

**HOT CIDER**

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – March 13, 2022

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

**Important Dates**

- March 24** BOE Meeting – 7.00 PM
- April 01** Cider Mill Spirit Day! (Wear House Colors)
- April 05** Cider Mill Winter Concert (North)
- April 06** Cider Mill Winter Concert (South)
- April 15** Good Friday (No School)
- April 18-22** Spring Break (No School)

**From The PTA President**

Dear Cider Mill Parents and Guardians,

As we begin looking towards the next school year, we 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](mailto:Amanda_Patania@yahoo.com)** or **Alex Frisbee at [Alex.Frisbee.PTA@gmail.com](mailto:Alex.Frisbee.PTA@gmail.com)**.

We need to announce next year’s Executive Board slate at our April meeting, with a vote taken at our May meeting!

I also want to say a huge thank you to our amazing Fundraising Chair, **Alexis Murphy**, for organizing and hosting the **Grit Ninja** night last week and to all the families who participated! Hopefully a fun night was had by all!

Finally, 5th Grade Parents, please consider signing your child up for **5th Grade Fun Night!** Registration information was emailed to parents last week. 3rd and 4th Grade Fun Nights are being scheduled, with more information to follow soon!

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or issues at [MichelleAKrupa@gmail.com](mailto:MichelleAKrupa@gmail.com).

Michelle

**School News**

**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 \(signupgenius.com\)](http://Cider Mill School Store: Cider-Mill School Store Schedule (signupgenius.com))

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## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Night at the YMCA!

Join us for a night of fun and laughter! **April 1 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the Wilton YMCA.** Check in begins at 6:00pm and pre-registration is required. No tickets at the door!

Kids will enjoy painting, cotton candy, snacks, swimming, a DJ dance party and more!

**Students can be registered here:** [5th Grade Fun Night Registration \(google.com\)](#)

**The YMCA waiver can be signed here:** [5th Grade Fun Night YMCA Waiver \(google.com\)](#)

**\*\*Volunteers are needed!\*\*** Those interested can sign up here: [5th Grade Fun Night! 5th Grade Fun Night - Parent Volunteers! \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

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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 skills 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>

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## 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/oirvx64kkgxd1xde>

Submit any questions or comments to: [reflectionscidermill@gmail.com](mailto:reflectionscidermill@gmail.com).

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### **Cider Mill Yearbook**

Calling all 5th Grade parents - we need some of your photos for the **5th Grade Yearbook** to help make this as memorable as possible. We would love it if you could share with us some pictures of your 5th grader (even better if it also has a bunch of their Cider Mill friends in it)! Examples of specific event pictures we're looking for are:

- First Day of School
- Halloween
- Walkathon
- Wilton town team sports/scouts/band/theater.... or any events that happen around Wilton
- Any future Cider Mill events that are upcoming

Please send all photos to [CMyearbookPTA@gmail.com](mailto:CMyearbookPTA@gmail.com)

It would be extremely helpful if you include names of those in the picture, CM house and teacher (if possible). Also, if the images are from a cellphone, please make sure to send as "actual size" to ensure the clarity of the photo is kept.

Thank you for your help!

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### **Green Team Zero Waste**

Inquiring minds want to know!

As our Green Team Zero Waste Schools Committee prepares for **Spring Zero Waste Week** in March, we'd like to learn more about household habits around food waste.

Please take a moment to fill out our anonymous survey. Access the survey here:

<https://forms.gle/i4GaDfPXM3RVEzZ66>

Thank you!

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### **Wilton Special Education PTA**

#### **April is Kindness, Diversity, Inclusion Awareness Month**

Wilton SEPTA is sponsoring two programs to promote awareness for CM students:

1. Local artist, **Fivefingaz**, is working with the CM art department to create a mural to support our campaign. **He will be at CM on April 7.**
  
2. April 7 is **Dress Like a Bee Day**. This program creates awareness around kindnesses and encourages students to spread kindness to all children in school. More details to follow on [www.wiltonsepta.org](http://www.wiltonsepta.org)

In addition, SEPTA is supporting the artist's book, **Love More Than Ever**. Books can be purchased on pre-order for \$20 through March 13, 2022. All proceeds go to [charity](https://www.wiltonsepta.org/shop). <https://www.wiltonsepta.org/shop>

Like our [Facebook](#) page and visit our [website](#) to stay updated with the latest meetings, news, and information. In preparation for the upcoming PPT, annual meeting, and transition meeting season, we will be sharing planning and organizing tips with families on collaborating with school teams.

- We invite teachers to take advantage of our [gifts and grants](#) program.
- Membership, Board, Committee positions open- it's not too late to join!
- We are seeking interested parents to help on our Community and Family Events Committee, including help for our April 2022 Diversity and Inclusion Awareness and Be Kind Campaign.

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## **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>

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## **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.

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**BoxTops 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](mailto:receipts@boxtops4education.com)

Have a question? Please reach out to Allison Norful via email: [anorful@gmail.com](mailto:anorful@gmail.com)

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**ACCESS CIDER MILL HANDBOOK HERE**

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

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**Community News**

**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.

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**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](http://woodcocknaturecenter.org/spring-break-enrichment)**

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## **WOODCOCK NATURE CENTER - SUMMER CAMP**

**An unforgettable summer camp adventure awaits at Woodcock Nature Center!** Have fun and make friends while exploring Woodcock's 150-acre preserve as experienced environmental educators teach conservation and awareness of our natural environment through animal encounters, nature crafts, hiking, kayaking on our pond, wilderness skills and so much more. Summer camp runs June 20 - August 19. PreK - Grade 8. \*Nature is for everyone! Scholarships are available. \* Woodcock is also hiring camp counselors! Visit [www.woodcocknaturecenter.org](http://www.woodcocknaturecenter.org) for more information.

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Lenore Eggleston Herbst (she/her/hers)  
Executive Director  
Woodcock Nature Center  
(203) 762-7280  
[woodcocknaturecenter.org](http://woodcocknaturecenter.org)

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## **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](https://www.3duxdesign.com/products/steam-club-maker-kit?fbclid=IwAR1xAfwH14JEz9UwjsF03MbPnrFyawOK9X9sLwAe1YpB_goRqiYHfTluYis).

Please contact Keerthi Vijay at [23vijayk@wiltonps.org](mailto:23vijayk@wiltonps.org) with any questions!

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## **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/>

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## **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](#)

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

Melissa Reynolds at [giddingsmelissa@hotmail.com](mailto:giddingsmelissa@hotmail.com)

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is March 23, 2022.  
The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on March 27, 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.*