

**POSITIVE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**

Read by: Mrs. Ruth Najemian

“Success starts with believing in yourself”**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: 3/4, 3/6, 3/11, 3/13, 3/25, 3/27, 4/1, 4/3, 4/8, 4/10, 4/15
HOMEWORK CLUB DATES: 3/5, 3/12, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 (5TH & 6TH GRADE ONLY ON 4/30, 5/14 & 5/21)

SCHOOLCRAFT SPRING PORTRAITS:

Spring Portraits will be held on Tuesday, March 25th by Schoolcraft. Order forms will be sent home with students in early to middle of March. If you choose to have your child's photo taken, complete the order form and enclose payment. Have your child bring the order form/envelope to school on the day photos will be taken. If you have any questions, please call the main office.

SECOND GRADE NEWS: The month of February has been a focus on presidents and American symbols in second grade. Each student read several biographies about our two most famous presidents. The students created time lines and coin books about Abraham Lincoln and George Washington. We also read informational books on the American symbols and used these books to recall facts from our reading. Students wrote their findings on projects, such as Lady Liberty and Mount Rushmore. Did you know that George Washington never lived in the White House? We do! The second grade had a fun experience investigating American symbols and famous presidents.

MULTICULTURAL CLUB NEWS: The Fifth Grade Multicultural Club hosted its 3rd Annual Cultural Fair last week. This culminating event celebrated the culture and traditions of countries from around the world through 'Living Museums' designed and created by club members and their parents. The 'Living Museums' were on display for guests to enjoy and included food, pictures, games, crafts, artifacts, flags, research and music. Visitors were able to get their passports stamped at each 'Living Museum' they explored. Guests were able to explore the cultures of Italy, Russia, Scotland, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Norway, and France. The fifth graders did an outstanding job hosting our journey around the world! Thank you to all of the participating families for making this event a huge success!

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

Josh Bizik

Dawson Ruffino

TREPS\$ NEWS: On Wednesday, February 26th, 27 sixth graders started their journey on becoming entrepreneurs. Students learned the differences between goods and services. Students are now deciding on what goods or services they want to create or perform for the Marketplace. At their first meeting, the students enjoyed a group activity in which they created a new candy bar and performed a commercial advertising it. A lot of fun was had watching the students perform their commercials. The students learned to work with others, compromise, and be an active participant in the activity.

This year's Marketplace will be on Wednesday, April 16th 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. **Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 5th. Please remember your bus notes.**

KINDERGARTEN NEWS: February may be a short month but the Kindergarten classes were engaged in a long list of activities that centered around Valentine's Day, President's Day, the 100th Day and Dr. Seuss's upcoming birthday. These celebrations provided various fun and engaging learning opportunities. While the students were busy counting down to the 100th day of school, they enjoyed hearing stories about two past presidents and learned some interesting facts. The children wrote about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln and learned to identify them and the money that they are pictured on. Identifying and counting money is a skill that we are working on! Of course they are enjoying hearing Dr. Seuss stories as well. Some of our favorites include The Cat in the Hat, Green Eggs and Ham, Wacky Wednesday and so many more!

ESPAÑOL ~ SPANISH NEWS: *Los Animales* ~ ¡El perro dice guau, guau! The dog says bow-wow! Students in grades K-3 have begun to learn animal names and sounds in Spanish. Songs and videos have been shared to add to the experience and the children have enjoyed learning to talk about their favorite animals in Spanish! *La Cultura* ~ America del Sur y Mexico - South America and Mexico - Students in grades 4-6 travelled to Mexico or South America to study the geography, climate and history of these Spanish-speaking parts of the world. Groups worked to read maps, locate rivers and lakes, or solve math codes using Mayan numbers. The internet became an important resource for the students as they researched these locations. Travel to these areas will continue as we learn about the people and places where Spanish is spoken!

FOURTH GRADE NEWS: Fourth grade has been busy during this cold, snowy time. Science students are currently studying a unit on weather. Different types of clouds have been explored and viewed. Weather forecasting tools will be the next area of focus. Students are making various types of tools to forecast the weather such as barometers, anemometers, wind vanes, and rain and snow gauges. Hopefully we can forecast an early spring! In Social Studies, students are studying historical figures of revolutionary time - they made "Footsteps In History", which were short biographies of a historical figure of their choice written on a "Foot step".

6TH GRADE ACTIVITY NIGHT: The last Activity Night of the school year is tonight Friday, February 28th at Kittatinny from 7pm-9pm. We look forward to seeing all of you there!

GO RED FOR WOMEN: Stillwater School staff members had a jeans day and wear red day today, Friday, Feb. 28th to support the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" movement. Each of our staff members who wore jeans or something red made a charitable donation for the cause. Please check out the below link to find out more about women's heart disease and the progress that has been made. <https://www.goredforwomen.org/wearredday/about/>

6TH Grade Recognition Party Fundraiser- The Stillwater School 6th grade Recognition Party Committee will be hosting an Applebee's Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, April 19 2014 from 8am-10am at the Newton Applebee's. Tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased in advance or at the door, (in advance is preferred). Please contact Wendy Kimble for tickets or more information at 973-214-4643 or wak1016@centurylink.net. Please check out our Facebook page (Stillwater School 6th Grade Recognition Party) for updated information.

6th Grade Students and Parents- we will need volunteers to work at this event. Please contact Wendy if you would like to help.

Holocaust Education for Sixth Graders at Stillwater School

The sixth grade language art classes at Stillwater School are learning about the Holocaust. The students are reading The Devil's Arithmetic by Jane Yolen, a historical fiction novel about a girl tired of hearing family members "remembering" the war. In the story, the girl is "moved" from her family's Seder dinner to a previous time to learn why she should remember the Holocaust. The sixth graders saw a virtual Seder plate used at Seder dinners, a real Seder plate and an authentic Haggadah, which is the book read from during Seder dinner. The students tried matzo which is part of a Jewish Seder dinner.

Congratulations to Molly Strong, Megan Hurley, Jacob Buff and Carly Rigby, whose artwork has been selected to represent Stillwater School in the Sussex County AENJ Youth Art Month Exhibition! Their artwork, along with the work of students from other school districts in the county, will be on display at the SCAHC Gallery in Newton from March 13th – March 31st. An artist reception for participating students will be held at the gallery on March 28th from 6:00 – 7:00p.m. The AENJ Youth Art Month exhibit is designed to emphasize the value of art and art education for all children and to encourage public support for quality school art programs.

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

FUNDRAISERS

MARKET DAY: Thank you for placing your orders with us this month! Questions, contact Cheryl Castner, 973-579-3182 or ccastner@embargmail.com **THANK YOU!!**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

BASEBALL: Spring Baseball sign-up sheets are due in soon. Extra sheets are available in the school office or on the Stillwater-Fredon Facebook page. The spring baseball clinics will start Tuesday February 18th and continue every Tuesday night thru March 11th. For more information or to register for the clinic contact Kyle Nelson at knelson@MetLife.com, or 973-271-2307 or Carmen Liuzza at CL@Gruber.biz or 973-219-7843. Thanks you, Darren Menkins

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 or 973-809-1435 for more information.

STILLWATER CLEAN UP DAY: Saturday, April 26—rain date Sunday, April 27. The Stillwater 6th grade Recognition Committee is looking for volunteers to help raise money for our students 6th grade party as well as clean up the beautiful town we live in. If you are interested in joining our team, please contact Wendy Kimble by April 1st at 973-214-4643 or wak1016@centurylink.net.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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 for more information.

FAMILY THINK FEST: Come join us for a FREE community event for families of children in grades 2 – 4 on Wednesday, April 9th from 6:30 – 8:00PM at the Kittatinny Regional High School Library. Sample a variety of thinking games to spark curiosity, develop persistence, boost self-confidence, sharpen strategic thinking, investigate challenging puzzles, and have fun while learning. Discover new games – it is great FREE fun for the whole family! This FUN event is sponsored by Kittatinny's 8th grade Kaleidoscope. Please contact Mrs. Ellen Kolonoski at ekolonos@krhs.net with any questions.

YOGA FUNDRAISER: This Saturday, March 1st from 9:30 - 10:45 at Camp Hoover, 691 Rte 521, Middleville. \$10 per person. All proceeds to benefit the NW Marching Band. Please contact Deb Lohman at: 908-362-8090

YEARBOOK NEWS:

The yearbook sale for this year ended today. Thank you to all who placed an order!

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!

FAMILY BOOK SWAP: Join us Friday, March 7th at 7:00PM in the All Purpose Room. It is a wonderful evening of book sharing. A few special Stillwater Community members will share their favorite books, reading them aloud. Book swappers are encouraged to bring good books for swapping, wear their pajamas, and even bring something to snuggle during the story time. Milk and cookies will be provided as a part of the sharing. A flyer will be sent home with more information and requests an R.S.V.P. so we may place an accurate milk order. Thank you! Any questions please contact Danielle LoCascio at dl@locascio.com or 973-901-1110.

ROLLERSKATING: Please join us in the gym on Friday, March 14th 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. Thank you.

TALENT SHOW: Save the date...We are excited to announce that we will be having a Talent Show on Friday, April 4th, 2014 from 6:30-8:00PM! Practices are well underway but it is not too late to join, so 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.

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: At this time no one has stepped forward to chair the Tricky Tray, therefore this event will be cancelled for this school year. Unfortunately this will result in a substantial financial loss.

PTA Chairpeople: 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 every one of the upcoming event. These flyers must be approved by the PTA and administration. 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 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 Connolly at aeconnolly@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: Gertrude Hawk Sale- 3/5- 3/14, Book Swap- 3/7, Roller-skating- 3/14

OUR NEXT PTA MEETING: Wednesday, March 5th at 3:15PM – Meeting has been cancelled.