

SIGNALS From the Hill



APRIL 2012

SIGNALS EDITOR
DEE LABARCA

Principal's Message - Mrs. Tali Axelrod



Spring has arrived early this year and I think we are all ready to welcome the early daffodils that are springing up around Indian Hill School. It's wonderful to see the students going outside for recess and PE classes and it has gotten to the point where we have a lot to look back on and many reasons to be proud.

I am amazed at all the wonderful talent that we have in our school! The Indian Hill Talent Show was an enormous success with a standing room only crowd showcasing the talent of over 70 students. The event featured singers, dancers, and musicians of every genre as well as demonstrations in Kung-Fu and Rubix Cube. Indian Hill's artists have been hard at work using their skills to create beautiful art pieces that were proudly displayed in the K-12 District Art Show.

We look forward to the spring musical entitled: "Doo-Wop Wed Widing Hood" Our students are rehearsing, memorizing their lines, and learning their songs. This engaging musical, set in the 1950s, includes a sock-hoppin' '50s score complete with hula hoops. Little Red Riding Hood and the wise Prince Jason, winner of the math Olympics and the Nobel prize take front stage. We hope you can join us for the excitement on May 17th & 18th. Please note the time change to 7:30 pm. Indian Hill's PE department, in conjunction with the American Heart Association, held its annual fundraiser "Jump Rope for Heart". 106 students participated in this fun-filled, life-saving and educational community service

event that helped raise \$5,399, beating last year's total of \$5142! Our sixth grade students took part in the annual World Language Fair. World Language teachers representing Spanish, Chinese, Latin, Italian, and French classes introduced students to the expectations and benefits of their courses. Students browsed the creative displays and had the opportunity to speak to the teachers in order to choose what language they would study at Satz School next year.

The PLG organized a wonderful, fun-filled Winter Boardwalk here at Indian Hill. The effort and amount of time put into this event paid off and students and their families enjoyed a spectacular and very active evening. We would like to also thank the PLG for arranging for candygrams to be sold for Valentine's Day and we eagerly await their spring assembly to be presented by the American Repertory Ballet Company.

Career day was a wonderful experience for everyone, brought to us with much love and hard work by our PLG members. Parents and community members generously gave up a day in their busy schedules to come share their careers. What a great way to get our students excited about the different opportunities that are open to them as they learn about careers. We are fortunate to have such a supportive group of parents to help provide our students with great learning experiences!

When we return from Spring Break, we know that Indian Hill students are gearing up for a strong academic finish. Please note that the NJ ASK testing dates are: Grades 5 & 6: April 30, May 1, 2, and 3 (Make-ups the week of May 7-11), Grade 4: May 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 (Make-ups the week of May 14-17), Please help your child be prepared and alert each morning for NJ ASK testing. It is crucial that our students get to bed

Calendar of Events

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| 4/2 | End of Marking Period 3 |
| 4/3 | PLG Meeting—9:15 AM |
| 4/5—4/13 | Spring Recess |
| 4/5 | Cheeburger Cheeburger Fundraiser |
| 4/18 | Spring Pictures |
| 5/1 -3 | NJ Ask Grade 5 & 6 |
| 5/1 | PLG Meeting—9:15 AM |
| 5/10-11 | Plant Sale |
| 5/7-11 | NJ Ask Grade 4 |
| 5/7-11 | Teachers Appreciation Week |
| 5/11 | Hangout Night Grade 6 |
| 5/16 | PLG Teacher Appreciation Lunch |
| 5/17 | Newsletter Deadline |
| 5/17-18 | Spring Play |
| 5/18 | Four Hour Session Staff Professional Day |
| 5/23 | School Bus Safety Drill |
| 5/23 | Walk-a-thon |
| 5/23 | Four Hour Session |
| 5/24-28 | Schools Closed— Memorial Day |
| 5/30-31 | Grade 4 Patriotic Day |

early, eat a good breakfast, and be on time for testing each morning. We also want to encourage our students to do their best.

Once again, enjoy the warm weather and remember to take time to smell the flowers!

- The District Music Concert will take place on March 27th.

Asst. Principal's Message - Mr. Michael Ferrarese

"Health Notes" -

Barbara Wagner, RN -

As we approach the spring months, the students at Indian Hill are enjoying beautiful weather. With new sports equipment, the students are getting the most out of their outdoor recess time, while working hard during their instructional time. The past few months have seen many great things in terms of academics, technology, and the arts. In getting past time to reflect on past accomplishments, but keep our eyes on a strong finish to the academic year.

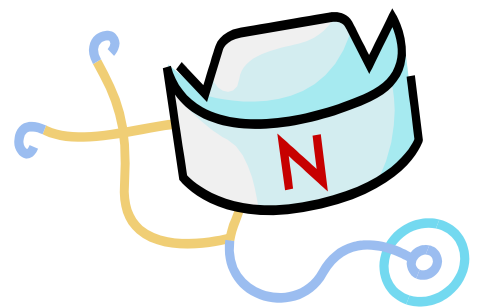
The month of March saw some great events for the Indian Hill School community. Our Media Center held a week-long Book Fair. This fund raiser proved successful two-fold; it was overwhelmingly successful financially for our school, and it also gave students and their family members the opportunity to browse the vast array of books and explore their reading interests. Many book fair visitors commented that the selection was the best they had ever seen and could not leave empty handed. Special thanks to Mrs. Nikki Frost and Mrs. Noreen Monigan for all the hard work that makes our book fair such a success. Sixty-seven students took part in the annual Holmdel District Art Fair at Holmdel High School. Under the guidance of art teachers Mr. Lane-Hryszkanich and Mrs. Plocinski, our students represented Indian Hill admirably in various artistic mediums. Students in grades one through twelve came with their families to admire the work of our talented youngsters. And also involving the Holmdel Schools community was the Holmdel High School students trained in a program that stresses teamwork, responsibility, and decision-making. They spent ties with a greater purpose to teach life lessons. This is a widely successful program organized by athletic director Randy Westrol which for the first year, featured

when they were 6th graders.

As we approach the NJASK testing, our staff is continuing to implement the Study Island online program as a means of reviewing relevant content areas while applying strategies to improve areas of attention. Teachers are infusing test readiness lessons as well as monthly timed writing assignments to acclimate students to the format and expectations of the test. We feel that this combination already creative lesson planning will prove effective come testing time.

As we look ahead, all grade level teachers are making the necessary preparations for their annual class trips while the physical education staff prepares for the June times of the year that our students traditionally look forward to. With that said, a memo is being sent home explaining how disciplinary infractions may result in limited participation in these events. So and follow the rules and regulations.

I would be very appreciative of any clothing donations at this time. I need new boys and girls underwear. I need shirts/pants/shorts/ and socks. Mostly size 10-12 if possible. Thanks-Happy Spring!



REMINDER: Early band and chorus begin at 8:10 am. Please drop off your child at 8:00 am, not earlier - there is no supervision in the school until then. Thank you!



President's Message - Christine Reddington



Fundraising News

I am so pleased that Spring is officially here! The children seem to be enjoying the beautiful outdoor weather, and I hope that is keeps getting nicer. We have had a couple of very busy months at Indian Hill. Our Winter Boardwalk was held on Friday, February 10, 2012 and it was such a tremendous success! I would like to thank Carolyn Zofchak and her committees for such a wonderful, safe and fun-filled night.

The children were able to purchase a candy gram for their friends or their family and they were delivered at the end of the school day by our very own PLG. Thank you to all who helped out.

And just last week we were so fortunate to have 68 presenters come in and talk to the children about their careers on Career Day. We had such an overwhelming response from the parents of Indian Hill, the most presenters in the history of Career Day. A gigantic thank you to Alicia Baylock and her talented crew of amazing women, Michelle Chen, Alyssa Annisa Quirk. You ladies have helped enrich the learning of the children of Indian Hill.

Career Day would not have been such a great success without our fabulous Hospitality Committee of Linda Fernand and Bianca Mackey. Thank you, thank you, thank you, for such a beautiful breakfast luncheon for all the presenters.

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at 9:15am in the cafeteria. Our nominating committee will be presenting a proposed slate of officers for the upcoming 2012-2013 Executive Board for the Indian Hill PLG. If you are interested in a board position, volunteering for next year, or have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at christinerdd@aol.com.

I would like to wish you happy holidays and a very relaxing spring vacation!

Christine Reddington
PLG President

The Gertrude Hawk Chocolate Sale was a success thanks to the children and their families.

On April 23rd during the school hours we are holding a Walk-A-Thon for the children. Details will follow.

On May 3rd and 4th during the school hours we are holding a Candy Gram Sale for the children. Details will follow along with pre-order forms.

If anyone is interested in volunteering for either event listed above please contact Carolyn.Zofchak@mail.alzointernational.com.



BOX TOP REPORT

Thank you to all of the families who collected box tops for us this year! We had a successful second collection receiving over 6,000 box tops. This will bring in approximately \$600 in cash to our school! We are very proud of our kids! There was a winner from each grade; Ms Moran - 4th grade, Ms Fullilove - 5th grade (Ms. Loschenko's class came in a very close second) and Mr. Dillon's class - 6th grade. They will be celebrating with popsicle and extra recess parties soon!! Don't forget to keep collecting for our next contest in the fall of next school year! Thank you!!

PLG Meeting Dates

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 9:15 am Tuesday, Nov. 1, 9:15am
Tuesday, Dec. 6, 9:15 am Tuesday, Jan. 3, 9:15 am
Tuesday, Feb. 7, 9:15 am Tuesday, Mar. 6, 9:15 am
Wednesday, Apr. 3, 9:15 am Tuesday May 1, 9:15 am
Tuesday, June 5, 9:30 am @ Red Oak

Signals Deadlines:

November 17th January 19th
March 22nd & May 17th

Email articles to: threede@comcast.net



Walk-a-thon

Just a reminder the walk-a-thon will be held on Wednesday, April 23rd. Look for papers to come home. Remember to wear your sneakers.

Career Day

We are pleased to report that by all accounts Career Day 2012 was a resounding success. The students heard from 68 presenters from a wide variety of professions. The kids did more than just listen; whether they were testing out their footwork on a dot drill or out a trial or looking at cell samples, they had many opportunities to get a hands-on look at the different professions.

As always, we were fortunate to have presentations from the Holmdel Fire and Rescue Company #2 and the Holmdel Police Department, including the Holmdel K-9 Unit. They are always highlights of the day for the students. We also had representatives from other NJ Police and Fire Departments, a NJ State Trooper, and the FBI.

Many presenters left with a spark in their eyes and a smile on their faces to classes all day, but they loved it and many want to come back next year. It gave a lot of parents an appreciation for what our teachers do every day!

The PLG Historians worked hard taking photographs during the day, including each presenter with his or her child. Please check out their display on the bulletin board outside the main office in the coming weeks.

Career Day involves the whole school, and the Career Day Committee would like to thank the administration, office staff, teachers, custodial staff and technical support staff for their support and participation. We also want to thank our wonderful presenters for sharing their time and talents to make Career Day such a success!

SCHOOL STORE

The school store will be held in the cafeteria during your child's lunch periods. We sell anything from pencil erasers to locker novelties and anything in between, priced from 10 cents to \$4.00. It is held every other Thursday, unless there is a conflict with Indian Hill on that day, i.e., early dismissal, Holiday Shop, etc. If you would like to volunteer for future dates, please contact Eileen Galarza at eizzy825@hotmail.com.



*News from Guidance -
Mrs. Eileen Calvert*

(based on the work of Dan Olweus 1993)

Normal Conflict

Occasional

- Not pre-planned, in the heat of the moment
- Genuine upset to both parties
- Trying to work things out
- Not trying to take something from someone
- Both parties admit some responsibility
- Effort to solve problem by both parties

Bullying Behavior

- Can happen repeatedly
- Premeditated, on purpose, intentional, planned
- Person being bullied is more upset
- Trying to be the one in control
- Want to take power or possessions from someone
- Blame is laid on the person who is bullied
- No effort to solve the problem by the person bullying

As you know, there has been a great deal of focus on the issue of bullying in the schools following the enactment of **New Jersey's Anti Bullying legislation**. It is not uncommon as student awareness is raised, for there to be **an upsurge in the identification of "bullying" situations**. Becoming familiar with the definition of bullying is one step; our next goal is to help students learn to apply the definition to actual situations.

Everyone faces conflict in daily life and through it can learn how to negotiate and build relationship skills. This is particularly true for our students in grades four through six. As children transitioning into pre-adolescence, they are just beginning to develop their interpersonal skills. There are many situations which have the potential to escalate in minor conflicts and we work very hard to provide them with the tools they need to resolve their differences. This can often occur with simply bring the children involved in the situation for some conflict resolution. While there can occasionally be consequences for their choices, our primary goal at this age is to help them learn better coping mechanisms that will help them throughout their life.

The power imbalance between the person bullying and the person being bullied is the best and quickest determinant of bullying versus conflict. Power can come in many forms: size, age, strength, number; social status; economic resources, ability, or sense of self. Children who bully usually find pleasure in their behaviors and the reaction of others. The perception of power imbalance is identified by the child who is bullied.

Students who are confronted about their **bullying behaviors often fall back on excuses such as "I was just teasing" or "They just can't take a joke!"**. It is important to understand that there is a great difference between joking, teasing and bullying.

Joking: Intention is to create humor and fun; usually between friends; reciprocal

Teasing: Intention is to provoke a reaction such as anger, embarrassment or confusion

Below is a chart which illustrates some other key differences between bullying and conflict

We are so very appreciative of the support of our parents this year as we worked to institute the mandated HI B guidelines while maintaining our child centered approach to dealing with these issues. We will continue to strive to create a safe, supportive and secure school environment in which all of our students can reach their full potential. If you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.





Indian Hill Earth Week April 16-20, 2012

Monday, April 16th - Friday, April 20th

"Green Tip of the Day" to be announced during morning announcements.

Thursday, April 18th

"No Garbage Lunch" day in cafeteria

"Compost Bin Demonstration" in cafeteria by Mr. Jim Brown, Assistant Recycling Coordinator of Monmouth County

Friday, April 27th - "ARBOR DAY"

Tree planting on school grounds by the Student Council & the Chair of the Shade Tree Committee, Jenni Blumenthal

Join Indian Hill in our Recycling Brigade

Indian Hill has partnered with Terracycle to further enhance **GREEN EFFORT** in our school. Terracycle will donate .02 cents to our school for each recycled item. Terracycle upcycles these items into new products, thus saving numerous items from ending up in landfills. We are collecting the following items:

Capri Sun/
Honest Kid

Cookie Wrappers

Snack Bags

Tape Dispensers/Rings

Glue Sticks/
Bottles

Pens/Markers

Collection bins for drink pouches, snack bags and cookie wrappers can be found in the Cafeteria. Bins for glue sticks/bottles, tape dispensers/rings and plastic pens and markers

Green Committee at tgogreenindianhill@yahoo.com.

