

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – May 6, 2024

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

Important Dates

May 6-10	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 6-9	Scholastic Book Fair
May 7	Final PTA Meeting of the School Year, 9:15 am, School Cafeteria
May 7	Annual Town Meeting, 7pm
May 10	Italian Ice Truck at Cider Mill (during school hours)
May 20-22	SBA Math Testing (Grades 3-5)
May 16	Art Show, North Side 6 to 7pm, South Side 7 to 8pm
May 17	Movie Night at Comstock
May 27	Memorial Day District Closed/No School
May 28	Team Fun Day – 5 th Grade, 8am to 9:30 am
May 28	Grade 4 Chorus/Orchestra ~ South (6:30 PM)
May 29 & 30	Grade 5 NGSS Testing
May 29	Team Fun Day – 4 th Grade, 8am to 9:30 am
May 30	Grade 4 Chorus/Orchestra ~ North (6:30 PM)
May 31	Team Fun Day - 3 rd Grade, 8am to 9:30 am

More important dates are listed below!

Dear Cider Mill Parents and Guardians,

Our final **PTA meeting** is here. We will be meeting on **Tuesday, May 7, 9:15 am** in the school cafeteria and on Zoom. We cannot thank all our volunteers enough, no matter how much you volunteered this year. Every bit counts, and we cannot do the things we do without you!

Our second **Scholastic Book Fair** of the year begins tomorrow! Running **May 6 to 9**, students will again have the opportunity to shop for books and extras. There is a link below for e Wallet sign up, and a volunteer sign up will come separately.

This week marks **Teacher Appreciation Week**. Our Hospitality Chair Caroline Hoffman is providing the Cider Mill Staff with some treats and goodies. Hopefully you have heard from your class representatives regarding plans for your teachers.

As always, we thank you for your support. We can always be reached at giddingsmelissa@hotmail.com or carolinehavlin@hotmail.com

Melissa Reynolds and Caroline Hoffman
Cider Mill PTA Co-Presidents

Helpful Links

Important and Helpful Links:

Cider Mill Contact Info: (203) 762-3351

CM Attendance: (203) 834-4950 or cmattend@wiltonps.org

CM House

List: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Wg883jXBcWnTQOZNgLV746OvS6tnJaleYDL4q9doINy/edit>

CM Community Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1168962513117647/>

WPS Covid 19 Health and Safety

Protocols: https://s3.amazonaws.com/scschoolfiles/2699/wps_covid_protocols_2022-23_school_opening.pdf

WPS Back to School Website: https://www.wiltonps.org/342738_2

WPS 2023-24 School Calendar: https://www.wiltonps.org/342735_2

CM Interactive Calendar: https://www.wiltonps.org/576928_3

WPS App: Located in the Apple and Android app stores

Wilton BOE: https://wiltonps.org/338734_2

Pay for CM Club/Activities Fee: https://www.wiltonps.org/575955_3

Wilton PowerSchool Login: <https://wilton.powerschool.com/public/>

ParentSquare Information: https://wiltonps.org/595543_3

Schoology Information: https://wiltonps.org/576129_3

Special Bus Assignments: https://wiltonps.org/579910_3

MySchoolBucks: <https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/getmain?requestAction=home>

School Lunch Menus: <https://wilton.nutrislice.com/menu/menus-eula>

Join Wilton SEPTA: <https://www.wiltonsepta.org/>

School News

Important End of Year Dates

Repeated for your convenience are important end-of-year events and dates coming up at Cider Mill!

Upcoming Dates:

- May 4 ~ Grade 4 Field Trip (RAIN DATE)
- May 6-10 ~ Scholastic Book Fair
- May 6-10 Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 13 & 14 ~ SBA ELA Testing (Grades 3-5)
- May 16 ~ Art Show & 5th Grade Choir/Orch/Advanced Strings Concert (Evening)
- May 20 - 22 ~ SBA Math Testing (Grades 3-5)
- May 27 ~ Memorial Day District Closed/No School
- May 28 ~ Team Fun Day - Grade 5
- May 28 ~ Grade 4 Chorus/Orchestra ~ South (6:30 PM)
- May 29 & 30 ~ Grade 5 NGSS Testing
- May 29 ~ Team Fun Day - Grade 4
- May 31 ~ Team Fun Day - Grade 3
- May 30 ~ Grade 4 Chorus/Orchestra ~ North (6:30 PM)
- June 3 ~ Grade 3 Strings Combined Concert (6:30 PM)
- June 4-6 ~ Team Fun Day (RAIN DATES)
- June 4 ~ Grade 5 Band/CM Jazz Ensemble/World Food (6:30 PM)
- June 10 ~ Moving Up/Closing House ~ 5th Grade South
- June 11 ~ Moving Up/Closing House ~ 5th Grade North
- June 12 - 14 ~ Shorten Days (12:00 PM Dismissal)
- June 14 ~ Last Day of School

- **Art Show** - Our fabulous art show is scheduled for **May 16 from 6-8pm**. Families can visit the art show from 6:00-7:00 pm for North Side Students and from 7:00-8:00 for South Side Students. Artwork created by each third, fourth and fifth grade student in Cider Mill will be on display.
- **Book Fair:** The Spring Book Fair will be held in the Cider Mill All Purpose Room **May 6-9**, from 7:00-3:00 daily. Please check in at the main office and peruse our book offerings!
- **Team Fun Day:** Similar to the past couple of years, we will run a more interactive Team Fun Day for each grade-level rather than the traditional “field days” of the past. These events will run from **8-9:30 am on May 31 (grade 3), May 29 (grade 4), and May 28 (grade 5) at the WHS Football Stadium.**

Students will move through a series of interactive, relay-based activities that are led by staff members. We encourage families to come cheer on their students, but we ask them to stay behind the fences and off the turf field. Please be sure to keep an eye on the weather and send your child(ren) with a hat, sunscreen and plenty of water to drink! A special thank you to our PE staff (Mr. Lotko and Mr. Gossman) for organizing this fun event for our students.

- **Closing House:** Each teacher will share individual information about their closing house. Here is a link to a chart for a [schedule of our school-wide closing house celebrations](#) and teachers will share an entry “ticket” for you to show at the front office (you may print or show a digital copy on a mobile device).

2023-2024 CM Closing House/Moving Up Chart

Date	Grade/House	Time
Thursday, May 23rd	Kent Grade 3	10:45 - 12:00
Friday, May 24	Nod Hill Grade 3	10:30
Tuesday, June 4	Cannondale Grade 4	1:15
Friday, June 7	Belden Hill Grade 4	8:30-9:00
Thursday, June 6th	Nod Hill Grade 4	1:15-2:00
Thursday, June 6	Kent Grade 4	1:15
Friday, June 7	Belden Hill Grade 3	1:00-1:45
Friday, June 7	Cannondale Grade 3	1:30-2:15
Monday, June 10	Belden Hill Grade 5	Moving Up 8:00 am Closing House 9:00 am
Monday, June 10	Kent Grade 5	Closing House 8:00 am Moving Up 9:00 am
Tuesday, June 11	Cannondale Grade 5	Moving Up 8:00 am Closing House 9:00 am
Tuesday, June 11	Nod Hill Grade 5	Closing House 8:00 am Moving Up 9:00 am

Visitors: Be prepared to show your invitation to the closing house on your phone or a hard copy printout for easier entry into the building. Your driver's license will need to be presented in the event you do not have the invitation.

- **CIDER MILL Countdown-** Click Here for the 2024 [Cider Mill Countdown](#). The countdown begins on **Tuesday, 6/4 with a "C" and will end on Friday, 6/14, the last day of school, with an "L"!**

Cider Mill Countdown 2024

- 6/4 **C**OMPLIMENT DAY
-Compliment a friend or teacher today
- 6/5 **I**'M SO BRIGHT I NEED SHADES DAY
-Wear your favorite sunglasses today!
- 6/6 **D**ANCE IT OUT DAY
-Have a class dance party between subjects during the day!
- 6/7 **E**XCITING FACT DAY
-Bring in an exciting, strange, or unusual fact about something you know a lot about! The stranger, the better!
- 6/10 **R**EAD THE DAY AWAY DAY
-DEAR Time with Your Class
- 6/11 **M**EMORY DAY
-Share memories of the school year with your class
- 6/12 **I**nterest Day
-Share a special interest you have with your class
- 6/13 **L**AUGH-OUT-LOUD DAY
-Bring a joke to school to share with your class
- 6/14 **L**ONGING FOR SUMMER DAY!
-What's on your "Summer To Do" list? Make a list of what you hope to do this summer because it's our last day!!

Have an amazing summer! We are so proud of all of your hard work this year!

- **5th Grade "Moving-up" & Closing House Schedule ([schedule](#)):** we invite our fifth grade families to join us for our traditional Moving-up Ceremony. The times are coordinated with their Closing House Celebrations. Please be aware that there will be many families visiting that morning and parking may be an issue. Folks can always park down in the tennis court lot or in the empty lot across the street.
- **5th Grade Yearbooks:** we are thankful again to the PTA for purchasing for each of our 5th graders their own copy of the yearbook! The yearbooks will be distributed, and the full grade will gather outside in the afternoon of **June 5th** to sign each other's yearbooks.

May 7, 2024, PTA Meeting

Our final PTA meeting of the year is here! We will be meeting at 9:15 am in the Cider Mill cafeteria and on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://wiltonps.zoom.us/j/92962008612>

We have our new board members to vote on as well as some updates from Dr. Falcone. A big thank you to everyone who has helped out this year, we could not have done it without you!

Our 2024/2025 PTA Board is ready to serve, and we have some new names. They will be voted in at our meeting this coming Tuesday.

- Melissa Reynolds – President
- Cathleen Fareed – President Elect (New)
- Jess Evans - co-Treasurer (new)
- Rebecca Perlman - co-Treasurer (new)
- Cathleen Fareed - Membership (new)
- Kelly Cerabino - Secretary (new)
- Connie Rinaldi - Gifts and Grants
- Caroline Hoffman - Hospitality
- Marisa Rosado, Alana D'Angelica - Fundraising (new)
- Sara Sclafani - Parent at Large
- Libbet Field - Special Education Interests

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The Italian Ice Truck Returns!

Once again, the Italian Ice truck will be visiting the school on **May 10 during the lunch waves**. The event is free for staff and students and nutritional information will be sent closer to the date. A sign up will come this week looking for volunteers to help manage the lines!

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LAST CALL! 5th Grade Yard Signs!

Yard signs for moving up 5th graders are now available for purchase! Please see [HERE](#) to purchase your sign, either generic or personalized. All signs will be delivered to the school and then available for pick up at a specified time. The bulk order store will close **TODAY**. Orders can still be placed after that date, but at a higher price.



Scholastic Book Fair

Our next Scholastic Book Fair will take place **May 6 – 9**. **E Wallets can be set up [HERE](#)**. A reminder that any unspent e wallet amounts from our fall fair were transferred to gift cards by Scholastic. If you login to your account, you can create a new e wallet and transfer the gift card money back. The book fair also accepts cash, credit cards, and Apple Pay.

We can always use more volunteers! If you are able to help out, please check [HERE](#).

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Movie Night is Coming!

More tickets will open up soon for our movie night, May 17, at Comstock. College Creamery will be on hand selling ice cream and flavored ice, and Scoops will be selling candy. All tickets from our rained-out fall date will be honored.

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2024 – 2025 Extended Day Childcare Registration

Mark your calendars....**on Wednesday, May 15 at 10:00 am**, online registration opens for the Cider Mill 2024-25 Extended Day Childcare Program!

Who can participate: Students entering grades 3 – 5 in the fall
Length of time: 2:15 – 6:30 pm

Prior to registration, click [here](#) to create and/or update your parent and student account with Wilton Continuing Education.

Keep your username and password handy to expedite your registration on the date and time above. Go directly to wiltoncontinuinged.org and click on Childcare to register.

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AtoZ Connect

Our new membership platform is now live! To sign up, please go to [Cider Mill PTA - Home Page \(membershiptoolkit.com\)](#). You can register here and then join the PTA by clicking on Join The PTA.

A Single Membership gives you directory access and one vote when voting on PTA issues. A Family Membership gives you directory access and two votes.

Through this platform we will provide a directory of students, sell tickets to events, sell spirit wear, and conduct surveys. All revenue goes to pay dues to the CTPTA and to support school events, grants, gifts, and more!

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Wilton SEPTA is looking for your help!

Like our [Facebook](#) page and visit our [website](#) to join for the 2023-2024 school year, for meeting dates, for volunteer and officer opportunities, and to stay updated with the latest 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, and Committee positions are open - it's not too late to join!
- We are seeking interested parents to help on our Community and Family Events Committee

Zoom link for all 2024 meetings:
<https://wiltonps.zoom.us/j/91771706236>

Community News

Town Budget Vote, May 7

It's time to cast your vote for the 2024-2025 town budget, including the revised Board of Education budget, that was recommended unanimously by the Board of Finance last month. Your presence is necessary at the **Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, May 7th at 7PM** in the Clune Center at Wilton High School, where eligible voters may offer comments and propose changes to the town budget. A motion can be made at the meeting to decrease the proposed school budget, and in-person votes are necessary to reject any further reductions. Please note that there is no Zoom option for participating in the Annual Town Meeting.

Voting begins immediately after the meeting and continues on Saturday, May 11th from 8AM to 6PM in the lobby of the Clune Center. The ballot this year also includes a number of bonding referendums as well as a question on whether the town charter should be amended to allow breweries in the Town of Wilton. A sample ballot is [available here](#). More detailed information on the proposed budgets and bonding questions are [available on the town website](#).

See this [Good Morning Wilton](#) article for full details and including a helpful video on the town meeting process.

Wilton Children's Theater

Registration for our school year shows is now open and closes **June 3 at 5pm**. You must register before June 3 for one of these shows in order to be eligible for the lottery. Registration is open to all Wilton residents in incoming grades 4th-8th. All details can be found on our website: <https://www.wiltonchildrenstheater.org/register>

Class of '25 Slides!

Order your customizable slides before the weather gets warm!! The Class of 2025 PGP Committee has worked closely with ISlides to create two custom pairs of slides designed exclusively for Wilton. Not only can you choose from one of the two designs, you can PERSONALIZE your slides too - add a last name, a team name, a number - to customize them and make them uniquely your own. Slides are \$50 a pair - personalization is free of charge.

Click the link below to order!

<https://islideusa.com/collections/wilton-warriors-1>

Step 1: CHOOSE YOUR DESIGN & SIZE
Pick YOUR style and size!



Ambler Farm Summer Camp

Summer Camp...Join us for your choice of weeks or for the whole summer!

Ages: 1st – 8th grade

Camp Dates and Time: June 17 – August 5, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

(After Camp Care from 1:00 – 3:00 pm)

Registration: Now open for members; opens on February 15 for nonmembers

Campers attending our summer camp will have an amazing time experiencing farm life through hands-on activities, spending time with our farm animals, getting their hands dirty in our educational gardens, and working around the farm.

Every week is sure to include:

- Spending time with our baby goats, sheep, chickens, baby rabbits and holding our baby chicks, turkeys, and geese
- Woodworking
- Hayrides
- Harvesting
- Cooking with recipes that are inspired by what is growing in our gardens

Depending on the week, campers will:

- Harvest berries, peas, cucumbers, garlic scrapes, garlic, potatoes, tomatoes and more
- Check our nesting boxes for eggs

Campers are divided by grade levels for appropriate activities.

Click here to register: [Summer Camp](#)

Wilton Youth Council

The WYC Board of Directors, with support from Wilton Library staff and Rob Cippolla of the WPD, planted 256 green pinwheels to represent Wilton 211 and 988 calls in the last 365 days related to Mental Health and Addiction and 339 white pinwheels to represent the 3 in 5 Wilton residents who suffer from Mental Health and Addiction but do not reach out for help.



If you are interested in participating in the Wellness Fair on **Saturday, May 11 from 5-7:30 pm** but have not yet signed up, please do so [HERE](#).

The more people we can have turn up on **May 16 @ 10:30 am at the Wilton Library** for the Statement on Mental Health Awareness, Support and Action, the more powerful show of support we can send to our community. Please consider attending. You can RSVP [HERE](#).

The letter from WYC, the WYC Coalition for Youth and WYC Mental Health Task Force was published in Good Morning Wilton. You can read it [HERE](#) and we ask that you also share this information with your membership.

Wellness Resource Fair & Screening of Inside Out: Join us on **May 11th from 5-7:30 pm** at the WHS Little Theater for Wilton's first Wellness Resource Fair and a screening of Disney Pixar's *Inside Out*. Complete details and registration at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/bdcc587b-fbeb-4885-84e4-5999282736ca>.

May 16th is Mental Health Action Day!

- *Wear Green!* Take action on Mental Health Action Day! Wear your green pin all day to show your support of everyone who struggles with or knows someone who battles mental health challenges. Pins can be obtained from many Wilton locations, including the Wilton Library.
- *Mental Health Action Day: Statement on Mental Health Awareness, Support and Action:* Join town leaders and community members in showing your support as an ally to those struggling with their mental health. This public recognition of and support for those in our community facing challenges with their own mental health will help reduce stigma around mental health and raise awareness of those who suffer with their Mental Health and Addiction. Join us to help build awareness, show support and take action!

Coffee - Community - Conversation: Join WYC and Wilton community members to gather and build connections on Saturday, **May 18 from 9:30-10:30 am** at Nova Cafe (200 Danbury Rd, Wilton).

Opioid Education and Narcan Training on Wednesday, May 22 from 10-11 am at Comstock Community Center. This training provides information on opioids that include street drugs (like heroin) and prescription drugs (like Oxycontin). Opioid overdoses have become an epidemic; in Connecticut, on average, two people die every day from an opioid overdose. By the end of this training you will learn how to administer naloxone, also known as Narcan, which can reverse an opioid overdose in a few minutes. Register at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/f82ba2a6-f0db-4e5d-b26a-6ec5746f4a77>.

The Turnover Shop

The Turnover Shop is a great Wilton resource when looking to reuse or donate items you no longer need. They run on volunteers and sell by donations or consignment. Many of our lost and found items end up at the Turnover Shop at the end of terms! Please check them out at <https://turnovershopwilton.org/>.

IvyMath

[IvyMath](#) is providing all Cider Mill families with a free online math tutoring session and an in-depth parent conference to discuss your child's strengths and weaknesses and how they compare to grade level.

IvyMath will also create a custom learning plan that maps out the exact areas your child should be focusing on in math for the rest of the year and what they will need to review over the summer. You'll have the opportunity to ask questions, and understand what your child needs to feel confident and stay on track in math next year.

The IvyMath tutoring session, parent conference, and learning plan are free for all Cider Mill families. Popular times fill up, so please register quickly! **Signup now at:** IvyMath.com/Boost

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NAMI-CAN WILTON

School is back in session and for many children, so are the academic and social stresses that can cause behavioral changes. **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 meetings are 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, find resources 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. <https://namisouthwestct.org>

For the password and more information: Beth at 203-984-0123 or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com. **Our next meetings are Mondays on May 6 and June 3 over Zoom from 10:00 – 11:30 am.**

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83775421936Meeting>
ID: 837 7542 1936

[Submit News to Hot Cider](#)

Danielle Michalisin at micdch72@gmail.com

Melissa Reynolds at _giddingsmelissa@hotmail.com

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is May 16, 2024. The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on May 20, 2024.

Content may be edited at the discretion of editors. To keep Hot Cider timely and concise, your article may be published only twice.