

## Hot Cider A Cider Mill PTA Publication

January 22, 2017

### Important Dates

Jan 23	Day 1
Jan 24	“Feeling Safe” Parent Workshop, 9:30am, Cafeteria
Jan 24	4th Grade North (Cannondale/Nod Hill) Orchestra and Chorus Concert, Cafeteria, 7pm
Jan 25	4th Grade South (Belden Hill/Kent) Orchestra and Chorus Concert, Cafeteria, 7pm
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 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Fun Night
Jan 28	Reading Rocks! Reading Period Begins
Jan 31	5th Grade Orchestra, Advanced Strings, Chorus, Cider Mill Singers Concert, Cafeteria, 7pm
Feb 2	5th Grade Band Concert
Feb 4	Cider Mill Night at the Sound Tigers
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
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](mailto:fallonk@wiltonps.org)

Bus Transportation: 203-762-3381

Chartwells: 203-834-4990 x5221

### Note from the PTA President

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

Congratulations to all students who participated in the annual PTA Reflections competition. The creativity and talent on show was amazing, I hope that many of you got a chance to see the entries displayed in the Wilton Library this past week. Thank you to co-chairs Emily Galligan and Jane Hamilton for their leadership.

Third Grade Fun Night is coming up on Friday, if you haven't signed your child up yet, please do so soon, it really helps with event planning. See link below.

The Superintendent has posted his proposed budget on the district website. The document can be found here. This year the Board of Finance asked the Board of Education to come in with a budget 1.25% lower than last year. Now is the time to get involved in the budget process and let your thoughts on the budget be known to the Board of Education and the Board of Finance. The Board of Education encourages parents to email questions and feedback to them at [boe@wilton.k12.ct.us](mailto:boe@wilton.k12.ct.us).

Thanks,  
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](mailto:jjsteckel@gmail.com) or Kiki Cross at [kcross106@gmail.com](mailto:kcross106@gmail.com).

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

### **Fifth Grade Yearbook ~ Purchase Your Ad Before February 5th!**

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 Veena Dzik, and put it in the Yearbook box in the school office. All ads and checks must be received by February 5th.

### **Fourth Grade Fun Night, February 10th, 7-9pm**

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](mailto:sprice14@optonline.net)) or Jackie Couch ([jackie.couch13@gmail.com](mailto:jackie.couch13@gmail.com)). Link to sign-up: <http://signup.com/go/343oLy>

### **Box Tops!! ~ January Contest**

The Competition is on. Which classes can bring in the most box tops and win a homework free night!? This year's contest launches this week and will run January 23rd 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.

### **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](http://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](mailto:amandaNmitchell@gmail.com).

### **School Spiritwear**

Show your school spirit! Please visit the Cider Mill PTA website at [www.cidermillpta.org](http://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](mailto:annemariearonowitz@yahoo.com) or Amanda Mitchell at [amandanmitchell@gmail.com](mailto:amandanmitchell@gmail.com) with any questions.

## Community News

### Parent Workshop ABCs of IEPs

The Parent Advisory Board for Special Services and 504 is holding a parent workshop, "The ABC's of IEPs" on January 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The workshop features Attorney DeFrancis, Esq. who will discuss special services, PPTs and the IEP process. The workshop will be held at Wilton Library Association, 2nd floor. Please RSVP to [pabwilton@gmail.com](mailto:pabwilton@gmail.com).

### Parent Support

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 Mondays January 23rd and February 27th, 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](mailto:beth44es@gmail.com); or Vanessa at [EliasVanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:EliasVanessa5@gmail.com), or text 203-970-4130. You can also visit <http://www.namisouthwestct.com>

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.

NAMI BASICS New Canaan Start Date: Wednesday March 1st Time: 6:30-9pm

Location: Grace Farms, West Barn 365 Lukes Wood Road, New Canaan

Contact & Registration: Janet: 203.517.9185 and Denise: 203.314.0208

### 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](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org) or 203-762-6334)

### **Wilton Youth Council (WYC) ~ Upcoming Events**

Find us on Facebook or visit [www.wiltonyouth.org](http://www.wiltonyouth.org).

### **Submit News to Hot Cider**

Please email school news to Andrea Bates at [connbates@gmail.com](mailto:connbates@gmail.com), Clarissa Cannavino at [clarissacannavino@yahoo.com](mailto:clarissacannavino@yahoo.com) and Nicola Davies at [nicoladavies@outlook.com](mailto: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 5, 2017. The deadline for submissions is January 31, 2017.