

Principal's Message

Happy April! As we quickly approach the end of the school year, the number of activities at Hilltop are increasing. We have been receiving a lot of questions about dates and times of upcoming events so here is a list events for the remainder of the year as we know them right now. If changes are made, we will send home notifications and updates.



April 1-2:	9:15-11:00 am	4th gr. State Test– ELA
April 3-4:	9:15-11:00 am	3rd gr. State Test– ELA
April 8-9:	9:15-11:00 am	4th gr. State Test– Math
April 10-11:	9:15-11:00 am	3rd gr. State Test– Math
April 11:	6:00 pm	PTA General Meeting
April 12:	9:00 pm	PTA General Meeting
	2:00 pm K	indergarten's "Muffins with Mom"
April 17:	6:00 pm	Board of Education meeting
April 18:	0:45-1:15	Fun in the Sun Day
April 19-28		Spring Recess (NO SCHOOL)
April 29-May 3:		Hilltop's Christie Campaign
May 6-10:		Staff Appreciation/Right to Read Week
May 9:	9:30/2:00/6:30	4th grade's "Evening of Art and Music"
May 10:		Student Appreciation Day
May 15:	6:00 pm	Board of Education meeting
May 17:	All Day	Vehicle Career Day
May 23:	9:30 am	Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
May 24:	All Day	4th grade Science Fair
		Last day for lunch with your child
May 27:		Memorial Day (NO SCHOOL)
May 30:	9:30/2:00/6:30	3rd grade's "Famous Americans"
May 31:	11:00-3:00	4th grade Picnic
	All Day	1st grade Wagon Trails field trip
June 3:	All Day	3rd grade Canfield Walk
June 4:	9:00 am	4th grade Spelling Bee
	2:00 pm	4th grade Math Bee
	All Day	Kindergarten to Cleveland Zoo
June 6:	9:30 am	4th Grade Graduation
	1:45-3:15 pm	End of Year parties
	3:30 pm	4th Grade "Clap-Out"

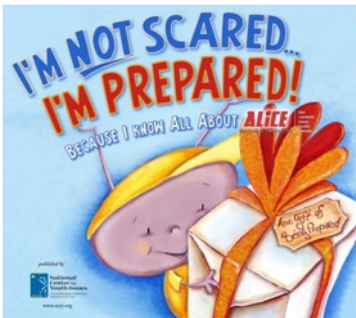
As always, if you have any ideas, questions, comments, or concerns about Hilltop, please contact me anytime. I can be reached by phone at 330. 533.9806 or by email at jma-roni@canfieldschools.net. Have a great month!

Building Safety and Security

Canfield Local Schools has adopted a strategy for lockdown procedures known as the A.L.I.C.E. plan. A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Prior to the A.L.I.C.E. plan, lockdown procedures involved the staff locking their doors, moving the students to a part of the room where they could not be seen, and quietly remaining there until an “all clear” announcement was given. The A.L.I.C.E. plan offers a different philosophy in light of recent school violence. The philosophy of A.L.I.C.E. is to use technology and information in a way so that staff and students can make informed decisions in a crisis, remove as many people as possible from the danger zone, and provide realistic training so that those involved in a crisis have a better chance of surviving.

Younger students need constant reminders of safe practices in order for them to make good decisions related to their personal safety. Parents can prepare their child(ren) for the A.L.I.C.E. plan by helping them understand the following objectives at home.

- There are people of all ages, color, and types who can be mean and may wish to harm them.
- Self-confidence comes from trying things that are hard and getting better each time.
- There are many solutions and options when faced with a problem.
- When your child is prepared for difficult situations, they can make informed decisions and will have more self-control.
- Your child is smart and capable if they have the knowledge.
- Help your child identify and assess possible crisis situations.
- Have your child demonstrate the ability to get away from someone who has their hands on them.
- Have your child explain the different safety drills and what they mean.
- Help your child name where they need to go in case of evacuation (different for each classroom).
- Discuss the importance of following the teacher’s directions without hesitation.



ALICE collaborated with ‘Award Winning’ children’s author Julia Cook to create an Age Appropriate instruction storybook that **teachers and parents** can use as a tool to teach the ALICE concepts to elementary aged school children. Cook’s books have been referenced in publications such as: **Parents Magazine; The New Yorker; Chicago Tribune; Yahoo.com; Dr. Laura.com and BabyZone.com**

The teacher at the Ant Hill School wants her students to be prepared—for everything! One day, she teaches her students what to do if a “dangerous someone” is in their school.

I’m Not Scared...I’m Prepared! enhances the concepts taught by the ALICE Training Institute, and make them applicable to children of all ages in a **non-fearful** way. By using this book, children can develop a better understanding of what needs to be done if they ever encounter a “dangerous someone.” Lessons in the book include:

Listen to the teacher and the announcements

There are ways to help the teacher barricade the door

There may be a time to go to a rally point with or without the teacher

This is a great resource that we have provided to our staff to use with our young students. There are several YouTube videos of the book being read available online.

We have also purchased the companion, *I’m Not Scared, I’m Prepared Activity and Idea Book*, which will provide our teachers with ways to protect their students and classroom.

The Pantry at Hilltop

Thank you to everyone who has donated food and supplies to make our Hilltop Pantry a reality. We are now able to distribute food to those in need.

If you are willing to help provide supplies, here is a list of some of the items that we collect and distribute:

Applesauce	Crackers	Peanut Butter
Canned Pasta Sauce	Fruit (Canned or Dried)	Rice
Canned Chicken	Granola Bars	Juice Boxes
Canned Fish (Tuna/Salmon)	Instant Mashed Potatoes	Soup/Stew/Chili
Canned Meat (SPAM/Ham)	Meals in a Box	Whole Grain Cereal
Canned Vegetables	Pasta	Macaroni and Cheese

Items we are currently in need of include: granola bars, canned fruit, juice boxes, pasta sauce, and graham crackers.

Try to avoid:

- junk food
- items with glass or cellophane packaging, which can be broken in transit
- things that need can openers or special equipment (pop-top cans—whether for veggies, meat or fruit—are a plus)

If you need assistance, please contact the Hilltop office to let us know how we can assist you.

All information will be kept strictly confidential.


You can reach the Hilltop office at 330.533.9806 or email me at jmaroni@canfieldschools.net

Before-School, After-School Care

Canfield Local Schools has partnered with Zion Christian Early Learning Center to offer before-care and after-care to our students. The program will be held at Hilltop Elementary School for students from both C. H. Campbell and Hilltop. C. H. Campbell students will be transported to and from Hilltop each day utilizing our shuttle bus. The program runs from 6:30 a.m. until the start of school each day and from the end of school until 5:30 p.m. The cost of the program is \$5.20/hour for the 1st child in a family and \$4.00/hr for additional family members. If you are interested in the program, please contact Zion Christian Early Learning Center at (330) 792-4066.

Statewide Testing

All students in grades 3-4 will be administered standardized testing in English Language Arts and Mathematics through the American Institutes for Research (AIR) testing platform. Testing dates for the 2018-2019 school year are listed below. Please try to avoid these dates when scheduling appointments and vacations. Thank you.

<u>English/Language Arts</u>	
Grade 3: October 23-24, 2018	
Grade 3: April 3-4, 2019	Grade 4: April 1-2, 2019
<u>Mathematics</u>	
Grades 3: April 10-11, 2019	Grade 4: April 8-9, 2019

Lunches

The price for a school lunch is \$2.40, with extra milk costing \$0.40. Please make checks out to Hilltop Cafeteria. We encourage all families to utilize our computer-based prepaid system. This system allows the cafeteria to keep track of food allergies and other student needs in the cafeteria. To learn more about our prepaid system or to view the current menu, please go to: www.canfieldlocalschoolsfoodservice.com. We are asking parents to view the website and check the menu each day. We will not be sending home monthly menus as we have done in the past. Students received their lunch number in their teacher assignment letter. Parents are welcome to come and enjoy lunch with their children, however we ask that you only eat with your child and sit at one of the small tables closest to the entrance. **Parents are not permitted to stay for recess. Parents will be provided with two lunch tickets each year to allow them, or another special person, to eat lunch with their child. Lunch tickets must be handed in upon signing in at the main office and may not be duplicated. Student friends are not permitted to accompany your child to the designated parent lunch area. Parents will always be permitted to take their child out to lunch during the child's assigned lunch/recess times. During the first and last two weeks of school parents will not be permitted to eat lunch with their child so that lunchroom routines may be established. Parents may begin having lunch with their children on Monday, September 17, 2018. The last day to have lunch with your child will be on Friday, May 24, 2019.**

Lunch Times for 2018-2019:

Kindergarten:	10:45-11:15	Grade 3:	11:45-12:15
Grade 1:	11:15-11:45	Grade 4:	12:45-1:15
Grade 2:	12:15-12:45		

Helping our School

We collect Box Tops, Tyson labels, and Sunny Delight labels. Please drop off your labels and box tops in the main lobby. You can also register your Giant Eagle Advantage Card under the Apples for the Students Program at www.gianteagle.com/schools/apples-for-students. Registering your Advantage Card will allow us to get a percentage of everything that registered users purchase. These are some easy ways to help our schools provide the best education to our students.

Attendance

All the Canfield Schools will be following the Attendance Policy written in the Parent Handbook. Please become familiar with this policy. If your child is absent, please call the school on the day of the absence. When your child returns to school, please remember to send a note with your child. The note should be dated, list the reason for the absence, and be signed by the parent. If you take your child to the doctor, please send a doctor's note to the school office containing the date of the appointment. Notes from parents and medical excuses must be received in the office within 24 hours of the student's return to school in order for the absence to be verified.

Students who arrive after 8:45 are considered tardy and must come to the office and sign in accompanied by a parent. Please do not drop your student off after 8:45 without bringing them to the office.

School Safety

We all want our students to be safe at school and you can help us by following the directions below.

1. When visiting the school, ring the buzzer and identify yourself to school staff.
2. Upon entering the building, go directly to the office, sign in, and get a visitor badge to wear.
3. If you come into the school to pick up your child, please wait in the office while we call your child down.
4. If your child is to go home in a different way than usual, please send a note with your child in the morning. Please do not call after 12:00 p.m. Each unanticipated request to have a student dismissed from class requires a call or visit to the classroom. Our goal is to keep the disruptions to the educational environment to a minimum.
5. Please do not drive into the busing lanes from 8:15-8:45a.m. or 3:00-3:35 p.m.

We want the entire community to feel welcomed in our school and want all of our students and staff to be safe. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Transportation

If you ride the school bus, you will need to be at the bus stop by 7:55 a.m. until the bus route times are established. It is very important for parents to be home each day. Our buses leave Hilltop Elementary School at approximately 3:30 p.m. each day.

Morning Drop-off Information

1. Parents who plan on driving their children to school should not drop off students prior to 8:30 am. Due to a lack of supervisory personnel, students will not be permitted into the building until 8:30 am.
2. The area in front of the school must be kept clear of traffic so that buses can safely drop off children. Cars should not park or drop off their children using the busing lanes in front of the school. Students can be dropped off at the 3rd and 4th grade entrance on the west side of the building.

After School Car Riders

Parents who plan on picking students up at the conclusion of the day should follow our Loop Pick-Up Procedures.

1. Car riders will be dismissed at 3:15 p.m. Parents planning on picking up their children from school should contact the office before 12:00 p.m.
2. All children must be supervised as they are released to their parents and/or pick-up designee. Parents should pull up to the fourth grade doors. Please put your child's pass in the window so the adults can see the name. ALL children must get in the sidewalk side of the car. Please help your child buckle up quickly so we can keep traffic moving. We will have three teachers on duty to help the process go faster. Please wait until you are given the signal to exit the lot. Children MUST be safely in the cars before the group of cars can exit. We ask that you exit the lot ASAP so we can eliminate wait time.

Kindergarten Update

If you pass by the kindergarten area this month you may hear some sweet voices singing special songs. The kindergarten children are preparing for the annual Muffins With Mom program April 12th. They are very excited about spending this special time with their mothers. The children are also excited about READING. All the children have become readers this year and we are so proud of their progress. This month the children will be introduced to the math concept of measuring and they will be reviewing their math addition and subtraction facts. The children will continue to learn about the season of Spring.

1st Grade Update

Spring has arrived in first grade! We are busy learning about animals and their life cycles. In math we are focusing on place value and becoming more fluent with our addition and subtraction facts. First graders are also busy reading for the Christie Campaign this month. We are setting reading goals and working hard to meet them. It is so exciting to see our Flat Stanleys arriving back from their adventures around the country!

2nd Grade Update

Second graders have just finished taking CogAt and Iowa tests. We will be enjoying and discussing the springtime weather and instruments used to measure the weather. In math we will be mastering our skills with addition and subtraction including fact fluency, telling time to 5 minute intervals, geometry, counting coins, and fractions. We will be working on reading, writing and comparing numbers up to 1,000. We have all watched and discussed the video, "I'm not scared, I'm prepared" to address our school safety plans. Please also watch this video at home on YouTube and take the opportunity to discuss school safety with your child.

3rd Grade Update

Third grade is very excited as we enter into the fourth grading period of the year. We are gearing up to take the Ohio's State Test in ELA on April 3rd & 4th. The Ohio's State Test in Math is on April 10th & 11th. We have been working all year on math concepts and language arts skills to help prepare. We will be focusing on our writing skills this month to create more detailed stories and various forms of written work. In Math, we will be working on geometry and extensions of multiplication and fractions. We are finishing up our unit on matter and will soon be exploring the history of Canfield in Social Studies. We are very eager to get to the end of the month so we can begin talking about our Famous American's program!

4th Grade Update

At this point, the state tests are right around the corner. On April 1st and 2nd, students will take the state English Language Arts tests. On April 8-9, the students will take the state Math tests. As always please make sure your child has plenty of rest and a good breakfast before coming to school. We begin testing right away.

In social studies, the students are going to learn about Ohio's role in the Underground Railroad and our part in the Civil War. In science, our last unit is about energy and electricity. We will also be discussing the science fair which will be coming up on May 24. In language arts, the students continue to learn and review skills from the year. They are also continuing to write narrative, persuasive, and expository pieces. In math, the students are working on larger multiplication and division problems. It's always a great idea to practice your facts at home.

Music

The Kindergarten students are working hard preparing for their upcoming, "Muffins with Mom" presentation, which will take place on April 12, 2019. They will be singing some old favorites, and some new tunes as well. We hope you can join us!

Library

Thank you to parents, students, staff members, and PTA for a successful book fair! The first grade students enjoyed shopping with their grandparents after their wonderful program and the entire school enjoyed the dinosaur show. We are looking forward to purchasing new books and implementing some great ideas into the library next year with the profits. Thank you for putting a book into your student's hands! A special thank you to Steph Kelly and Julie Miller for making sure the book fair went smoothly.

Physical Education

In April we will be starting whiffle ball baseball. Our activities will include batting tee practice, throwing and catching drills, going over the rules, learning the positions, and then playing our games. Next we will be working with frisbees on how to grip and throw them. Safety will be stressed. We will have target practice by aiming them at fun targets in class. Older students will work on throwing and catching the frisbee with partners and in small groups.

Art

In the Art Room, the focus for April will be upon "People in Art". In this unit, we will learn specifically about the ways in which artists are inspired by other people around the world. In grades K-3, we will explore individual artists, as well as works by entire cultures of people throughout history. Fourth Graders will be adding more personalized pages into their *Altered Book* project and completing covers for their upcycled art journals, *"All About Me"*.

Birthday Treats

Birthday celebrations are so important and we appreciate that you want to help your child celebrate their special day with their classmates, however with all the childhood allergies that are prevalent in elementary schools today it is very important that we take every precaution. Please let your teacher know in advance that you are planning to send in a birthday treat. This will help the teacher plan for children who may not be able to eat that special treat. It is very important that ALL treats come into the office and remain there until lunch time. Food treats must be distributed and eaten inside the cafeteria. Students should notify the lunch room aides if they have a birthday treat in the cafeteria BEFORE passing it out due to allergy concerns. Only students in the child's class are permitted to have a treat. Please do not pass extras out to students in other classrooms. Students are not permitted to take extra treats around to teacher classrooms due to allergy concerns. If at all possible, you could include nutritional information on the treat; it would be helpful and appreciated.

**HILLTOP ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

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<http://www.canfield.access-k12.org/hilltop>

Canfield Local Schools Vision Statement

We will create an educational environment which challenges each student to achieve at their highest potential, leading to top 10 rankings in Ohio by 2022.

Canfield Local Schools Mission Statement

As a community, we educate, motivate, and innovate for individual lifelong success.

**Canfield Local Schools on Twitter:
@CLS_Cardinals**

Quotes of the Month

“I am going to try to pay attention to the spring. I am going to look around at all the flowers, and look up at the hectic trees. I am going to close my eyes and listen.” – Anne Lamott

“In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours.”-Mark Twain

