

Hot Cider A Cider Mill PTA Publication

December 4, 2016

Important Dates

Dec 8	Board of Education Meeting, 7:30pm, WHS Professional Library
Dec 9	2 HOUR DELAY (Professional Learning Day)
Dec 13	PTA Teacher Holiday Brunch
Dec 15	Cider Mill Family Bingo Night
Dec 16	Deadline for Junior Great Books
Dec 16	Deadline for Hives with Heart
Dec 22	Report Cards Sent Home in Email
Dec 23	SHORTENED DAY, Dismissal at 11:55am (Holiday Recess)
Dec 26 - Jan 2	NO SCHOOL (Holiday Recess)
Jan 6	Deadline for National PTA Reflections Competition
Jan 6	Reading Rocks! Pledge Forms Go Home
Jan 10	PTA Meeting, Cafeteria, 9:15am
Jan 16	NO SCHOOL (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

Important Phone Numbers

Cider Mill Main Office: 203-762-3351
Report an Absence: 203-834-4950 or fallonk@wiltonps.org
Bus Transportation: 203-762-3381
Chartwells: 203-834-4990 x5221

Note from the PTA President

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,
December is an action packed and busy time at Cider Mill, I am especially excited about our first ever family bingo night on December 15th. I am certain that it will be the most fun you can have in Wilton on a Thursday night! I am anticipating a great night, with great company and some terrific prizes for our lucky bingo winners! Please see below for further details.

5th Grade parents, we are seeking a chair for our 5th Grade Fun night in February. We need to find someone as soon as possible to coordinate event planning, booking entertainment etc. This, and all PTA events happen because our parents generously volunteer their time to help. Please consider if you could help to ensure this event takes place for our current 5th graders.

Warmly,
Nicola Davies, PTA President

School News

2016-17 National PTA Reflections Student Art Competition ~ November 17-January 6

This year's PTA Reflection Student Art Competition theme is "What Is Your Story?" This is a great opportunity for student artists to REFLECT on the theme, CREATE art, and BE RECOGNIZED! Entries will be displayed at the Wilton Library in January. First place winners will move forward to the state level. Students are encouraged to submit original pieces of art in one or more of the following categories:

Visual Arts
Photography
Dance Choreography
Literature
Film Production
Musical Composition

For entry forms and rules, please visit the CT PTA Reflections website at <http://www.ctpta.org/reflections-program>. Students can place their entries in the blue bin in the main office. The deadline for submission is Friday, January 6th. For more information, please contact Jane Hamilton (janehamilton15@mac.com) or Emily Galligan (emgrill@yahoo.com).

Cider Mill "Hives with Heart," ~ November 30 – December 16

The Cider Mill community is collecting NEW hats gloves, mittens, scarves, books, and unwrapped toys for children and families at the Danbury Women's Center. Please bring in your donations and place them under the "Hives with Heart" located in both the Kent and Main Hallway by December 16. Thank you! – Cider Mill Helping Hands.

Cider Mill Staff Holiday Brunch ~ Tuesday, December 13, 7:15-9am

Happy Holidays! Calling all festive foodies! To thank our incredible teachers and staff, the Cider Mill PTA Hospitality Committee is looking for donations for the Cider Mill Staff Holiday Brunch on Tuesday, December 13. This brunch buffet, full of your favorite holiday dishes, is an annual event anticipated all year and greatly appreciated by our teachers and staff. We are looking for a mix of healthy choices, family classics, delectable desserts, and drinks. Volunteers can drop off their dishes on Tuesday, December 13 between 7:15-7:45am (park and walk in) and 7:45-9:00am (drop off in central bus loop) at Cider Mill or contact organizers for drop off day/ night before. Please sign up at <http://signup.com/go/C6HjLY> and let us know what you will be bringing. Questions? Contact Lisa Finn at ldbfinn@hotmail.com or Valerie Shukovsky at vshukovsky@yahoo.com.

Family Bingo Night ~ Thursday, December 15, 6:30pm, Cider Mill Cafeteria

Please join us for the first Cider Mill Family Bingo Night on Thursday, December 15 in the Cider Mill Cafeteria. Doors will open at 6:30pm and games will begin promptly at 7pm. Entrance fee is \$5 per person which includes admission fee plus game cards for nine rounds of Bingo. There will be additional game cards and refreshments available for purchase. All family members are welcome. This is not a drop-off event!

Use this bingo flyer link to reserve your seats: [Bingo Flyer](#), also located at www.cidermillpta.org. Please have form and checks in the mail to Susan Price by December 8th. Any questions? Email Susan Price at sprice14@optonline.net. Again, to reserve your seats, please follow the directions at this link: [Bingo Flyer](#). Please note cafeteria seating is limited – do not delay! We hope to see you there!

Junior Great Books ~ Sign Up By December 16

Reading is more fun when you do it with friends! Join a Junior Great Books book club! Junior Great Books is back, and registration has begun! This is a wonderful program for students who love to read at Cider Mill! It is an opportunity for your child to be part of a peer literature group and to read and discuss short stories from all over the world. It is for readers of all levels!

The program begins in January and groups meet once a week during your child's lunch and recess period (for about eight weeks). Although the program starts in January, registration is now! The registration form can be found at the following link:

https://www.edline.net/files/WPLda/51083da79b77296a3745a49013852ec4/jgb_Sign_up_final.pdf

The registration deadline is Friday, December 16. Questions? For more information, contact:

Third Grade: Denise Worst - deniseworst@yahoo.com

Fourth Grade: Annemarie Aronowitz - annemariearonowitz@yahoo.com

Fifth Grade: Lauren Gibbons - slatergibbons@mac.com

Shutterfly and Tiny Prints ~ Fundraiser for Cider Mill

Holiday card season is here. If you choose to buy your cards through Shutterfly or Tiny Prints, Cider Mill will benefit by receiving 13% of your purchase. Please use this link: <http://cidermill.shutterflystorefront.com/>.

Look Out for "Reading Rocks!" Pledge Forms Coming by January 6!

Wilton Education Foundation's (WEF's) very successful "Reading Rocks!" program is back for its 6th year! "Reading Rocks!" is a fun, non-competitive Read-A-Thon type fundraiser for students in Pre-K to 5th grades. Over the five years of this event, "Reading Rocks!" has raised more than \$200,000 for our Wilton Public Schools!!! This year, with your support, we hope to attain 100% student participation. "Reading Rocks!" pledge forms will be sent

home with students by Friday, January 6th, which is also "Book Character Day" where students can dress up as a favorite book character. The pledge form will also be available to download on Edline by 12/19 for those wishing to start collecting pledges over winter break! Not only does this program help students celebrate literacy, but there are great prizes too, including an iPad*, Kindle Fires and more!! *win an iPad or a gift card of equivalent value to the Apple Store.

For questions please contact Julie Steckel at jjsteckel@gmail.com or Kiki Cross at kcross106@gmail.com. Many thanks to the Stroup family for generously sponsoring "Reading Rocks!"

Seeking Co-Chairs for 5th Grade Fun Night

We are seeking a 5th grade parent or two to chair or co-chair 5th Grade Fun Night on Saturday, February 25th. This is a truly memorable night for our 5th graders who get to take over the entire YMCA for the night, as well as swimming and access to the basketball courts, there are other fun activities going on - a magic show, a disco, photo booth to name but three. If you would like to find out more about what the role entails, please contact Tara Snow - tanda@optonline.net or Nicola Davies - nicoladavies@outlook.com.

Ongoing Cider Mill News

Join the Cider Mill PTA!

The Cider Mill PTA is a powerful network of parents and teachers whose mission is to make every child's potential a reality, by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. We want you as a member! Joining the PTA is showing that you care what happens in your child's education. It shows you want to be involved, engaged and informed. It is not a commitment to volunteer for anything!

It does not 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, get to know your school and administrators, have a voice and be heard at the school and 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, Walkathon, Book Fair, Spiritwear, library volunteers, and the Hot Cider newsletter.

Membership signup is ONLY online. Joining gives you instant access to the Cider Mill directory of parent and student information. You can download the MobileArq app at the Apple Store or Google Play Store, or visit this link: <http://wilton.mobilearq.com> and use code 'wilton'.

Buy Name Labels at Mabel's Labels

Last year, over 300 sweatshirts, 100 winter hats, 50 pairs of gloves, 50 lunch boxes, and 10 winter jackets were left in our Lost Property areas at school. The overwhelming majority had no owner information marked in them. To raise funds and reduce this immense amount of loss, we have teamed up with Mabel's Labels to run a fundraiser. Mabel's Labels adhere to your child's clothing and will not come off in the wash. You will get your missing property back and Cider Mill will earn money! Please visit www.mabelslabels.com. Click on 'Support a Fundraiser.' We are listed as Cider Mill School (Wilton). Cider Mill will receive a 20% donation based on the cost of your order. Thank you!

Find Us on Facebook!

The PTA has set up 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](#).

Lost and Found

There are two L&F locations in Cider Mill. One is at the doorway where you go to the playground, on the high school side (Cannondale). The other is by the front door on the far side of the bus loop (Kent). You or your child can check these locations for lost items. At the end of each season, the unclaimed items are donated to the Turnover Shop with proceeds going to the Cider Mill PTA. Contact Amanda Mitchell with questions, at amandaNmitchell@gmail.com.

School Spiritwear

Show your school spirit! Please visit the Cider Mill PTA website at www.cidermillpta.org to order your school clothing. Students are encouraged to wear their Spiritwear clothing for various days and events during the year. Proceeds benefit the Cider Mill PTA.

Community News

Wilton Youth Council (WYC) ~ Upcoming Events

Find us on Facebook or visit www.wiltonyouth.org.

NAMI CAN ~ December 19, 10-11:30am, 49 New Street, Wilton

Are you stressed about the upcoming holidays? Do you worry about needing to hide or explain your child's behavior to extended family and friends? Does the break in routine and hectic time cause behavioral changes in your child? 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. Parents come from Redding, Weston, Westport, Wilton and towns in the surrounding area. Our next meeting is Monday, December 19, 10-11:30, G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. Information: Beth at 203-984-0123 or beth44es@gmail.com OR Vanessa 203-970-4130 or eliasvanessa5@gmail.com.

Privileged and Pressured: The Risks of Growing Up in an Affluent Community” with Dr. Suniya Luthar ~ Presentation Available Online

“Privileged and Pressured: The Risks of Growing Up in an Affluent Community” with Dr. Suniya Luthar was standing room only in the WHS Little Theater on October 21. We are thrilled to be able to share Dr. Luthar's presentation slides. Please especially note the last few slides, which weren't covered in the talk, but may be helpful! Also, there have been many who have asked for follow up on the topics/concerns/issues raised in Luthar's presentation. Please know that we are working on a few different approaches and the first event will be held in January. Details available soon. Link to slides is here:

http://www.wilton.k12.ct.us/files/_VeF7Q_/00ee5d1782829a263745a49013852ec4/Privileged_and_Pressed.pdf.

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 December 18, 2016. The deadline for submissions is December 13, 2016.