**Hillcrest Happenings**

**PEN Update February 5th**

**Hillcrest Hustle on Friday, February 26th**

**Tickets are now on sale!!!** The first ever Hillcrest Hustle is less than 21 days away. Mark it on your calendar and make a plan to attend a fun adult evening out. Early bird purchase bonus…tickets are only $25.

**Report Cards and Interviews**

Report cards will go home on Tuesday, February 9th. Parents are also welcome to arrange for an interview with your child’s teacher(s) on Thursday evening or Friday morning. **As such, Friday, February 12th is a P.A. Day.**

**African Heritage Month**

On Monday, February 8th, Hillcrest welcomes performer Njacko Backo as part of African Heritage Month. The performance involves music and drumming. Students in grade 1-3 will attend the performance at 9:15. The junior performance will take place starting at 9:45. **This event is another initiative generously supported by the Hillcrest School Council and the Equity committee.**

**On Wednesday, January 17th**, we welcome Passages Canada Speaker Maria Eva Laure Mihami, who will be speaking ot our grade 3-6 students, starting at 9:15.

**On Wednesday, February 24th** @ 10:35 Hillcrest will have our monthly assembly with a focus on African Heritage Month.

**As always parents and guardians are welcome to attend our assemblies.**

**Lunar New Year**

This year Hillcrest will be celebrating Lunar New Year with a Dragon Festival assembly on February 9th @ 1:00 p.m. Parents and guardians are invited and welcome to attend.

**Skating and Hockey Day**

On February 25th students in grade 4-6 will be travelling to De La Salle Arena for this event. At 1:00 the Hillcrest Hockey Team will play an exhibition game vs. De La Salle, followed by a free skate for all students.

We are in need of gently used helmets and skates (adult size 5 and up), to provide the opportunity for all our students to participate in this event. If you would like to donate, please see Mr. Costa or Ms. Lee.

**Authors’ Week**

Each year we celebrate literacy with an Authors' Week, which will run this year from April 25-29th. Every afternoon from Monday to Thursday of that week, the children will experience workshops run by authors and illustrators and on the Friday afternoon, we will celebrate with an assembly where all the students' writing will be on display. Children are also invited to dress as their favourite character from a book on the Friday. Miss Booker has begun contacting favourite children's authors, but that week is always made extra special when parents come in and share their expertise. We're asking any parents who work in publishing, writing or illustration, (magazines or books), and who would be willing to give a one hour workshop to their children's class, to please let Miss Booker know at Julie.booker@tdsb.on.ca. Thanks!

**Music by the Lake**

Music by the lake is a co-operative venture of the TDSB and Camp Wahanowin, providing a residential music camp with band, strings and choral programs. To apply, students must be enrolled in their school music band or string program. The eight day camp operates from June 4 to June 11, 2016. For more information check out the website <http://www.mbtl.ca>

**Illness**

If your child is ill, kindly call the office to notify us for safe arrival and when your child will be back at school. Also, if your child is feeling under the weather and is at school, please let the teacher know, so that they can accommodate your child’s needs as they arise throughout the day.

**Hillcrest is a Peanut Free Zone**

Hillcrest has several students with severe nut allergies. Please ensure that lunches and snacks are peanut-free.

**Extracurricular and Sports update**

**Girls Volleyball**

Congratulations to all the girls that have participated in the recent tournaments at Hillcrest. It has been a real joy to see the enthusiasm and energy throughout the school. Good luck to the grade 6 girls on their tournament on Thursday, February 11th.

**Boys Basketball**

Good luck to our boys teams who will be playing in their tournaments on Tuesday, February 9th (grade 5) and Thursday, February 11th (grade 6). Go Tigers!!!

**Coming Soon….**

Pizza Lunch…………………………… February 11th

Parent Teacher Interviews……… February 11th (evening) and February 12th morning

P.A. Day……………………………… February 12th

Family Day………………………… February 15th