

Hot Cider A Cider Mill PTA Publication

January 8, 2017

Important Dates

Jan 9	Day 4
Jan 10	PTA Meeting, Cafeteria, 9:15am
Jan 12	Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, WHS Professional Library
Jan 16	NO SCHOOL (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
Jan 24	“Feeling Safe” Parent Workshop, 9:30am, Cafeteria
Jan 26	Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, WHS Professional Library
Jan 27	“Dress Like a Rock Star” Day and Reading Rocks! Pledge Forms Due
Jan 27	3 rd Grade Fun Night
Jan 28	Reading Rocks! Reading Period Begins
Feb 9	Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, WHS Professional Library
Feb 10	4th Grade Fun Night
Feb 12	Reading Rocks! Reading Period Ends
Feb 14	PTA Meeting, Cafeteria, 9:15am
Feb 17- Feb 20	NO SCHOOL (February Recess)
Feb 23	Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, WHS Professional Library
Feb 25	5th Grade Fun Night

Important Phone Numbers

Cider Mill Main Office: 203-762-3351
Report an Absence: 203-834-4950 or fallonk@wiltonps.org
Bus Transportation: 203-762-3381
Chartwells: 203-834-4990 x5221

Note from the PTA President

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

I hope everyone's New Years are off to a great start.

Two things I wanted to make sure you are all aware of. First, Tuesday at 9.15am is our first PTA meeting of the year. Everyone is welcome to attend for updates on news and events in our Cider Mill community. Secondly, the New Year means budget season is upon us. At Thursday's Board

of Education meeting, Superintendent Kevin Smith will be presenting his budget to the Board of Education. Please consider attending the meeting at the High School Professional Library; tuning in to Channel 79 or watching online through the district website.

Warmly,
Nicola Davies, PTA President

School News

Third Grade Fun Night, January 27, 7-9pm

Third Grade fun night is just a few weeks away! Please go to the following link to sign up your 3rd grader and to volunteer, too! <http://signup.com/go/mELha4> We need a lot of parent volunteers to make this night happen!

Reading Rocks! ~ Pledges Due On or Before Friday, January 27th

Wilton Education Foundation's (WEF's) very successful "Reading Rocks!" program is back for its 6th year! "Reading Rocks!" is a fun, non-competitive Read-A-Thon type fundraiser for students in Pre-K to 5th grades.

Over the five years of this event, "Reading Rocks!" has raised more than \$200,000 for our Wilton Public Schools!!! This year, with your support, we hope to attain 100% student participation.

"Reading Rocks!" pledge forms were sent home with students on Friday, January 6th. The pledge forms are also posted on Edline's homepage. Students must turn in completed pledge forms, and pledge money raised, to teachers on or before Friday, January 27th. For each pledge a student receives by January 27th, he/she gets a chance to win an iPad OR KINDLE FIRE*! The more pledges, the more chances to win a prize. For example, if your child receives 12 pledges, he or she earns 12 chances to win! The Cider Mill House with the highest percentage participation rate by January 27th will get a homework-free day!

*win an iPad or a gift card of equivalent value to the Apple Store

For questions please contact Julie Steckel at jjsteckel@gmail.com or Kiki Cross at kcross106@gmail.com.

Many thanks to the Stroup family for generously sponsoring "Reading Rocks!"

Seeking Co-Chairs for Fifth Grade Fun Night

We are seeking a 5th grade parent or two to chair or co-chair 5th Grade Fun Night on Saturday, February 25th. This is a truly memorable night for our 5th graders who get to take over the entire YMCA for the night, as well as swimming and access to the basketball courts, there are

other fun activities going on - a magic show, a disco, photo booth to name but three. If you would like to find out more about what the role entails, please contact Tara Snow - tanda@optonline.net or Nicola Davies - nicoladavies@outlook.com.

Ongoing Cider Mill News

Join the Cider Mill PTA!

The Cider Mill PTA is a powerful network of parents and teachers whose mission is to make every child's potential a reality, by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. We want you as a member! Joining the PTA is showing that you care what happens in your child's education. It shows you want to be involved, engaged and informed. It is not a commitment to volunteer for anything!

It does not mean you have to turn up to a meeting every month (although we hope you will consider it). It is a way to stay connected with our school community, get to know your school and administrators, have a voice and be heard at the school and district level. Your membership dues support the programs your children participate in regularly. Without the PTA, your support, and all of our wonderful volunteers, these activities would not happen: Field Days, Fun Nights, Reflections, River Study, School Store, Visiting Author, Turkey Trot, World Language Celebrations, Walkathon, Book Fair, Spiritwear, library volunteers, and the Hot Cider newsletter.

Membership signup is ONLY online. Joining gives you instant access to the Cider Mill directory of parent and student information. You can download the MobileArq app at the Apple Store or Google Play Store, or visit this link: <http://wilton.mobilearq.com> and use code 'wilton'.

Buy Name Labels at Mabel's Labels

Last year, over 300 sweatshirts, 100 winter hats, 50 pairs of gloves, 50 lunch boxes, and 10 winter jackets were left in our Lost Property areas at school. The overwhelming majority had no owner information marked in them. To raise funds and reduce this immense amount of loss, we have teamed up with Mabel's Labels to run a fundraiser. Mabel's Labels adhere to your child's clothing and will not come off in the wash. You will get your missing property back and Cider Mill will earn money! Please visit www.mabelslabels.com. Click on 'Support a Fundraiser.' We are listed as Cider Mill School (Wilton). Cider Mill will receive a 20% donation based on the cost of your order. Thank you!

Find Us on Facebook!

The PTA has set up 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](#).

Lost and Found

There are two L&F locations in Cider Mill. One is at the doorway where you go to the playground, on the high school side (Cannondale). The other is by the front door on the far side of the bus loop (Kent). You or your child can check these locations for lost items. At the end of each season, the unclaimed items are donated to the Turnover Shop with proceeds going to the Cider Mill PTA. Contact Amanda Mitchell with questions, at amandaNmitchell@gmail.com.

School Spiritwear

Show your school spirit! Please visit the Cider Mill PTA website at www.cidermillpta.org to order your school clothing. Students are encouraged to wear their Spiritwear clothing for various days and events during the year. Proceeds benefit the Cider Mill PTA. Please contact Annemarie Aronowitz at annemariearonowitz@yahoo.com or Amanda Mitchell at amandanmitchell@gmail.com with any questions.

Community News

Parent Support

Feel like you have no one to talk with about your child's challenging behavior? You are not alone.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) Support Group is for parents of children with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues. The meeting is free, confidential, safe and led by trained and certified 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. Parents come from Redding, Weston, Westport, Wilton and towns in the surrounding area.

Our next meetings are Monday January 23rd and February 20th, from 10-11:30, at G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. For more info, contact Beth at 203-984-0123 or beth44es@gmail.com; or Vanessa at EliasVanessa5@gmail.com, or text 203-970-4130

Wednesday, February 1, 2017 ~ Raise Your Child to be a Resilient Adult with Tracey Masella, LCSW.

This program will illustrate how helping a child to learn to live life on life's terms will build resilience. Parents will learn how to foster problem solving skills and interpersonal effectiveness in their children by using mindfulness (where do we put our focus) and distress tolerance (how do we calm ourselves) techniques. **For parents of middle and high schoolers.**

10:00-11:30 AM @ Weston Library, 56 Norfield Rd, Weston (No registration necessary)

7:00-8:30 PM @ Wilton Library, 137 Old Ridgefield Road, Wilton Registration recommended
(www.wiltonlibrary.org or 203-762-6334)

Wilton Youth Council (WYC) ~ Upcoming Events

Find us on Facebook or visit www.wiltonyouth.org.

Submit News to Hot Cider

Please email school news to Andrea Bates at connbates@gmail.com, Clarissa Cannavino at clarissacannavino@yahoo.com and Nicola Davies at nicoladavies@outlook.com. For submission deadlines, publication dates, and past issues, please click this link: <http://www.cidermillpta.org/#!/hotcider/ccjp>. 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 January 22, 2017. The deadline for submissions is January 17, 2017.