



Hilltop
Christian
Nursery
School

Hilltop Happenings

Notes from the Director:

Well, here we are again!! We are anxiously awaiting the start of a new year, our teachers are gearing up, and I know that many of you are excited to begin as well.

To many of you, this is your first newsletter, and to you we say "Welcome" to Hilltop and this Hilltop Happenings newsletter. We send this out to all current families as well as many of our past families, and it certainly helps all of us stay in touch.

Many of you will be reading this newsletter, and your little ones aren't so little anymore. Just today, I was at Hersheypark and saw a boy I had in the three-year-old class. He is now 14!!! I didn't even recognize

him! Time flies doesn't it? I've been reminded of that many times this summer. It seems that this summer, especially, the Lord has placed many previous Hilltop families in my path. What a joy it has been catching up with all of you. While it's great to see you in person, we are just as excited when we receive a note or email updating us as well. For example, if your "Hilltopper" is now participating in a school play, or excelling in baseball, drop us a note and let us know. We LOVE, and I mean this sincerely, we LOVE to hear how things are going for all of you.

In His Service,
Miss Becky

What has your family been up to this summer? Is your child involved in a neat activity or service project? Drop us a line and let us know!

Hilltop Christian Nursery School

Volume 2, Issue 2

September, 2009

Don't Miss:

- ☺ John 3:16
- ☺ All-School Hot Dog Lunch on Sept. 29th & 30th at 11:45 a.m.
- ☺ Ways to Support Hilltop
- ☺ Cute Kid Quips
- ☺ See You at the Pole
- ☺ Prayer Requests

Inside this issue:

See You at the Pole	2
Upcoming Events	2
John 3:16	2
Financial Scholarship	3
Prayer Requests	3
Grocery Shopping	3
Hot Dog Lunch	Back

Cute Kid Quips

In Miss Lois and Miss Judy's morning 3's class, they were busy discussing the story of Noah's Ark. Miss Lois asked the class how the animals came onto the ark, and she heard the answer, "Two by two. One male and one email."

Anna, 4, was telling her mom that she wanted to begin to

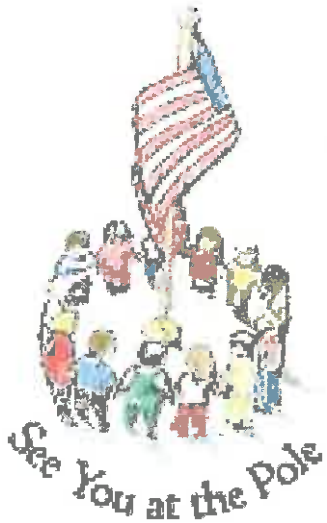
take dance lessons. Her mom asked her what type of dance she wanted to do, and Anna answered, "Amish dance." Her mom was very confused by her answer, so she asked her what she meant. Anna said, "You know...the kind where the girls hold their arms straight by their sides, and only their legs move." Ahhhh....IRISH dance lessons!

Maddie, 3, was talking to her mom about the fact that Hilltop was coming to an end. Maddie looked at her mom and said, "Now do I go to high school?"

Children certainly do make you smile, don't they! We can't wait to hear more cute stories this year!

See You at the Pole!!

We encourage all of you to join us at this year's See You at the Pole™ event. If you are unfamiliar with this event, it is a day when schools around the world will gather around their flagpoles to pray for their school, friends, families, and country.



This year's See You at the Pole™ event will take place on Wednesday, September 23rd. Hilltop's event will begin at 8:45 a.m. and will end at 9:15 a.m. in time for the children to enter their classrooms. We will take time to pray together and some scripture verses will be read. Please join us to gather and pray for our school!

John 3:16

As many of you know, for a number of years now, Hilltop's staff has a yearly reading project which we complete together as a group. We've found over the years, that reading a book together and taking time to discuss it at staff meetings, has really helped us to bond over a certain topic. Last year was the first year that we announced the staff book to all of you and encouraged you to read along with us. Many of you participated, and it was great to see. Because the response was so positive, we are doing it again this year.

This year, Hilltop's staff will be reading 3:16 The Numbers of Hope, by Max Lucado.

I am very excited about this book. So much so, that we have added many copies of the book to Hilltop's library cart. They are just waiting for all of you to check them out and read them at home. Also, in case you are like me and you like to highlight and mark your books, we also have some books available for purchase. Stop by (or call) the Hilltop office to purchase them.

While we are doing the staff reading, our staff members also add an additional challenge. Each year, I give them a passage of scripture that they are encouraged to memorize. We realize how important it is to continually study

and memorize God's Word. Last year, we challenged 100 of you to memorize the 23rd Psalm along with us. I really didn't know what to expect when I put that challenge out there, but how exciting it was to watch many of you take it seriously. On graduation day, we had 94 people on our list, so we just about made it!! Thank you to the many of you that participated!! I could write an entire newsletter on the great stories I heard from you regarding how your family worked together to memorize this Psalm.

This year, we've increased the challenge. Are you ready? It's going to take all of us to make it happen! Our goal is to have 316, yes, I said 316 people say the verse John 3:16 by the end of the year. Now I know what you're saying...I already know that verse. That's O.K., let me know, we'll add your name to the list and then you can challenge yourself to memorize what the staff is memorizing which is John 3:16-21.

We are going to post a chart at the entrance to Hilltop to help us keep track of how many have said it. Once you can say the verse, let me (Miss Becky) know so that we can add your name to our chart!!! You don't even have to say it out loud to me, just let me know that you can, and I'll add your name.

I've written John 3:16 below. Start working on it! This is a wonderful family project. You can all work together to help each other learn this life-changing verse!

Happy Memorizing!!!!

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

Come be a part of Hilltop! Feel free to join us for these special events!

Call the office with questions: 533-8956

Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendars Now for Some Important Upcoming Events at Hilltop:

- September 23rd - See You at the Pole™ Event
- September 29th & 30th - Hot Dog Lunch
- December 22nd (10:30 a.m.) & 23rd (10:30 a.m. & 1:15 p.m.) - Christmas Programs
- February 3rd & 4th, 2009 - Community Open House (10-11 a.m. both days)

Watch Hilltop's website: hcnskids.org for more information.

Financial Scholarship Blesses Family

The last few years, Hilltop has been blessed by some special families. These families, many of which want to remain anonymous, provide a financial gift to Hilltop which covers the tuition cost of a child. I am always amazed at this act of generosity. Not only do the families not know who will be receiving the gift, but they don't even want the benefitting family to know about them. Isn't that an amazing act of sacrificial love and giving!

Last year, I opened an envelope, and was once again amazed to find a monetary gift from one of our dear supporters. After much prayer, and reading over the financial request forms, I applied the gift to Crystal Evans, and her son, Jakari. Jakari attended our 4-year-old program. Many times throughout the year, Crystal would

visit my office, and let me know how thankful she was for the financial blessing that was given to her son. It dawned on me that her story is one that should be shared with all of you. To that end, I asked Crystal to write a few words about the scholarship and what it meant to her and Jakari, so that I could share it in this newsletter. You will find a portion of her note to me in the words that follow.

What the scholarship program meant to me....well, when I first got the news that my son had received it, I was really confused and shocked at the same time. But now that it happened, I am very thankful. If it wasn't for the scholarship, my son, Jakari, would have not been able to go to school, 'cause I got really sick and couldn't work. But I could

at least feel better knowing my son was getting to go to school. The people who blessed me with this were looking over me this year. So, Feb. 13th, I went and had surgery, and came out okay. I had a lot of bumps along the road, but with God's grace, we are able to overcome them. I hope and pray they know how thankful I am for this. Thank you.

This is just one example of a family that was impacted because of the generosity of another. If your family would like to support Hilltop's scholarship fund, or if you would like to sponsor a child who would otherwise not be able to attend Hilltop, please contact me. Even the smallest amount can make a huge difference in the life of a child!

Prayer Requests

One of the reasons that we decided to do this newsletter is to remind you to pray for us on a regular basis. It means so much to us!!

- Pray for the health and safety of our students and staff. We have 147 preschoolers, and 14 staff members.
- Pray for the start of our new school year. Pray that the children and teachers transition smoothly to our new year.
- Pray that we would be able to continue to plant eternal seeds in children and families that the Lord leads to us.
- I would also appreciate your prayers for me as I lead and direct the school.

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1:3-6

Grocery Shopping Supports Hilltop

Did you know that you can support Hilltop's scholarship fund while doing your normal weekly grocery and gas shopping? How the program works is that you purchase grocery cards to area stores. We sell cards for Giant, Weis, Redners, and Karn's. We sell the cards in denominations of \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, and \$100. What amount you pay to us, you get the same amount back to spend at the store--the same as cash. Hilltop then receives 5% of all gift card pur-

chases from the stores!! You can also use the cards to purchase gas at Giant or Redners. Just think of the funds that could be raised if we all worked together to give 5% of our weekly grocery and gas bills to Hilltop.

If you like to use your credit card to receive cash back or bonus point rewards, you will be glad to know that Hilltop can even accept credit cards. We have a number of families that purchase the grocery cards with their credit card.

Finally, both Giant and Karns offer a School Rewards program, where every time you shop, 1% comes back to Hilltop, but you have to designate your Giant Bonuscard and Karn's Fresh Rewards card to Hilltop first. It's very easy, for Giant, our school ID is 01860. You can do this online at www.giantaplus.com. For Karn's visit www.karnsfoods.com and designate Hilltop as your school of choice. Thank you so much for your support!!!

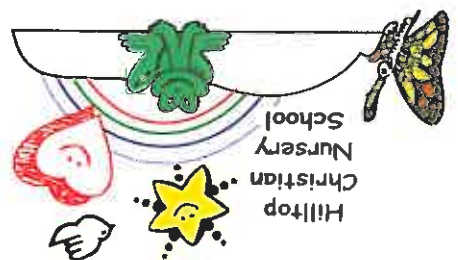
Hilltop's All-School Hot Dog Lunch!!!



Join us on Tuesday and/or Wednesday, September 29th and 30th (weather permitting), for our all-school hot dog lunch!!! You can purchase a hot dog meal for \$2.00. The meal includes a hot dog, a bag of chips, a drink, and a cookie. All proceeds benefit Hilltop's scholarship fund and large equipment purchases for the nursery school. Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. Bring your entire family!!! This is a great time to meet other Hilltop families. Please call Becky Chocklette, at 533-8956, with any questions!

Write it Down: Join us on Tuesday and/or Wednesday, September 29th and 30th for our annual hot dog lunch at 11:45 a.m.!

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