

# Hillside News

November 9, 2018

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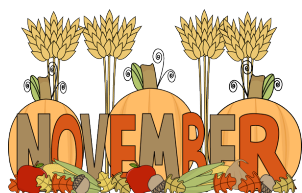
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## IMPORTANT DATES



- 12 Schools Closed for Veteran's Day
- 15 Photo Make-Up/Retake Day
- 21 No School -- Professional Development
- 22 Thanksgiving Recess
- 28 Morning Kindergarten Conferences - No A.M. Kindergarten; P.M. is in session

## News from Mr. K

Attached to this newsletter is the letter with more detailed information about the exciting cultural opportunity for our school community which was mentioned in the email I sent last night. Please contact me if you are at all interested in our China exchange program. As you can see from the letter, this is a group effort between schools in Needham and any support will be welcomed greatly!

On another note, I can think of no better way to acknowledge Veteran's Day than by sharing a link to what we watched live this morning here at Hillside. <http://safeyoutube.net/w/D6if>

I want to thank Lynne Doran, Maria DeCicco and the entire fifth grade for making this tribute process. Please keep this song in mind while you enjoy the long weekend.

Mr. K

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## PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

### *PTC Highlights:*

- Put your **old iPod touch** to good use -- **donate** it to the **Technology Department**.
- **Picture Day Retakes** on November 15
- **JOIN** the Spring Carnival Planning Committee!
- **Hillside Cares** -- Sandwich Making for the Homeless on November 18 at 4:00 p.m.
- Next PTC meeting -- **December 4, 7:15 PM**
- Family Fun Night -- **December 7 from 6-8 PM**

## Here's What's Going On Now...

Thank you to the Hillside community for donations of excess Halloween candy. We were able to take a **HUGE** amount of candy to Chestnut Dental's charitable collection. A big thank you to Sarah Burns for organizing the candy donations and delivering it all to Chestnut Dental.

Thank you to Jennifer Tufts and her **Book Fair Committee**: Grace Chan, Jody Barnet, Clare Currie, Jacqueline O'Neil, Dana Sullivan, Joanna Herrera, and Tricia Sherman for running such a wonderful and successful Scholastic Book Fair this year. Thank you also to all of the other parent volunteers that helped make the sale a big success!

**Thank you to everyone who participated in Literacy Night on Wednesday!** The children had a fabulous time listening to author Josh Funk read his stories and teach us about character development. A big thank you to Liz Hitron for coordinating this wonderful night for our children.

**Hillside Cares** is hosting a hands-on event that you can do with the whole family on Sunday, November 18 from 4-5pm at the home of Tricia Sherman. We'll be making brown bag dinners that will be delivered to Generic Ministries, who will then distribute the bags to homeless individuals in Boston. **Sign up to drop off some food to make the lunches OR sign up to help assemble the lunches (or both!).** Older siblings, younger siblings, parents and grandparents are all welcome! This is not a drop-off event - parents should plan to stay with children and participate. Sign up for contributing food/materials AND volunteering at the event here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0845A4AF22A31-making1>

Put your **old iPod Touch** (generation 4 or higher) to good use by **donating** it to **The Hillside School Technology Dept!** It will be repurposed as a learning tool to, among other things, document field trips with photos and videos. It may also serve as a voice recorder for language learners, used to record reading assessments, directions from teachers, communication between students and as a way to document evidence for digital portfolios. The best and most important feature of the iPod Touch is the portability factor. They are easy to carry, store and use on the go. Thank you in advance for donations of an iPod Touch and accompanying accessories that you are able to give to the Hillside School.

## Upcoming Events

**Picture Day Re-takes** are scheduled for November 15th.

Mark your calendars - the next **PTC meeting** is on **December 4th at 7.15pm**. **Superintendent Dan Gutekanst will join us to update us on the Portrait of a Needham Grad initiative, construction of the Sunita Williams School, and answer any questions or concerns you may have. You won't want to miss this opportunity!!**

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT** is **December 7th** from 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.!!! This is a night you do not want to miss. Come to Hillside in your pajamas for an evening of DJ dancing, games, crafts, prizes and FUN!! The cost of this event is \$5 per family (pay at the door that night). More details to follow!

## Bulletins

**Message from the Yearbook:** If you've got great photos of school and community events or you and your friends just having fun, we'd like to see them. Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have. Uploading your photos is easy if you follow these steps:

- Go to: <https://images.memoryebooks.com/login>
- If it does not automatically log you into the site, enter username: 410593679
- Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload.
- Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
- Click "Save Details".

You can also submit by downloading the ReplayIt App on your smartphone and upload your photos directly. It's that easy! Submit your photos today!

## Other PTC Fundraisers

**Box Tops:** We are continuing to collect Box Tops for Education. PLEASE be sure to save them! Collection sheets and a collection box for sheets/box tops are located at the PTC bulletin board near Lori's desk. We hope to collect many this year, so please send them in!!!

**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:

**The Hillside Spring Fling/Carnival** will be back this spring by popular demand! Our Co-Chairs are looking to assemble a team to help them plan the event. Some examples of various roles within the committee are: Inflatables Coordinator, Baby animal rental Coordinator, Prize tent, Food/drink/snack Concessions, Crafts, Small Game Coordinator, and Cake Walk Coordinator. If you'd like to get more involved and meet some fun new people than we encourage you to join this team! Please reach out to Melissa Jacoby at [meljacoby@gmail.com](mailto:meljacoby@gmail.com).

**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. There are *only a few slots left* - to sign up, either contact **Ilana Kaufman** at [kaufman.ilana@gmail.com](mailto:kaufman.ilana@gmail.com) or go to the Sign up Genius [link](#).

### Community

**Needham Community Council** is continuing to collect donations for the Food Pantry. See the flyer for the wish list of items they need the most. The Food Pantry accepts fresh and frozen foods at the NCC as well as dry goods. It's a great thing to do with your kids, and you can do it on your own schedule! For more information please contact Sarah Burns at [sarahmag18@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahmag18@yahoo.com).



NHS Student Council is happy to announce that there will be an annual bonfire on November 19th to support the Football Team in their Thanksgiving game against Wellesley. This event will be taking place in the upper parking lot of the high school from 5:45-7:00, and in the Cafeteria from 7:00-9:00 for an after party that includes entertainment and food. This event is open to all families and community members from all around Needham, so we hope to see you there!  
-NHS Student Council



Needham Youth & Family Services  
Request for Nominations of Adults Who Have Supported Youth and Families

Needham Youth Services is now accepting nominations for the Patrick and Patricia Forde Good Person Memorial Award. This award is designed to recognize a Needham adult who helps make the community a better place for youth and families through his/her volunteer work. The award is recognition that through volunteerism and caring, each person in the community is able to enhance Needham.

Nominations will be accepted until December 1, 2018 and a nomination form and additional information can be found at [www.needhamma.gov/youth/fordeaward](http://www.needhamma.gov/youth/fordeaward). For more information or to nominate a person, please contact Sara Shine at 781-455-7500 x265, email Sara at [sshine@needhamma.gov](mailto:sshine@needhamma.gov)

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## [Needham Public Library](#)

### **Tinker Thinkers Inventors' Club**

Children in Grades 1 and up  
Every Other Tuesday, 4-5 PM

Tinker Thinkers Inventors' Club for children in Grades 1 and up meets every other Tuesday through February. Children learn creative thinking and problem solving. They will create an original invention of their own. Children may enter their invention in a library contest with medals and certificates awarded. They may also chose to enter a regional Young Inventors contest. November's meetings are on November 6th and November 20th. Registration required. To register visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

### **Crazy 8's Math Club**

Wednesdays at 3:30 & 4:30  
Children in Grades K-5

Children will run, jump, make music, make a mess and have a lot of very active fun while learning math. It's a totally new kind of math club! There is a session at 3:30 for children in Grades K-2 and another session at 4:30 for children in Grades 3-5. Registration is required. To sign up, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

### **Pajama Storytime**

Children in Grades K-2  
Wednesday, November 7th 7:00 PM

Children are welcome to come in their pajamas and bring a favorite stuffed toy to enjoy a storytime presented by the Kappa Kappa Gamma Society of Babson College. Registration required. To register visit the Children's Desk at the library or call 781-455-7559 x 204

### **Family Book Club**

Children in Grades K-2  
Saturday, November 10th 2:30-3:30

Adults and children read 2 non-fiction picture books together at home and then come to discuss the books, learn more about the topic and the authors and enjoy related crafts and activities together. November's books are *Balloons Over Broadway* about the Macy's parade balloons by Melissa Sweet and *Ashley Bryan's Puppets* by Ashley Bryan. Books are available at the Children's Desk. Registration is required. To sign up visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

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Dear Families,

For the 8th consecutive year, Needham families will have an opportunity to host elementary and middle school age students from our sister schools in Beijing, China! This year, we are trying to find host families for **25 students** between the ages of **ten and twelve** years old. We've learned much from our previous exchanges, and the process has become smoother and more rewarding each time! This year's visiting students will arrive in Boston on December 1st and will stay at the homes of Needham host families from Sunday afternoon on **December 2** through Monday morning on **December 10**.

We are asking for families to participate in this program by opening their homes and welcoming these children. If room is available, some families in the past have found it helpful to take in two students. Some students are often more comfortable when they are paired with a friend.

**Because of the relatively short notice, we would appreciate knowing if you could host children by Monday, November 19.**

An *informational meeting* for families that are committed to hosting students will be held on **Tuesday, November 27 at 6:30pm in the High Rock Media Center**. Ying Liu and Wendy Wu, representatives from the sponsoring agency, Boston Ivy, will be on hand to share information and answer questions. Former and repeating host families will be there, as well, to share their past experiences.

*Some helpful information:*

- Chinese students have a varying degree of competence in English.
- We have set up communication tools to assist both host families and visiting children.
- Boston Ivy staff is available around the clock for any medical or emergency issue.
- There will be administrators and teachers from the children's school staying in a nearby hotel.
- All students have health insurance and will have money for purchasing souvenirs.
- Chinese students will ride the bus to and from school with the host family child if the host family uses the transportation service.
- The town provides lunch at school for the Chinese students and will receive a temporary PIN number for the cafeteria.
- There will be a database set up so multiple host families can connect in order to plan outings or social connections.
- It is not expected that you go out of your way to entertain these students. The main goals of their visit are to experience our culture and improve their English.

This program is one of a kind in Massachusetts (and probably the country) and it takes a village to keep it going! Please consider hosting a student or two. It will be a most enriching and memorable experience for your family and the student.

Again, we ask that you inform your **building principal** by **Monday, November 19** that you would like to host a student. Please let them know how many students you will host and your gender preference. If you have any questions, please contact the main office at your child's school, and the secretary will direct you to the principal for assistance.

In Partnership,

***Needham Elementary and Middle School Principals***

Broadmeadow: *Ms. Emily Gaberman*

Eliot: *Ms. Karen Bourn*

Hillside: *Mr. Michael Kascak*

Mitchell: *Mr. Gregory Bayse*

Newman: *Ms. Jessica Peterson*

High Rock: *Ms. Jessica Downey*

Pollard: *Ms. Tamatha Bibbo*



*The Needham Community Council is a private non-profit organization which supports people in Needham who have under-met health, educational or social needs and promotes volunteerism, community and a sense of shared responsibility.*

## **OCTOBER, 2018**      **FOOD PANTRY WISH LIST**

*Donation Site Open: Tues., Thurs. & Fri., 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Mon. & Wed. 8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. • Sat. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.*

**You can also order online at our NEW! Amazon.com Food Pantry wishlist**

***PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF DONATIONS OUTSIDE OUR DOOR  
WHEN THE BUILDING IS CLOSED!***

- **Paper Towels, Aluminum Foil**
- **Olive Oil, Canola Oil, Vegetable Oil**
- **Natural Cane or Brown Sugar**
- **Honey**
- **Brownie Mixes**
- **Cocoa**
- **Fresh Fruits & Veggies – all kinds**
- **Bath Soap**

***Items we can ALWAYS use include:***

*toilet paper, aluminum foil, tissues, paper towels, bar soap, dishwashing liquid, dishwasher detergent, liquid laundry soap, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste, jelly, coffee, cooking oil*

*Thanks to the fridge and freezers donated by Roche Bros. we can accept frozen foods, fresh produce, cheese, eggs and other perishable items including grocery store prepared meals*

*Thank you for delivering any perishable items inside to the Food Pantry*

- \* Please help our food pantry customers with storage and lifting issues by donating individual sizes rather than family sizes
- \* Please no opened or out of date items; nothing in glass

*Needham Community Council 570 Hillside Ave., Needham, MA 02494  
781-444-2415      [www.needhamcommunitycouncil.org](http://www.needhamcommunitycouncil.org)*