

Hillside News

December 7, 2018

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Main Office -- 781-455-0461



IMPORTANT DATES



- 07 Walk/Bike to School Day**
- 07 Family Fun Night — 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**
- 12 Delayed Opening — School Begins at 8:20 AM**
- 24 Winter Recess — Schools Closed 12/24-1/01; Reopen 1/02/19**

PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

PTC Highlights:

- Family Fun Night -- **TONIGHT from 6-8 PM - Volunteers desperately needed!**
- Support Hillside PTC and local business **Proud Mary** for a unique holiday shopping event — **December 12, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**. Make a night of it with friends!
- Annual **Coats for Kids** drive is on now until January 4, 2019!
- **School-wide Pajama Day** — December 21!
- Don't forget to upload your photos for the yearbook!
- Participate in the **Gift Book Program** today (**form is at the end of the Newsletter**)!
- Save the date...**Parent Winter Social — January 26th!**

Thank You!

Thank you to Superintendent Dan Gutekanst who joined us at our PTC meeting to update us on the Portrait of a Needham Graduate initiative, full day Kindergarten, construction of the Sunita Williams School and answered your questions. Also thank you to our new School Committee Liaison, Michael Greis, who came to the meeting to introduce himself.

Dan and Michael would like to encourage parents to attend the **public meeting on January 15th, 7:00 pm at Broadmeadow** as a show of support from the community for full-day Kindergarten in advance of the town voting to approve full-day K on January 22nd. Support at this meeting is also needed for the additional staff budgeting requirements of the Sunita Williams School.

If you were unable to attend the meeting but curious about what was discussed, meeting minutes will be posted to the PTC website shortly. Thanks to all who attended!

Thank you to **ALL the children and parents** who participated in today's Walk-to-School Day, **The Winter Walk**. We loved seeing the sidewalks full of Hillside students!

Upcoming Events

FAMILY FUN NIGHT is **TONIGHT** 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 at the door which includes the make-your-own sundaes! In addition, pizza and water will be available for purchase. **We are still desperately in need of volunteers - especially on the Games and the Sundae Station.** If you are planning on coming please consider volunteering for a short time slot. Sign-up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c4cacad22a5fa7-family2>). Any questions, please contact Jody Barnett @jodyskolnick@yahoo.com.

Do you want to find just the right gift for family and friends this holiday season while **supporting Hillside PTC** and new local business **Proud Mary?** If so come to our Holiday shopping event on **December 12th 6-8pm** at Proud Mary 1110 Great Plain Ave! **10% of the sale proceeds on the night will be donated to Hillside PTC.** Light refreshments will be available.

Hillside Cares is teaming up with the **Hillside Student Council** for the annual **Coats for Kids Drive** this winter season. We are collecting new or gently used coats in any size for local families in need. Used coats will be taken to Anton's Cleaners to be cleaned before they get distributed. If you have coats to donate please drop them in the bin in the lobby **by January 4th, 2019.**

SAVE THE DATE - Our next PTC meeting is on **January 23rd 2019 at 8.45am in the cafeteria** where we will get an update from Mr K on the Sunita Williams' construction. In advance of this meeting you can see the most recent photos of the Sunita Williams Elementary School on the Hillside website or click [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE - Give Hillside a **Frosty Farewell** at the Parent Winter Social on **January 26, 2019**. You do not want to miss this awesome event and *the opportunity to bid on some special Teacher Experiences!* Book the babysitter and stay tuned for more details! Tickets can be purchased on Ticketleap <https://hillside-ptc.ticketleap.com>. If you'd like to help out with this event please reach out to Social Committee Chair Angela DePaul angm77@aol.com.

PTC Fundraisers

Looking for holiday gift ideas?? Please consider the **Hillside PTC Gift Book Program**. When you donate \$15 to the Hillside PTC Gift Book Program, the name of the person to whom you are dedicating the book will have their name printed and posted into a book at the Hillside Media Center. All proceeds from this program directly benefit the Hillside Media Center. It's not only a great way to honor a special person in your life, but you're also contributing to the school community. To participate, please follow the instructions on the Gift Book Program form that is included at the end of this newsletter.

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!

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!

Seeking Volunteers

The PTC depends very heavily on parent volunteerism and cannot operate without volunteers. 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.

Community

'Tis the Season to Honor Educators with NEF Gift for Education Cards

Don't forget to honor a special teacher or VIP in your child's life by making a donation in his or her name to the Needham Education Foundation (NEF). **Gift for Education Cards** make it simple to show your gratitude, while providing vital support for the funding of NEF grants which allow both teachers and students to learn, experiment and explore.

NEF will send a card to your designated honoree(s) or you can purchase cards to personalize and hand deliver. New Pricing! All cards are now \$10 each.

Visit nefneedham.org to order cards online through December 16th. You may also purchase cards in person at Proud Mary, Roche Bros., Sudbury Farms and Volante Farms through December 31st. If you have questions, please contact Maureen Callahan at mcallahan@nefneedham.org.



Notes from Mrs. Greiff

Please see my "Letter to Parent/Guardian" at the end of this newsletter regarding Strep.

No More Spare Clothing In The Health Office

In the past, I have had very limited supply of clothing in the nurse's office, and without fail I never have the right size at the right time. Also, many of the children are reluctant to wear "someone else's" clothing. This year, I have decided to free up much needed space in the health office and get out of the clothing business!

I am requesting that you place a change of clothing in your child's backpack in the event your child's clothing becomes wet or soiled during the school day. Accidents have been known to occur: wet pants or mud or pasta sauce or spilled milk... it happens. If you could please place a t-shirt, sweat pants, underwear and a pair of socks in a plastic bag and place it in a little used compartment in your child's backpack it will enable your child to have what they need in the event of a clothing "emergency".

Thanking you in advance for your support and cooperation!

Debbie Greiff



Winter Concert Dates:

for Grades 3/4 Wednesday, January 9 at 8:45 AM (school audience); January 9 at 6:30 PM (for parents)

for Grade 5, Thursday, January 10 at 8:45 AM (school audience); January 10 at 6:30 PM (for parents)



Read to Tucker the Dog

Grades 1-5

Monday, December 10th, 4:00-5:30

Tucker is an adorable hound/shepherd mix who loves to be read to. Children in Grades 1-5 can make a 15-minute appointment to read aloud to Tucker. Visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x204 to schedule your appointment.

Family Activity Morning

Saturday, December 15th 10:00-11:30

Families with children of all ages are welcome to come explore arts and crafts projects together, play games and work on collaborative activities.

Family Book Club

Saturday, December 15th, 2:30

Grades K-2

Two non-fiction picture books will be shared aloud, followed by discussion and a craft or related activities. This month's selections are *The Hole Story of the Doughnut* by Pat Miller and *Gingerbread for Liberty! How a German Baker Helped Win the American Revolution* by Mara Rockliff. Copies of both books are available at the Children's Desk. Registration required. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x204.

Minecraft Workshop

Monday, December 17th 4:00-6:00

Grades 3-6

Come enjoy Minecraft design challenges! Empow Studio instructors will help children explore the fundamentals of electrical engineering using Redstone, an element that mimics electricity. Concepts in programming, architecture and pixel art will be covered. Computers will be provided. Registration is required and is limited. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x204.

All Elementary Schools

Toy Makers Workshop

Tuesday, December 18th 4:00 PM

Ages 6 and up

Children will engage in hands-on activities to make simple toys to take home. A simple project will be provided along with materials for children to create new toys from their imaginations. Toy Makers meets every other Tuesday through January 29th. Medals will be awarded at the last session for the most creative new toy ideas. Registration required. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x204.

Winter Decorations and Snow Slime

Wednesday, December 19th, 3:30

Ages 6 and up

Children will make winter-themed decorations out of applesauce and cinnamon and will create some snow slime to take home.

Yoga for Children

Saturday, December 22nd 10:30 am

Ages 5-9

Stretch out and relax in this free class taught by a professional Yoga instructor.

Bookventurers Book Club

Saturday, December 22nd 3:00

Grades 3-5

Children read the book then come to the meeting to discuss it and enjoy related activities. This month's book is **One Mixed-Up Night** by Catherine Newman. Two children run away to the Ikea store after closing for a night of couch jumping, pillow forts, unlimited soda refills along with surprises and secrets. Copies available at the Children's Desk. Registration required. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x204.

Free Movie: Christopher Robin

Friday, December 28th 2:00 PM

Rated PG, 104 Minutes

Christopher Robin is now a grown-up, working class family man who encounters his old childhood friend, Winnie-the-Pooh. Winnie helps Robin rediscover the joys of life.

The Needham Free Public Library will close at 1:00 PM on December 24. The library will be closed on December 25th. The library will close at 5:30 pm on December 31 and will be closed on January 1.



Parent Talk 7th Annual Summer Camp Fair
Wed Jan 23rd 6:30-8:30pm at 178 Rosemary Street
\$10 for non-members
<http://www.parenttalk.info/community/camp-fair.php>



Friday, December 7, 2018

6:00-8:00 pm

\$5 per Family
(pay at the door)

Come and join the Hillside Community for our very last FFN at Hillside!

Join us for an evening of DJ dancing, gym games, crafts, prizes and lots of fun! Say hello to some new and old friends.

Pizza & drinks will be available for purchase.

Get set to
dance and play
in your
favorite PJs!

This year's theme is the ever-favorite pajama party!

Back by popular
demand:
Make your own
sundaes!

Volunteers Needed!

Keep an eye out for the Sign-Up Genius sent by blast and on the PTC FB page.

*Student alumnae are welcome and encouraged to volunteer!
We love seeing you back at Hillside!*

Hillside Elementary School

Health Office

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Several students in Hillside have been diagnosed with strep throat.

Please take these precautions:

1. Watch your child for signs of sore throat and other signs of strep (headache, fever, stomachache, rash, swollen and tender neck glands). On occasion symptoms may be only a headache and stomachache, no sore throat at all.
2. If your child develops a sore throat and any of these other signs, please see your health care provider, tell her or him that another child in the program has strep, and ask to have your child tested for strep throat.
3. Tell us if your child has been diagnosed with strep infection.

Information about strep throat:

What is it? *Strep throat* is an infection caused by streptococcus bacteria. People with strep throat usually have a very red, painful throat, often with fever, and sometimes with headache, abdominal pain, and nausea and/or vomiting. Most sore throats, however, are caused by viruses and are not treated with antibiotics.

How do you get strep throat? *Strep throat* can affect persons of any age but is most common in children. The bacterium is spread person-to-person through secretions and is easily passed in households. It takes 2–5 days to become ill. People with strep throat are generally most infectious when they are sick. They continue to be infectious until they have received treatment for a day or so.

How is it diagnosed? A laboratory test, such as a throat culture or a rapid test is needed to confirm a strep infection.

How is it treated? Strep infections are usually treated with an oral antibiotic, starting either with characteristic symptoms or after a strep test is positive. Sometimes an injection of antibiotic may also be used to treat strep.

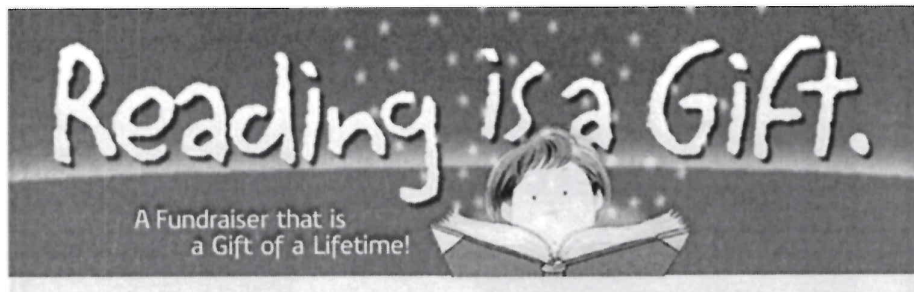
Why is it important that your child receive treatment? There are two main reasons:

1. **Treatment reduces spread.** If not treated or not treated long enough, your child may continue to spread the infection to other members of your family or to other children.
2. **Treatment with antibiotics can usually prevent rheumatic fever or other rare, but possibly dangerous complications.** Rarely, some children with strep throat can develop complications like blood infections or rheumatic fever, which can damage the heart or joints.

When can your child come back to the program? Children with strep infections may return to school after taking medicine for at least 24 hours and their fever is gone.

How do you stop the spread of strep throat?

1. Thoroughly wash your hands and your child's hands after wiping noses and before eating or preparing food.
2. Wash dishes carefully in hot, soapy water or in a dishwasher.
3. Do not allow the sharing of food or allow children to share cups, spoons, or toys that are put in the mouth.



Hillside Gift Book Program

Ever wonder about those nameplates in books your child brings home from the media center? Interested in dedicating a book to your child or someone you really cherish? It's so easy to do!

Complete the form below and send in a payment of \$15. When the donation is received, a bookplate will be put inside the cover of a special book to acknowledge the donor and honoree.

All proceeds directly benefit the Hillside Media Center!

In celebration of _____

OR

In honor of _____

Child's or Family's Name _____

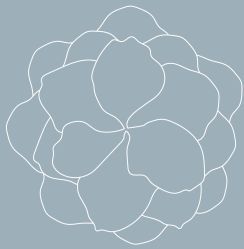
Please complete 1 form per book and include \$15 cash or check (payable to "Hillside PTC") per book with this form.

Parent's Name (please print)

Date

HILLSIDE PTC

IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE A HOLIDAY SHOPPING EVENT AT



PROUD Mary

— LIFE IS A GIFT —

LOOKING TO FIND THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFTS...?

Enjoy a unique and fun shopping experience with friends and support Hillside PTC and new local business Proud Mary at a Holiday shopping event.

10% of the sale proceeds from the night will be gifted to Hillside PTC.

Date: Wednesday, December 12 2018

Time: 6 til 8 pm

Location: Proud Mary, 1110 Great Plain Avenue, Needham, MA

Light refreshments provided by new local business and Needham resident - Le Petite Four

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Frosty Farewell

TO

HILLSIDE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2019

7:30PM

The Village Club

83 MORTON STREET
NEEDHAM, MA 02494

DANCING, TEACHER EXPERIENCE AUCTION,
RAFFLE AND MORE!

TICKETS ARE \$25/PP AND CAN BE PURCHASED AT:
HILLSIDE-PTC.TICKETLEAP.COM/FROSTY-FAREWELL-TO-HILLSIDE/

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE
HILLSIDE PTC ENRICHMENT FUND

"TO APPRECIATE THE BEAUTY OF A SNOWFLAKE IT IS
NECESSARY TO STAND OUT IN THE COLD."

-ARISTOTLE



Please donate!

Coats for Kids Fundraiser 2018-2019

The Hillside Student Council is participating in a fundraiser called, "Coats for Kids". We are collecting new or gently used coats in any size.

All donations can be placed in a box located in the lobby. Please make all donations by January 4, 2019. Thank you in advance!

