

Hot Cider
A Cider Mill PTA Publication

February 5, 2017

Important Dates

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- 20 NO SCHOOL (February Recess)
Feb 23 Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, WHS Professional Library
Feb 25 5th Grade Fun Night
Feb 27 5th Grade Parent Information Session, Middle School Math Courses,
Cafeteria, 7-8pm

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,

The first of our PTA sponsored fun nights – 3rd Grade Fun Night was a tremendous success providing an evening of entertainment for many of our 3rd graders. Thank you to our husband and wife co-chairs - Gretchen and Chris Jeanes and Aimee and Scott McDonald for their hard work organizing this event.

The February PTA meeting will take place on Valentine's Day. Please attend if you can, we need to have enough members present to vote on several PTA grants to the school. The school is requesting funds to purchase a replacement video camera, and because of the outstanding success of our two water bottle refilling stations, I would like the PTA to fund two more. Please come and have your say, our meeting starts at 9.15am, every parent is welcome to attend.

The outpouring of support for the Bergin family has been heartwarming to see. If you would like to assist the family, gift cards would be most appreciated, they can be dropped off in the PTA mailbox at the office any time this week.

Warmly,

Nicola Davies, PTA President

School News

Fourth Grade Fun Night, February 10, 7-9pm, Cider Mill School

Fourth Grade Fun Night is just around the corner! Please see the link below for more information and instructions on how to register your child. We are in need of parent volunteers to make this event possible. Please consider signing up as either an Activity or Team Leader, which you can do, in the same link. Thank you in advance and we look forward to a great night with our fourth graders! If you have any questions, please contact Susan Price (sprice14@optonline.net) or Jackie Couch (jackie.couch13@gmail.com). Link to sign up: <http://signup.com/go/343oLy>.

Fifth Grade Yearbook ~ Purchase Your Ad Before February 10!

Attention 5th grade parents! Did you know at the end of 5th grade every student receives a copy of the Cider Mill 5th grade yearbook? This book is packed with photos and memories. The PTA funds the yearbook, but your ads offset the cost of producing the book. We invite you to place an ad in the 2016-17 yearbook. Last year over 200 ads were placed. The children will treasure the words you add to this book that is a keepsake for all time. Purchase an ad for \$10, or purchase an ad and receive a 5x7 of the 2023 class photo for \$15. You should have received a flyer in your child's backpack. Please return that form and a check for either \$10 or \$15 made out to Cider Mill PTA, in an envelope to the attention of Yearbook Ads, and put it in the Yearbook box in the school office. All ads and checks must be received by February 10th. Grandparents and other relatives can add a little congratulations to your 5th graders, too!

Fifth Grade Yearbook ! Sports Photos Needed

If any 5th grade parents have photos of their children playing sports, please send them to gradsof2024@yahoo.com for inclusion in the yearbook.

Fifth Grade Fun Night ~ Saturday, February 25, 8-10pm, Wilton YMCA, *Deadline: February 17 to register*

Fifth graders will be set free to visit several different fun stations — an obstacle course, mat ball, a magic show, a photo booth, and much more! Snacks will be provided, and there will be a raffle for each house at the end of the night. Students also have an option for swimming, which is the only activity organized by house. Spots are limited. We ask that only experienced swimmers sign up; there will be a lifeguard on duty, but no lessons will be provided. Each house will have 25 minutes in the pool, and kids can change before and after in the locker rooms (remember to bring a towel, goggles, and flip-flops — but no pool toys). There is a \$5 charge per student for this event, which can be paid at check-in the night of the event.

All registrations must be submitted by Friday, February 17. Snow dates: Saturdays, March 4th and 11th. To register, please email the House Contact below for your student and include the following information:

1. First and last name of student
2. Teacher name
3. Parent email
4. An emergency contact number (for the night of the event)
5. A note if your child would like to swim (the first 50 replies for each house will be registered to swim that night).

House Contacts:

BELDEN HILL — imacraftyrn@hotmail.com

KENT — kumqwat@gmail.com

NOD HILL — treehanson@yahoo.com

CANNONDALE — proneill@yahoo.com

In order for it to be well-run and safe for the kids, we're asking parents to volunteer to help out. There are several stations requiring multiple volunteers; we can use as much help as we can get! <http://signup.com/go/WHi4ts> is the link to sign up. Please don't be shy, and feel free to volunteer for more than one shift, at different stations if you prefer. Any questions should be directed to Kathy Jones at kumqwat@gmail.com. Thanks in advance for helping to make this evening a smashing success!

Box Tops ~ Contest to Bring in the Most Box Tops Runs Through February 22!

The Competition is on. Which classes can bring in the most box tops and win a homework free night!? This year's contest runs through February 22nd. Be sure to keep collecting and submitting your box tops so your class can be announced the winner! Each classroom will be collecting and there will be one winner per house. Visit <http://www.boxtops4education.com/> to learn more.

5th Grade Parents: Information on Middle School Math Courses, February 27, 7-8pm

Please join us at the Cider Mill School Cafeteria on Monday, February 27 from 7-8 pm for an information session to give you an overview of the progression of math courses, the differences between the courses, and the math placement process. Presenting the program will be Julie Wojciechowski, K-8 Math/Science Coordinator, and Damien Whelan, Middlebrook Assistant Principal. For questions, please email wojciechowskij@wiltonps.org.

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 amandaNmittchell@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 amandanmittchell@gmail.com with any questions.

Community News

Wilton Youth Council (WYC) ~ Upcoming Events

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

NAMI CAN ~ Monday, February 27, 10-11:30am, 49 New Street, Wilton

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. For more info, contact Beth at 203-984-0123 or beth44es@gmail.com; or Vanessa at EliasVanessa5@gmail.com, or text 203-970-4130. You can also visit <http://www.namisouthwestct.com>.

NAMI Basics ~ Wednesday, March 1, 6:30-9pm, Grace Farms, West Barn

NAMI Basics is a FREE, six-session program designed for parents (and other family caregivers) of children and adolescents with emotional and behavioral difficulties. NAMI

Basics helps parents and other family caregivers of children to understand the illnesses that are causing those behavioral difficulties, and the critical role families play in the treatment of those illnesses. The program is taught by trained teachers who are also the parents or family caregivers of individuals who experienced emotional or behavioral difficulties prior to age 13. Location: Grace Farms, West Barn, 365 Lukes Wood Road, New Canaan. Contact & Registration: Janet, 203.517.9185 and Denise, 203.314.0208.

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 February 19, 2017. The deadline for submissions is February 14, 2017.