



Blue & Gold Banner

Uwchlan Hills Elementary

December 2024

Upcoming Dates

- Dec. 6:** 76ers Spirit Day
- Dec. 10:** UH Spirit Day
- Dec. 11:** Winter Concert 6:30 PM
- Dec. 16:** 3rd Grade Strings Concert
9:15 AM
- Dec. 18:** Holiday Headwear and
Socks Spirit Day
- Dec. 19:** Holiday Pajama Spirit Day
- Dec. 20:** Holiday Ugly Sweater
Spirit Day
- Dec. 23-Jan 1:** Winter Recess –
School Closed

Letter from the Principal

Dear Parents,

I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for all the support you provide to our school community. Whether it's through volunteering, attending events, or simply offering your encouragement, your involvement makes a tremendous difference in the lives of our students. I am especially thankful for the continued partnership with the Home and School Association (HSA), which plays a vital role in organizing events and raising funds that directly benefit our students.

I feel incredibly fortunate to be part of such a wonderful school, surrounded by supportive parents who are so dedicated to their children's success. Your commitment to our school creates a positive and nurturing environment where our students can thrive. It truly takes a village, and I am grateful to every one of you for your contributions, both big and small.

I can't wait for the winter concert! I know the students have been practicing hard both at home and during early morning rehearsals, so I'm looking forward to an incredible show. The concert is on Wednesday, December 11 at 6:30 PM.

As we continue to prioritize safety and organization, I would like to remind parents of the importance of updating Pick-up Patrol before noon if there are any changes to your child's dismissal plans. This helps ensure we have the correct information early in the day and allows us to prepare accordingly.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and for helping make our school such a great place for learning.

Sincerely,

Warm regards,
Robert E. Giering, Jr.
Principal, Uwchlan Hills Elementary





Letter from the President...

Happy Holidays Uwchlan Hills,

I hope you enjoyed the Thanksgiving break! As part of the holiday season and American Education Week, we showed our teachers how grateful we are by providing treats with our annual comfort cart before the break. Thank you to all our families for their fabulous contributions to the carts. It was so much, that we needed 3 total carts filled to the brim with goodies!

As we gear up for the craziest month of the year, December, we like to remember that the holidays are a time of giving and no one does that better than our community! Please keep in mind our UH Helping Hands families. The Helping Hands Holiday Wish List still has some needs to be filled. Donations will be accepted until December 9. You can find the list here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E49A4AD2EAAFE3-53145222-uwchlan#/>

In the spirit of giving, did you know many companies match employee donations to our organization dollar for dollar?! You can do this by filling out and submitting a paper match form provided by your employer or through an electronic submission process. Increasing donations is truly that quick and easy! If you have any questions or need our EIN, please contact me, or our amazing treasurer, Adrienne McLaughlin.

We're looking ahead to our MLK Day of Service on Monday, January 20! A sign-up genius will be sent out for station coordinators who are willing to get donations to where they are going. Please reach out if you are interested in helping.

Other upcoming events we're looking forward to in 2024:

- The Science Fair: Wednesday, January 15, with a snow date of January 22.
- MLK Day of Service: Monday, January 20, 12-2 PM.
- Pizza Bingo: Friday, February 7 at 6 PM (Lionville Middle School).

Lastly, please join us in the Commons for our next HSA meeting on Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30 PM.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!

Kait Knecht
UHSA President
uhhsa.president@gmail.com
484-849-1751

2024-2025 UHSA Board

Principal Advisor

Mr. Bob Giering
rgiering@dasd.org

President

Kaitlin Knecht
uhhsa.president@gmail.com

Vice-President - Open

Advisor

Kelly Jackson
kjax35@gmail.com

Treasurer

Adrienne McLaughlin
amm4433@gmail.com

Secretary

Laura Hartman
laura.c.hartman@gmail.com

Teacher Representative

Ronnie Lemler
rlemler@dasd.org



Uwchlan Hills Home and School Association

Dear Parents,

The Uwchlan Hills Home & School Association (UHSA) is a non-profit organization serving the students, faculty, staff, and community of our elementary school. We are very fortunate to have an amazing school community and pride ourselves on the incredible support we receive each year.

The intent of this letter is to explain the purpose of and to ask you to make a \$60 per family donation to UHSA by December 20, 2024.

One of the functions of Home and School is to raise money for Uwchlan Hills. The money raised pays for a variety of programs and events enhancing your child's educational experience. These programs include: school assemblies, field trip transportation, field-day t-shirts, and classroom supplies above and beyond what the Downingtown Area School District provides. **100% of the money raised by UHSA goes back into the school, benefiting all the students.**

Historically, UHSA raised money through traditional fundraising type events (bake sale, carwash, wrapping paper sales, etc). However, our UH community decided to donate \$60 directly to the UHSA rather than purchase over hundreds of dollars in products throughout the school year. Not only does this free up student, parent, and teacher time, but it also decreases the amount of mail going home with students.

Normally, our biggest fundraising event is the Fall Jamboree and all our other events make a small profit or break even—the main purpose being to bring Uwchlan Hills families and students together for fun.

We thank you in advance for supporting the UHSA, and we look forward to the challenge of serving our Unicorn community in new and creative ways. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any member of the board.

Kaitlyn Knecht – President Kelly Jackson – Advisor

Laura Hartman – Secretary Adrienne McLaughlin – Treasurer

UHSA FAMILY DONATION

Family Name: _____

Enclosed is my donation of: \$60 or other amount _____

Cash or Checks: Please return this form with donation by Friday, December 20 in an envelope addressed to:

UHSA Treasurer/Family Donation. Make checks payable to UHSA.

Matching gifts: follow instructions from your employer. The UHSA 501(c)3 non-profit tax identification number is 23-2363383.

PayPal: uhhsatreasurer@gmail.com

Please note *UHSA Family Donation* in the comments or notes section.

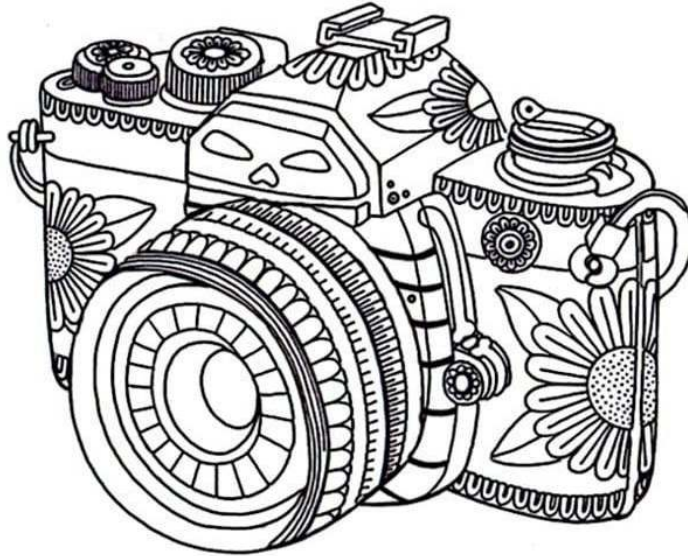


Uwchlan Hills Home and School Association 2024-2025 Event Dates

Tentative Schedule: dates are subject to change

****UHHSA Meetings are held in the Commons area (behind the steps closest to the main entrance)**

EVENT	DATE	TIME
UHHSA Meeting	Tuesday, January 14, 2025	6:30 PM
MLK Day of Service	Monday, January 20	12-2 PM
Science Fair • <i>Snow Date</i>	Wednesday, January 15 • <i>Snow date: January 22</i>	6 PM
Pizza Bingo (LMS)	Friday, February 7	6 PM
Variety Show	Monday February 24	6:30 PM
UHHSA Meeting	Tuesday March 11	6:30 PM
Spring Picture Day (<i>no retakes</i>)	TBD	During School Hours
Multicultural Heritage Night	Friday, May 9	6:30 PM
Spring Spirit Wear Sale	End of March	Online
Designer Bag Bingo	Thursday April 10	5:30 PM
Scholastic Book Fair – Spring Book Fair Family Night	TBD	TBD
Family Fun Run	Saturday, May 3	9:15 AM
School Supply Sale	End of May 2024	Online
UHHSA Meeting	Tuesday, May 13	6:30 PM
UH School Musical	TBD-End of May	6:30 PM
5 th Grade Party	TBD- Beginning of June	4-6:30



Yearbook News

Is your phone filled with amazing photos from the wonderful year we've been having so far?

Those photos want to be seen!!

Send them to the Yearbook Crew for consideration for placement in the UH Yearbook.

The next few months are jam-packed with exciting events: Musical Concerts & Holiday Parties, etc. Get those cameras ready and capture some UH memories!

All photos can be emailed to Yearbook Club at

uhyearbook@gmail.com

Attention 5th graders: We are now accepting baby photos through December 20! Please remember to label all photos with your child's name and homeroom teacher. Photos will be returned.

Digital images must be in .jpg or .png format. PDF images will not be accepted.

The Yearbook is now on sale! To order, please see the flyer in this issue of the B&G.

Hey Fifth Graders! It's Baby Picture Time!

As 5th graders, you get to participate in a very fun part of the yearbook, Baby Pictures! If you are interested in having your baby picture in the yearbook, please send in or email a color picture, preschool age or younger--no photocopies please.

Please label all photos (print or digital) with the student's name and home room teacher. Printed photos will be returned. Send all digital images to **uhyearbook@gmail.com**.

Digital images **must** be in **.jpg or .png** format. These are the formats that can be uploaded to the Memory Book website. PDF images and HEIC format images cannot be accepted.

If you would prefer not to participate, indicate that on the form below and return it to your child's HOMEROOM teacher or to Mr. Chindemi.

Please send in baby pictures no later than **Friday, December 20h**.

----- <---cut here---> -----

Student Name: _____

Homerom teacher: _____

Here is my baby picture (Student's name is on the back for easy identification).

I'll email my baby picture to uhyearbook@gmail.com by Friday, Dec. 20th.

No thanks. I'd prefer not to participate.

Order Your Uwchlan Hills Elementary Yearbook Online



Step 1: Visit shop.memorybook.com



Step 2: Login if returning or new users click 'Register' to create an account using school code **960859M**

Step 3: Buy a yearbook for **\$18.00** through **04/18/25**
or a personalized book for **\$20.00** through **04/04/25**



If you have any questions about ordering your yearbook
contact your school's yearbook advisor.



www.memorybook.com



Uwchlan Hills Elementary School Parents
Support UH in style with our newly designed car magnets!



5" x 5" Unicorns Car Magnet - Only \$3!

UHES 5" x 5" Unicorns Car Magnet - Order Form

Please fill out the form below and include it with cash or check made *payable to UH HSA* in an envelope labeled Unicorns Magnet to be handed in to your child's teacher.

Student Name	Grade	Teacher	Quantity \$3 each

ESL COMMUNITY OUTREACH

English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) Community Outreach Program at West Chester University

The ESL Community Outreach Program offers English language instruction to members of the West Chester University community and individuals in the greater West Chester area.

- Classes run once a week in the spring
- All participants must register.
- West Chester University employees attend free of charge. A valid WCU employee ID card needs to be presented at registration.
- Non-West Chester University employees attend for a fee of \$20.
- Once registered, all attendees will be contacted by the Program Coordinator to schedule a placement evaluation.

For registration information, please contact:

Dr. Jelena Colovic-Markovic

jmarkovic@wcupa.edu

610.436.3371

English-as-a-second-language (ESL) Classes

When?

February 27 – May 8, 2025

Thursdays

5:30-7:15 p.m.

No classes during Spring Break

Where?

Mitchell Hall, West Chester University

How much?

WCU employees: free

Non-WCU employees: \$20 for materials

*ESL classes are taught by volunteer graduate students in the West Chester MA TESOL program,
Department of Languages and Cultures.*

TD Bank Affinity Program

Raise money for HSA

No cost to you!

Get your account(s) signed up now and ask your friends & family to sign up too.

Call the TD Bank branch in Lionville/Exton anytime at 610-594-0712 and ask a customer service rep. to code the account(s) for the Uwchlan Hills Elementary School Affinity Program OR stop into the branch any time. **CODE: A3224**

**If you signed up last year, you do not need to do anything, the accounts will remain as part of the program.

- No cost to you or the school to participate and it's all handled through the bank confidentially. The H&S does not receive any account information.
- All existing and new TD Bank accounts (personal, checking, savings, CDs, IRAs, Money Market accounts and Business checking accounts) whose owners say they want to be part of our group help us raise money and maintain their 50 households minimum.
- UH families, UH school staff, relatives, neighbors, etc. (anyone) are eligible to link their TD Bank accounts to the program.
- The bank runs a report once a year and takes a % of the average in all accounts linked to the program and makes a contribution to Uwchlan Hills H&S.

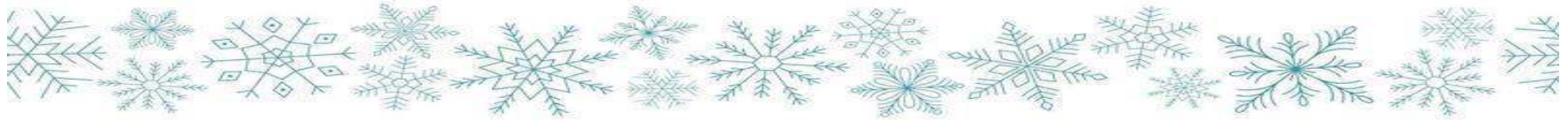
Please contact Adrienne McLaughlin with any questions at uhhsatreasurer@gmail.com.





America's Most Convenient Bank®



DECEMBER 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 C	3 D	4 E	5 F	6 A  76ers Spirit Day	7
8	9 B	10 C  UH Spirit Day	11 D Winter Concert 6:30pm	12 E	13 F	14
15	16 A 3 rd Grade Strings Concert: 9:15am	17 B	18 C Holiday Headwear & Socks Spirit Day	19 D Holiday Pajama Spirit Day	20 E Holiday Ugly Sweater Spirit Day	21
22	23 Winter Recess →	24 →	25 Merry Christmas & Happy Hanukkah	26 Kwanzaa	27 →	28
29	30 →	31 →	JANUARY 1 Happy New Year! (School Closed)	2 F	3 A	