



# Hillside Happenings

February 27, 2026

[Hebrew translation](#)

[Korean translation](#)

[Spanish translation](#)

## Read Across America

Hillside School will celebrate Read Across America with a themed week dedicated to reading. Throughout the week, students will participate in a variety of classroom and schoolwide activities designed to promote literacy and foster a love of books. From themed spirit days to special read-alouds and collaborative reading experiences, we look forward to celebrating reading together as a school community.

We are excited to kick off reading with a visit from author Lauren Tarshis! Ms. Tarshis is the author of the popular *I Survived* series. Her books are full of action, adventure, and brave characters who face big challenges. A special thank you to our PTO for sponsoring this wonderful opportunity for our students.



# READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

March 2 - 6



Monday Reading Lights the Way!	Tuesday Voices Matter!	Wednesday Wonders & Words	Thursday Flashlight Friday Eve	Friday Cozy Up To Reading
<p><b>Students:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Wear neon or bright colors!</li> <li>* Bring in a book from home to enjoy during Stop, Drop &amp; Read times!</li> </ul>	<p><b>Students:</b></p> <p>Wear a shirt with positive or funny message!</p>	<p><b>Students:</b></p> <p>Dress as a scientist, explorer, researcher, or historical figure.</p>	<p><b>Students:</b></p> <p>Your future is BRIGHT! Bring a small flashlight! (to use during Stop, Drop &amp; Read times)</p>	<p><b>Students:</b></p> <p>Wear PJ's &amp; bring a stuffed animal to school!</p>

## Spring Conferences

Hillside School's spring parent/teacher conferences will be held on the following days:

Week of March 2-6, from 8:05 a.m. to 8:35 a.m.

Monday, March 2 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 3, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. (Students will be dismissed at 12:40 p.m.)

Thursday, March 5, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

Spring conferences are optional. If your child's teacher would like to meet with you, they will contact you directly. However, if you would like to request a conference with a specific teacher, please contact them by **Friday, February 27**, so a meeting can be scheduled accordingly. Staff members' email addresses are available on our website.

## Upcoming Dates

**Week of 3/2-** Read Across America

**3/3-** 12:40 dismissal (PK 12:30) for Parent/Teacher Conferences

3/17-19- PTO Spring Book Fair

3/18- Trimester Two ends

3/25- Parent Portal open for grade reports, families will receive an email when the Portal is open (after 3 p.m.)

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## Kindergarten Registration



### 2026-2027 Kindergarten Registration



Hillside Elementary School's Kindergarten Registration is now open!

Visit [www.closterschools.org](http://www.closterschools.org) to register your child.

Parent Orientation will be held on March 31, 2026 at 7:00 PM

\*Children must be registered in order for parents to attend this event.



If your child will be five years old on or before October 1, 2026, please register now. If you have questions, please call Hillside School at 201-768-3860 ext.41118



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## PTO News

### Read-A-Thon Information

We are getting ready to kick-off Hillside's Read-A-Thon! Register your reader today so they can hit the ground running!

**Read-A-Thon is a fun program that brings students together with friends and family to encourage reading and building literacy skills, while raising money for our school!**

**Get Read-A-Thon ready in 3 simple steps:**

- Set up your child's account: <https://www.read-a-thon.com/readers/r/313232323035/1?utm=email> Make sure to use your student's FULL NAME and parent's email. (if you have more than one child in Hillside you must create an account for each child).
- Use the easy online tools to tell friends and family about Read-a-thon so they can support your child's reading. Track and log at-home reading sessions (your in-school reading sessions will be logged by Read-A-Thon chairs).
- Earn Fabulous prizes! 75% of money raised goes directly to the Closter PTO. 15% of the money raised goes back to your child to be used in the prize store.

Remember, all reading counts! Reading books, magazines, comic books, recipes, as well as listening to audiobooks or being read to by a parent or sibling is all great! Everyone can participate regardless of reading level of skill!

Any Questions? Please contact:  
Jenn Belson and Lindsay Sinclair  
@ [closterreadathon@gmail.com](mailto:closterreadathon@gmail.com)

## CLOSTER PTO & PORCH LIGHT STUDIO & STAGE PRESENT

PERFORMED BY  
CLOSTER STUDENTS IN  
GRADES 2-4

Disney

TICKETS  
ON SALE  
NOW!

# THE LITTLE MERMAID



LYRICS BY HOWARD ASHMAN & GLENN SLATER  
MUSIC BY ALAN MENKEN • BOOK BY DOUG WRIGHT

SPECIALTY TEACHER, BROOKE HUSSEY  
TEACHING ASSISTANTS, JAKE KANTROWITZ & HANNAH CANTIN

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7 @ 11AM & 3PM**

TICKETS \$10 PER PERSON ONLINE OR AT THE DOOR. PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CLOSTER PTO.

Ticketing questions, contact the Closter PTO, [closterpto@gmail.com](mailto:closterpto@gmail.com)

[WWW.CLOSTERPTO.MEMBERSHIPTOOLKIT.COM](http://WWW.CLOSTERPTO.MEMBERSHIPTOOLKIT.COM)  
PROGRAMS > PORCH LIGHT PRODUCTIONS



TENAKILL MIDDLE SCHOOL, 275 HIGH STREET, CLOSTER  
PRODUCED BY PORCH LIGHT STUDIO, STAGE & SCHOOLS • [PORCHLIGHTPRODUCTIONS.ORG](http://PORCHLIGHTPRODUCTIONS.ORG)

CLOSTER PTO & PORCH LIGHT STUDIO & STAGE PRESENT

PERFORMED BY  
CLOSTER STUDENTS IN  
GRADES 5-8

TICKETS  
ON SALE  
NOW!

Disney  
**Aladdin**  
JR. ©Disney

MUSIC BY ALAN MENKEN  
LYRICS BY HOWARD ASHMAN, TIM RICE & CHAD BEGUELIN  
BOOK BY CHAD BEGUELIN

SPECIALTY TEACHER, BROOKE HUSSEY  
TEACHING ASSISTANTS, JAKE KANTROWITZ & HANNAH CANTIN

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14 @ 11AM & 3PM**

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**WWW. CLOSTERPTO.MEMBERSHIPTOOLKIT.COM**  
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TENAKILL MIDDLE SCHOOL, 275 HIGH STREET, CLOSTER  
PRODUCED BY PORCH LIGHT STUDIO, STAGE & SCHOOLS · PORCHLIGHTPRODUCTIONS.ORG



*Hillside Elementary*



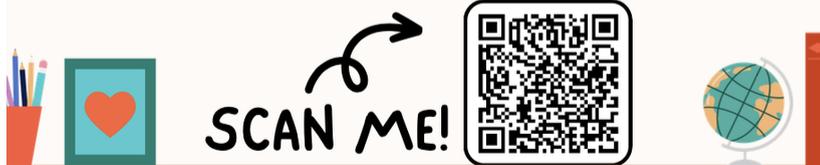
**Book Fair**  
**March 17-19**

**Family Shopping Event**  
**Wednesday, March 18**  
**3:30-5:00 PM**

Set up your **Book Fair eWallet Account!**



<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/hillsideelementaryschool22>



## Reminders

- 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