COTTLE WEEKLY

William E. Cottle Elementary School

Preparing Every Student for Excellence

ISSUE 09
Friday
October 30, 2026

FROM THE INTERIM PRINCIPAL

Dr. Rowe

What a morning. Our Halloween Parade brought the whole school out around the turf, and our high school seniors came down to lead it off, which never gets old. Thank you to every family who came to watch. Enjoy the party tonight, and do not forget the clocks go back on Sunday!

FROM THE A.P.'S DESK

Mr. Kilgallen

A busy, happy week to close out October. The Giving Retriever began her visits, our fourth and fifth graders filled the G.O. interest meetings, and the parade was everything it should be. Go Cubs!

This Week at Cottle

1 The Halloween Parade

Our seniors came down to kick it off, and the whole school turned out around the turf. Photos on page 2.

2 The Giving Retriever Arrived

Our first dog visits of the year got under way this week.

3 Cottle G.O. Is Under Way

Grades 4 and 5 met with Ms. Connolly to begin.

4 Our October PAWS Assembly

Our Cubs were so excited and energized.



Our Kindergarten team as their favorite Mo Willems characters!

Mark Your Calendar

OCT 30	**Cottle Halloween Party** — This evening
NOV 1	**Clocks Fall Back** — Daylight saving ends, page 8
NOV 3	**No School, Election Day** — A day off for our Cubs
NOV 3	**Chipotle Night** — Cross country and track
NOV 8	**Diwali** — Festival of Lights, page 8
NOV 9	**Holiday Food Drive** — Through November 13
NOV 11	**Cheer Clinic, Dines Out** — Veterans Day, pages 11, 12
NOV 12	**Sibling Photo Sign Up** — Deadline to sign up
NOV 13	**Spirit Wear Deadline** — Order by Friday, page 11
NOV 20	**Sibling Picture Day** — Current Cottle students

HEART OF A CUB • VALUE OF THE WEEK

Inclusion: we make room for everyone, and we notice when someone is left out.
At home: ask your Cub who they made sure was included this week.

2 Siwanoy Boulevard • Eastchester, NY 10709 • (914) 337-6600
cottle.tuckahoeschools.org
Tuckahoe PTA: tuckahoenypta.membershiptoolkit.com
Tuckahoe SEPTA (Special Education PTA): tuckahoenypta.membershiptoolkit.com/septa

Go Cubs!

The Halloween Parade

Friday morning, all the way around the turf

The whole school came out around the turf this morning, and so, by the look of it, did a good deal of Tuckahoe. **Our high school seniors came down to start us off**, the costumes were outstanding, and the weather did exactly as it was told.



Families lined the turf from end to end



A great many Minions



Along the parade route



Waiting for the off



We got a clown in the mix



Matching Wednesdays



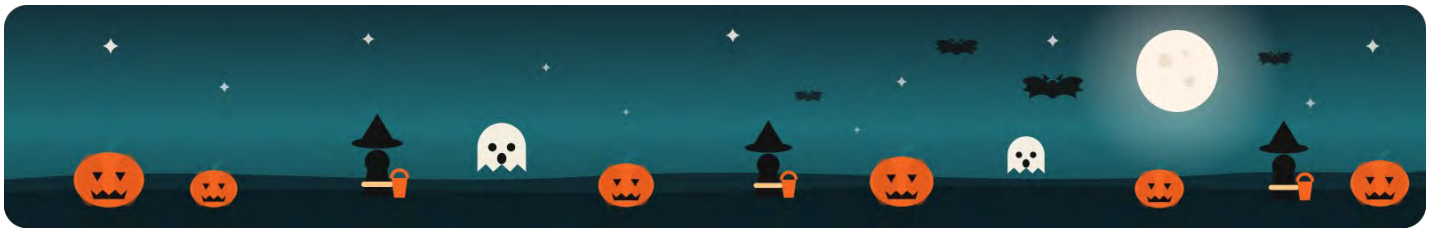
The hallway, beforehand

THANK YOU FOR COMING OUT

Thank you to every family who lined the turf, to our seniors for leading us off, and to the staff who got several hundred costumed Cubs around a full loop without losing one.

Trick or Treat Safely

A few things worth saying out loud before Saturday evening



Halloween falls on Saturday this year, and our streets will be full of small people in dark costumes after dark. **None of this is complicated, and most of it our Cubs can do themselves.** Run through it together before they head out.

Be Seen

Reflective tape on the costume, a glow stick in hand, and a flashlight that works.

Paint, Not Masks

Face paint beats a mask. One that slips blocks exactly what a child needs to see.

Cross at Corners

Corners and crosswalks only, and look up from the candy before you step off the curb.

Stay Together

Agree the route before you go, stay in a group, and keep a grown up within sight.

Check It at Home

Look everything over before anyone eats, and watch the labels if your Cub has an allergy.

If You Are Driving

Go slowly near parked cars and driveways. Children appear from nowhere.

A TEAL PUMPKIN ON THE PORCH

A teal pumpkin by the door means non food treats inside: stickers, pencils, glow sticks, small toys. For a Cub with a serious food allergy, it turns one more house into a yes.

AND THEN MONDAY

Halloween night, the clocks go back the next morning, and school on Monday. An early bedtime on Sunday will do more for Monday than anything else we can suggest.

Beyond the Classroom

Second grade walks down to Tuckahoe Village Hall

Our second graders walked down to Village Hall this week and were met by **Mayor Cara Kronen**, who sat them in the Board of Trustees seats and talked them through how a village actually runs. The Tuckahoe Police and Fire Departments were waiting outside, and every Cub came home with a coloring book of the walking route, made specially for Cottle.



Second grade with Mayor Kronen in the Village Board room



Circle time with the Mayor



In the Trustees seats



A Tuckahoe police motorcycle



Engine 27, up close

THANK YOU, TUCKAHOE

Thank you to Mayor Kronen, to the Tuckahoe Police and Fire Departments, to our chaperones and teachers, and to every community member who made the morning possible. This is what it looks like when a village and its school are a short walk apart.

The Giving Retriever Is Here

Our first dog visits of the year

The Giving Retriever started at Cottle this week, and the first classrooms have already had their turn. **Judging by the faces, a lesson on writing a literary analysis has never gone better.**



Waiting their turn to say hello



Worth putting the pencil down for



A very good listener

HOW THE VISITS WORK

Visits run about thirty minutes in a different classroom each time, and they will continue monthly through the year. Teachers sign up on the calendar sheet, so every class gets a turn. Families were sent a letter about the visits earlier this month, so if you would rather your Cub sat one out, just let the office know.

WHY A DOG IN THE CLASSROOM

A calm animal in the room lowers the temperature of a whole class, and it gives our Cubs something to be gentle with in the middle of an ordinary school day. For some of them, thirty minutes with a golden retriever will be the best part of the month.

Four Shows Left

The clue wall is narrowing

Eleven shows went up on the wall outside the Theater Club board. Two more were crossed off this week, which leaves **four still in the running.** Our Cubs have taken to walking past rather slowly on the way to lunch.



Seven down, four to go

ALL WE ARE WILLING TO SAY

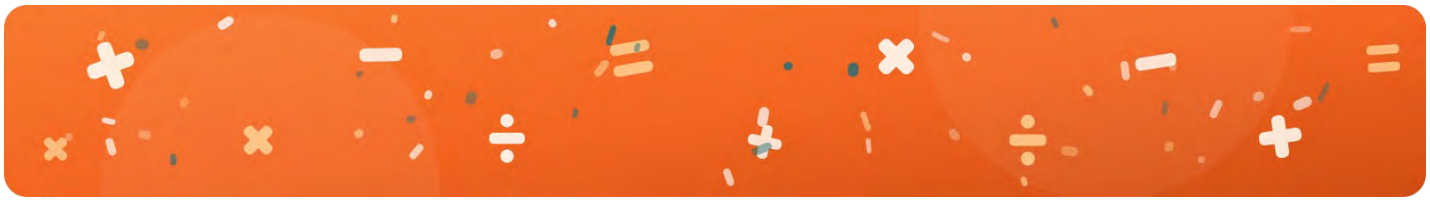
Seven of the eleven now have two very familiar faces pasted across the front. Four are still untouched. That is as much as the Cottle Theater Club is prepared to give away, and they were quite firm about it.

SIGN UPS ARE COMING

Sign ups for the play open soon and **casting is limited**, so keep an eye out. In the meantime, take a look at the wall on your way in and make your guess together.

First in Math Leaderboard

Top three in the school this week



First in Math is the online practice program our Cubs use for number work. It grew out of the 24 Game, a card puzzle about spotting the relationships between numbers, and it is built the same way: short games, played a few at a time. **Our top three have 13,859 points between them this week.**

2

Mehrish J.

Class 5F

5,289

POINTS

1

Natal T.

Class 4JC

5,546

POINTS

3

Andrew K.

Class 5JG

3,024

POINTS

A WORD ON SCREEN TIME

We are mindful about screen time as a staff, so we will be straight with you: this is practice rather than scrolling, but it is still a screen. Short, regular sessions do more for number fluency than one long stretch, and they sit far better well before bedtime. Ms. Miggins has been pushing in to classrooms so every Cub knows how to get started.

WELL DONE, CUBS

Congratulations to Natal, Mehrish and Andrew. We will run the top three every week, and there are plenty of Cubs climbing the board who have not made this page yet. Steady beats long every time.

Looking Ahead in November

Two things to put on the fridge, and one to talk about at dinner

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

The Clocks Fall Back

Daylight saving time ends at 2:00 in the morning on Sunday, November 1. **Set your clocks back an hour** and enjoy the extra one. It also means the dark arrives early all month, so our Cubs walking home will want a bright coat and a careful eye at crossings.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Diwali, the Festival of Lights

Diwali falls on Sunday, November 8 this year. It is celebrated by Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist families, and for many of our Cottle families it is the biggest festival of the year: rows of small lamps along the doorstep, new clothes, sweets, and a house full of visitors.

At home: ask your Cub what light means in a story they know. Nearly every tradition has one, and that is rather the point.

THROUGH OCTOBER

Hindu Heritage Month

October is marked as Hindu Heritage Month by a number of states and by Hindu organizations across the country. It closes today, and Diwali follows close behind, which makes the next week a good one to ask a friend about a holiday you have never celebrated.

EVERY CUB, EVERY CELEBRATION

Cottle families mark all sorts of holidays through the autumn and winter, and we would far rather hear about them than guess. If your family celebrates something you would like our Cubs to know about, tell your child's teacher or send a note to the office. We are always glad to make room for it.



Our School Counselor answers your parenting questions

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

"How do I get more than fine when I ask about my daughter's day?"

Welcome to the dreaded "Fine Club." You ask your child how her day was, hoping to hear all about what she learned, who she spent time with, and the fun things that happened. Instead, you get one word. Maybe even a shrug if you're lucky.

You're definitely not alone. After a full day of learning, following directions, managing friendships, and simply being "on," many kids are ready for a break. Some give us one word answers, while others come home with big feelings: tears, frustration, or a meltdown over something that seemed perfectly fine five minutes ago. So before you start playing 20 Questions the minute you are reunited, here are a few things to try.

Tips from Ms. Silver

1. **Give them a little breathing room.**
   As tempting as it is to start asking questions the second you see them, your child might just need some downtime. A snack, a little quiet, or time to play can make a huge difference.

2. **Ask something more specific.**
   "How was your day?" is actually a pretty big, open ended question. Try "What made you laugh today?" or "What was the best part of recess?" A smaller question that cannot be answered with yes, no or fine often leads somewhere better.

3. **Try talking side by side.**
   Kids often open up when they are doing something else or feeling relaxed. Driving, walking the dog, making dinner together, winding down at bedtime: those low pressure moments lead to some of the best conversations.

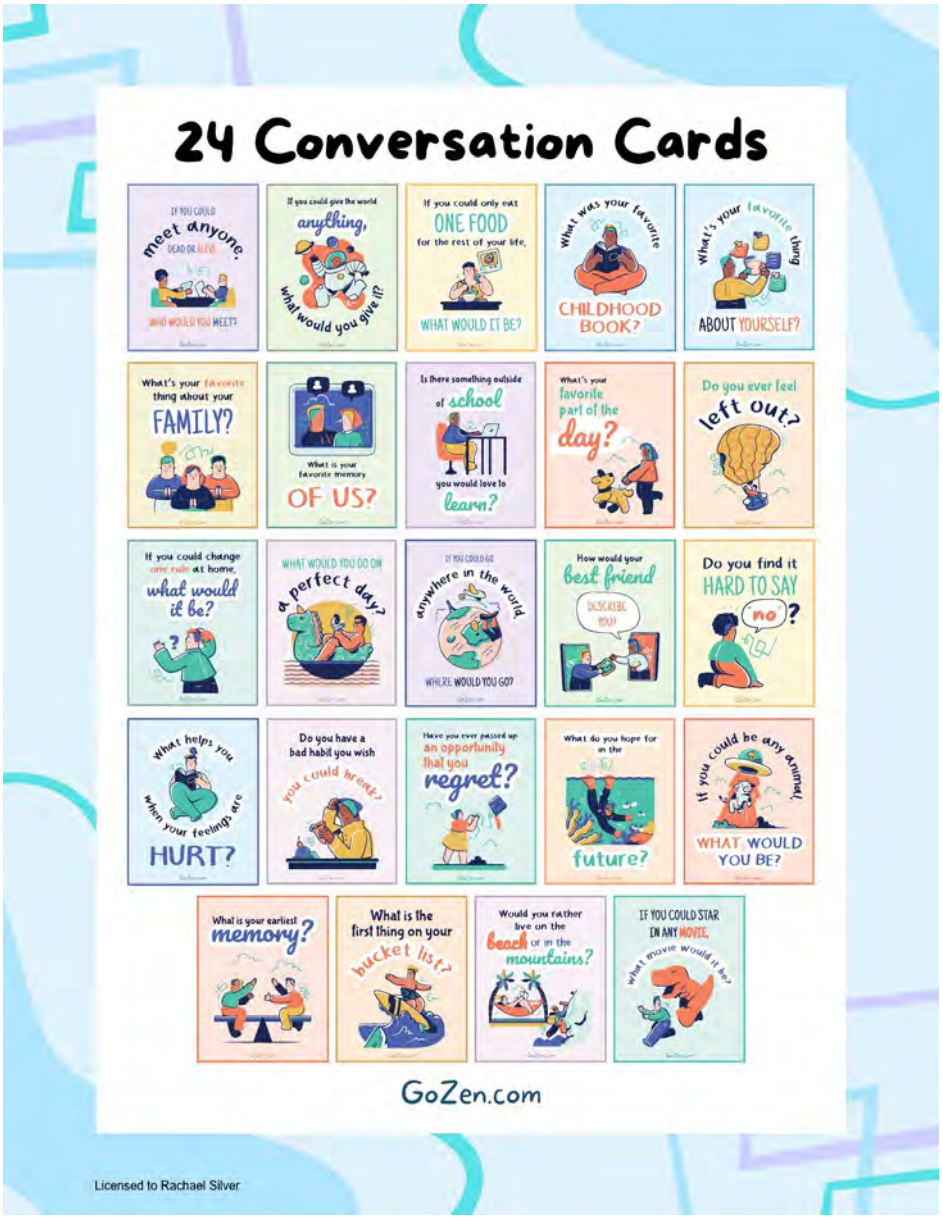
4. **Tell them about YOUR day!**
   Share something funny that happened, something that surprised you, or even something that did not go quite as planned. It is a great way to show that conversations go both ways.

AND REMEMBER

Some days you will have a great conversation, and other days you will still get "fine." And that is okay. The goal is not a full report of the school day. It is to keep the conversation going, and to let your child know you are always happy to listen.

Take School Out of It

Sometimes the best way to get kids talking is to ask something completely unexpected. These conversation cards from GoZen are silly, interesting, and sometimes surprisingly thoughtful. Pick one at dinner, in the car, or whenever you have a few minutes, and let everyone answer, including you.



24 Conversation Cards, GoZen.com. Shared by Ms. Silver under her own license.

HAVE A PARENTING QUESTION OF YOUR OWN?

Scan the code or visit forms.gle/kzwimfRLCjSqC87U7. Questions are anonymous, so please leave out names.

PTA Events at a Glance

10/30 (Fri)	Spring 2026 Yearbook Photos	**10/30 (Fri)**	Cottle Halloween Party
11/9 (Mon)	Holiday Food Drive	**11/13 (Fri)**	Winter Spirit Wear Deadline
11/20 (Fri)	Sibling Picture Day	**Ongoing**	DeCicco's School Rebate Program
Ongoing	PTA Directory		

PTA Event Details

Cottle Halloween Party, Tonight

Bring your Cottle Cubs to the Cottle Halloween Party.
Purchase tickets and sign up to volunteer.

Spring 2026 Yearbook Photos, Due Today

We are seeking photos for the Cottle Yearbook. Group photos are preferred, and individual shots are welcome. Please make sure photos include only students in UPK through grade 5.
Submit here.

Winter Spirit Wear Store Is Open

Tees, hoodies, hats, scarves and PJ pants. Show your Tuckahoe pride and support our school. Order by November 13.

Sibling Picture Day, 11/20

Please note your students' names and classes in the comment box when you sign up. The deadline to sign up is November 12, and this is only available for current Cottle students. Sign up here.

Holiday Food Drive, 11/9 to 11/13

Help local families by donating holiday nonperishables: canned yams, pie filling, gravy and stuffing. Drop items off November 9 to 13 in the Cottle lobby or at the MS/HS entrance.

DeCicco's School Rebate Program

Sign up for a DeCicco Card and DeCicco & Sons donates 1% of your total to the school you choose, automatically.
Sign up or convert your card.

Are You in the PTA Directory?

It is free to sign up, and it gives you access to your child's class list and much more. No volunteering required to be listed. Click here.

TUCKAHOE ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Chipotle Night for cross country and track is Tuesday, November 3, and the Youth Cheer Clinic is Veterans Day, November 11. Membership and Tiger merch at **tuckahoeathleticcouncil.givebacks.com/shop**.

TUCKAHOE SEPTA DINES OUT

Wednesday, November 11, all day at Il Gusto in Tuckahoe. Twenty percent of every lunch and dinner order goes to Tuckahoe SEPTA. Reserve by November 8. Flyer on page 12.



TUCKAHOE SEPTA DINES OUT

Wednesday, November 11, all day at Il Gusto Ristorante Italiano, 97 Lake Avenue in Tuckahoe. Twenty percent of every lunch and dinner order from the pizzeria or the restaurant, dine in or takeout, goes to Tuckahoe SEPTA. Mention Tuckahoe SEPTA when you order or pay, and reserve by November 8 to guarantee your table. Call (914) 779-7944.