

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – October 11, 2020

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

Important Dates

Oct 12	NO SCHOOL (Columbus Day)
Oct 13	Day 3
Nov 3	NO SCHOOL (Professional Learning / Election Day)
Nov 19, 20	Shortened Days (K-8 Conferences)
Nov 23, 24	Shortened Days (K-8 Conferences)
Nov 25 - 27	Thanksgiving Recess

From The PTA President

To Cider Mill Parents and Guardians:

On Tuesday, we begin our first week of all 100% on-site learners in the building. The CM administrators, staff and teachers have been working hard to get the building ready for their return. There has been additional PPE installed, lunch has been moved to the cafeteria and science room, as well as plans put in place to help maintain social distancing while outside of the classroom. Our teachers are excited to begin this next phase with our on-site and remote learners!

With the additional students in the building, we expect there will be longer lines for drop-off and pick-up. Many of the buses still have very few riders on them. If you're comfortable, you can reach out to Fran Williams to inquire about changing from pick-up/drop off to the bus. You can reach Fran at williamsf@wiltonps.org.

With a majority of the students being back on-site, the PTA and administration have made the decision to move photo day up. Photo day will now be Monday, November 9th for the South side, and Tuesday, November 10th for the North. Remote students will have the option to sign up for photos to be taken after school on the day of their sides photo day. Additional information will be sent out on how to order pictures, safety measures and protocols, as well as a sign up for remote students.

During the spring teachers had sent home books from their classroom libraries with students. Many have not been returned leaving the classroom libraries sparse. If you still have books at home, please send in with your student to be returned to their teachers' classroom.

Please join us for our next PTA meeting on Tuesday, November 10th at 10am. Thank you for your support and please reach out if you have any questions or comments at meghan.russo13@gmail.com.

Meghan Russo

CM PTA President

School News

VIRTUAL HELP DESK ~ Monday through Friday, 7:30am-5pm through end of September
Contact the [Virtual Help Desk](#)

CIDER MILL WALKATHON

Coming soon, your chance to participate in this year's 11th Annual Cider Mill Walkathon - with a difference (because everything is different in 2020!). This year we are emphasizing the chance to be around family and friends and having a "virtual" Walkathon as we are unable to have a whole school event.

The Walkathon is the Cider Mill PTA's largest fundraiser of the year, this is how most of the money we use is raised. We use this money in a variety of ways including 5th Grade Yearbook, Staff Grants, Enrichment Programs, Teacher Classroom Grants. Most years we also use the money for Fun Nights, Visiting Author, and other fun activities for your children and Cider Mill Staff.

More details will be shared in the next couple of weeks, watch this space!

Ongoing School News

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

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

WILTON SEPTA

Join us to learn about our current initiatives, gifts and grants program and more! If you haven't yet registered or renewed your membership to SEPTA, please click here and join us today: <https://www.wiltonsepta.org/>

READING ROOM

Wilton High School volunteers will be reading approved chapter books to Fairfield County students in Grades 2-5 over zoom on Wednesdays from 4-5pm.

Click here to sign up your child for the October session (October 7th - October 28th): (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfTTXbJs6DalP4PEf1zyTWxCvfcQCYiJcvxveSYE-k-HM5FCQ/viewform?usp=sf_link).

Email Meghan Koziolkowsky (21koziolkowskym@wiltonps.org) and/or Sarah Gassel (21gassels@wiltonps.org) regarding any questions or information.

GEORGE DIROCCO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Wilton Warrior Gridiron Club, the booster organization that supports the Wilton High School Football program, has established this fund in memory of George. This scholarship will be awarded annually to the teammate who demonstrates selflessness both on and off the field and will be personally handed the award by the DiRocco family members at either the end-of-season football banquet or at the high school end-of-year awards ceremony. Donations towards this scholarship are held separately from other funds raised benefitting the football program. The DiRocco family has asked that gifts be made towards this fund and will receive a list of donors.

<https://www.wiltonwarriorgridironclub.com/teams/default.asp?u=WILTONWARRIORGRIDIRONCLUB&s=football&p=fundraiser>

WILTON YOUTH COUNCIL

Visit us at WiltonYouth.org and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/WiltonYouthCouncil).

This year the school day is very different for most of our children, and they will need lots of time for play. Wilton Youth Council's Free Play Matters Task Force invites you to follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WiltonFreePlay/ for creative ideas about how you can inspire your child's play.

Genevieve Eason
Executive Director
Wilton Youth Council
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MS. PRESIDENT US PROGRAM

Girls entering Grades 4th to 8th are invited to enroll in the Ms. President US program, which begins (via Zoom) October 2nd.

The mission of [Ms. President US](#) is to motivate and prepare girls to aim for the highest civic leadership positions and to know that they can achieve them. By introducing the girls to students and women who are leaders in their community, state, and on a national level, participants learn about the political process. The girls then have a chance to interact with the leaders, and engage in activities that help them develop their own leadership skills. Each session is facilitated by high school girls who serve as mentors throughout the program.

Session topics include:

- Civic Leadership / Public Service
- Meet & Greet Local, State, and Federal Leaders
- Women's History and Leadership
- Public Speaking & Debate

- Communications & Media
- State Capitol Visit

The program culminates in a campaign and election whereby participants have the opportunity to create their own campaign (or work on another participant's campaign) and run for “Ms. President US” of their town. The sessions will be held via Zoom from 4:15pm-5:45pm on 8 Fridays between October through March. In addition, there is a field trip to the State Capitol, and an Election.

To [enroll](#) or learn more, visit mspresidentus.org. Enrollment fee for the program is \$250 and scholarships are available. Space is limited. Enrolled Girl Scouts can earn several patches and badges for participation in the Ms. President US program.

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. Next meeting is Monday, November 2nd at (10-11:30am) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/596783943> (Meeting ID: 596 783 943) For more information and the password: Beth at [203-984-0123](tel:203-984-0123) or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa at [203-970-4130](tel:203-970-4130) or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com

Submit News to Hot Cider

Clarissa Cannavino at clarissacannavino@yahoo.com

Anu Suri at anusuri2022@gmail.com

Deadline for submission for the next issue of Hot Cider is October 21, 2020.
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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.