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# HURDEN LOOKER SCHOOL

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## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:**

As the holidays approach, we tend to choose gifts based on what is popular and what everyone has. Sometimes being unique and different can have its advantages.

### **Choose Wisely – A Guide to Gifts for Children**

Choosing an appropriate children's gift can be a difficult task. With so many choices, a trip to the local toy store is likely to make you dizzy. Here are some guidelines to help you make great choices – gifts that go beyond the latest craze and provide years of value and entertainment.

**Play together:** Look for toys and games that require family participation.

**Promote independent play:** As important as family time is, children should be able to entertain themselves too. Make sure your child has toys and activities he or she can enjoy alone, such as crafts, books, puzzles, etc.

**Ready, action:** Children need physical exercise. A ball, bat, and glove, basketball, football, in-line or ice skates, a jump rope, hula hoop, Frisbee, or a badminton set are great ways to promote physical fitness.

### **Something to show for it:**

Children love to produce things. Think about buying an inexpensive or disposable camera and photo album, a paint set and

some paper, a sketch book and colored pencils, mosaics, sewing or weaving kits, erector sets, beading material, origami paper, or a cookbook and cooking utensils.

**Lesson learned:** If your children show interest in a particular sport, activity, or art project, (or if you think they'd like it), sign them up for a few lessons or an introductory class.

**Make reading a gift:** Give a subscription to an age-appropriate magazine (*Sports Illustrated for Kids*, *Ranger Rick*, etc.), a book on tape, a toy with a book or a piece of sports equipment with a biography of a famous athlete.

**Avoid the screens:** Video games remain popular gifts. If you decide to purchase video games, buy only age and content-appropriate games.

Tracey L. Wolff  
Principal  
Source: NAESP Report to Parents

## **BUILDING BETTER BEHAVIOR**

**Give positive attention.** Try to set aside a little uninterrupted time with your child each day, and let him/her take the lead in deciding how to spend it.

**Set ground rules.** Your youngster may be more likely to behave if he knows exactly what you expect.

**Discuss consequences.** The best time to talk about consequences is before a rule is broken. Let your

youngster know in advance what will happen if she misbehaves or breaks a rule.

*Source: Home School Connection*

## **REPORT CARDS**

Report cards are available online **ONLY**. You can check your child's grades and report card through the parent portal on the school website at [www.hillsidek12.org](http://www.hillsidek12.org). If you do not have a log-in and password set-up, please email [kmliner@hillsidek12.org](mailto:kmliner@hillsidek12.org) with your name and the names and schools of your children. If you do not have access to a computer at home or in the Hillside Public Library, please call or write to the school for a hard copy.

All fines, lunch fines and book fines must be paid and library books returned to gain access to your child's information.

## **TERRIFIC JOB!**

We would just like to take a moment to celebrate the generosity of our students to our Global Community at UNICEF. We are proud to announce that our children at Hurden Looker raised \$495.00.

A special thank you for the students and families for their support and let your students know what an impact their donations make to children in need. I would also like to thank Mrs. Williams and Ms. Ulzheimer for running this event each year.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) uses charitable donations to provide clean water wells, immunizations, vitamin rich

meals for malnourishment, mosquito nets for areas with malaria, educational supplies, and even soccer balls to refugee children.

It is amazing to think our small city of Hillside can make a life-changing impact on several villages across the world. Congratulations to ALL!!

Johanna Williams and  
Janice Ulzheimer.

## **ENGAGING WEBSITES FOR CHILDREN**

If your child has access to a computer, consider logging onto these wonderful learning websites: [www.everydaymathonline.com](http://www.everydaymathonline.com) Student user names and passwords should have been sent home by all classroom teachers. In addition to math games for students, the site offers many parent resources.

To help prepare students for upcoming PARCC assessments which require keyboarding skills:

**FreeTypingGame.Net** is the premiere site to play free typing games, lessons and tests. Our Typing Tutor is the best way to learn to type. No downloads, installations or registration required.

Treasures Reading-  
<http://treasures.macmillanmh.com/new-jersey>

Study Island – See school's website "Parents Corner" for Parent Information letter. All the students log in information is located in the front or back of the student planner

## **DELAYED OPENINGS**

On days in which the weather is not severe enough to close school, the Superintendent may elect to designate a delayed opening.

Please refer to the Delayed Opening Schedule listed below. This information is also posted on the district website: [www.hillsidek12.org](http://www.hillsidek12.org).

Delayed Opening 10:35AM

## **CHARACTER EDUCATION:**



This month HL will emphasize the character trait of ***KINDNESS/COMPASSION***. As well as the life skill: Resolving Conflict

What does it mean to be kind/compassionate?

- caring about how others feel.
- doing kind and thoughtful deeds for people, especially those in need.
- putting other people's needs before your own.

COMPASSION and KINDNESS are character traits that we all have the ability to show to others. However, we often put it aside for other needs.

This month HL students will explore various ways to show compassion for others as well as Resolving Conflict.

Resolving Conflict is a life skill that we all need to use throughout life. How can you resolve conflict?

Be Accommodating: Agreeable, non-assertive behavior, cooperative.

Compromising: Import all parties achieve basic goals and maintain good relationships

Problem solving: needs of both parties are legitimate and important. High respect for mutual support.

## **HL 100 BOOK CHALLENGE**

Third and Fourth students should be reading a minimum of 15 minutes every night to complete one step on their reading log sheet. Their goal is to reach 100 steps, which will equal 25 hours of reading. Let's keep reading!

*Congratulations* to those children who have reached the 100 step goal!

## **SAFETY:**

Students are not to be dropped off before ***8:00AM*** as there is no supervision. Also, **do not pull into the school's parking lot.** If you would like to enter the school, please do so through the left side of the building off of Liberty Ave.

## **BIRTHDAY TREATS:**



Birthdays will be recognized at the end of the school day. Parents may bring in cupcakes or ice cream cups. These must be delivered to the main office by noon. **Please do not bring in whole cakes, balloons, party favors, or cameras.**

Note: Unless the whole class is invited, teachers will not allow students to pass out party invitations in school. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**THE FACULTY AND  
STAFF OF THE  
HURDEN LOOKER  
SCHOOL WOULD LIKE  
TO WISH EVERYONE A  
VERY MERRY  
HOLIDAY SEASON!**

**SCHOOL RE-OPENS**

**Wednesday, JANUARY 2, 2019**



**Have a Happy New  
Year!**