

April 27, 2018



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Important Dates to Remember:

- ◆ PARCC TESTING: 5/7-5/18
- ◆ PROGRESS REPORTS: 5/11
- ◆ SPRING CONCERT: 5/15
- ◆ ZUFALL DENTAL: 5/25

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

**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.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS:** Have you seen our teachers and staff moving around a lot? They are participating in a staff fitness challenge and trying to earn as many steps as they can each day and on the weekends. They are working together as a team to total the most steps over 6 weeks. It is recommended that you try to get in 10,000 steps a day to stay heart healthy. We have completed almost three weeks so far and as a staff we have done over **10 MILLION** steps. It is great to see everyone up and moving. Encourage your teachers and staff to keep moving over the next 3 weeks!

**SPRING GARDEN NEWS:** The greenhouse and garden are officially open! A new group of 5th and 6th grade gardeners have joined the club and are working to clean up the area and take care of our first seedlings. The next step will be planting seeds in the raised beds and the greenhouse so that we can continue our growing season through the summer and into the fall. Keep an eye on the space as you drive by, it won't be long and you will see a lot happening this spring!

**MAKERSPACE MAGIC CLUB:** The Makerspace Magic Club began last week as 10 members, all 5th and 6th grade students, met in the Makerspace for a challenge and some programming with robots. Teams were created and given a stack of index cards for a collaborative activity. Each team was challenged to build a tower, at least 10 inches high, using only index cards. There was one hitch... the groups had to find something in common that they could write on each card before they could use it as part of the structure! One team managed to build a tower that was more than 30 inches high. The second part of the club meeting included an opportunity to meet "Dash" and "Dot" - programmable robots. Students used iPads and the "Blockly" App to teach the robot to drive and then explore challenge cards. Looking forward to this week's club meeting and more adventures in the Makerspace!

**MUSIC NEWS:** This year's Spring Concert is taking place on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. The students involved in this concert will be the following: Grade 3, Grade 5, Beginning Band, Advanced Band, Handbell Ensemble, and After School Ensemble. Information sheets have gone home regarding the time and place each group should meet at Stillwater School. Students have been working hard to prepare great performances for their audiences and are proud of all the work they have put in. We hope you can join us to welcome the spring weather and the approach of the end of the school year. Any information about the concert can be found on Ms. Franck's teacher webpage.

**PARCC TESTING:** Grades 3-6 will be doing PARCC testing on Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. English Language Arts units are on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday for all grades. Mathematics units are on Thursday and Friday for grades 3-5 and Thursday, Friday and Monday (5/14) for grade 6. Makeups will occur during the week of May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Do Your Best on the Test!!

- Get plenty of rest and be on time for school
- Have a good, nutritious breakfast
- Leave electronic devices at home
- Wear comfortable clothing (Remember...no hoodies)
- Relax and take a deep breath
- Pace yourself
- Stay positive!

CHECK IT OUT! Want to know more about history or a topic you love? Ducksters is the site for you! This educational site covers topics such as history, science, geography, math, and biographies. Each topic page is written to be easy to read and understand. This site also includes activities like games, sports, movies, music, and so much more. <http://www.ducksters.com/>

HELP STUDENT COUNCIL STUFF THE BUS... All over the world there are people in need of food. The Student Council is asking families around Stillwater to donate non-perishable foods for our food drive. For a little motivation this food drive is also a competition between the other Kittatinny Sending Districts. We will work together to stuff a bus. Make sure to bring in your non-perishables between the dates of May 1st through the 23rd. Thank you in advance! ~ *by Delaney Burke and Makenzie Kover*

## Stillwater PTA

Like us on Facebook- Stillwater Twp PTA. You can also visit our websites! [www.pt-avenue.com](http://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](http://www.stillwatertwppta.my-pta.org).

SPRING BOOK FAIR: A big thank you to Tanya O'Shea and Kayla Philhower for chairing the spring book fair. We appreciate your hard work and commitment in making this event a great success. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make our book fair a success.

TALENT SHOW: A big thank you to Justine Mahon for organizing yet another fantastic talent show. We appreciate all your time and dedication in making this event fun for all. Congratulations to all the participants who did a great job and many thanks to all the parents and other volunteers who gave their time to help out in different ways.

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](mailto:stillwatertwppta@gmail.com) or Karyn Carter [karyn1213@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com) or 973-229-2990.

FAMILY TRAYS: Please consider donating a family tray. Each family to donate a tray will receive a free sheet of level 1 tickets!

TRAY COLLECTION TIMES:

Saturday (4/21) @ Flagpole (10:00-11:00)

Thursday (4/26) @ Book Fair (5:00-8:00)

Wednesday (5/2) @ Shed in back (3:00-4:00)

Thursday (5/3) @ PTA meeting-Room A119 (7:00-8:00)

MOTHER/SON NIGHT: The mother/son night will be held on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:05pm at Skylands stadium. The number of tickets is limited and it will be on a first come first serve basis. The deadline is May 11, 2018. Please contact Traci Trotter at [trotts900@embarqmail.com](mailto:trotts900@embarqmail.com) or text 201-390-2644 to reserve or with any questions.

LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE: The PTA will be sponsoring a trip to the Land of Make Believe in Hope, NJ on **Friday, June 29, 2018**. Ticket prices are as follows; Children-\$15(under 2 are free), Adults-\$7.00. Please complete the form that was sent home and return to the school along with payment(checks made payable to Stillwater PTA) c/o Jen Kraft no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>. For questions, please contact Jen Kraft at [stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com) or (973)229-2990.

ELECTION NOMINATIONS: The 2018 Stillwater PTA Nominating Committee has nominated the following members for the upcoming elections. Each term is 1 year, to being July 1, 2018 and end on June 30, 2019.

President-Arlean Konar

Vice President-Alicia Gardner

Treasurer-Kayla Philhower

Corresponding Secretary-Tanya O'Shea

Recording Secretary-Christine Bello

If any PTA member would like to self-nominate and run opposed for any of these positions, please email your letter of intent to [stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com) and [stillwaterptacoresec@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptacoresec@yahoo.com) **NO LATER** than April 26, 2018. Elections will take place at our next General PTA meeting on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 7:00PM.

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](mailto:stillwaterptapresident@yahoo.com) and Cali Roberts at [Cali.roberts@stillwaterschool.net](mailto: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 [stillwaterptacoresec@yahoo.com](mailto:stillwaterptacoresec@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 6<sup>th</sup> 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: TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON MAY 9, 2018, MOTHERS DAY FLOWER SALE MAY 10 & 11, 2018, TRICKY TRAY MAY 18, 2018, MOTHER/SON EVENT JUNE 8, 2018, LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE TRIP JUNE 29, 2018

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