



Hilltop preschool



Learning With Love

Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 1, July 2010



First Day of School Checklist

Monday September 13th is the first day/week of school. On your child's first day, please provide the following:

- Any outstanding registration paperwork not turned in at Registration Day.
- A complete change of clothes (or two or three) including shoes.
- Earthquake kit.
- Sack lunch that does not require refrigeration.
- Please apply sunscreen prior to school as needed.

**Note the teachers will also let you know of specific items to bring the first day of school via yahoo groups as the time get's closer.*

Auction 2010 - Time to get Busy!

Hilltop raises over 25% of its operating budget from our annual auction, so is vital that all families plan to attend the auction on Friday, November 12th & bring friends & family! Our auction theme is **Ready, Set Grow** in honor of our new and exciting school programs!

Please be sure to check out the auction packets you receive at Registration Day (green folder). The packet contains a sample donation letter and all the information you need to get started. Please start working on your donations now! Hilltop's financial health depends on every family working hard to make the auction a huge success! Thank you!

We've already received a **VERY exciting** auction item from the Mullens family. How does a **ONE WEEK vacation in Palm Desert** sound for Thanksgiving week? Start thinking about bidding on this item & get your vacation time planned. What a great time of the year to enjoy the desert with your family!

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Important Dates

- July 19th, Monday, Registration Day 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- August 28, Sat., Clean up Day 9 a.m. -1 p.m.
- September 3rd, Friday **MANDATORY for all parents working in the classroom:** Classroom Mechanics 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- September 9th, Thursday, **MANDATORY for all parents of Hilltop.** Philosophy Day 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- September 13th, Monday-First Day of School!
- Sept. 15th, Wed., First **Mandatory** General Meeting. All families are required to attend 7-9 p.m.
- Sept. 25, Sat., Clean up day 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- September 28th, Tuesday, Restaurant Fundraiser Night at BJ's Pizza.

Orientation & Philosophy Days

Orientation to Hilltop is divided into **two** sessions held on **two** days.

Classroom Mechanics will be held Friday, September 3rd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This session is **mandatory for all parents who will be working in the classrooms.** You will learn the workstations and duties of the classrooms.

Philosophy and Parent In-Service will be held on Thursday, September 9th also from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This session is **mandatory for all Hilltop families:** new, returning, Seeds, Sprouts, Blooms and Blossoms, everyone.

Children are not allowed at either session since we cover a lot of information. Thank you!



Hilltop Preschool Newsletter

Meet the Teachers!



SEEDS

My name is Sara Petrella and I am the Seeds, Monday and Tuesday class, teacher. I am looking forward to my eighth year as we embark on a new journey together, diving deeper into the Reggio Emilia Philosophy.

I am anticipating this year to be filled with new experiences, different approaches and memorable projects. I am excited about learning with your child and discovering what makes

each child unique. I am ready for our seeds to get planted and begin to grow.

Thank you for placing your trust in Hilltop. This will be a year to remember.

Love,
Sara



SPROUTS

Welcome to Hilltop everyone! A little about my teaching career. I began my early childhood career over 20 years ago caring for children in my home-based childcare business. From there when my eldest child turned 4 we joined Hilltop where I was inspired to pursue a career in Early Childhood Education (ECE). While attending Hilltop as a

working parent, I returned back to school to get an advanced certificate in ECE through UCLA Extension and began teaching at Hilltop in 1998. In 2003 I became the school's director.

Personally, my family is lucky to live in Fountain Valley close to Hilltop. My youngest daughter, McKenna has just finished her last year at Hilltop while my other two daughters are a junior in high school (FVHS) and a sophomore in College (Evergreen State College).

I am looking forward to working and collaborating with you and your child this year as we grow and learn together in the Sprouts program.

Love, Lynette Anderson



BLOOMS

Hello Hilltop Families!

My name is Jennie Ivy and I will be the Blooms teacher. I am very excited to meet you in September and look forward to a year filled with memorable experiences.

I came to Hilltop as a co-op parent with my son attending the co-op program. I began teaching the co-op program the following year and have been at Hilltop for eight years now. I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University of Long Beach and I also hold a Children's Center Teaching Permit. I began teaching preschool while in college and have enjoyed teaching for more than twenty years.

I grew up in Fountain Valley and currently reside in Huntington Beach with my husband and three sons.

Love,
Jennie



BLOSSOMS

My name is Malia Daguio-Silversmith. This is my 7th year as being a part of the Hilltop community and this will be my 4th year as a teacher.

I began working in education when I home schooled my two nieces and furthered this work as a working parent at Hilltop 2003-2007. I then began my new path through the early childhood education program at Vanguard University in the summer of 2007.

I will be teaching the Blossoms along with Anthonette Vicencio this year. I am looking forward to exploring new relationships and to the discovery that these relationships will lead to. It is an exciting time to be a member of this community

Love,
Malia



BLOSSOMS

Hello Everyone! My name is Anthonette Vicencio and I am the Blossoms assistant teacher. I have been at Hilltop since 2008 as a co-op parent while my husband, Al Vicencio, serves his second term as the Maintenance Chairperson. My work began in early childhood education in 1996 through 2004. I then left the education profession to raise a family. This year will be my first year back in teaching. I am excited and looking forward to this wonderful journey with you and your child. Thank you and welcome to Hilltop! Love, Anthonette



Hilltop Preschool Newsletter

Meet the Board of Directors

President – Shona Killoughery

This will be my third year on the Board & my first as President (coming after 2 years as Ways & Means Chair). The President oversees the Board and its responsibilities and acts as the official representative of the school at all school events and activities. My son TC is currently at Hilltop and my daughter Eire, a former Hilltop student has moved onto kindergarten.

Maintenance – Al Vicencio.

We've been at Hilltop since 2008 & this is my second term as the Maintenance Chair. My oldest daughter, Kayla, just finished Hilltop in June 2010. My youngest daughter, Emma, will continue to attend Hilltop this fall in the Sprouts program. I really enjoy working with Hilltop parents involving maintenance & projects. I'll coordinate your maintenance obligations and will oversee the monthly cleanup days. I look forward to another great year. See you at registration day.



Vice President – Stephanie Gallegos.

I am Stephanie Gallegos the Vice President of the Hilltop Preschool Board for the upcoming 2010 - 2011 school year. This is the third year I have been here at this wonderful school and my second year as the Vice President. My son Alexander is an alumnus and is entering the first grade this year and my daughter Alicia will be attending this year in the Blossoms class. My job as your Vice President is to make sure that all of the parents have a job for the year so that our school can run as efficiently as possible. I also coordinate a number of events such as Orientation, Open House and Picture Day. If anyone has any questions or concerns you can feel free to email me at Amerimelt@gmail.com or call me at 808-938-9805.



Publicity Chair – Laura Ehrlich.

This is my first year on the Board! A newbie! My older daughter Molly will be returning for her 3rd year in the Blossoms program. Megan, my "baby" will be starting in Seeds. My position in Publicity is responsible for the monthly Hilltop Newsletters, flyers and for "getting the word" out about the school and its events. I'm here for questions if you need me!



Secretary – Daphne Lietz.

Hi, I'm Daphne Lietz! I take notes at the Board & general meetings as well as impart fines for missed meetings, not the best part of the job. I have a son, Camden, who is a Hilltop Alumnus, now going into the 1st grade, & a daughter Kiera, who will be in the Sprouts program this year. This is going to be such an exciting year at Hilltop we're truly looking forward to it. So welcome to all the new families, we can't wait to meet you!

Treasurer – Mary Banks.

My daughter Kate will be starting her 2nd year here at Hilltop moving into the Sprouts program. My older daughter, Molly, also attended Hilltop and is now in 2nd grade. This is my 2nd year as treasurer, and my 3rd year on the board. I also served as the Co-Op & Pre-K Chairperson when Molly was here at Hilltop. I have really enjoyed being on the board and I look forward to another year of being involved with this wonderful program! I'm responsible for managing the school's finances including the tracking and collection of tuition, donations & expenses.

Ways & Means – Beth Craig.

This is our family's second year at Hilltop. My daughter Marea is in the Blossoms class, and I have another daughter, Evie, who is almost two. I'm happy to be your Ways and Means chairperson this year. I will be handling the school's fundraisers, including the Annual Auction and Trike-a-Thon. I look forward to a great year of working with you!

Program Chair – Chris Hay.

This will be my fourth time on the Board. My position as the Program Chair is to be responsible for ensuring registration packets are up to date, assisting in the registration process during Registration Day, answering questions families may have regarding the registration packets and to give school tours to prospective families. I look forward to meeting you on Registration Day!

OCCPPNS Rep. - Vacant Position.

The OCCPPNS rep is responsible for attending monthly meetings for the Orange County chapter of the California Council of Parent Participation Nursery Schools organization. They then report back their findings at Board & monthly school meetings. Please see Lynette if you are interested in filling the position!

Hilltop Preschool Newsletter

2010-2011 Master Calendar

August

- 8-3 Board meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 8/28 Clean-up Day 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

September 2010

- 9-3 Classroom Mechanics **Mandatory for parents working in the classroom.** 9 a.m.-1p.m.
- 9-7 Board meeting -7-9 p.m.
- 9-9 Philosophy 9 a.m.-1 p.m. **Mandatory for all**
- 9-13 First day of school! 9:30 a.m. -1 p.m.
- 9-15 General Meeting-**1st Mandatory**- 7-9 p.m.
- 9-25 Clean-up Day 9 a.m. -1 p.m.

October 2010

- 10-5 Board Meeting -7-9 p.m.
- 10-6 Pumpkin Patch Field Trip-Tanaka Farms
- 10-20 General Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 10-25 **Blooms Closed**-Parent Teacher conference
- 10-28 Pajama Day for Sprouts/Blossoms
- 10-29 **Blossoms Closed**-Parent Teacher conference
- 10-30 Clean-up Day 9 a.m. -1 p.m.

November 2010

- 11-1 Pajama Day for Seeds and Blooms
- 11-2 Board meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 11-11 **Hilltop Closed**-Veterans Day
- 11-12 Hilltop Ready, Set, Grow AUCTION!
- 11-17 General Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 11-18 Farmer's Market Fieldtrip 9:30 a.m.
- 11-19 Stone Soup Celebration 11:30 a.m.
- 11-22-11-26 **Hilltop Closed** Thanksgiving Break

December 2010

- 12-7 Board Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 12-17 How We Celebrate -Holiday Potluck 11:30 a.m.
- 12-18 Hilltop Clean-up Day 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 12-20 -12-31 **Hilltop Closed**-Winter Break

January 2011

- 1-3 First day back at school
- 1-4 Board Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 1-17 **Hilltop Closed**-Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 1-19 General Meeting-**2nd Mandatory**- 7-9 p.m.
- 1-29 Clean-up Day 9 a.m. -1 p.m.

***Possible Tide Pools Field Trip this month

February 2011

- 2-1 Board Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 2-6 Possible Surf City Run Fundraiser
- 2-16 General Meeting 7-9 p.m. Priority Registration
- 2-18 **Hilltop closed** in observance Lincoln's Birthday
- 2-21 **Hilltop closed** President's Day.
- 2-26 Clean-up Day 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

March 2011

- 3-1 Board Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 3-3 Open House 2-4 p.m.
- 3-16 General Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 3-19 Safari Night 4:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- 3-22 Amtrack/Zoomars Field Trip 9 a.m. -1 p.m.
- 3-26 Clean-up Day 9 a.m. -1 p.m.

April 2011

- 4-1 Legoland Field Trip
- 4-5 Board Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 4-13 General Meeting-**3rd Mandatory!** (note...on 2nd Wednesday instead of traditional 3rd Wednesday).
- 4-18-4-22 Hilltop Closed- Spring Break
- 4-30 Clean-up Day 9 a.m. -1 p.m.

***Possible Environmental Nature Center Field Trip

May 2011

- 5-3 Board Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 5-14 Spring Festival/Trike-a-thon
- 5-18 General Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 5-21 Seeds conference optional day
- 5-24-5-27 **Hilltop Closed**-Parent Teacher Conferences.
- 5-28 Clean-up Day 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 5-30 **Hilltop Closed**- Memorial Day

June 2011

- 6-7 Board Meeting 7-9 p.m.
- 6-10 Last Day of School
- 6-11 Clean-up Day 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

