



# The Hilltopper

A Newsletter From The Headmaster's Office

January 8, 2010

## Calendar

- 1/13/10 – 6<sup>th</sup> Parent/Headmaster Meeting
- 1/14/10 – K Parent/Headmaster Meeting
- 1/15/10 – Conferences No Classes
- 1/18/10 – Professional Day No Classes
- 1/19/10 – Spirit Week Begins
- 1/20/10 – 7<sup>th</sup> Parent/Headmaster Meeting
- 1/21/10 – 1<sup>st</sup> Parent/Headmaster Meeting
- 1/22/10 – 8<sup>th</sup> Parent/Headmaster Meeting Classes Resume
- 1/22/10 – Spirit Week Pep Rally
- 1/22/10 – K-4 Movie Afternoon

## Upper School Competes in National Geographic Bee

Students in the Upper School recently competed in the National

Geographic Bee in Mrs. Kaminsky's Social Study classes. The kickoff for this year's Bee was a competition in each class resulting in the following field of finalists:

### Fifth Grade

Luca Correa  
Joshua Scott

### Sixth Grade

Madeline Menna  
Toby Cramer

### Seventh Grade

Ian Burke  
Justin Ernsting

### Eighth Grade

Griffin Brettler  
Courtney Heller

These finalists participated in a school-level Bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography. Our congratulations go to 7<sup>th</sup> Grade student, Justin Ernsting, for becoming the Hilltop champion.

The next step for Hilltop's winner will be to take a written test. Up to 100 of the top scorers in each state will then be eligible to compete in their state Bee in April. That winner will then go on to the national championships in Washington, D.C. in May. "Jeopardy" host, Alex Trebek, will moderate the national finals, which will be televised on public stations. The grand prize is a \$25,000 college scholarship.

## 2010 or 2010 – Second Grade Wants to Know

Second Grade wants to know, "what you are going to call our new year?" We have surveyed the teachers and have plans to find out what the students think about two-thousand ten vs. twenty-ten. Our curiosity started when we read an article in the San Francisco Chronicle.

Tom Torriglia is a guy who believes he is the "grammar police." Mr. Torriglia thinks we have been mispronouncing the year for 10 years. He reminded us that we do not refer to the year 1963 as one thousand nine hundred sixty-three. 19 comes after 18 and 20 comes after 19- not 2000. What do you think?

## The Admission Season

Hilltop Country Day School is heading into an important time on the calendar as we enter the height of admission season. While Hilltop families will be busy reenrolling children for the next school year, Mrs. Tsemberlis is busy bringing in new families from outside of the school. Current families play an important role in the admission of new students as many visitors

indicate that they heard about Hilltop through a friend whose child attends. Quite simply put, it is these referrals by parents, year after year, that guide most new families to Hilltop. We cannot thank you enough for the help that you provide and ask that you continue to “spread the good word” about Hilltop. Hilltop will be continuing our \$1,000 tuition remission referral program in the 2009/10 enrollment season. If you need information packages to pass along to a prospective family, please contact Mrs. Tsemberlis in the Admissions Office.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Help Noah’s Ark

The students at Hilltop Country Day School in the fourth grade class of Mrs. Janet Vigeland presented a check for \$278.00 to Noah’s Ark Animal Welfare Association. The students had a Holiday Pet Treats fundraiser in which they made holiday gift bags for family pets and sold them at the school. This project organized by the fourth grade students was a wonderful example of how Hilltop Country Day School interacts with and supports our local community.

### Two Lines at Pick-up, Please

As we are guests in the Wellness Center parking lot during pick-up at the end of the day I would like to see us be as unobtrusive as possible. To condense our presence there and not interfere with Wellness Center traffic, please form two lines at the top of the Hilltop driveway. This will allow you to alternate into a

single line down the driveway toward Mrs. Vigeland.



### Hilltop Country Day School Casino Royale 2010

Mark your calendar and come to the first committee meeting for Hilltop Casino Royale 2010! This event is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. The meeting will be on Wednesday-January 20 at 8:30 am in the Conference Room. This event is the responsibility of the Development Department which relies on our parents to serve on the committee. This year Dr. Jean Kovacs-son John 3<sup>rd</sup> grade- has accepted the invitation to be the chairperson and Dana Haggerty-son Ethan-Pk has accepted the position of co-chair. Come to the meeting, get involved and prepare to enjoy yourself at this exciting event.

students have been involved in the secondary school placement process, which began near the end of their Seventh Grade year. Many applications have been sent at this point and the following is a list of schools where our Eighth Grade students are applying:

Blair Academy Blairstown, NJ	Deerfield Academy Deerfield, MA
The George School Newtown, PA	Gill St. Bernard’s School Gladstone, NJ
The Hill School Pottstown, PA	Hotchkiss School Lakeville, CT
The Hun School of Princeton Princeton, NJ	Loomis Chafee Windsor, CT
Morristown Beard Morristown, NJ	The Peddie School Hightstown, NJ
Phillips Academy Andover, MA	Phillips Exeter Academy Exeter, NH
Pomfret School Pomfret, CT	Pope John XXIII High School Sparta, NJ
St. Paul’s School Concord, NH	The Taft School Watertown, CT

**Hilltopper Contributors**  
**Hilltop Second Grade**  
**Mrs. Ramberger**  
**Mrs. Vigeland**

### Secondary School Placement

We are in the midst of the busiest, and at times most stressful few months of the Eighth Grade experience at Hilltop. Eighth Grade

**Hilltop Country Day School**  
**32 Lafayette Road**  
**Sparta, NJ 07871**  
**973-729-5485**  
[www.hilltopcds.org](http://www.hilltopcds.org)