

HOT CIDER

CIDER MILL PTA PUBLICATION – December 18, 2023

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

Important Dates

Dec 20	Fifth Grade Yearbook Cover Contest Deadline
Dec 22	Early Dismissal, School Spirit Day, Winter Singalong
Dec 25-Jan1	Holiday Recess
Jan 2	School Resumes

Dear Cider Mill Parents and Guardians,

It has been a busy first half of the school year for everyone, and we are sure many of you are looking forward to a nice relaxing and enjoyable break!

As we near the end of 2023, the Cider Mill PTA wants to express how thankful we are for everyone who has supported us this school year. Whether volunteering, purchasing one of our fundraisers, attending one of our events, or providing productive feedback. Please know that it has all been appreciated!

As we look to 2024, we still have a lot on our agenda! Grants will be open in the new year to teachers and staff looking to fund an initiative, the Snowball Dance Party is making a return, fun nights are busy being planned, our movie night has been moved indoors to March 1, and we also have a trivia night and another book fair to look forward to.

Beginning in February we will also be seeking some new board members for the next school year, so please stay tuned for more details, or if you are interested, please reach out.

The Cider Mill PTA wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday, and a happy new year!

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/1Wg883jXBcWnTQOZNqLV746OvS6tnJaleYDL4q9doINy/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

Snowball Dance Party!

Back by popular demand, the **Snowball Dance Party will be held on January 19**, in the Cider Mill Gym. There will be two times, **5:30 pm to 7:00 pm for 3rd and 4th grades and 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm for 4th and 5th grades.**

Tickets will go on sale in the New Year and a sign up will go out for volunteers. We will need a lot of help to make this night run smoothly and enjoyable for everyone! Stay tuned for our next Hot Cider with ticket sale links and sign ups!



Fifth Grade Yearbooks

Class of 2031 Yearbook Cover Contest: Entries Due Dec 20!

Calling all 5th grade artists! Please see below to submit your artwork for cover consideration. We look forward to seeing all your entries!

CLASS OF 2031 YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST!

DUE DECEMBER 20TH

**CALLING ALL 5TH GRADE
STUDENTS TO SUBMIT AN ENTRY
FOR THE FRONT COVER OF YOUR
YEARBOOK!**

*HOW WILL YOU REPRESENT WHAT CIDER
MILL MEANT TO YOUR CLASS?*

SUBMISSIONS MUST:

- BE IN "PORTRAIT" LAYOUT ON LETTER SIZE {8.5'11'} WHITE PAPER
- IN MARKER, GRAPHIC DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHS - WHATEVER YOU WANT!
- HAVE "CIDER MILL 2023-24 YEARBOOK" INCLUDED OR SPACE FOR IT
- ONE SUBMISSION PER STUDENT
- NAME & TEACHER IN PENCIL ON THE BACK

**SUBMIT ENTRIES IN THE MAIN OFFICE TO
THE PTA'S TREASURER BOX**

Submit Photos for the Fifth Grade Yearbook:

Attention fifth grade families and teachers! You are invited to submit photos of your fifth graders for the yearbook! We plan to feature photos from the first day of school, events such as the Walkathon and Halloween parade, classroom activities, recess, assemblies, and much more. You will simply need to create a new Lifetouch account, then you can use the link or QR code below, along with the invite code, to upload your images. Be sure to tag them with the appropriate labels (first day, walkathon, etc.) so we know what's what. Thank you for your participation in making a fabulous yearbook for our students to treasure for years to come!

<https://community.lifetouch.com/invite?code=CIDERMILLYEARBOOK-24>

Invite Code: CIDERMILLYEARBOOK-24



Reflections 2023 - 2024 Entries Due January 10!

Please see below for details on registering for this year's **Reflections** competition. The theme this year is **I Am Hopeful Because...** For more information, please scan the QR code below or see the website for details. Good luck to everyone!

NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS

I am Hopeful Because...

2023-2024
CALL FOR ENTRIES!

Explore the arts and express yourself!

All submissions are Due January 10th, 2024

All students are welcomed to register in the Reflections competition. To register please use the QR code that applies to the student's school.

Students submitting as "Special Artists" can see guidelines for additional information.

Miller Driscoll Cider Mill Middlebrook Wilton High

SEPTA Special Education PTA everychild.onevoice.

Learn more and get involved!
[PTA.org/Reflections](https://pta.org/reflections)

Movie Night

Due to a very wet fall our outdoor movie night was unable to happen. We still have a deposit with the movie company which needs to be used up, so movie night is moving indoors! Anyone with a ticket to our movie night in September can use it at **indoor movie night March 1, in the Cider Mill Gym**. If this does not work for your schedule, please contact us in the new year!

PJ Day for Kids to Support Kids with Cancer

We have organized our Cider Mill School team and hope to raise money for this important cause. Students and families are encouraged to donate \$1 (or more!) to **wear their PJs (and a crazy hat!) to school on Friday, December 22 to show their school spirit**. Our PTA will also treat our students to some hot cocoa and peppermint sticks. [Please go to this link to donate.](#)

There will also be a **Winter Singalong** the kids won't want to miss!

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!

Cider Mill Spirit Wear On-Sale Online!

If you didn't grab your **Cider Mill Spirit Wear** at Meet the Teacher or Open House, you can still purchase it online. All orders will be delivered to school for your child to pick up. Please see here to purchase: <https://www.cidermillpta.org/spiritwear>.

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Lost and Found

Is your child missing a water bottle, a jacket, or a snack bag? A headband, a hat, or a fidget? If any of your child's belongings haven't made their way home, he or she can check the Lost and Found to try to recover them. Tables are located at the north entrance pickup near Cannondale and inside the door that faces the bus loop in Kent.

A great way to help out is by labelling your child's belongings using Mabel's Labels, where a percentage goes back to the PTA. Here is the link: <https://www.cidermillpta.org/mabel-s-labels>

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Wilton SEPTA

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, including help for our April 2024 Diversity and Inclusion Awareness and Be Kind Campaign

Zoom link for all 2023-2024 meetings:
<https://wiltonps.zoom.us/j/91771706236>

Community News

Woodcock Nature Center

Afterschool Programs:

Navigators

Dive headfirst into nature and explore your fascination with the natural world! Through hiking, animal encounters, nature activities, and more, we'll enhance our understanding of nature as we appreciate and enjoy precious time spent outdoors! Learning will be guided by our observations as we play and explore.

Tuesdays, 4:15 - 5:45 pm, January 23 – March 12, 2024

Earth Artists

Do you love nature and art? Join the Earth Artists!

Each week we will create art projects inspired by animals and nature (and sometimes made from nature too!). **Wednesdays, 4:15 - 5:45 pm, January 24 – March 13, 2024**

Register here: <https://www.woodcocknaturecenter.org/3-5afterschool>

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Wilton Historical Society

Model trains, holiday cheer, and family fun return with one of Wilton’s favorite winter traditions, the Great Trains Holiday Show! Explore the Wilton Historical Society’s 18th and 19th century historic buildings – charmingly decorated for the holiday season – to find multiple layouts of model trains that wind their way through miniature snowy landscapes, vibrant towns, and mountain tunnels, as well as some unexpected characters! The interactive displays and model holiday village are perfect holiday fun for all ages. Whether a model train builder or collector, young wannabe train conductors, or a family looking for a delightful seasonal experience, the Great Trains Holiday Show has something for everyone.

The Great Trains Holiday Show will run through January 15, 2024. Wilton Historical Society Hours during this event are Wednesdays – Saturdays, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm; and Sundays, 12:00 – 4:00 pm. Admission is free for members, \$5 per non-member child and \$10 per non-member adults.

Special holiday programming occurs on select Saturdays in December, including a singalong with Music on the Hill on December 2 and a visit from Santa Claus on December 9! While you are visiting the Train Show, don’t miss shopping at the Betts Store Museum Shop for holiday treats and treasures!

[Our website](#) has more details, including scheduling for holiday programming throughout December.

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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/>.

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Wilton Youth Council



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Wilton Youth Field Hockey

Wilton Youth Field Hockey is offering Winter Clinics to new and returning players in the WHS Field House. Registration and complete details can be found at https://www.wiltonyouthfieldhockey.org/?fbclid=IwAR1aLK7O-cnvgzrKMMzI4hcaJBDYzBOyy0OUI_eV1bYpgQeeNLTqgSU-U4.

WILTON YOUTH FIELD HOCKEY
WINTER CLINICS

Sundays
starting 12/3

Grades K-4
5-6 pm

Grades 5-8
5-7 pm

No experience
necessary

Held in WHS
Field House

Register today!
<https://www.wiltonyouthfieldhockey.org/>




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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>

Our winter meetings will be held on the following Monday mornings over zoom from 10:00 - 11:30 am: January 8, February 5 and March 4, 2024. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83775421936>
Meeting ID: 837 7542 1936

In the meantime, for password and more information please contact Beth at 203-984-0123 or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com.

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 December 28, 2023.
The next issue of Hot Cider will be published on December January 1, 2024.

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