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# Hillside News

April 12, 2019



## IMPORTANT DATES

4/15 -- Schools Close for Spring Recess  
4/22 -- Schools Reopen  
4/24 -- PTC Meeting, 8:45 a.m.



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## News from Mr. K...

Mr. K and the Hillside Office Staff wish you all a wonderful and relaxing vacation. Safe travels to all!!



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## PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

### *PTC Highlights:*

- **EXTENDED!** Online Yearbook purchases have been extended until April 24. Follow [link](#) to purchase.
- Seeking Festival of Cultures Participants - share your culture with our community!
- PTC meeting April 24 at 8:45am Hillside Cafeteria
- May 1 - Massachusetts walk to school day

- **Save the Date for Hillside's Last Spring Carnival - Sat, 6/8**
- **Save the Date for the Fifth Grade Party - Fri, 6/14**
- **Soliciting donations for the Calendar Raffle**
- **Seeking new Chair for Hillside Cares Committee**

### **The Latest Buzz:**

Thank you to [April Crawford](#), [Kim McCullum](#) and [Lauren Schneider](#) for producing a fabulous talent show last Friday. We are really proud of all the children and our supportive school community. Bravo!!!

**ONLINE yearbook purchase deadline EXTENDED.** The last ever Hillside yearbook is looking amazing - you won't want to miss out! [Order online](#) by April 24th (see attached flyer for instructions). Please contact Samantha Shapiro at [samshap333@hotmail.com](mailto:samshap333@hotmail.com) with any questions.

**Soliciting Donations for the Calendar Raffle!!** It's feeling like spring and it's time for the Hillside Spring Raffle! This year, the raffle will run from June 3rd – June 7th, with prizes awarded every school day. Raffle tickets will be sold ahead of and during the week, so that everyone in the community will have an opportunity to try and win the donated prizes! The Calendar Raffle Co-chairs **need your help** in *collecting donated gift cards, items or experiences that Hillside students and families would enjoy winning during our raffle week in June.* If you have a connection with any local businesses, please consider donating a gift certificate or prize to our raffle. Neighborhood gifts are also a big hit...consider gathering money with neighbors and purchasing a fun item like movie/dinner gift cards, Beats headphones, sports event tickets, etc. This annual fundraiser helps the Hillside PTC raise much needed funds to support the PTC-sponsored enrichment programs. It also offers participants the opportunity to win some great prizes. Please be in touch with [Jen Schaffstein](#) at [leonardschaffstein@yahoo.com](mailto:leonardschaffstein@yahoo.com) with ideas, connections or items.

We hope you all have a fun and refreshing April vacation!

### **Upcoming Events**

**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](mailto:hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com).

**Mark your Calendars!** The next **PTC Meeting** is **April 24th** at 8:45am in the Hillside Cafeteria. Come for coffee and hear about the latest happenings from our PTC Co-Presidents and Mr. K! At this meeting we will also be electing a PTC Co-President. We hope to see you there!

Please **SAVE THE DATE** of **June 8, 2019** for our last **Spring Carnival!** We hope you'll join us as we say goodbye to Hillside in grand style with our "fun for the whole family" event. We'll have inflatables, dunk tank, baby zoo animals and more! The event will be held from 4pm-7pm so plan on grabbing dinner at the Captain Marden's food truck and be ready for a great evening! More details to follow.

**Fifth Grade Families - SAVE THE DATE** of **June 14, 2019** for the PTC-sponsored and much loved **Fifth Grade Party!** This party will be held after school at the Boston Sports Club indoor complex in Wellesley. Our fifth graders will have fun swimming in the indoor pool, playing basketball and laser tag, and celebrating the end of their Hillside careers with their classmates. Stay tuned for more details.

### **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!

## Seeking Volunteers - Open Positions

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:

**Hillside Cares Coordinator** - Hillside Cares is responsible for community outreach and volunteerism. This valuable component of our student's education shows children the importance of giving back to your community. The Coordinator organizes Hillside's participation in Cradles to Crayons clothing drives, Needham Community Council events, Candy for Troops, etc. If interested or want to learn more, please contact Sarah Burns ([sarahmag18@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahmag18@yahoo.com)) or Vanessa Jones ([vanessajones694@icloud.com](mailto:vanessajones694@icloud.com)).

**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](mailto: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](mailto:aacrawford44@gmail.com)).



## Helpful Advice From Mrs. Greiff

### Spring Has Sprung... Here are a few helpful reminders:

Many of our students are starting to feel some effects of seasonal allergies. There are a broad range of symptoms which may include:

- Sneezing
- Runny nose (Clear)
- Nasal congestion
- Itchy, watery, red eyes
- An itchy throat
- Dry cough
- Disturbed sleeping patterns
- Loss of taste and sense of smell

If your child has experienced any of these symptoms in past years, this may be a good time to check in with your pediatrician to discuss a treatment plan for seasonal allergies.



### Tick Removal

Examine your children frequently for ticks, especially after they have been out in wooded or grassy areas. If you find a tick attached, there's no need to panic. There are several tick removal devices on the market, but a plain set of fine-tipped tweezers will remove a tick quite effectively.

## How to remove a tick

1. Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
2. Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If you are unable to remove the mouth easily with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.
3. After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water.

## Signs and Symptoms of Lyme Disease

If you had a tick bite, live in an area known for Lyme disease or have recently traveled to an area [where it occurs](#), and observe any of these symptoms, you should seek medical attention!

- Red, expanding rash called erythema migrans (EM)
- Fatigue, chills, fever, headache, muscle and joint aches, and swollen lymph nodes

Some people may get these general symptoms in addition to an EM rash, but in others, these general symptoms may be the only evidence of infection. Some people get a small bump or redness at the site of a tick bite that goes away in 1-2 days, like a mosquito bite. This is not a sign that you have Lyme disease.



## Erythema migrans (EM) or "bull's-eye" rash

- Rash occurs in approximately 70-80% of infected persons and begins at the site of a tick bite after a delay of 3-30 days (average is about 7 days).
- Rash gradually expands over a period of several days, and can reach up to 12 inches (30 cm) across. Parts of the rash may clear as it enlarges, resulting in a "bull's-eye" appearance.
- Rash usually feels warm to the touch but is rarely itchy or painful.
- EM lesions may appear on any area of the body.



## Bike Safety Tips

We can make bicycling safer for all by observing the following safety tips:

- Always wear a helmet
  - Obey all traffic controls
  - Ride your bicycle near the right-hand edge of the road
  - **Never carry another person on your bicycle**
  - Always use hand signals when turning or stopping
  - Look out for cars at cross street, driveways, and parking places
  - Be careful when checking traffic and don't swerve when looking over your shoulder
  - Give pedestrians the right-of-way
  - Keep your bicycle in good condition
  - Always ride carefully
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## 2019 SEPAC AWARDS

### Now Accepting Nominations!

Each year, SEPAC recognizes Needham Public School employees who are truly exceptional, and have gone above and beyond in their work with students with special needs. Award winners include teachers, specialists, administrators, and staff members who have been nominated by SEPAC members.

If you know of an outstanding educator who you think should be recognized with an award for their work, please submit a nomination by April 26th using the link to the form below. Nominations may be submitted by current students or their family members, but we can accept only one nomination per household. The identities of all nominators will be kept confidential, and are not shared with the nominees at any time. The 2019 SEPAC Awards Ceremony will be held May 16th, 7:00-8:30 pm, in the Eliot Performance Center. We hope you can join us. Please contact Hilary Bruel or Alisa Skatrud at [awards@needhamsepac.org](mailto:awards@needhamsepac.org) if you have questions about the nomination process.

Don't miss **VOCAL SUPPORT '19, NHS a cappella concert** benefiting The American Cancer Society, Saturday, April 27 at 7:30pm at Newman auditorium. Featuring NHS a cappella groups and special guests from Wellesley HS and Weston HS. Purchase tickets online at [www.nhsfriendsofmusic.org/tickets](http://www.nhsfriendsofmusic.org/tickets) (\$10 for students/seniors, \$15 for adults).

## ANNOUNCING THE 2019 NEEDHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT CONFERENCE:

"Strong Community, Nurturing Parents, Healthy Kids"

Sunday May 5, 2019 at Pollard Middle School, 8:30 AM-1:00 PM

Featuring nationally-recognized author Lynn Lyons, LICSW, who will be giving a 2-hour keynote presentation titled "Preventing Anxiety and Depression: Skills We Can (and SHOULD!) Be Teaching Our Children". Afterwards, parents can participate in 1 of 8 interactive workshops lead by subject-matter experts from the local area.

Pre-register at: <https://tinyurl.com/NMSConference2019>



## Pansy Day Festival at the the Needham History Center

Saturday, April 13th, 10am - 3pm [www.needhamhistory.org](http://www.needhamhistory.org)

Ponies, Bounce House, Scavenger Hunt, The Hot Dog Man and of Course Pansies!

**The Plugged In Band Program** is offering an April Vacation Camp for kids ages 11-18 of all skill levels. The camp will take place April 15-19 from 9:00-3:00 (with optional extended day). For more information, please call 781-444-1879 or visit [www.pluggedinband.org](http://www.pluggedinband.org).

Sunday, April 28, the 14th annual **Needham Pitch Hit and Run** skills competition will be held at DeFazio Park, beginning at 12 pm following the Needham Baseball and Softball annual parade and festivities. The competition is free to all kids, 7-14 years old. Pre-register online at <http://bit.ly/PHRNeedham2019> or 11 am prior to the event. The PHR is the Official Skills Competition of Major League Baseball offering the opportunity advance to the Sectional Level of Competition, as well as have the chance to compete at Fenway Park in June, and the MLB™ All-Star Game® in July.

## **Parent Talk Spring Used Clothing, Toy & Equipment Sale**

Saturday, May 5 8:30 am-12:45 pm at the Eliot Elementary School, 135 Wellesley Avenue, Needham

For more info email [clothingsale@parenttalk.org](mailto:clothingsale@parenttalk.org) or go to <http://www.parenttalk.info/community/used-clothing-toy-sale.php>

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### **STEAM Center Hours**

Mon-Wed 3:30-8:30

Thursday - 3:30-5:30

Friday - 3:30-5:00

Saturday - 9:00-4:30

Sunday - 1:00-6:30

Drop in to program a robot, build a marble run or snap some circuits together. Explore robotics, computer coding, electricity and engineering using our toys, games and equipment.

### **Plumb Landing**

Saturday, April 13th 10:00 AM

You have seen it on TV on WGBH Channel 2. Now you can come do it at the Needham Free Public Library! Plumb is a friendly alien who has landed on Earth. She is trying to find out how nature works on Earth so she can report it back to her planet - Blorb. Children ages 6 and up are invited to come for hands-on activities, games and more that help us learn about nature. Participants will receive a free Amazon gift card from WGBH. Registration is required. To register visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

All Elementary Schools

### **School Vacation Week Program**

#### **Free Movie Showing**

**Mary Poppins Returns** (Rated PG, 131 Minutes)

Jane and Michael Banks grew up into loving and responsible adults. When Michael becomes a single father of three children after the death of his wife, Mary Poppins revisits the Cherry Tree Lane home to try to help Michael and his family cope and move beyond their grief. Mary Poppins' message to Michael, Annabel, John, George and Ellen, the family's housekeeper, about enjoying life and loved ones is still the same as it was when Jane and Michael were children.

### **School Vacation Week Program**

#### **Magician Robert Clarke**

Wednesday, April 17th, 2:30 PM

Robert Clarke will perform amazing magic tricks and astounding juggling feats in a high energy, fast paced, fun-filled family show appropriate for children ages 4 and up. Be ready to clap, cheer and enjoy this interactive performance.

### **Yoga for Children**

Saturday, April 27th, 10:30 AM

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

### **Needham Free Library at Science on State Street**

Saturday, April 27th 11:00 - 3:00

At the Christie McAuliffe Center at Framingham State University

100 State Street, Framingham, MA

Science on State Street is a science festival for families with 50 exhibits, hands on activities for children and free shows in the planetarium. Visit the Needham Free Public Library table at this event to make a pinhole telescope to take home; learn how lenses and telescopes work and use a digital microscope.

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# 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](mailto:hillsideyearbook2019@gmail.com)



## LET'S BUILD: ENGINEERING FUN FOR KIDS

*Hillside Families and Friends (with CORI forms) are invited to volunteer with Let's Build, a fun, in-classroom engineering opportunity!*

Grade				
K	KD PM 4/1 12:15 - 1:30	KM PM 4/1 1:30 - 2:45	KM AM 4/3 8:30 - 9:45	KD AM 4/3 10 - 11:15
2	2G 4/8 10:15-11:45	2D 4/8 12:45-2:15	2H 4/10 10:15-11:45	2W 4/10 12:45-2:15
1	1T 6/3 9:00-10:15	1B 6/3 12:30-1:45	1A 6/4 10:15-11:30	1F 6/5 12:30-1:45
4	4H 6/12 9:00-10:30	4K 6/12 12:30-2	4B 6/13 9:00-10:30	

Grade K – Bears Across the Atlantic (Sink Float)

Grade 2 – Puff Mobiles (Wind/Air)

Grade 1 – Waterwheels (Properties of Water)

Grade 4 – Circuit Challenge! (Electricity/Circuits)

## Calling Hillside Volunteers!



To volunteer  
email

**Liz Lee at**

[info@letsbuildengineering.org](mailto:info@letsbuildengineering.org)

LET'S BUILD:  
ENGINEERING FUN FOR  
KIDS



Needham, MA

[www.letsbuildengineering.org](http://www.letsbuildengineering.org)  
[info@letsbuildengineering.org](mailto:info@letsbuildengineering.org)





# Hillside Elementary School Festival of Cultures Friday, May 17 @ 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](mailto:hillsidefestivalofcultures@gmail.com) by April 20