



# Pathways

Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths. Ps. 25:4

A Newsletter for Holden Christian Academy

January 30, 2014

## Principal's Corner

Dear Friends,

Just when you think things can't get any more exciting for Term 3, we just arranged for **the African Children's Choir**, to come to HCA twice in February! If you missed the specials about them on TV, or when they opened for Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee, or when they sang with Michael W. Smith, (... getting the picture?), you can meet, hear and even house them in February!! Can you tell I'm excited? If this seems like short notice, it is. I just received approval last night to proceed. We need to do a lot quickly. That's why I'm calling on our HCA family!

The Choir is composed of 40 kids ages 8-11 from Uganda. They are dynamic believers and share God's love through music all over the world. The children have all lost at least one parent, and many come from desperate circumstances. They are singing to help African children like themselves. Check out their website, [africanchildrenschoir.com](http://africanchildrenschoir.com). Warning...it's moving! Their music is joyous and contagious!

They will be coming to HCA in two weeks! **On Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> they will give an evening concert in the Holden Chapel sanctuary from 6:30-8:00.** This is a free event and all are invited, so bring your friends! There will be a freewill offering.

**We are looking for families to host the choir for two nights, Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>.** Two to three children plus one chaperone will stay with each host home. The host families will be responsible for meals and transportation to the chapel on Wednesday in time for the concert. We need about 17 homes so PLEASE give this some immediate thought and prayer!

First consideration will be given to HCA families with children because I believe this is an incredible opportunity for them to actually get to know some African kids! Who knows how God may use it? I also think that the African kids would prefer to stay with American children. If you are interested, please send a note to the office ASAP, or e-mail your request to [info@holdenchristianacademy.org](mailto:info@holdenchristianacademy.org). We will notify you with a confirmation and details.

**But wait...there's more! On Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup> they are coming back** to our area and will do an interactive workshop with our students! No housing is needed at that time. The workshop will include singing, dancing and drum-

ming with audience participation.

**I have one big prayer request.** The cost of that program is \$1000 and I am looking for underwriters. Sometimes a business will underwrite an event such as this or one, or more individuals could do so as well. If you know of someone who has a heart for missions who might like to be involved please make this need known. We are trusting God for the funds. The opportunity to be with the kids again up close and personal was just too good to pass up and it will be a joyous conclusion to our Read-a-thon as well as the PERFECT complement to our African studies this term!

Blessings to all!  
Susan Hayward, Principal

### Used Book Sale Tomorrow!

In hopes of promoting some good reading habits just in time for the Read-A-thon, our annual Used Book Sale is tomorrow, Friday 1/31!!!! Are you looking for a way to earn School Service Hours? The Parent-Teacher Council welcomes help with both set-up, selling, and break-down! Set-up will happen starting at 8am; students & parents will shop between 11am-3pm; and clean-up will be at 3pm. No need to RSVP - just come to help!!!!



If you can't come to work & get some School Service Hours in, please at least come between 11am-3pm to browse & buy! We have many great grown-up titles to choose from - all priced \$.25-\$1.00!

If you have a very last-minute donation of books to make, please get them to the Small Chapel first thing Friday morning to be included in the sale! Thank you!

~The Parent Teacher Council

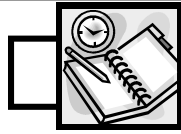
P.S. Don't forget to send your student(s) with \$\$\$\$ to shop - all classes will attend! Send quarters and/or \$1 bills - all books will be \$.25, \$.50, and \$1.00

Answers to Financial IQ Quiz  
1.b, 2.b, 3.d, 4.b, 5.b, 6.b, 7.e, 8.d, 9.d, 10.a, 11.e, 12.e

### Our Mission ~

To challenge children to a lifetime of learning, working in partnership with families, to integrate Biblical truth with academic pursuits.

Holden Christian Academy  
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## HCA Calendar

January 31	Used Book Sale
February 3	Start logging read-a-thon minutes
February 6	Read-a-thon Sponsor check-up
February 6	7 p.m. Every Family Bring a Family Open House
February 7	Read-a-thon Surprise Party
February 12	6:30 p.m. African Children's Choir concert
February 14	Deadline for Boxtops
February 17-21	NO SCHOOL February vacation
February 28	Workshop, African Children's Choir
February 28	Last day to log read-a-thon minutes
March 4	All read-a-thon money is due
May 31	Save the date! HCA 20th birthday party! (Rain date June 7)

Fridays: ice cream sales after lunch, \$1 each.

### Principal's Book of Excellence celebrates...

#### Grade 1

Dayton, for his enthusiasm for reading the Bible.

#### Grade 2

Adriana, for her compassion toward others and her eagerness to share with those in need.

Carlie, for being perpetually cheerful and an encourager to all.  
Matthew, for being a servant who is quick to help his teacher and classmates.

#### Grade 3

Alison, Carlie, and Hannah, for cleaning up the 3rd Grade classroom for Wed. afternoon volunteer, without complaining.

#### Grade 8

Conway, for putting ice-melt at the entrance door without being asked.  
Sungtak, for his act of kindness sharing an orange with a hungry toddler.

### PRAYER (Psalm 68:19)

- For our family members struggling with illness during the winter season.
- For new families being called to HCA, that they will hear God's call and trust in Him.

### PRAISE & THANK YOU

- Thank you to the Parent Teacher Council for coordinating the Book Sale and helping with the Read-a-thon.
- Thank you to all who chaperoned for our Museum of Science field trip next week!

**Don't forget!**  
**Spread the word!**  
**Every Family Bring a Family**  
**Open House**  
**February 6**

February 6 is our next Every Family Bring a Family Open House, at 7:00 p.m. Bring your friends and give them a tour; they'll get to meet the staff and learn about HCA.

If they apply and are accepted, and name you as their referral, you will receive a check for \$100!

A flyer is attached for you and more are available in the office. Please post this flyer in your local library, supermarket, dance studio, etc. Word of mouth is our greatest form of advertising.

### Box Tops for Education update...

Our next deadline for Boxtops submissions is March 1; HCA will receive a check in April. Please send in all your Boxtops and Labels by February 14th, before the winter break. Thanks!

HCA and Holden Chapel staff members have reported that they have seen drivers speeding through the parking lot, and using the wrong driveway path during morning drop-off. HCA and Holden Chapel staff members have been asked to take down the license plate numbers of those seen speeding through, and the school will contact these drivers directly.



This is an extremely dangerous situation. Preschool families are dropping their children off and use the driveway closest to the building at the time that some of our later-arriving families seem to be speeding through.

All drivers dropping off students in K-8 should proceed to the TOP driveway/parking lot before proceeding along the playground side of the building.

Please do not try to save time by taking a shortcut through the closer driveway near the building; you are putting the safety of others at risk.

Please help us help you to keep our precious little ones safe!

### Art Room Needs

We will be working on African textiles. Any old clean sheets preferably white, off white or yellow would be appreciated. They will not be returned. Please submit to office labeled for art by February 4th. Thank you! ~Mrs. M



# Classroom Happenings

## Team A ~ Grades K-2

Greetings from Team A!

A HUGE Thank You to all parents who helped chaperone our recent field trip into Boston. I know students AND grownups learned a lot through the Global Kitchen, Human Body, desert biome, and the many other incredible exhibits. It was a great outing all around!

Recently during Center Time Switch we were blessed to have Mr. and Mrs. Davis present about Israel, highlighting the Passover meal and God's working amongst the Israeli people today. They made yarmulkes for the boys and head coverings for the girls. Handling a real shofar, tasting matzah, and dancing to the Hava Nagila were also memorable!

This past Tuesday we wrapped up our study of Israel with a reenactment of the Jewish festival of Purim. Ask you students what "hamenstachen" are and why they booed and hissed, stomped their feet and shook their "noisemaker" at the name of Haman! You can brush up on your Old Testament by reading the book of Esther which tells all about it!

Next week we transition from the study of the desert biome to the study of the Grasslands and Savannah as we embark on an exciting term learning about Kenya!!

This week saw the start of our Eating the Rainbow challenge! Students in grades K through 2nd are competing to see who brings in the most fruits and vegetables to eat during snack time and lunch. Each item receives a sticker placed on the rainbow and it is a visible reminder to us ALL to make healthy food choices. Today a student put up 5 stickers and I put up none!! : ( This is a great opportunity to have your child try a new food as well; thanks for helping them in this fun challenge!!

We love teaching your children; thanks for the honor.

~Mrs. Poirier for Team A

## Team B ~ Grades 3&4

Dear Parents, Two terms have flown by and the students seemed to really enjoy the end of Term 2 because of the field trip to the Boston Museum of Science! Regarding that field trip, we asked the third graders which exhibit they enjoyed the most, and those who attended the Theater of Lightning believed that was the best one they saw. Brianna writes '...most of the kids liked the lightning show, when they made lightning, when you put your hands in a machine (Van de Graaff generator) and your hair went crazy, and when they played good music at the end of the show.' So, if you ever get a chance to go back to the museum, the lightning show comes highly recommended!

For Term 3, the third grade will be working on writing skills, completing assignments in cursive, and beginning multiplication and division.

We thank the Lord for the blessings we receive every day working with your children.

Grade 4 book report assignments for February are to be announced. Grades 3 and 4 will begin an Eat the Rainbow competition on Monday. See email with details for Grade 3; see the Weekly Peek for Grade 4.

Love, Mrs. Mikol and Mrs. Reed

## Middle School Science Fair

Work will begin next week for all of us preparing for the Science Fair. This can be an intense process, but over the years we have finessed the process, breaking it down into manageable steps, with each grade working at their own level. Details will be shared in class, with clear expectations and due dates. Please check in with your student regularly to keep up with due dates.

~ Mrs. Cleveland and Mrs. Holgate

## Middle School Language Arts and Spanish

You all know that names have significant meaning. When you were selecting names for your children, you may have spent much time pondering meaning, sounds, and even initial combinations. This year, I've been working with our Middle School students on literary analysis and teaching them about how authors intentionally select names to add depth to their writing. It may seem insignificant because it's just a name, but it can, and often does, mean so much more.

In term 2, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade read *One More River* by Lynn Reid Banks. Although we had mixed feelings about the writer's style, we came to realize that the main character, Lesley, really lives up to the meaning of her name. We considered her to be a 'brat' in the beginning of the novel, and yet as we dove into the novel, we discovered more about her character than we expected. She became a strong leader for her family, a determined friend, a helper to young ones, and a mediator between warring nations. Lesley means "a gray fortress." This tied in nicely with the novel we read in Term 1, *Seedfolks*, and how we, as people, can easily stereotype, until we get beyond the surface.

I'm very proud of our students; they are working together well and learning to peer edit and refine their work in Language Arts. In Spanish 7, they are adjusting well to my use of more Spanish in the classroom and interpreting my phrases well. !Continúan el buen trabajo, mis estudiantes!

~Mrs. Campbell

# What's your HCA Financial IQ?

Or.... Why do we need to do these fundraisers?

1. What is the goal of the Read-a-thon?  
a. \$8000 b. \$12,000 c. \$20,000 d. \$30,000
2. Compared to local public schools our teachers earn approximately  
a. twice as much b. 50% as much c. 75% as much d. the same
3. Besides HCA, how many elementary schools in the Wachusett District are accredited?  
a. All b. half c. none d. one
4. How long has HCA been accredited?  
a. since 1996 b. since 2006 c. since 2007 d. since 2009
5. What percentage of HCA families receive tuition assistance?  
a. 50% b. 21% c. 80% d. 30%
6. What's the School Committee's policy for the largest award available through our tuition assistance program?  
a. 10% of tuition b. 30% of tuition c. 50% of tuition d. 100% of tuition
7. What are the other ways of getting extra funds if the above percentage isn't enough?  
a. pray b. if someone specifically donates in your name c. rob a bank d. there is no way e. a&b
8. How much money must HCA raise this year through grants and fundraisers in order to meet expenses?  
a. \$45,000 b. \$81,500 c. \$ 101,000 d. \$118, 000
9. Besides fundraisers & tuition what other ways does HCA get funds to meet the budget?  
a. Spontaneous giving b. grants c. Holden Chapel support d. all listed
10. How much rent does HCA pay to Holden Chapel?  
a. none b. \$250 per month c. \$500 per month d. \$1500 per month
11. What budget items are paid by fundraising, grants and donations?  
a. Food for Life expenses, Art, music theater materials, Nature Explore playground  
b. Salaries for : for Art. Music, Theater, librarian, electives coordinator and her assistant:  
c. New technology, security updates, development/marketing costs, re-accreditation fees  
d. Tuition assistance  
e. All of the above
12. Who is sacrificing for HCA?  
a. Parents who faithfully pay tuition  
b. Faculty & staff who are willing to work hard for a fraction of what they could be making elsewhere  
c. Holden Chapel who donates space, gives us priceless prayer and spiritual support and provides generous financial support  
d. Donors from all over who faithfully give each year!  
e. all of the above! God bless everyone who serves for the glory of God!

Answers on the front page!

Rating: 12 correct= HCA genius; 10-11 correct= good; 8-9 correct= average; 7 & below= time to learn more about HCA!!!