

February 23, 2018



Important Dates to Remember:

- ◆ YEARBOOK SALE ENDS: 2/28
- ◆ PROGRESS REPORTS: 3/1
- ◆ SPRING AHEAD: 3/11
- ◆ EARLY DISMISSAL: 3/12

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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 3:00 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. WALKERS AND/OR CHILDREN WHO ARE DROPPED OFF BY THEIR PARENTS SHOULD NOT ARRIVE TO SCHOOL PRIOR TO 8:15 AM.**

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).**

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.

SECOND GRADE NEWS: Students in the second grade competed in a Math Olympics this week! Second graders worked in teams to challenge their computation skills. The events were skip counting bowling, money ring toss, addition card war, and know your facts cup stacks. Each student worked cooperatively while using mental math skills. All students "trained" over the last two weeks in the classrooms by learning and practicing all of the games. The final events were held in the gym on Wednesday and Thursday. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who attended our games! All second grade students learned about sportsmanship and fun during this Olympic event. Way to go second graders!

MUSIC NEWS: The third grade students are under way with their newest music unit, recorder! The third graders were very excited to begin as they each received their own recorder and music folder. This woodwind instrument is a great way to spark the interest of instrumental music in young students. Their lessons will focus on music fundamentals, instrument skills, responsibility, and a new enjoyment of music. Students are encouraged to play at home and show what they have been learning! The third graders should be proud of their new found talent!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS: Race through the states: Students in grades 3-6 have been participating in a pedometer program during phys ed classes. The students wear pedometers and try to get in as many steps as they can. For every 10,000 steps the class earns, they get to color in states on the class map of the United States. The maps also contain the class's total steps for the program. Students have been working extremely hard. Within the next few weeks we will have a winner! Keep up the great work! ~ **Miss Radimer & Mr.Reed**

CHECK IT OUT!: Want to achieve higher math scores? Xtramath is an online program that helps students gain fluency and automaticity with math facts. Spending just a few minutes each day practicing on a computer, tablet, or phone can help improve math scores. It only takes a few minutes for it to become part of your child's daily routine. Math facts are the foundation of your child's math education and your child will gain confidence in math by spending extra time practicing. Sign up at Xtramath.org!

MAKERSPACE MAGIC UPDATE: The Makerspace continues to be a place where students meet challenging problems they must solve using the Engineering Design Process. Here are some updates at each grade level, highlighting what students have been working on...

Grade 1 - Sounds like Fun - Investigating sound waves. Exploring Structures for Animals!

Grade 2 - Exploring Air - Experiments that use feathers and the air around us.

Grade 3 - Wonder Workshop - Dash and Dot robot challenges

*Programming Dash with challenge cards - students have completed Level A and have moved on to Level B, which involves more difficult programming challenges, such as loops.

Grade 4 - Catching the Wind - Designing Windmills

*After successfully designing and testing sails on a track, students are now in the final stages of designing and testing arms for a windmill to lift weight in a bucket.

Grades 5&6 - STEAM Cycles

*3-D Printing - students explored Tinkercad for 3-D object design, selected objects and printed them in the classroom to take home! They are now ready to create their own designs for printing!



**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
For 2018-2019 School Year**

If your child will be 5 years old on or before October 1, 2018, you may register him/her for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year. Registration packets are available in the school office. You may call Mrs. Lisa Roycroft (973-383-6171) or email her at lisa.roycroft@stillwaterschool.net to have a registration packet mailed to you, or you may pick one up at the school office **between the hours of 9:30am – 2:00pm**. Complete instructions and important dates are included in the packet.

REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION:

- Birth Certificate (original – with raised seal)
- Up to date immunization history – please contact school nurse, Maureen Beckman, with questions at 973-383-6171 ext. 216 or maureen.beckman@stillwaterschool.net
- Physical examination form completed by your child's physician
- Proof of Residency (2) – preferred items are:
 - Copy of deed/mortgage or lease agreement
 - Stillwater residence tax bill
 - Utility bill for Stillwater residence
 - Copy of NJ driver's license with Stillwater address (not a PO Box)

Kindergarten pre-screening dates are planned for **Tuesday & Wednesday, April 10-11, 2018**. An appointment will be scheduled for your child when you return your registration papers.

Registration packets can be returned the week of **January 16, 2018**

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ridge and Valley Conservancy will be offering Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs, a free youth fishing program, at White Lake from April 10-August 30 2018, Tues and Thurs, 3-5:30 pm. Program is for middle school children ages 12-15 (those graduating 6th grade in June 2018 are eligible). Open house informational session on 3/3 at White Lake from 3-5 pm. Sign ups on 3/13 at RVC, [16 Main Street, Blairstown](http://16MainStreetBlairstown.com). More info, please call 908-362-7989 or email susi@ridgeandvalleyconservancy.org.

Stillwater PTA

Like us on Facebook- Stillwater Twp PTA. You can also visit our websites! www.pt-avenue.com (Code: Stillwater) Keep up to date with our calendar of events, announcements, and sign up to volunteer! You can also visit www.stillwatertwppta.my-pta.org.

TREMENDOUSLY-TREASURED TROOPS: Care Packages enhance the morale and well-being of our deployed troops worldwide. This is especially important outside the established holidays. It is our goal to put together 20 boxes of supplies and 100 inspirational thank you cards for the selfless act of serving. Please join us TODAY from **3:00pm to 5:00pm** in the cafeteria. Register at allforgood.org or just show up.

CULTURAL ARTS TRIP: The PTA will be hosting a Cultural Arts Trip to see "Anastasia," a Broadway musical, on Sunday, April 15th. The Lakeland bus will leave Stillwater School promptly at 11:00AM and returns at approximately 7:30PM. The show begins at 3:00PM, so there will be time for lunch or sightseeing before the performance. Tickets are \$60 each, which includes 1 mezzanine ticket and transportation. This show is not recommended for children under the age of 7 years old. Tickets are non-refundable. A limited amount of tickets are available and will be sold on a first come first serve basis. Please return the form that was sent home along with payment to the school, c/o Kathy Pevarnik (checks made payable to Stillwater PTA) ASAP. For questions, please contact Kathy at Kathy.pevarnik@stillwaterschool.net

TALENT SHOW: The Talent Show will be held on Thursday, April 26th from 7:00-8:30PM in the gym. Calling all participants! Parent acts are also welcomed. Sign-ups will take place on Monday, March 26th from 5:00-6:00PM in the gym. Practice dates are as follows: April 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 25th from 5:00-6:00PM. Parent volunteers are needed to make this event a success. If you are able to help, please contact Justine Mahon ASAP at jmarymahon@gmail.com or (908) 625-1710. A canned food drive will also take place during this event.

BOX TOPS UPDATE: The homeroom contest continues! Keep clipping those Boxtops and submitting them to your child's home room teacher. The Boxtops for Education website has detailed information regarding where Boxtops can be found! <https://www.boxtops4education.com/> Currently, Mrs. Murphy's 2nd grade class is leading the contest with 432 Boxtops submitted this year. The contest will run until the beginning of June, so there is plenty of time to get yours in!

LABELS FOR EDUCATION: The Labels for Education program has officially ended as of January 2, 2018. This program has provided our school with art supplies, gym equipment and playground equipment over the years. We are no longer accepting labels for submission but thank you for your support!

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 promote the upcoming event. **Please remember we are now digital and all flyers will be attached to the weekly newsletters.** Flyers must be first approved by the PTA and administration by emailing them to Jen Kraft at stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com and Cali Roberts at Cali.roberts@stillwaterschool.net. Also, if you would like something submitted in the weekly newsletter regarding your event, please email your submission to Aneasha Begraft at stillwaterptacorsec@yahoo.com no later than Wednesday for it to be published that same Friday.

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 6th 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**. Schools with just 40 supporters are earning an average of \$1000 per year. The top earning grade level at the end of the school year will win extra recess time and a special treat. Thank you for your continued support.

2. Keep cutting your Box Tops and Labels for Education! 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS: TREMENDOUSLY TREASURED TROOPS-FEBRUARY 23, 2018, SPRING BOGO BOOK FAIR-APRIL 24-26, 2018, TALENT SHOW-APRIL 26, 2018

NEXT PTA MEETING: Thursday, March 1, 2018 from 7:00-8:00PM in room A119. We welcome and encourage all to attend!