

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – March 10, 2019

Cider Mill School is a Community of Learners, ALL committed to being the best we can be.

Important Dates

Mar 11	Day 5
Mar 12	CM PTA Meeting, 9:15am, Cafeteria
Mar 13	Parent Book Club with Dr. Kevin Smith, Comstock, 10am
Mar 13	5th Grade Band Performance, Main Gym, 7-8pm
Mar 20	Incoming 6th Grade Parent Curriculum Night, Middlebrook School, 7-8pm
Mar 21	Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, Wilton High School Professional Library
Apr 1	Internet Safety Talk with Scott Driscoll, 7pm- Location TBD
Apr 9	CM PTA Meeting, 9:15am, Cafeteria
Apr 9	3rd Grade South (Belden Hill & Kent) Performance, 7-8pm
Apr 10	3rd Grade North (Cannondale & Nod Hill) Performance, 7-8pm
Apr 11	Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, Wilton High School Professional Library
Apr 15-19	NO SCHOOL (Spring Recess)
Apr 25	Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, Wilton High School Professional Library
Apr 26	Cider Mill's Got Talent Show

Important Phone Numbers

Cider Mill Main Office: 203-762-3351
Report an Absence: 203-834-4950 or fallonk@wiltonps.org
Bus Transportation: 203-762-3381
Chartwells: 203-834-4990 x5221

From The PTA Presidents

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers,

We are going to try this again...we are having our next PTA meeting on Tuesday March 12th at 9:15am and Officer Diane MacLean is coming discuss school safety and her role in the schools. We really would like for you to attend, but if you can't please use this [link](#) to submit a question we can have her answer it at the meeting. All questions and answers will be reported back to everyone in the next Hot Cider.

We would like to congratulate two Cider Mill students who competed in the CT PTA Reflection State competition. Our winners are:

Music – Eddie Musser - 1st Place
Visual Arts – Sanjuana Ganti – 3rd Place

Thank you to the awesome CM art teachers for another successful Pizza and Paint evening. This sold out event has become a wonderful addition to our yearly programming. The art teachers, parents and students all had a fun night. Thank you to Carol Faherty for chairing and coordinating this event! Mark your calendar for May 7th from 5:30-7pm for the annual CM Art Show – another awesome event!

We *desperately* need parents to step up and help fill some PTA positions, especially our Executive Board! I promise none of these are scary positions and you do not have to sign your life away. If you are even remotely curious, please come to our next PTA meeting on Tuesday, March 12th at 9:15am, or drop me an email to discuss more. If you have never volunteered before, we will walk you through it. It is so rewarding to be part of the working cogs that make this Cider Mill PTA run.

PTA Open Positions 2019-2020 School Year

Executive Board:

Co-President, serving alongside Carolyn Lyon.

Secretary, attending PTA meetings and taking notes to report back to parents. Collecting reports from

Committee Chairs to report at PTA meetings.

Treasurer, keeping financial records for Cider Mill PTA, submitting financial reports and tax forms.

Committee Chairs - more positions may open later in the year.

-**Hospitality**, join our current chairs in hosting a variety of different events for our faculty and staff.

-**3rd Grade Great Books**, helping organize volunteers and run the Great Books lunch program for 3rd Grade.

-**Volunteer Coordinator**, gathering volunteers that may be interested in events during the school year such as Walk-a-thon, School store, Art, etc.

-**3rd and 5th Grade River Study**, helping co-ordinate volunteers and liaise with Science teachers for the River Study

-**Visiting Author Co-Chair**, helping with planning and coordinating the visiting author for next year.

-**5th Grade Fun Night**, a few co-chairs are needed to plan the 5th Grade Fun Night at the YMCA. There are contacts and plans from preceding years making it easy to action.

For more information on any of these positions or any other opportunity you may be interested in, please contact Amanda Patania, amanda_patania@yahoo.com.

Hope to see you on Tuesday at the PTA meeting.

Carolyn Lyon and Amanda Patania
CM PTA Co-Presidents

2019-2020 Budget Corner

The 2019-2020 Board of Education budget process is underway. Here are some important dates from now until the Annual Town Meeting.

MARCH 25TH, 7:30pm (Middlebrook School Auditorium) BOARD OF FINANCE PUBLIC HEARING ON BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET

• Members of the community can provide feedback on the budget proposal to members of the BOF

March 26th, 7:30pm (Middlebrook School Auditorium) Board of Finance public hearing on Board of Selectmen budget • Members of the community can provide feedback on the budget proposal to members of the BOF

March 27-29th (Meeting Room A, Town Hall) Board of Finance Mill Rate Meetings

• During these meetings the BOF votes to set the proposed appropriation for 2019-2020 (Public can listen)

MAY 6TH, 7:30pm (Tentative) (Clune Auditorium, WHS) Annual Town Meeting

• PRESENT registered voters can vote to reduce or approve proposed appropriation

At any time, you can email your thoughts, concern and feedback regarding the budget to:

• boe@wiltonps.org

• boardoffinannce@wiltonct.org

School News

Box Tops Competition ~ March 11th

Save the Box Tops, a fun competition is starting March 11th.

Collect box tops to help Cider Mill raise money! Be sure to collect your box tops and submit them to your class teacher. Visit <http://www.boxtops4education.com/> to learn more about the program. Contact Box Top Chair, Heather Mroz at heathermm@optonline.net if you have any questions.

Math Curriculum

Trudy Denton will go through the proposed changes as they were presented at the January 10th BOE meeting. There will be time for a Q & A. Parents are encouraged to visit the Math program update page [here](#) and if they have thoughts they wish to share with the Math department a google form is available to fill out [here](#).

Information session for members of the community will be held in the Zellner Gallery on the following dates and times*:

March 18, 7pm - 8.30pm

Snow date March 26, 7pm - 8.30pm

*Please note, each date will cover the same presentation and material.

Parent Book club with Dr. Kevin Smith ~ Wednesday, March 13th@10am, Comstock Community Center

We are pleased to announce a new district-wide parent book clubs on one of our favorite books, How to Raise an Adult: Break Free of the Overparenting Trap and Prepare Your Kid for Success, by Julie Lythcott-Haines. Heard about the book and been wanting to read it? Have you read it and would love to discuss? Now is your chance! Space is limited to 20 people, and registration is required. Now is the time to start reading! The discussion will be facilitated by Dr. Kevin Smith and Wilton Youth Council. Book Club is for parents with children in grade K-5th.

Free; register at [RaiseAnAdultWiltonKto5.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Sponsored by Wilton Public Schools, Wilton Youth Council, Wilton School PTA/PTSAs.

New York Yankees Vs. Tampa Bay Rays ~ Sunday May 19th at 1.05pm, Yankee Stadium

Look for the flyer in your child's backpack this week to purchase New York Yankees vs. Tampa Bay Rays Sunday, May 19th at 1:05pm at Yankee Stadium. Cheer on the New York Yankees while supporting our schools! The whole family will enjoy the thrill of a live baseball game and the ticket sales proceeds will benefit the Miller-Driscoll and Cider Mill PTAs.

Great seats and just \$45 each. All seats are in the 200 level – seats are limited!!

PLEASE mail completed flyer to Susan Price (49 Scarlet Oak Drive, Wilton) with a check made payable to "Miller-Driscoll PTA" by April 5th. Tickets purchased can be picked up the week before the game in CM main office. More details on pick-up will follow.

Any questions? Contact Susan Price via email at sprice14@optonline.net.

Volunteer at the Cider Mill Library Learning Commons

The Cider Mill Library is in need of volunteers to help fill in vacancies in our volunteer schedule. The shifts are an hour and a half every other week or weekly. The volunteers are very valuable to keep the library functioning smoothly by checking out books to students. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jen Fila at jennfila5@gmail.com or Jackie Couch at jackie.couch13@gmail.com for more information.

5th Grade Parents – Consider Middlebrook's Project Adventure Next Year!

Interested in volunteering at Middlebrook next year? Project adventure is one of the few opportunities for parents to volunteer and help students literally reach new heights. Project Adventure is part of Middlebrook's physical education curriculum and offers students a chance to climb, swing, and belay on outdoor and indoor rope courses. Adults are needed to belay students and encourage them to face (and crush) rope course challenges. All volunteers are required to complete a belay training course and obtain certification (Rock Climb Fairfield works great). All volunteers must also complete the school required background check. For more information please contact Renee Rafferty raffertyrenee@gmail.com or Margo Silvan margosilvan@me.com.

Ongoing School News

Join the PTA ~ We Need Your Support!

Join the PTA and gain access to our Mobile Directory! Get instant access when you join – no waiting, easy updates to address or phone number changes throughout the year! Join here, and use the code - 'wilton' https://mobilearq.com/schooldirectory/school_directory_parent_register.html

Parents please update your profiles to include email and cell phone numbers! One easy spot to register for all your kids' PTAs and make a donation at the same time! Questions? Email our Directory Chair Jennifer Wulff jen@presto.org (Please add support@mobilearq.com to your address book to ensure delivery of the confirmation email with temporary auto-login link.)

Get Your CM Spiritwear

Spirit Wear (also known as House shirts) can be purchased at any time throughout the year on the Cider Mill PTA site: cidermillpta.org, Your order will be delivered to your student's class within two days.

Cider Mill School Store

We are looking for parent volunteers to work in the Cider Mill School Store! The School Store is open during lunch on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. If you're interested in helping out, please email CiderMillSchoolStore@gmail.com to get onto our email volunteer list and to find out how to sign up for shifts throughout the school year!

Find Us on Facebook!

The PTA has a group on Facebook called Cider Mill Parent Community. It is a place where the PTA can communicate to parents, and also where parents can communicate with one another. Please check it out by clicking here: [Cider Mill Parent Community](#)

Stop and Shop Rewards Program

CIDER MILL SCHOOL – (ID#: 40341) has the opportunity to participate and earn CASH from A+ School Rewards, a great fundraising program run through our local Stop & Shop!

To participate:

- Visit <http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus> and scroll down to the center of the page to select REGISTER YOUR CARD from the red box on the right marked FOR CUSTOMERS

To earn points:

- Use your registered Stop & Shop Card each time you shop at Stop & Shop, and you will earn CASH for our school. You can track the number of points you are earning for our school by checking your grocery receipt.
- At the end of each month, your points are calculated and converted to CASH rewards for our school. These CASH rewards are updated monthly on the Giant A+ website beginning in November.
- After the last day of the 2018 program, these same conversions are performed and the final school account total is posted.
- Our school will receive one CASH awards check at the end of the program and can use this cash for any of our educational needs.

Lost and Found ~ Cider Mill

There are two L&F locations in Cider Mill. One is at the doorway where you go to the playground, on the high school side (Cannondale). The other is by the front door on the far side of the bus loop (Kent). You or your child can check these locations for lost items. At the end of each season, the unclaimed items are donated to the Turnover Shop with proceeds going to the Cider Mill PTA. Contact Amanda Mitchell with questions, at amandaNmitchell@gmail.com.

Community News

Town of Wilton ~ Public Meetings for Merwin Meadows and Schenck's Island

The Town of Wilton will be holding two public meetings seeking feedback to be used in the development of a concept plan for the renovation of Schenck's Island and Merwin Meadows. The meetings will be held on Sunday, March 24th, 2019 and on Sunday, April 28th, 2019 from 1-3 pm at Comstock Community Center gym. The meetings are open to the public and no RSVP is required. If needed, a snow date will be posted on the Town website (www.wiltonct.org).

The March 24th meeting will provide a brief overview of the sites and then focus on collecting feedback from participants on desired features and improvements at Schenck's Island and Merwin Meadows. At the April 28th meeting, Milone & MacBroom will present a summary of feedback gathered to date and will present a proposed concept plan for discussion and feedback. Wilton residents of all ages are encouraged to attend the meetings to provide feedback on what features and improvements they would like to see in the parks. Questions may be directed to Mike Conklin, Town of Wilton – Environmental Affairs Department at mike.conklin@wiltonct.org or (203) 563-0182.

Wilton Education Foundation ~ Two Upcoming Events

Wilton Education Foundation has two exciting events that WEF sponsors coming up in a couple weeks. Please see the links below for more information. Please join us at Are you Smarter Than a 5th grader on March 22nd and Acoustic Wilton on March 23rd. Both events support WEF and in return WEF supports all four schools in Wilton with requests and needs throughout the school year.

Click here for more information about Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader:

<https://wiltoneducationfoundation.org/events-programs/smarter-than-a-fifth-grader>

Click here for more information about Acoustic Wilton:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZGbpXeEbNrBq3-PMARsqJ_LHI62CNRjk/view

2nd Annual Zero Waste Faire ~ March 23rd, 11-4pm

We hope you can join us at our [2nd Annual Zero Waste Faire](#) on Saturday, March 23 from 11-4pm at the Wilton High School Field House. The Zero Waste Faire will again feature a broad range of interactive exhibits to help Wilton and Fairfield County become more conscious about and involved in practicing Zero Waste living. There will be exhibits from museums, aquariums, and environmental organizations with many

fun, educational activities for kids and adults. This year's event will have more exhibitors demonstrating and selling products, such as reusable drinking straws, compost bins and reusable beeswax food wrap. Interested in volunteering? Email us at info@wiltongogreen.org.

Wilton Children's Theater Summer Registration now open!

Registration is now open for Wilton Children's Theater summer programs, Summerstage Jr! (entering grades 3-6) and Summerstage (entering grades 7-10). Program dates are June 24-July 12. Summerstage Jr! will perform Disney's 101 Dalmatians KIDS. The show for Summerstage will be announced soon. For Summerstage Jr!, All payments must be received by WCT before April 4, 2019 in order for your child to be considered registered. If oversubscribed, there will be a lottery after April 4 for spaces. Register and get more details at <http://www.wiltonchildrenstheater.org/> We look forward to seeing you this summer!

Join Wilton Children's Theater on an adventure under the sea!

Tickets to our upcoming performances of **Disney's The Little Mermaid** are on sale now at <http://www.wiltonchildrenstheater.org/>. Performances are Friday, March 15th at 7pm, Saturday, March 16th at 4pm and Sunday, March 17th at 2pm. All performances are at Middlebrook School Auditorium. Save time and money and pick your own seats online! Tickets are \$13.50 when purchased in advance on our website or \$14 at the door (cash/check only).

Challenger Baseball ~ Registration is Open

Do you know a child with disabilities who would enjoy playing baseball? Come join us!!! The Wilton Little League True Warriors participate in the Challenger Division of Little League. Our focus is to play baseball and have fun. No experience necessary. [Click here to register](#)
Want to know more about True Warriors? We can be reached at wiltonlittleleague@gmail.com.

SPLITS ~ New Support Group for Kids

Is your child affected by a recent divorce or separation? Does your child need the skills to cope with their emotions? Join SPLITS

Starting: TBD 2:30 to 3:30pm (weekly for 4 weeks) at Wilton Youth Services in Comstock.

[Click Here for Registration Form](#)

** Bus #35 goes to Comstock if you would like your child to take the bus please alert the school. SPLITS program leaders will meet your child at the front entrance of Comstock.

SPLITS can help your child by:

- Building healthy coping strategies
- Assisting them on when & how to ask for help
- Recognizing loss, change & gain
- Recognizing strengths that will increase self confidence

Wilton SEPTA~

Next Wilton SEPTA meeting will be on Wednesday , March 13th @ 9:15 am in the Zellner Gallery at the Clune Center.

Save the date: Wilton SEPTA Spring Social, Thursday, April 11th from 5pm- 9pm @ Ambler Farm

Special guest speaker: Dr. Margie Gillis from Literacy How will present on "The Science of Reading" from 5-6pm followed by reception with refreshments, appetizers and music.

Open to WPS families and Staff members.

For additional info and to inquire about open executive board and committee positions contact us at Wiltonsepta@gmail.com. For membership visit our web site at www.wiltonsepta.org .

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN)~

Feel like you have no one to talk with about your child's challenging behavior? You are not alone.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) Support Group is for parents of children with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues. The meeting is free, confidential, safe and led by trained and certified 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 meeting is **Monday, March 25th, from 10-11:30a.m.**, at G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. For more info, contact Beth at 203-984-0123 or Beth44es@gmail.com; or Vanessa at EliasVanessa5@gmail.com, or text 203-970-4130.

You can also visit <http://www.namisouthwestct.com>.

Wilton Youth Council (WYC)

WYC promotes and protects the social, emotional and mental well-being of Wilton's students by educating and empowering youth, parents and the community. Find us on FB or visit wiltonyouth.org for more information and to sign up for our monthly newsletter.

Click [here](#) for an overview of this year's events!

Looking to Get Involved?

Wilton Youth Council needs you! We have many programs running and this is a great time to get involved!

Questions? Email Vanessa Elias at eliasvanessa5@gmail.com. Interested in volunteering? Email

Courtney Boucher at courtney.v.boucher@gmail.com.

Submit News to Hot Cider

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The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on March 24th, 2019.

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Content may be edited at the discretion of editors. In an effort to keep Hot Cider timely and concise, your article may be published only twice.