



HILLSIDE HAPPENINGS



March Birthdays

Adam Ulrich - 3/11

Lea George - 3/13

Lily-Rose Boyer - 3/20

Sean Peapos - 3/26

Brett Patton - 3/27



Dear Parents,

We were happy to see all of you at school for parent/teacher conferences held in late February and early March. Hillside students are thriving under the teachers' and specialists' instruction and guidance along with your support of their learning! We heard first-hand that despite their learning challenges, your students are now experiencing success, building their confidence and ultimately, enjoying attending school.

With the early taste of sunny weather and spring temperatures this week, we are all eagerly anticipating opportunities to be outside with the students more often. Please remember, of course, that temperatures will continue to fluctuate until later in the spring, so be sure to send your students to school in clothing appropriate to each day's temperature!

Happy spring,

Donna and Sharon

Middle School Open House

On Thursday, February 18th a Middle School Open House was held at The Hillside School for families of rising middle schoolers. The purpose of the event was to provide information to enable families in discerning if Hillside's Middle School is the appropriate placement for their student(s).

Head of School, Donna Henry, and our four middle school faculty (Diane Edelman, Hilary Heffner, Jim Luchansky and Julie Kibelbek) outlined Hillside's Middle School philosophy, the transitions incorporated into our program to mimic other middle school experiences and specifics of the curriculum. After the Powerpoint presentation, four Hillside alumni shared their insights during a panel discussion. Christina Rossi, who transitioned from Hillside to St. Michael's in 2001 and is now completing a graduate internship in Speech and Language Pathology here this spring, moderated the panel. Other panelists included Nic Birosik '13 (Perkiomen Prep), Eric Lukowski '15 (Nazareth Area Intermediate School) and Anna Burfeind '15 (Saucon Valley Middle School). All four alumni attributed their individual successes beyond Hillside to the strategies, self-awareness and self-advocacy skills they gained during their Hillside experiences!

Enrollment & Community Outreach

On February 29th Mrs. Holaska's fifth grade class welcomed Hillside's newest student! With the addition of Adam, Mrs. Holaska's class is now at a full capacity of 8 students. We are excited Adam has joined the Hillside Community and trust you will extend his entire family a warm welcome when you have a chance to meet them!

As of March 8th a total of 37 current students have committed to re-enrollment for the 2016-17 school year. If you have not yet re-enrolled, please consider doing so as soon as possible. Early awareness of our numbers for next year allows our faculty and staff to plan more effectively. Should you need an additional copy of the Re-enrollment Commitment, please call the office or send a note in your child's Home book. New student applications are already being submitted for the 2016-17 school year and will certainly continue throughout the spring and summer months.

Our outreach to provide community awareness and education concerning issues related to learning disabilities continued on Wednesday, March 9th when Dr. George DuPaul of Lehigh University presented "Impact of ADHD on Executive Functioning" at The Hillside School. Sixty-four guests of varied backgrounds and interest attended the event. More details about Dr. DuPaul's time with us will be shared in April.

Upcoming Events

MARCH

- 1-4 Parent Conferences
- 2 Noon Dismissal
- 3 Noon Dismissal
- 9 Speaker Series - Dr. George DuPaul
- 14 Hoops For Heart
- 17,18 Jump For Heart
- 24-28 Spring Break *No School*
- 24, 28 Snow make-up if needed
- 30 Canvas and Cocktail Event

APRIL

- 20 Faculty Prof. Day *Noon Dismissal*
- 20 Evening Parent Presentation
Dr. Bonnie Singer
- 21 Faculty Prof. Day *No School*
- 30 An Evening on Safari Gala 5:00 p.m.

MAY

- 6 Faculty Prof. Day *Noon Dismissal
- 11 Canvas and Cocktail Event
- 16-26 Parent Conferences
- 16,17 Noon Dismissal
- 25,26 Noon Dismissal
- 23-26 Art Show and Book Fair
- 27-30 Memorial Day Break *No School*
- 27 Snow make-up if needed



Dr. George DuPaul

Classroom Updates

Quad 1

Mrs. Morgenstern's kindergarten/first grade class cannot believe March is already here. Our March monthly themes are Read Across America Week, egg animals, St. Patrick's Day, rainbows, and Spring. This month our class completed their first book report called "Dr. Seuss Book Box." Our kindergarten friends worked together to complete one "Dr. Seuss Book Box" while our first grade friends completed the assignment all by themselves. Students first had to choose a Dr. Seuss book of their liking. They then had to paint a box, replicate the cover page, complete a title page, and do two writing pages that explain their favorite part of the book and why they recommend this book to a friend. They even got to listen to each Dr. Seuss book on the iPads using Learning Ally. Stop by and check out our reports!

Mrs. Storck's second grade class celebrated 100 days of school on February 10th! They marked this special day by writing about their year, counting to 100, and collecting 100 objects each! They even wrote about what they were going to be like when they are 100 years old! During February, students kept an eye on Punxsutawney Phil and were so happy he didn't see his shadow! They wrote about why they are looking forward to Spring. Our class studied facts about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, and learned about our current President and his job. Each student wrote about what they would do if they were President. Our class is wrapping up the month by launching their learning into Space! Students are excited to explore information about the Moon, our Solar System, and stars.

Mrs. Harakal's third grade class is expecting March to be a lion of a month with lots of new challenges! They have just finished studying some of the works of author Verna Aardema. The children were particularly interested in this author because her work includes many retellings of African folktales. These stories really fueled their interest in our school-wide Safari theme and incorporated lots of facts on African life and culture. Since Dr. Seuss's birthday is in March, our next author to be studied will be Dr. Seuss. As part of our study, the class will read a biography of this very creative author. This will be the kick-off for our unit on biographies. They will pick a biography of a famous person for their book reports. Finally, as our thoughts turn to the start of Spring and new life, the class will begin their study of Embryology with Mrs. Sonntag's class.

Quad 2

Mrs. Sonntag's third/fourth grade class is looking forward to warmer days and green grass! During the month of March the class will be finishing the unit about Alaska. The Iditarod takes place in March and we plan on following the racers as they travel by dog sled across parts of Alaska. Students are also looking forward to Jump for Heart. Along with this fun event, they will study the circulatory system in science. Toward the end of the month, students will begin an "eggs-citing" unit about Embryology. The fourth grade students in our class will be taking an in-depth look at the

Civil War in preparation for their field trip to Gettysburg. We are going to collect Box Tops for Education at the end of March. It is always fun to see which class collected the most for Hillside!

Mrs. DeAngelo's fourth grade class will be reading about St. Patrick's Day and the season of Spring this month. They will be happy to say good-bye to winter. The students enjoyed using Pixie to create a trading card about a famous Black American. This month students will practice rhyming skills by writing silly Limericks. Since March is Women's History month the students will be doing some research on famous women. The class is learning about the circular system and the heart. All students are very excited about participating in Jump for Heart this month. This will help pump up our study of the Human Body.

Quad 3

Mrs. Edelman's sixth grade class independently wrote Action, Action, We Want Action! verb verse poems to review our grammar unit on nouns, verbs, subjects, and predicates. Students creatively incorporated six verbs on a topic they love, added a picture and a personalized summary sentence for descriptive writing to display! Students are also assembling their own posters to summarize and explain the three laws of motion. Each has chosen three pictures to depict the laws and will diagram the pictures to explain the motion. Dr. Kibelbek arranged two labs for hands-on interaction and observation of these important physics principles. Sixth grade is in MOTION and awaiting the season of SPRING!

Ms. Heffner's seventh grade class just finished filming their Living History Museum speeches using the green screen. They spent an adequate amount of time preparing and rehearsing the speeches, and they will be using the program, Aurasma, to share their presentations with families and school members. In language arts, students have begun a new novel, Peak, and are learning about the challenges hikers face on Mount Everest. In addition to fine-tuning reading skills, students have been responding to the book on our class blog. Students are wrapping up their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) classes with Dr. Kibelbek by completing a final robotics challenge during which they will need to develop a program that will allow their robot to travel from one location to another while avoiding obstacles.

Mr. Luchansky's eighth grade class has one group finishing their current book, while another is beginning Jordan Sonnenblick's Notes From a Midnight Driver. After taking a brief look at Robert Frost's The Road Not Taken, we have developed our own "Special Place" poems, which will be displayed in the hallway outside of Room 12. The eighth grade class is reading about various celebrities and historical figures for their independent reading and biography projects. We have also begun preparing skits for our "Safari-themed project"-- More to come on that later! Our next writing project will take the form of a cause and effect essay. All Room 12 members are anxious for spring to arrive, bringing us one step closer to high school!

Quad 4

Mrs. Hanosek's, Mrs. Kuntzman's and Mrs. Holaska's fifth grade classes would like to welcome Adam Ulrich to fifth grade at Hillside. Adam recently joined Mrs. Holaska's class! We are preparing for our field trip to Gettysburg in May by kicking off our Civil War unit. We are learning about the regional differences that led to this historic event. We have learned about codes and ciphers and the students will soon have the opportunity to create their own codes and create special paper with Dr. Kibelbeck in Science. Look for the next volume of our Give Me Five magazine coming out at the end of the month!

Specialist Updates

Mrs. Jones - Physical Education: All students are very excited about their upcoming Jump/Hoops for Heart events! Our middle school students in Mrs. Edelman's, Ms. Heffner's and Mr. Luchansky's classes will get us started by participating in Hoops for Heart on Monday, March 14 during their regular physical education class at 10am. Mrs. Morgenstern's, Mrs. Storck's and Mrs. Harakal's classes will be jumping on Thursday, March 17 while Mrs. DeAngelo's, Mrs. Sonntag's, Mrs. Hanosek's, Mrs. Kuntzman's and Mrs. Holaska's classes will be jumping on Friday, March 18. We have raised over \$85,000 for the American Heart Association during our seventeen years participating in these programs. Thank you for your continued support to a cause near and dear to my heart. All money raised should be handed in at the time of your student's event.

Good Sport Awards for January: Mia Szochet and Charlotte Kulikowski... Congratulations girls!

Newcomb and Volleyball Tournaments: The games have been fun and exciting! Winners of both tournaments will be taking on the staff as the tournament comes to a close. Thank you to Mr. Luchansky for organizing and to Mr. Redmond for creating cool t-shirts for faculty and staff.

Morning Exercise: We have been learning empowering tools that teach us how to use our breathing and body positioning to control our emotions.

Mr. Redmond - Art: This month in Art our kindergarten and first grade students have been exploring "bird's eye" perspective. Second grade has been creating personal superheroes inspired by the alliteration of their names. Third grade studied the artist Ted Harrison, learned about color value and is painting landscape scenes of the northern lights in his style. Fourth graders are finding positive and negative space by drawing their shoes in interesting compositions. The fifth grade classes have completed their short story comic strips and now are working on Roy Lichtenstein word pop explosions. Sixth grade has moved on to the 3D component of their Larger Than Life Candy project. The seventh graders have finally reached their goal of 1,000 paper cranes that will stretch from one end of the school to the other. Lastly, our eighth graders are molding their faces to create an interesting interpretation of a Pablo Picasso portrait.

The Artist Spotlight awards were given to Dana Montone, Gretchen Poore and Andrew Seidler for their hard work and excellence in Art!

Mrs. Ashmar and Miss Rossi- Speech and Language: The class language lessons have focused on homophones and homographs. Homophones are words that sound alike but are spelled differently and have different meanings (e.g. Week and weak). Homographs are words that sound alike and are spelled alike, but have different meanings (e.g. Bark on a tree and the sound a dog makes). Commonly confused words were discussed in the higher grades. These words are similarly spelled and pronounced and are often confused in writing (e.g. Farther and further). We did a few activities using the words that were taught. For example, we played a word match memory game using homophones.

Mrs. Clarke - Library: Grades K/1 and 2 are enjoying stories and learning about parts of a book. 2nd grade has been enjoying the book Fudge-A- Mania by Judy Blume.

Grades 3 and 4 have been learning about bibliographies and the importance of using your own words when writing a report. We have also been sharing the books No Dogs Allowed by Bill Wallace and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl.

Grade 5 has begun reading the book Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt; it has facilitated some very interesting discussions about Learning Differences and how they are treated in school.

The Middle School has been doing various research reports, expository reports and informational reports. The 8th grade class is participating in discussions about censorship and government control through the book Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury.



THE Hillside SCHOOL

SUMMER PROGRAMS

July 11-22, 2016

Exploring the Ocean

The Hillside School Summer Programs help students to enhance their learning during the summer months. Hillside teachers are committed to providing a fun and challenging experience for ALL students (entering grades 1 - 8).



SUMMER ACADEMY (THREE OPTIONS)

1

ACADEMIC ACADEMY

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM • \$725

- Small classes
- Multi-sensory approach
- Direct reading, writing, and math instruction
- Academic focus at student's instructional level
- Strategies for learning
- Assistive technology integration
- Theme related educational activities
- Lunch and recess period

2

AFTERNOON ACADEMY

1:00 PM to 3:30 PM • \$275

- Computer workshop
- Guided activities to promote social interactions
- Journal writing
- Outdoor and theme related activities

3

FULL DAY PROGRAM

Academic and Afternoon Academy

9:00 AM to 3:30 PM • \$900

STRATEGIC READING & STUDY SKILLS

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM • \$700

Direct reading instruction using fiction and nonfiction texts with emphasis on the following:

- Reading comprehension
- Writing process
- Figurative language
- Vocabulary development
- Assistive Technology

UNDERSTANDING EXECUTIVE SKILLS

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM • \$700

Students will gain an understanding of the following skills:

- Self-regulation
- Organization and planning
- Time management
- Attention/focus
- Social skills and collaboration
- Flexibility
- Self advocacy
- Working memory

Students will learn strategies that apply to their unique profile of strengths and weaknesses.

For registration visit our website at www.hillsideschool.org

or call:

Pam DeAngelo
Summer School Director
at 610-967-3701

Registration deadline: June 30

SUMMER ACADEMY

JULY 11 – 22

ENTERING GRADES 1 – 6

STRATEGIC READING & STUDY SKILLS

JULY 11 – 22

ENTERING GRADES 6 – 8

UNDERSTANDING EXECUTIVE SKILLS

JULY 11 – 22

ENTERING GRADES 6 – 8

