

**Hot Cider
A Cider Mill PTA Publication
November 8, 2015**

Important Dates

November 9	Day 3
November 10	PTA Meeting, 9:15am, Rm 119 in Cannondale
November 10	Technology Talk, 9-11am, Middlebrook Media Center
November 11	Veterans Day Assembly
November 11	Technology Talk, 7-9pm, Cider Mill Cafeteria
November 12	Turkey Trot
November 16	Common Core Presentation ~ Dr. Smith, 7pm, Cider Mill Cafeteria
November 16-20	No Idling Week
November 19-25	Shortened Day – Dismissal at 11:55am/ Parent Conferences
November 19-24	Book Fair
November 26-27	NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving)
December 23	Shortened Day - Dismissal at 11:55am
December 24-Jan.1	Holiday Break

Important Phone Numbers

Cider Mill Main Office: 203-762-3351
Report an Absence: 203-834-4950 or kellym@wilton.k12.ct.us
Bus Transportation: 203-762-3381
Chartwells: 203-834-4990 x5221

A Note from the PTA President

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that November is here already. We have a busy 2 weeks coming up.

Our next PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10th. Our meeting agenda can be found at <http://www.cidermillpta.org/#!agendas-and-minutes/cx7q>. We have Assistant Superintendent Dr. Chuck Smith joining us for part of our meeting to run through 'Future Protocol', an exercise to talk about what we hope our schools will look like in the year 2022.

Also, please help Cider Mill School get a jump start on our “No Idling” campaign which kicks off the week of November 16th. This summer, a no idling resolution was signed for our town. Wilton Go Green will publicize this effort and we hope that the Cider Mill community will do its part! Please turn your car engine off while waiting for students in

the pick-up line. Doing so helps prevent harmful toxins being released into the air and supports our efforts to “green” our school and community. Wilton Go Green Volunteers will be at the pick up line during the week of November 16th to encourage everyone to switch off their engines whilst they wait.

During Parent Teacher Conferences we will again hold our 'Bazaar of Lost Items' in the front entrance of the school. Hopefully we will be able to reunite sweaters, lunchboxes and more with their owners. Please be sure to swing by.

Here's to a great week!

Warmly,
Nicola Davies
Cider Mill PTA President

School News

Technology Talks ~ November 10, 9-11am, Middlebrook & November 11, 7-9pm, Cider Mill

Wilton Public Schools would like your feedback on the future of educational technology.

We welcome your feedback by asking you to complete the following Google Form:

<http://goo.gl/forms/heCsH2yN4L>.

We would also like to invite you to join us for our upcoming community conversations about the future of educational technology in the Wilton Public Schools. Please join us for either the daytime event at Middlebrook on November 10th from 9:00am to 11:00am or an evening conversation at Cider Mill on November 11th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

Thank you in advance for completing our form and providing us with your valuable feedback on the future of educational technology in our schools.

40th Annual Turkey Trot ~ Event: November 12, Deadline: November 9

Cider Mill's Turkey Trot was started by then PE teacher Jim Cook in 1975! The goal was and is to help Wilton families in need during the holidays. The PE Department, with assistance from the PTA, continues this long tradition in which all students walk, run or jog for one half mile. Don't forget to wear sneakers and dress warmly! Rain date is November 13. We are asking each student to voluntarily donate a minimum of \$2.00.

Funds collected will purchase turkeys and gift cards for Wilton Social Services to distribute to families in December.

- Participation donation fee is optional (additional donations welcome).
- Please return donations to your child's teacher.
- Cash or checks, made payable to Cider Mill Activity Fund, will be accepted.

Fifth grade will run 7:45-8:25 am, 4th grade 8:30 -9:10 am, and 3rd grade 9:00 -9:55 am. Registration form is on the front page of Edline under “News,” and is also in the Virtual Backpack on Edline. Form is due November 9.

Common Core Presentation by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Chuck Smith ~ November 16th, 7pm, Cider Mill Cafeteria

Cider Mill Parents and Guardians are invited to join Dr. Chuck Smith where he will discuss State Common Core Standards and the new MAP assessment.

Book Fair ~ November 19-24

The Fall Book Fair is fast approaching! Take advantage while you are at school for conferences, and pick up some great books for your children, and as gifts. Set-up for the Fair will take place November 18. Sale dates will be November 19, 20, 23 & 24. Please consider volunteering an hour or two of your time. It's easy to sign up! Use this link to select the best times that work for you: <http://vols.pt/XYoDRX>.

News from Cider Mill's School Counselors It has been great to meet with all of our students during lunch bunches in September and October. It is very apparent that our students have had a great start to the school year!

Throughout November and December, we will continue to go into classrooms to deliver developmental guidance lessons. The lesson topics for Nov/Dec are:

Grade 3: Friendship

Grade 4: Differences/Disabilities

Grade 5: Learning Styles

Please ask your child about these lessons so they can tell you all of the new things that they have learned!

As we approach Thanksgiving, it is a great time to speak with our children about being thankful and about ways they can give back to their community. Here are some great conversation starters to use with your family to discuss the idea of giving to others:

- What can you give or do for someone that doesn't cost money?
- Think about a time someone did something thoughtful for you. What was it? Was there a time you did something thoughtful for someone else? How did this make you and the other person feel?
- What is something you love that you can share with someone else?

Visit <http://thefamilydinnerproject.org/> for more ideas!

Lauren Buckley – School Counselor Kent/Belden Hill

Dawn Randall – School Counselor Cannondale/Nod Hill

Ongoing Cider Mill News

Cider Mill PTA Membership

What is a PTA membership all about? Becoming a member of our PTA is more than just getting a directory - although you will get one with your membership. Our membership is open to all adults who believe in the mission on the PTA. Joining the PTA is showing that you care what happens in your children's education. It shows that you want to be involved, engaged and informed. It isn't a commitment to volunteer for anything! It doesn't 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, getting to know your school and administrators, having a voice and being heard at the school and school 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, walk-a-thon, book fair, spirit wear, library volunteer, school supplies, Hot Cider newsletter, etc.

You can find a form on the new PTA website <http://www.cidermillpta.org/#!/forms/c70d>.

Bus Barn – Lost and Found Items

Missing something? Check out the Bus Barn Blogspot at <http://wiltonlostproperty.blogspot.com> for photos of items found on school buses. If you see something that might be yours, please contact Nicola Davies at nicoladavies@outlook.com.

Box Tops

Remember to clip your Box Tops! We are collecting Box Tops again this year and the collection box is located in the office. We will be running another Box Top competition soon!

Community News

ABC's of IEPs ~ November 9th, 10am-12pm, Wilton Library Association, 2nd Floor
Parents and Caregivers are invited to attend a program with Attorney Theresa DeFrancis who worked for the Connecticut State Department of Education for close to 30 years in the Bureau of Special Education. She initially managed the special education due process hearing system and over the years became involved in policy work, including drafting

proposed revisions to the state education statutes and regulations. She worked with other state agencies such as the Department of Children and Families and the Judicial Department to ensure children under their care or custody received the educational services to which they were entitled. She currently is retired from the CSDE and is doing extensive work as a mediator in special education matters, is consulting with schools districts and parents on special education matters and has served as a hearing officer in FERPA hearings. Admission is free. Please RSVP to PABwilton@gmail.com.

Meet and Greet with Superintendent Dr. Kevin Smith ~ November 12th

The Wilton Education Foundation (WEF) and the Wilton Newcomers Club are coming together for a meet and greet coffee to learn more about how both our organizations are having positive impact in our community and to meet Dr. Smith to hear more about his vision for our schools and our students. The coffee will be held at the Professional Library at the Wilton High School on Thursday, November 12th from 9:30 am-11am. WEF will be providing breakfast from Café Ruche. Please RSVP on the Wilton Newcomers Website, www.wiltonnewcomersclub.com in advance to ensure there are enough refreshments for attendees. Both members and non-members of both groups are welcome. Please come join us and bring a friend who may be interested in either group, even if you can only attend for a portion of the time. Babies and preschoolers are welcome too!

No Idling Week ~ November 16-20

DID YOU KNOW: Idling (except in traffic or extreme temperatures) is against the law in Connecticut? DID YOU KNOW: The Wilton Board of Selectmen recently adopted a resolution that Wilton is a No-Idle town? DID YOU KNOW: Idling for ten seconds uses as much gas as turning your car off and on again? Celebrate No Idle Week with Wilton Go Green during the week of November 16-20, and SIGN A PLEDGE TO STOP IDLING at www.iturnifotff.com/wilton.

WYC - Parent Information Series ~ November 18th, 10am-11:30am, Wilton Library/7pm-8:30pm, Weston Library

WYC's Parent Connection invites you to the 2015-2016 Parent Information Series: Everything You Want to Know About Your Adolescent. The first presentation in the series is "Setting Limits with Your Tween and Teen" with Tracey Masella, LCSW, Adolescent Social Worker, Silver Hill Hospital. Tracey will speak about how to set effective limits with your teens and tweens in order to increase positive behavior and decrease negative behavior. Strategies to strengthen your relationship with your child and to foster healthy communication will be discussed, as well as recognizing the warning signs of when typical adolescent behavior "crosses the line" and treatment may be warranted. Come learn helpful parenting tools to make the often turbulent adolescent years less stressful for the entire family. Advance registration is recommended at www.wiltonlibrary.org or call 203-762-3950, ext. 213.

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 November 22, 2015. The deadline for submissions is November 17, 2015.