

So, you want to be the "Head Room Parent"?

Room Parenting 101

- Q. What does the term "Room Parent" really mean?
- A. Long ago, the term was "Room Mom," which in this day and age seems like we wouldn't allow Dads in the classroom! Now we have opened the door to any parent, guardian, even grandparents! In a nutshell, you, as Room Parent are the liaison between the teacher and the parents. You will be asked to coordinate 3 parties throughout the school year, with direction from the teacher on what he/she expects for each party. You are also asked to coordinate a gift for your teacher for Teacher Appreciation week in May.
- Q. What, when and where are the parties?
- A. The first is the Halloween Party and will take place on Thursday, October 31st. The second is the Winter Party and will take place on Thursday, December 19th. Finally, the third is the Valentine's Day party and will take place on Friday, February 14th. . All parties are held in the classrooms and are from 12:30pm-1:30pm. Morning Kindergarten classes hold their parties from 9am-10am.
- Q. How are the parties funded?
- A. A letter will go home to each family asking them to send \$6.00 for the classroom parties. That's \$2.00 per student per party. Parents will be asked to send the money to the attention of the "Head Room Parent." Your teacher will then give the funds to you. You will be responsible for budgeting for each party. As each party nears, you will also want to ask parents to donate items, such as napkins and treats, so that the collected funds can be spread further.
- Q. Isn't that a lot of work for one person?
- A. Not if you know how to delegate! You will receive a list of parents with phone numbers and email addresses so that everyone can be informed about and has a chance to participate in the class parties. Your job is to match the right parent to the job, just by asking them what they are willing to do! If you know a parent who's child is also in the class, ask them to work with you as a Co-Room Parent. This is a great way to share the responsibilities and make lasting friendships!
- Q. Can the Head Room Parent send home flyers with the students?
- A. Yes, but you should always have it approved by your teacher first. Be sure to ask your teacher how he/she would like to have them distributed.
- Q. What do I need to know about parents parking for the class parties?
- A. As you know, Hilltop does not have a very big parking lot and parents can park in the field and around back, weather permitting. However, FOR THE SAFETY OF EVERY STUDENT, all cars that are parked in the bus line/staff parking lot MUST be moved at 1:30pm.

- Q. How do I get my classroom party photos in the Yearbook?
- A. You will want to find a parent who is willing to take pictures at the parties. 15 to 20 pictures total (not per party) are needed for the Yearbook (submitted on a CD.) The Yearbook Committee will provide submissions deadlines. More information is given at the Head Room Parent Meeting.
- Q. How can I find out more information once I've decided to become a Head Room Parent?
- A. We will have an informational meeting at school at the end of September. You will be contacted about the details once they are determined.
- Q. What are the benefits of being a Head Room Parent?
- A. Almost too numerous to mention! You will get to know your child in a different light, and see young minds grow throughout the year. A very important reward is having the chance to help one of the few people who work just as hard as you do --- your child's teacher! Did we mention the occasional delicious cupcake or two?

If you would like to be a Head Room Parent, and we hope you do, please let your teacher know or contact us at hilltophawkspto@yahoo.com.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Hope to see you soon,

Kara Baker
PTO President