

# HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – December 20, 2020

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

## Important Dates

<b>Dec 21</b>	Day 1
<b>Dec 24 - Jan 1</b>	NO SCHOOL (Holiday Recess)
<b>Jan 18</b>	NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
<b>Feb 12</b>	SHORTENED DAY (Teacher professional development)
<b>Feb 15- Feb 19</b>	NO SCHOOL (Winter Recess)

## From The PTA President

To Cider Mill Parents and Guardians:

I hope you all are enjoying this holiday season! Although we have not been able to participate in all of our typical holiday traditions, the holiday spirit is definitely alive and well at Cider Mill!

The Cider Mill PTA Hospitality Committee held its annual Holiday Luncheon on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> for our fabulous teachers, administration and staff. A festive and fun food truck experience took place instead of our traditional holiday luncheon. We hosted local favorite food trucks from Parlor of Wilton and Bumble & Brew for pizza/salads/desserts/drinks. We also raffled off 25 gift certificates to local businesses. We received so many wonderful thank you notes from our teachers and staff! Thank you again for all of the support we received from our parent community, we couldn't have done it without you! A big thank you to Sabeth Albert for organizing the event. It was amazing!

Photo retake day will be Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> for the South side, and Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> for the North. Remote students will have the option to have their photos taken after school starting at 3pm. Students that were absent on photo day will have their photos taken on these days as well. Please send in the fall package with your student to hand off on photo day if you are having retakes done. All CM families will receive a refreshed class photo after retake day. If you have specific issues with your photo package please contact Lifetouch directly at <https://contact.lifetouch.com/> or 1-888-267-7571.

As CM continues to improve dismissal procedures, it has recently been discovered there is a School Dismissal Manager Add-On called "FastLane." CM is going to move to using this procedure starting on January 4, 2021. The school is currently piloting this with four classes, and all has been going smoothly! For this to be successful, please read the following directions. [SDM FastLane Quick Guide.pdf](#)

Please join us for our next PTA meeting on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am via Zoom.

Thank you for all of your continued support. I wish you and your family a very happy holiday season! Please reach out if you have any questions or comments at [meghan.russo13@gmail.com](mailto:meghan.russo13@gmail.com).

Happy Holidays and all the best in the New Year,

Meghan Russo  
CM PTA President

## School News

### Recess Aide Opportunity

If you are interested in being a hired aide Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri from 10:30– 1:30 you can apply at: <https://www.wiltonps.org/departments/human-resources> and please contact Lauren Catalano directly at [catalanol@wiltonps.org](mailto:catalanol@wiltonps.org). The children will not be wearing masks outside; therefore, you must be comfortable with this scenario and participate in helping the children remain physically distant. Aides will lead the children in physically distant games while also supervising chat circles and walks. We know

there is a lot to think through and make sense of. If your schedule allows for it, please consider taking on this role. If you know someone who would fit the role of a recess aide, please share this note and encourage them apply and contact Lauren as soon as possible.

<https://www.wiltonps.org/departments/human-resources>

### **WILTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ~ OPEN POSITIONS**

The Wilton Public Schools "For a Better World" are seeking recent college graduates, college students, retirees, career-changers, and those interested in giving back to their community to join a dynamic, engaging, and inspirational team of staff and students. A number of flexible positions are available, including substitutes, lunch-recess monitors, certified teachers, long-term substitutes, and paraprofessionals. Help shape the lives of our future leaders! To learn more and/or apply, please visit our website at: <https://www.wiltonps.org/departments/human-resources> or contact Human Resources Coordinator Erika Cross at [crosse@wiltonps.org](mailto:crosse@wiltonps.org).

## **Ongoing School News**

### **NEED HELP IN SCHOOL? FREE TUTORING FOR CM STUDENTS**

All Cider Mill students can receive tutoring at no cost. All tutors are Wilton High School students. Please fill out this form if you need help in any subject: <https://forms.gle/J1L2EWrdnCPa75Z27>

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

### **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](mailto: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

### **Your Covid Toolbox: Helping Adults Cope in Crazy Times ~ January 19th 10-11am**

Has the past year got you feeling stressed, anxious, not sleeping well or over-indulging? Join Matt DeBernardis, Resilience Trainer from Silver Hill Hospital, for an interactive online workshop and gather some tools to help you cope during the winter months of the pandemic. This workshop focuses on evidence-based strategies proven to enhance one's ability to not only bounce back, but to grow and thrive in the face of hardship. Sponsored by Wilton Library, Wilton Youth Council, Silver Hill Hospital and Wilton Social Services. Visit <https://www.wiltonlibrary.org/events/> for more information and registration information.

### **WILTON SEPTA ( SPECIAL EDUCATION PTA)**

Our next meeting is January 13th at 7pm.

Here is the link to the meeting :

<https://wiltonps.zoom.us/j/95704451346?pwd=UCsrMTQxU2oyUWxYcVJMdmpjZlFOZz09>

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/>

### **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](mailto:beth44es@gmail.com) OR Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or [eliasvanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:eliasvanessa5@gmail.com)

## Submit News to Hot Cider

Clarissa Cannavino at [clarissacannavino@yahoo.com](mailto:clarissacannavino@yahoo.com)

Anu Suri at [anusuri2022@gmail.com](mailto:anusuri2022@gmail.com)

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is December 30, 2020.

The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on January 3, 2021.

*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.*