



What's the Buzz at Cider Mill School (Family Update for 11/1/20)

Happy Halloween!

We hope everyone found safe and fun ways to celebrate with family and friends! Cider Mill students and staff surely missed our traditional Halloween Parade, but check out the link below to our School-wide FlipGrid with some great clips of a virtual "parade" and class celebrations.

As we come upon Election day, regardless of which side we vote for, we have a critical job as the adults within our community and larger society. Emotions will be heightened and our children will watch and listen to us respond to the events and people around us. Remember to treat each other with **Kindness, Compassion and Grace**- no matter what. This election will pass, but we will all still be here together, working as one community for our children.

The District will continually update it's [COVID-19 Update Page](#) - please click on this site for the most updated information. During each Board meeting Dr. Kevin Smith gives the community an update on the current transmission and positivity rates. Additionally, Parent at Large, Michelle Krupa, posts a summary of the BOE Meeting on the CMPTA Facebook page. As always, please contact us directly with any questions at falconej@wiltonps.org, okeefec@wiltonps.org, and catalanol@wiltonps.org.

[Wednesday Morning Schedule Revision \(11/11/20\)](#)

[Thought-Exchange Family Survey](#)

[Happy Halloween! FlipGrid Images from Cider Mill 2020](#)

[COVID Update](#)

[Recess Updates](#)

[Veteran's Day Celebration!](#)

[Turkey Trot](#)

[Arrival/Dismissal & Traffic Updates](#)

[Up-coming Dates](#)

Wednesday Morning Schedule Revision: Cider Mill staff need to make an adjustment to their schedules to accommodate a shift the District is making to ensure equity across all school schedules. Staff meetings will now take place during the morning, rather than the afternoon. This created a need to slightly adjust the student schedules.

What this means for STUDENTS on remote Wednesdays beginning 11/11/20:

- **7:50-8:00 am:** all students will log-in to Schoology to complete an independent "task" for attendance.
- **8:00-8:30 am:** all students will engage in 30-minutes of **Targeted Independent Math Practice**. During this time students will keep up-to-date with the IXL Math Diagnostic tool (assessment & practice) and complete a variety of math practice activities designed to target each student's individual learning goals based on formative assessment. This time is being added so that teachers do not need to take instructional time during the day to complete this required task. This target practice will be designed to increase student fluency in areas students need the most support. Our Math Coach, Randi Rondano, will share more specific information with families in a couple of weeks. Paraprofessionals will be available to support students with services during this time block.
- **8:30-8:35 am:** quick student break
- **8:35:** students log-in to Schoology and access class/team Zooms

Thought-Exchange Family Survey: If you have not yet done so, please complete the survey so we can learn about what has been going well, what has not been going well, and what can be done to support you in the area of teaching and learning. The District extended the window to accept responses for an additional week -11/6/20. Access the survey here: [Cider Mill Family Thought Exchange](#). **IMPORTANT: When discussing the various blended learning models (100% remote, hybrid, 100% on-site), PLEASE be specific with your responses by stating which model you are referring to.**



Happy Halloween! Cider Mill 2020



We had such a fun day celebrating Halloween this year! We saw so many creative costumes and classes had a lot of fun with their different Halloween activities. One of our highlights was this year’s virtual Halloween Parade! Each class and/or groups of students created videos to showcase their Halloween costumes. Check them out below!

[Whole School Flipgrid](#), select “View 4 Topics”, and see all of the videos as a whole school alternative to the Halloween Parade– the Password is **CiderMill**

COVID Update: Please reference Dr. Kevin Smith’s [Superintendent Update](#) from 10/30/20 for the latest travel updates and other COVID related information.

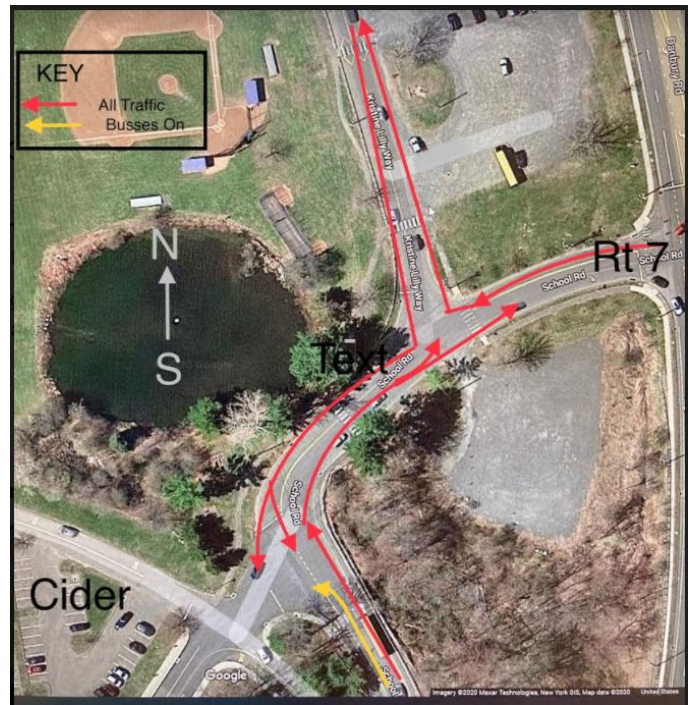
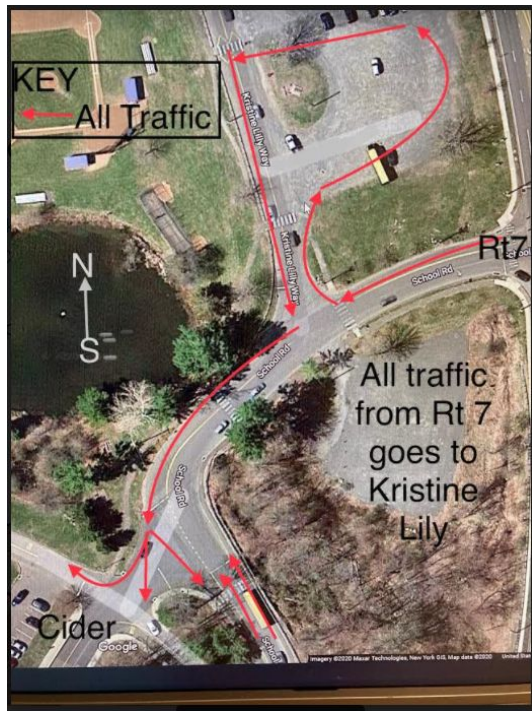
Recess Updates: We can’t believe it snowed on Friday!! As the colder months and more inclement weather begins, it is important to ensure your child is dressed accordingly. **Rain jackets, boots, umbrellas, snow boots, hats, gloves, heavy jackets, etc. are especially important this year.** As we continue to adhere to CDC guidelines, students will be outside in more inclement weather and on wet grassy areas. We can no longer say “Blacktop Only” for recess when it’s wet outside. IF all students in a class have rain boots to wear outside, then the class can go outside for recess -even in the wet grass. If the entire class doesn’t have proper attire, the class must stay in for indoor recess. Thank you for your help in ensuring our students can go outside for as long as they can! Room parents, please send out reminders during inclement weather! **You may leave extra boots and an umbrella in their banker box at school.**

Veteran’s Day Celebration!: Our annual Veterans Day assembly is on Wednesday November 11, 2020. As this is a distance learning half day, the activities will be available online for everyone to view. We are excited to have the opportunity for Veterans near and far to “take part” in our assembly. Please click on this [link](#) for more information!

Turkey Trot: We are very excited to continue with our annual fundraising event - the Turkey Trot. This will take place during the month of November and we will raise funds for holiday meals for families in need. Normally we have our students run the Trot in a grade-level cluster. This year, students will run the Turkey Trot during their Physical Education class over the next couple of weeks that lead up to Thanksgiving break. Please have your child bring an extra pair of socks and/or shoes with them to PE classes since the grass may be wet from morning dew. The course is a little less than .5 miles and students run, jog or walk at their own pace. We are so grateful to keep this tradition alive this year - it is 35 years old and has meant a great deal to the Cider Mill community as well as the Wilton Community. The PTA will send more information soon on where/how to send donations!

Arrival/Dismissal Updates:
Wilton Police Updates for the Traffic Pattern- In the morning, all traffic from the area of Middlebrook School can make a left turn into Cider Mill. In the afternoon for dismissal, only buses can make a left turn into Cider Mill. During this time all traffic is diverted to Kristine Lily Way.

MORNING	AFTERNOON
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Up-coming Dates:

- No School for Students ~ Tuesday, 11/3 - Election Day & Teacher Professional Learning
- Fall Photo Days: South ~ Monday, November 9; North ~ Tuesday, November 10
 - [Link for all orders](#)
 - Remote Learners: both dates (11/9 & 11/10) - after school; Sign-up for [REMOTE ONLY PHOTOS](#)
- PTA Meeting - Nov. 10 at 10:00 am
- November 11 - Revised Remote Wednesday Schedule Begins
- Conferences ~ Shortened Day Schedule (11:45 dismissal begins) ~ 11/19-11/24
- No School for Students and Staff ~ 11/25-11/27 for Thanksgiving Break
- Shortened Day Schedule (11:45 dismissal begins) - 12/23
- No School for Students - 12/24 - 1/3/2021 for the Holiday Recess
- School Resumes - January 4, 2021

Take Care!

Jen, Catherine and Lauren