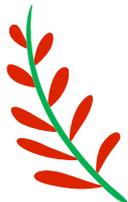




PTA SCHOOLHOUSE SCOOP  
DECEMBER 2021





## Hello M-D Families!

It's hard to believe it is already December. The autumn leaves have fallen and you can feel that it is just about time for hot chocolate.

Join us this month with an amazing, creative project for our little ones... It's "Reflections" time. Every year in December, the National PTA hosts an opportunity for students to enter into a friendly competition in the areas of: Dance Choreography—Film Production—Literature—Music Composition—Photography—Visual Arts. First place winners compete at the state level. Connecticut state winners move to the nationals. Detailed flyer is included in the newsletter.

Also, please consider joining us in our GIVING TREE for teachers and staff! Teachers have created Amazon wish lists that provide items for their classrooms. Families are invited to select things that they would like to contribute to the classroom. What a fun way to add to your child's classroom experience!

Thank you for all that you do for our children! Happy December!

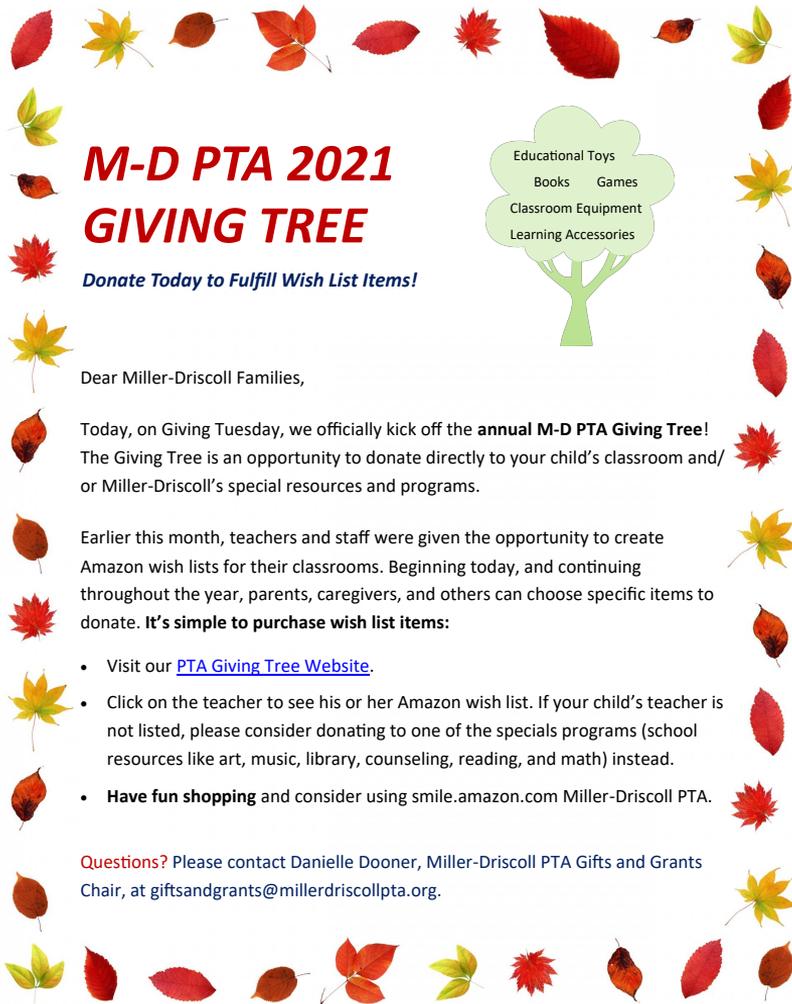
—LIZ ALLEVA & SARA SCLAFANI





# PTA GIVING TREE

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)



## **M-D PTA 2021 GIVING TREE**



***Donate Today to Fulfill Wish List Items!***

Dear Miller-Driscoll Families,

Today, on Giving Tuesday, we officially kick off the **annual M-D PTA Giving Tree!** The Giving Tree is an opportunity to donate directly to your child's classroom and/or Miller-Driscoll's special resources and programs.

Earlier this month, teachers and staff were given the opportunity to create Amazon wish lists for their classrooms. Beginning today, and continuing throughout the year, parents, caregivers, and others can choose specific items to donate. **It's simple to purchase wish list items:**

- Visit our [PTA Giving Tree Website](#).
- Click on the teacher to see his or her Amazon wish list. If your child's teacher is not listed, please consider donating to one of the specials programs (school resources like art, music, library, counseling, reading, and math) instead.
- **Have fun shopping** and consider using smile.amazon.com Miller-Driscoll PTA.

**Questions?** Please contact Danielle Dooner, Miller-Driscoll PTA Gifts and Grants Chair, at [giftsandgrants@millerdriscollpta.org](mailto:giftsandgrants@millerdriscollpta.org).



# APPLY FOR PTA REFLECTIONS

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



DANCE  
CHOREOGRAPHY



MUSIC  
COMPOSITION



FILM  
PRODUCTION



LITERATURE



PHOTOGRAPHY



VISUAL ARTS

**EXPLORE THE ARTS AND  
EXPRESS YOURSELF!**

**2021-2022  
CALL FOR  
ENTRIES!**

**DEADLINE  
FOR ENTRIES:**

January 10, 2022

**FOR DETAILS:**

[www.millerdriscollpta.org/reflections](http://www.millerdriscollpta.org/reflections)



# CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT DATES



<b>December 1</b>	Giving Tree is Open!	<b>December 14</b>	ELC Staff Appreciation Luncheon
<b>December 3</b>	Spirit Day	<b>December 16</b>	Community Conversation (6 PM) – Wilton High School Library and Zoom
<b>December 6</b>	Reflections Performing and Visual Arts PTA Contest Begins	<b>December 23</b>	Shortened Day
<b>December 9</b>	Portrait of a Graduate Forum (6-8 PM)	<b>December 24 – January 2</b>	School Break

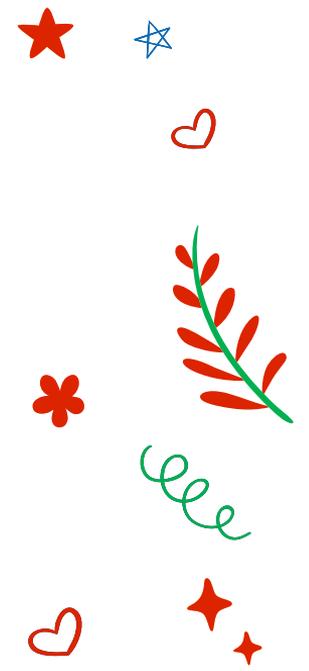


JAN 11 @ 7:00 PM

PTA MEETING

Guest Speaker: TBA

Location: Miller-Driscoll and Zoom





# THINGS TO KNOW



## Open Executive Council PTA Position: Parent-at-Large

Responsibilities include:

- Virtually attends Wilton Board of Education meetings every two weeks.
- Creates a report to be shared with the PTA that summarizes major points of the meeting.

Interested? Please email [nominating@millerdriscollpta.org](mailto:nominating@millerdriscollpta.org)





# STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY



SHOUT OUTS



Big shout out to Angie Bertolino and our Hospitality committee for organizing breakfast pastries, bagels and muffins for our teachers and staff for their professional development day on Election Day! We can never show enough gratitude to our teaching staff for all that they do for our kiddos!





# BOOK FAIR FUN



## SHOUT OUTS



The Book Fair made a BIG comeback this year thanks to the incredibly hard work of our PTA volunteers, Jessica Sain and Melissa Reynolds, together with the library teachers and parent volunteers. The M-D library was transformed into an eye catching array of children's books, featuring everything from preschool picture books to early reader paperbacks, graphic novels, and nonfiction page-turners.

Prepared with their eWallets and a love of reading, our children shopped in-person for old favorites and interesting new finds. Thanks to the generous donations of parents and caregivers, our teachers were also given the opportunity to shop and receive new books for their classrooms. EVERY child walked away with a book. What a fantastic "success story"!!!





## SHOUT OUTS

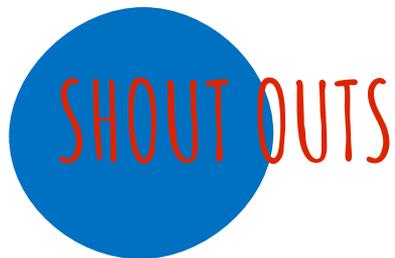
### THANK YOU, DR. SMITH

A huge thank you goes out to our Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Smith, for speaking at our general PTA meeting this week. Dr. Smith presented to the community about the Portrait of a Graduate, a long-range planning project that sets out our district's vision for our graduates. He also took questions from the in person and zoom communities. Dr. Smith and Principal Coon were given the Gratitude Books that were created from the Miller-Driscoll families' contributions of what we love about our school. It was a lovely PTA meeting including fun music and goodies from Tusk and Cup! Join us on January 11<sup>th</sup> for our meeting at 7pm!

### WILTON PIZZA SUCCESS!

Thank you to all of our families who participated in our Wilton Pizza fundraiser. It was the restaurant's most successful fundraiser they have had to date! The restaurant was packed and the phone was ringing off the hook. The Miller-Driscoll PTA received over \$250 for sponsoring the event!





## PTA ANNUAL APPEAL WINNER

We would like to THANK AND CONGRATULATE Sandy P. Tangney as the winner of a \$100 gift certificate to the Wilton restaurant of her choice. She was entered into the lottery for donating over \$50 to the PTA Annual Appeal.

You can have a chance to win at the January PTA meeting too! Every \$50 donated is an additional entry.

Please click here to donate:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=XV39QM95KTLVU](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=XV39QM95KTLVU)





## Julia Washington – PreK Representative

Hello Miller-Driscoll! I'm Julia Washington, one of this year's preschool representatives. My family and I made the move from Park Slope, Brooklyn to Wilton in June 2021, so we're new around here! We traded in our apartment and big city life for a 300 year old home complete with 6 chickens and 2 rabbits and have truly been loving every minute of #countryliving! However, Connecticut is not foreign to me as I grew up down the road in Wallingford. I stayed in the northeast for school, attending Middlebury College, and then landed in New York City where I spent the last 14 years of my career in global marketing roles for JetBlue Airways and Marriott International. Since this summer's move to Wilton, I have been taking some time to fully focus on our family.



## MEET JULIA



My husband, Andrey, and I are proud parents to two little girls: Willa (3.5 years) and Remi (1.5 years). Willa is in Mrs. Hoyt's pre-K 3 class but the love for Miller-Driscoll and it's staff is shared by our entire family. I have been particularly impressed with the patience, kindness and creativity from the Early Learning Center. Thrilled to have a few more years with the pre-K community ahead!





## Alicia Pettorini – PreK Representative

Hi Everyone! My name is Alicia Pettorini and I am excited to be one of this year's preschool representatives. My husband, Mark, and I moved to Wilton in the summer of 2015. We have three boys. Our oldest, Charlie, soon to be 10 is currently at Cider Mill in Mr. Schwartz's 4th grade class. Duke, our middle child, is 7 and is in Ms. Dentice's class at Miller Driscoll. Our youngest, Jake, is 4 years old and is in Mrs. Kirranes at Miller Driscoll's Early Learning Center. We can't say enough good things about Wilton schools. The support that my boys receive from their teachers is amazing and the lasting friendships that they are making warms my heart.



## MEET ALICIA



Before starting my family I worked at Pitney Bowes in sales and briefly worked at my husband's company Norwalk Glass. I am new to the PTA and I am enjoying this experience and hope to continue to have a role. I am excited to continue working with my amazing partner Julia and plan some fun events for the Early Learning Center. My family and I are so thrilled to be a part of this amazing community and we're lucky to have such great public schools!



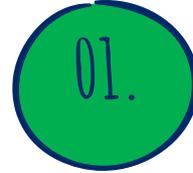
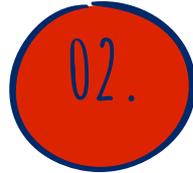


# JOIN THE PTA



## WHY JOIN?

Annual membership dues enrich programs at Miller-Driscoll. PTA membership provides: Voting rights at PTA meetings, Instant access to our online directory, Online parenting resources through CT PTA, including Our Children online magazine, Online leadership training, PTA Takes Action Network, connecting you directly to Congress on issues that matter most.



## HOW TO JOIN

- Membership now open, visit: <https://mobilearq.com/schooldirectory> to sign-up today!
- Choose parent or teacher registration.
- Enter the email you have on file with the school, your name and the code “wilton” to join.
- Pay your dues and start enjoying benefits!

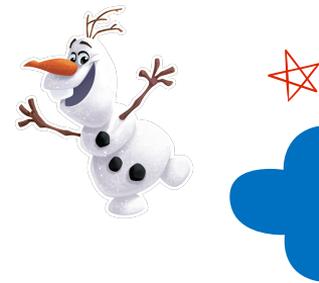
**Fees: \$20/person; \$30/Family.**

Special \$15 Membership Option for M-D Teachers!  
(does not include access to online directory)





# PTA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



Liz Alleva & Sara Sclafani

[president@millerdriscollpta.org](mailto:president@millerdriscollpta.org)

CO-PRESIDENTS

Meghan Newton

[membership@millerdriscollpta.org](mailto:membership@millerdriscollpta.org)

VP MEMBERSHIP

Maureen Brown & Lara Herman

[fundraising@millerdriscollpta.org](mailto:fundraising@millerdriscollpta.org)

VP FUNDRAISING

Valerie Incao

[secretary@millerdriscollpta.org](mailto:secretary@millerdriscollpta.org)

SECRETARY

Christine Marks

[treasurer@millerdriscollpta.org](mailto:treasurer@millerdriscollpta.org)

TREASURER

TBD: Open Volunteer Position

[parentatlarge@millerdriscollpta.org](mailto:parentatlarge@millerdriscollpta.org)

PARENT-AT-LARGE





## SCHOOL HOURS

Drop-off runs from 8:45am to 9:00am

PreK hours are 9:00am to 1:15pm

K-2 hours are 9:00am to 3:25pm

Dismissal to designated pickup areas at 3:25pm



**Main Office:** 203-762-8678

**Attendance Line:** 203-762-8678 Option 1

**School Nurse:** 203-762-8678 Option 2



**M-D Calendar:**

[www.wiltonps.org/miller-driscoll/miller-driscoll-information/calendar](http://www.wiltonps.org/miller-driscoll/miller-driscoll-information/calendar)

**School Dismissal:** [www.schooldismissalmanager.com/](http://www.schooldismissalmanager.com/)

**NutriSlice Menu:** <https://wilton.nutrislice.com/menu>

**MySchoolbucks:** [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com)

**Board of Education Docs & Calendar:**

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ct/wilton/Board.nsf/Public>

**Bus Questions:** Fran Williams

203-762-3381 ext. 8295

[williamsf@wiltonps.org](mailto:williamsf@wiltonps.org)



# WAYS TO HELP

## 01. STOP AND SHOP

Sign into your account and choose Miller-Driscoll.

## 02. MABELS LABELS

Fun ways to label your child's belongings – [click here to learn more.](#)

## 03. THE TURNOVER SHOP

Support M-D PTA by donating items, shopping, volunteering at the shop, and spreading the word.

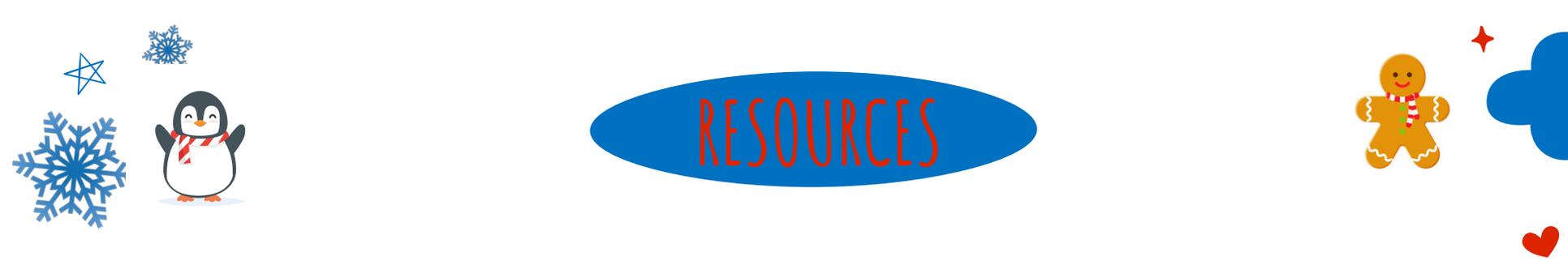
## 04. AMAZON SMILE

Shop with Prime and Amazon will give to M-D PTA – [click here to learn more.](#)

## 05. BOX TOPS

Box Tops for Education (BTFE) raise funds for M-D with every receipt scanned – [click here to learn more.](#)





# RESOURCES



## FACEBOOK

Follow us to connect with the PTA and M-D Parents – [click here](#).



## CT PTA

M-D PTA is a chapter of the Connecticut PTA – [click here for more info](#).



## NATIONAL PTA

Your M-D PTA membership gains access to national resources – [click here to get started](#).

