

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – March 25, 2024

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

Important Dates

Mar 25-28	MAP Testing
Mar 29	Good Friday – NO SCHOOL
April 2	PTA Meeting at 9:15 am
April 4	3 rd /4 th Grade Fun Nights
April 7	SEPTA Sponsored Yankees Game
April 11	BOE Meeting at 7:00 pm
April 12	Dress Like a Bee Day
April 15-19	Spring Recess
April 25	BOE Meeting at 7:00 pm

Dear Cider Mill Parents and Guardians,

Our **5th Grade Fun Night** was a big success, with a lot of laughter and our soon-to-be grads having a great time! A huge thank you to **Tammy Thornton and Nicole Stacy** for organizing and running a fantastic evening. Another big thank you to all of the volunteers who came and made sure it was a fun and safe evening.

We still have **board positions** open for next year's 2024/2025 PTA. Please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested in any of the positions we have open.

Our next PTA meeting is on **April 2nd, 9:15 am** in the Cider Mill cafeteria and on Zoom. An agenda and Zoom link will be provided in a separate email.

We wish everyone a Happy Easter weekend next weekend, full of fun and family time.

As always, we thank you for your support. We can always be reached at giddingsmelissa@hotmail.com or carolinehavlin@hotmail.com

Melissa Reynolds and Caroline Hoffman
Cider Mill PTA Co-Presidents

Helpful Links

Important and Helpful Links:

Cider Mill Contact Info: (203) 762-3351

CM Attendance: (203) 834-4950 or cmattend@wiltonps.org

CM House

List: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Wg883jXBcWnTQOZNgLV746OvS6tnJaleYDL4q9doINy/edit>

CM Community Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1168962513117647/>

WPS Covid 19 Health and Safety

Protocols: https://s3.amazonaws.com/scschoolfiles/2699/wps_covid_protocols_2022-23_school_opening.pdf

WPS Back to School Website: https://www.wiltonps.org/342738_2

WPS 2023-24 School Calendar: https://www.wiltonps.org/342735_2

CM Interactive Calendar: https://www.wiltonps.org/576928_3

WPS App: Located in the Apple and Android app stores

Wilton BOE: https://wiltonps.org/338734_2

Pay for CM Club/Activities Fee: https://www.wiltonps.org/575955_3

Wilton PowerSchool Login: <https://wilton.powerschool.com/public/>

ParentSquare Information: https://wiltonps.org/595543_3

Schoology Information: https://wiltonps.org/576129_3

Special Bus Assignments: https://wiltonps.org/579910_3

MySchoolBucks: <https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/getmain?requestAction=home>

School Lunch Menus: <https://wilton.nutrislice.com/menu/menus-eula>

Join Wilton SEPTA: <https://www.wiltonsepta.org/>

School News

The PTA Needs YOU!

The PTA needs you for next year! We have several positions open that need to be voted on during our May meeting. If interested in any position, either doing it yourself or with someone else, **please email giddingsmelissa@hotmail.com by April 1!** Candidates will be named during our April 2 meeting. We have open:

President
President-elect
Treasurer
Secretary
Fundraising Team
Membership Chair
Website Administrator

We need a full slate for our April meeting to be voted in during our May meeting, the final meeting of the school year!

3rd/4th Grade Fun Nights!

Our 3rd and 4th Grade Fun Nights will take place on April 4. This is a free, drop off, event at Cider Mill School funded by the PTA.

3rd Grade: 5:30 – 7:00pm

4th Grade: 7:30 – 9:00pm

Although it is free, your child still needs to be signed up so we have accurate numbers for planning purposes. Please sign-up [HERE](#).

And of course we cannot put on these activities without some parent volunteers! To help out for 3rd grade, please sign-up [HERE](#). To help out for 4th grade, please sign-up [HERE](#).

We thank everyone who organized these events and are able to help out! We hope our 3rd and 4th graders have a great night!



Fifth-Grade Yearbook SHOUT-OUTS

Place a personalized message to your fifth grader in the yearbook! This is free to all fifth-grade families. Due to space constraints, PLEASE KEEP SUBMISSIONS TO ONE SENTENCE. Click the following link to see an example and to enter a message for your student: <https://forms.gle/qAr9ah46FFMtT3QZ6>

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos for the fifth-grade yearbook! At this time, we are finalizing the pages and can no longer accept photos. We had a tremendous response and we've featured as many photos as possible, but unfortunately not all submitted photos will be able to be included. Yearbooks will be distributed toward the end of the school year to all fifth graders at no charge.

Middlebrook Special Education Coffee Time

The Middlebrook Special Education department is offering a coffee morning to those with 5th graders moving up next year.

Please come by on April 9 from 10:00 – 11:00 am in the Middlebrook LLC.

Dress Like a Bee Day!

In celebration of Diversity, Kindness and Inclusion month, students and staff are invited to Dress Like a Bee on April 12! The idea is to dress to show kindness and to make a kindness pledge for how you will show kindness to others during the month of April. **All photos and pledges are to be submitted by Monday, April 15** for a random drawing and feature in Good Morning Wilton. Please see the below flyer for more details!

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april 2024
**KINDNESS
diversity
INCLUSION
awareness
month**

*Dress Like A Bee Day
April 12th*

Diversity/ Inclusion Awareness Month

**In April we celebrate Diversity,
Kindness and Inclusion Awareness**

Spring has sprung! A time for new beginnings! On Friday, April 12th all students and staff are invited to celebrate Diversity, Kindness and Inclusion Month with Dress Like a Bee for Bee Kind! How will you celebrate diversity, kindness and inclusion this month and every month?

Dress like Bee for spring or in any way that shows kindness along with your kindness pledge for how you will show kindness to others this month.

Photos and pledges can be submitted for a random drawing and feature in Good Morning Wilton. Please submit photos and kindness pledges by Monday, April 15th to www.wiltonsepta.org

Please include:
your child's name, school, grade and a quote/pledge from them about how they will spread kindness.

Sponsored by Wilton Septa, Miller Driscoll PTA & Good Morning Wilton



GOODMorningWilton

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The Miller-Driscoll Green Book Fair is Coming!

Cider Mill parents and guardians, please help out Miller-Driscoll by donating gently used chapter books to the MD Green Book Fair. CM students can bring their donated books to school, and parents can drop books off at the MD entrance from March 23 – April 5.

The sale will run from April 8 – 12. Thank you in advance to all who donate!

**ATTN: CM Please help MD
With Chapter book Donations!!!**
MD GREEN BOOK FAIR 2024
~a MD Library Fundraiser~
The Earth is What We All Have in Common



DONATION

Find books you are willing to donate. You can donate as many as you like.
Send your children to school with the donated books.

OR

Parent Drop off of books will be at the **MD Entrance**
from **3/23-4/5**.



The School Store is Open for Business!

The Cider Mill School Store is now available to grades 3rd – 5th, rotating each grade each Wednesday. The store is brought to the cafeteria where students can shop for a variety of small items, including pencils and erasers.

If you're interested in running the store for a session, please sign up here (Cider Mill School Store Schedule 2024): [SignUpGenius](#)

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Lost and Found

Is your child missing a water bottle, a jacket, or a snack bag? A headband, a hat, or a fidget? If any of your child's belongings haven't made their way home, he or she can check the Lost and Found to try to recover them. And with the change in weather, our racks and shelves are filling up! Please have your child check the display in the front lobby for any missing items, or stop in! **Any unclaimed items will go to the Turnover Shop during April break.**

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AtoZ Connect

Our new membership platform is now live! To sign up, please go to [Cider Mill PTA - Home Page \(membershiptoolkit.com\)](#). You can register here and then join the PTA by clicking on Join The PTA.

A Single Membership gives you directory access and one vote when voting on PTA issues. A Family Membership gives you directory access and two votes.

Through this platform we will provide a directory of students, sell tickets to events, sell spirit wear, and conduct surveys. All revenue goes to pay dues to the CTPTA and to support school events, grants, gifts, and more!

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Wilton SEPTA is looking for your help!

Like our [Facebook](#) page and visit our [website](#) to join for the 2023-2024 school year, for meeting dates, for volunteer and officer opportunities, and to stay updated with the latest news and information. In preparation for the upcoming PPT, annual meeting, and transition meeting season, we will be sharing planning and organizing tips with families on collaborating with school teams.

- We invite teachers to take advantage of our [gifts and grants](#) program
- Membership, Board, and Committee positions are open - it's not too late to join!
- We are seeking interested parents to help on our Community and Family Events Committee, including help for our April 2024 Diversity and Inclusion Awareness and Be Kind Campaign

Zoom link for all 2024 meetings:
<https://wiltonps.zoom.us/j/91771706236>

Community News

Woodcock Nature Center

Spring Programs at Woodcock Nature Center!

Hiking, animal encounters, nature art, outdoor activities, and so much more – join the Woodcock team for an outdoor adventure! Enrichment programs are offered for K-8 and are run by experienced educators on the nature center's 150-acre North Wilton preserve.

Navigators: Tuesdays, 4:15 – 5:45 pm beginning April 2
Earth Artists: Wednesdays, 4:15 – 5:45 pm beginning April 3
Amphibians After Dark: Saturday, March 29 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Limited space so register today at woodcocknaturecenter.org.

Wilton Basketball Fundraiser

Join us April 27th at 5:30 pm at the Wilton YMCA for the **Wilton Baseball Fundraiser** with Special Guest, Ron Darling: Mets pitching legend and current Mets SNY broadcaster!

After a sold-out event last year, Wilton Little League, WBSA and WHS Baseball is proud to announce another amazing event! Keynote address, Q & A, autographs, and photo ops with Ron Darling! Food! Beverages! Ice Cream Emergency truck! Silent Auction!

Buy tickets here! <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/850358564357?aff=oddtcreator>

Camp Gordyland

Summer Camp at the YMCA!

Join us this summer at the Riverbrook YMCA Camp Gordyland! Available for campers ages 3 – 15. Register for the weeks that fit your schedule and lock in your spot today! Spend the summer exploring our 22 acres, including archery, swimming lessons, fishing, arts & crafts, sports and more.

Traditional Day Camp runs 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, with additional before and after care hours available.

To set up a tour or for questions, contact our [Camp Directors Here](#).
For more Information about Camp Gordyland, [visit our Website](#).

[Register Here](#) to sign up for one or more weeks of summer fun!

Ambler Farm Junior Apprentice Program and Summer Camp

Junior Apprentice Program

Ages: 3rd – 5th grades
Dates and Time: Wednesdays, April 3 – May 1, 2:45 – 4:45 pm
Register here: [Apprentice Program](#)

This 4-week program is designed for children in grades 3 - 5 who are interested in learning more about how the natural world and the farm come together through hands on learning and engaging activities, crafts, and games. Class will not meet during Wilton's Spring Break week of April 15.

Summer Camp...Join us for your choice of weeks or for the whole summer!

Ages: 1st – 8th grade
Camp Dates and Time: June 17 – August 5, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
(After Camp Care from 1:00 – 3:00 pm)
Registration: Now open for members; opens on February 15 for nonmembers

Campers attending our summer camp will have an amazing time experiencing farm life through hands-on activities, spending time with our farm animals, getting their hands dirty in our educational gardens, and working around the farm.

Every week is sure to include:

- Spending time with our baby goats, sheep, chickens, baby rabbits and holding our baby chicks, turkeys, and geese
- Woodworking
- Hayrides
- Harvesting
- Cooking with recipes that are inspired by what is growing in our gardens

Depending on the week, campers will:

- Harvest berries, peas, cucumbers, garlic scapes, garlic, potatoes, tomatoes and more
- Check our nesting boxes for eggs

Campers are divided by grade levels for appropriate activities.

Click here to register: [Summer Camp](#)

Wilton Youth Council

Mattering Movement Parent Dialogue Series

Were you excited by the conversation on Mattering when Jennifer Wallace came to Wilton during the fall? Join Wilton Youth Council for this important follow-up series about incorporating mattering into your life!

Wilton Youth Council is excited to partner with [The Mattering Movement](#) on a first of its kind 6-session parent discussion series diving into select aspects of their Parent Toolkit weekly. This interactive program will be open to a limited number of participants and will be led by Chandra Ring, MEd, Wilton Youth Council's Executive Director. Participants will consider the concepts of Not Worrying Alone, Making Your Home a Mattering Haven and Generating Gratitude.

This 6-week program will meet on April 2, 9, 23, 30, and May 7 and 14, all from 10:00 – 11:00 am at Comstock Community Center. This program is open to parents and caregivers of children of all ages. Register at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/1c5dccb4-f04e-46ff-9533-7bdfd0a65c40> and please direct questions to Chandra Ring at cring@wiltonyouth.org.

GoZen!

GoZen! is a skills-building program that teaches students hands on tools and strategies to effectively identify, understand, and manage worry and anxiety in a fun, engaging and interactive approach.

Students learn about their brains and discover their strengths through relatable, age-appropriate characters introduced throughout the curriculum. They begin to understand the science behind how and why we worry and practice the skills needed to manage anxiety. Students participate in activities that teach mindfulness, resilience, relaxation, and problem-solving strategies. This class benefits every child!

Learn more about the GoZen! curriculum at <https://gozen.com/>.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions:

- The registration fee is \$240
- Scholarships are available if needed and are kept in strict confidence.
- Capacity is limited. Minimum enrollment is required in order for class to run.

For more information, [email Kara Berghaus](#), and click here to sign up: [GoZen! Registration](#).

Available Sessions:

Tuesdays from 2:30 – 3:30 pm on April 9, 23 and 30, May 7, 14, 21 and 28, and June 4

Thursdays from 2:30 – 3:30 pm on April 11 and 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, and June 6

The Turnover Shop

The Turnover Shop is a great Wilton resource when looking to reuse or donate items you no longer need. They run on volunteers and sell by donations or consignment. Many of our lost and found items end up at the Turnover Shop at the end of terms! Please check them out at <https://turnovershopwilton.org/>.

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NAMI-CAN WILTON

School is back in session and for many children, so are the academic and social stresses 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 meetings are 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, find resources 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. <https://namisouthwestct.org>

For the password and more information: Beth at 203-984-0123 or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com. **Our next meetings are Mondays on April 1, May 6, and June 3 over Zoom from 10:00 – 11:30 am.**

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83775421936Meeting>
ID: 837 7542 1936

[Submit News to Hot Cider](#)

Danielle Michalisin at micdch72@gmail.com

Melissa Reynolds at giddingsmelissa@hotmail.com

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is April 4, 2024. The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on April 8, 2024.

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