



# Pathways

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

A Newsletter for Holden Christian Academy

November 7, 2013

## Principal's Corner

Dear Parents and Friends,

Thank you all for your gracious Facebook comments and e-mails about the Asia Day slide show. Oh, the wonders of modern technology! I always feel badly when we are unable to invite parents. Our classrooms are just too small to do so for our smaller big days. It was a joy to be able to send you the slideshow so you could experience it on screen! It is posted on our website as well. We will be having a full-blown Africa Day in the spring and will be using all our big spaces for that. You are invited! Stay tuned.

I also want to thank you for the awesome job you families did on the Nature Scavenger Hunts and photos. The kids are so excited and proud of their efforts. The names of New England's flora and fauna are rolling off the lips of even our youngest kids. While on early morning gym duty last week a kindergartener surprised me as we were looking at a book together. "That's a black-capped Chickadee" said she with full confidence. I was one proud principal! Your photos are so amazing; it will be difficult to choose the winners for this year's calendar.

For those who are new to HCA I want to let you in on our holiday season strategy. We keep it as calm and normal as possible! There you have it! There is so much going on in their lives, homes and churches that we try to keep calm and carry on! The Parent/Teacher and Student Councils will be conducting our annual Christmas Shop on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December. We will have a Christmas program on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM followed by small classroom parties the next day. That's it!

Term 2 begins on Tuesday. All K-8 students begin the term by studying Israel- the history, land and culture. This will coincide nicely with Christmas. Our younger students (K-2) will spend the entire term learning about the culture of Israel when Jesus was born. Before Christmas, our 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be reviewing the culture of Israel.

After Christmas grades 3-8 will delve into the rest of the Middle East and turn their eyes to the Muslim world. Both of Holden Chapel's pastors have a heart for the Muslim world and have each conducted extensive study in that area. They have

Muslim friends and have visited mosques. We look forward to hearing from them after Christmas.

It would greatly benefit your children to hang up a map of the Middle East at home. Please hang the map up in a place all will see, perhaps near the television, and then refer to it as you read the Bible or as current events happen. We all have greater understanding of both when we can picture it happening in a real place. It's critical for them to know that Bible lands are real places today, where history continues to play itself out. Our students will be expected to learn the countries of the Middle East and constant review at home will be a great asset to them. Lastly, please set aside Tuesday evening Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> for our **Every Family Bring a Family Open House**. We conducted one last spring and we all thought it was the best way to have an Open House. All the staff members will be in their classrooms and students and parents conduct personal tours with their friends, stopping to chat with the teachers. There are refreshments and an informal time for questions and answers afterward. Remember there is a **\$100 family referral fee** if your friend becomes an HCA student!! Please prayerfully consider whom to invite!

Joyfully in Him,

Susan Hayward,  
Principal

## Parent Teacher Council News **Family Fun Night next Thursday!**

Family Night Update: Pizza & Game Night, November 14 (Ping postponed due to Mrs. Lundergan's surgery)

The Parent Teacher Council would like to invite all HCA families to this year's Family Night, Thursday, November 14 from 5:30-7:30pm. We will be serving pizza and salad, playing some fun games, and getting to know one another. Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 12 so we can order enough pizza for everyone! Send a note to the office or email

[info@holdenchristianacademy.org](mailto:info@holdenchristianacademy.org) with how many from your family will attend.

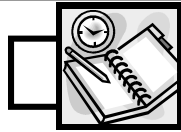
P.S. A sample copy of our cook-book will be available at the Family Night to look at and pre-order!



### 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](http://www.holdenchristianacademy.org)



## HCA Calendar

November 7	Open House cancelled (Billy Graham event)
November 8	Grade 8 Student Leadership Conference
November 8	Term 1 ends
November 11	NO SCHOOL—Veterans' Day
<b>November 14</b>	<b>Square 1 Art orders due today</b>
November 14	Family Fun Night! 5:30 p.m.
November 15	Running Club 5K
November 18	School Committee 7 p.m.
November 20	Parent Teacher conferences
November 27-19	NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving
December 3	Every Family Bring a Family O.H. 7 p.m.*
December 10	Picture retakes
December 13	Christmas Shoppe, afternoon
December 19	Christmas Program 7 p.m.
May 31	Save the date! HCA 20th birthday party! (Rain date June 7)

Fridays: ice cream sales after lunch, \$1 each. Proceeds benefit our field trip fund.

\*See Principal's Corner for Dec. 3 Open House details.

### **PRAYER (Psalm 68:19)**

- For Mrs. Lundergan's continued healing after surgery.
- For HCA family members dealing with illness, that they will be healed in God's timing, hear God's wisdom for treatment, and are comforted and encouraged through Christ in all of us.
- That God would make a way for families who struggle to pay their tuition, as they trust in His provision, whether it be through employment or surprising, unexpected ways.

### **PRAISE & THANK YOU**

- Thank you to all who helped with Asia Day, whether it was sending in food, helping with costumes, or participating in the classroom; we could not have had a successful day without you!
- Thank you to Mrs. Cummings for her donation of a gift certificate which will allow us to purchase a Mulberry tree!

### **School Service Opportunities**

Please call the office at 508-829-4418 or send in a note if you can help with these opportunities:

- Elective helpers—share a skill or talent with our students!
- 20th Birthday Party committee members needed.
- Recess Monitors

### **Stop&Shop A+ School Rewards Program**

HCA has the opportunity to earn cash through this rewards program through March 20, 2014. Share this with your friends and family too! Log on to [www.stopandshop.com/aplus](http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus) to register online using your Stop&Shop card OR stop by the office to pick up a form. HCA will receive a check at the end of the program, to be used for any of our educational needs. All cards from last year must be re-registered this year. Our school ID#: 09765.

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

James, Grade K, and Hannah, Grade 3, for secretly cleaning up Mrs. Mikol's room while she was in staff meeting.

#### *Kindergarten*

We don't know if you are aware,  
but Mrs. Anderholm's a poet extraordinaire!  
She made up rhyming clues and hid them everywhere  
so our scavenger hunt would be an amazing affair!

#### *Grade 1*

Danny and Nathan, for being a fabulous help to a teacher,  
staying after and helping move chairs.  
Jacob and Jocelyn, for "acting their height" in theater class.

#### *Grade 3*

Carlie, for sharing her origami making skills with the class.  
Hannah, for always being willing to help younger students.  
Michael, for sharing his gift for reading and praying  
in devotions.

#### *Grade 5*

Emma, for her sweet heart of praise, a model of singing out  
for the Lord during Chapel

#### *Grade 6*

Cameron, Springboard Award! for the way he gets up and  
keeps going after falls at Running Club.  
Ryan, for his positive attitude and enthusiasm as a new  
member of Student Council.

#### *Grade 8*

Caleb, for doing an amazing job and taking a leadership role  
in the harvesting of our Jerusalem artichokes.  
Conway, for consistently jumping in to help  
with a great attitude.  
Maria, for diligently focusing on her school work with a  
steadfast spirit!  
Tom, for his love of all things "garden" and the inquisitive  
way he jumps into learning.

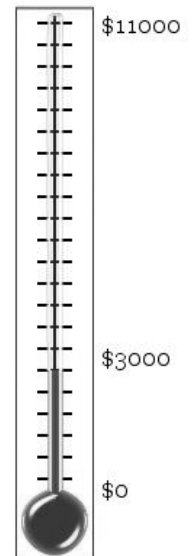
## Annual Fund 2013

As of this morning, we have received \$3,000. Our budgeted goal is \$11,000

**It's not to late** to mail an appeal letter!

We have more in the office, just waiting for names and addresses. Please email names and addresses to [jbleau@holdenchristianacademy.org](mailto:jbleau@holdenchristianacademy.org).

If you would like to include a personal note, please send that to the office, attn. Judy Bleau, along with your names and addresses.





# Classroom Happenings

## Parent Teacher Conferences

Report cards for students in grades K-8 will be handed out at Parent Teacher Conferences on November 20. Please stop by or call the office to schedule your 15 minute appointment with your child(ren)'s homeroom teacher. Middle School homeroom teachers will have notes from students' other teachers, if there any concerns to discuss, so we do not make appointments on this day for you to meet with all of your child's teachers.

## Team A ~ Grades K-2

Ni hao from Team A! We've had lots of hands-on learning the past few weeks. We celebrated Panda-monium Day with all things PANDA...from the making of panda masks to incorporating math skills with facts about pandas to making a tasty Food for Life panda treat and much more!! The culmination of the day was a scavenger hunt using clues and a panda's keen sense of smell; the treat at the end was a small panda for each child.

Last week we enjoyed a Chinese lunch at the Imperial Buffet in Shrewsbury; students tried lots of new foods and many were quite proficient with chopsticks!! Kudos to the 2nd grade girls who were "cultural epicureans" and ate baby octopus!! :)

The celebration of Asia Day this week was embraced by all of Team A with great enthusiasm! Students helped present China to their schoolmates in the setting of a Chinese tea ceremony complete with authentic sights, sounds, smells, and foods (rice, noodles, dried seaweed, and tea!)

Second Grade would especially like to thank Mrs. Enoch and Mrs. Gaultney for being guest speakers. Mrs. Enoch shared about her life growing up in Hong Kong and Mrs. Gaultney told of her trip to China to adopt precious Ava- especially highlighting Ava's "Gotcha-Day"!! Both *greatly* enhanced our study of China through what they presented!

Thursday, November 14th is an HCA Family Dinner with pizza, salad bar and activities. Please RSVP with Judy in the office...we'd love to see ALL of you there for a fun-filled evening!!

We love teaching your children...thanks for the privilege!!

~ Mrs. Poirier for Team A

## Team B ~ Grades 3 & 4

Konnichiwa! The third grade has enjoyed learning about the culture of Japan this term. We made salt dough topography maps which were a lot of fun! On Asia Minor day, we learned how to sing Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes in Japanese! We tasted some rice candies and rice cakes and we shared our origami skills with the rest of the students in school. This has been a truly wonderful term. I feel so blessed to be working with your talented children. I am looking forward to our visit to Israel and Iraq!

Sayonara!  
Mrs. Mikol

Thank you to Mrs. Wheatley for making the 4th grade delicious Indian food on Asia Minor Day. It was a TOTAL hit!! You blessed the whole school!! The 4th grade had a wonderful day going around the school and learning about the different Asian cultures. We will be finishing up our study of India with one last test next Friday, Nov. 15, in Asian geography.

Today the students received a copy of *Season of the Sandstorm- Magic Tree House*. We are going to read it for two weeks, in our reading groups. It is a quick and easy way to introduce information about the Middle East, which we will study in Term 2.

Make sure to keep up with checking binders, reading the Weekly Peek, and practicing multiplication facts. I really appreciate it...and all that you do!!

Blessings,  
Mrs. Reed

**Square 1 Art orders are due by November 14.** Please visit [square1art.com/shop](http://square1art.com/shop) to place your order. If you no longer have your access code, email the office and Mrs. M. can look that up for you. Thank you to those who have sent in order forms. You can send in paper forms, but online orders are preferred.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Our Korean books are finished! The project was a life-lesson experience. Students worked in teams over the course of several weeks to complete the project. While some assignments were individual, most required a collaborated effort, and the deadlines caused students to have accountability to their team members. Some students learned that not doing their part caused the whole team to be lacking. Others learned to be patient and take on leadership roles to help the team accomplish the goals. Overall there was a great lesson in working together, a life skill.

I couldn't be prouder of the class's effort in presenting Korea to HCA for Asia Day. They drew a map of Korea in chalk on the classroom floor, made beautiful posters of Korean palaces, and statues to display, dressed in hanboks and S. Korean military uniform to give a great impression of Korea. They described Korea's divided land, and how gospel balloons are sent from S. Korea to evangelize the N. Koreans. They helped younger students make Korean fighter kites, to remind them of the Korean tradition held every New Year. I am very proud of the fifth graders maturity and responsibility demonstrated in this event. They did a fantastic job! Kam-sa-ham-ni-da (Thank you) fifth graders for a job well done!

Mrs. Torres

# Classroom Happenings continued...

## Grade 6

The 6th grade study of Russia culminated on Tuesday with Asia Day. The students were welcomed into Cafe Gogol Mogol, where they learned a little bit about many areas of Russia. They sampled borscht, a soup made by the 6th grade with cabbage, carrots, and beets. Older students quickly discerned why Russia's most popular soup would contain so many root vegetables--they are great for storing through long winters. They also sampled spiced orange tea and gogol mogol cake, which was a big hit! They decorated and took home sample Matryoshka dolls made from wooden ice cream spoons, and a snowflake to remind them that Russia is in the polar/tundra biome.

We were blessed by the artistry of two of the 6th graders who drew posters for display. Cameron drew St. Basil's Cathedral so students could see a place to visit in Russia, and Nate drew a scene from Russia's biome so students could see the landscape and animals popular there. All of the students worked hard to prepare for the day and it was a great way to celebrate some key elements of this country!

~Mrs. Cleveland

## Grade 7

The title "Asia Minor" was our humorous attempt at making a BIG day at HCA not so BIG. Although, this was a 'low-key' version of a culminating event, it was just as much fun. The students, and staff alike, enjoyed every moment of our immersion into seven Asian cultures.

My 7<sup>th</sup> graders enjoy athletics and found those pastimes to be most interesting in Thailand, as well. In Thailand, we demonstrated takraw (similar to hackysack) and Muay Thai (kickboxing) skills. We helped our tourists make mongkokos (headbands) in true Thai style. After working up an appetite, we journeyed onto the floating market (amphawa), to taste the wonderful green banana fries. Yummy! It was a most exciting day!

It gives me great joy to think on the smiling faces of our students, the experiential learning, and the sharing that undoubtedly occurred in many HCA homes after Asia Day ended. **Sa wat dee.**

### A few things to look forward to...

Tuesday, 11/12: Attempt to get silk from our silkworm cocoons. This will be quite the experiment. We'll let you know how it goes. I'm optimistic.

Thursday, 11/14: We will dine together at our Family Fun night. Pizza and salad bar served at 5:30. I hope to see you there. ☺

~ Mrs. Campbell

## Grade 8

We enjoyed a few hours outside last week HARVESTING and cleaning up our gardens to prepare for winter. We harvested our root vegetables; Jerusalem artichokes and sweet potatoes. In addition we harvested amaranth (gluten-free grain), onions, kale and oregano too... all in 2 days! A few students took sweet potatoes home to cook. A special thank you to Maria and Mr. H. for using the sweet potatoes to make and share the most amazing sweet potato pies. Yummy!

We are drying the amaranth plants now and hope to work on separating the seed from the flower next week. It was a bit sad to clean out the garden beds to prepare for winter. We have had such a wonderful time harvesting and eating all Fall. It won't be long before we are designing our garden layouts for Spring planting. :-)

We all enjoyed a great time at Asia Minor Day. The 8th grade students did a fantastic job at sharing all they had learned about the Philippines and the Filipino Culture. The way they interacted with the younger students warmed my heart... awesome children!

We say good-bye to Asia...next we dive into Israel and the UAE.

Please remember that Family Fun Night is November 14th @ 5:30pm. Hope to see you there.

In Partnership,  
Mrs. Holgate

## Please remember Family Fun Night

next Thursday,  
November 14  
5:30-7:30

Pizza and Salad Bar!  
Fun! Games! Food!  
Get to know other HCA families!

R.S.V.P. by November 12 to  
[info@holdenchristianacademy.org](mailto:info@holdenchristianacademy.org)

Sponsored by the Parent Teacher Council

