

Hot Cider A Cider Mill PTA Publication September 27, 2015

Important Dates

Sept. 28	Day 6
Sept. 28	Open House ~ Belden and Nod Hill, 7:30pm Principal Greeting and Special Area Teachers in Gym, 7pm
Oct. 1	Odyssey of the Mind Parent Presentation in Cafeteria, 7pm
Oct. 5	Open House ~ Cannondale and Kent, 7:30 pm Principal Greeting and Special Area Teachers in Gym, 7pm
Oct. 7	Walkathon
Oct. 12	NO SCHOOL (Columbus Day)
Oct. 13	NO SCHOOL (Staff Development Day)
Oct. 14	Literacy Night, Parent Meeting, 7pm
Oct. 15	Literacy Day, Parent Meeting, 9:15am
Oct. 20	PTA Meeting, 9:15am, Cafeteria
Oct. 21	Math Night, Parent Meeting, 7pm
Oct. 22	Math Day, Parent Meeting, 9:15am
Oct. 30	Halloween Parades, Times TBD

Important Phone Numbers

Cider Mill Main Office: 203-762-3351

Report an Absence: 203-834-4950 or kellym@wilton.k12.ct.us

Bus Transportation: 203-762-3381 x8333

Chartwells: 203-834-4990 x5221

A Note from the PTA President

Dear Parents,

The school year is getting well underway. We have enjoyed a successful visit from this year's visiting author Tony Abbott. Funded by the PTA, this is one of a number of programs which aims to enrich our children's school experience. I sat in on one of Mr. Abbott's presentations. He was funny and engaging and inspired every child in the room to find the author within themselves. Thank you to Sue Stengrim and Ali Lombardi for organizing book sales during the author visit, and to all the parents who volunteered their time to help with the sales.

Only ten days are left until our annual fundraiser, The Walkathon. It is not too late to submit your pledge form to school. Which house will win "No Homework Night"? Can anyone catch up with Nod Hill who is currently in the lead! Thank you to all those parents who helped paint our House banners last week after school. We have so many talented artists in the school, including a budding Jackson Pollock.

Be sure to drop by the PTA table at Open House to sign up for PTA Membership and get your Spiritwear!

Warmly,
Nicola Davies
PTA President

School News

Cider Mill PTA Membership

What is a PTA membership all about? Becoming a member of our PTA is more than just getting a directory - although you will get one with your membership. Our membership is open to all adults who believe in the mission on the PTA. Joining the PTA is showing that you care what happens in your children's education. It shows that you want to be involved, engaged and informed. It isn't a commitment to volunteer for anything! It doesn't mean you have to turn up to a meeting every month (although we hope you will consider it). It is a way to stay connected with our school community, getting to know your school and administrators, having a voice and being heard at the school and school district level.

Your membership dues support the programs your children participate in regularly. Without the PTA, your support and all of our wonderful volunteers, these activities would not happen: field days, fun nights, Reflections, River Study, School Store, Visiting Author, Turkey Trot, World language celebrations, walk-a-thon, book fair, spirit wear, library volunteer, school supplies, Hot Cider newsletter, etc. etc.

You can find a form on the new PTA website <http://www.cidermillpta.org/#!/forms/c70d>.

Cider Mill Library Volunteers Needed

The Cider Mill library is looking for parent volunteers to staff the circulation desk during school hours. Shifts are 90 minutes long and there are weekly and biweekly shifts available. If you are interested in signing up, or would like more information, please email Deb DeFeo at debradefeo@gmail.com.

Walkathon ~ October 7th, 7:45am-9:45am

We also still need chaperones for the day of the event, Oct. 7th, 7:45am-9:45am. Contact [Gretchen Jeanes](mailto:gfreydl@gmail.com) at gfreydl@gmail.com for more information. Please let her know which class you would like to chaperone for the walk.

PTA ~ Open Committee Chair Positions

The PTA still needs Committee Chairs or Co-Chairs for the following Committees:

- 5th Grade Great Books: Each January for eight weeks, interested students participate in a book club. Students read assigned books and then meet during lunch to discuss and exchange their ideas. As Committee Chair you are recruiting other parent volunteers and ensuring they are trained and ready to lead discussions in their own small groups.

- 4th Grade Fun Night: 4th Grade Dad, Chris Jeanes, has stepped up, but he needs a co-chair to help out. Fun Nights are just that - lots of fun. It is a great reward to see all your hard work in organizing teams, games and parent volunteers in the faces of happy children. This event takes place in February.

To find out more information, or to volunteer to Chair one of these Committees, please contact Tara Snow at tanda@optonline.net.

Odyssey of the Mind Parent Meeting ~ October 1st, 7pm

Cider Mill is registering to participate in the Odyssey of the Mind Competition this year. This national competition fosters team work and creative thinking to solve problems. An evening meeting will be held on October 1st at 7pm in the cafeteria to provide parents with more information. Visit www.ctom.org for more information about the program.

Ongoing Cider Mill News

Bus Barn – Lost and Found Items

Missing something? Check out the Bus Barn Blogspot at <http://wiltonlostproperty.blogspot.com> for photos of items found on school buses. If you see something that might be yours, please contact Nicola Davies at nicoladavies@outlook.com.

Box Tops

Remember to clip your Box Tops! We are collecting Box Tops again this year and the collection box is located in the office. We will be running another Box Top competition soon!

Community News

National Alliance on Mental Illness Child and Adolescent Network

School is back in session and for many children, so is the academic and social stress that can cause behavioral changes. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) is a Support Group for parents of children with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues. The meeting is free, confidential, safe and led by trained volunteer facilitators who themselves have had personal experiences raising children with these concerns. Our meetings are a place to speak freely and be understood without embarrassment or the fear of being judged or treated differently. Parents come from Redding, Weston, Westport, Wilton and towns in the surrounding area. Our next meetings are Mondays September 28th and October 26th, from 10-11:30, G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. Information: Beth at 203-984-0123 or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa 203 970-4130 or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com

Wilton Community Activities

For information about community organizations who offer activities for students, please click this link: <http://www.wiltonpta.org/CommunityLinks.html>.

Submit News to Hot Cider

Please email school news to Andrea Bates at connbates@gmail.com, Clarissa Cannavino at clarissacannavino@yahoo.com and Nicola Davies at nicoladavies@outlook.com. For submission deadlines, publication dates, and past issues, please click this link: <http://www.cidermillpta.org/#!/hotcider/ccjp>.

Content may be edited at the discretion of the Hot Cider staff. In an effort to keep Hot Cider timely and concise, your article may be published only twice. Please consider publication dates carefully. Your understanding is appreciated. The next issue of Hot Cider will be published October 11, 2015. The deadline for submissions is October 6, 2015.