



## *Hillside News*

*From Dr. Madden's Desk to Your Home*



January Edition

# The Year of Happiness

## Looking Back... and Moving Forward

Parents & Guardians:

Happy New Year! A new year brings new beginnings for all of us. My hope was that this holiday season found you enjoying the little moments with your loved ones. We often move through life in haste, especially when our schedules are jam packed with school and family commitments. I hope you remained mindful and present throughout the holiday season so that your hearts were filled with joy.

Thank you to all of the families who dropped off goodies for our staff throughout the holiday season. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated. Our Holiday Shop was a huge success. A big thank you goes to Mrs. Chinn for organizing the shop and volunteers for the week. This was an enormous undertaking which she executed seamlessly. The PTO sponsored Barnes and Noble night brought out so many of our Hillside families. The storytime, author visit, and the holiday performance, led by Mrs. Zemble, made for a festive evening.

Mr. Jones facilitated visits to the Star Lab located on the stage. The students learned about the moon, sun, stars, and constellations. They left the lab with a greater knowledge of our universe. It was truly an awesome experience to be in the lab!

Thank you to all of the families who donated to our green bean collection and Toys for Tots. Our side hallway was stacked with items to help families in need. Our students were excited to see the amount of items that had been donated and could not wait to help pack them up for delivery.

We will be launching our school wide Happiness Rocks Project where students will have the opportunity to paint special sayings on rocks and distribute them throughout our school community. We will be tracking how far our rocks go on social media. We are all excited about this new adventure.

2018 is in full swing for sure! I am looking forward to sharing this year with all of you. Great things are happening every day here at Hillside. There is no doubt that the students will enjoy what is ahead.

Sincerely,

Dr. Madden



School Events	PTO Events
<p>1/12 Spirit Day with an International Flare-Wear colors that represent your nationality 1/15 MLK Day-No School</p>	<p>1/10 Cookie Social 1/16-1/26 Theater Week 1/18 PTO Meeting 1/20 Guys Night Out 2/2 Snowball Dance</p> <p>Please see the Hillside Happenings for more specific information regarding these events.</p>

<i>Kid Connection</i>
<p><i>Our Happiness Rocks Project is being launched this month. Please see the flyer that went home (last week) regarding this school wide project. Our fourth graders are excited to lead this project throughout the school. We are in need of cleaned rocks that are no bigger than a softball, have a smooth, and flat surface.</i></p>

### Nurse's Nook

FLU AND PNEUMONIA VACCINES--It is hard to believe that Flu season is approaching. Please consider having your family vaccinated. Speak with your family physician or pediatrician. Children who are vaccinated can also help prevent the spread of disease to the elderly. **All pre-school children are required by law to be vaccinated for influenza before December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Great Resource for Families ---<http://njparentlink.nj.gov> is a state government web site with fantastic resources for families. It has been recently updated and provides health, wellness, parenting, career, family support services and so much more. Take the time to browse; it is well worth it!

RECESS REMINDERS---Please remember to dress your children for outdoor play. Sneakers or snug fitting rubber soled shoes are appropriate for the playground. Girls should bring shorts or wear leggings or pants under skirts. Pants are best for climbing playground equipment. Please remember a sweatshirt or jacket as cooler weather approaches. We enjoy the outdoors every day if weather permits.