



## MATAWAN-ABERDEEN CONNECTIONS

CLIFFWOOD NEWSLETTER

### November 2, 2026

#### Important Links

[District School Calendar](#), [School Hours](#), [Cliffwood Morning Music Requests](#), [Breakfast & Lunch Menu](#), [PreK, K & New Student Orientation](#), [Welcome Cliffwood Students & Families 25-26](#)  
Cliffwood Family Connections [8/6](#), [8/31](#), [9/7](#), [9/14](#), [9/21](#), [9/28](#), [10/5](#), [10/12](#), [10/19](#), [10/26](#)

#### Message from Mrs. Cherence, Principal

##### **Adventure Awaits! We are Curious. We are Kind. We are Cliffwood Proud!**

Hello Cliffwood Families!

We had a fun-filled fall week at Cliffwood School with our Trunk or Treat and Halloween parade and festivities! A huge shout out to the Cliffwood PTO for putting on such an amazing Trunk or Treat. And thank you to all our families, your candy donations and decorated trunks made the event extra special for everyone! Mrs. Preiser's class was the top candy collector with over 70 lbs of candy donated!

We also want to thank the Cliffwood Fire Department and Cliffwood Police Department for being a part of our celebration. The police even brought over lights to keep the parking lot well-lit and safe, and the fire truck was a huge hit with the students.

Thank you to all the families who came out to cheer on our students as they walked in the Halloween parade in their costumes. A special thanks to the Cliffwood Police Department for their presence and for handing out goodies to the kids during the parade.

After a week full of celebrations, we hope you all enjoyed the extra hour of sleep! Don't forget to turn back your clocks if you haven't already, Daylight Savings Time is here.

Friendly reminders:

- Wednesday, 11/6: Early dismissal



- Thursday, 11/7 & Friday, 11/8: No school

Looking forward to a great week ahead!

We are curious. We are kind. We are Cliffwood Proud!

## PAWS Winners!



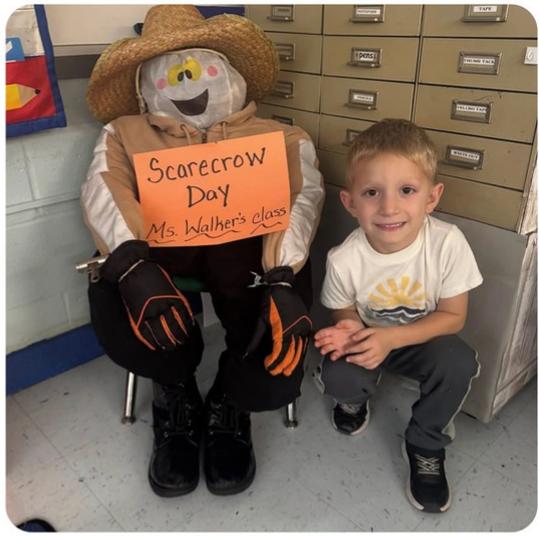
## New Jersey and National School Bus Safety Poster Contest

New Jersey and National School Bus Safety are hosting a **Poster Contest!** This is a fantastic opportunity for our little artists to showcase their creativity. **Gift card prizes** will be awarded to the **top 3 winners!**

Check out the contest details here: [Safety Poster Contest](#)



## Fall Fun in Kindergarten!



Special Mystery Reader!



Happy Halloween from Cliffwood's Party Animals!



Cliffwood's Trunk or Treat



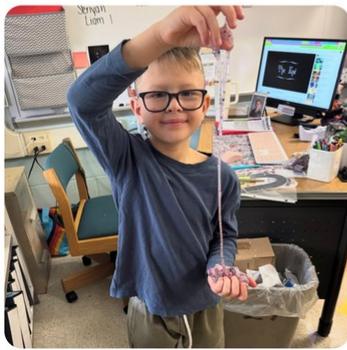


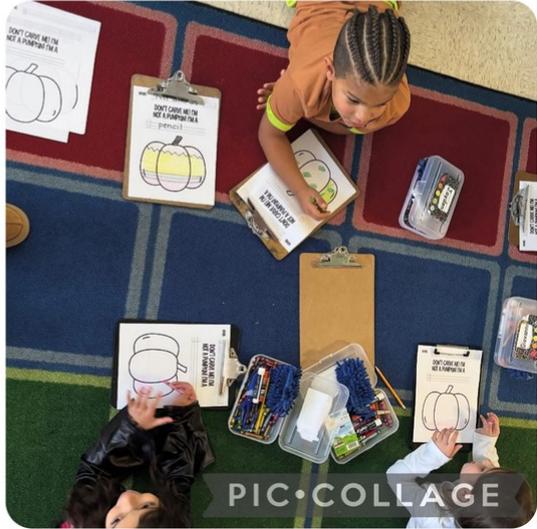
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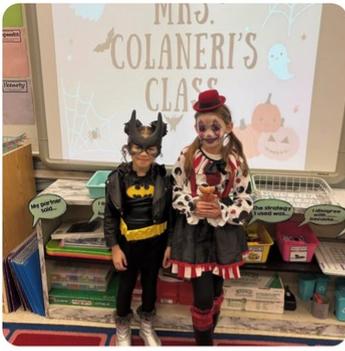




Cliffwood's Halloween Parade & Party













PreK Flu Vaccine

# PRESCHOOL INFLUENZA VACCINATION REQUIREMENT FOR 2025 SCHOOL YEAR



According to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4 Immunization of Pupils in School, preschoolers **must** have proof of vaccinations to attend school.

**Proof of the flu vaccination must be received by December 19th or your child will be excluded from our program and not permitted to return to class in January.**

## Join our Team!

We're excited to share that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District currently has several openings, and we would love your help in spreading the word! These are wonderful opportunities to be part of our district and make a difference in the lives of our outstanding students.

We are looking for:

- Substitute School Bus/Van Drivers
- Substitute Transportation Assistants
- Substitute Classroom Teachers
- Substitute Instructional Assistants
- Substitute Nurses (Please email [smoore@marsd.org](mailto:smoore@marsd.org))

If you, or someone you know, may be interested, please visit this website to apply: [Applitrack](#).

To apply for Substitute Classroom Teacher and/or Substitute Instructional Assistant positions, please use this link: [ESS](#)

Come join our wonderful district and be part of the team that supports our students each and every day!

## Stay Cliffwood Connected

- [Cliffwood School Website](#)
- Instagram: [@cliffwood\\_elementary](#)
- Facebook: [Cliffwood School PTO Parent Page](#)

The Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act requires that the week beginning with the first Monday in October of each year be recognized as the Week of Respect in the state of NJ. Students and staff are encouraged to participate in the Week of Respect!

## Free & Reduced Breakfast and Lunch Form

The 2025-2026 Meal Applications are to be completed electronically this year. This will be done through Genesis link: [Parent Portal](#).

Families who wish to complete paper applications can request a copy of the application packet. They will also be available at Back To School Night.

Maschio's is our Food Service Company this school year. Below are POC's for your use as needed.

Lauren Dyer, On-Site Director, [ldyer@maschiofood.com](mailto:ldyer@maschiofood.com), 732-705-5326

Sarah Engst, Area Supervisor, [sengst@maschiofood.com](mailto:sengst@maschiofood.com)

## Governor's Educator of the Year Program

The Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is excited to continue our participation in the New Jersey Department of Education's Governor's Educator of the Year (GEOY) Program. This program celebrates outstanding Teachers of the Year and Educational Services Professionals who make a lasting impact on students, families, and our community.

At Cliffwood, we are fortunate to have so many amazing educators who go above and beyond every day. This is your opportunity to nominate and highlight a teacher or educational services professional who has made a difference in your child's life or supported your family.

Nominations are due by **November 28th**. [GEOY Nomination Form](#)

Thank you for helping us recognize the incredible work of our Cliffwood team!



## Breakfast & Lunch Menus

## Information about Excused/Unexcused Absences

**The New Jersey Department of Education recognizes only six allowable reasons for an "excused" absence;** these reasons are listed below.

1. Religious holidays (Each year, the State Board of Education votes on a list of approved religious holidays for observance upon the written request signed by the parent.).
2. Participation in observance of Veterans Day.
3. Participation in district board of election membership activities.
4. Take Our Children to Work Day.
5. College visit(s), up to three days per school year for students in grades 11 and 12.
6. Closure of a busing school district that prevents a student from having transportation to the receiving school.

Being present and on-time to school each day is extremely important for students' success and well-being. School attendance is a powerful predictor of student outcomes; data shows that, when

students are present daily, they learn better and are generally healthier. **Attendance matters and every school day counts!**

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## Cliffwood PTO NEWS

### Volunteers Needed

The Cliffwood PTO is already planning some exciting events for the rest of the school year, and we'd love YOUR help! Whether you have just a little time to give or want to take on a bigger role, there's a place for you!

By joining a committee, you can:

- Help plan and organize fun events for our students and families
- Lend a hand during events (set up, run activities, or clean up!)
- Share ideas and talents to make our school community even stronger



You can choose your level of involvement-every bit of help makes a big difference!

We're looking to create committees for:

- Winter Festival
- 3rd Grade End of Year Events
- Fun Day

If you're interested in joining a committee or just want to learn more, please fill out our volunteer form or reach out to [CliffwoodPTO422@gmail.com](mailto:CliffwoodPTO422@gmail.com)

Let's make this year amazing, together!

[Volunteer Interest Form](#)

### Cliffwood Family Dinner Night 11/3

### Scholastic Book Fair 11/10-11/14

The book fair is coming to Cliffwood School next week. Add to your child's eWallet today.

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/cliffwoodelementaryschool> Also, here is the link to Share the Fair if anyone would like to contribute. <https://shop.scholastic.com/stf/fund?orgUCN=600074105>

### Cookie Dough Fundraiser

Cookie Dough Fundraiser coming soon! More details to follow!



## Yearbook Photos

The Cliffwood PTO created an email address for all yearbook photos that they want to share with all families and staff so that they can send all pictures from events this year or any photos they take in their classrooms. The email is [CliffwoodYearbook2526@gmail.com](mailto:CliffwoodYearbook2526@gmail.com).



## Box Tops



CLIFFWOOD AVENUE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
CLIFFWOOD, NJ



Referral Code: I6D42ILN

Be sure to sign up for Box Tops for Education and scan receipts to earn rewards for Cliffwood School!

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## Dates to Keep in Mind

- 11/3- Coastal Wilds Permission Slip is due
- 11/3- Dine Out Night at Viva Margarita 5-9 PM (20% of proceeds to benefit Cliffwood PTO)
- 11/5- Early Dismissal (All Cliffwood Students Dismiss at 1:20 PM)
- 11/6 & 11/7- School Closed
- 11/10-11/14-Scholastic Book Fair
- 11/11- Coastal Wilds wildlife assembly will be coming to Cliffwood
- 11/19- PTO Meeting 5:30 PM in the Cafeteria
- 11/24- Redistrict meeting at Ravine Dr School 5:30 PM



**Matawan-Aberdeen Regional**  
School District



