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Hillside News

March 15, 2019



IMPORTANT DATES

3/28 -- PreK-12 Early Release, 12:15 Dismissal



Rising 6th Grade Parent/Guardian Evenings

3/26 -- Introduction to High Rock School

(6:30 PM, Newman Auditorium)

3/26 -- Introduction to METCO Middle School Programming

(7:30 PM, Newman Auditorium)

4/03 -- Introduction to Special Education at High Rock School

(6:30 PM, High Rock School Library)

News from Mr. K...

The wonderful Leprechaun traps (created by our Kindergarteners) which have appeared in our school lobby is a positive sign that Spring is indeed about to arrive! However, another telltale sign of Spring, the change to Daylight savings time last week, highlighted a not so positive phenomena that we hope to nip in the bud. The number of students arriving tardy to school is growing. Over 50 students arrived late this past Monday, the first since the time change. There were less as the week progressed, but I still am enlisting the help of parents and families who do not use the buses to ensure everyone gets here on time. Research clearly indicates that the effect of chronic tardiness is detrimental to students of all ages. Students who start their school day late must contend with added stress and are not fully available for learning. We also need to make sure our diligent and hardworking fifth graders on the Student Sidewalk Detail get to their classes on time as well. If you are having difficulty getting your children here on time, please make the effort to leave your homes earlier. Or better yet, see if you can carpool with other families who can. Thank you in advance!

I encourage all of you to look at this month's [updated slide show](#) of the progress over at the Sunita Williams School. Teachers and staff are starting the complicated moving process in earnest this month, and I am so happy to report that we continue to be on time and under budget!

I hope you have a wonderful (and dare I add, Spring) weekend! Mr. K

PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

PTC Highlights:

- Join the PTC Board - Co-President and Assistant Treasurer openings
- Talent Show Volunteers Needed - [sign up here](#)
- Yearbooks Now on Sale! [Purchase Online](#)
- No Hillside/Eliot Basketball Game this year :(
- Cyclebar Event on Mar. 28 - Reserve your spot now!
- First Grade Cafeteria Volunteers Needed - Sign Up to Help Today!
- Seeking Festival of Cultures Participants - share your culture with our community!

The Latest Buzz:

Congratulations to our 5th Grade Hillside Hornet spellers who came in an impressive second place at the **NEF Spelling Bee!** **Sasha Gurchenov, Alex Jacoby, and Ananya Mulay** we are so proud of you! And nice job to our parent and teacher teams...thank you for representing Hillside so well!

Purchase Your Yearbook Now! There are two easy ways to order a copy of this year's special book: [Order online](#) by April 12th (see attached flyer for instructions); or complete the form sent home with your child and return to Hillside by April 12th. Please contact Samantha Shapiro at samshap333@hotmail.com with any questions.

Please note that due to use restrictions with the High School gymnasium there will not be a Hillside/Eliot Basketball game this year. We look forward to reinstating this much-loved tradition next year!

Open positions

We Need Your Help!

We are looking for our next **Co-PTC President** to join Vanessa Jones next year. If interested, please email Meg Rosenbaum (megrosenbaum11@gmail.com) or Vanessa Jones (vanessajones694@icould.com).

Assistant Treasurer Needed! Are you looking for a way to get more involved at Hillside but can't make it into the classroom during the day? Are you hoping to find a volunteer position you can do on your own time, either at home or at the office? We have the role for you! Join the Board of the PTC by assisting our Treasurer with various duties, including fulfillment/procurement for enrichment and creative arts grants, as well as reimbursement of volunteer out of pocket expenses. The majority of your responsibilities will involve online ordering and email communications with teachers/PTC committee members regarding their PTC funded purchases. No specific financial background is required. This is a great way to be "in the know" about the contributions of the PTC - offer input into how funds are spent, suggest new ideas, and overall have your voice be heard! If you are interested please contact Heidi at hillsidehornetsptc@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

The **2019 HILLSIDE TALENT SHOW** will be held on Friday, **April 5th at 6:30pm** at the Newman Elementary School. The show is guaranteed to be lots of fun! **We can't run this event without your help.** If you can help at the rehearsals or on the night please sign up [here](#). If you have any questions please contact the committee via our email box: hillsideptctalentshow@gmail.com.

CYCLEBAR EVENTS - Ride with us at **Cyclebar** in Wellesley, MA at 7:00 p.m. on **March 28th** to raise funds for the Hillside PTC and then join us for a drink at the Local (across the street). Cost is \$25/per rider. 100% of the proceeds go to the Hillside PTC. To reserve a bike, please register/sign-up [here](#). Please contact Erin Apstein (eringapstein@gmail.com) or Betsy Alperstein (balperstein@gmail.com) with any questions. We hope to see you there!

FESTIVAL OF CULTURES - Hillside is celebrating our 4th Annual Festival of Cultures on Friday, May 17th at 6.30pm in the Hillside gym. Come along to this fun event to see the creative displays from the participating countries. Please return the attached flyer if you would like to join in and share your country and culture with the Hillside community. We had 18 countries represented last year and would love to have a few more this year! If there are any questions please contact hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com.

Mark your Calendars! The next **PTC Meeting** is **April 24th** at 8:45am in the Hillside Cafeteria. More details to follow.

Hillside Cares

Please help us collect for Cradles to Crayons! Cradles to Crayons is collecting gently used clothes, shoes, coats, small toys and books for kids ages 0-14 for their annual **Needham Gives Back** event being held on **April 6**. C2C is always in need of NEW socks, underwear and pajamas as well!!! Please bring any donations you have to the bin in the Hillside lobby anytime during the month of March. Also, see the flyer attached below for information on volunteering at the event - and get your whole family involved in this great cause!

PTC Fundraisers

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

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS: The Yearbook Committee is in desperate need of MORE pictures for the yearbook. The Yearbook Committee needs them for all future and past events including First Day of School, Hillside Back-to-School Picnic, Family Fun Night, and classroom holiday celebrations. Please follow the instructions below and start submitting your photographs TODAY!!! Any questions, please contact Sam Shapiro @ samshap333@hotmail.com.

- 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:

More 1st Grade Cafeteria Volunteers Needed: We have many gaps in cafeteria volunteer coverage for First Grade lunch. If you do have any daytime availability (even if it is just once this whole spring), please consider signing up for a shift. It makes a huge difference for the cafeteria workers and first graders, and provides a great opportunity to interact with your student and all their classmates during the day. If you are able to sign up, please do so for the soonest dates you are available, so we can ensure the rest of March has proper coverage.

Thank you to all of you that have volunteered so far! To sign up, either contact Ilana Kaufman at kaufman.ilana@gmail.com or go to the Sign up Genius [link](#).

The **Calendar Raffle** committee is looking for help. If you would like to be involved please contact April Crawford (aacrawford44@gmail.com).



OPEN HEARING ON SCHOOL CHOICE

The Needham School Committee will hold an open hearing on the School Choice Program at its meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Broadmeadow School Performance Center, 120 Broadmeadow Road. The School Choice Program allows parents to send their children to schools in communities other than the city or town in which they reside. School districts may elect not to enroll school choice students if space is not available. All interested parties are invited to attend.



The Carter Nursery School, 800 Highland Ave., Needham will host a carnival and silent auction from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 16. The carnival is a fun filled, indoor event with circus-themed games, crafts and activities, a bounce house and face painting for ages 2-7 along with a special visit from Paw Patrol's Chase from 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.carternurseryschool.com.

Growing up Other in Suburbia -- A different kind of forum. Young adults return to Needham to share their personal stories on how they navigated living and attending school while being other.
April 7, 4-6pm. First Parish UU. 23 Dedham Avenue, Needham



STEAM Center

Grades 1-5

The Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math Center is located inside the Craft Room i the Children's Room of the Needham Free Public Library. Children can explore computer coding, robotics, electronics and engineering using our board games, toys, science kits, robots and more! Just drop in and explore! The STEAM Center is open:

Mondays 5:30-8:30 PM

Tuesdays 5:30-8:30 PM

Wednesdays 3:30-8:30 PM

Thursdays 3:30-6:00 PM

Fridays 3:30-5:00 PM

Saturdays 9:00 - 4:30

Sundays 1-6:30

Holi - Festival of Colors

Saturday, March 16th 2:30 PM

All Ages

Celebrate Holi - the Festival of Colors. Indian classical dancers in beautiful traditional costumes will perform three different styles of dance - Kathak, Bharatnatyam and Kuchipudi. Come drop in to have fun and see the colors fly!

Get Your Game On with One Up Games

Tuesday, March 26th 4:00 -6:00 PM

Ages 10 and up

Experience Virtual Reality and play around on the best electronic games! One Up Games will be providing a freeplay event. Platforms will include PlayStation 4, PlayStation Virtual Reality, Xbox One and Nintendo Switch. Registration is required. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

All Elementary Schools

Free Movie Showing

Ralph Breaks the Internet (Rated PG, 112 minutes)

Friday, March 29th 3:15 PM

Will Vanellope von Schweetz, star of the video game Sugar Rush, become homeless when her arcade game breaks? Not if Wreck It Ralph can help it. He and Vanellope venture into the internet to find a replacement part, but will the internet ever be the same?

All Elementary Schools

Yoga for Children

Saturday, March 30th 10:30 AM

Ages 5-9

Children are invited to drop in to stretch out and relax with a professional children's yoga instructor.

Bookventurers Book Club

Saturday, March 30th 3:00 PM

Grades 3-5

Children in Grades 3-5 are invited to read the book, discuss it with others and enjoy fun activities. This month's book is *The*

Trail by Meika Hashimoto. Toby is a boy determined to hike the Appalachian Trail through the mountains to keep a pact with his best friend Lucas. On the trail alone, Toby faces bears, loneliness, fear and a lost dog. Then the storm comes. This is an exciting story of adventure and survival. Copies available at the Children's Desk. Registration required. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.
register or for more information, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

Knitting with Friends

Grades 3-9

Mondays at 4:00 PM

Learn how to knit, or just enjoy knitting with others and completing fun knitting projects. Registration required. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204



The Student Council is working with Cradles to Crayons to collect items for families in need. We are collecting from Monday, March 18th to Friday, April 12th. There will be a box in the lobby for the items. The following items are what we are collecting:

PJs- size 2T and up

Boys jeans and khakis- size 10

Shoes-Boys and girls- size 0-12

Boys coats- size 10-12

Boys clothing- size 12

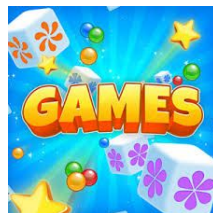
Hygiene items

Games-board games

Books



All Items must be new or gently used



ORDER YOUR HILLSIDE ELEMENTARY YEARBOOK ONLINE TODAY

Step 1: Visit <https://www.memorybook.com/online-pay/parent-pay/>

Step 2: Enter the Hillside code: 026532 and go to your “school store login/registration”

Step 3: Click on the hyperlink below the school name

Step 4: Where it says “new user?” Click Register. Create a user ID and password.

Step 5: On the Product page click “Standard Yearbook” and follow the ordering process, including the “add child” prompt.

Each yearbook is \$15.



ORDER
ONLINE
THROUGH
FRIDAY,
APRIL 12TH.

Contact the Hillside Yearbook
Committee with any questions at:
hillsideyearbook2019@gmail.com

**Cradles
toCrayons**

Providing the essentials for childhood.

NEEDHAM GIVES BACK!

OUR 11TH ANNUAL DAY OF SERVICE AND GIVING!

Saturday, April 6

10:00a – 1:00p

WE NEED YOUR STUFF!

Bring your gently used or new items to the Needham High School Cafeteria on Saturday April 6th, drop off hours are from 9am – 12pm*

**you can also drop off on Friday eve April 5, from 5-6p*

DONATE!

We need your gently used clothes, shoes, coats, small toys, and books for kids, ages 0-14

Clean out your closets for a good cause!

VOLUNTEER!

Come with your family!

Sort, organize and pack donations.

10a-1p

WE NEED YOU!

It takes an army of volunteers to get the job done! So come, help, and bring your kids....

Everything will be delivered to C2C and distributed to children in need all over Massachusetts!

If you would like to help, families participate together!

To volunteer, please email us at:

Needham@CradlesToCrayons.org



Hillside Elementary School Festival of Cultures Friday, May 18 @ 6.30pm

Please join us to to celebrate the rich diversity of cultures that make the Hillside Elementary School community. It's a fun and free family event. Families will be invited to visit tables which will include country information, activities and materials in an engaging way. Children attending the event will be given passports which will be stamped at each country they visit.

Please be in touch if you would like to participate and share your country and culture.

- Examples of table displays from previous festivals:



My family would like to host a table display of our native country.
Country:

Primary Contact name:

Primary Contact's e-mail address:

Please give this form to your child's teacher or email the contact details to hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com by April 20