



Harbor Country Day School
Embracing the extraordinary in every child.™

**Resources for Harbor Country Day School Families
2020-21 Academic Year**

Welcome to Harbor Country Day School! We are thrilled to have your child(ren) at Harbor and to have you a part of our school community. Recognizing that there is a lot of information for parents when students attend a new school, coupled with the additional challenges presented by COVID-19, we wanted to share this document with you in the hopes it will make your transition a smooth one.

Who's Who?

Head of School:	John Cissel - jcissel@hcdsny.org
Principal of Lower & Upper School:	Nicole Fotis - nfotis@hcdsny.org
Principal of Early Childhood:	Krystina Gallo - kgallo@hcdsny.org
Director of Admission & Parent Relations:	Christine McBrien - cmcbrien@hcdsny.org
Dean of Students:	Debbie Decker - ddecker@hcdsny.org
School Nurse:	Nancy Busa - nbusa@hcdsny.org
Director of Technology:	Artie Weissbach - aweissbach@hcdsny.org
Front Office:	Lynette Mutschler - lmutschler@hcdsny.org
	Meredith Valasek - mvalasek@hcdsny.org

Academic Communications from Harbor Country Day School

All Academic Communications will come directly from your child's classroom or subject teacher. Should you have any questions or concerns about a specific curriculum or your child's academic progress, please first contact the teacher. If the issue is not resolved or needs further attention then please contact Nicole Fotis.

General Communications from Harbor Country Day School

Primary communications from Harbor Country Day school will be provided via 'e-notifications' sent to your **email** which will also appear on the school's **mobile phone app**. These include:

- Tuesday Weekly Updates:
 - These updates will be sent via 'eblast' to your email
 - Includes weekly news/updates from the Head of School, and all important updates and notifications from Harbor
 - Be sure to scan the 'Contents in this Notification' section at the top of the notification to ensure you are reading all information that is relevant for your child(ren)
- Friday's Week in Pictures:

- A compilation of pictures from the week at Harbor Country Day School
- Important Updates: (as needed)
 - Occasionally, important messages will be sent from the school. These may include information and schedules about upcoming events, notifications about COVID-related issues, etc. Please be sure to read these updates in their entirety.

Sources of Information about Harbor Country Day School

- Harbor's Website: (accessible from your desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone)
 - www.hcdsny.org
 - On the top right of the welcome page is a small blue square with a 'link' icon. Click on this to access Harbor's 'Quick Links' menu to access:
 - Contact information
 - School Calendar
 - Harbor Backpack (forms, etc.)
 - Parent Portal
 - Camp Portal
 - Library Login
 - Teacher Portal
 - Lunch Menu
 - Uniform Ordering
 - Click the top blue border '**Return to Campus - Reopening Plan & Guidance Links**' for information about COVID-19, Harbor's Reopening Plan & Safety Measures, Online Learning and Virtual Admission information.
- Harbor's Mobile App can be downloaded via the **App Store** or **Google Play**. The app can be used to access:
 - News
 - Notifications
 - Calendars
 - Pictures
 - Staff Information
 - Parent Resources

Parents' Association (PA)

- 2020-21 Co-Chairs:
 - Cynthia Lippe
 - Jennifer Tona
- Staff Liaison: Christine McBrien - cmcbrien@hcdsny.org
- Parents' Association Email Address: parentsassociation@hcdsny.org
- 2020-21 Parents' Association Meetings
 - November 5 at 9:30 am
 - December 3 at 9:30 am
 - January 7 at 9:30 am
 - February 4 at 9:30 am
 - March 4 at 9:30 am
 - April 8 at 9:30 am

- May 6 or May 13 at 9:30 am
- June 3 at 9:30 am
- 2020-21 Parents' Association Events
 - September - Mum Sale
 - October - Halloween Movie Night
 - November - Book Fair
 - December - Gingerbread Extravaganza
 - February - Family Fun Night
 - March - Spring Benefit
 - May - Art Fair & Teacher Appreciation
 - June - End of Year Celebration

Supporting Harbor Country Day School

The Harbor Fund: The Harbor Fund is an annual fundraising campaign that directly supports Harbor Country Day School's (HCDS) programs – and your children – in an academic year. It is necessary because tuition income is not enough to cover HCDS's annual expenses. In fact, nearly one-third of school expenses are not covered by tuition and must be funded through other means, such as the Harbor Fund. Parents, alumni, trustees, faculty, staff and friends are all asked to contribute.

The Campaign For Harbor Country: Harbor Country Day School's decades-long history of academic rigor and innovation makes us who we are. Our mission and core values have driven our success through the years, from maintaining day-to-day school operations to fueling rapid growth. At all times, those values have shaped the extraordinary experiences cherished by every student who has walked the halls of Tulip Knoll.

The Campaign for Harbor Country Day School is an ambitious \$10 million capital campaign which has two primary goals:

- The first is to raise \$6.5 million for the school's Endowment which supports faculty, tuition assistance and general operating needs.
- The second is to raise \$3.5 million for the modernization of Harbor Country Day's campus and physical plant which will include a state-of-the-art STEAM center and new facilities for classrooms and in-school community spaces.

With this campaign, which is unlike anything the school has seen in its 62-year history, Harbor Country Day School is poised to become the premier independent elementary school on Long Island.

For more information about supporting Harbor Country Day School please contact Harbor's Director of Advancement, Jennifer Taggart, at jtaggart@hcdsny.org.

