HILL
TAKE NOTE

The Hill School
540-687-5897
www.thehillschool.org

November 12, 2026



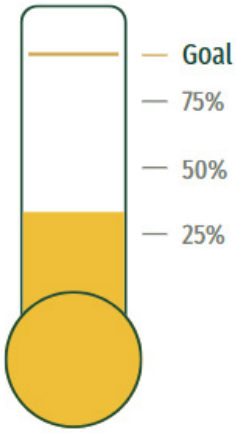
PARENT ANNUAL GIVING CHALLENGE

Reach 90% parent participation by December 18
and unlock an additional $30,000.

90%
PARTICIPATION
GOAL

32%
CURRENT
PARTICIPATION

DAYS REMAINING 36



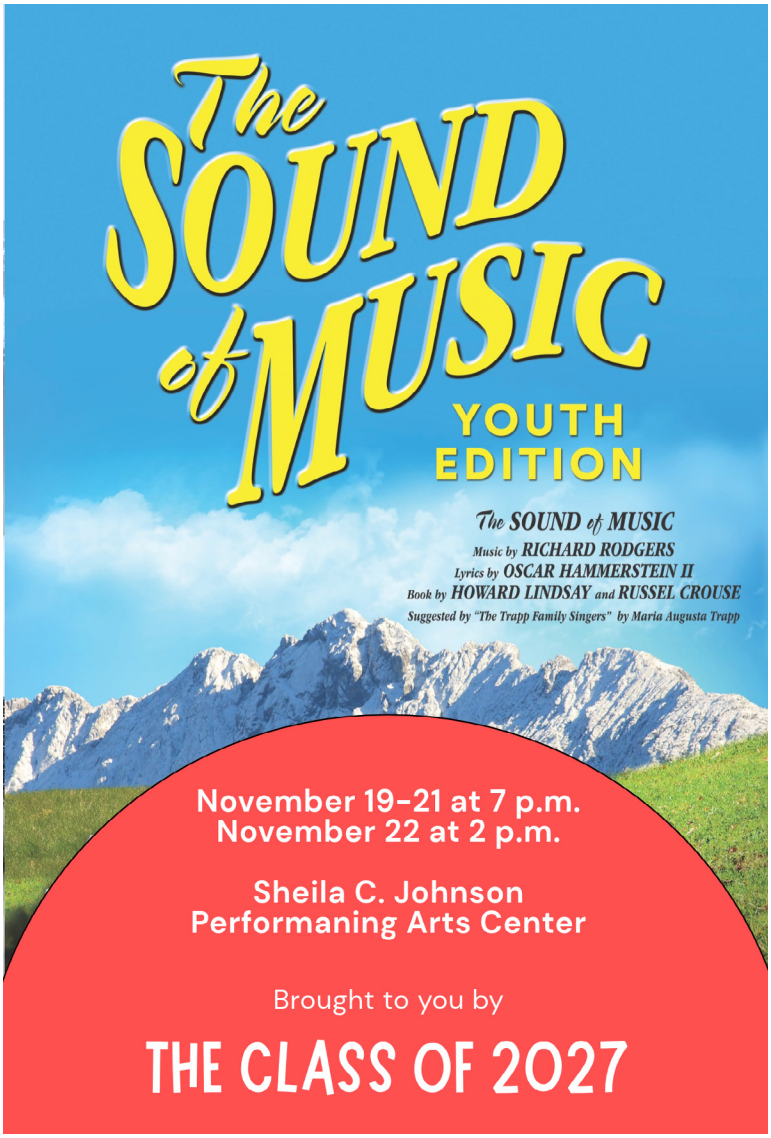
DONATE NOW

STUDENT COUNCIL'S
THANKSGIVING
Food Drive
BENEFITTING
SEVEN LOAVES SERVICES

DONATIONS DUE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

BRING ITEMS TO
HOMEROOM.

JK/K: 2 BAGS OF STUFFING
1ST: 2 CANS OF PEAS
2ND: 2 CANS OF GREEN BEANS
3RD: 1 BOX DRIED POTATOES & 1 JAR OF GRAVY
4TH: 2 CANS OF FRUIT
5TH: 2 JARS OF APPLESAUCE
6TH: 1 CAN OF SWEET POTATOES
7TH: 1 CONTAINER OF COOKIES OR CANNED NUTS
8TH: 2 CANS OF CRANBERRY SAUCE



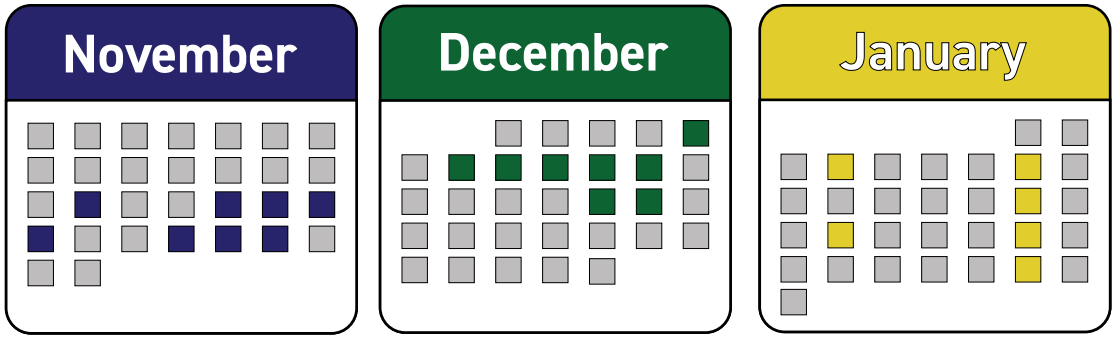


Save Your Teeth and Help Hill

Inundated with sugary treats? Donate any unused Halloween candy to Hill to be used for our float in the Christmas in Middleburg parade. Candy may be dropped off in the Front Office.

UPCOMING @ Hill

View the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar on the Hill School website.



16 New Parent Breakfast
8:30 a.m., Alumni Room

16 Holiday Boutique Opens
8:30 a.m., Alumni Room

19 Holiday Cocktail Party
5 p.m., Alumni Room

19 8th Grade Play
7 p.m., Theater

20 Holiday Boutique Closes
6 p.m., Alumni Room

20 8th Grade Play
7 p.m., Theater

21 8th Grade Play
7 p.m., Theater

22 8th Grade Play
2 p.m., Theater

25 Thanksgiving Assembly
11 a.m., M'burg Methodist

25 Thanksgiving Vacation Begins
Noon Dismissal

26 Thanksgiving Day
No School

27 Thanksgiving Vacation
No School

5 Christmas in Middleburg
JK-3 Parade Float

7 Fall Book Fair
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Theater Lobby

8 Fall Book Fair
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Theater Lobby

9 Fall Book Fair
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Theater Lobby

10 Fall Book Fair
8 a.m. to 12 p.m., Theater Lobby

10 Ski Club Gear Swap
12 to 4:30 p.m., Theater Lobby

11 Ski Club Gear Swap
8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Theater Lobby

11 LS Holiday Share
9 a.m., Theater

11 Ski Club Registration Ends

17 St. George & the Dragon

18 US Holiday Program
11 a.m., Theater

18 Winter Break Begins
Noon Dismissal

4 School Resumes

8 Ski Friday
11:30 a.m. Dismissal

15 Ski Friday
Noon Dismissal

18 Professional Development Day, No School

22 Ski Friday
Noon Dismissal

29 Ski Friday
Noon Dismissal

LOST & FOUND

Student Council will be cleaning out the Lost & Found on Friday, November 13. Unlabeled and unclaimed items will be donated the following week.

THE CLASSIFIEDS

- Need a babysitter? Ms. Brenda from Piedmont is available M-F after 6:30 p.m., and anytime on the weekend. Reach out to her at 540-322-8241.
- Needed: Pet-sitter. Looking for person to stop by the house and care for a cat while away. Please call Mia at 703-980-8109.
- Needed: affordable rental in Middleburg. Couple + small dog looking to move closer to town. Have an available space? Call Riley at 571-246-3605.

THE HILL SCHOOL

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE RAFFLES

RAFFLES OPEN EARLY!





A SWEET DAY IN MIDDLEBURG!
Middleburg Holiday Cookie Crawl Raffle

Two tickets to the sold-out Middleburg Holiday Cookie Crawl on Friday, Nov. 20th, plus a lunch reservation for two at Oak & Ember Tasting Room and Market.

Winner drawn Wednesday, Nov. 18th.



A RARE VINTAGE:
2011 Colgin IX Estate Red Wine

An extraordinary Napa Valley collectible from one of California's most prestigious wineries.

Generously donated by Dwight and Alexa Zenzano.



BOURBON LOVERS RAFFLE
Bottle of Blanton's Single Barrel

A chance to enjoy a bottle of the impossible to find Blanton's Single Barrel Bourbon (750ml).

Only 40 raffle tickets will be sold.



LET IT SNOW!
The Ultimate Snow Day Survival Kit

Sled. Sip. Snack. Play. Repeat.

Two Airefina snow tubes, an electric air pump, a 10-pack of Chameleon Colors snow painting bottles, and Ghirardelli Classic Hot Cocoa served from an 84 oz. insulated dispenser.



A VERY MERRY PEANUTS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE!
Celebrate the magic of Christmas with a delightful Peanuts-themed package!

- 4 General Admission Tickets to *A Charlie Brown Christmas* on Saturday, December 12, 2026 at 7:00 pm
- Peanuts x Sugarfina® Christmas Candy Advent Calendar
- *A Charlie Brown* Christmas Playing Cards
- Snoopy Figure Bank Money Box

ENTER THE RAFFLES TODAY!

https://onecau.se/2026hillschoolholidayboutique



Rue de Noël Emmanuel

79th Middleburg Emmanuel Christmas Shop

November 13th – 15th

105 East Washington Street

SKI CLUB 2027



Registration for the 2027 Ski Club season is now open. You can register your child through the Ravenna portal.

In addition to registering:

- All families and adult participants must complete the Assumption of Risk and Participation Agreement.
- All participants renting equipment from Bryce Resort must complete the Equipment Rental Assumption of Risk Form.
- All forms must be submitted to Jill Hottel by Friday, December 11.

Check out this Ski Club FAQ.

Read a poignant reflection of Ski Fridays by a former Hill parent.

For questions please contact Jill Hottel.

Hill School Dads' Basketball



- *Wednesday nights: 7:30pm – 9pm, starting November 4th*
- *Location: The Hill School Gym*
- *All skill levels welcome!*
- *Contact Mike Wipfler if interested:*

Cell: (301) 801 -1478

Email: mikewipfler79@gmail.com





Field Trip Report

The first grade class visited Morven Park in Leesburg on November 2. They participated in three guided stations where they learned about the butterfly life cycle, migration, and pollination. The students enjoyed a hands-on lesson about habitats, milkweed, monarch butterfly life-cycles, migration, and environmental stewardship. Students were also tasked with thinking about ways they can help protect the species from becoming extinct in the future. Following the educational portion of experience, the class was able to enjoy the historic grounds for lunch and recess as a group. It was a wonderful day accompanied by beautiful fall weather.





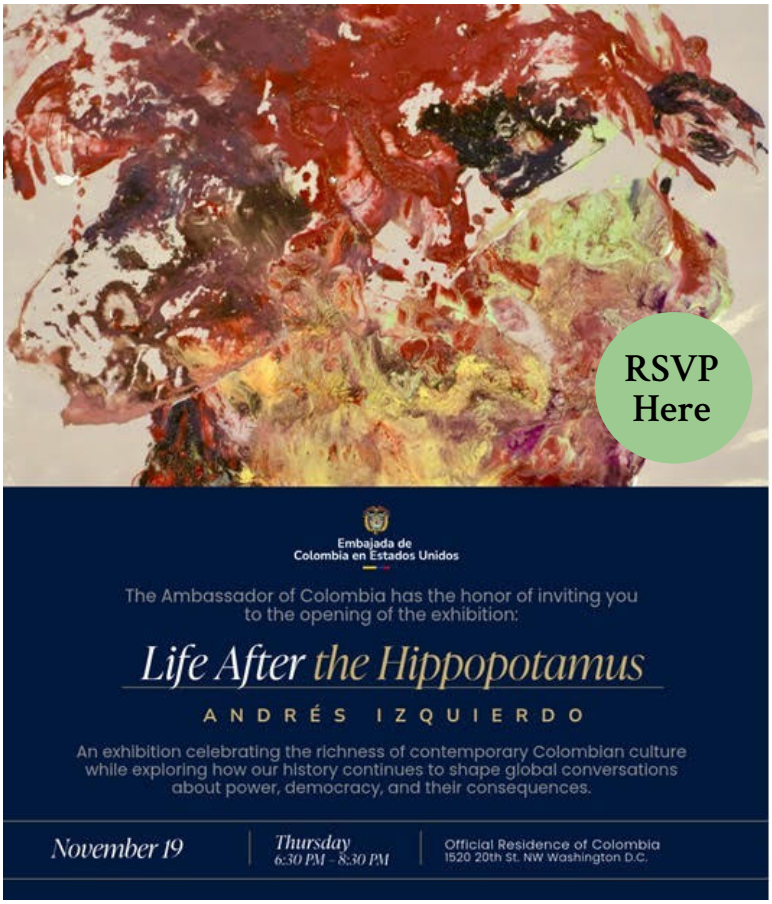












Questions about book fair? Email bookfair1@thehillschool.org

Questions about Ravenna? Email Jill Hottel

Fall Book Fair is Coming!
December 7-10
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. M-W
8 a.m.-11 a.m. Th.

BOOK FAIR



Sign-Up to Volunteer | DECEMBER 7-10 | Fill out permission slips





Dornin Lab

On November 6 the Fourth Grade Dornin Lab focused on how to use a compass as an introduction to orienteering. The day began with warm-up tag games designed to build movement, strategy, and group engagement. The first activity, *Palm Tag*, involves participants trying to tag each other's palms with one hand behind their back. Then the students played *Blob Tag*, where tagged players link arms to form expanding blobs that split into smaller groups to chase remaining participants.

Following the warm-up, the focus shifted to environmental awareness with *Jays and Ovenbirds*, played in the river birch grove. In this game, students play in pairs as "ovenbirds" building hidden nests and collecting eggs from a "mama ovenbird," while designated "jays" attempt to find and steal the eggs. The game emphasizes stealth, strategy, blind spot awareness, and resource protection.

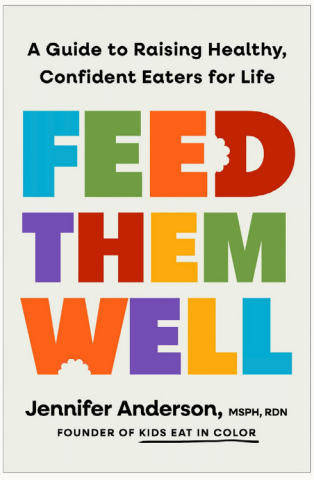
The core technical instruction took place at the Amphitheater Stage with an introduction to orienteering. Led by Susan McCaskey, students learned the essential mechanics of using a magnetic compass. The lesson covered key parts of the compass (base, needle, dial, and direction of travel arrow) and guided students step-by-step on how to orient themselves, set bearings, and match the magnetic needle ("red in the shed") to navigate accurately.

Finally, students applied their navigation skills through two structured exercises on the campus grounds. First, in *Orienteering Practice*, student teams worked through designated geometric courses marked by yellow cones on the recess field to practice taking bearings and pacing steps. This lead directly into the *Orienteering Scavenger Hunt*, where student groups navigated across six distinct, color-coded, checkpoint courses spanning the campus (from the Art Building to the playground and secret garden) using specific bearings and step distances to locate hidden dots before meeting at the final destination: the boulders across from the main circle.

To end the day, the Fourth Graders played *Eagle Eye*, a hide-and-seek style game that builds stealth, patience, and observation skills as students take on the roles of mice sneaking up on an "eagle" without being seen.







THIS YEAR'S COMMUNITY READ

Feed Them Well offers practical, encouraging guidance to help families move beyond mealtime stress and raise healthy, confident eaters for life.

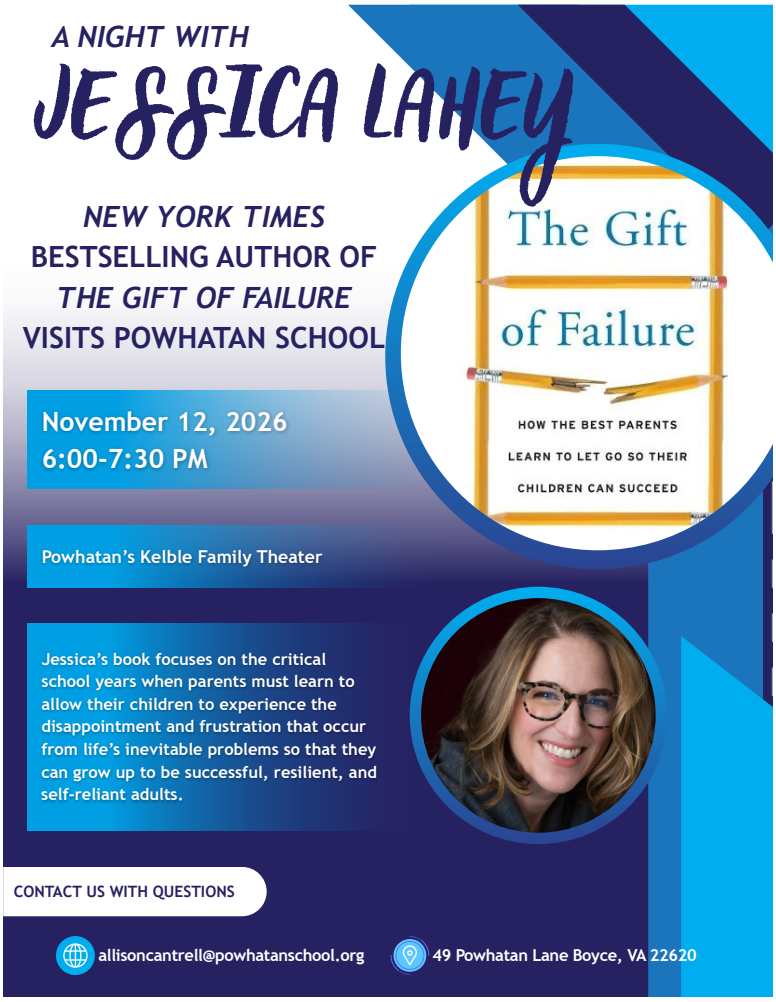
We look forward to using this book as a springboard for thoughtful conversations about nourishing our children, building positive relationships with food, and making family meals feel more connected.

HILL'S 2026 COMMUNITY BOOK READ

AVAILABLE AT MIDDLEBURG BOOKS

HILL FAMILIES RECEIVE 10% OFF THE BOOK


A CHARLIE BROWN Christmas
Scan for tickets
TAGRAGG PRODUCTIONS
by CHARLES M. SCHULZ
Based on the television special by BILL MELENDEZ and LEE MENDELSON
Stage Adaptation by ERIC SCHAEFFER
By Special Arrangement with ARTHER WHITELAW and RUBY PERSSON
Performances on Dec. 5th, 6th, 12th & 13th
The Hill School in Middleburg, VA
www.tagragg.org


A NIGHT WITH
JESSICA LAHEY
NEW YORK TIMES
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
THE GIFT OF FAILURE
VISITS POWHATAN SCHOOL
The Gift of Failure
HOW THE BEST PARENTS LEARN TO LET GO SO THEIR CHILDREN CAN SUCCEED
November 12, 2026
6:00-7:30 PM
Powhatan's Kelble Family Theater
Jessica's book focuses on the critical school years when parents must learn to allow their children to experience the disappointment and frustration that occur from life's inevitable problems so that they can grow up to be successful, resilient, and self-reliant adults.
CONTACT US WITH QUESTIONS
allisoncantrell@powhatanschool.org
49 Powhatan Lane Boyce, VA 22620


LOUDOUN LYRIC OPERA
Così fan tutte
W.A. MOZART
TICKETS FROM
25$
NOW ON SALE
NOV 14, 2026 @ 7:00 PM
ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ASHBURN, VA
Artwork: Flirting in the Park of the Villa Borghese, Rome
Frédéric Soulacroix (French, 1858–1933)


Art and Wine
The Bayeux Tapestry
Chrysalis Vineyard
(39025 Little River Turnpike, Middleburg)
Friday, Nov. 20, 6 p.m.
After more than 900 years, the Bayeux Tapestry has returned to the United Kingdom. Celebrate its return and discover the beauty and wonder of this Medieval masterpiece with art historian John Daum.
Please arrive by 5:30 p.m. if you plan to purchase wine or food.
Ages 21+
LCPL
library.loudoun.gov