

Hot Cider A Cider Mill PTA Publication February 8, 2015

Important Dates

Feb. 9	Day 6
Feb. 10	PTA Meeting, 9:15am, Library
Feb. 12	NO SCHOOL (Professional Development)
Feb. 13	NO SCHOOL (February Holiday)
Feb. 16	NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
Feb. 21	5 th Grade Fun Night, 8-10pm
Feb. 25	SPED – Incoming 3 rd Grade Parent Coffee, 9:30am-10:30am, Cafeteria
Mar. 10	PTA Meeting, 9:15am, Cafeteria
Mar. 13	Are You Smarter Than a 5 th Grader, 7pm, Clune Center
Mar. 18	DELAYED OPENING – School Day Starts at 9:40am (Professional Development)

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
Chartwells: 203-834-4990 x5221

School News

Fifth Grade Fun Night is Coming Up on Saturday, February 21st! 8-10pm at the Wilton YMCA

The cost for fun night is \$5. ****Your child must be registered to attend.**** The kids will enjoy an evening filled with activities: basketball, matball, dance party, magic shows, swimming, crafts and photobooth! This event is not possible without the help of parents. Please help make it a success. Register to help at:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0549afa72daaf49-5thgrade>

To register your child, send email to 5thgradefunnight@gmail.com Include: Child Name, Teacher, House, Emergency Number, Swimming Y/N.

Be Ready for Field Day! SpiritWear for Sale at Music Performances Starting February 17

All students are encouraged to wear their House t-shirts at Field Days in May. Be prepared by buying your shirt now at the Music performances starting February 17. Bring your cash and checks (sorry, no credit cards). Please plan ahead - we currently have full stock on hand, but if we sell out of an item, it will take up to six weeks for your order to be fulfilled.

Dr. Kevin Smith - Budget Presentation ~ Tuesday, February 10, 9:15am, Cider Mill Cafeteria

Superintendent Smith will present the [2015-2016 Proposed Education Budget](#) at the PTA meeting on February 10. Please come see the presentation; Dr. Smith will be happy to answer your questions.

Do You Have Photos from Fourth Grade Field Day 2014?

The Yearbook Committee is looking for pictures from last year's Fourth Grade Field Day. Do you have some you could contribute? Please email Nicola Davies at nicoladavies@outlook.com to find out how.

News from Guidance

Looking for some ideas to help your children with conflict resolution? Here are some strategies that the 4th graders in Nod Hill and Cannondale are learning about in their current guidance lessons:

-Be a good listener while the other person is telling their side of the story; lots of conflicts are due to misunderstandings. Brainstorm different ideas to help solve the problem. Be willing to compromise.

-Students should try not to use Communication Blockers (blaming/accusing, insulting, name-calling, and threatening) as they only make the situation worse.

-Here are some quick fixes to an argument:

Skip it (is it really worth fighting over?), Flip a coin, Rock, paper, scissors, etc., Walk away, Compromise, and Apologize if they made a bad choice.

Please let me know if you would like more ideas! Dawn Randall, School Counselor, x 4257

Cider Mill Library Volunteers Needed

The Cider Mill library is looking for parent volunteers to staff the circulation desk during school hours. Ninety-minute shifts are available weekly or biweekly, and training is provided. If you are interested or need more information, please contact Deb DeFeo at debra.defeo@gmail.com.

Ongoing Cider Mill News

Cider Mill Spiritwear

Special Offer - Get yours now! We have a limited amount of vintage Cider Mill Spiritwear. All items \$10. Gray Heather Hoodies (YXL and YM), Pink Hoodies (YXL), and Pink/Green/Yellow Flannel Pants (YL). See photo [here](#), or view it under "Spiritwear" in PTA section of Edline. Send an email to jamiehodgeslee@yahoo.com to submit your order. And don't forget, all students will want their House t-shirts for Field Day in the spring. Don't wait! The order form can be found at http://www.cidermillschool.org/pages/Cider_Mill_School/7518483491238890706/Cider_Mill_PTA/Spiritwear. Contact Jamie Lee at jamiehodgeslee@yahoo.com with any questions.

Cider Mill PTA Membership

SUPPORT THE PTA AND ALL THE ACTIVITIES THEY PROVIDE BY BECOMING A MEMBER TODAY! Visiting Author Days, Field Days, Fun Nights, the Book Fair, 5th Grade Yearbook, and Grants to teachers and the school are just a few of the programs that your membership dollars support. In order for the Cider Mill PTA to continue its efforts to provide support to the school and its programs, WE NEED YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW! Please click [here](#) for the membership form, or go to Edline under "PTA," then "Join the PTA!"

Box Tops

Do you have a collection of Box Tops? Be sure to send them into school and place them in the bright blue drop-off box located in the main office. Just by purchasing Box Tops products, clipping the coupons and sending them in, Cider Mill earns cash that can be used for anything the school needs. Look for Box Tops on thousands of products including Kleenex, Ziploc, Hefty, General Mills, and Betty Crocker. Visit www.boxtops4education.com for a complete list of products. If you have any questions, contact Jennifer Markey at jtm4jla@optonline.net.

Community News

Feel like you have no one to talk with about your child's challenging behavior?

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) Support Group is for parents and primary caregivers of children with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues. These groups are free to the public, confidential, safe and led by trained and certified volunteer facilitators who themselves have had personal experiences raising children with these concerns. NAMI-CAN support groups reassure parents and family members that they are not alone. The Wilton NAMI-CAN support group meets on the 4th Monday of every month and the next meeting is Monday, February 23rd from 10am-11:30am in the G & B Cultural Center, 49 New Street in Wilton. For more info, contact: Sheryl at SherylKayne@Gmail.com or Lisa 203-858-7491. Also visit <http://www.namisouthwestct.com>

Understanding School Refusal Behavior

What do you do when your child says, "I can't - or I won't - go to school today"? It might be a stomach or headache or illness that suddenly appears. It's not easy knowing how to react and what action to take.

A panel of experts, including Wilton Youth Services and Kids in Crisis that work with children of all ages, will shed some light and understanding on this growing issue. Please join us on **February 23, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.**, at the G & B Cultural Center (former school building), 49 New Street, Wilton, CT. Seating is limited, registration for this free program is recommended by contacting Sheryl at SherylKayne@Gmail.com or Lisa 203-858-7491. The evening's program and conversations are brought to you by NAMI-CAN (National Alliance on Mental Illness-Child and Adolescent Network) of Wilton. Also visit <http://www.namisouthwestct.com>

DCF Voluntary Services Demystified ~A Lifeline for Your Child with Mental Health Issues

If your child is struggling with mental health or substance abuse issues, don't miss this unique opportunity to learn about the many services offered by the Department of Children and Family Services to eligible families. The Voluntary Services program for children and youth with serious emotional disturbances, mental illnesses, and/or substance dependency emphasizes a community-based approach. Parents and families are critical participants in the planning and delivery of services for their child or youth. The Voluntary Services Program promotes positive development and may provide, at the request of the family, casework, individual or group counseling, parent guidance or respite relief, intensive behavior management training, community referrals, and treatment services. You will learn (1) all about Voluntary Services, and how to request them; (2) what phases the request goes through before a decision is made; (3) how services are provided; and (4) how Voluntary Service cases are concluded. There will be ample time for Questions and Answers after the presentation.

Speakers: **John Callas**, MSW, and **Brian Behmke**, LCSW, are Program Managers at the Connecticut Department of Children and Families. With decades of experience between them, they have developed programs serving families in areas ranging from Mental Health, Juvenile Justice, Substance Abuse, and Adolescent Services. **Thursday, February 12, 7:30 p.m.** at the Tully Health Center, Conference room B, 32 Strawberry Hill Ct, Stamford, CT. Hosted by the **Southwest CT affiliate** of the **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**, the presentation is free and open to the public. Call 203 -388-1603 for info. www.namisouthwestct.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 Lisa Smith at mlsmith2@optonline.net. For submission deadlines, publication dates, and past issues, please click this link: http://www.cidermillschool.org/pages/Cider_Mill_School/7518483491238890706/Cider_Mill_PTA/Hot_Cider_Current_Issues.

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 February 22, 2015. The deadline for submissions is February 17, 2015.