



Hillside Happenings

April 24, 2026

[Hebrew translation](#)

[Korean translation](#)

[Spanish translation](#)

To Note

Creating class lists is a thoughtful and time-intensive process. Our staff works carefully to place each student. Many factors guide these decisions, including special education services, Plus, and ESL support, related services, class size and academic balance, and students' social-emotional needs.

If you have **input** you'd like to share regarding your child's placement, please email me (dmsmith@nvnet.org) no later than **May 15th, 2026**. Please note that while we value your input, we are unable to guarantee that all requests will be accommodated. We kindly ask that requests focus on your child's needs rather than a specific teacher.

Counselor's Corner

We hope everyone had a lovely spring break!

For the month of April, we are focusing on Social Awareness as our ICARE topic.

We began the month with a lesson on [The Ripple Effect of Kindness](#) to help students learn how even small acts of kindness can spread and make a big impact. This connects to our Student Council's Cereal Drive, reminding students that simple ways of helping others can create meaningful change in our community.

Upon the return from Spring Break, we shared a daily video from the [Spring Recess Reminders](#) slides in an effort to prioritize a safe, happy, and peaceful recess for all! Please feel free to watch the videos with your child(ren) and discuss their experience at recess. You can refer to the [Kelso](#)

[Wheel](#) to help your child identify ways to problem-solve if they find themselves in a conflict. You can also support them by role playing how to initiate play with a friend.

Upcoming Dates

5/4-8- Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

5/6-7- Grades 3-4 NJSLA testing

5/8- Mother's Day Plant Sale

5/11-13- Grades 3-4 NJSLA Testing

5/21- K-2 Field Day, raindate May 28 (Grades 1 and 2- 9:00-11:15, Kindergarten- 1:30-2:45)

5/26- Grades 3-4 Field Day, raindate June 2 (9:00-11:15)

6/1- Art Show, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Student Council News

LAST DAYS TO DONATE!



HILLSIDE SCHOOL'S
CEREAL DRIVE

Join us for our Cereal and Shelf-Stable Boxed Milks Drive.

Collection Dates
MARCH 23 - APRIL 29

One donation can start a chain reaction of good. On 5/1, we will create a giant domino chain of cereal boxes throughout the school to show how one small act of giving can create a powerful impact.

Grade Level Contributions

- Pre-K & K - Cheerios + Boxed Milk
- 1st - Honey Nut Cheerios + Boxed Milk
- 2nd - Frosted Flakes + Boxed Milk
- 3rd - Froot Loops + Boxed Milk
- 4th - Cinnamon Toast Crunch + Boxed Milk

All donations should be dropped off in the main lobby.

ESL BiPAC Meeting

The Closter Public Schools
ESL Department cordially invites you to our

**Bilingual
Parent
Advisory
Committee
Spring Meeting**



Please join our BiPAC meeting for parents/guardians of students enrolled in the **English as a Second Language (ESL)** program.

Wednesday, April 29th, 2026

from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

via Google Meet link:

<https://meet.google.com/zui-oqgw-bcv>

Agenda:

- *ESL Program Overview*
- *ACCESS TEST for MLs*
- *ESL Program Exit Criteria*
- *New Jersey Student Learning Assessment NJSLA*
- *Resources for Parents*
- *Feedback Survey*
- *Q and A*



Google Meet link is available here.

<https://meet.google.com/zui-oqgw-bcv>

Closter PTO



THE CLOSTER PTO

SPRING FAIR

SATURDAY | **MAY 2** | 11AM-4PM
2026

RAIN DATE MAY 16TH

TENAKILL MIDDLE SCHOOL
275 HIGH STREET CLOSTER NJ, 07624

**BOUNCE HOUSES | FOOD TRUCKS
CARNIVAL GAMES | VENDORS | DJ |
OPEN MIC & MORE**



Let's Celebrate Hillside Teachers and Staff!



HILLSIDE'S TEACHER & STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

MAY 4 - 8

Monday

High Five to a GREAT Teacher!

Give your teacher a high five or fist bump when you arrive.

Tuesday

Color Your Teacher HAPPY!

Wear your teachers favorite color.

Wednesday

SWEET Words Day!

Write your teacher a Kind note, card or draw them a picture!

Thursday

THANKFUL Thursday!

Pick a flower, grab something small from nature or smile & thank your teacher!

Friday

Favorite Things Friday!

Do something your teacher LOVES!

Closter Celebrates America's 250th Anniversary



Closter's Townwide Celebration

On Saturday, June 13, 2026, our town will celebrate America's 250th anniversary. The day will start with a Parade at 11:30am, an all-day family fun event with "FREE" kids rides including pony rides and a petting zoo, live performances, reading of the Declaration of Independence, reading of winning student essays, historical talks about Closter, food from the revolutionary era, live music and more. We will conclude the festivities with fireworks at approximately 9pm. The rain date is 6/14/26, with the same time schedule. Please save the date and plan on coming!

[LINK to Hillside Summer Programs](#)

Cluster

Summer

2026!

Reminders

- Parking spaces numbered 96 and above in the upper loop are open to visitors. Please ensure you are parked in a designated spot and are not blocking other vehicles, as doing so creates an unsafe situation.
- For your reference, [here is the link](#) to the school calendar (CLICK A-F Day Calendar). If school is closed due to inclement weather, we will follow the letter day listed on the calendar.



Ms. Dianne M. Smith

Principal