

Pathways

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

A Newsletter for Holden Christian Academy

October 23, 2014

Principal's Corner

Dear friends,

We are just two weeks away from the Plimoth Thanksgiving re-enactment on November 7th. The excitement is growing. Please pray with us that by studying the Pilgrims and Wampanoag Indians, visiting Plimoth Plantation, and recreating the activities and feast, each child will truly experience our **heritage** in a significant way.

Why do we have big days?

The Pilgrim re-enactment is a quintessential HCA BIG DAY. We believe in learning by doing and delving into a subject deeply enough to make it meaningful, memorable and transferable. Research demonstrates that students have truly learned when they are able to take new knowledge and apply it in a real or new way or use it illustratively. We want more than just regurgitation for a test on Friday. Our Big Days give the students a chance to put their learning to use, together, in a fun, memorable way. However, we have many deeper desires for this term's unit of study that culminates with the re-enactment.

We want our students to step into the world of the 1620's and take the time to consider the beliefs, issues, thinking, and concerns of both the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians. We want them to have a look at the clash of worldviews, lifestyles, and cultures. We want them to experience some of the chores, crafts, and games of that era as well as sample authentic recipes. We want them immersed in stories, writing projects, and literature that will enable them to appreciate our heritage. At least once a year we have a "big day" like our Plimoth

re-enactment. It is an event that is not only fun and memorable but it gives us a place to use and celebrate all that we have learned.

Our re-enactment begins with a semi-authentic Puritan worship service followed by authentic games, chores, and activities (both inside and out) that the Pilgrims and Indians enjoyed. Lastly, the gym will be transformed into a feasting room, where all kinds of 17th century foods will be sampled by all. Our students will have cooked many of the authentic recipes.

Early next week we will be sending home the finalized list of activities as well as the helpers needed to do them. We need as much help as we can get and ask you to please set aside that morning and jump into the 1620s! We have directions for almost everything and photos of past events. It truly is one of the most fun and educational special days we have and we want everyone to participate! If you have an early American skill such as weaving, spinning, basket or barrel making, please make that known asap. Also, we'd love to have goat milking, chickens and other husbandry activities.

God bless you all on this rainy fall day. God is good and He is able and willing to handle all our concerns!

In Him who is able,
Susan Hayward
Principal



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
508-829-4418
www.holdenchristianacademy.org



HCA Calendar

Oct. 24	K-8 NO SCHOOL—Development Day
Oct. 31	ACSI Middle School Leadership Conf. Gr. 8
Nov. 7	Plimoth Re-enactment
Nov. 10	Parent Teacher Council meeting after Chapel
Nov. 10	6:00 p.m. Family Fitness night and Open House
Nov. 11	NO SCHOOL—Veterans' Day
Nov. 20	SAVE THE DATE-Papa Gino's family dinner and Noah Production
Nov. 26-28	NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving
Dec. 8-12	Scholastic Book Fair

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.

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 our Open House, that people will know about HCA, follow God's call, and trust in His provision.
- For our Annual Fund, that former and new donors will faithfully support Christian education.

PRAISE & THANK YOU

- Praise God for a beautiful and safe field trip to Plimoth and the Mayflower.
- Thank you to all who chaperoned the Plimoth field trip.
- Thank you to all who have sent in donations to the Annual Fund and/or shared names for our mailing list.

Principal's Book of Excellence celebrates...

Kindergarten

William, for helping to clean up a mess he didn't make.

Grade 2

Dayton, for endurance at chapel during Spiritual Emphasis Week, holding up a book for a long time for Miss Cassie.
Jacquelyn, for giving up her turn so that her friend could have a turn at Bible Ball.

Grade 3

Aliyah, for keeping friends safe on the playground.

Grade 6

Bethany, for transitioning and working in a timely manner.
Garret, for consistently noticing when others need help, then being quick to lend a hand.
KK, for volunteering to help a classmate and being very patient.

Parent Teacher Council Update

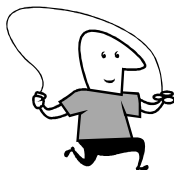
Are you looking for ways to get involved this year? Perhaps to fulfill some service hours? The Parent Teacher Council plans several activities and events throughout the year, however, cannot do this without lots of help! Please join us for our next Parent Teacher Council meeting on Monday, November 10th, directly following Chapel (approx. 9:30 a.m.) in the Small Chapel. Our focus will be planning the upcoming Christmas Shoppe as well as the Online Auction. Please contact Christine O'Brien in the office or email admissions@holdenchristianacademy.org for more information or suggestions.

Parent Prayer Group

The HCA Parent Prayer Group invites you to join them on Thursdays from 8:20-9:00 a.m. in the Holden Chapel Prayer Room. There are three committed parents who have been joining in prayer weekly and would love to have you join them. If you have questions about this group, please contact the office.

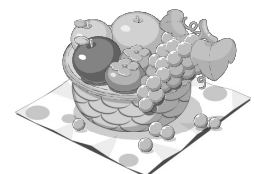
HCA Open House with a kick!

Holden Chapel and HCA are partnering with CFCE* for a fabulous night of fun, fitness, and fOpen House!



Invite your friends and join us at 6:00 in the Community Room for

- * sticker sets
- * nutrition scavenger hunt with prizes
- * nutrition activity sheets
- * puzzles
- * and a gardening activity by HCA students



6:30...Family Fitness will be led by professional athletic trainer in the gym, with help from our Student Council members.

7:00...Healthy snacks, info and story time about nutrition, gardening and fitness information, and other give-aways in the Community Room.

7:30 HCA tours available with Student Council members and HCA staff.

This is a great way to have your friends visit HCA, get involved with a fun activity, meet staff and tour the school! Remember if they apply and are accepted, you will receive our \$100 Family Referral Bonus!

*Sponsored by CFCE (Coordinated Family and Community Engagement) grant and hosted by HCA



Classroom Happenings

Team A ~ Grades K-2

Hello from Team A (K-2)! We are sssoo thankful for all the volunteers and to God for our field trip to Plimoth Plantation. It was a fabulous, fast paced, fun-filled day. There was so much to see, people to talk to and places to explore.

We are excited for an in-house field trip on Monday afternoon of next week. Mrs. Jewett and her husband (parents of 2nd and 5th graders) are local Native American experts. They will be giving a presentation to all of the Kindergarteners, 1st & 2nd graders.



Calling all parents and grandparents! Team A (K-2) will be presenting two skits: one on the Native Americans helping the Pilgrims and something they've been practicing in Spanish class. Please join us Friday, October 31, 2014 from 1:30-2:30 at the outdoor classroom. After the show we will gather for simple refreshments. (Some made by your children). We have limited seating, so please bring a lawn chair. Contact the school if you need to make arrangements to drive out to the field. **Please help your child learn their lines.** Scripts will be sent home this week. Please check binders! Children will need a simple costume; details coming.



Enthusiasm is building for our Re-enactment on November 7thdon't miss it!!!

Joy-filled blessings from Team A-because your kids are AWESOME!! ~ Mrs. Hughes for Team A

Team B ~ Grades 3 & 4

It has been a very busy time for grade 3. They have been working hard with Mrs. Reed preparing their Wetus and costumes for a Plimoth Preview. This was a time for them to share what they learned concerning this time in history with family/friends. The following Tuesday they went on a field trip to Plimoth Plantation. It was a beautiful day to experience the Plantation and Mayflower. November 7th will be our Plimoth Reenactment. It will also be the last day of term one.

In science students in grades three and four are finishing a unit on earth and it's land-forms. Next week we will begin weather and erosion.

Blessings, Mrs. Jorritsma

THANK YOU SO MUCH for all your help in making the Plimoth Preview a total success!! The houses were amazing, your children looked and did a fabulous job representing their Plimoth family and the Wampanoag Indians. Then...to go to Plimoth and "see" all that they learned, was such a great blessing.

Thank you for helping them get into the swing of fourth grades. They are making wonderful strides! I am very proud of them.

Grade 4 Book reports are due on or before Friday, October 31st. Enjoy your three day weekend :)

Blessings, Mrs. Reed

properly communicate on a lab report. I'm sure you have seen the improvements—I am proud of them!

In other news, please check your email early next week for details on the upcoming Thanksgiving Reenactment on Nov.7th. Students will each be assigned food to bring in, will need to wear a colonial costume, and will be leading activities that may require simple materials from home.

If a parent is interested in overseeing grade 5 or 6 activities on that day, or would like to help out in general on that day, please respond to the email that you receive next week. Thank you, parents, for all that you do to partner with us in your child's education!

Mrs. Cleveland for Team C

Grades 5-8 Ski Elective



The registration link was omitted on the flyer from Wachusett Mountain. Please visit www.wachusett.com/schoolgroup to register. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Goodell at agoodell@holdenchristianacademy.org.

Team C ~ Grades 5 & 6

I wish you could have been a fly on the wall during our science labs last week. The fifth and sixth graders were discovering the joys of discovery! As we have studied some of the early scientists, our labs have been about science concepts that the scientists explored.

For our lab on density, we added four liquids to a beaker. Many of the students predicted the liquids would either all mix together, or they would layer in the order they were added. They were dismayed to see the liquids change position in the beaker based on their densities. Even though the oil was put in first, it rose to the top after water was added. When the corn syrup was added last, it sank to the bottom, pushing the water to the middle and the oil further to the top. The students saw similar results when they added objects like a grape, a small rock, and an ice cube—the objects sank according to their density with respect to the liquids. When we were finished, we looked up the densities of the liquids and objects to confirm that our results were consistent with the known densities. They were!

The real excitement began, however, when we decided to take our experiments a step further. What would happen if we added food coloring? Hand sanitizer? The students made predictions about where the densities would cause them to fall, then watched the exciting results. The food coloring was the most interesting of all, as it fell to the bottom of the oil in droplets. The droplets did not expand until it burst out of the oil level and into the water level, coloring the water. Of all of our labs so far, this was the most exciting. As we proceed through a variety of labs, students are also learning how to

Team D ~ Grades 7 & 8

Who says grammar isn't fun? I'm enjoying the split LA classes so I can have all of the students in the front row...On the line of scrimmage...Ready for the play.



7th and 8th grade continues to plow through our grammar practice with finesse and ease. Each grammar day is filled with exciting methods of approaching the parts of speech. This has helped greatly with our Spanish units as well.

Our novel study of **Roanoke** has led to great discussions of culture and boundaries. We recently read Robert Frost's "Mending Wall" to accompany the novel. We created a class 'mind map' about fences or walls, as we connected the novel and the poem. I'm been pleased to hear the text-to-text connections made by 8th graders as they found that **Roanoke** reminds greatly reminds them of **Bruchko**, which we read last year.

Note: We modified the chapel worksheet to include a 'Making Connections' component. Here, we want the students to focus on what the verse or chapel speaker has said that connects to something they have experienced before. This complements our LA work as well. ~ Mrs. C

Time is flying! It's hard to believe we only have two weeks left in Term 1.

Science: We wrapped up Chapter 1 with a strong finish and success on our first science chapter test of the year. We have been learning about preserving the herbs from our garden. We are practicing our drying and freezing skills. We've spent this week cutting, cleaning, freezing, bundling and hanging Rosemary, Oregano, Lavender, Thyme and Sage. We will jump into Chapter 2 today.

Math: Reminder that there is Math Extra Help on Thursdays from 3:00-3:30pm. Everyone is welcome.

In partnership,
Mrs. Holgate



Anyhow Program to return to HCA!

The HCA Anyhow program is returning! It's the fundraising program that works while you shop. You buy what you would buy *anyhow*, but you get some of that money applied to your tuition bill.

Our Anyhow program allows you to purchase gift cards through HCA that you would normally buy at a store at face value, but you will get a percentage of each purchase applied to your tuition account. You and your family and friends put your regular household shopping dollars to work; it's something you do ANYHOW; thus the name of our program. You earn money for our school and lower your tuition bill without spending a single additional penny! These cards can be used for just about any household purchase including food, clothing, entertainment, gasoline and even dining out. Popular retailers include Macy's, Papa Gino's, CVS, Walgreens, Wal-Mart, Applebee's, Home Depot, and many more. You can see a list online at www.shopwithscrip.com. Scroll to the bottom, click on Quick Links, and then on retailer list. A portion of the percentage that you see listed will be applied to your tuition account, and a portion of that percentage will be used for administrative costs incurred by the program.

You're probably asking yourself how these stores help us raise money and help you pay tuition. It's simple -- participating retailers agree to sell shopping cards/gift certificates to HCA at a discount. Families buy the certificates for full face value, they redeem them for full face value, and our school keeps the difference as revenue; we will apply a percentage to your tuition account...everybody wins: The retailer gets cash up front and repeat business and you reduce your tuition bill!

We are bringing the program back due to popular demand; families requested we bring it back especially for the Christmas season of gift-giving. A packet with detailed information will be sent home next week. Our first order will be submitted in early November. Please contact Judy Bleau in the office if you have any questions.