



PTA
everychild.one voice.

Important Dates

- **Mar. 9:** Parent Advisory Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, PHS Library
- **Mar. 10:** Conversation on Education: Assessments, 7:00 pm, BT Auditorium
- **Mar. 10:** BOE meeting, 5:00 pm, BT Library Classroom
- **Mar. 13:** Parent/Teacher Conference Day, No School K-5
- **Mar. 17:** BOE meeting, 7:00 pm, PHS Library
- **Mar. 18:** SEPTA Meeting, 6:30 pm, BT Library
- **Mar. 18:** HH PTA Meeting, 7:00 pm, HH Cafeteria
- **Mar. 23—27:** Blue Ribbon Week
- **Mar. 24:** Night of 1000 Stars, 6:30 pm, HH

Next Hotline deadline:
March 27, 2015—3pm

It's easy to submit an article!
Just type up your information
and email it to:

HarrisHillHotline@gmail.com

The Hotline

The Harris Hill PTA newsletter for the Harris Hill Community

March 2015

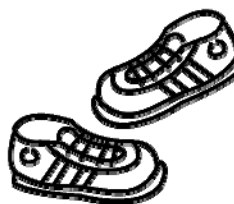
Find us on the web
<http://www.harrishill-pta.org>

Harris Hill Families,

Hope this letter finds you and your family warm and cozy - this Winter's grip is relentless! Just loved Mr. Nelson's letter this week-. In case you missed it, he encouraged everyone to step out from behind their computers and engage in face-to-face conversations. Want an opportunity? Don't let the cold weather stop you from attending the Conversation on Education at **7 pm Tuesday, March 10th in the Bay Trail Auditorium** for an overview of the assessments utilized throughout the Penfield Central School District. District employees will discuss how the data from these assessments are used. The discussion will cover common assessments used across the District to monitor student learning, as well as the New York State Common Core Assessments. The goal of the discussion is to provide information and engage the community in a thoughtful conversation on the topic of assessments and data driven instruction. Presenters will include: Dr. Thomas Putnam, Acting Superintendent; Jim Peiffer, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; Nicole Whitehead, K-12 STEM TOSA; and Kristin Williamson, K-12 ELA Instructional Coach.

Parents should also be aware that there are a number of community forums on the topic of supporting public education and our students being held throughout the Monroe County area. Last week over 1,000 parents, teachers and students attended an event held at Minerva DeLand School in Fairport that raised awareness of the consequences of the Governor's education agenda.

Harris Hill PTA...



Continued on next page...

A Bright Future Begins at Harris Hill!

HARRIS HILL ELEMENTARY MISSION STATEMENT

Harris Hill is an open school where passionate professionals embrace our community by teaching students to think critically, and develop a sense of responsibility and respect for all. The Harris Hill family promotes lifelong learning.

HARRIS HILL ELEMENTARY VISION STATEMENT

The students of Harris Hill Elementary will be critical thinkers, readers, and writers. They will be prepared to contribute as responsible leaders and learners in middle school and beyond.

From the Desk of Mr. Nelson

Please visit the Harris Hill website for newsletters and podcasts from Mr. Nelson.

<http://www.penfield.edu/HarrisHill.cfm?subpage=194434>



PTA President's Letter Continued...

This Thursday, March 5th, the Rochester Teachers Association hosted an open forum with area legislators and Fairport superintendent Dr. Bill Cala at Temple B'rith Kodesh from 4:30-6:00 pm. There is a community forum being held at Spencerport High School on March 19th at 7:00 PM. No registration is required for this event.

There are so many other ways you can help support our students. Please consider volunteering to help out at our upcoming Girls Night Out and Boys Night Out events. The most important thing we can do for our children is to be supportive and stay involved. We hope we will see YOU at our next PTA meeting on March 18th at Harris Hill.

Stay Warm!

Patti Hickey and Steph Fuchs
PTA Co-Presidents

SAVE THE DATE

"SPRINGO"

Friday, April 10th

6:00-8:00 p.m.

A fun night of **bingo** for the entire family!
Flyers will be sent home with students in early March-
Register by 3/27

Sponsored by the Harris Hill PTA
Interested in helping? Call Meghan Wagner (678-4854) or Linda Walsh (377-0300)



PTA Meeting

Please join us for the next Harris Hill PTA Meeting

**Wednesday, March 18th @7pm
Harris Hill Cafetorium**

The Next Meeting is May 13, 2015

All meetings are at Harris Hill at 7:00 p.m.

Conference Day Planned for April 27th

Please note that the district has added a conference day to the school calendar on Monday, April 27th. There will be NO SCHOOL for students in grades K-5 on this date. The additional day will provide time for elementary teachers to score the New York State ELA assessments completed by 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students.

Conversation on Education: Assessments and Data Driven Instruction

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

7:00 pm

Bay Trail Middle School Auditorium

Please join us for an overview of the assessments utilized throughout the Penfield Central School District and how the data from these assessments are used in meeting the needs of our students. The discussion will cover common assessments used across the District to monitor student learning, as well as the New York State Common Core Assessments. The goal of the discussion is to provide information and engage the community in a thoughtful conversation on the topic of assessments and data driven instruction. Presenters will include: Dr. Thomas Putnam, Acting Superintendent; Jim Peiffer, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; Nicole Whitehead, K-12 STEM TOSA; and Kristin Williamson, K-12 ELA Instructional Coach.

Confidentiality Statement

As we enter Harris Hill School as volunteers and employees, we will remember to respect the privacy of our children, their families and each other. All that we hear, see or read will remain confidential.



Pro-Social Sexuality

**Wed., March 18 @ 7-9pm
Bay Trail Library**

Presenters: The Advocacy Center

Teaching individuals with disabilities about sexuality is important in promoting independence, personal safety, healthy lifestyles, healthy relationships, and social inclusion. Parents will leave this workshop with the information they need to address the topic of sexuality with children, teens, or young adults with disabilities. Learn basic information to help an individual with a disability to understand the physical, emotional, and social changes of puberty and adolescence and learn strategies to use at home to explain the information.

*******All are Welcome to Attend*******

For more information about SEPTA please contact SEPTA Co-Presidents:

Aimee Pfeiffer - pauaimp@frontiernet.net or Mary Salluzzo - salluzzo23@yahoo.com



Find us on Facebook

SEPTA is Penfield's Special Education Parent Teacher Association. Our purpose is to create a positive, collaborative organization of parents and professionals to foster understanding, respect, support and appropriate education for all students with different abilities.



Upcoming Programs at Penfield Public Library

Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Penfield Public Library. Programs are free, but registration is required. You can register online at www.penfieldlibrary.org, or call 340-8720.

FROGGY...IS COMING TO THE LIBRARY!

Saturday, March 7

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM or
1:30 – 2:30 PM**

**For ages 3 - 8, accompanied
by an adult**



We are going to kick off Spring into ARTS month with a special Froggy celebration! Come meet Froggy, make some crafts, play a game or two, and listen to a story. Froggy will be in the children's room to greet you from 10:50 am – 12:00 pm and 1:25 – 2:30 pm. *Children under 3 are very welcome to come meet Froggy, but will be unable to attend the program.* **REGISTRATION** began Friday, February 20. You can also meet Froggy on **Friday, March 6**, from 4:00 – 5:15 pm. Children of all ages welcome, accompanied by an adult..



BEDTIME STORYTIME "WELCOME SPRING-TIME"

Thursday, March 19

7:00 – 7:30 PM

**Ages 3 – 7, accompanied by
an adult**

It's almost spring! Let's welcome back our fine feathered friends with stories, songs, and finger plays about birds. Wear your pajamas if you'd like, bring along a favorite stuffed animal, and be ready for a story time that's sure to be a real "tweet!" **REGISTRATION** began Thursday, March 5.

NAZARETH COLLEGE STORY BAND

Saturday, March 21

11:00 – 11:45 AM

For children ages 3 –10, accompanied by an adult



The Story Band is marching to Penfield Public Library to present an all-new interactive musical program. Afterward there will be a wonderful opportunity for children to meet and interact with a wide variety of musical instruments during the instrument petting zoo! **REGISTRATION** begins Friday, March 6.

SPRING INTO DANCE! w/ Kathleen Lacagnina

Friday, March 27

10:30 – 11:15 AM

**For children ages 2 -5, accompanied by an
adult**

Come hear a spring story and then get set for some spring-time fun! Class will include lots of creative movement! **REGISTRATION** begins Friday, March 13.



Continued on next page...

Upcoming Programs at Penfield Public Library...continued

JOIN US FOR SPRING BREAK ACTIVITIES!

SCRAP ART FUN

Monday, March 30

2:00 – 3:00 PM

For children in Kindergarten – 5th grade



Join us and use your creativity to produce a work of art using some recycled items as diverse as seashells, beads, fabric, pinecones, machine parts, game pieces, dried flowers, and more. Presenter Mary Jane Wenner will provide the instruction and inspiration and all the materials. Just bring your imagination! **REGISTRATION** begins Monday, March 16.

TALES FOR TAILS

Tuesday, March 31

10:30 – 11:30 AM

For children ages 4 and up and their families

Did you know that even dogs like to listen to stories? Come read to real live therapy dogs from "Tales for Tails." Drop-in, no registration required. You will sign up for reading time slots upon arrival. (*Children 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult, No REGISTRATION required.*)



CALLING ALL SUPER HEROES

Wednesday, April 1

10:30 – 11:30 AM

For children ages 3 – 7, accompanied by an adult



Come listen to a story then get ready to transform into a superhero! Parents, don't forget your cameras! **REGISTRATION** begins Wednesday, March 18.



BEDTIME STORYTIME "STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER!"

Wednesday, April 1; 7:00 – 7:30 PM

For children ages 3 – 8, accompanied by an adult

Come join us for our stuffed animal slumber storytime! Children bring a favorite stuffed animal to hear stories and songs about toys and then tuck them in for a sleepover at the library!! The next day, Thursday, April 2 between 2 – 5:30pm, children come back to pick up their animals and a souvenir of their animal's experience! (**Make sure to bring an animal your child can part with for the night.**) **REGISTRATION** begins Wednesday, March 18.

Continued on next page...

Upcoming Programs at Penfield Public Library...continued

DOLL'S SPRING TEA PARTY

Thursday, April 2; 2:00 – 3:30 PM

For children in grades K – 5

You and your favorite doll are invited to our fancy spring tea party. We'll enjoy sweet refreshments, make a craft, and talk about our dolls. Please dress you and your doll in your favorite "party clothes" to stroll down our red carpet! **REGISTRATION** begins Thursday, March 19.



YOGA STORYTIME

Friday, April 3; 10:30 – 11:00 AM

For children ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult, older siblings welcome

Lauren Seaver of Rochester Yoga Preschool will conduct an interactive storytime that includes fun animal yoga poses and creative movement! **REGISTRATION** begins Friday, March 20.

LIBRARY LEGO LAB

Friday, April 3; 1:30 – 2:45 PM

For children ages 6—11



Do you love to build with Legos? Come join other Lego fans for our Library Lego Lab! We'll provide all the Legos, you bring your imagination. Creations will be photographed then dismantled for our next Lego-Lab! **REGISTRATION** begins Friday, March 20.

Attention 5th Grade Parents— Mark your Calendars:

The following events for fifth graders are coming up at the end of the school year.

- 5th grade bash- Friday, June 12 from 6:30-9 at Harris Hill (we will need parent volunteers)
- Camp Arrowhead- June 19
- 5th Grade Breakfast and Slide Show- June 22 at 7:30 am at Harris Hill
- 5th Grade Talent Show- June 22- parent show in the evening



Notes From the Nurse's Office



Attendance

Parents, please remember to notify the health office at (585) 249-6607 if your child is going to be out of school for vacations, personal reasons, etc. as well as illness.

5th Grade Parents...

Scoliosis Screening:

Starting the week of March 9th, I will begin New York State mandated Scoliosis Screening for 5th grade students during Physical Education Classes. If I have received a Health Appraisal form for your child for 5th grade AND the doctor has documented a scoliosis screening, your student will not be screened at school. If my findings are not within New York State guidelines, you will be notified and asked to take your child to your own physician for further examination.

Immunization Requirement:

Please be aware that according to New York State guidelines, all children entering 6th grade in September will need to have a shot for diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus (**also called Tdap**) as well as Varicella (Varivax **which is the vaccine for chicken pox.**) You will be receiving a notification letter from Bay Trail Health Office very soon. Please take the time to fill out this form and return it to Bay Trail Nurse's Office as soon as possible.



Change in Medication Administration in the Health Office:

Recently, our District Physician pulled her standing order allowing Nurses to apply Vaseline, Calamine, Aloe and Unscented lotion for dry skin as well as allowing administration of cough drops in the health office. This has always been a blanket order to help students get through their school day. The SED will not allow any medication, prescription or OTC (oral as well as topicals) to be administered without a doctor's order. So, going forward if your child needs to have lotion for their dry skin, Vaseline for their chapped lips or a cough drop at school, I will need to have a doctor's order and this includes oral medications (prescription or OTC) as well. We are presently working on altering our health appraisal forms to include MD permission to administer the things I've listed above. Thanks you for your patience in this matter.

Please feel free to call my office anytime with questions or concerns @ (585) 249-6607.

Yours in good health,

Kathy Richards, R.N.



Harris Hill Celebrates Reading!

During the week of April 12th—18th, libraries across the country will celebrate ALA's National Library week. The purpose of this celebration is to promote family literacy, and to stress the importance and FUN of reading as a lifelong pastime!

And so ...

Harris Hill Elementary proudly presents:

THE NIGHT OF A THOUSAND STARS

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2015

Time: 7:00pm (sharp!) - 8:30pm

Doors do not open until 6:45pm

Where: Harris Hill Elementary
2126 Penfield Road, Penfield

Please note: As always, parking at Harris Hill will be very limited. There will be NO PARKING in the bus loop. Overflow parking is available at Wegmans, however, due to NYS child safety seat laws we are unable to provide shuttle buses. Please cross carefully and carpool if you can!

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Star Readings
(7:00—7:45)

- * Receive a ticket upon arrival for your cluster assignment
- * Play trivia led by your 5th grade hex hosts
- * Hear 3 great stories read by your cluster's stars

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Entertainment
(7:45—8:30)

- * Meet and greet all of our stars in the Gymnasium
- * Collect autographs
- * Listen to our talented Harris Hill musicians
- * Enjoy light refreshments in the Cafeteria

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If you or anyone in your family requires any special accommodation for this event, please contact either Marc Nelson, Building Principal, at 249-6602 or Melissa Aust, event chair, at melis_aust@hotmail.com.

Harvest of the Month Calendar



Month/Date	Featured Item
Thursday March 19, 2015	Parsnips
Wednesday April 22, 2015	Onions
Thursday May 21, 2015	Radishes
Friday June 12, 2015	Peas



Communicating with the Harris Hill Community

To communicate with the Harris Hill Community, you can utilize:

1. **The Hotline** (The monthly PTA newsletter) - email HarrisHillHotline@gmail.com to submit articles for inclusion in The Hotline.
2. **Enews** (weekly electronic newsletter published every Friday) - email HarrisHille-news@gmail.com with the information to be published
3. **Website** — You can go to www.harrishill-pta.org and use the Contacts page to submit information you would like published.

Also, follow Mr. Nelson on Twitter at [@harrishillpcsd](https://twitter.com/harrishillpcsd)

