





By a show of hands...

How many families are sending their child to school
for the first time?

How many families are new to Hillcrest?

How many families are returning to Hillcrest?



Lisa Fischman
Principal




Hillcrest is
the place to
be!





“Every child needs a
champion: an
adult who will never
give up on them,
who understands the
power of connection
and insists they
become the best
they can possibly be.”

♥ Rita Pierson Heather's Heart



Our goal is to develop a
love of learning.

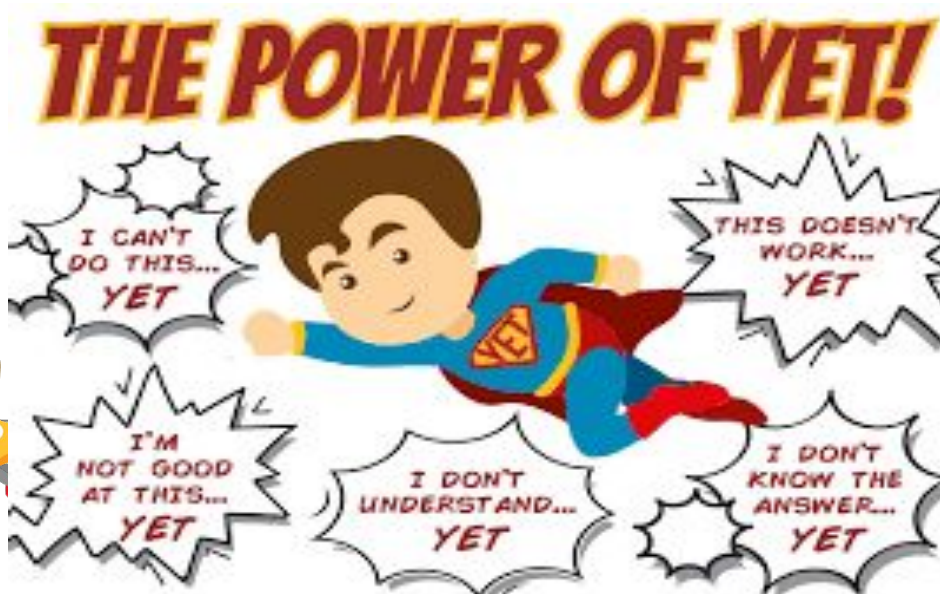




Growth Mindset

The belief that with practice, perseverance and effort, students have limitless potential to grow.

In Kindergarten, teachers and staff focus on praising the process, celebrating goals, and the idea that mistakes help us learn.





Powerschool Parent Portal

The parent portal is now live!

Schedules, bus information, annual updates, babysitter forms for transportation, and more are all accessible to parents and families.

On Monday, August 22, finalized teacher assignments were posted on the Parent Portal. Please create a portal account so that you have access to this information.

This link <https://tinyurl.com/bdz774yn> contains information in English and Spanish as well as step by step directions for:

- * creating a parent portal account
- * adding a child to an existing account
- * completing the annual student update
- * downloading the PowerSchool Parent portal app

Transportation information will be available on the portal.

*****Please review your child's bus assignment the day before school starts for the most updated information.*****

A colorful decorative border surrounds the text. At the top left is a green cup holding various paintbrushes. Next to it is a red and white striped drum with a mallet. Then a lit candle in a glass holder, a paint palette with colors, a small brown pot with a spoon, and a blue cloud with a smiling sun. On the right side, there's a yellow star, a green watering can, a green and blue rocket ship, and a blue and purple umbrella. At the bottom, there's a ladybug, a string of colorful stars, a box of crayons, and a blue and purple striped worm.

School Day

Hours and Operations:

District Calendar 184 student days
(4 emergency days included)

Arrival and drop-off begins:
at 8:40 am

Dismissal and pick up begins at **3:00 pm**

Is it important for students to be on time? **Yes.**

Morning Arrival

- Morning drop off will begin at 8:40am in the Front Circle.
- We will stagger the buses and cars so that there is no intermingling.
- **THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO PASSING ANY CARS OR BUSES IN FRONT OF YOU.**
- We will utilize all of the space in the front circle for arrival so please pull forward to the next available staff member.
- Cones will be located near each drop off door.
- **Students must exit the car on the right side. (curbside)**
- Please do not drop children off before 8:40 a.m. unless they are enrolled in the Sunrise/Sunset program; school doors will not open until 8:40 a.m.





Dismissal

- Afternoon Dismissal will begin at 3:00 p.m.
- Parking is available in the lower parking lot. Please walk up to the correct location and stand behind the outdoor cones. If there are cones blocking a space, please do not move the cones to park.
 - **Pre-K and Kindergarten** students will dismiss from the far door near the loading dock.
 - **First grade and second grade** students will be dismissed from the double doors near the first grade playground. Please leave promptly after picking up your child to ensure parking for other families.
 - **The playground will be off-limits during dismissal.**
- Students riding buses will begin dismissal at 2:58pm.



DOOR 18 DOOR 17 DOOR 16 DOOR 15 DOOR 14 DOOR 13 DOOR 11 DOOR 10 DOOR 9 DOOR 8

Pre-k & KINDERGARTEN PICK-UP

To ensure the **safety** of your children,
any changes in your child's dismissal
plans must be reported to main office
no later than 12pm.
973-292-2240

1st & 2nd GRADE PICK-UP

Please bring
identification!

PARKING



Classroom Assistants

In addition to our classroom teachers, each Kindergarten Class has a part-time teaching assistant. Teaching assistants provide academic support to all students in the classroom.



Breakfast & Lunch

Breakfast and lunch will be served daily at school.

All families must still complete a lunch application.

Students are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack for the morning or afternoon.

Recess

Kindergarten students receive a recess period before or after lunch. Lunch assistants monitor students during recess and lunch.



What is

Balanced Literacy?

Balanced literacy incorporates reading, writing, word work, listening and speaking skills in a variety of instructional opportunities.

Guided and independent learning tasks with reading, writing, and letter/sound identification will build early literacy skills throughout the school year.





Mathematics

The Kindergarten mathematics curriculum is fully aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

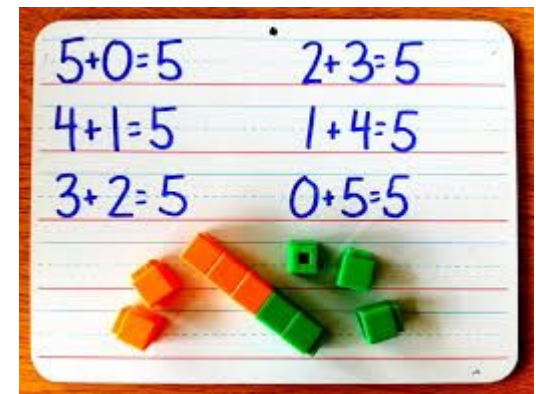
Teaching and learning is designed to engage students in critical thinking, discovery/inquiry, and investigation experiences.

Ready Mathematics and i-Ready resources are utilized during instruction and learning.



Mathematics Standards

- Counting and Cardinality
 - Know number names and count sequence
 - Count to tell the number of objects
 - Compare numbers
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
 - Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from
- Number and Operations in Base Ten
 - Working with numbers 11-19 to gain foundation for place value
- Measurement and Data
 - Describe and compare measurable attributes
 - Classify objects and count the number of objects in categories
- Geometry
 - Identify and describe shapes
 - Analyze, compare, create, and compose shapes



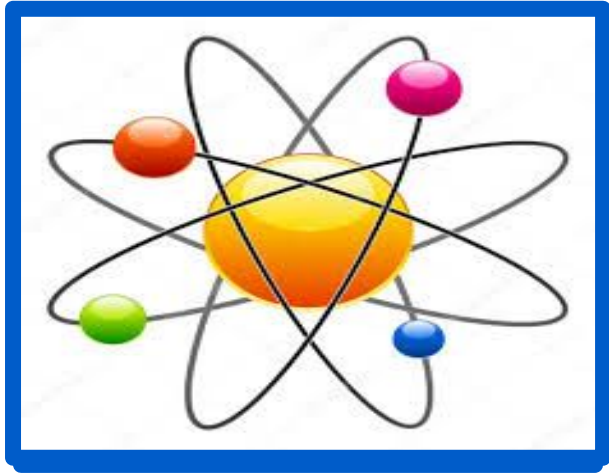
Special Area Classes



Art



Library & Technology



Science



Music



Physical Education



Assessments

Assessment is used to determine reading level, monitor progress and design targeted instruction to ensure mastery of the standards.

Determine Mastery of Standards:

- i-Ready Diagnostic
- Reading & Writing Unit Assessments
- Math Unit Assessments

Determine Reading Level:

- DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment)

Determine Phonics/Word Study Levels

- Sonday Systems
- i-Ready Diagnostic



Progress Reports/Conferences

Trimester Reporting Periods

Fall Conference Dates - November 7th and 9th

1st Trimester Report Cards - Dec 22

Winter Conference Dates - Feb. 13 & 15

2nd Trimester Report Cards - March 24

3rd Trimester Report Cards - June 20

K-5 report cards are *Standards-Based* and aligned to trimester reporting periods and provide feedback on student achievement toward learning standards.

The report cards for the first two trimesters align with Parent Teacher Conferences and do not include a narrative.



Bilingual Education

The WIDA English Language Acquisition Placement Test will be administered to students based on the responses of the Home Language Survey.

Students qualifying for bilingual education will receive instruction in English and Spanish and as a part of our biliteracy design.

Please click [here](#) for more information on our bilingual and ESL programs.



Technology & Supplies

Each kindergarten student will receive a district-issued chromebook and headphones.

Students access Google Classroom and learning platforms through their Clever account. Click [here](#) for our online learning platforms.

Most classroom supplies will be provided for all students. All they will need is a backpack.



Hillcrest HSA

The Home and School Association organizes cultural arts events, fundraisers, and volunteer opportunities throughout the school year.

Meetings are held monthly for all stakeholders in the school.

President - Kimberly Matras

<https://hillcresthsa.membershiptoolkit.com/home>

Communication



MSD Alerts & Communication

Weekly Family Newsletters



ClassDojo

Teacher/Parent Communication



Lisa Fischman lisa.fischman@msdk12.net





KINDERGARTEN
HERE I COME!



9-9:30 - Harpaul
9:30 -10 - Miller/Gifford/Bajwa
10:00 - 10:30 - Reis
10:30 - 11 - Feeney/Mawyin