

# Hillside News

## December 1, 2017

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## IMPORTANT DATES



- 05 PTC Meeting, 7:15 PM
- 06 Delayed Opening, 10:20 AM Start, No AM Kindergarten or AM KASE
- 08 Family Fun Night, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- 13 Picture Make-Up/Retake Day
- 25 Winter Break

## News from Dr. Maloney

Happy December first! Of course now we know winter is really coming. We already had a couple of days with cold temperatures and biting wind. Checking supplies of hats, gloves, scarves and boots is a late November or early December ritual for most New England families. We expect cold, ice and snow to be on its way.

In school we also talk about what is expected particularly in terms of behavior. We expect members of the Hillside community to be nice and to work hard. We expect that students will treat each other with respect and kindness. We expect that they will listen to their teachers and/or parent volunteers who might be helping with an activity. Sometimes the unexpected happens and a student says something mean or even discriminatory to a classmate. These words can be hurtful to the victims and their families. Sometimes students do not listen to safety warnings, which happened today at the before school "Run Across America" activity. These unexpected behaviors can be dangerous.

As I have said on numerous occasions, Hillside students are wonderful. From my observations, they are creative, fun, and enthusiastic learners, who are typically kind and helpful. However, it may be time for a reminder from both home and school about our shared community expectations for their behavior in the classroom and on the playground.

On another note, I did not expect to be here in December, but am happy to continue to fill in a bit longer for Mr. Kascak.

## PTC Hillside Hornet Buzz

### HAPPY DECEMBER HILLSIDERS!!!

Thank you to everyone who participated in **Hillside PTC's FIRST Poker Tournament!!!** A BIG thank you goes to Eric Friedberg, Russ MacTough, Grace Chan, Arun Padmanabhan and all of the other Dads of Birch Street for organizing this extremely successful event. CONGRATULATIONS to Melanie Franco for winning the tournament and taking home the trophy!

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the **Needham Holiday Boutique** on Thursday night!! It was a fun shopping event and we raised some money for the Hillside PTC.

**Hillside Cares** is teaming up with the **Hillside Student Council** for the annual **Coats for Kids Drive** and we need some help! We'll be delivering all of the coats collected to Anton's Cleaners to be cleaned before they get distributed to local families in need. Please contact Sarah Burns at [sarahmag18@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahmag18@yahoo.com) if you can help with the delivery after school on Wednesday, December 20th.

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.

## Upcoming Events

**Mark your Calendar! Our next PTC Meeting is December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 p.m.** At this meeting we will vote on changes to our budget and hear from Mr. K. about the latest at Hillside (including the groundbreaking of the new Hillside school). Our School Committee Liaison, Andrea Longo Carter, will also come to the meeting to introduce herself, discuss the construction of the new school and answer any questions (either about the new school or current school).

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT is December 8<sup>th</sup> 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). In addition, pizza, water and make-your-own sundaes will be available for purchase. We need lots of volunteers to make this event happen. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign-up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c4cacad22a5fa7-family1>. See flyer at the end of this newsletter for additional details. Any questions, please contact Jody Barnet @ [jodykolnick@yahoo.com](mailto:jodykolnick@yahoo.com) and Samara Helfman @ [samara4@me.com](mailto:samara4@me.com).

And **SAVE THE DATE** for our third annual **PARENT SOCIAL which will be held on Saturday January 20 at the Village Club!!** Mark your calendars and look for more information to come! Please note this is a parent-only event.

## 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. Here is how you can submit photos online:

- Go to: <https://images.memoryebooks.com/login>
- If it does not automatically log you into the site, enter username: 409683606
- 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".

It's that easy! Submit your photos today! Any questions, please contact Sam Shapiro @ [samshap333@hotmail.com](mailto:samshap333@hotmail.com).

## Community

### 'Tis the Season to Honor Educators with NEF Teacher Appreciation Cards

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). NEF Teacher Appreciation Cards make it simple to show your gratitude, while supporting innovation and excellence in Needham Public Schools. NEF will send a card to your designated honoree(s) or you can purchase cards to personalize and hand deliver. Cards are \$15 each, \$60 for 5 cards, or \$100 for 10 cards. Please see attached flyer, look for

a flyer coming home in backpack mail, or visit [nefneedham.org](http://nefneedham.org) to order cards online through December 15. You may also purchase cards in person at Taylor's Stationery (cash/check only), Volante Farms, Roche Bros., and Sudbury Farms through December 27th. If you have questions, please contact Maureen Callahan at [mcallahan@nefneedham.org](mailto:mcallahan@nefneedham.org).

## 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:

**Seeking parent volunteers to help on Fridays at Morning Mingle** for the **Buzz Across America** initiative. This initiative will continue until we make it across the country to California. As a reminder, each student can contribute miles to the journey by earning popsicle sticks one of two ways: (i) run laps around the Hillside field on Friday mornings at Morning Mingle and earn 1 popsicle stick for each lap; and/or (ii) walk/bike to school any day and earn 2 popsicle sticks. **To volunteer, please sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c4cacad22a5fa7-hornets>.** Any questions, please contact Seema Meloni @ [seema.meloni@gmail.com](mailto:seema.meloni@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. To sign up, either contact **Erin Ellis** at [erinellis03@gmail.com](mailto:erinellis03@gmail.com) or go to the Sign up Genius link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4badaa22a31-first1>

To ensure you get all our future updates, please **LIKE us on Facebook (Hillside Elementary School PTC, follow us on Twitter at @hillsideptc and register your information through our website [www.HillsidePTC.org](http://www.HillsidePTC.org)** so that you will receive our email blast.

PTC Co-Presidents  
Erin Apstein, [eringapstein@gmail.com](mailto:eringapstein@gmail.com)  
Meg Rosenbaum, [megrosenbaum11@gmail.com](mailto:megrosenbaum11@gmail.com)  
[www.HillsidePTC.org](http://www.HillsidePTC.org)

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### **Register for Needham Flag Football League Beginning 12/4/17**

Needham Flag Football League (NFFL) will be kicking off a Co-Ed NFL Flag Football League in September 2018 for grades K-8. Games will be played in Needham on Sundays. Space will be limited and registration will open on December 4th. For more information please visit [www.needhamflagfootball.com](http://www.needhamflagfootball.com).

Registration for Needham Girls Youth Lacrosse (NGYL) Spring 2018 season is now open through December 15<sup>th</sup> for girls in grades 1-8. Programs vary by grade and include clinic, intramural and travel teams. New players are welcome. For more information and to register, please visit [www.needhamlacrosse.com](http://www.needhamlacrosse.com)

### **Needham Parents Care Brings You Another: [Parent Tip-of-the-Month: Holiday Stress](#)**

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## **Needham Public Library Events**

### **Code Breakers Coding Club**

The Needham Free Public Library is starting a Code Breakers coding club for children ages 6-9 years. The club will meet 2 Monday afternoons a month at 4:00 pm starting on Monday, December 4th through March 19th. Children will learn logical thinking skills and engage in plugged and unplugged activities. On December 4th club members will get to know each other while playing coding board games. The club will meet again on Monday, December 18th at 4:00 pm. After the first meeting, children are encouraged to bring their own laptop or tablet. Registration is required and is limited. Registration is to join the club and attend all sessions. To register call 781-455-7559 x 204 or visit the Children's Desk at the Needham Free Public Library, [1139 Highland Avenue](#).

### **Needham Free Public Library Hour of Code Activities**

Drop in to the library to celebrate Hour of Code. On Tuesday, December 5th at 4:00 pm children ages 6 and up are invited to come play with the STEAM Center's new Ozobots. On Wednesday December 6th children ages 8 and up are welcome to program Dot and Dash robots using Blockly. Thursday evening at 6:00 pm is the regular meeting of the library's Girls Who Code Club. On Friday, December 8th children ages 4 and up are welcome to participate in Code and Go Mouse activities. While in the library, check out our display of new coding and computer science books and *Beanz* the new computer science and coding magazine for children.

### **Bookventurers Book Club**

This book club for children in grades 3-5 will meet on Saturday, December 9th at 3:15 to discuss the book *Dewey the Library Cat* by Vicki Myron. Children will make cat toys for a local shelter and enjoy yummy treats. Copies of the book are available at the Children's Desk. Registration required. To

register call 781-455-7559 x 204 or visit the Children's Desk.

### **LEGO Time**

Children ages 5 and up are invited to come to the library at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, December 13th to build with our LEGOs.

### **Free Movie**

The library will show the movie *Despicable Me 3* on Friday, December 15th at 3:30 pm. The movie is rated PG and runs for 96 minutes.

### **Family Activity Morning**

Families with children of all ages are invited on Saturday, December 16th at 10:00 am for games, crafts and other fun activities. Come drop in.

### **Winter Crafts**

Children ages 6 and up are invited to come decorate gingerbread cookies with icing, candies and other fun treats at our Winter Crafts program for children ages 6 and up on Wednesday, December 20th at 3:30 pm.

### **Holiday Closing**

The [Needham](#) Free Public Library will be closed for the winter holidays on December 24th and December 25th.

### **Pumpnickle Puppets**

Watch this master puppeteer tell the story of *George and the Dragon* on Tuesday, December 26th at 10:00 am. All ages.

### **Harry Potter Interactive Movie**

Watch the first Harry Potter Movie (PG) on Tuesday, December 26th from 6-10 pm.

There will be interactive bags for registered participants to use to be able to interact with the movie (you might find a wand, chocolate frogs, some every flavor beans, and other fun surprises), trivia for all with prizes to winners. We'll have an intermission half way through the film to enjoy Pizza and a Salad. Snacks, drinks, and everything else provided. Please register at either the Adult Reference or Children's Reference Desks as we need to get a head count for Goodie Bags. Don't want to miss this one! For people 9-18 years old.

### **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets Movie**

Come watch and enjoy the second Harry Potter Film (PG) with more trivia fun on Thursday, December 28th from 2-5:30 pm. This one won't be an interactive experience, but we still welcome costumes and enthusiasm! Snacks and Drinks will be provided. For people 9-18 years old.

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## Computer Science Education Week DECEMBER 4-10, 2017

Hillside School will be celebrating the Hour of Code for the month of December!

Please feel free to email [Maria DeCicco](mailto:maria.decicco@hillside.k12.il.us) or call 781-455-0461 x246 with any questions.

### The Hour of Code is coming!

The Hour of Code started as a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code", to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participation in the field of computer science. It has since become a worldwide effort to celebrate computer science, starting with 1-hour coding activities but expanding to all sorts of community efforts. This grassroots campaign is supported by over 400 partners and 200,000 educators worldwide.

### What is the Hour of Code at Hillside?

- 1 An introductory exploration activity for all students, kindergarten through 5th grade. Students will work on a variety of coding activities in the technology center with their classroom teacher and the instructional technology specialist.
- 2 An effort to demystify code, and change the conversation around computer science.

### Why Computer Science?

Computer programming jobs are growing 3x faster than students entering the field. Yet fewer schools teach computer science than 10 years ago. 90% of K-12 schools in the United States don't even teach it. Visit <http://hourofcode.com> to learn more.

### Who is behind this campaign?

Apple, Microsoft, Google, Amazon, the Boys and Girls Clubs, the College Board, Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, and over 100 others, are uniting to back the Hour of Code campaign. The Computing in the Core Coalition and [Code.org](http://code.org) are organizing [CSEdWeek 2017](http://CSEdWeek2017.org). The annual CSEdWeek celebrates the birthday of computing pioneer [Admiral Grace Murray Hopper](http://www.gracehopper.org) (December 9, 1906).





**Friday, December 8, 2017**

**6:00-8:00 pm**

**\$5 per Family**

*(pay at the door)*

Come and join the Hillside Community 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.

**Back by popular demand:  
Make your own  
sundaes!**

**Get set to  
dance and play  
in your  
favorite PJs!**

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

**Volunteers Needed! Sign up at:**

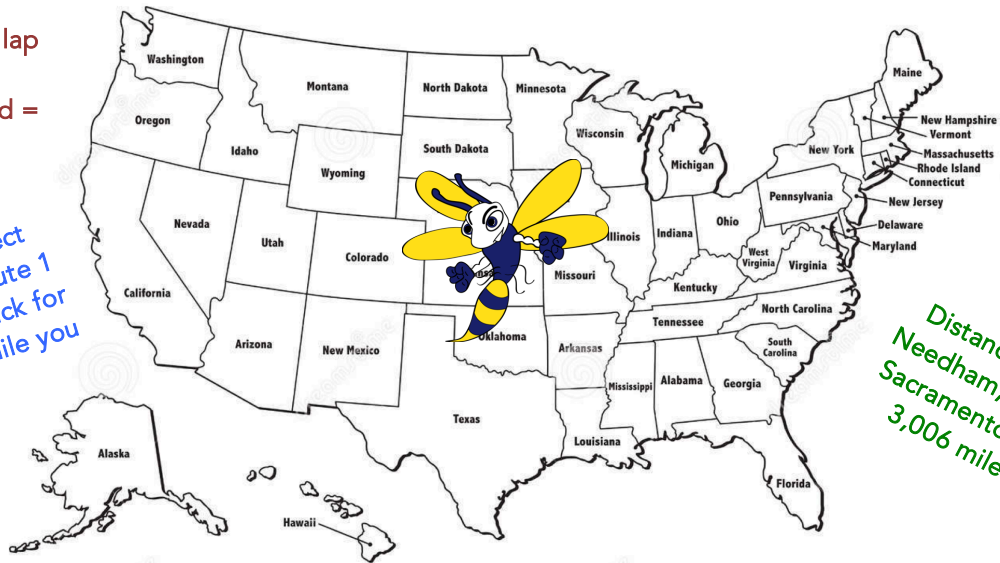
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20foc4cacad22a5fa7-family1>

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

# Hornets Buzz Across America

1 complete lap  
around the  
Hillside Field =  
¼ mile

You can collect  
and contribute 1  
popsicle stick for  
every ¼ mile you  
run/walk.



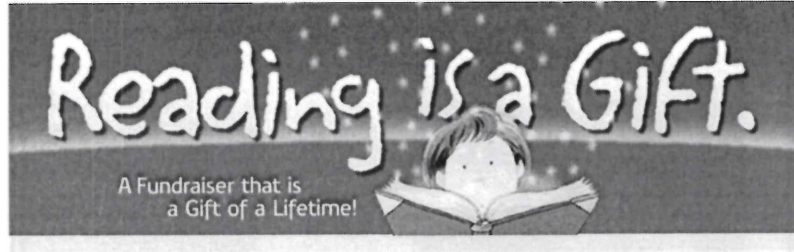
Distance from  
Needham, MA to  
Sacramento, CA:  
3,006 miles!

This year, the Hillside Hornets are going to work together to buzz our way across America!!! We will watch the Hillside Hornet travel across the map that's in the Hillside lobby.

Contribute miles by earning popsicle sticks!!!

## How to Participate:

- **Morning Mingle:** Run a lap around the Hillside field on Monday and Friday mornings at Morning Mingle. For every proper ¼ mile lap you complete, you can collect 1 popsicle stick and put it into the collection bucket.
- **Walk/Bike to School:** Earn 2 popsicle sticks for walking/biking to school. Add your popsicle sticks to the collection bucket in the front lobby.
- **BONUS STICKS:** If you participate in the Hillside Trick or Trot on October 29<sup>th</sup>, you can earn bonus sticks! You will get **10 popsicle sticks** for participation in the Monster Fun Run and **50 popsicle sticks** for participating in the 5K.



## 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!

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In celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

*OR*

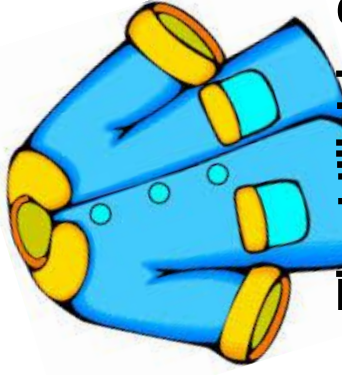
In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

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



## Coats for Kids Fundraiser 2017-2018

The Hillside School 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 7, 2018. Thank you in advance!

