**Hillcrest Happenings**

**PEN Update January 22nd**

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

The first ever Hillcrest Hustle is only 28 days or so away. Mark it on your calendar and make a plan to attend a fun adult evening out. Silent Auction items are still very much needed and tickets for the Hustle will be on sale soon. More details to follow.

**Whole School Lice Check**

We will have our regularly scheduled whole school lice check on Monday February 1st.

**Kindergarten Registration**

Registration will be taking place on February 3rd and 4th. If you would like to register a child in Kindergarten for September, kindly call the office to book an appointment. Your child needs to be four years old by December 31, 2016, to qualify.

**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>

**The following was written by Cooper Price in grade 6:**

On January 15, 2016, Hillcrest Grade 5 and 6 students had the pleasure of learning about the Syrian Refugee crisis. Our guest speaker, Mahmoud Allouch, the Syrian Refugee Coordinator for the Arabic Community Centre in Etobicoke, provided the group with informational slides, building our interest and knowledge. Mahmoud is working with the refugees in terms of providing housing, translators, and resources such as ESL and healthcare. After recapping the significant events of the problem, Mahmoud explained how we could help. It was a highly educational and character-building session. On behalf of all grades 5 and 6 students, we say thank you to Jane Gotlib, for assisting one of these families. She is one of a group of people in our neighbourhood who are sponsoring a family. She is one of many who are making a tremendous difference in the aid of the Syrians.

**Mr. Tilly, Ms. Booker and Ms. Steadman would like to add:**

One thing our school is going to do to help this particular family being sponsored by families in our neighbourhood is to put together ‘Welcome Boxes” for each member in the Syrian family. We’re asking the kindergartens and grade 1s to bring in new (or in brand-new condition) items for a 6 year old boy. The grades 2 and 3 students are being asked to bring in items for a 7 year old girl. Grades 4 and 5 are asked to bring in items for the parents. And the grade 6s are asked to bring in items for a 13 year old girl. A timeline and lists of suggestions will be provided shortly. Thank you for any support you might be able to give.

**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.

**Safety Request**

Please do not use the parking garage ramp to access the school. Please use the front entrance or the walkway adjacent to the ramp. Thank you for your support.

**Hillcrest is a Peanut Free Zone**

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

**New P.A. Day added**

April 15th has been added as an additional P.A. Day this year. Please mark your calendars.

**Winter has Arrived**

Please ensure that children are dressed appropriately for the weather. Hillcrest will follow the TDSB guidelines for severe weather when determining a shortened or indoor recess.

**Twitter**

Follow us at <https://twitter.com/tdsb_Hillcrest>

**Extracurricular and Sports update**

February 2nd …………………………………………….Junior Girls Volleyball tournament @ Hillcrest

February 5th …………………………………………….Grade 5 Girls Volleyball tournament@ Hillcrest

**Coming Soon….**

Report Cards sent home………… February 9th

Pizza Lunch…………………………… February 11th

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

P.A. Day……………………………… February 12th

Family Day………………………… February 15th