



## MATAWAN-ABERDEEN CONNECTIONS

### CLIFFWOOD NEWSLETTER

December 15, 2024

#### Important Links

[District School Calendar](#), [School Hours](#), [Cliffwood Morning Music Requests](#)

Cliffwood Family Connections [8/25](#), [9/2](#), [9/8](#), [9/15](#), [9/22](#), [9/29](#), [10/6](#), [10/13](#), [10/20](#), [10/27](#), [11/3](#), [11/10](#), [11/17](#), [11/24](#), [12/1](#), [12/8](#)

#### Message from Mrs. Cherence

Dear Cliffwood School Community,

As the holiday season approaches, the excitement is truly building here at Cliffwood! Our students, teachers, and staff are all eager to celebrate and enjoy the festivities together.

This week is our Holiday Spirit Week and we encourage everyone to join in on the fun! Please refer to the schedule below for all the themed days and activities.

In addition to Spirit Week, we had a blast decorating classroom doors, creating festive displays for all to enjoy. The students voted on their favorite doors, and we want to extend a big thank you to everyone who participated, students, teachers, and staff. Your enthusiasm and teamwork make Cliffwood School such a special place!

We also want to express our gratitude to our incredible PTO for organizing a fantastic Winter Holiday Party here at Cliffwood. It was a wonderful time for our school community to come together and celebrate.

And don't forget, tomorrow, Monday, December 16th, is our Family Dinner Fundraiser Night at Viva Margarita! We hope to see many of you there supporting this great cause.

As we head into the holidays, I want to wish everyone a joyful and restful time with family, friends, and loved ones. Here's to a wonderful holiday season and well wishes for a Happy New Year in 2025!

Warmly,

Mrs. Cherence, Principal

#### Governor's Educator of the Year Award

Huge congratulations to Mrs. Michelle Gilbert and Mrs. Tara McCormick on their well-deserved honors!

Mrs. Gilbert has been named Teacher of the Year, and it's no surprise why! She's a true master at delivering the Tools of the Mind curriculum with exceptional skill and passion. Not only does she inspire her students every day, but she's also a mentor to her fellow teachers, always ready to share her wisdom and lend a helping hand. Her dedication to going above and beyond for our students is truly remarkable!

And let's hear it for Mrs. Tara McCormick, our Service Professional of the Year! With her boundless energy, radiant smile, and unmatched dance moves, she lights up our school and brings joy to everyone she meets. Always there for her students, she's a constant source of positivity and support, creating a warm and welcoming environment for all.

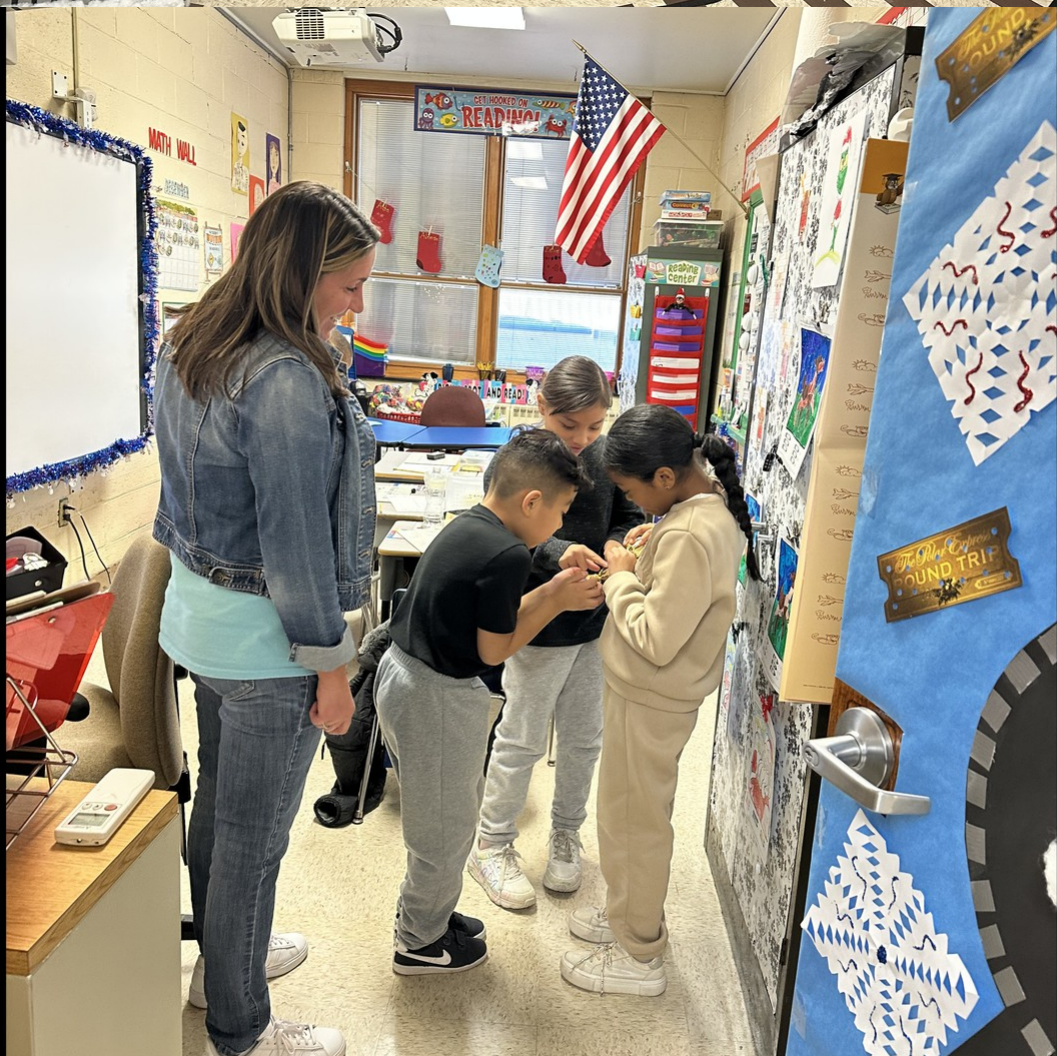
Together, Mrs. Gilbert and Mrs. McCormick make an incredible duo, fun, energetic, and deeply committed to our Cliffwood family. We are so lucky to have them here, serving and inspiring our students every day.

We are all *Cliffwood Proud* of you both! Keep shining and making a difference!



Holiday Door Decorating Contest First Place- Mrs. Polakowski's Class







## Tied for Second- Mrs. Petruccio & Ms. Somohano's Classes





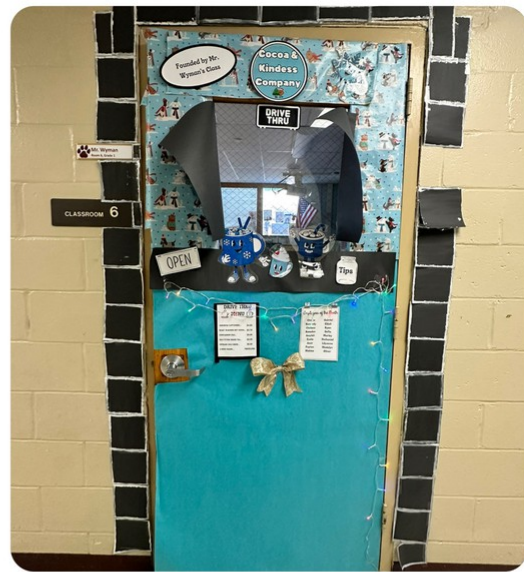


3rd Place- Speech & OT

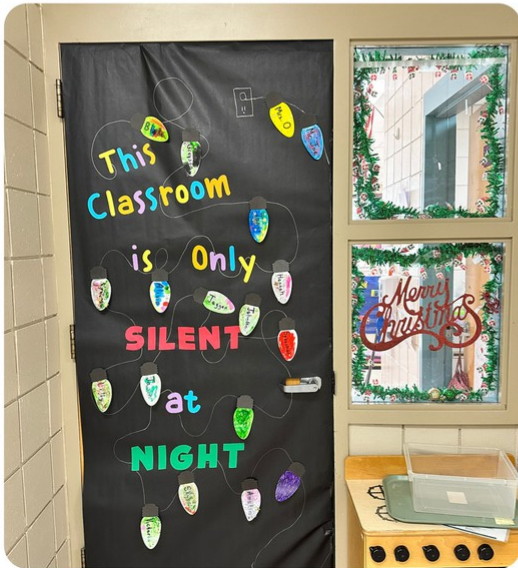
































Holiday Spirit Week- 12/16-12/20



# CLIFFWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Holiday Spirit Week (December 16th-December 20th)



<b>Monday</b>	 <b>Winter Wonderland Monday!</b> Students and staff should wear white, blue and maybe a scarf too! 
<b>Tuesday</b>	 <b>Grinch Day!</b> Students and staff should wear green or anything Grinch! 
<b>Wednesday</b>	 <b>Pajama Day!</b> Students and staff should wear their favorite pajamas to school! 
<b>Thursday</b>	 <b>Ugly Sweater Day!</b> Students and staff should wear a sweater! 
<b>Friday</b>	 <b>School Spirit &amp; Holiday Accessories</b> Students and staff should wear holiday accessories and Cliffwood apparel! 

## Coin War Winners!

Thank you all who participated!

1st Place- Ms. Somohano's Class

2nd Place- Ms. Schultz and Ms. Whelan's classes





Congrats to our PAWS Winners!!





Cliffwood PTO- Stay In The Know  
Cliffwood PTO Winter Holiday Party
















## December- Menu

Link to the [Menu](#)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<div>2</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mini Cinnamon Crumb Loaf</li></ul></div>	<div>3</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun</li></ul></div>	<div>4</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Apple Frudel</li></ul></div>	<div>5</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sausage, Egg &amp; Cheese on a Bagel</li></ul></div>	<div>6</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Confetti Pancakes</li></ul></div>
<div>9</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mini Banana Loaf</li></ul></div>	<div>10</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun</li></ul></div>	<div>11</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Assorted BeneFIT Bar</li></ul></div>	<div>12</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sausage, Egg &amp; Cheese on a Bagel</li></ul></div>	<div>13</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mini Cinnis</li></ul></div>
<div>16</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mini Cornbread Loaf</li></ul></div>	<div>17</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun</li></ul></div>	<div>18</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>French Toast Bites</li></ul></div>	<div>19</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sausage, Egg &amp; Cheese on a Bagel</li></ul></div>	<div>20</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Whole Grain Donut Bites</li></ul></div>
<div>23</div> <div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>	<div>24</div> <div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>	<div>25</div> <div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>	<div>26</div> <div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>	<div>27</div> <div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>
<div>30</div> <div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>	<div>31</div> <div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>			

\*Menu is Subject to Change



MASCHIO'S IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.



**QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?**  
Please call us at (973) 598-0005 to speak to one of Maschio's Registered Dietitian Nutritionists.

**FOLLOW US:**  
@MASCHIOFOOD



Healthy meals grow  
*healthy kids!*

Swap Outs-Elementary Breakfast: Assorted Cereal Bar with Graham Crackers , Assorted Pop Tarts with Graham Crackers , Bagel with Cream Cheese



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<div>2</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chicken Tenders</li><li>Garlic Knots</li><li>Sweet Potato Waffle Fries</li></ul></div>	<div>3</div> <div><div>Brunch for Lunch</div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fluffy French Toast Slices</li><li>Breakfast Sausage</li><li>Breakfast Potatoes</li></ul></div>	<div>4</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chicken Teriyaki Noodle Bowl</li><li>Stir Fry Vegetables</li></ul></div>	<div>5</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Juicy Cheeseburger on a Bun</li><li>BBQ Baked Beans</li></ul></div>	<div>6</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Breaded Mini Cheese Ravioli</li><li>Freshly Prepared Caesar Salad</li></ul><div>JERSEY FRESH</div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Roasted Curry Cabbage</li></ul></div>
<div>9</div> <div><div>HEATLESS Monday</div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Creamy Mac and Cheese</li><li>Mini Cornbread Loaf</li><li>Panko Crusted Green Beans</li></ul></div>	<div>10</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Meatball Parm Hero</li><li>Roasted Parmesan Broccoli</li></ul></div>	<div>11</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Beef Nacho Platter</li><li>Black Bean and Corn Salad</li></ul></div>	<div>12</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mini Turkey Corn Dog Nuggets</li><li>Emoji Fries</li></ul></div>	<div>13</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Twisted Cheesy Breadsticks with Marinara Sauce</li><li>Freshly Prepared Spring Mix Salad</li></ul></div>
<div>16</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Seasoned Chicken and Cheese Quesadilla</li><li>Cilantro-Lime Black Beans and Corn</li></ul></div>	<div>17</div> <div><div>Brunch for Lunch</div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Golden Crisp Waffles</li><li>Breakfast Sausages</li><li>Sweet Potato Waffle Fries</li></ul></div>	<div>18</div> <div><div>Holiday Meal</div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Popcorn Chicken, Whipped Mashed Potatoes, Rich Brown Gravy, Seasoned Corn</li><li>Soft Pretzel Stick</li><li>Holiday Cookie</li></ul></div>	<div>19</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Grilled Cheese Sandwich</li><li>Tomato Soup</li></ul></div>	<div>20</div> <div><div>Swap Outs Not Available on Half Days</div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pizza Crunchers</li><li>Freshly Prepared Cucumber and Tomato Salad</li><li>OR</li><li>Muffin Bag Meal</li></ul></div>
<div>23</div> <div><div>WARM WISHES</div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>	<div>24</div> <div><div>WARM WISHES</div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>	<div>25</div> <div><div>WARM WISHES</div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>	<div>26</div> <div><div>WARM WISHES</div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>	<div>27</div> <div><div>WARM WISHES</div><div>Holiday Break</div></div>
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\*Menu is Subject to Change

Swap Outs-Elementary: Muffin Bag Meal , Cereal Bag , Chicken Nuggets with Dinner Roll , Bella's Cheese Pizza

CLIFFWOOD FAMILY-  
COME JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OUT WITH DELICIOUS  
AUTHENTIC MEXICAN CUISINE



**Viva Margarita**  
**2870 NJ-35, Hazlet, NJ 07730**  
**Monday, December 16, 2024**  
**5-9 pm**

*VIVA MARGERITA HAS GENEROUSLY OFFERED  
TO GIVE 25% OF PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT  
CLIFFWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO*

*SHOW FLYER TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!*



## Join Us this Month for Our December PTO Meeting

**Who?:**

Parents/grandparents, teachers, administrators, support staff

**When?:**

Wednesday, December 18, 2024  
5:30-6:30pm

**Where?:**

Cliffwood Elementary School Cafeteria

Find ways to get involved with your child's school! There are many opportunities to volunteer and we are always welcome to hear your concerns, questions, ideas, and feedback.

We are looking for volunteers to help with our events in the New Year!

You do not need to be a member to attend meetings!

Email questions to [cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com](mailto:cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com)



## Dates to Keep in Mind

12/16- Viva Margarita Cliffwood Family Dinner Night

12/16-12/20- Holiday Spirit Week

12/17- Picture Make-up Day

12/18- Cliffwood PTO Meeting 5:30 PM

12/20- Early Dismissal for all students

12/21-1/1- School Closed for Winter Break



## CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES



Matawan-Aberdeen Regional

