

# HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – January 31, 2021

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

## Important Dates

<b>Jan 29</b>	Day 4
<b>Feb 12</b>	SHORTENED DAY (Teacher professional development)
<b>Feb 15- Feb 19</b>	NO SCHOOL (Winter Recess)
<b>Apr 2</b>	NO SCHOOL (Good Friday)

## From The PTA President

To Cider Mill Parents and Guardians:

We wrapped up school photos this week. All photos have now been taken or retaken if you wished. I know there were some issues with the class composites in the first round, but all CM families will receive a refreshed class photo when retakes are distributed. If you have specific issues with your photo package please contact Lifetouch directly at <https://contact.lifetouch.com/> or 1-888-267-7571. A huge thank you to Dana Quick for all the work she put into photo day. This was certainly not a typical year, and a lot of work into organizing. Thank you Dana!

Reading Rocks begins on February 1st with an all school dance party! The program will be 100% virtual this year, and there are many exciting events planned. The program will kick off with a video shared at school and personalized fundraising pages that will be mailed to parents. The reading period is February 6th through February 20th, and all pledges are due by February 5th to be eligible for the iPad and Kindles. Please be on the lookout for additional information on this program. If you have any questions please contact Jen Carvajal [jencrav@hotmail.com](mailto:jencrav@hotmail.com) or Kiki Cross [kcross106@gmail.com](mailto:kcross106@gmail.com).

The PTA is beginning to look towards next year to help facilitate a smooth transition into the new school year. With that being said, many of our Executive Board Members and Committee Chairs will be leaving CM in the Fall, which requires us to fill many open positions. A few of these positions include Co-President, Treasurer and Hospitality. If you would like to volunteer or would like to hear more about the open positions, please contact Meghan Russo, President at [meghan.russo13@gmail.com](mailto:meghan.russo13@gmail.com), Amanda Patania, Nominating Chair [amanda\\_Patania@yahoo.com](mailto:amanda_Patania@yahoo.com) and/or Alex Frisbee, Nominating Chair [alex.frisbee.pta@gmail.com](mailto:alex.frisbee.pta@gmail.com).

Please join us for our next PTA meeting on Tuesday, February 9th at 10am via Zoom. Thank you for all of your continued support. Please reach out if you have any questions or comments at [meghan.russo13@gmail.com](mailto:meghan.russo13@gmail.com).

Meghan Russo  
CM PTA President.

## School News

### RECESS AIDE OPPURTUNITY

If you are interested in being a hired aide Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri from 10.30=1.30 you can apply at : <https://www.wiltonps.org/departments/human-resources> and please contact Lauren Catalano directly at [catalanol@wiltonps.org](mailto:catalanol@wiltonps.org). The children will not be wearing masks outside; therefore, you must be comfortable with this scenario and participate in helping the children remain physically distant. Aides will lead the children in physically distant games while also supervising chat circles and walks. We know there is a lot to think through and make sense of. If your schedule allows for it, please consider taking on this role. If you know someone who would fit the role of a recess aide, please share this note and encourage them apply and contact Lauren as soon as possible.

<https://www.wiltonps.org/departments/human-resources>

## **WILTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ~ OPEN POSITIONS**

The Wilton Public Schools "For a Better World" are seeking recent college graduates, college students, retirees, career-changers, and those interested in giving back to their community to join a dynamic, engaging, and inspirational team of staff and students. A number of flexible positions are available, including substitutes, lunch-recess monitors, certified teachers, long-term substitutes, and paraprofessionals. Help shape the lives of our future leaders! To learn more and/or apply, please visit our website at: <https://www.wiltonps.org/departments/human-resources> or contact Human Resources Coordinator Erika Cross at [crosse@wiltonps.org](mailto:crosse@wiltonps.org).

## **Ongoing School News**

### **IMPROVE YOUR ACADEMICS!**

All Cider Mill students can receive tutoring at no cost. All tutors are Wilton High School students.

Please fill out this form if you need help in any subject: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfBFFyrppvQ7z7wMCub3j3oQGmwM7m0DVbqgRvBB0cVloK6xQ/viewform>

For more information, please visit <https://youracademics.org/>

### **FIND US ON FACEBOOK**

The PTA has 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.

### **STOP AND SHOP REWARDS PROGRAM**

CIDER MILL SCHOOL (ID#: 40341) has the opportunity to participate and earn CASH from A+ School Rewards, a great fundraising program run through our local Stop & Shop!

To participate: Visit <http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus> and scroll down to the center of the page to select REGISTER YOUR CARD from the red box on the right marked FOR CUSTOMERS

To earn points:

- Use your registered Stop & Shop Card each time you shop at Stop & Shop, and you will earn CASH for our school. You can track the number of points you are earning for our school by checking your grocery receipt.
- At the end of each month, your points are calculated and converted to CASH rewards for our school. These CASH rewards are updated monthly on the Giant A+ website beginning in November.
- After the last day of the 2019-2020 program, these same conversions are performed and the final school account total is posted.
- Our school will receive one CASH awards check at the end of the program and can use this cash for any of our educational needs.

### **BOX TOPS HAVE GONE DIGITAL!**

No more clipping Box Tops! Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production. The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

#### **3 easy steps...**

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.

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

### **ZERO WASTE SCHOOLS**

With the start of school, we'd also like to send a Zero Waste quick refresher for all, it's YES to using reusable containers, bags, silverware, and ice packs; purchasing bulk snacks to sort into reusable containers, packing realistic portions and taking home uneaten food (or compost!) It's AVOID disposable paper or plastic bags; Individually-packaged snacks; non-reusable food wrap; disposable ice packs, utensils, or drink containers (juice boxes or pouches); and plastic straws.

## Community News

### **Lend a helping hand to The Turnover Shop!**

Did you know that our most generous donor is a local nonprofit - The Turnover Shop?

They have provided long-standing support for our PTA's and other local organizations. Operating costs have increased during covid and they were shut down for several months. They need our help more than ever. **Please help those that helped us!**

**Volunteer:** Regular commitment of one or two WEEKDAY am (10-1) or afternoon (1-4) shifts a month (Ex. Third Friday a, of every month).

**Donate:** Items and Clothing.

**Shop:** Its hidden treasures.

**Spread the word:** About this fabulous wilton treasure!

### **Join Wilton Go Green's Do One thing Campaign**

Join our campaign designed to help our community connect with one another on a different level. We aim to let each other see what our friends and family are doing around simple changes we are making to help foster more sustainable behaviors. These efforts can be made in different areas of our lives and spread positivity by showing us that we all can make a difference.

Join the campaign by visiting our ["Do One Thing"](#) webpage to view all different types of action perhaps you are already taking and then consider a new action to try for 2021. We are sharing images and stories through social media pages, website and newsletters.

[Zero Waste Schools](#)

### **Your Covid Toolbox: Helping Adults Cope in Crazy Times ~ January 19th 10-11am**

Has the past year got you feeling stressed, anxious, not sleeping well or over-indulging? Join Matt DeBernardis, Resilience Trainer from Silver Hill Hospital, for an interactive online workshop and gather some tools to help you cope during the winter months of the pandemic. This workshop focuses on evidence-based strategies proven to enhance one's ability to not only bounce back, but to grow and thrive in the face of hardship. Sponsored by Wilton Library, Wilton Youth Council, Silver Hill Hospital and Wilton Social Services. Visit <https://www.wiltonlibrary.org/events/> for more information and registration information.

### **WILTON SEPTA ( SPECIAL EDUCATION PTA)**

Join us! Next Wilton SEPTA (Special Education PTA) meeting:

Wednesday, **February 10th at 7 PM**

Support our families, students and staff! Open positions for next year include President, Secretary and Committee Chairs!

We are excited to present new programs coming early this Spring 2021:

For Students:

[Sensory Integration Art Experience Classes](#),

free for SEPTA member families

[Social Hangouts, Cooperative Play Groups](#):

Facilitated by trained BCBA's from the Hangout Spot

Free for SEPTA member families

Details to follow

April's Diversity and Inclusion Awareness Month Committee needs Volunteers!

Join us to find out more: Two ways to Join here! Mobile App to join all PTA's and Paypal link to join SEPTA only <https://www.wiltonsepta.org/projecto-5>

Feb. 10th zoom meeting link here!

<https://wiltonps.zoom.us/j/91630930209?pwd=LzBzSIVHSVJrWXdiM0dKNHhxQzJ0Zz09>

Thanks!

Kara Berghaus  
Wilton SEPTA President

### **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**

Clarissa Cannavino at [clarissacannavino@yahoo.com](mailto:clarissacannavino@yahoo.com)

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

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is February 10, 2021.

The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on February 14, 2021.

*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.*