

# FEBRUARY



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**POSITIVE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**

*“Carry out a random act of kindness with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that someday someone might do the same for you.”*

~Princess Diana

Read by: Mrs. Ruth Najemian

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

**PARENTS, PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT MESSAGES**

**ABSENTEE CALLS**

All absences must be reported directly to our dedicated attendance line: **973-383-3227**. Kindly keep this number handy. **DO NOT call the main school phone number or use the personal voice mail of our nurse, Maureen Beckman.** The nurse's voice mail should be used for health concerns other than attendance.

**EARLY DISMISSAL**

Early dismissal time is 12:40. There is no lunch served when there is an early dismissal. Please send your child in with a snack.

**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: 2/11, 2/13, 2/25, 2/27**  
**NEWSPAPER CLUB MEETING DATES: 2/11, 2/13, 2/25, 2/27**  
**HOMEWORK CLUB DATES: 2/12, 2/26**  
**YEARBOOK SALE: JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup> – FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>**  
**WINTER RECESS: FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> & 18<sup>TH</sup>**

## YEARBOOK SALE

Yearbooks are on sale now!  
 The sale will run from January 27<sup>th</sup> through February 21<sup>st</sup>.

**ADVANCE ORDERS ONLY**

Sale is for a limited time. You will not have the opportunity to purchase a yearbook after February 21<sup>st</sup>.

The cost is \$15.00 per yearbook.

Have you ordered yours?

**DON'T MISS OUT!**

**FOURTH GRADE NEWS:** The fourth grade students recently completed a unit on historical non-fiction stories. A series of selections were read and discussed. "This time was Different" was the first story read. Students learned about a real drought that occurred in the 1930's. This story helped students to understand the challenges that people had to face during this natural disaster. The second story read was "President Roosevelt's Fireside Chat". This was a firsthand account by someone who actually participated in the events. Students compared these two stories and realized that Americans had to work together to bring the farms back to life after many years of a drought. "Jim Lovell: Stranded in Space" was the third selection that students read. This historical story had a similar theme of hope when compared to the other stories. Finally, students read a text called "A Meeting of Minds" and answered a variety of comprehension questions on the computer. During this unit, students worked in peer groups to understand how to make inferences, identify the main idea of a story, compare and contrast events, and to decode new vocabulary words. Many students found this genre of stories interesting and would like to read more of these stories.

**SIXTH GRADE NEWS:** Sixth graders have just begun the Modifiers Unit in Language Arts which consists of adjectives, articles, adverbs, demonstratives, and negatives. There are several websites that the students can use for learning and practice, such as [www.sheppardsoftware.com/grammar/adjectives](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/grammar/adjectives) and [www.funenglishgames.com/grammargames/verbnounadjective](http://www.funenglishgames.com/grammargames/verbnounadjective).

**JUNIOR SOLAR SPRINTS:** JUNIOR Solar Sprints is beginning! 16 sixth graders are pairing up to create their own solar powered vehicles. Under the direction of Mr. Iradi and Miss Conry, these students are researching topics related to solar powered cars, presenting their information to the group, and then creating the best solar powered car that they can. Eight students will be competing in the county competition in May. All Junior Solar Sprints participants can be seen working on their cars right after school on Tuesdays in the Tech Lab.

**DISTRICT BAND AND CHORUS NEWS:** The fifth and sixth grade students began rehearsing for the All District Band and Chorus Concert! This concert, on March 14<sup>th</sup>, is held at Kittatinny Regional High School and includes students from all the sending districts, Fredon, McKeown, Sandyston, and Stillwater, as well as junior high students from Kittatinny. Students who are interested in participating began working with Mrs. Hatch and Ms. Franck on music that will be performed in the concert. The chorus students rehearse every Monday during recess and the band students have a rotating band lesson scheduled with separate periods dedicated to learning district music. As we get closer to the concert, students will audition to perform in the concert and attend two rehearsals at Kittatinny during the school day. If students are well prepared and dedicated to their practice time, they will be in the evening concert. Concert dress is black and white. Keep an eye out for more information in newsletters and papers sent home with students.

**BOX TOPS UPDATE:** Because of your support, Stillwater School has raised a total of \$1,857.76 for the 2013 – 2014 school year!! **THANK YOU!**

**Every box top counts! Keep clipping!**



**FIRST GRADE NEWS:** First grade is getting ready to learn about President Lincoln and President Washington. They will be writing stories telling what they would do if they were the President. Don't forget to read their stories.

**MRS. BESSEMER'S CLASS NEWS:** Next week we will learn about President's Day and the letter "Nn", and we will also be introducing currency. We will learn to recognize a quarter, dime, nickel and penny as well as one, five, ten, and twenty dollar bills! The children will sing a song to help them remember the value of the coins and to see the presidents we are learning about on the money we use every day.



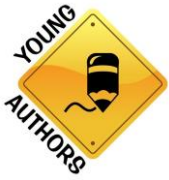
Make our School a Cut Above!



**STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS:** Throughout the month of February, Stillwater School will be participating in a penny drive called "Pennies for Patients", to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Students are asked to bring in as many pennies as possible from February 3<sup>rd</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>. The two homerooms that bring in the most pennies will be rewarded with an ice cream or pizza party. Start collecting those pennies!

**SCHOOL COUNSELING CORNER:** Children need certain social skills to be able to interact appropriately with peers. There are a number of core skills children need to work on to be successful in their play interactions. ~Ruth Najemian

1. Listening and responding
2. Taking turns
3. Cooperating
4. Compromising
5. Being Fair



Young Authors' Conference sponsored by the Northwest Jersey Reading Council is being held again this year! Mark the date on your calendars: Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to noon at the Frankford Township School. Students who attended three years ago here at Stillwater will remember the fun they had meeting authors and illustrators. This year will feature authors David Lubar (who writes children's books and programs video games) and Deborah Guarino, who wrote *Is Your Mama a Llama?* If you like to write or just want to be included in this fun-filled morning, send in your Young Authors' Conference paperwork before March 1<sup>st</sup>. The address is on the slip and there are also books that you may pre-order and pick up at the conference. The authors will autograph them for you too!

**THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS**

**FUNDRAISERS**

**MARKET DAY:** February flyers have bent sent home! February's Market Day sale is Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Paper orders are due back by Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, and all online orders must be in by 11 pm on Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. **NEW ITEMS THIS MONTH:** Cheez-It Snack Packs, Dijon Encrusted Pork Chops and Fudge Dipped Brownie Pops. All \$40 (pre-tax) orders this month will receive a box of FREE Five Cheese Garlic Toast. If you input your order online, and it totals \$90 (pre-tax), please remember to input the code FEBBONUS at checkout to receive your FREE box of Cheese Ravioli. **FREQUENT BUYERS:** Make two purchases of \$40 (pre-tax) between February and April. Then place a third order of \$40 (pre-tax) in May to receive your FREE Storage Basket at the May sale pick-up. February is Cookie Dough Month! There are 11 kinds of cookies to choose from. Thank you for your continuing support of this fundraiser! Questions, contact Cheryl Castner, 973-579-3182 or [ccastner@embargmail.com](mailto:ccastner@embargmail.com) THANK YOU!!

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**BASEBALL:** Baseball is back! Be on the lookout for the Spring Baseball Registration forms. They will be coming home soon!

**BASKETBALL:** Stillwater basketball clinic registrations are here for K - 2nd grade. Three weeks, twice a week, starting the end of February through March please contact Chrisha Wright with any questions 973-306-2675.

**TRAVEL SOCCER:** North Warren Alliance U11 Boys Travel Soccer Team based at Blairstown seeks players for the spring season (2014). If your son was born between August 2002 and July 2004, please contact coach Rejano at: [emilio\\_re@yahoo.com](mailto:emilio_re@yahoo.com) or 973-809-1435 for more information.

**LACROSSE:** Registration for Kittatinny Youth Lacrosse Clubs 2014 spring season will be closing on Feb 15. Please visit our website at [www.kittatinnylax.com](http://www.kittatinnylax.com) for registration information. We will be having a parents meeting for all participants at the Hampton Senior Center at 7:00PM on the following dates: Girls Weds 2/12 and Boys 2/13. Registration, schedules, uniform ordering, general info and questions will be addressed. Please join us.

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**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.

**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.

**PARENT-CHILD ICE FISHING DERBY:** Catch and release, friendly competition with prizes for the younger "friends of fishing", on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> from 1PM to 4PM at Fairview Lake YMCA Camp, 1035 Fairview Lake Road, Stillwater. Bring your own fishing equipment (including a ruler). Event cost is \$5.00 per fishing team. Competition will be for longest fish, shortest fish, and most overall fish caught. Have a fun and memorable family fishing experience! Contact Matt Lifschultz at 973-383-9282 for any questions.



**STILLWATER PTA**

**ATTENTION ALL PARENTS: ALL KIDS STUFF COUPON BOOKS MUST BE RETURNED NOW IF YOU ARE NOT KEEPING THEM, OR PLEASE BE SURE TO MAKE YOUR PAYMENT TO THE STILLWATER PTA. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**VALENTINE SALE:** The Valentine Sale will be held during all lunch periods on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Milk chocolate heart lollipops, lip shaped lollipops, wooden roses, and snifty pencils will be sold. A flyer will go home next Tuesday with prices. Any questions, please call Helaine (201)831-1832.

**TALENT SHOW:** We are excited to announce that we will be having a Talent Show coming up this Spring (April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014). Practices have begun! Pick up your permission slips & bring us your acts! Our meetings are held Mondays & Wednesdays from 3:00-4:00PM. We have quite a large group of talented students, therefore could use a few extra adults to help at practices! 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 [stillwaterptacorse@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptacorse@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!

**OUR NEXT PTA MEETING:** Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:15PM. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!!