



HAWK TALK

Newsletter

October 31, 2024
Issue #22



Head of School Mr. Mayne and Chair of the Building & Grounds Committee Mr. Straff doing the ribbon cutting for Hill Top's new main school sign.

It's a Sign of the Times!

At long last, Hill Top Prep has a main sign at the entrance to our campus that befits our amazing school and suits not only with our historic mansion but also our surrounding neighborhood here in Bryn Mawr. The brick pillars symbolize strength, sacrifice, beauty, and stability. The lights represent hope, knowledge, and intelligence. All are characteristics that align with Hill Top, our unique mission, and the educational journey of our students.

In this issue of **Hawk Talk**, you'll find all treats, no tricks – although my Beetlejuice Halloween costume may indicate otherwise! It's been a very busy month as our campus finally transitioned fully from summer to fall. It was questionable there for a couple weeks when temps kept fluctuating from the 40s to the 80s. Finally, this weekend, our campus' trees turned to shades of red, orange, and gold. It's absolutely beautiful and my favorite time of year. We have also had great involvement of our amazing and creative students in and out of the classroom, on campus and off. I hope you enjoy viewing all of the amazing work of our faculty, staff, and students.

It is also the time of year when begin to celebrate the many holidays focused on gathering and giving thanks. We have much to be thankful for here on The Hill – particularly our wonderful community. I hope each of you get to share in the beauty of this season.

Yours gratefully,



Kevin M.R. Mayne
Head of School

Special Project: Viewpoint

We had the incredible opportunity to welcome a film crew from the Viewpoint Project to our campus. This program specializes in short-form Public Television stories that spotlight groundbreaking organizations and professionals across various industries. We were honored to be chosen to represent the field of neurodiversity and education.

The crew spent the day interviewing our parents, students, and educators, capturing the unique spirit of Hill Top through classroom activities and outdoor programs. It was a day full of pride and excitement as we showcased the impact of our community on the neurodiverse world.

Be on the lookout for more updates on when it will air and similar opportunities in the future. We're eager to continue sharing Hill Top's story with the world!



Halloween on the Hill

What a spooky day on the Hill! Check out some of our best dressed!



Mr. Mayne & Owen Y. as 'Beetlejuice'



Ms. Kroberger as Mr. Weldie



Our middle school faculty as Disney Villains



An array of costumes in Upper School



Maynard W. B. as a Ghost Buster; complete with a home-made Proton Pack!



Will B. (Staff) as Kylo Ren



An array of costumes in Upper School

Middle School Spooktacular



The annual MS Halloween Spooktacular took place on the evening of Friday, Oct. 25th. Middle school students were treated to games, snacks, and a spooky tour of campus at night. A highlight for many of the students was playing "Vampires in the Dark," a Halloween-themed version of Hide and Seek in the mansion at night.

Field Trip Fun!

Dalton Farms

Our 6th and 7th grade students recently embarked on a seasonal field trip to Dalton Farms. Our students had a day full of fun fall activities like navigating the corn maze, trying out the giant slide, and the trike track. Their chaperones couldn't resist joining

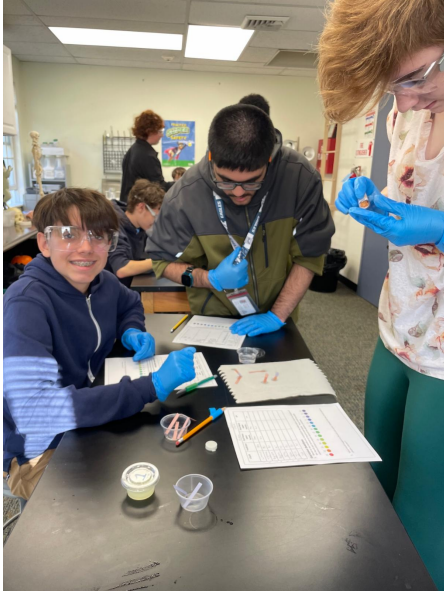
in on all the excitement, making it a great outing.



Classroom Fun!

Ms. Weiderhold's Bio 1 students had a great time getting hands-on with their lab skills by exploring acid/base testing. Each student took turns testing the pH of

various liquids using both litmus paper and pH testing strips. It was a fun and interactive way to dive into the world of chemistry!



In Ms. Kroberger's Forensics class, students sunk their teeth into the science of bite marks! Using styrofoam plates and apples, they matched "unidentified" bite marks to the people in the room.



Ms. Clarke's health class explored how different foods impact our bodies, wrapping up with a fun and educational chocolate tasting! Students learned about mindful eating, the difference between tasting and eating, and finding balance when it comes to indulgence.



Our Middle School Robotics Club has been busy building and programming robots that can move!

This talented group of students has worked hard to design, construct, and code their creations, demonstrating great teamwork along the way. We're proud of their achievements and look

forward to seeing what they'll accomplish next!



Hill Top Parents' Association Wants YOU!



Are you a new parent to Hill Top? Maybe your schedule freed up? Do you only have a couple hours a month to volunteer? In any situation, The Hill Top Parent Association (HTPA) wants you!

The HTPA helps with school events, fundraising, and much more! You can be as involved as your schedule permits. Volunteer opportunities range from planning fundraisers, to being an Open House greeter, to helping us with gardening and painting around campus.

If you have questions or would like to get involved, please email parentsassociation@hilltopprep.org.

Join the HTPS Parent Facebook Group!

Thrill on the Hill 2024



Thank you to everyone who joined us for Thrill on the Hill on October 5th! The event brought our community together for a 5k race, a 1.5-mile fun walk, and raffles. Your participation helped raise vital funds to support our neurodiverse students.

A big thank you to our volunteers, sponsors, and families for making it all possible. Whether you ran, walked, or cheered, your support made the day a success. We look forward to seeing you next year!



Unity Day



This year's Unity Day was full of fun and teamwork! Students collaborated to create incredible scarecrows, each representing the theme of unity and togetherness. Afterward, everyone gathered for a group photo in their orange outfits to show solidarity, followed by enjoying some delicious orange snacks. It was a day of creativity and community spirit!



Welcome New NHS Members!

We are proud to announce that Hill Top's chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) has gained four exceptional new members: Owen Y., Maynard WB., Liam C., and Kerian B. These students have been recognized for their outstanding qualities of scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

Please join us in congratulating them on this well-deserved achievement!





Neurodiversity Success Center

at Hill Top Preparatory School



Have you heard about Hill Top's new Neurodiversity Success Center (NSC)?

While Hill Top students already receive support like Social-Emotional Learning (PEERS), Executive Function Coaching, and College Advising during the regular school day, the NSC offers these services as additional, supplemental support for those who may need extra help outside of school hours.

The NSC is also open to neurodiverse adolescents, young adults, and adults across the Main Line and greater Philadelphia area who do not attend Hill Top.

Current Hill Top students receive a 25% discount!

For more information or to enroll, contact Mia Henry, Coordinator of the Neurodiversity Success Center, at mhenry@hilltopprep.org or visit www.hilltopprep.org/nsc.

Learn About NSC

Request More Information



- **November 1st** - Faculty In-Service; NO SCHOOL; OFFICES OPEN
- **November 5th** - Election Day; NO SCHOOL & OFFICES CLOSED!
- **November 9th** - Ice Cream Bingo
- **November 13th** - HTPA Meeting & Admissions Open House
- **November 15th** - Middle School Assembly
- **November 22nd** - Fun Friday

- **November 25th & 26th** - Fall Conferences: NO SCHOOL
- **November 27, 28, 29th** - Thanksgiving Break; NO SCHOOL
- **December 3rd** - Giving Tuesday

Full Event Calendar

Alumni Corner

We were excited to see so many alumni return for Thrill on the Hill, reconnecting with friends and showing their support for Hill Top!

Each month, Ms. Lesser organizes fun outings for our young alumni to enjoy, including visits to local museums, parks, and events.

Don't forget to update your contact information to stay informed about all the upcoming alumni opportunities!

Alumni - Update Contact Information



Alumni Spotlight

We are proud to share that Hill Top alum Jonah Lynn '24 just made his debut on WNUW 98.5, Neumann University's student-run radio station! His show is focused on Philly sports, and many of our students and faculty tuned in to cheer him on during his first broadcast. You can catch him on Thursdays from 4-5 each week. We're looking forward to seeing where his passions take him next!

Dorm Update

The dorm's recent adventures, from Halloween Nights at Eastern State Penitentiary to conquering the Gold Rush escape room and enjoying ice cream at Rita's, helped our students build their friendships and grow independence. These shared experiences fostered teamwork and strengthened their confidence in navigating new social settings.



Fall Open House

The first of our Fall Open Houses will be held on November 13th from 9:30am to 11:30am. This is a great way for those not currently in our community to come on campus and see what a special place Hill Top is! Please share this with anyone you think could benefit from learning about the Hill Top Difference.

Open House Information

A promotional poster for Hill Top Preparatory School's Fall Open House. The poster features the school's logo (a shield with '1971' and a bird) and the text 'HILL TOP Preparatory School'. Below this, it says 'Fall Open House' in a large, stylized font. The event details are listed: 'Join us November 13th 9:30 - 11:30 AM'. The mission statement 'Educating the Next Generation of Neurodiverse Learners' is also included. The address '737 S. Ithan Ave Bryn Mawr, PA 19010' is at the bottom. The background of the poster shows a student wearing safety goggles and gloves, working with test tubes in a laboratory setting.

HILL TOP
Preparatory School

**Fall
Open House**

Join us
November 13th
9:30 - 11:30 AM

Educating the
Next Generation of
Neurodiverse
Learners

737 S. Ithan Ave
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Review us
on
Facebook

Review us
on Google

Review us on
Niche.com

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE
CONNECTED

Did you miss a past Hawk Talk issue? Find previous issues [here](#).



HILL TOP
Preparatory School
Serving Neurodiverse Students Grades 5 - 12

Donate



Hill Top Preparatory School | 737 South Ithan Avenue | Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!