

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – September 27, 2020

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

Important Dates

Sept 28	NO SCHOOL (Yom Kippur)
Sept 29	Day 2
Oct 6	Virtual Literacy/Numeracy Night, 6:30-8pm
Oct 7	Virtual Literacy /Numeracy Day, 9.15 -10.45am
Oct 9	EARLY RELEASE (Professional Learning) (Dismissal at 11:55am)
Oct 12	NO SCHOOL (Columbus Day)

From The PTA President

To Cider Mill Parents and Guardians,

This past week has been one filled with many changes. As you are aware, the Board of Education voted on Monday evening to send CM students back to school 100% on-site (M/T, Wednesday remote, Th/F) beginning with 3rd grade the week of 10/5 and 4th and 5th grade the week of 10/12. It is understandable that families are feeling different about this decision. Administration is working hard to answer all of your questions. However, if you still have questions, I would suggest reaching out to Dr. Falcone, Dr. Smith as well as the Board of Education. If you did not fill out the survey, please reach out to Lauren Catalano (Kent/Belden Hill) or Catherine O'Keefe (Nod Hill/Cannondale). The survey is being used to determine whether your student will be on-site or remote, as well as class sizes and teacher assignment.

Thank you to all of the families that supported the PTA by purchasing Edu-Kits this year! The Edu-Kits are a great way to get all of your school supplies without having to make an extra shopping trip. Thank you to Shannon MacDonald for organizing this effort. With all of the changes it was not an easy task, but all kits were delivered.

If you happen to be walking by the school on the weekend, stop by and see the beautiful CM garden. The garden is full of sunflowers, as well as growing vegetables. Your students have the opportunity to check out and enjoy the garden during recess. The vegetables that are picked are delivered to the food pantry and given to Social Services for their customers! Thank you to Sabeth Albert and Margo Silvan for all the work you do maintaining the garden!

Every October the PTA kicks off the year with our biggest fundraiser, the Walkathon. This year, the walkathon will look a little different, but the 11-year tradition will continue! Please see information below for information on this year's walkathon, and reach out to Amanda Patania with any questions amanda_patania@yahoo.com.

The Cider Mill spirit wear shop is open! There are t-shirts available for each house, as well as tie dye t-shirts. Shirts will be delivered to your home within 2-3 days by one of our PTA members. Purchasing a t-shirt is a great way to show your school spirit, as well as support the PTA. Sizes and quantities are limited, buy yours today! Please use the following link to access the school store

<https://www.cidermillpta.org/spiritwear>.

We are asking for your support to help us make this a successful year by joining the PTA using MobileArq – this gives you access to the school directory and membership to the PTA. The PTA provides enrichment to CM students, supports our school and helps to build community. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Registration is easy

1. Visit mobilearq.com/school directory.
2. Choose parent or teacher registration.
3. Enter the email you have on file with the school, your name and the code "wilton."
4. Pay your dues and start enjoying benefits!

Please join us for our next PTA meeting on Tuesday, October 6th at 10am.

Thank you for your support and please reach out if you have any questions or comments at meghan.russo13@gmail.com.

Meghan Russo
CM PTA President

School News

VIRTUAL HELP DESK ~ Monday through Friday, 7:30am-5pm through end of September
Contact the [Virtual Help Desk](#)

CIDER MILL WALKATHON

Coming soon, your chance to participate in this year's 11th Annual Cider Mill Walkathon - with a difference (because everything is different in 2020!). This year we are emphasizing the chance to be around family and friends and having a "virtual" Walkathon as we are unable to have a whole school event.

The Walkathon is the Cider Mill PTA's largest fundraiser of the year, this is how most of the money we use is raised. We use this money in a variety of ways including 5th Grade Yearbook, Staff Grants, Enrichment Programs, Teacher Classroom Grants. Most years we also use the money for Fun Nights, Visiting Author, and other fun activities for your children and Cider Mill Staff.

More details will be shared in the next couple of weeks, watch this space!

PTA VOLUNTEER POSITIONS STILL AVAILABLE ~ WE NEED YOUR HELP

Calling all volunteers. The positions listed below are the most urgent. Additional open positions can be found at the PTA website on the Volunteer tab, www.cidermillpta.org. If interested, contact Amanda Patania and Alex Frisbee at CMnominating@gmail.com.

- Co-President
- 5th Grade Yearbook Committee
- Boxtops

Ongoing School News

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!

No more clipping Box Tops! Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production. The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

3 easy steps...

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.

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

ZERO WASTE SCHOOLS

With the start of school, we'd also like to send a Zero Waste quick refresher for all, it's YES to using reusable containers, bags, silverware, and ice packs; purchasing bulk snacks to sort into reusable containers, packing realistic portions and taking home uneaten food (or compost!) It's AVOID disposable paper or plastic bags; Individually-packaged snacks; non-reusable food wrap; disposable ice packs, utensils, or drink containers (juice boxes or pouches); and plastic straws.

Community News

WILTON SEPTA

Join us to learn about our current initiatives, gifts and grants program and more! If you haven't yet registered or renewed your membership to SEPTA, please click here and join us today: <https://www.wiltonsepta.org/projecto-5>.

READING ROOM

"Wilton High School volunteers will be reading approved chapter books to Fairfield County students in grades 2-5 over zoom on Wednesdays from 4-5 P.M"

Click here :

(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfTTXbJs6DaIP4PEf1zyTWxCvfcQCYiJcvxveSYE-k-HM5FCQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

to sign up your child for the October session (Oct. 7th - Oct. 28th). Email Meghan Koziolkowsky (21koziolkowskym@wiltonps.org) and/or Sarah Gassel (21gassels@wiltonps.org) regarding any questions or information."

Contact names: Meghan Koziolkowsky and Sarah Gassel

Email addresses: 21koziolkowskym@wiltonps.org

GEORGE DIROCCO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Wilton Warrior Gridiron Club, the booster organization that supports the Wilton High School Football program, has established this fund in memory of George. This scholarship will be awarded annually to the teammate who demonstrates selflessness both on and off the field and will be personally handed the award by the DiRocco family members at either the end-of-season football banquet or at the high school end-of-year awards ceremony. Donations towards this scholarship are held separately from other funds raised benefitting the football program. The DiRocco family has asked that gifts be made towards this fund and will receive a list of donors.

<https://www.wiltonwarriorgridironclub.com/teams/default.asp?u=WILTONWARRIORGRIDIRONCLUB&s=football&p=fundraiser>

WILTON YOUTH COUNCIL

Visit us at WiltonYouth.org and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/WiltonFreePlay/).

This year the school day is very different for most of our children, and they will need lots of time for play. Wilton Youth Council's Free Play Matters Task Force invites you to follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WiltonFreePlay/ for creative ideas about how you can inspire your child's play.

Genevieve Eason
Executive Director
Wilton Youth Council
P.O. Box 172
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(203) 529-5203

MS. PRESIDENT US PROGRAM

Girls entering grades 4th to 8th are invited to enroll in the Ms President US program, which begins (via Zoom) October 2nd.

The mission of [Ms President US](http://MsPresidentUS.org) is to motivate and prepare girls to aim for the highest civic leadership positions and to know that they can achieve them. By introducing the girls to students and women who are leaders in their community, state, and on a national level, participants learn about the political process. The girls then have a chance to interact with the leaders, and engage in activities that help them develop their own leadership skills. Each session is facilitated by high school girls who serve as mentors throughout the program.

Session topics include:

- Civic Leadership / Public Service
- Meet & Greet Local, State, and Federal Leaders
- Women's History and Leadership
- Public Speaking & Debate
- Communications & Media
- State Capitol Visit

The program culminates in a campaign and election whereby participants have the opportunity to create their own campaign (or work on another participant's campaign) and run for "Ms President US" of their town. The sessions will be held via Zoom from 4:15pm-5:45pm on 8 Fridays between October through March. In addition, there is a field trip to the State Capitol, and an Election.

To [enroll](#) or learn more, visit mspresidentus.org. Enrollment fee for the program is \$250 and scholarships are available. Space is limited. Enrolled Girl Scouts can earn several patches and badges for participation in the Ms. President US program.

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. Next meeting is Monday, October 5th at 10-11:30am) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/596783943> (Meeting ID: 596 783 943) For more information and the password: Beth at [203-984-0123](tel:203-984-0123) or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa at [203-970-4130](tel:203-970-4130) or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com

Submit News to Hot Cider

Clarissa Cannavino at clarissacannavino@yahoo.com

Anu Suri at anusuri2022@gmail.com

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is October 7, 2020.

The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on October 11, 2020.

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.