

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – April 10, 2022

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

Important Dates

April 12	PTA Meeting 9:15 – 10:15 AM Cafeteria
April 15	Good Friday (No School)
April 18-22	Spring Break (No School)
April 28	BOE Meeting 7:00 PM WHS Library
April 29	Grade 3 Fun Night 5:45 – 6:45PM
April 29	Grade 4 Fun Night 7:00 – 8:00PM
May 9	Grade 4 Chorus/Orchestra South – 7:00 PM
May 10	Grade 4 Chorus/Orchestra North – 7:00 PM
May 17	Grade 5 Chorus/Orchestra Advanced Strings and Cider Mill Singers – 7:00 PM
May 24	Grade 5 Band and Cider Mill Jazz Ensemble – 7:00 PM
June 2	Grade 3 Strings Combined – 7:00 PM

From The PTA President

Dear Cider Mill Parents and Guardians,

It's still budget season! The Board of Finance will meet this coming Tuesday, April 12th @ 7PM for final deliberations on the Board of Education budget. Should the BoF vote to reduce the BoE budget as proposed, cuts will need to be made in a number of areas, including technology, math intervention, arts, special education, and transportation. Parents may submit public comment in person or via Zoom at the meeting, or you may also email the BoF at boardoffinance@wiltonct.org.

We still need to fill two Executive Board positions - Secretary and Parent-at-Large! If you are interested or would like more information, please reach out to Amanda Patania at Amanda.Patania@yahoo.com or Alex Frisbee at Alex.Frisbee.PTA@gmail.com.

A huge thank you to our 5th Grade Fun Night Committee Chairs, Suzanne Lishnoff, Nicole Walberg, and Kimberly Santosky, for hosting an amazing night at the Y for our graduating 5th graders! We hope everyone had a blast!

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is quickly approaching! This year, we will be celebrating our teachers, staff, and administration the week of May 2-6. Due to continued food restrictions due to Covid, we are in need of some help with our hospitality budget. Please consider donating by visiting: <https://www.cidermillpta.org/teacherstaffappreciation>

Finally, our second to last PTA meeting is Tuesday, April 12th at 9:15AM! If Cider Mill is open, we will be in the cafeteria and on Zoom. If the building is still closed, we will only be on Zoom. Please keep an eye out for an email with all our meeting details! And thank you for your flexibility!

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or issues at MichelleAKrupa@gmail.com.

Michelle Krupa
CM PTA President.

School News

OPEN PTA POSITIONS

The Cider Mill PTA are looking to fill positions listed below for the next school year. If you have any interest or need more information, please email CMNominating@gmail.com

These programs **CANNOT run without volunteers**, and we really need parents to help out!

Executive boards positions-

Secretary, attends board of directors meeting and PTA meeting once a month. Takes notes on what is said.

Parent at Large, attends Board of Ed meeting either in person or watches at home and reports back any relevant news to PTA. This can easily be done but someone who also works.

PTA committee positions-

5th grade yearbook

- Art Committee
- Book Fair
- Children's Enrichment
- Fun Night 3rd, 4th and 5th grade
- Hospitality Co-chairs to work alongside our current chair.
- Library volunteer chair
- Lost and Found
- Laminating
- 3rd grade Room Rep Coordinator
- School photos
- Spirit wear
- Turkey Trot
- Volunteer coordinator
- Visiting Author
- Garden Committee

CIDER MILL SCHOOL STORE IS OPEN!

The Cider Mill School Store is opening this week! It will be open **Wednesdays during lunch in the cafeteria and on Thursdays during lunch in the science lab!**

The school store offers school related items and fidgets for the students! The students should come with cash or change, but there is no way to take any other form of payment. There are mechanical pencils, erasers, assorted pens, and even different fidgets! All items will be in increments of \$0.25 with nothing more than \$2. Then, students in Math Club run the inventory of the items: counting the number of items, figuring out how many items sold, and then discovering the profits which get filtered back into the school store. We appreciate exact change or small bills!

Parents and guardians! To volunteer at the school store, please visit: [Cider Mill School Store: Cider-Mill School Store Schedule \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com)

EARTH DAY 2022

Filling in the Blanks is partnering with Lesley's Recycling for Earth Day 2022! Join this initiative by collecting recyclables (bottles & cans only) to be cashed in. Proceeds will be used to purchase foods for Filling in the Blanks' Weekend Meal Bag Program! It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Collect: Now -April 29th! Please collect, sort, and count bottles and cans with the cashback recycling symbol.
2. Recycle: Saturday, April 30th, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm(rain date, Sunday, May 1st) 158 Longhill Drive, Stamford, CT 06902.
3. Feed Hungry Kids! For full event details, visit [Fillingintheblanks.org/events](https://fillingintheblanks.org/events)).

For any further questions please contact Caryn Kelly at carynkelly@gmail.com



Donate your recyclable cans & plastic bottles. Proceeds will help feed hungry kids!

[Fillingintheblanks.org](https://fillingintheblanks.org)

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WILTON YOUTH COUNCIL GoZen! AND GoStrengths!

Wilton Youth Council is offering spring sessions of both **GoZen!** and **GoStrengths!** for students in Grades 3-5.

GoZen! is a skill 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.

GoStrengths! is the skills building follow up program taught after GoZen! GoStrengths! is a well-being & resilience program that offers a comprehensive social and emotional learning program focused on teaching 8 vital skills.

To learn more about either of these programs or to register for one the limited spots in these classes, visit <https://www.wiltonyouth.org/go-zen-go-strengths>

Book Discussion Groups

Wilton Youth Council, in partnership with Wilton Public Schools, Wilton SEPTA, Middlebrook PTA and SPED*NET Wilton, is sponsoring two upcoming Book Discussion Groups around Diana Graber's *Raising Humans in a Digital World: Helping Kids Build a Healthy Relationship with Technology*. Information on these in person discussions can be found below.

Book Discussion Groups on Diana Graber's *Raising Humans in a Digital World: Helping Kids Build a Healthy Relationship with Technology*

Parents of Students in Grades PreK-5

May 3, 2022 from 10-11:30 am

Comstock Community Center, Room 31

Parents of Students in Grades 6-12

May 5, 2022 from 10-11:30 am

Comstock Community Center, Room 31

Please join one of two age-based book discussions of **Diana Graber's** *Raising Humans in a Digital World: Helping Kids Build a Healthy Relationship with Technology* for parents of students in PreK-5 on Tuesday, May 3 from 10-11:30 AM in Comstock Community Center Room 31 and/or parents of students in grades 6-12 on Thursday, May 5 from 10-11:30 AM in Comstock Community Center Room 31. Wilton Public School staff will facilitate these discussions.

Register [HERE](#).

I WILL CHANGE THE WORLD - WINNERS

Cider Mill PTA Reflections congratulates all participants who submitted artwork in response to this year's theme "**I Will Change the World By...**" Our children are envisioning the changes they want to see and the changes they want to make... Let's support their dreams of a better world!

The following students are distinguished for outstanding work in the arts!

- Visual Arts 1st Place- Advitia Maheshwari
- Visual Arts 2nd Place- Parker Bailey
- Visual Arts 3rd Place- Madeleine Valassis
- Literature 1st Place- Winifred Gulati
- Musical Composition 1st Place- Aurora Gulati
- Musical Composition 2nd Place- Penelope Calo
- Film Production 1st Place- Jiya Praveen
- Film Production 2nd Place- Alex Shiue
- Special Artist/Photography 1st Place- Magnolia Tesler

Special congratulations to the students who also placed at the **CT State Reflections** level and represented Cider Mill School so well!!!! We are so proud!

- 4th Place Visual Arts Intermediate Division- Advitia Maheshwari
- 2nd Place Musical Composition Intermediate Division- Aurora Gulati
- 4th Place Film Production Intermediate Division- Jiya Praveen
- 1st Place Special Artist- Photography Intermediate Division- Magnolia Tesler

These students will be honored at a CT State Reflections Awards Ceremony on May 10th at Fairfield Ludlowe HS.

Join us in wishing **Magnolia Tesler** luck as she competes at the National Level!

Enjoy the beautiful artwork of our students as well as their thoughtful artist statements on this padlet!

<https://padlet.com/reflectionscidermill/oirvx64kkqxd1xde>

Submit any questions or comments to: reflectionscidermill@gmail.com.

GREEN TEAM ZERO WASTE

Save the Date to *spark your green* at **Fairfield County's largest Zero Waste Faire – Sunday, June 5, 2022, from 11 am - 4 pm** at the Miller-Driscoll School, 217 Wolfpit Road, Wilton.

Activities for eco-friendly learning and living will be available for the entire family. Take away one or thousands of ideas on indoor and outdoor sustainable living for your family, your community, and our planet. Electric Vehicle showcase!

FREE recycling drop-off: mattresses, e-waste, household items, textiles and more! Learn more at <https://wiltongogreen.org/zero-waste-faire-sustainable-living-expo-2022/>.



[Zero Waste Schools](#)

WILTON SEPTA

April 27th 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Sensory Friendly Fire Station Tour

Details for the event are forthcoming

Community Partners: Dine for SEPTA

We will be releasing a list of local restaurants that are Community Partners. Through the month of April if you dine/take out on certain days, the owners will donate process to our organization.

Inclusive Practices Mentor Training Programs: ongoing

Wilton SEPTA is sponsoring Inclusive Practices Mentorship Training to our school and community organizations through *The National Mentoring Coalition* (NDMC) <https://ndmc.pyd.org/certification/> in partnership with *Partners for Youth with Disabilities*, (PYD) <https://www.pyd.org/>.

Topics Covered in the course:

- Introduction to disability, ableism, and inclusion
- Understanding disability rights and the ADA
- Developing an inclusion statement
- Creating inclusive programs, activities, and events
- Tips for inclusive communication
- Principles of inclusive marketing
- Introduction to autism
- Supporting positive behavior in youth with disabilities
- The intersection of disability, gender, and sexuality
- Understanding Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

Current Training opportunities still open to Highschool students, staff, and community members
Email: wiltonsepta@gmail.com for more information

RULER WEBINAR

RULER: Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, & Regulating Emotions

Webinar Recording Now Available!

Visit: <https://www.wiltonyouth.org/past-webinars>

In this webinar Wilton Public Schools staff educate parents about RULER, a program of evidence-based tools and social-emotional learning practices from the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. Teachers across the district have been trained in these practices and RULER tools are already being used with students in grades K-5 to help students recognize and regulate emotions. Implementation at the secondary level is in progress.

What is RULER?

RULER is an evidenced based approach to social and emotional learning (SEL) that supports the entire school community in:

- Understanding the value of emotions
- Building the skills of emotional intelligence
- Creating and maintaining a positive school climate

In this webinar, you will learn about the four core tools and how we can implement these tools at home:

- Building a family charter
- Mood Meter - emotion vocabulary
- Meta Moment for emotion regulation
- Blueprint for problem solving

Who are the presenters?

- Elena White, Miller-Driscoll School Counselor
- Jennifer Ringelheim, Cider Mill 3rd Grade Teacher, Co-Chair District SEL Committee

Find the recording, slides, and links to associated materials at Visit: <https://www.wiltonyouth.org/past-webinars>

SPIRIT WEAR

[Spiritwear | cidermillpta](#)

Wear your house color and support your PTA at the same time. House shirts are used for Spirit days, Walkathon, field days and more. Get one before they sell out!

Please remember to include your child’s name and teacher at checkout. Shirts will be delivered to the classroom on a weekly basis.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Help raise money for Cider Mill PTA simply by scanning your receipt on your phone.

3 easy steps to get started

1. Download the "Box Top\$ for Education" app on your phone.
2. Sign up using your email or Google or Facebook account.
3. Simply snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.

Online shopping or Curbside Pick-up? Just forward your receipt to receipts@boxtops4education.com

Have a question? Please reach out to Allison Norful via email: anorful@gmail.com

ACCESS CIDER MILL HANDBOOK HERE

[CM School Handbook Quick Fact Sheet 2021-22.pdf](#)

Community News

WILTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Wilton Education Foundation (WEF) is a non-profit organization committed to working closely with the Wilton School District to foster creative approaches to education by supporting district-wide projects that have a broad impact on academic and enrichment learning. Join us at one of our upcoming meetings to hear from the WEF board and Superintendent Kevin Smith about upcoming events and district updates. All are welcome! Save these important, upcoming dates:

May 17, 2022 @ 7:30 pm: Monthly Meeting WHS professional library

May 29, 2022: Get Smart for Wilton 5K, WHS Stadium Track
June 22, 2022: End of Year Sunset Celebration, Ambler Farm

WILTON YOUTH COUNCIL

Wilton's Big Block Party Weekend, brought to you by **Wilton Youth Council's Free Play Matters Task Force**, will have two designated weekends bookending this summer!

Choose whichever works best for you! They will be **Saturday, June 4th - Sunday, June 5th and again Saturday, September 17th - Sunday, September 18th.**

Color Dash

On May 5, 2022 Wilton Youth Council and Middlebrook Youth to Youth are hosting our 6th Annual Color Dash fun run to benefit Wilton Youth Council.

The Color Dash aims to go beyond traditional fundraising. Rather than sell goods, this program seeks to engage the entire middle school student body, no matter what level of fitness or capability, in an initiative that promotes a life-long healthy way of living.

During the race, participants are doused with color at various color stations, and the race ends with one final color celebration at the finish line. Our Youth to Youth student members are excited about the success of the Color Dash in past years and are looking forward to making this the best one yet!

This event is open to all Middlebrook students, students' families and staff. All children who are not Middlebrook students must be accompanied by an adult.

The rain date is May 12, 2022.

Complete details and registration information can be found [HERE](#)

WILTON YOUTH FIELD HOCKEY

Spring Clinics:

Registration is now open for spring clinics on Sundays, beginning April 3. Clinics will be held on the Stadium Turf:

- Grades K-4 from 5-6pm
- Grades 5-8 from 6-7:30pm

Clinics will be held on April 3, 10, 24, May 1, 15, 22, June 5. June 12 will be a makeup day.
Register on the WYFH website at <http://www.wyfh.net/>

Summer Games:

Again, this summer, we'll be offering free pickup games twice weekly over the summer. We're hoping to offer play from 5-7:30 on Monday and Thursday evenings but are awaiting field confirmation.

Pre-Season Camp:

Each summer we offer a pre-season camp for players entering grades 5-8. While we await field confirmation, camp is *tentatively* scheduled for August 15-19 from 5:30-8pm

Tryouts for 7th & 8th Graders:

In grades 7 & 8, WYFH holds tryouts. We'll have a spot for all players that would like to participate in our program, but at this grade level we set teams based on player skill level. All players that opt to try out for the "A Team" must sign a commitment letter to the WYFH program and are expected to attend all practices and games throughout the season. Tryout dates are *tentatively* set for 5-8pm on August 24, 25 & 26.

WOODCOCK NATURE CENTER SPRING BREAK!

School's Out, Nature's In!

Spend your spring break outdoors at Woodcock Nature Center.

April 18-21, Monday-Thursday

(Also running April 11-14, M-Th for Ridgefield/Redding break)

K-5th Grade, 9am - 3pm
\$80 per day

Children will explore vernal pools, search for amphibians, stomp in the mud, and scoop in the swamp! Each day will include exploration, hands-on activities, animal presentations, and crafts with our professional naturalists. This program is outdoors, and groups go out in the drizzle and rain. Each group will have a sheltered home base with patio heaters and a fire on cold days.

Registration open March 16 at 10 am at woodcocknaturecenter.org/spring-break-enrichment

WILTON HIGH SCHOOL CLUB: Team STEAM

Do you have a child who is interested in STEM and/or Arts?! Check this out from our very own Wilton HS Club called Team STEAM!

We (Team STEAM) are a group of Wilton high school students who want to help bring STEAM (STEM +Art) education to young kids (aged 6-10 years). In partnership with a local startup called 3DuxDesign, our program will teach little engineers the basics of the engineering design process in a fun, creative, and hands-on manner! The program is free, and the other is a \$20 cost which includes an engineering kit. We also accept donations of \$20 which will go to fund a kit and 4 classes for an underprivileged child who cannot afford to pay.

(Note: All payments go towards purchasing kits for children and all high schoolers participating are volunteers)

Team STEAM’s mission is to work with young minds and cultivate their passion for engineering and artistic thinking.

* To Sign Up: <https://forms.gle/MB1h3GRmcGMX13z18>

*To Buy a Kit: https://www.3duxdesign.com/products/steam-club-maker-kit?fbclid=IwAR1xAfwH14JEz9UwjsF03MbPnrFyawOK9X9sLwAe1YpB_goRqiYHfTluYis.

Please contact Keerthi Vijay at 23vijayk@wiltonps.org with any questions!

IMPROVE YOUR ACADEMICS

All Cider Mill students can receive tutoring at no cost. All tutors are fellow Wilton High School students. Please fill out this form if you need help in any subject: <https://forms.gle/AANcPbVgE878zpNs8>

For more information, please visit <https://youracademics.org/>

NAMI-CAN WILTON

The COVID pandemic has caused unprecedented stress in our society and many children’s behaviors have been triggered as a result. What was manageable pre-Covid is now out of control. Find support for you, as you support your child who is struggling.

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.

Our meetings are held virtually over zoom and for security, you must contact Beth or Vanessa for the password. For more information contact: Beth at 203-984-0123 or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com

Submit News to Hot Cider

Anu Suri at anusuri2022@gmail.com

Melissa Reynolds at giddingsmelissa@hotmail.com

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is April 20, 2022. The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on April 24, 2022

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.

