

# FROM DR. MADDEN'S DESK TO *Your Home*

HAPPY NEW YEAR

## *The Year of Determination*

**Dear Hillside Caregivers,**

Welcome to 2024! It was great to welcome our staff and students back this past Tuesday. Everyone was excited to see each other after spending time with our families for winter break. All of our students have welcomed 2024 by discussing the goals they would like to set for themselves. I heard some of the students express that they wanted to get better at playing their instruments, some of the students shared that they want to get better at their math facts, and some shared they wanted to read more books. It was great to hear about all of the goals they want to achieve!



This month, our entire student body will have the chance to select different types of fish for our new fish tank. They will get to learn the names of the fish and be able to read about their different characteristics. By the end of the month, the goal is to have the tank filled with many more fish. The students will not be able to keep their eyes off this tank!

We also have a few special projects that our fourth grade leaders will partake in this month. Those who volunteered, will be participating in recording themselves reading picture books for our kindergarten students to listen to before bedtime. More information is to come about this special project which promotes the importance of reading in the home.

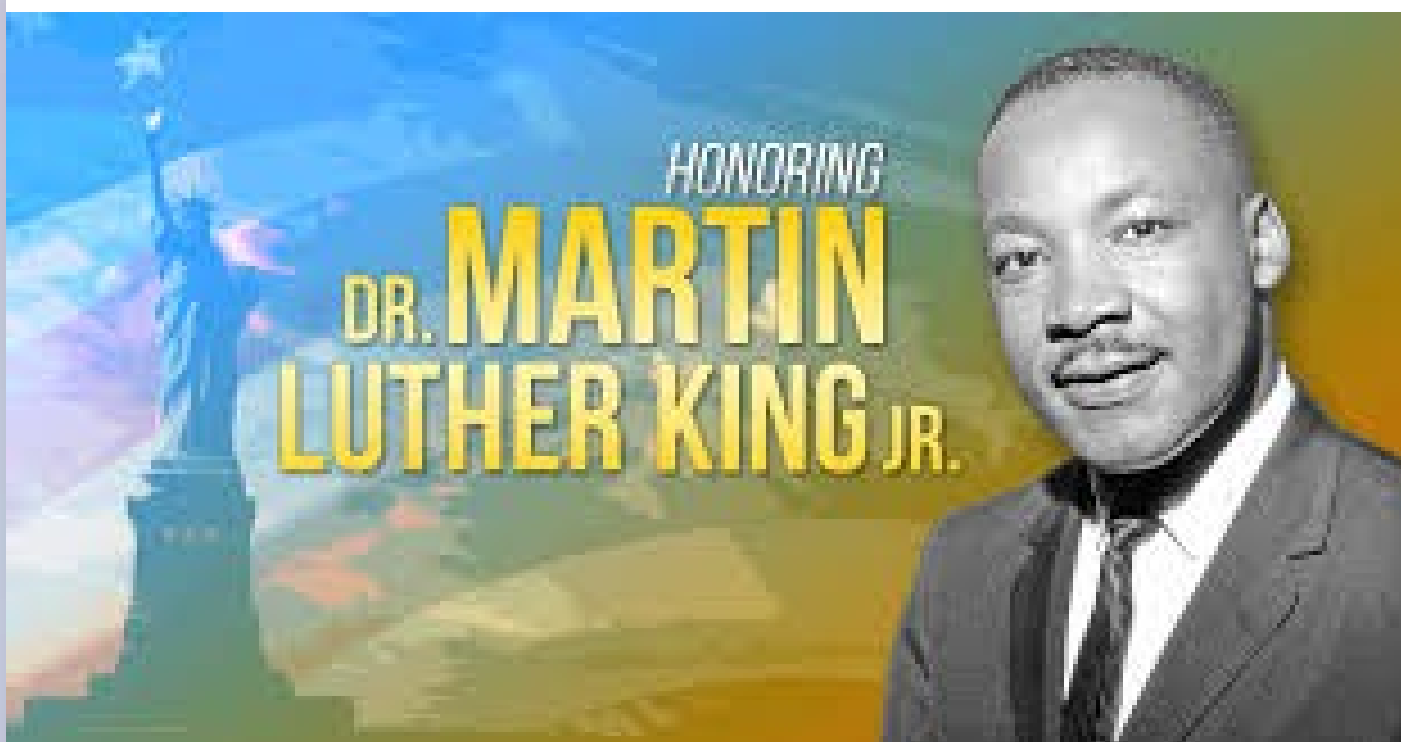
Additionally, the fourth grade will be hosting the 2nd Annual Breakfast for the Brave. This special event is planned to honor current caregivers who serve in the military and those who have served. Our fourth graders will welcome these special guests for a hot breakfast and brief ceremony. They are so excited to take part in this special event!

On January 15th, Mt. Laurel Schools will be closed to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a determined leader. As a school, we will be discussing Dr. King's leadership in the American Civil Rights Movement. Each of the classrooms will participate in special activities to honor Dr. King's legacy. My hope is that you and your family use this special day to complete acts of service in Dr. King's honor.

We have several busy winter months ahead at Hillside. Be sure to check out what is happening on social media as we continue to share our story with you! Thank you for all of the well wishes. Each day, I am getting better and better from my fall over winter break. The students give me hope that 2024 is going to be a year of great accomplishments for all of us!

Happy New Year,  
Dr. Madden

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## ***Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15th--No School***

### **Mark Your Calendars!**

Bookmark this link on your phone to keep up with the special Spirit Days at Hillside.

[Hillside School Spirit Days](#)

**Spirit  
Days**

### **After School Clubs--Important Information**

The After School Club Menu will be coming home this week. This menu will include Club descriptions and session dates. Students will be assigned to Clubs on a first come first serve basis. It will be a quick turnaround time to get your club sign up form back so please adhere to the

dates in the Club Menu when it is shared. We thank our PTO for providing the funding for these clubs.



**Dr. Briean Madden**

Briean is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

