

# HARBOR HILL SCHOOL

"Celebrating Children"

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## Harbor Hill News April 2018

We would like to thank our March PFA events committees and the PFA Multi-Cultural committee for all their hard work this past month. Although they say, "March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb," it didn't feel that way with snow at the end of the month. Hopefully, April will be brighter and we will be able to play outside as much as possible. During this month, students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will participate in the NYS ELA Assessments on April 11<sup>th</sup> and April 12<sup>th</sup>. NYS Math Assessments take place in May. Additionally, all second grade classes will go back in time as they travel to the One Room Schoolhouse Museum in Stony Brook. Students enjoy this amazing, hands-on experience of what it was like going to school in 1850.

There are two PFA events this month. First, the PFA Community Service Committee is collecting for the program called "Care and Share." They are collecting new and gently used items from your home including (but not limited to) all sizes of clothing, shoes, books, linens, blankets, housewares, games, backpacks, small collectibles, toys, games (no missing pieces please) and/or any other item in your home that you aren't using. These will be donated to our own Roslyn families, as well as other families in neighboring communities. Secondly, at the end of the month we will be speaking to students about the Glove It campaign, which was started by Roslyn High School students to encourage drivers to put cell phones in the glove compartment while driving.

In addition to the Glove It campaign, we are constantly providing learning opportunities that develop self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationships, and responsible decision making. At this month's PFA meeting, on April 10<sup>th</sup>, I shared a Social-Emotional Learning presentation in which we talk about the many different programs and strategies we use to ensure we are growing not only as readers and writers, but as the best little people we can! The presentation will be posted on the district website, so be sure to check it out. Additionally, our new Mindfulness Room is up and running, providing a safe and comfortable space for students to decompress, relax, and/or work together to solve problems. We will also be having another Peaceful Bus program on April 30, to continue to reinforce and generalize the social-emotional skills being taught across multiple settings.

An important part of our Social-Emotional curriculum involves our books of the month. They are carefully selected to address the important components of social-emotional learning and teach lessons related to growth mindset and mindfulness. Last month, our students had a special treat as administrators from all over the district read the book of the month as part of our Olympic themed PARP (Parents as Reading Partners) Week. The students enjoyed earning medals for all their reading events. Additionally, the students enjoyed the story, [The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes](#), about a girl who when faced with making a mistake, was able to bounce back and laugh it off.

Lastly, we would like to share with you April's book of the month, [The Most Magnificent Thing](#) by Ashley Spires. In this book, the main character struggles with creating "the most magnificent thing." Through her persistence, she begins to get frustrated and then calms down by going for a walk. When she returns to her work, she is surprised to see her neighbors' response to her creations and she is once again able to persist and create *the most magnificent thing*. As part of our growth-mindset curriculum, students will learn how they can apply persistence at school, at home, and in all areas of their lives.

We hope you enjoy this month's programs and look forward to seeing your children learn to persist through any challenges that they may face.