

Hillside News

September 7, 2018

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Main Office -- 781-455-0461



IMPORTANT DATES

10 No School -- Rosh Hashanah
19 No School -- Yom Kippur
25 Early Release Day -- 12:15 Dismissal

08 No School -- Columbus Day
25 Early Release Day -- 12:15 Dismissal

Welcome Back
LEARN WONDER
experiment Grow
Play shine SHARE
INSPIRE
Explore DREAM
MAKE FRIENDS Have
enjoy PRETEND Fun
practice SMILE
sing try new things

News from Mr. K

Like so many of you, I am looking forward to moving our community into the new Sunita Williams school next year. However, driven by a touch of nostalgia for our Hillside campus, I pulled up one of the first newsletter messages I wrote twelve years ago. Like this one, I started with acknowledging our wonderful community and ended with an important message about safety during drop-off (*italicized words are verbatim from 2006*). Some things never change!

Hillside School has a had another truly wonderful school opening, and as we start our last year in this school building, I am still in awe of the whole community. What a great place to work! The three groups that make up the Hillside family all really deserve to be thanked and acknowledged. First, thank you to the entire staff, most of whom have spent many hours over the summer readying their classrooms. Special kudos to Lori Donovan, Erin Vacaro and Walter Godoy who were here all summer preparing for this week. The school, though still very jam packed, really looks terrific!

Thanks also, to you and your families, particularly Meg Rosenbaum and Vanessa Jones, this year's PTC co-chairs. The support you, as a parent body, continue to give to the school both in time and resources, is greatly appreciated. A couple of other acknowledgments are warranted in this first newsletter. The parent volunteers, particularly Chris Rosenbaum, have spent many hours ensuring the front garden (the plants also being a generous gift from the Volante family!) look as great as it did for opening day despite the extreme heat! And speaking of the heat, our mascot (Eric Friedberg, defying high temps and humidity in the hornet costume) was there all through Morning Mingle greeting buses, walkers, bikers, and the principal. What a nice welcome!



*Most importantly, I want to thank the students for their enthusiasm, humor and energy. They are the reason we are all here, and we're so glad that you're all back in the building. Your September faces and summer stories are wonderful to see and experience, and we again look forward to **working hard** and **being kind** to each other.*

Finally, two things about safety while entering and exiting our extremely tight parking lot. First, please note that, even though the zebra stripes are not yet painted over, the crosswalk at the entrance is closed, so plan accordingly when exiting on foot and stay on the sidewalk at all times. *And, number two, please **DO NOT** use cell phones while driving, **ESPECIALLY** around children.*

The following are also imperative:

Parking lot is for staff only. *We have a very small parking lot in relation to the size of the staff. If you need to come into school, you must park on the street outside of the lot. Please be mindful of neighbors and do not block streets or driveways.*

*Everyone, even adults, need to **stay on the sidewalks**. Please do not cut through the parking lot.*

*Be sure to **stop at the stop sign** (a great time to read the school announcement board) and follow the instructions of the staff directing traffic at drop-off and dismissal.*

*When using the **live parking area** for drop-off and/or pick-up, the following rules apply:*

Pull all the way up to the next available empty space. *This will help avoid traffic back-ups in the driveway, and it will help everyone avoid the danger inherent in having the need to back a car up around children.*

Drivers need to stay in their cars at all times. *This is a safety issue as there have been a few close calls for adults who do exit the driver side just missing getting swiped by another car, bus or van.*

Students exit on curbside only, *for obvious safety reasons.*

A map and an accompanying reiteration of the above list of parking rules can be found in our school handbook which can now be found on our website (<http://hillside.needham.k12.ma.us/>) by clicking the last item in the drop down menu under "Our School" link.

Thank you in advance for following these rules and if you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

I hope to see you at next week's Curriculum evenings!

Mr. K

PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

Welcome back Hillsideers! We hope everyone had a great first week at school and is ready for the exciting year ahead. Please read on to find out what's happening with the PTC this week.

As a REMINDER, please return your "WELCOME TO HILLSIDE" lawn signs to the Hillside lobby by September 7th!!!

Thanks go out to Eric Friedberg who graciously volunteered to be our Hornet Mascot and greet students at the First Morning Mingle. It had to be HOT in that costume, but you would never know it as the Hornet brought smiles to everyone's faces and happily posed for pictures with all our returning students. Thanks, Eric!

Thank you to the Volante Family for generously donating flowers and plants to Hillside and to Chris Rosenbaum and the Hillside Garden crew for planting and maintaining the beautiful garden at the front door to school.

A big thank you to Sarah Docktor and Julie Hand for hosting the Kindergarten Playdate and New Family Meet & Greet in August and Koffee and Kleenex on the first day of Kindergarten. Thank you also to Sharon Ayres and all of the many volunteers who helped her distribute the "Welcome to Hillside" signs to our new students' front yards. We hope all of our new students and families enjoyed these special welcomes to Hillside!

Invest In Our Children Campaign: Please be on the lookout for the yellow Invest **In Our Children (IIOC)** envelope which should be coming home with your child(ren) soon. The IIOC Campaign IS OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISER of the YEAR and runs until September 28th. Our goal this year is to exceed **\$18,000** with **100%** participation. NO DONATION AMOUNT IS TOO SMALL. If we make our collective goal then we are offering a printed Hillside Directory to every family! Donations are tax-deductible and 100% of the funds will go toward supporting many amazing programs and items

for our kids. To pay by credit card, please use the PayPal button on our website or click [here](#). We are also accepting cash, checks, and money orders if you prefer to send your payments into the school in the envelope we provided. To read more about the IIOC click [here](#) or see the flyer at the end of this newsletter. Thank you for your support!

Upcoming Events

We have many exciting PTC events scheduled this year! The first one is coming up on **Thursday September 20, 2018**: the **Back to School Picnic** from **5:30-7:30 p.m. at Hillside playground (rain date Friday, 9/21)**. This is a great way to celebrate the start of the school year, gather with friends and meet new families! Bring along a blanket, food and beverages. We'll have a DJ and free slush. In addition, we will have pizza and a limited amount of snacks and water for sale. Keep Hillside "green" and bring along your own reusable water bottle! Please see flyer at the end of this newsletter for additional details. Please consider signing up to help out at this event: Sign up online and contact Jen Leonard-Schaffstein with any questions at leonardschaffstein@yahoo.com Hope you can make it!

Join us for our first **PTC meeting** on **Tuesday, October 2, at 7:15 pm**, in the Hillside Gym. At this meeting we are fortunate to have Caren Nemtzwow, the Director of the Child Assault Prevention (CAP) Program, presenting information on the CAP Program in school. We will also resume our normal business reviewing and approving enrichment grants as well as sharing and discussing important information about the school and PTC activities. **Please join us – it's a great way to stay informed and get involved!**

Other PTC Fundraisers

Box Tops: We are collecting Box Tops for Education again this year. Collection sheets and a collection box for sheets/box tops are located at the PTC bulletin board near Lori's desk. There will be a Fall Box Tops Contest -- beginning October 15th -- during which time classes will compete to collect the highest amount of Box Tops. The winning class will receive a POPSICLE PARTY! So start saving those Box Tops now!!! More information to follow. Any questions, please contact our Box Tops Coordinator, Joyce McCafferty @ sjsong77@yahoo.com.

Amazon Smile: When you shop Amazon, be sure to shop via the Amazon Smile link and designate the Hillside Parent Teacher Council Trust as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate a portion of their proceeds back to the PTC every time you purchase eligible items. It takes very little effort, but the pay-off for the PTC is great!

Seeking Volunteers

The PTC depends very heavily on parent volunteerism. We are fortunate to have many very dedicated parents who step up each year to run committees, but we are always looking for more help! Below are some great volunteer opportunities we hope you will consider:

Seeking Media Center Volunteers: The Hillside Media Center needs volunteers during your child's class this year. The media volunteers are an extremely valuable to the busy media center and typically help checking books in and out, shelving and organizing and helping children locate something to read. A brief training session will be offered to those who haven't volunteered previously. It's a fun way to interact with your child's class!

We are looking for volunteers who can come into the media center twice a month. If you are unable to make one of your weeks, for any reason, then we have a system where you can ask the other volunteers if they can substitute.

How to sign up:

1. Find your child's class on the attached media schedule at the end of the newsletter;
2. Review and the A-B-C-D weeks and check the calendar dates, and decide which weeks are best for you. (For example, weeks A and C may work best for you); and
3. Email hillsidemediavolunteer@gmail.com with your child's class and preferred weeks.

Seeking 1st Grade Cafeteria Volunteers: Parent volunteers help the students get through the lunch line more quickly so that they have ample time to eat and help the 1st graders learn to clean up before the next lunch shift comes in. You can sign-up for as many or as few days as you can offer. To sign up, either contact Ilana Kaufman at kaufman.ilana@gmail.com or go to the Sign up Genius link.

Yearbook Coordinator Co-Chair (2018-2019): We are looking for a co-chair to join Samantha Shapiro as she works with students to put together the Hillside Yearbook for 2018-19. This is creative and very rewarding work!! Email Samantha (samshap333@hotmail.com) or Meg (megrosenbaum11@gmail.com) if you are interested.

Carnival: The Hillside Spring Fling/Carnival will be back this spring by popular demand. Before we say hello to the new Sunita Williams School we need to say farewell to Hillside by hosting one last event that will celebrate the wonderful school Hillside has been to us all.

Committee Chair(s) will lead the planning for the event, which will include inflatables, arts and crafts, games, and concessions. Chair(s) will help to recruit and manage volunteers who will assist in executing the details of the event. Email Meg (megrosenbaum11@gmail.com) or Vanessa (vanessajones694@icloud.com) if you are interested.

SEPAC

"Needham's Special Education Services and Programs" - Please join us for our annual overview of what Needham has to offer students with all types of needs at all of our schools, from preschool through age 22. This is an opportunity to meet all of the Special Education Directors, gain a general understanding of special education in Needham, and hear about what will be new this year. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 3. 7:00pm – Networking & Refreshments, 7:30 pm – Program Begins. Broadmeadow School Media Center 120 Broadmeadow Road, Needham



Again this year the district will be providing opportunities for members of the school community to participate in professional development offerings through the Teachers As Scholars (TAS) Program. TAS is an organization that provides teachers and administrators with high quality seminars that cover a wide range of topics and disciplines. They offer a rich curriculum across all content areas. Instructors are professors from local universities or scholars from various museums and cultural organizations. Participation in any of the seminars is free of charge to teachers and administrators.

Attached is the list of TAS seminars, or you may view them online at <http://www.teachersasscholars.org/seminars.asp>

This year we have 15 seats available. TAS is a popular program and the requests usually far outnumber the seats we are able to offer. Seats will be allocated on a first come basis with preference given to those who have not previously participated in the program.

Registration Process

1. If you are interested in attending one of the seminars, **please obtain approval from your supervisor.**
2. Once you have obtained approval from your supervisor, contact Corinne MacDonald in the Office of Student Learning by **September 7th** with your requests. **You need to provide 3 requests and include the course number, title, and dates.**
3. The Office of Student Learning will notify you shortly after September 7th as to whether or not a space is available. At that time, participants will be given instructions as to how to go about registering online for the seminar. **PLEASE DO NOT REGISTER ONLINE WITH TAS UNTIL YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED THAT A SEAT IS AVAILABLE FOR YOU.**

The Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP) is now accepting applications for volunteers for the 2018-2019 school year. Please join our dynamic and dedicated team of volunteer Prevention Specialists who go into the Needham Elementary Schools in teams of three and teach the children that they have the right to be Safe, Strong and Free with their friends and peers, when they meet adult strangers, and with those who are trusted to take care of them. No prior experience required as training is provided. The next training begins on October 28th. For more information please contact Caren Nemtzow, Director, at 781-444-2415 or cnemtzw@needhamcommunitycouncil.org or visit our website at www.Needhamcommunitycouncil.org.



Please join us for our 5th Annual Jog Your Memory 5K Run and 1.5 Mile Walk on **Sunday, September 16th at 9am**, starting and finishing at Mitchell School! To register or for more information, please visit www.jogyourmemory5k.org! Jog Your Memory 5K, Inc is a Needham-based not-for-profit with the mission to raise awareness and funds to support research efforts, as well as individual families suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

St. Joseph's In Town Basketball Program Registration

Online registration for the 2018-2019 season of St. Joseph's In Town Basketball Program (boys and girls grades 5 through 8) can be found at: www.stjoesbasketballneedham.com. Sign ups for this year close on October 27. Call Program Director Steve Blomberg at 781.444.7782 if you have any questions.

Needham Youth Hockey

Registration is now open for the 2018/19 Needham Youth Hockey In-house season, a fun and instructional introduction to ice skating and hockey for girls and boys ages 3-12. We offer multiple programs based on age and ability. No prior skating or hockey experience is required. For more information, visit www.nyha.org or contact Bryan McGinn and Mike Tobin at inhouse@nyha.org. Space is limited.



STEAM Center

STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. The library's STEAM Center has several types of programmable robots and coding board games to help children learn computer coding; Little Bits, Squishy Circuits and Snap Circuits for exploring electricity, a digital microscope, lots of building materials for engineering projects, arts and crafts supplies and more. Children ages 6 and up are welcome to drop in to explore and create. Located inside the Children's Craft Room, the STEAM Center is open:

Monday - Wednesday 5:30-8:30,

Fridays - 3:30-5:00

Saturdays 9:00 - 4:30

Sundays 1-6:30

Chinese Storytime

Saturday, September 8th at 10:00 AM

Kindergarten children interested in Chinese language and culture are invited to attend Chinese Storytime. Drop in for stories in Chinese followed by a craft.

Dinoman Show

Tuesday, September 11th 4:00 PM

Children ages 4 and up can drop in to take a trip through the Mesozoic era with magic, mayhem and giant inflatable dinosaurs! Geared to an elementary school curriculum, Dinoman explains the age of the Earth, how it is divided into eras, how fossils are formed, dinosaur behavior and the newest finds. Guaranteed dino-sized fun!

Yoga for Children

Saturday, September 15th 10:30 AM

Children ages 5-9 years are invited to drop in to stretch out and relax with a professional children's yoga instructor.

NEW! Kid Coders

Mondays starting September 17th at 4:00 PM

Children ages 5-7 will learn logical thinking skills and engage in coding activities using games, robots, online puzzles and Scratch Jr. Children need to bring their own laptop or notebook computer. Scratch Jr. does not work on tablets. Registration is required and is limited. Children should plan on attending all 6 sessions. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

Free Movie

A Wrinkle in Time (Rated PG, 115 Min.)

Wednesday, September 19th, 2:00 PM

Drop in to enjoy a free movie based on the Children's novel by Madeleine L'Engle. Meg's scientist father disappeared after discovering a new planet. Her younger brother, Charles Wallace, introduces Meg and her fellow classmate, Calvin, to three celestial guides who help the children look for the missing father. Traveling by way of a wrinkling of time and space known, as tessering, they are soon transported to worlds where they must confront a powerful evil.

Code Breakers

Thursdays, starting September 20th at 4:00 PM

Children ages 8 and up will learn coding through online games and puzzles and will create their own projects using Scratch. Children need to bring their own laptop or notebook computer. Scratch does not work on tablets. Registration is required and is limited. Children should plan on attending all 8 sessions.

Family Activity Morning

Saturday, September 22nd 10:00 -11:30

Families with siblings of all ages are welcome to drop in and explore arts & crafts, work on a collaborative project and play games together that enhance literacy, logic or math skills.

NEW! Family Book Club

Saturday, September 22nd at 2:30

Families with children in grades K-2 read designated picture books together available at the Children's Desk. There is a different theme each month. Adults and children attend the Club meeting together to discuss the books and complete related crafts and activities. The books for September are: *Earmuffs for Everyone!: How Chester Greenwood Became Known as the Inventor of Earmuffs* by Meghan McCarthy; *The Marvelous Thing that Came from a Spring: the Accidental Invention of the Toy that Swept the Nation* by Gilbert Ford and *The Boo-Boos that Changed the World: A True Story about an Accidental Invention (Really!)* by Barry Wittenstein. After discussing the books, participants will make their own invention. To sign up, please visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

NEW! Tinker Thinkers Invention Club

Starting Tuesday, September 25th at 4:00 PM

Children ages 6 and up will meet every other Tuesday through February 12th. Children will learn about inventing and explore creating inventions of their own. Children may create their own original invention that they may enter in a Young Inventors competition, if they choose. The winning invention from the library club may progress to a Young Inventors Regional competition, if desired. Participation in the competition is not required for attendance in the club. Children should plan on attending as many sessions as possible. Registration is required and is limited. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

Crazy 8's Math Club

Starting Wednesday, September 26th

There will be two sessions: one for children in Grades K-2 at 3:30 PM and one for children in Grades 3-5 at 4:30 PM. Children will build stuff, run and jump, make music and make a mess. This Bedtime Math's Crazy 8's is a totally new kind of Math Club. Registration is required and is limited. To sign up, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

Girls Who Code

Thursdays, Starting September 27th

Calling all girls in Grades 5 and up! Bring your own computer and we will provide the rest. Join the club and join the fun. Learn to code and collaborate on joint projects. Girls should plan on attending most sessions throughout the school year, excluding holidays and vacation weeks. Registration is required. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

Bookventurers Book Club

Saturday, September 29th 3:00 PM

Children in Grades 3-5 read the selected book on their own (copies available at the Children's Desk) and then meet to discuss the book, enjoy snacks, sometimes Skype live with the author and enjoy activities related to the book. September's book is *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* by Chris Grabenstein. Registration is required. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

Check Out a New Google Chrome Book!

The Children's Department of the Needham Free Public Library now has 2 new Google Chrome Books that students can check out to use for free in the Children's Room with their library card. To check out a Google Chrome Book, just come to the Children's Desk and have your library card ready! The Chrome books are being made available to help students with their school work. They are for library use only and cannot be taken home or removed from the Children's Room. Borrowed Chrome Books should be returned to the Children's Desk. Doing homework at the Needham Free Public Library just got easier!

September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month

A public library card is the most important Back-to-School supply! Getting one is free and easy. Just have a parent or guardian come to the Circulation Desk at the Needham Free Public Library with an ID and proof of address, showing they can receive snail mail. Once you have your card, you can take home books, graphics, CD's DVD's, Blue Rays, magazines, audio books, tablets pre-loaded with apps, puzzles, internet access and more from any Minuteman library. Come in with a parent or guardian and get yours today!

Media Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.45 - 9.25	5R	2W	5Mi	KD	
9.30 - 10.10	5Ma	4K	1T	KM	
10.15 - 10.55	3Sa	2G	1D		2H
11.00 - 11.40		2D	3F	3E	1B
11.45 - 12.20					
12.30 - 1.10			1A	KM	
1.10 - 1.50	3Sh		4H	KD	4B
1.55 - 2.35					5F

KEY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.45 - 9.25	ROBERTS	WATTS	MILLER	DE MARIA	
9.30 - 10.10	MAHONEY	KATZ	TARANTINO	MICELLI	
10.15 - 10.55	SANTINELLO	GONECONTO	DANGELO		HACKETT
11.00 - 11.40		DUMMETT	FULLER	EVERTS	BROWN
11.45 - 12.20					
12.30 - 1.10			AUDIBERT	MICELLI	
1.10 - 1.50	SHEA		HSU	DE MARIA	BRACKEN
1.55 - 2.35					FRANKS

Hillside's Back to School

PICNIC

A series of black silhouettes depicting various picnic activities: a person holding a plate, a person with a dog, a person sitting on a bench, a person at a picnic table, a person standing, a person grilling, a person jumping, and a person with a child. These are positioned behind the large 'PICNIC' text.

Thursday, September 20th

(Rain Date: Friday, September 21th)

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

School Playground

DJ • Free Slushies

Bring a picnic dinner or
purchase pizza!

Drinks will also be
available for purchase

Keep Hillside "green"
and bring along your own
reusable water bottle!





HILLSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL



INVEST in OUR CHILDREN CAMPAIGN (IIOC)

What is the IIOC?

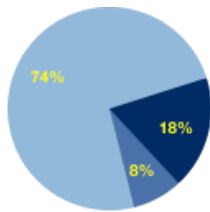
- ★ Largest funding source for the PTC, formally known as the Annual Dues Drive.
- ★ A commitment to giving your child an enriched educational experience.
- ★ 100% of your donation goes directly to the PTC.

**IIOC
Fundraising
Goal
\$18,000**

Why should I give?

- ★ Directly benefits your Hillside student.
- ★ Enables students' learning outside of the core curriculum.
- ★ Technology & enrichment grants support teachers with their learning objectives.
- ★ Helps build a strong community by funding fun family events throughout the year.

Where will my money go?



74% Learning and Curriculum Enrichment

Enrichment grants; Creative Arts programming; Living Voices, MFA Trips; Field trips; Author in residence and writing workshops; UDA; CAP program; School supplies for our teachers.

18% Community Support & Events

Hillside Cares Community Outreach; Back to school Picnic; Staff Appreciation events; Festival of Cultures; Family Fun Night; Walk to School program; K and New Family gatherings; Spring Carnival; Welcome to Hillside signs; 5th Grade end of year events.

8% Media & Technology

New technology purchases for teachers and students including iPads, document cameras/scanners, Kano Computer Kit, Green screen paint; New library books

How much should I give and how do I do it?

- ★ We are asking that 100% of our families donate whatever amount is possible.
- ★ Every contribution is appreciated and demonstrates a commitment to your child's education.
- ★ To donate via PayPal, [click here](#) or return the IIOC envelope to school with cash or check made out to Hillside PTC by Friday, September 28th.
- ★ Your contribution is tax deductible.
- ★ Don't forget to ask if your company has a Matching Gift Program.

The Hillside PTC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit (TAX ID# 043-378-085)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT