

[Michael Kascak](#), Principal

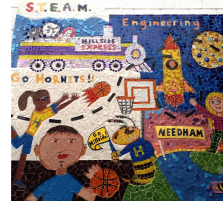
[Erin Vacaro](#), Assistant Principal

[Lori Donovan](#), Lead Secretary

Main Number: 781-455-0461

Hillside News

May 24, 2019



IMPORTANT DATES

- 5/27 -- No School -- Memorial Day
- 5/28 -- Spring Concert - Grades 3 and 4 Plus Beginning Strings & Band, School Audience Only
- 5/29 -- Spring Concert - Grade 5 Plus Advanced Strings & Band, School Audience Only
- 5/31 -- Spring Concert at 8:45 AM -- All Performing Groups, Parent Audience



- 6/06 -- No AM or PM Kindergarten due to incoming K screenings and tours. AM/PM KASE will be in session.
- 6/08 -- Spring Fling Carnival, 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- 6/11 -- PreK-8 Early Release 12:15 PM
- 6/19 -- Last Day of School; Early Release 12:15 PM



News from Mr. K...

Please mark your calendars for an important meeting on June 12th. We will share a virtual tour of the new Sunita Williams Elementary School and go over the logistics being put in place to ensure a successful opening of our new school. I am happy to report that construction is still on schedule. However, at this point, it is unlikely that we will be able to open the school to the families prior to the first day of school on Tuesday, September 3rd. The logistics we will cover that night will include drop-off and pick-up procedures, walking routes, diagrams, most recent photos and, where possible, video clips of the school's interior and outdoor spaces. I hope you can join us that evening here in our gym at 6:30 pm.

I want to share a big shout out to our inspiring art teacher, Jennie Bates, and our wonderful student artists! This week's art show, the last one here at Hillside, was fittingly the best attended show we ever had! Every first to fifth grader has at least one piece on display and everything on display, from the cherry blossom inspired water colors to the stop motion movies and the sculptures and pillows with QR code descriptions, illustrates not only our students'

talent but also their incredible hard work. The art show will still be up through next week when our Spring concerts will happen, giving us all another chance to enjoy more talent and hard work from our Hillside third, fourth and fifth graders. Hope to see you there!

In the meantime, wishing you a wonderful long weekend and a safe unofficial start of summer!

Mr. K

PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

PTC Highlights:

- **Spring Carnival Volunteers Needed - sign up for a slot today**
- **Submit raffle tickets for chance to win big in the Calendar Raffle!**
- **5th Grade Slideshow - submit your photos**
- **The PTC needs you! Check out the open Committee Chair Positions for 2019/20**

We hope you enjoy the upcoming Memorial Day weekend!!! To help kick off the long weekend, today we celebrated **Hillside Day**. The PTC provided popsicles for all students, teachers and staff!!

Thank you

Thank you to the many parents that turned out for our last **PTC meeting** of the year. Techmom, Kerry Hurwitch, recommended many useful tips for managing technology at home - very timely as we head into the summer months when our kids' screen time usage ramps up. Mr. K also provided many important details about the upcoming school year. Thanks to all who attended!

A BIG, BIG THANK YOU to Robin Schauman, Clare Currie, Doris Tam and Gauri Malthankar for organizing and hosting a wonderful **Festival of Cultures!!!** We had many families who participated in this wonderful event showcasing food, dance, and other cultural highlights from countries around the world. It's always such a special way to celebrate the diversity at Hillside and this year's event was better than ever!

The Latest Buzz:

Thank you to those who have already signed on to help fill **Open Committee Chair Roles** for the next school! We are still looking to fill some openings. Remember, we cannot run the many events and programs for our community, that help build and strengthen our community, if we don't have people in these positions willing to take on these roles. There are positions to suit all levels of time commitments for both working parents and stay-at-home parents. **All of these roles can be shared between 2 (or more!) people so consider grabbing a friend or two and helping run one of the events/programs looking for new Committee Chairs:**

2019/20 Chair positions:

- Candy Bar Bingo Chair
- Calendar Raffle Chair
- Creative Arts Co-Chair
- Festival of Cultures Chair
- First Grade Cafeteria Chair

- Sunita Williams Green Team Chair
- Staff Appreciation Chair

2019/20 Shadow/Apprentice Roles which will transition into 2020/21 Chair Role:

- Communications Email Blasts
- Enrichment Grants
- Walk/Bike to School

If you want more information about what is involved in each of the positions, please contact Vanessa Jones vanessajones694@icloud.com. We would love to have you join the team!

TICKETS are ON SALE NOW for the Calendar Raffle!!! The Raffle letter came home in your child's/children's backpacks this week announcing all of the great prizes! Tickets are now on sale and the first drawing will be held on Monday June 3rd. Drawings will take place, winners will be announced, and prizes will be awarded every day from June 3-7th, 2019. This fundraiser helps the PTC support enrichment programs at Hillside. It also offers participants the chance to win some great prizes!! This year your family could win a pass to TreeTop Adventures, an ice cream party with Mr. K., a Kings Bowling party, or a Newport Night with hotel and restaurant gift cards (and many more)! Any questions? Please contact Jen Schaffstein at leonardschaffstein@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Events



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, cake walk, face painting 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 to celebrate our last ever event at Hillside! The Spring Carnival needs a lot of volunteers to help the day run smoothly. If you are able, please sign up for a timeslot [here](#). **We are also looking for bakers for the cake walk.** This is a beloved game that needs lots of cake - the more cakes, the more fun for our children! Please return the form at the end of the newsletter if you are able to buy or bake a cake.

FIFTH GRADE YEAR-END ACTIVITIES

Fifth grade parents should have received an email blast with information on the many fun events planned to celebrate the end of our fifth graders' time at Hillside. Here is a summary of **what you need to do**:

Photos Needed for the 5th Grade Slideshow! The slideshow will be shown to the fifth grade class after lunch on Field Day. Our goal is to have lots of fun pics from throughout the years. We know lots of parents have taken pics from school events, class parties and just general class visits. Anything you can send in that highlights this cohort of kids between the kindergarten through 5th grade years at Hillside will make the slideshow that much better. While we love all the kids at Hillside, we do encourage to send pics that highlight this current class of 5th graders. **We need all pics by May 31st** and will start going through and selecting ones for the slide show as they come in. **TO SEND IN PICS FOR THE SLIDESHOW:** Submit pics to our [Google pics link](#) or email them to Caitrin Dunphy caitrin.dunphy@gmail.com. Any questions, please email Caitrin Dunphy.

The **5th Grade Party** is on **Friday, June 14th from 4-6 pm** at the Boston Sports Club in Wellesley (140 Great Plain Ave, Wellesley). *All children need to have a BSC waiver signed by their parents in order to participate. Please do this in advance of the party by following this link Thank you to all those who have volunteered for party - the sign up genius is FULL! We respectfully remind you that only 5th Grade parents who have signed up to volunteer will be able to attend the party and we ask that no siblings accompany you.*

Fifth Grade **Field Day** will be during the school day on **Tuesday, June 18th**. Field Day is a day of fun-filled outdoor fun with games, obstacle courses and other team activities coordinated by the PE Department and the 5th grade teachers. *Parents are asked to join that day only if they are able to help run the various stations in the morning, organize and serve lunch, or manage the candid camera activity in the afternoon.* Please click on this [link](#) to sign up for a slot to volunteer on Field Day.

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 - Current School Year

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: As we head into the last month of school, we still need a few lunchtime volunteers and are asking if you can sign up, please do so! 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. 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](#).

OPEN POSITIONS: As you have read above, we are looking to fill the Chair/Co-Chair positions for the **2019-2020 School Year**. If you would like more information on any of these volunteer roles please contact Vanessa Jones (vanessajones694@icloud.com).

More Hillside News...



A From Mrs. Doran...

The last **Hillside Spring Concerts** are coming up at the end of the month (see attached flyer). Here are the dates:

Tuesday, May 28, 8:45 AM to 9:30 AM (School Audience Only)
Beginning Strings, Beginning Band (Grade 4) and Fourth Grade Chorus

Wednesday, May 29, 8:45 AM to 9:30 AM (School Audience Only)
Advanced Strings, Advanced Band and Fifth Grade Chorus)

Friday, May 31, 8:45 AM to 10:00 AM
All performing groups will present for Parent Audience

We hope to see you there!!



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



Liven Up Your Summer -- Care for a Science Center Animal

Do you have a soft spot for a critter that's furry, feathered, or scaled? The Science Center is looking to adopt out our live animals over summer break. We'll give you training, written instructions, and an initial food supply. Adoption months will be approximately mid-June through mid-September. For more information, contact the Science Center: sciencecenter@ka12.ma.us. Or, call the Newman School and ask to be transferred to the Science Center: 781-455-0416.

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Spring Sale of the Friends of the Needham Public Library will be held on Friday, May 31 from 12:30-4:30, Saturday, June 1 from 9:00-4:00, and Sunday, June 2 from 1:00-4:00. Sunday is bargain day with all books half-price and a brown bag of books is \$8.00. For further information, visit the Friends' website <http://friendsneedhamlibrary.org> or call 781-455-7559.

The Needham Street Fair will be held on **Saturday, June 1**, from 10:00 am-2:00 pm on the Town Common. Experience fun for the whole family at Needham's biggest annual community event!

- Enjoy Touch the Trucks, Trolley & Pony Rides, Photo Booth, Bouncy House, Face Painting and much more.
- Soak in performances featuring neighborhood talent.
- Sample fare from Needham restaurants.
- Stop by our local business and organization booths.

For more information about the event, please go to www.nnchamber.com



Annual Pan Mass Kids Ride

Please join us for the 3rd Annual Pan Mass Kids Ride in Needham Sunday June 9th! This is a wonderful family event where kids ride their bikes and raise money to fight cancer. The ride will once again will take place at Pollard Middle School, 8:15am-12pm, and includes a post ride party. Register @ www.kids.pmc.org/needham. For more info, please contact: Liz Mingle Elizabeth.mingle@gmail.com

Needham Youth & Family Services

The Youth & Family Services Department is offering new and fan favorite summer programs! Check out the new Summer brochure online www.needhamma.gov/youth. It's also that time of year to submit your applications for the 2019/2020 school year to participate in the Peer Tutor and VIP programs. Be sure to get in your registration forms and applications before they fill up. If you have questions regarding programs, please contact Kristin Scoble at kscoble@needhamma.gov.

Being a parent is something you wouldn't change for the world—but doing it alone can sometimes drive you to exhaustion. Are you a single parent interested in participating in a group addressing issues such as time management, raising healthy children, taking care of yourself, while at the same time getting to know other single parents? Join this FREE 6-week program; childcare is provided onsite, and a light dinner will be served for parents and children. Registration Deadline is July 1.

For information and to register, contact: **Katy Colthart, LICSW** at 781-455-7500 x264 or by email at kcolthart@needhamma.gov, www.needhamma.gov/youth



Looking for a Part-Time Job?

The **Needham Police Department** is seeking qualified individuals for the position of **Crossing Guards**.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES: Duties will include supervision of school children as they cross the street on their way to/from school at an assigned post. A valid driver's license and dependable motor vehicle is required. It is imperative that Crossing Guards are dependable, since we do not have the ability to cover unnecessary absences. Crossing Guards must possess stamina to stand for long periods of time and the ability to work and drive in all weather conditions with exposure to traffic.

HOURS OF WORK: 7am – 8:30am (approximately) and 2pm – 3pm (approximately). This is a part-time position with no benefits; however, there are additional jobs that may be suitable for crossing guards during their off hours and during the summer.

CURRENT RATE: \$20.65/hour

INTERESTED? Please visit: <http://www.needhamma.gov/jobs.aspx> for an application. If you should have any questions, please contact Officer Karl Harmon at kharmon@needhamma.gov

The Needham Community Farm announces new Family Gardening Classes for Spring, Summer and Fall.

The hands-on classes are designed for families with young children, require no previous experience, and materials and tools are provided. For more information and to register, visit the website at www.NeedhamFarm.org, or call Susan Shaver at 781-343-1106.

Citizens for Needham Schools — Apply to be a Board Member

CNS is seeking board members who are politically and civically engaged with an interest in issues related to education and the Needham school system. The Board engages in robust conversation and welcomes diverse viewpoints. CNS Board members serve a three-year term and responsibilities include attending 5-6 CNS Board meetings, watching and writing summaries of 2-3 School Committee meetings, and engaging with and providing school-related information to the community on an ongoing basis via social media, school meetings, and your personal network.

[Learn more about CNS](#)

[Apply now](#)



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.

Register for Summer Reading!

A Universe of Stories

May 1-July 29th

Sign up for Summer Reading at the Children's Desk of Needham Free Public Library or call 781-455-7559 x 204. Registration begins May 1. Sign up through June 29th. Read and log the time spent reading in a paper or online reading log starting June 24th -August 9th. Earn prizes. This year's theme is outer space. Paper rockets on the Children's Room bulletin board representing each school, will be racing towards a distant planet. Which rocket will arrive first and win the Race in Outer Space? The more you read, the faster and further your school's rocket will go! Get a brag tag and neck chain when you sign up. Receive 4 pony beads to put on your neck chain for every 2 hours of reading you do. The more you read, the more specialized beads you can collect. Watch out for strange UFO sightings around Needham! Enjoy performers, workshops, STEAM activities, movies and more June 24th-August 12th!

Summer Learning at Needham Free Public Library

Grades K-5

Summer is about reading - and math and science and having fun! We have long known about the "summer slide" in reading. When children don't read over the summer, they lose skills and vocabulary and have a harder time in the fall. However, the same is true for forgetting math skills, or what they learned in science class.

Explore the web links for Summer Learning on the Needham Free Public Library's web page

www.needhamma.gov/library where children can hone their skills and retain what they have learned in school over the summer months through fun and engaging online activities.



Hillside Spring 2019 Concert Information

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Hillside's Spring Concerts are the week of our Memorial Day Holiday weekend! The string ensembles, bands and choruses have been working hard at their music in preparation for their performances. The dates:

Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 8:45 AM in the Hillside Gym, Beginning Strings, Beginning Band and Fourth Grade Chorus will perform for the school audience.

Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at 8:45 AM in the Hillside Gym, Advanced Strings, Advanced Band and Fifth Grade Chorus will perform for the school audience.

Friday, May 31, 2019 at 8:45 AM in the Hillside Gym, Beginning Strings, Advanced Strings, Beginning Band, Advanced Band, Fourth Grade Chorus and Fifth Grade Chorus will perform for the parent audience.

Concert Dress: Students should dress in appropriate concert attire for all concerts. This consists of a nice looking shirt, pants/skirt or dress (any colors), and nice shoes. Please try to come as close to this concert dress as possible.

Instrumental students should meet their directors in their regular rehearsal area before the concerts unless informed otherwise on the day of the concert. Students who perform in the chorus only should meet in their classrooms.

Yours sincerely,
Lynne Doran
Hillside Music Teacher
lynne_doran@needham.k12.ma.



Help wanted!!

Calling all bakers and cake decorators to help continue the tradition of the most popular game at the Spring Carnival!

Here's how:

Cook and decorate a cake or two or three or more!!

The more cakes the merrier our children!

Drop them off between 2:00 - 4:00 pm at Hillside Elementary on Saturday, June 8th (Look for Cake Walk Sign)

**Be creative - choose a theme - go wild for frosting
HAVE FUN DECORATING!!**

(We would also love to have *some allergy friendly cakes including nut-free and gluten-free*)

Short on time - store bought cakes also accepted!

Let us know if we can count on you!!

Please send your name, phone/email info and the number of cakes you can bake to Allison Coburn at 617.504.0456 or acoburn.1970@gmail.com.

Also looking for:

Volunteers to run the cake walk at the Spring Carnival

Someone who loves music to create a playlist for the Cake Walk

please reach out to Alison Coburn

Thank you for your help!!

Hillside
spring fling
CARNIVAL

THE PTC PRESENTS THE

Hillside spring fling CARNIVAL

SATURDAY, JUNE 8 ♦ 4 P.M. - 7 P.M.

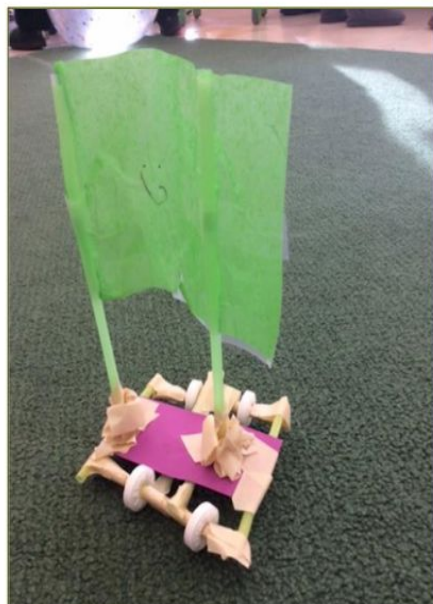
HILLSIDE PLAYGROUND

DUNK TANK ♦ BABY ZOO ANIMALS ♦ INFLATABLES

Dinner from
Captain Marden's
Food Truck
&
Lots of Carnival
treats for sale!

CRAFTS
GAMES
PRIZES
& MORE

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR LAST HILLSIDE EVENT AND HAVE
AN AFTERNOON OF FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!



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				
5	5R 5/28 8:45-10:15	5F 5/28 10:25-11:55	5Ma 5/30 11-12:30	5Mi 5/30 1:15-2:40
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 5 – Stomp Rockets (Forces)

Grade 1 – Waterwheels (Properties of Water)

Grade 4 – Circuit Challenge! (Electricity/Circuits)

Calling Hillside Volunteers!



To volunteer
email

Liz Lee at

info@letsbuildengineering.org

LET'S BUILD:
ENGINEERING FUN FOR
KIDS



Needham, MA

www.letsbuildengineering.org
info@letsbuildengineering.org