

# HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – November 3rd, 2019

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

## Important Dates

<b>Nov 4</b>	Day 1
<b>Nov 5</b>	NO SCHOOL (Professional Development Day)
<b>Nov 12</b>	CM PTA Meeting, Cafeteria, 9:15-10:15am
<b>Nov 20</b>	Photo Retake Day
<b>Nov 21-26</b>	SHORTENED DAY (Dismissal at 11:55am for Conferences)
<b>Nov 21-26</b>	Book Fair, Cafeteria, 7:30am-3:30pm
<b>Nov 27</b>	NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving Recess)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Bingo Night, Cafeteria, 6-7.30pm
<b>Dec 20</b>	SHORTENED DAY (Dismissal at 11:55am)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Holiday Recess till January 1st
<b>Jan 2</b>	Happy 2020! First day of School

## Important Phone Numbers

Cider Mill Main Office: 203-762-3351  
Report an Absence: 203-834-4950 or [cmattend@wiltonps.org](mailto:cmattend@wiltonps.org)  
Bus Transportation: 203-762-3381  
Chartwells: 203-834-4990 x5221

## From The PTA Presidents

To Cider Mill Parents and Guardians,

Halloween played a trick on us with all of the rain, but seeing all the children dressed up for the parade was definitely a treat. The children paraded around the hallways and gyms while the parents filled the halls to get a glimpse at all of the different costumes. Afterwards the children participated in the Fall into Reading program and decorated their pumpkins based on one of their favorite books. Their pumpkins are on display in the hallways and look amazing! A big thank you to the Administration and Teachers for making the adjustments needed to allow the parade to go on despite the weather.

On October 22, an email was sent out by the administration announcing our first Let Grow Project of the 2019-2020 school year. The Let Grow Project is all about giving children the opportunity to grow by parents letting go. Allowing your child to do something on their own for the first time can be hard, but these milestones are so important to a child's growth. Please take time to review and fill out the Let Grow Project Handout with your child. Also, take a picture of them doing their own #LetGrowMoment. Handouts and photos should be returned to the main office by November 6th.

The week of Oct 21st was Zero Waste Week. This program is designed to significantly reduce the amount of waste that would otherwise be sent to landfills or for incineration. Activities took place in the cafeteria and classrooms throughout the week to educate students on composting, food donations, recycling and environmental conservation practices. Thank you to the Zero Waste Co-Chairs Nicole Northway, Elizabeth McKay, Laura Rowley and all the parents that volunteered. The Zero Waste Schools Committee is running a K-12 Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Poster Contest with the Town of Wilton. Please see additional information below. Look for emails from the district containing information about what families can do to support Zero Waste initiatives at home.

The Cider Mill School Store opened on Wednesday and the children were all so excited to visit it for the first time this year. We are looking for parent volunteers to work the School Store on Wednesdays. Please consider signing up for a shift at [CM School Store Volunteer Signup](#). Additional details are below.

The 44th Annual Jim Cook Turkey Trot is taking place on Friday, November 8th at Cider Mill on the fields to the north of the school and high school track. All CM students will participate in the Turkey Trot and we are asking that each family make a minimal contribution of \$2. Funds collected will benefit Wilton

Families in need and will go towards purchasing turkeys and gift cards. Come by to cheer your student on! If you would like to volunteer sign up at: [Turkey Trot Volunteer Signup](#).

Please join us for our next PTA meeting on Tuesday, November 12th at 9:15am in the newly redesigned LLC. Kevin J. Smith, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools will be in attendance.

Thank you again for all of your support.  
Carolyn Lyon and Meghan Russo  
CM PTA Co-President



## School News

### **PTA VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE ~ WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We still need help filling these gaps. If you'd like to know more or interested in helping please contact Amanda Patania or Alex Frisbee at [CMnominating@gmail.com](mailto:CMnominating@gmail.com).

**Hospitality** - We currently have a few people to help co-ordinate pampering staff at various times during the year, but more people are needed to help run these events. It's a position which is split and staff really appreciate.

**4th and 5th Field Day** - Coordinating volunteers and working with the gym teachers to make these fun days run smoothly. It's all set up from past Field Days and a good way to end the year.

**3rd Grade Great Books** - Recruit 3rd Grade parents to run Great Books during lunch period. It's a little like a book club for the children. 4th and 5th Grade chairs are experienced and can walk you through the whole procedure.

### **GREAT BOOKS**

Parents, are you passionate about literature and reading? Help CM PTA to run the Junior Great Books program at our school! We are still in need of a 3rd Grade Junior Great Books Chair for this year! This mainly involves overseeing the working of the program. You'll be ordering and then distributing books to children who sign up for the program, recruiting parents to run book groups (you may be one if you like), as well as arranging and placing groups in a physical location for their meetings. Liz Sims (5th Grade Chair) and Anastasia Valassis (4th Grade) have done this before and are happy to walk you through the process! Please reach out with questions or interest to at [avalassis@gmail.com](mailto:avalassis@gmail.com).

### **S.P.A.C.E.: Supportive Parenting of Anxious Childhood Emotions ~ November 4th at 7pm in the Middlebrook Auditorium \*\*Please note location change\*\***

Dr. Eli Lebowitz, Associate Professor in the Yale Child Study Center, will speak to parents about the S.P.A.C.E. program, which addresses childhood anxiety (from low level to severe) by teaching parenting skills. The program has been found to be effective in lessening the negative impact of anxiety on children and families. Come learn more about how changing parent behavior can positively impact your child and reduce the impact of anxiety on your entire family. Dr. Lebowitz will also lead a training session for professionals during the day on November 4 and 5. This session is sponsored by the Wilton Public Schools, SPED\*NET Wilton, Wilton SEPTA, and Wilton Youth Council. For any questions please contact Lori Godin at [godinl@wiltonps.org](mailto:godinl@wiltonps.org), or by phone at 203-762-3381 extension 8312.

### **CIDER MILL PICTURE RETAKE**

Picture Retake Day is coming up on November 20! Students having a retake, return your portrait package minus the class picture to the photographer on retake day. Who should attend retake day:

- ✦ Any student that was absent on Photo Day (regardless of if you are purchasing a package)

- ♦ Any student not satisfied with the original portrait. Return your complete package, minus the class picture, to the photographer on Retake Day.
- ♦ Any student that did not purchase a package on Photo Day and would now like to purchase a picture package.

## **CIDER MILL BOOK FAIR : Arctic Adventure Book Fair~ Snow Much to Read!**



A blizzard of books is headed your way! Venture deep into the ice-cold polar regions to the coolest reading expedition ever! The Scholastic Book Fair will be at the Cider Mill Cafeteria on - **November 21, 22, 25, and 26, from 7:30am-3:30pm.**

For information on hours, available titles, and eWallet, our new digital payment option, visit our home page: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/cidermill>.

To volunteer for pre-fair set-up, sales, or pack-up, please click- [CM BOOK FAIR VOLUNTEER SIGNUP](#).

### **CIDER MILL INDOOR RECESS DONATIONS**

In conjunction with Cider Mill administrators and the Free Play Task Force, to enhance indoor recess for students, we are looking for donations of the following items:

Legos

Straws & Connectors

Oversized drawing sheets and crayons

Mad Libs

Perplexus

Rubik's Cubes

All items should be dropped in the 3-drawer plastic bin on front porch at 120 Pipers Hill Rd or message Chandra Ring at [cring226@hotmail.com](mailto:cring226@hotmail.com) to set up a meeting.

### **CIDER MILL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS**

Did you know that Cider Mill PTA organizes school-wide enrichment programs for all Cider Mill students? Each year, various programs related to science, music, or art are provided to students that compliment and support their curriculum.

In September, the 4th Graders at Cider Mill participated in Musical IQ, a new enrichment program at Cider Mill School this year. This was a fun, interactive, and high energy Drum Orchestra program where each student was given a Djembe Drum to play throughout the session. They not only learned about the musical instrument, where it was from and how to use it, but using guided rhythmic activities and instruction, the students built a unique and beautiful musical creation! Overall, the program promoted cooperation, demonstrated the value of effective communication and listening, illustrated the importance of diversity, and awoke the creative spirit among all of the students! The teachers and students couldn't stop talking about how fun and engaging the program was! We're equally excited to bring it back next year as it was such a great hit!!

A long standing tradition at Cider Mill School is a TV-style game show called Brain Challenge which is offered to 5th Graders. The students compete by house – testing their listening, spelling, and math skills all in a fun and friendly environment. Challenges are carried out by house which encourages team-work and good sportsmanship.

3rd Grade Enrichment will take place in the Spring – more to come!!

**Ongoing School News**



## **WPS ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR DISTRICT'S HALL OF FAME**

Nominations are now being accepted for potential 2020 inductees to the Wilton Public Schools Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame was established in 2016 to honor members of the Wilton Public Schools community who have distinguished themselves in ways that have brought great honor and pride to the community. Induction into the hall of fame is the highest honor the Wilton schools can bestow on an individual. Nominees can be teachers, students, former students or staff members who have in some way achieved recognition in their chosen area of expertise. Click [HERE](#) for more information. Nomination Forms can be found [HERE](#).

## **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](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](mailto:jen@presto.org) (Please add [support@mobilearq.com](mailto:support@mobilearq.com) to your address book to ensure delivery of the confirmation email with temporary auto-login link.)

## **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 2019-2020 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.

## **BOX TOPS HAVE GONE DIGITAL!**

BIG, exciting change to Box Tops for Education this year! Box Tops has gone digital! This is a MUCH easier way to earn money for Cider Mill School! To donate box tops, follow the steps below.

1. Download the Box Top (BTFE) app on your smart phone
2. Buy products with the Box Top logo
3. Using the BTFE app, scan your store receipt
4. The app automatically gives Cider Mill credit for the participating products you purchased!

The app is really easy to use and it saves so much clipping and counting time. Any clipped Box Tops you have been saving may be turned into the Box Tops box in the main office. These will be counted and submitted "the old fashioned way." If you have any questions, please email Heather Mroz, Box Top Coordinator, at [heathermm@optonline.net](mailto:heathermm@optonline.net). Thank you for your support and happy scanning!

## **LOST & 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](mailto:amandaNmitchell@gmail.com).

## **Community News**

## **REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE POSTER CONTEST (K-12)**

The Town of Wilton is partnering with the Zero Waste Schools Committee to celebrate America Recycles Day with a Recycling Poster Contest! One winner will be chosen from each of the following groups: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, and 9th-12th. Winners will receive a prize and have their artwork displayed at Wilton Town Hall. **Deadline: Friday, November 8th.** See flyer for details:-



## [Zero Waste Schools](#)

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One winner will be chosen from each of the following groups: K-2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>.  
**Winners will receive a prize and have their artwork displayed at Wilton Town Hall.**

**Eligibility:** All students in grades K-12.

**Poster Requirements:** Posters created by the students must be their own original artwork.

Size:

As small as 8" x 11" and as large as 24" x 36".

Materials:

Students may use a variety of media such as pen and ink, crayon, colored pencil, marker, or paints. 3D projects and other creative ideas will be accepted as well (within size guidelines above).

Theme:

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.** Students should use their artwork to demonstrate the right ways to deal with recyclable materials such as reducing single use plastics, reusing containers, or properly recycling materials based on the Town's recycling program. Check out [Recycle CT's "What's In, What's Out" program](#) for project inspiration.

**Submitting Posters:** Please write the student's name, grade, teacher and contact information (email address and phone number) on the back of the poster. Posters should be placed in the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Poster Contest bin outside the main office of each school.

**Deadline: Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.** Posters will be judged by First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice, a Wilton Go Green Board Member, and a Zero Waste Schools committee member. Winners will be announced on America Recycles Day - November 15, 2019.

We are excited to have our students showcase their artistic talents! If you have any questions, please email [wiltonzerowasteschools@gmail.com](mailto:wiltonzerowasteschools@gmail.com).



**WARRIORS** **WON'T** **WASTE**

### WILTON YOUTH COUNCIL

Please save the date for these Wilton Youth Council parent education programs! Like us on Facebook and visit [www.wiltonyouth.org](http://www.wiltonyouth.org) for more information about our programs for youth, parents and community. While you are there, sign up for our newsletter. We are looking for volunteers to join our

fundraising committee and/or the Free Play Matters Task Force. If you are interested, email Genevieve Eason at [geason@wiltonyouth.org](mailto:geason@wiltonyouth.org). Upcoming events-

**The Resilience Formula: Giving Kids Roots and Wings**, Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. OR 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. (Two opportunities!) at the Wilton Library Brubeck Room  
In this interactive session, Donna Volpitta, Ed.D, will teach the simple brain science behind raising emotionally healthy, resilient kids.

**Raising the Touch Screen Generation: The Role of Technology in Our Children's Lives**  
Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. OR 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. (Two opportunities!) at the Wilton Library Brubeck Room  
In this session, Alicia Farrell, Ph.D., leads a discussion about the fine line between healthy and unhealthy technology use (screen-time, social media, entertainment) and how parents, mentors and educators can help children walk it.

### **WILTON SEPTA**

Join us! The Wilton Special Education PTA works to support students, teachers and families of students receiving Support services in Wilton Public Schools. We work collaboratively with of our 4 school PTA's to create an inclusive supportive school community! Membership available on line at [www.wiltonsepta.org](http://www.wiltonsepta.org).

This fall marks the one-year anniversary of Wilton's Special Education PTA! We are proud of our accomplishments and are very excited about this year's objectives and goals to support students, parents and teachers. None of this would be possible without the support of parents and teachers, and we encourage everyone to get involved. Whether it's baking a dessert for our bake sale, working on a committee or simply becoming a member, the more hands and ideas we have, the greater our accomplishments will be!. Please share any ideas you have for future committees or projects. We know the best is yet to come!

Our next meeting will take place on November 20 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 12 at the Comstock Community Center. We hope to see you there!

Please note the dates and timings of the upcoming meetings-

January 15, 9-10.30am  
February 19, 7-8.30pm  
March 18, 4-5.30pm  
April 29, Spring Social  
May 20, 9-10.30am

### **WILTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION: WE GO BEYOND!**

The Wilton Education Foundation is a non-profit organization headquartered in Wilton, CT. Our mission is to enrich the educational experience of our students through grants and donations focused on technology, music and the arts, and professional development. For more information about WEF, please visit our website at [www.wiltoneducationfoundation.org](http://www.wiltoneducationfoundation.org).

Join us at our monthly meeting in the WHS professional library to hear updates from Superintendent Kevin Smith and learn about our upcoming fundraising events:

Thursday, November 21, 7:30p  
Thursday, December 12, 7:30p

Come out to support WEF and get in the competitive spirit at our Inaugural Fall Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, November 16th from 6-10pm at Trackside Teen Center. We'll have food and beverage trucks, and you can choose to join one of the 32 teams in the tournament or cheer them on as a spectator. For more information please visit [WEF Events - Programs](#).

Get your tickets at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/73963016373>

Since WEF is a non-profit volunteer organization, all proceeds go directly to support Wilton Schools.

### **NAMI WILTON PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**

Has the back-to-school honeymoon worn off? As school gets into full swing, the academic and social stresses can get to be too much, and result in 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 meeting is November 25th, from 10-11:30, G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. Please contact Beth at 203-984-0123 or [beth44es@gmail.com](mailto:beth44es@gmail.com) or Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or [eliasvanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:eliasvanessa5@gmail.com) for more information.

## Submit News to Hot Cider

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Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is November 13th, 2019.

The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on November 17th, 2019.

*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.*