



HILLSIDE HAPPENINGS



Happy Spring!

The mural that the students and faculty have been working on together is finished. Please stop in the gym to see this incredible mural that tells the Hillside story.

Excellence in education,
Donna and Sharon

*Here is a Sneak Peek of our
Colligas Mural Project...*

March Birthdays:

Greg Navarre - April 3rd

Brooke Glenn - April 14th

Paige Glenn - April 14th

D'Angelo Urquiza - April 20th

Charlotte Kulikowski - April 21st

Katie Kulikowski - April 21st

Finn Koller - April 28th

John Riviello - April 29th

Enrollment and Admission

Spring has sprung at The Hillside School... and with spring comes outdoor recess, thoughts of our school-wide field trip to the Camden Aquarium, and most importantly, the flurry of re-enrollment for the 2015-2016 school year!!

Our students and their successes are our most important features! They are why we exist and to whom our mission is directed. It is our hope that you will allow their stories to continue to unfold within our care at The Hillside School. Have you committed to re-enrollment for 2015-16 yet? Commitment forms and re-enrollment deposits are due by April 15th.

We can tell you have been sharing your stories as Hillside Ambassadors! We have fielded 23 new inquiries, given 14 tours and reviewed 11 applications since the beginning of March. We have enrolled two new students in that time as well, in fourth and sixth grades. It's an exciting time to be actively engaged in the Hillside community!

Continued on following page...

We know there are still many people in the greater Lehigh Valley and its surrounding communities who have not yet heard of Hillside's intentional efforts to "maximize the potential of the child with learning disabilities through excellence in education." You can help us spread the word even further!

- Do you know of any groups that would benefit from a presentation about The Hillside School?
- Do you know of any child care centers or churches/temples with nursery or pre-school programs that might like to learn about The Hillside School as an option for their students who might struggle to learn?
- Do you know of any doctors or psychologists who might need to be educated about what we are and who we serve?
- Would people in your workplace be interested in learning about The Hillside School, including our Summer Programs?

These are just some of the ways you can continue to spread The Hillside School mission, in addition to sharing your stories. Give Karen Mitton a call, email her, or stop by with your suggestions for how we can reach our greater community to increase the visibility of this gem we call The Hillside School!

Karen's first five weeks in Admission at The Hillside School have confirmed her previous hunch that this is a special place! Your amazing children, your invaluable support, and our incredibly talented and dedicated staff are really what make the magic happen. Many thanks to all of you for welcoming her so warmly and for continuing to serve as Hillside Ambassadors in your communities and beyond!

Development, Communication & Marketing:

In 25 days, The Hillside School will gather with family and friends to celebrate at our annual major fund raiser, "Off to the Races, at The Hillside School" Gala, Saturday, May 2 from 5 to 10:30 pm. Proceeds benefit Scholarships and Programming.

A huge thank you to our sponsors to-date:

ShopRite/Colligas Family
 Kent & Tori Aitchison
 Embassy Bank – Bryan Lobach
 Landis Family Charity Foundation
 Action Party Rental
 Howard & Jill Stevens
 ALCOM – Community Partner
 Steve & Tammy Cwienkala
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Phil & Joanne Nonemaker
 Rudy & Chris Amelio
 Cavan & Rebecca Kiprislis, Honorary Chairs
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 Smith Brothers Tent Rentals
 Drs. Ken & Connie Andrejko
 Jason & Niki Cadwalader
 Fred & Joan Duckloe
 Dr. & Mrs. Kyle Leboutiz
 Chuck & Katie Stinner
 Working Dog Press – Fred Fen Selau

It's not too late to purchase your tickets for the evening.

Contact Sheryl Hawk at SHawk@hillsideschool.org or 610-967-2252 x1.

Upcoming Events

APRIL

- 9 Canvas Event
- 24 Noon Dismissal
- 30 School Field Trip - Camden Aquarium

MAY

- 2 Off to the Races Gala
- 11-21 Parent Conferences
- 12-13 Noon Dismissal
- 14 Canvas Family Event
- 20-21 Noon Dismissal
- 22 Snow Make-up Day
- 25 School Closed
- 28 Field Day

JUNE

- 3-10 Scholastic Book Fair
- 5 Carnival
- 11 Last Student Day - Full Day
- 12 Last Teacher Day

Business Office:

FINANCIAL AID FOR THE 2015-16 ACADEMIC YEAR:

Financial aid applications for returning students must be submitted by May 1, 2015.

The Hillside School partners with School and Student Services (SSS by NAIS) in the financial aid process. To begin the financial aid process you must complete the Parent's Financial Statement online at sssbynais.org/parents. If you need help completing the PFS, contact SSS at (800) 344-8328. Our school's SSS code is **3907**.

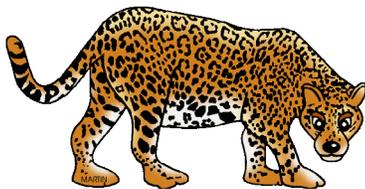
The following required documents should be submitted directly to The Hillside School:

- 2014- Form 1040
- 2014- W2 Forms
- Schedule C (if applicable-sole proprietors)
- Schedule K-1 (for partnerships and corporations)

Re-Enrollment Reminder:

The Hillside School is currently planning and budgeting for the 2015-16 school year. Please remember to return your child's Re-Enrollment Commitment and deposit by April 15, 2015.

Please contact Darlene Stack, Business Manager, at 610-967-3701 or dstack@hillsideschool.org if you have any questions.



SUMMER PROGRAMS

July 6 - 17, 2015

Exploring the Rainforest

A choice of three programs:

Summer Academy (students entering grades 1 - 6)

Full Day 9:00 am - 3:30 pm : Academics, Computer & Recreation

Half Day 9:00 am - 1:00 pm : Academics

Half Day 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm : Computer & Recreation

Study Skills (students entering grades 6 - 8)

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Understanding Executive Skills (students entering grades 6 - 8)

9:00 am - 12:00 pm



You can find detailed information about these programs on our website

www.hillsideschool.org/education/summer-programs/

or call Pam DeAngelo, Summer School Director at 610-967-3701

Classroom Updates

Quad 1

Mrs. Newman's kindergarten/first grade class has been working through many reading books with the goal of becoming more accurate and fluent when we read. We continue to share jobs at math meeting time so each student can master a meeting focus. First graders are working through daily math fact sheets along with new lesson concepts. Kindergarten has been working with many different manipulatives including money, geobands and pattern blocks. We all review number identification daily. In science we have completed our Body Unit: Outside to Inside. Some March fun activities have included the teacher/student ball games, Jump For Heart, creating an iMovie and Read Across America/Dr.Seuss. We also enjoyed working with our 4th grade Reader Pals on St. Patrick's Day activities.

Mrs. Morgenstern's second/third grade class finished our unit on "Skeletal Systems and the Human Body." We had an awesome time investigating various organs and bones. Our grammar flip-books are coming along. We are getting really good at breaking apart a sentence and finding the parts of speech. We are now moving on to our weather unit. Students will be choosing a weather of their choice and will give a weather report just like a meteorologist. We also are making tri-folds with a 3D element to enhance our weather reports. Look for our presentation at an assembly in April!

Mrs. Harakal's third grade class ended the month of March with our book report presentations. We had to choose a character from our book, dress up, and present the book from the character's perspective. Our class did an excellent job and this activity showed us that there are a few aspiring actors in our group. April brings thoughts of spring and our embryology unit. With the guidance of the 4-H club, our class will have the opportunity to hatch chicks in the classroom. Other plans for the coming month include working on our class book Be the Best That You Can Be – A Guide For Kids. We are very excited about this undertaking and are looking forward to publishing our first book. Since April is poetry month, we will explore many types of poetry particularly those of Shel Silverstein, our author of the month. To top off April we will observe Earth Week and the impact of pollution on our Earth, the water cycle, and rain forests.

Quad 2

Mrs. Sonntag's fourth grade class liked learning about the skeletal system in Science. For our book reports, we chose a mystery, and after reading the book a puzzle will be created with each piece containing information from our book. Our mystery reader was Mary Poore, Gretchen's mother. She read the book, My Lucky Day, a great choice since she read it on St. Patrick's Day. Mrs. Poore also led us in a craft and brought delicious cupcakes. Our writing highlight for last month was about a famous woman, since March was Women's History Month. We wrote about Coretta Scott King, Marie Curie, and Amelia Earhart.

We were able to take a virtual field trip to Ford's Theater with the other fourth grade and fifth grade classes. In the month of April we look forward to learning about plants and butterflies. We will also learn more about Pennsylvania history. Ben Franklin and Betsy Ross will be a focus and this will prepare us for our upcoming field trip to Philadelphia. Fourth grade students are impressed with the Box Top for Education participation. Keep sending the Box Tops in!

Mrs. DeAngelo's fourth grade class welcomed a new student this month... Joshua! We will be wrapping up our unit on body systems by studying the heart and circulatory system. We enjoyed reading St. Patrick's Day books to our Reading Pals in Mrs. Newman's class and writing a story about a picture they created. Our book report project for this month is to read a chapter book and make a "Happy Hang Up." These will be displayed at the end of the month. We will be studying about Earth Day and butterflies in April. We will also study the American Revolution in preparation for a field trip to Historic Philadelphia this month.

Quad 3

Mrs. Edelman's sixth grade class is about to embark (vocabulary word) on the study of Ancient Mesopotamia as a precursor to Ancient Egypt. Students have finished their science unit on natural resources and will next study forces and motion. We are hopeful we will have an egg drop project in the future. We have a few more weeks of STEM and we will be designing our own Olympic maneuver programs for our robots. Our class has successfully filled our Vocabulary Gem Jar twice this year. Every time we hear or read a vocabulary word, we can put a gem in the jar. If we use it in our own writing it is worth two gems! We have had a movie afternoon and a pizza party, what next?

Mrs. Lopez's sixth/seventh grade class is excited to begin new academic ventures this spring. This month, we will be visiting Muhlenberg College for a special program called "Youth and Prejudice: Reducing Hatred Conference" where we will see a play featuring the Holocaust and learn about the ill effects of hatred on society. We have ended our descriptive essays and are beginning to research for our next endeavor, the persuasive essay. We will need to use our researching skills to find reputable websites and documents that will enhance our argument topic of choice. Currently, we are choosing books for our final book report! We are working with Mrs. Edelman's class to finish researching the Titanic, and are eager to present our "Under the Sea" theme choice in front of the school this month during assembly. In social studies, we are looking forward to learning about ancient Greece followed by ancient Rome! We are wrapping up genetics during science lab by learning to fill out our own Punnett squares. We have also channeled Mendel's pea plant study by growing our own purple and white flowers.

Mr. Luchansky's seventh/eighth grade class brings a sense of renewed educational verve to Room 12! Take a walk down the hallway in the West Wing and see the bulletin boards of our Newspaper Reports, as well as our Normal Rockwell-inspired descriptive pieces. We have spent a stretch of time delving into discussion and websplorations about the Holocaust to prepare for our Muhlenberg College trip to see "Youth and Prejudice: Reducing Hatred Conference." We also turn our creative sights toward preparing skits for our "Under the Sea" theme class presentation (stay tuned for more). We are winding down our latest novel, Touching Spirit Bear. The sequel could lie in our not-so-distant future as an independent read! We have boosted expectations in preparation and anticipation for high school and can't wait for a strong entrance into spring!

Quad 4

Mrs. Hanosek's and **Mrs. Kuntzman's** fifth grade classes have kicked off Spring by writing and displaying "high flying haiku kites." In addition, we will try our hand at making kites to fly outside. All Hillside students were invited to view our completed Aurasma project displayed in Quad 4 on the Preamble to the United States Constitution. We recently took a third virtual field trip to Ford's Theater to learn more about President Abraham Lincoln's assassination. As much as we have enjoyed the virtual field trips we have experienced this year, we are looking forward to our real trip to historic Philadelphia on April 20th where we will be taking a guided walking tour, visiting the Betsy Ross House and Liberty Bell Center, and viewing the Liberty 360 show. We are continuing our study of rocks and minerals and have recently "mined" chocolate chip cookies. In addition to the activities listed above, Mrs. Hanosek's class will be learning and using blogging etiquette as we will blog about My Brother Sam is Dead, a Revolutionary War Novel. Mrs. Kuntzman's class will be reading Spies on the Devil's Belt, also a Revolutionary War novel.

Specialist Updates

Mrs. Jones - Physical Education: All students in grades K-5 have been busy practicing their jump rope skills gearing up for their Jump for Heart events while grades 6-8 have had fun getting ready for Hoops for Heart by practicing their basketball skills.

Jump/Hoops for Heart: This year was our 16th year participating in the program. We have raised over \$82,000.00 for the cause. Jump/Hoop for Heart are community service learning programs for the American Heart Association. They teach kids the importance of developing heart-healthy habits, that being physically active can be fun by raising funds to support cardiovascular research, and that education helps save lives in their community and across the country. We had a first in that our fourth and fifth graders event was snowed out! Their event was held a week late, but it did not dampen the spirits of everyone! Mrs. Jones sent the money to the American Heart Association on April 2. Thanks for your continued support!

Newcomb and Volleyball Tournament Results: First place Newcomb Team: Dolphins (undefeated), second place: Bull Sharks, third place: Tigers, fourth place: Flaming Sharks

First place Volleyball Team: Flying Fish (undefeated) second place: Sea Dragons, third place: Humahumanuknaqpquuuqquq, fourth place: Tsunamis, fifth place: Sting Rays

Fun games were held between the staff and the winners of each tournament. What a wonderful experience for all! The gym was filled with spectators cheering on their favorite teams. Thanks to Mr. Luchansky for organizing the staff teams and Mr. Redmond for designing and making the awesome staff t-shirts!!

Good Sport Awards for February: Katie Kulikowski and Morgan Stevens. Congratulations to two deserving girls!

Mr. Redmond - Arts: This month in Art students are investigating the themes of identity, form, and unity through a range of 2D and 3D projects. The artists who inspire us are Wassily Kandinsky, Oriol Angrill Jorda, David Weisner, and Marella Zacarias. Some of the projects going on are creating our own cloud machines, recycled art with soda cans and shoe boxes, unique self-portraits with watercolors and collaged materials, and collaborative group projects. We are also very excited to have the Chroma Dolls come back to Hillside to install the beautiful mural on which everyone worked so passionately. Hillside is becoming a colorful school with lots of artwork all around!

Mrs. Ashmar - Speech and Language: For the month of March, during whole class lessons, students have been learning about homographs and homophones. We have been playing games to help students understand the meanings of these words. Some classes have been learning the meanings of specific idioms. Other classes have been listening to and asked to use alliteration in writing (e.g. The slug slid down the slippery slope). Most classes have been learning about inferential reasoning. I am sending home a Language Tips Paper on this topic.

Mrs. Kibelbek - Sciences: Mrs. Edelman's 6th graders have been building and programming Lego EV3 Robots in their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) class. Students solve challenges by breaking tasks down into programming steps and testing their work. At right, Brooke and Sheridan download a program on St. Patrick's Day. Seventh grade Life Science students have been studying Mendelian Genetics. They started the unit by looking at some of their own traits, such as fingerprints and dimples. Physical Science students have been applying math skills to learn about measurement and physical properties. Below, Kazio, Josh, and Morgan collaborate to figure out why a can of Coke sinks in a tank of water while a can of Diet Coke floats.