COTTLE WEEKLY

William E. Cottle Elementary School

Preparing Every Student for Excellence

ISSUE 08
Friday
October 23, 2026

FROM THE INTERIM PRINCIPAL

Dr. Rowe

Thank you for a wonderful first Principal Coffee. It was an hour of real conversation about all things Cottle, and I am already looking forward to the next one. A good week all around, and a busy one ahead. Have a fun, Fall filled weekend!

FROM THE A.P.'S DESK

Mr. Kilgallen

A wonderful week, and two Cottle traditions next Friday: the Rag-A-Muffin Parade and the PTA Halloween Party. My full letter is on page 3. Go Cubs!

This Week at Cottle

1

A Successful Lockdown Drill

Our Cubs knew exactly what to do and handled it calmly, start to finish.

2

The Book Fair Was a Hit

A busy week in the library, and a great many Cubs went home with something new to read. A huge thank you to coordinators Ms. Brish and Ms. Kilkenny and our many parent volunteers.

3

Our First Principal Coffee

Thank you to every family who came out Thursday morning.



Mark Your Calendar

OCT 27	**Giving Retriever Begins** Our first dog visit
OCT 27	**Cottle G.O. Meetings** Grades 4 and 5, page 12
OCT 30	**Rag-A-Muffin Parade** 9:30 a.m. around the turf
OCT 30	**Cottle Halloween Party** Plus pumpkin carving
OCT 30	**Yearbook Photo Deadline** See page 11
NOV 3	**Chipotle Night** Cross country and track
NOV 9	**Holiday Food Drive** Through November 13
NOV 11	**Cheer Clinic, Dines Out** Veterans Day, pages 11 and 13
NOV 13	**Spirit Wear Deadline** Order by Friday, page 11

HEART OF A CUB • VALUE OF THE WEEK

Curiosity: we ask questions, we try new things, and we follow what interests us.
At home: ask your Cub about the book they could not put down at the Book Fair 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!

Help Ms. Miggins Build

Our STEAM classroom needs what is in your recycling bin

Ms. Miggins has building and design projects underway in STEAM, and she needs materials. **The two she needs most are already in your kitchen, on their way to the recycling bin. Bring them straight to the STEAM Lab.**



Cereal Boxes

Any size. Give them a shake out and flatten them, and they stack beautifully.



Paper Towel Rolls

The cardboard tube from the middle. Wrapping paper tubes are welcome too.

How to Help

Empty and Flat

A quick shake out is all a cereal box needs. Flattened boxes travel better in a backpack.

To the STEAM Lab

Bring all items directly to the STEAM Lab, any day next week.

Every Bit Counts

One box from each family is enough to keep a whole classroom building.

WHY A CEREAL BOX MATTERS

Design and engineering start with materials. In STEAM our Cubs build with what they have, and a cereal box becomes a structure, a paper towel roll becomes a support, and a Cub finds out what holds and what does not. The best projects usually come out of the plainest materials, which is why your recycling bin is so useful to us.

Thank you from Ms. Miggins and every Cub in STEAM!

From the Assistant Principal

Mr. Peter Kilgallen

Dear Cottle Families,

What a wonderful week we had at Cottle from October 19 through October 23! It is always exciting to see our Cottle Cubs learning, growing, and making the most of each day together.

Looking ahead to next week, we are excited for two special traditions that bring our school community together: our annual Rag-A-Muffin Parade on Friday, October 30, at 9:30 a.m., followed by the PTA Halloween Party that evening. We are especially looking forward to welcoming our high school seniors as they make their way down to Cottle to help kick off the Rag-A-Muffin Parade festivities. This cherished tradition is always a highlight for our students and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the strong connection between our schools and the Tuckahoe community.

We hope to see many of our families at the PTA Halloween Party on Friday evening for a fantastic night filled with fun, laughter, and Halloween spirit! Thank you, as always, for your continued support in making these events so special for our Cottle Cubs.

Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to another pawsome week ahead!

Warm regards,

Peter Kilgallen

NEXT FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

Rag-A-Muffin Parade, 9:30 a.m. • Tuckahoe High School seniors join us to kick it off • **PTA Halloween Party that evening**

Cottle Cubs and a Book

Our schoolwide read aloud for October

Every month our whole school, UPK through grade 5, reads the same book together. October's book **was My Wandering Dreaming Mind**. We are sharing it at the end of the month rather than the start, and it is well worth a read this weekend.



OCTOBER

My Wandering Dreaming Mind

by Merriam Sarcia Saunders, illustrated by Tammie Lyon

Read aloud: watch My Wandering Dreaming Mind on YouTube

Talk About It at Home

1. When does your mind wander? Where does it go when it does?
2. What is something your brain is really good at?
3. What is something that feels hard for you, and what helps when it does?
4. How can we be a good friend to someone whose brain works differently from ours?

PBIS

Acting Responsibly

SEL

Be Safe

INCLUSION

ADHD Awareness

THIS MONTH'S KEY MESSAGE

All brains work differently, and all strengths matter.



Our School Counselor answers your parenting questions

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

"My child came home and said they were bullied. What should I do?"

Let's Break It Down

Our first instinct is to protect our children, and understandably so! But before jumping to conclusions, it is important to get a clearer picture of what actually happened. Was it bullying, or could it have been a conflict between classmates? While both situations can be upsetting, they are not quite the same thing.

Conflict is a normal part of growing up. Kids disagree, argue, get frustrated, and sometimes hurt each other's feelings. Learning to work through these situations is an important part of developing social skills, and something I reinforce regularly during my SEL lessons.

Bullying, on the other hand, involves harmful behavior, an imbalance of power, and behavior that happens repeatedly or is likely to happen again.

Tips from Ms. Silver

When your child tells you something upsetting happened with another child, start by listening. Let them know you are glad they told you, and ask a few questions to learn a little more about the situation. Try asking:

- **"Can you tell me what happened?"**
- **"Has this happened before?"**
- **"What did you do next?"**
- **"Is there an adult at school who can help?"**

AND REMEMBER

Just because something is not bullying does not mean it is not important. If your child is feeling uncomfortable or anxious about coming to school because of peer conflict, please reach out to your child's teacher, an administrator, or me. We are here to help!

A helpful visual from Rethink on the next page shows the key differences between conflict and bullying.



Conflict or Bullying?

Conflict...	Bullying...
...is when people don't get along or don't agree. *like not liking the same movie or wanting to play different games*	...is a pattern of harmful behavior towards a person. *like name-calling, pushing, or taking someone's things*
...happens once in a while. *because of a strong opinion or big emotions*	...happens over and over again. *feels like it won't stop*
...is usually not on purpose. *like accidentally bumping someone or taking a backpack that you think is yours*	...is done on purpose. *picks on a person to make them feel bad*
...is a normal part of life. *helps you learn how to work out problems*	...is never okay. *hurts the feelings or bodies of another person*

If you think something is bullying, you should always tell a safe adult.

Student Resource

RethinkEd © 2024

Shared from Ms. Silver's SEL lessons. Student Resource, RethinkEd © 2024.

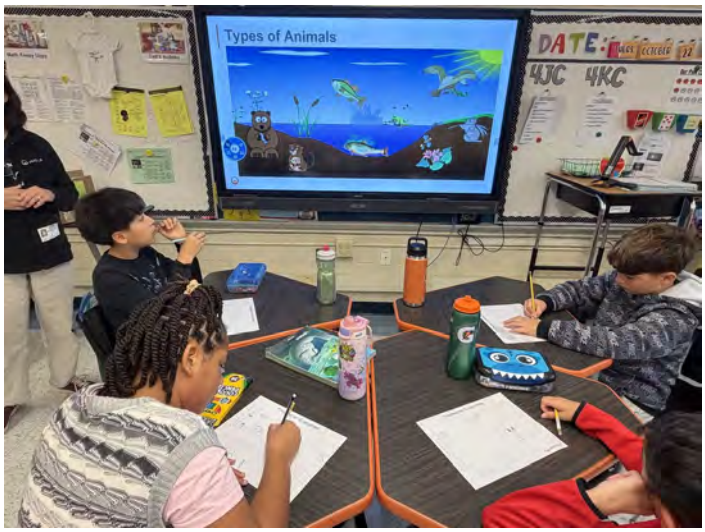
HAVE A PARENTING QUESTION OF YOUR OWN?

Scan the code or visit forms.gle/kzwimfRLCjSqC87U7. Questions are anonymous, so please leave out names. Yours might be featured in an upcoming Cottle Weekly.

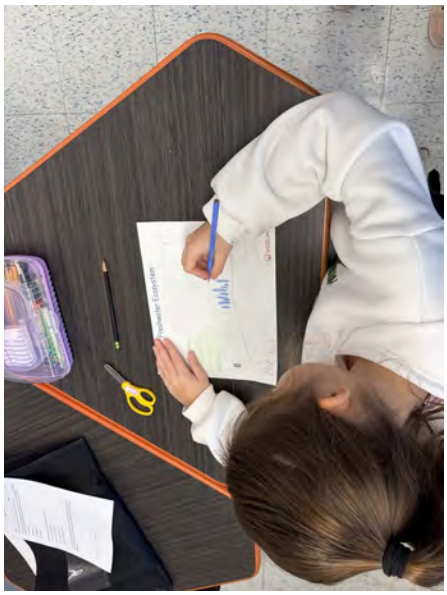
A Visit from Veolia

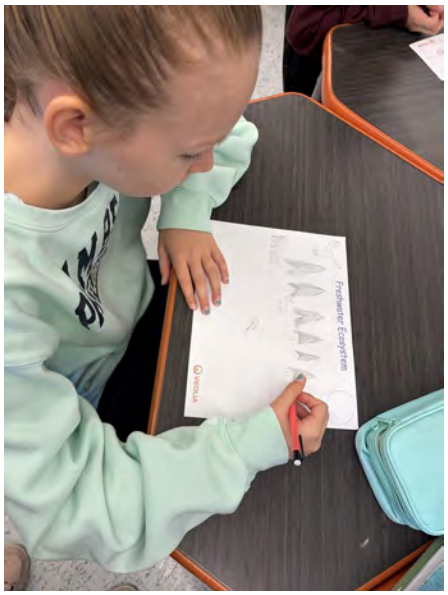
Grade 4 goes deep on freshwater ecosystems

Veolia, the water and environmental services company, spent Thursday morning with our fourth graders in 4JC and 4KC. The lesson was freshwater ecosystems: the animals that live in and around our rivers and ponds, and what each of them needs from the water. Then every Cub drew an ecosystem of their own.











WHAT OUR CUBS DREW

Look closely and you will find trees, fish, birds and a sun over the water, every one of them put there by a fourth grader who had just worked out why it belonged. Thank you to Veolia for the morning, and to our fourth grade team for making room for it.

The 1AC Community Garden

First grade reads about a community, then builds one

While working with Magnetic Literacy, our first graders in 1AC have been studying communities and neighborhoods. They read a wonderful story about a community garden and decided to start one of their own. They planned out the garden, the flower beds and the vegetables they would plant, and they are still working on their green thumbs with a few more items to go in.



First we planned the beds and the paths



The 1AC Community Garden so far









WHAT GROWS IN A FIRST GRADE GARDEN

Corn, carrots, tomatoes, pumpkins and more, every one of them drawn, colored and planted by a Cub who had just read about why a neighborhood builds a garden together. A few beds are still bare, and they are spoken for: **the last step is planting their goals.** We cannot wait to see them grow!

What Will the Cottle Play Be?

The clue wall is up, and the board is getting smaller

Our annual production is getting under way, and the clue wall in the hallway is doing its work. Eleven shows went up. Five of them now have two very familiar faces pasted right over the front. **Can your Cub work out what is left?**



The clue wall outside the Cottle Theater Club board

PLAY ALONG AT HOME

Walk past the wall on your way in and take a guess together. Sign ups for the play are coming soon, and **casting is limited**, so keep an eye out. As for the answer, the Cottle Theater Club is not telling anyone just yet.

Celebrate Safely, Cubs!

Nut Free Special Event Treat Guide

After hearing from our school community, we are introducing some tasty treats to the mix. Class celebrations are some of the best moments at Cottle, and we want every Cub to be part of the fun. Treats are for special class events only, not birthdays, and are coordinated by class parents and teachers. All treats must come from the approved nut free list below, so that every Cub can celebrate safely.

Approved Nut Free Treats

1. **School Safe Cupcakes (Treasure Mills)**
   Vanilla or chocolate minis. Certified nut and peanut free, and dairy free too. Available at ShopRite.
2. **School Safe Mini Loaves (Treasure Mills)**
   Same certified nut, peanut and dairy free brand as the School Safe cupcakes. Available at ShopRite.
3. **Two-Bite Cupcakes**
   The box must say “Made in a peanut and tree nut-free facility.”
4. **Two-Bite Iced Donuts**
   Variety pack or strawberry. The box must say “Made in a peanut & tree nut free facility.”
5. **Fruit Snacks, Welch’s or YumEarth Organic**
   Individual single serve pouches.

Vegan and Gluten Free Options

- **Enjoy Life Crunchy Mini Cookies**
  Single serve bags. Certified vegan and gluten free, and free of the top allergens including nuts, dairy, egg and soy.
- **That’s It Fruit Bars**
  Individually wrapped, made only from fruit.

A FEW IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **Store bought only**, sealed, in the original packaging with the ingredient label visible. No homemade treats.
- **Read the label every time.** Ingredients and facilities can change, even for familiar brands. Keep the packaging so it can be rechecked.
- **No birthday treats, please.** Special event treats are planned by class parents together with teachers, so we can prepare for students with allergies.
- **Questions?** Please contact Nurse Higgins.

Thank you for helping every Cub celebrate safely! Dr. Rowe

PTA Events at a Glance

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

PTA Event Details

Cottle Halloween Party, 10/30

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

Cottle Pumpkin Contest, 10/30

Please drop off your pumpkin before or immediately after school on Friday, October 30 at the Main Entrance. Prizes will be awarded! More info.

Spring 2026 Yearbook Photos, due 10/30

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 by October 30.

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.

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

The Tigers Costume Party is Friday, October 30 at the American Legion, adults only. 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 order goes to SEPTA. Details on page 13.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT, GRADES 4 AND 5

Interest meetings with Ms. Connolly in Room 45 at 7:45 in the morning: grade 4 on Tuesday, October 27, and grade 5 on Wednesday, October 28. If your Cub has ideas for Cottle, this is where they get heard.



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.