Polar Cubs is open to kids in grades 1 - 3 (siblings are also welcome to participate). Cost is \$15 for the whole season per child. We will practice every Friday until March. For information, call/text Coach Laurie Gordon at: 973-271-6624.

**SUMMER CAMP AT FAIRVIEW LAKE:** Summer at the Blue Mountain YMCA Day Camp is magical. Located on the shores of beautiful Fairview Lake in Stillwater; this unique camp setting offers all of the amenities of a sleep-away camp in a convenient day camp format. Camp focuses on building self-esteem, confidence and social skills while increasing independence and health and wellness awareness. Your camper will have fun and make new friends while exploring new experiences outdoors. Contact camp registrar, June Papa at 973-209-9622, ext. 217 or visit our website: [sussexcountymca.org](http://sussexcountymca.org) for more information.

**RUTGERS DAY:** April 26 from 10:00 AM--4:00 PM on the New Brunswick / Piscataway campus of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. This is a great opportunity for everyone, from small children to teenagers to adults to learn more about their state university. The event is Free for everyone and will be held rain or shine. Activities include tours, concerts, lectures, art, performances and a chance to meet Rutgers professors, staff, students, and alumni. Enjoy the engineering open house, agricultural field day, the new medical school, and view construction of the new Rutgers Honors College classroom buildings and dorms. Sporting events, including the Rutgers Spring Football Game, will go on throughout the day. Food and Rutgers souvenirs will be available. For more information, visit: [www.rutgersday.rutgers.edu](http://www.rutgersday.rutgers.edu)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**YOUTH LACROSSE:** 3rd-6th graders, registration for the Kittatinny Youth Lacrosse Club spring lacrosse season is now open. Act quickly as teams will fill up. A parents meeting will be held in early February with detailed information. Keep an eye out for date and time. Please visit our website, <http://www.kittatinnylax.com/> for registration forms and information. Questions may be emailed to the respective boys and girls programs. "Come play the fastest growing sport in America".

**EYE EXAM:** The Stillwater Education Association will be hosting an eye exam clinic on February 22 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The Optical Academy's Vision Team, which consists of Optometrists, Opticians, and Vision Technicians, will be offering complete eye exams, at the school. Their mobile unit is made up of state of the art, hand held, digital equipment and also includes an on - site eyeglass shop. The purpose of this clinic is to offer affordable vision screening for those who do not have coverage through insurance or may not have complete coverage. It is open to all age groups. All insurances are accepted. No insurance? No problem. Screenings begin as low as \$30 with eyeglasses starting at just \$29. For more information or to make an appointment visit [www.optical-academy.com](http://www.optical-academy.com) or call 800-530-2730.

**FAIRVIEW LAKE YMCA CAMP WINTER WONDERLAND:** Experience the crisp winter scene that is Fairview Lake YMCA by joining us for a memorable afternoon on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00pm. Hone your skills with our bows and arrows at our archery range or enjoy some open fire cooking around a warm fireplace. This event is also a summer camp open house, which is a great time to check out our cabins and learn a little more about what happens during the summer. The experience of a lifetime is right around the corner, join us! This is a free event! For families young and old! Camp is located at 1035 Fairview Lake Road in Stillwater. Please contact Matt at 973-383-9282 for further information.



## STILLWATER PTA

**HOLIDAY SHOPPE:** With sincerest appreciation, thank you to the following people for volunteering their time and much-needed help with setting up and running the Holiday Shoppe! \*Cory Borkstrom, Melissa Nelson, Helaine Humenik, Wendy Kimble, Vicki Yanaga, Sue Sager & the office staff, and the custodial staff\* A special thank you to John Miller for his hard work & time in coordinating this fun event for all! Thank you also to Jenny Rogers for all of her help as well!

**ROLLERSKATING:** Please join us in the gym **TONIGHT** (January 10<sup>th</sup>) from 6:30-8:00PM. All children are welcome. There are plenty of extra rollerskates/rollerblades in case you need them. Feel free to bring any extra skates you may not be using. All skaters are required to wear helmets and must be supervised by an adult. **This is not a DROP OFF event.** We all have a great time!!!! If you have any questions, please call Colleen Hurley at 973-600-0456.

**TALENT SHOW:** Calling all students!! We are excited to announce that we will be having a Talent Show coming up in the Spring (April 4th, 2014). Practices have begun! Pick up your permission slips & bring us your acts! Our meetings are held Mondays & Wednesdays from 3:00-4:00PM. For more info please contact Justine Mahon at [pta2013recsec@gmail.com](mailto:pta2013recsec@gmail.com).

**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](mailto:christinemenkins@aol.com).

**TRICKY TRAY:** The PTA has a **GREAT** need for 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](mailto:stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com).

**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](mailto: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 [stillwaterptacoresec@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptacoresec@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](mailto: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!

**NEXT MONTH'S EVENTS:** Family Movie Night- 2/7, Valentine's Day Sale- 2/13 & 2/14, Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale- 2/13- 2/24

**OUR NEXT PTA MEETING:** Thursday, February 6th at 7:00PM. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!!