

March 16, 2018



Important Dates to Remember:

- ◆ YEARBOOK SALE ENDS: 3/23
- ◆ SPRING RECESS: 3/30-4/6
- ◆ REPORT CARDS: 4/24

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: Hooray, spring is almost here! What is your favorite thing about this time of year? The second graders are writing to express their opinions. They are trying to convince others to agree with them by giving reasons, examples, and facts to support their opinion. As with narrative and informative writing, each paragraph has a topic sentence, three or more details, and a conclusion. We hope to see you at the second grade spring celebration and egg hunt on March 29th.

THIRD GRADE NEWS: We are in the midst of our character studies unit in our Reading Workshop! The third graders just wrapped up their novel study on Because of Winn Dixie. They learned some new vocabulary words including protagonist and secondary characters. Our main focus was on character traits, both physical and personality. We studied not only Opal, the protagonist, but also secondary characters and their traits as well. Next, we will be continuing our character studies unit by reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. During that novel, we will study how the various characters change from the beginning of the novel through the end.

FOURTH GRADE NEWS: Fourth grade science students have been learning about how plants can affect the environment. Fourth graders worked in teams and researched the Kudzu Vine to find out what effects it has on the environment. Each team then created a skit, slide show, or poster about this highly invasive vine. Everyone really had fun completing this activity and, of course, enjoyed presenting to classmates! We are about to start our next unit on plate tectonics. 4th grade science is so much fun!

SIXTH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS NEWS: Sixth grade students recently read different books in class. During this literature unit students were divided into three groups. The three books selected to read were Star in the Storm by Joan Hiatt Harlow, Smart Dog by Vivian Vande Velde, and A Dog's Life by Ann Martin. Students read, discussed and completed activities to strengthen reading comprehension skills. Lessons focused on identifying and analyzing different story elements including characters, setting, theme, and plot. Students created a vocabulary board with lists of new words. Each day students read as a group, or independently, and many students had the opportunity to lead a small group activity. All students also enjoyed a fourth book called Swindle by Gordon Korman which was read aloud.

GIRLS ON THE RUN: Our team of third, fourth, and sixth grade girls has been working together on some great lessons. They are working on things like connections, respect, kindness, and friendship. The girls learn to work very well together and show what it means to be a team. After their 20 meetings, the girls will run or walk in a 5K in Sparta.

FAMILY MATH: More fun-filled nights of Family Math have happened! Parents and children worked together doing a Hurtle game, a fraction activity, rainbow logic, and calculator paths. Congratulations to Abby Ando, Trent Funari and Ryan Broderick who won the estimation jar of cookies and pretzels. Our last class will be held Thursday, March 22nd. Third grade Family Math graduation will occur!

The Zufall Dental Van will be coming to school on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. Children will be able to access dental services at school that day. Registration is required for your child to receive dental services. To register, please call Maureen Beckman at [973 383-6171 ext. 216](tel:9733836171).



**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**

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.

SPIRITWEAR SALE: Stillwater Spiritwear is on sale now through Friday, April 13th! Please return form and payment (checks made payable to Stillwater PTA) to the school. Orders are estimated to arrive around April 30th. For questions, please contact Carrie Weeks at StillwaterSchoolSpiritwear@gmail.com Thank you for your support!

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 welcome. 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.

TRICKY TRAY: Save the date! The Stillwater PTA Tricky Tray will be held on Friday May 18, 2018. Doors open at 6:00PM. This is the PTA's largest fundraiser and is not possible without many hands on deck. We need your help to make this our most successful event ever! Please contact the chairpersons Christine Bello stillwatertwppta@gmail.com or Karyn Carter karyn1213@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you in advance!

PRE-SALE TICKETS & TABLE RESERVATIONS: Now on sale through May 11, 2018! Tricky Tray Ticket Packages are \$40.00 each (\$15 savings). Table Reservations are \$45.00 per person and include 1 ticket package. These will be taken on a first come, first serve basis. Please return your reservation form along with full payment (checks made payable to Stillwater PTA) to the school labeled, Stillwater PTA-2018 Tricky Tray c/o Jen Kraft (PO Box 12, Stillwater, NJ 07875) **NO LATER THAN MAY 11, 2018**. For questions, please contact Jen Kraft at stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com or 973-229-2990.

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 Aneesha 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: CULTURAL ARTS TRIP APRIL 15, 2018, SPRING BOGO BOOK FAIR-APRIL 24-26, 2018, TALENT SHOW-APRIL 26, 2018, TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON MAY 9, 2018, MOTHERS DAY FLOWER SALE MAY 10 & 11, 2018, TRICKY TRAY MAY 18, 2018

NEXT PTA MEETING: (Elections) Thursday, May 3, 2018 from 7:00-8:00PM in room A119. We welcome and encourage all to attend!