



Pathways

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

A Newsletter for Holden Christian Academy

April 10, 2015

Principal's Corner

Dear friends,



As I write this, our dear, sweet sixth- grade girl, KK, is undergoing brain surgery. Our hearts and prayers are with her and her mom, Tanya Legro, during this time. Mr. Curtis just went on our PA system and reminded the entire school to stop right now, 10:15, and pray for her as she goes into surgery.

When one part of the body suffers, we all suffer. Why? Because we love one another and by taking on a little of someone else's pain I believe it lightens their load. That's love. I took this photo yesterday afternoon when I delivered cards from everyone in the school and flowers made by the 4th grade. KK was incredibly appreciative and poured through the box of cards. She was calm, smiling, funny, and extremely brave. She wanted to know if there could be an exception to the *no hats in school* rule when she returns. Naturally, it was granted.

It is natural to wonder why such difficult things happen and even to be a little angry with God. That's okay, He can take it! He is right there with us in the midst of our hurt, confusion, and anger. Jesus knows what it is like to live on this fallen planet that is not at all like it was supposed to be. He knows about pain, suffering, confusion, anger and disease. He experienced it all first hand. As I prayed for KK and asked my *why* questions, He reminded me that I don't see the big picture. This resonated with me as a principal because I am often called to make decisions that are not popular. I am asked to do things or allow things that I am unable to grant precisely be-

cause I can see the big picture of the school. I realize that although reasonable in the eyes of the asker, the request would reap negative results for others of whom they are not aware. I'm sure that all you parents can identify as well. Sometimes you just have to be seen as the bad guy for their own good.

If only our kids trusted us completely, believed that we have their best interests in mind, and rested peacefully in our decisions! If only my unpopular decisions were received in that spirit as well. This is just a glimmer of what God feels, I'm sure. Unlike us, He does have perfect vision and sees every aspect of every situation. He has perfect motives. He has completely pure, unselfish love and is completely trustworthy. He is here, available every second and is ready to wrap us up in His comfort every time we ask. I am so glad that KK and Tanya know Him, love Him and are receiving His comfort and strength just when they need it.

Together, let's continue to ask for complete healing and trust God for the results. There is peace when we pray like Job did and determine to love and trust God come-what-may. The faith walk is the path between the request and the answer. It is where we can run and hide, rail against God, beg and moan, or take His hand, trust His decisions and walk in trust and peace. Let's choose that together!

Please keep the entire DC trip, other sick kids, and our May 15th banquet in our prayers as well.

On the faith walk with you,
Susan Hayward

~ Our Mission ~

Honoring God through Creative learning and strong Academics,
in a caring, fun-filled school!

Holden Christian Academy
508-829-4418
www.holdenchristianacademy.org



Mark Your Calendar!

April 10	***Term 3 Ends***
April 13-17	Washington D.C. Trip-Grades 5-8
April 20-24	Spring Break-NO SCHOOL
April 29	***Parent/Teacher Conferences***
May 15	***HCA Banquet***
May 28	***Spring Concert at 7 p.m.***
June 10	***Preschool Graduation***
June 11	***8th Grade Graduation at 7 p.m.***
June 12	***Last Day of School (1/2 day)***

****indicates new/changed date*

Weekly:

Parent Prayer Group ~ Thursdays ~ join parents in praying for HCA from 8:20-9:00 in the Holden Chapel Prayer Room.

Fridays after lunch: Ice cream \$1 each. Proceeds will benefit our field trip fund.

Enrichment Program Coordinator Employment Opportunity

The Enrichment Program Coordinator:

- ◆ Works with the teachers and administration to plan electives based on the next term's curriculum, and finds and schedules volunteers to teach each of these classes.
- ◆ Coordinates volunteers/staff for coverage in Grades K-2 on Wednesday afternoons, as well as office and dismissal coverage.
- ◆ The person in this position is in charge of all volunteers, and therefore the students, on Wednesday afternoons while the teachers are in a staff meeting.
- ◆ Time commitment is an average of 15 hours per week.

Please stop by or email the office for further information and/or an application!

PRAYER (Psalm 68:19)

Prayer requests may also be submitted in writing and our Parent Prayer group will cover these requests in prayer. There is a prayer request box in the office; confidentiality will be maintained as requested.

- For KK Legro and her mom, Tanya, as KK undergoes brain surgery today.
- For a safe and healthy upcoming D.C. trip for those students, staff and families going next week.
- For new families being called to HCA, that they will hear God's call and trust in Him.

PRAISE & THANK YOU

- To all the parents who volunteered during term 3 electives on Wednesday afternoons, THANK YOU for all your help!

Scripture Memory Verse of the Week...

The **Word** became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Principal's Book of Excellence celebrates...

Grade 2

- Jacob, for writing a story and sharing it out loud with the class and Mrs. Wheatley.
- Jacquelyn, for her love of animals and sharing her turkey feather and picture with the class.
- Dayton, for his impromptu sharing of facts from a book he read during silent reading with Mrs. Wheatley.

Grade 3

- Adriana, for helping a friend without being asked.
- Carlie, for unselfishly giving up her treat for a friend.
- Aliyah, for unselfishly giving up her treat for a friend.
- Steven, for holding the door for the third and fourth graders.
- Liam, for demonstrating good sportsmanship.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday, April 29th. Please call the office to schedule a time that will fit your schedule. Report cards will be emailed a few days prior to conferences for your review.

Please note, the office will notify Team C & D families if a conference is necessary for your child.

An Update from our After School Program

This week after some of the students shared their Easter time stories, we went outside and played for as long as possible. The sun felt so good to all of us. The joy of getting outside really makes me think of how we appreciate things so much more after they are taken away for a while. I'm so glad He loves each one of us even more than we love our children and our after school kids. We can wrap our minds around that this season and bask in the good news that we are a family in Christ and He will not let us go. He has great plans for us-- including the gardens we'll be growing, the healthy foods that we can eat to give our physical body strength, and the way we can learn to love one another and create the fruits of love, joy and peace. This isn't just news we can keep to ourselves now is it? ~Mrs. Ravina



Classroom Happenings



~Preschool~

The preschoolers are jumping into Spring! We are learning about what the first signs of Spring look like and our NEW fundraiser is under way! If ANYONE in the school is interested in ordering from our flower and plant catalog, please go to the HCA website and order there. HCA earns 50% of all sales and the prices are great! Your order will help with bee conservation too. Orders are due by April 30th so look at the awesome items in the catalog and send in your order soon. This fundraiser is perfect to go along with our FFL studies and it is a great way to connect with nature and God's incredible creation.

Due to illness, Mrs. Younger needs to reschedule the April 10th parent teacher conferences to May 1st. My deepest apologies for any inconvenience this may cause any of you. It brings me the most joy to have the honor of teaching your amazing children! Thank you all for entrusting them to our care. God Bless You!!!
Mrs. Younger

Team A ~ Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade

Dear Team A Parents and Grandparents,

We were so excited for our grandparents (and parents too, as helpers) to enjoy a festive day on **TODAY!** Our hallway and classrooms were transformed into the Frontier. A sampling of what you was enjoyed during the day is listed below. Thank you to those that were able to come enjoy the day with your grandchild and a few of their friends! Be looking for more pictures soon!

ATTENTION clear one day a week on your calendar...you will not want to miss this opportunity!!!!

For coming attractions during term 4 after vacation we will be enhancing our study of 'pond life' by actually taking weekly trips to Trout Brook in Holden during most of the month of May. We are looking for help with drivers/chaperones once a week to join us on an awesome weekly trip to explore, catch and study the wonderful world God has given us to enjoy! Join us for a memorable time with your child as you see the excitement of what God has created as viewed through the eyes of your child. Watch for a permission slip and requests for drivers/chaperones in your child's binder coming soon.

Blessings,
Mrs. Hughes

Welcome Grandparents!



Frontier Days 2015

12:30-12:50 **Campfire (in the gym)** Singing around the campfire for all pioneers and relatives.

12:55-2:35 Accompany your young pioneer through Frontier town. Be sure to visit all three classrooms, saloon, and the covered wagon for a photo-op.
* Start with your own class.

Kindergarten: the Homestead

- Make a top
- Plant a sunflower
- Build a log cabin home

First Grade: the Barber Shop

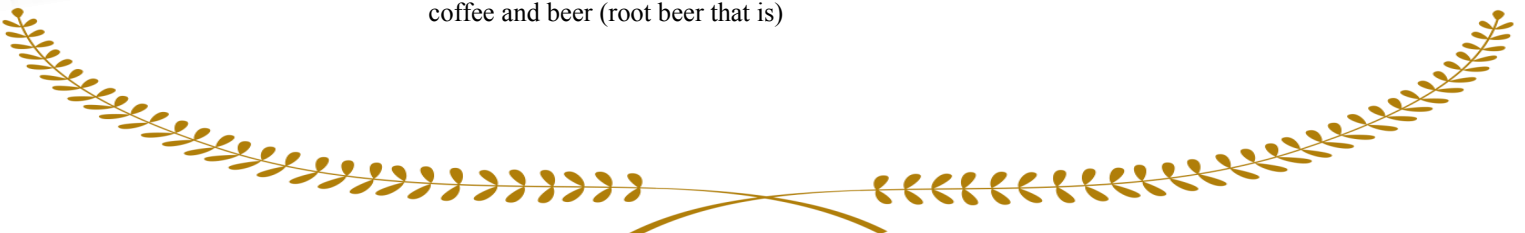
- Grandpas can get a shave
- Play a game of checkers while you wait

Second Grade: the General Store & Post Office

- Shop at the store
- Write & mail a letter at the post office

Saloon: in the gym

- Quench your thirst and appetite with pretzels, popcorn, pepperoni, pickles, sardines, cream pies, coffee and beer (root beer that is)





Classroom Happenings



Team B ~ Grades 3 & 4

I can't believe we are beginning the fourth quarter already! Grade 3 ended their time learning about the westward expansion with a classroom reenactment of the Oregon Trail. We will be joining grade 4 in a multiplication contest the beginning of term 4! Grade three will also begin memorizing the Presidents of the United States as well as the states in the United States. Fourth term also marks the beginning of life cycles.

Blessings,
Mrs. Jorritsma

Fourth grade has had a great start to Geometry. We have made so many improvements in our story writing. We are planning on sharing our Lewis & Clark, and If I Were Living During Slavery stories this week. Then off we go into Term 4, studying the Life Cycles with Mrs. Jorritsma. In Term 4, third grade will have History with me!

Keep reading the Weekly Peeks and look through your child's binders. Please call the office to set up your appointment for Parent/Teacher conferences the 29th. See you then.

Ms. Reed

Team C ~ Grades 5 & 6



T-minus 3 days until we take off for Washington, DC! We are so excited! The students have been preparing for the trip in all kinds of ways. This week in grade 6 we looked for Biblical references in our Constitution. We asked the question, "How can different people read the Constitution and disagree on whether there are any references to Christianity and the Bible?" After reviewing 10 references to the Bible in the Constitution, we concluded that those who are not familiar with the Bible will not recognize the Biblical references. For Christians, however, we are able to see that our founding fathers clearly had God's ways in mind when they set up their new nation, including "...remembering the character which the Scripture requires in Rulers..."

In science, team C students have been wrapping up our unit on nutrition with a small nutrition fair. The fair projects include displays that highlight nutritional values in foods we commonly eat, as well as some healthier alternatives. We hope to have the other HCA students view our displays very soon.

One last note: For students who do not plan to attend the DC trip, there is a project outline and rubric that is being sent home today. The project will be due Tuesday, April 28th.

We hope all of our students enjoy a much deserved spring break April 20-24th. Blessings!



Team D ~ Grades 7 & 8

DC... READY OR NOT...HERE WE COME!

We are thrilled to share that 7th & 8th grade experienced a strong finish to term 3. Term 4 begins after spring break.

The Fever project in LA is complete and we will be jumping into a new novel after spring break. Great job!

In science we completed chapter 2 in both our Biology (7) and Physics (8) units with a great lab and successful results on our chapter test.

We continue to work on our Food Rules projects in 8th grade and Healthy Eating in 7th grade. We are challenging ourselves to made better [food] choices that will strengthen our physical, spiritual and mental health so we can complete the work the Lord has for each of us!

Enjoy the time together for spring break.

Thank you for your partnership, it is a blessing!
~Mrs. Campbell & Mrs. Holgate



HCA Sweatshirts Available to Order!

The 8th graders designed this sweatshirt for the upcoming Washington D.C. trip. Hooded sweatshirts with a blank back are available to order online, a link to order can be found on our school website

The cost is \$20.00 each.

Once the total items ordered reaches 50 we will place the order!



Please watch your mailboxes and mark your calendars ~ Banquet invitations will be going out very soon!
Please send the Office any addresses that might not already be on our mailing list.

Ladies & Gentlemen of the North & South
You are cordially invited to an end of war
Celebration Banquet



Holden Christian Academy
May 15, 2015



6:30 p.m.

Art Show & Mint Juleps

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Dinner & Civil War
Entertainment

Dressy casual; Civil War attire optional

Admission is free.

There will be an opportunity to make a donation
or pledge to support HCA's programs.

RSVP by May 8, 2015 by returning enclosed card,
contacting 508.829.4418 or info@holdenchristianacademy.org
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