



Pathways

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

A Newsletter for Holden Christian Academy

November 12, 2015

Principal's Corner

Dear Friends,

I hope you all enjoyed Veterans Day and had an opportunity to thank a veteran for the gift of their service. As you are aware, next Wednesday afternoon we are conducting parent-teacher conferences. In the spirit of the conferences and Thanksgiving, I'd like to report why I am so incredibly thankful for my "class", the dedicated and hardworking faculty and staff of HCA.

Before I report on them individually, there are a few significant attributes they all possess. The first is love for God. They are sold-out and fully dedicated to living for Christ. Our teachers are qualified to teach in the public arena where they would make double their current salary. I thank God that these gifted and sacrificial individuals are willing to answer God's call and teach here. I've heard it said that the biggest donors to Christian Schools are the teachers. They give up the equivalent of their salaries each year to raise the next generation for Christ.

The second attribute they share is love for children, your children. Each one agonizes over meeting the needs of each child. They read books, take classes, attend conferences, and collaborate with other educators and counselors on a regular basis in order to better teach each child. Most importantly, they pray for their students- beseeching God for His wisdom and knowledge every day. My heart sings as I walk these halls and hear love expressed in their tone of voice, words and deeds. I see it reflected in the eyes and smiles of our students. They are happy here. They know they are loved.

Another attribute they all possess is a passion for teaching. They each exemplify life-long learning. There is such a synergy present at teachers' meetings as they wrestle with new concepts and discuss issues and ideas together. The thinking is palpable. My students are extremely active and involved learners!

Now, I'll attempt to list just a few outstanding attributes of each one. For these I give thanks to God because He created us with special gifts and talents that fit together perfectly for His glory here at HCA!

Preschool Team

Eileen Cunsolo-visionary, promoter, positive
Malisa Younger-ENTHUSIASTIC, compassionate, multi-talented
Chawnee Younger-helpful, observant, playful
Robin Stewart-dependable, innovator, resourceful

Team A

K-Kim Hughes- consistent, caring, generous
K-Ali Graham-multi-talented, organized, positive
1-Sue Caron-enthusiastic, jolly, idea person
2-Maggie Torres-energetic, positive, consistent
Reading-Deb Lucier-organized, positive, compassionate

Team B

3-Cindy Jorritsma-gentle, affirming, resourceful
4-Denise Reed-people person, consistent, funny

Team C

5-Josh Curtis-thinker, compassionate, enthusiastic
6-Nikki Cleveland-peaceful, conscientious, resourceful

Team D

7-Monica Campbell-innovative, diligent, velvet-fisted
8- Heather Holgate-energized, competent, visionary
7/8 History/Bible- Gary Hayward- pastoral, challenger, cute

Encore Classes

Spanish-Karen Gillon- conscientious, energetic, positive
Art -Pam Mikolajczyk- doer, dependable, organized
Music-Lila Suchocki-nurturer, promoter, skilled
Theater-Lauren Berg-organized, competent, enthusiastic
Library-Beth Lundergan-individualized, creative, capable
PE-Bill Sullivan-tough, tender, professional
Elective Coord.- Matt Leahy-unflappable, task-oriented, innovative
1 Sub-Janna Jewett-competent, adaptable, competitive

Administration

Judy Bleau- detail oriented (thank God!), conscientious, multi-tasker
Christine O'Brien- organized, competent, peaceful
Kathy Carroll-detail oriented, focused, diligent

After-school Program

Marilyn Ravina-creative, enthusiastic, artsy
Angela Wheatley- helpful, nurturing, consistent
Custodian-Tom Simms- interested, dependable, enthusiastic

I am so proud of my class. They work well together, laugh a lot, support one another, and truly cherish the bonds of friendship with one another. Recently a friend was trying to persuade me to move to Cape Cod. She said she is involved in a Bible study, book club, and encouragement group and that I could fit right into all. At first I was tempted because I have no time for these but then the Lord reminded me that I have all of them and more right here at HCA and all with very close friends!

We are all so blessed and thankful to be called to this wonderful life! I hope you all have a super Thanksgiving with your precious families. I always give thanks for you.

Thankfully In Him,
Susan Hayward, Principal

~ 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!

November 16	Parent Teacher Council Meeting, 8 AM in Holden Chapel Welcome Center
November 18	Parent Teacher Conferences-afternoon
November 25-27	Thanksgiving Recess-NO SCHOOL
Nov. 30-Dec. 4	Scholastic Book Fair
December 1	Lifetouch Picture Retakes
December 3	Open House w/ Animal Adventures, 6:30 PM
December 11	Christmas Shoppe
December 17	Christmas Program, 7 PM
Dec. 23-Jan. 1	Christmas Break-NO SCHOOL

Chicago World's Fair of 1893 is coming to HCA on January 22, 2016

Every year HCA does some kind of big day. This year is the Chicago World's Fair of 1893!

As you clean out for the Christmas Shop on Dec. 11th please set aside a box of stuff that we will need right after Christmas:

- Old sun hats to decorate
- Fake flowers-all kinds
- Ribbons, trims, bling
- Fake birds
- Feathers or Peacock feathers
- Stuff that would look great on an outrageous hat!

Chocolate for Belarus Orphans

The second Christmas project that we have been doing for years is a collection to purchase an individual gift for each orphan. The most coveted and traditional gift is a box chocolates which costs about \$5.00 per child. We will start collect money for the orphans on the Monday after Thanksgiving and the first Monday in Dec. Please give generously as this is the only gift most orphans receive.

Stewart and Chantal Winograd, Founders and Directors of Reach Initiative International will be speaking this Monday the 16th at Chapel. The Winograd's have been ministering in the former Soviet Union for the past 19 years. Despite limited religious freedom in Belarus and many obstacles in their ministry, The Winograd's have planted four Messianic Jewish congregations in the country.

In addition to their ongoing work in Eastern Europe, the Lord is using them in India and Israel to bring the good news and to train young adults for ministry. For anyone interested in meeting the Winograds and hearing him speak on the Jewishness of the Gospels, Rabbi Winograd will also be speaking at Holden Chapel on Sunday evening at 6:30 PM.

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.

- Continued prayer for KK as she receives cancer treatment, as well as others that are battling sickness and health struggles.
- For our upcoming open house and families being called to HCA, that they will hear God's call and trust in Him.

Principal's Book of Excellence celebrates...

Kindergarten

Enson, for following Rule #1 and asking politely, saying "Yes, please."

First Grade

Madison, for being a model of good behavior to her classmates.

Second Grade

Isabella, for showing kindness to a classmate, sharing her paint for plankton pictures; and helpfulness, cleaning up a big spill during lunch.

Jocelyn, for her enthusiasm during Bible lessons.

Kaylee, for her cheerful attitude even when she was feeling sick.

Mia, for paying careful attention to her classwork, and for her contagious excitement about her ocean animal project, the octopus.

Fourth Grade

Samuel, for being a perfect addition to the fourth grade class!

Fifth Grade

Alison, for her kindness, enthusiasm, and helpfulness as a Kindergarten helper.

Charles, for his hard work and perseverance digging a hole for the apple tree.

Hannah, for her kindness, enthusiasm, and helpfulness as a Kindergarten helper.

Isaiah, for rising to Mrs. Suchocki's challenge for classroom behavior.

Maddie, for her kindness, enthusiasm, and helpfulness as a Kindergarten helper.

Steven, for his hard work and perseverance digging a hole for the apple tree.

Sixth Grade

Bella, for her hard work and perseverance digging a hole for the apple tree.

Bella, for taking on a classmate's work when they were injured.

David, for his hard work and perseverance digging a hole for the apple tree.

Victoria, for her hard work and perseverance digging a hole for the apple tree.

Nicole, for her faithful prayers for all.

Seventh Grade

Sarah, for living out Philippians 2, treating others as more important than herself.

Eighth Grade

Naomi, for her willingness to jump in to help a friend.

Ryan, for his willingness to jump in to help a friend.

Cameron, for his servant's heart and always being quick to volunteer himself!



Classroom Happenings



Team A ~ Grades K, 1 and 2

Dear Team A Parents,

Onward to term 2!

We are looking forward to seeing all of you for Parent Teacher Conferences next week. If you have not yet signed up, please call or email the office.

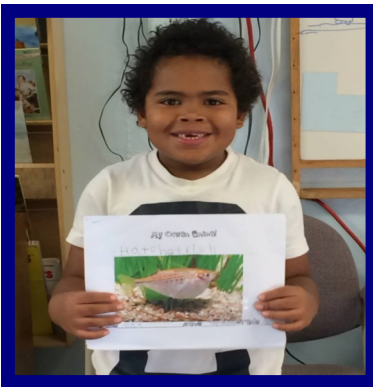
If you are still thinking of donating a gift for the Operation Christmas Child boxes you still have time! We are accepting donations through Monday of next week. We suggest each student bring a \$2.00 donation and a gift for each box (1 girl and 1 boy). Thank you for taking part in helping children around



the world receive the message of salvation. Thinking ahead to Thanksgiving (the week after conferences) Team A will be celebrating on Tuesday, November 24th. We are asking that the children come dressed as Pilgrims or Native Americans on that day. We will send simple costume ideas next week along with each child's donation for our celebration.

Thank you for your partnership in educating your fabulous children!

Team A: Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Caron and Mrs. Torres



Presenting their ocean animal projects for term 1!



Kindergarten using the iPads for Lexia

Team B ~ Grades 3 & 4

We have introduced the whole brain teaching technique to Grade 3 students these last two weeks. They have completely embraced the process and are thriving! Students have been able to earn extra recess almost every day. Ask your child about the five classroom rules and our classroom game.

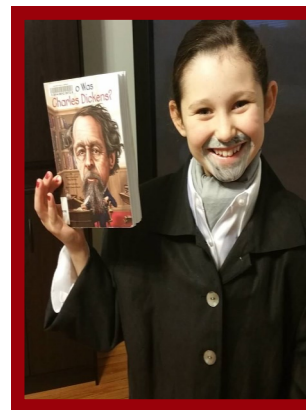
There are so many things to look forward to term 2. In science we will be learning about force and motion as well as light and sound. In history students will continue the westward expansion to learn about the transcontinental railroad, industrialization, inventions and of course our big day at the end of the term, the Chicago World's Fair.

*If you feel led to contribute to our classroom Operation Christmas Child, Monday of next week is the last day to bring in an item.

*December 3rd is our HCA open house. We will be hosting an Animal Adventure! Bring a new family (one that does not already belong to HCA) and enter for free! There will be a time to take a tour and ask questions about our amazing school!

*Don't forget to sign up in the office for parent/teacher conferences. Conferences will be held next Wednesday, November 18th in the afternoon.

Blessings,
Mrs. Jorritsma



Fourth grade did an outstanding job on the historical figure book report presentations!! I am very proud of all their hard work. Now we are all starting to prepare for the Chicago World's Fair (January 22). Everyone has been assigned a person who actually attended the 1893 fair. We will also begin researching and preparing to work on the Transportation Building and the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show.

Remember to keep practicing multiplication facts :)

I am looking forward to seeing you at Parent Conferences next Wednesday.

Blessings,
Ms. Reed





Classroom Happenings



Team C ~ Grades 5 & 6

Greetings from Team C,

Can you believe we have already begun term 2?! Time is flying especially in history. Already we have moved on from Reconstruction to Westward Expansion and the Plains Indians. We have now started our quest of preparing for the upcoming Chicago World's Fair, students have chosen their historical figures and the research has begun; the excitement is building! Please ask your child(ren) who they will be representing at the Fair and mark your calendars for January 22nd, you will not want to miss this big event.

Meanwhile in Language Arts we are beginning to ease into the winter months with great literature in hand. Before you know it your fifth and sixth graders will be asking you to light a fire in the den and move the recliner closer so that they can drift away, lost in a good book. Fifth grade has started the book *Chicago World's Fair* by Joann Grote, an adventure centered around the grand event. In sixth grade we have started *The Great Wheel* by Robert Lawson, the story of an Irish immigrant named Conn and his destiny to come to America and ride a great wheel. These texts will enable both classes to greater understand the Chicago World's Fair and the people who attended.

~Mr. Curtis and Mrs. Cleveland



Digging a great big hole for our new apple trees!

Team D ~ Grades 7 & 8

We are having a blast! Middle school is such a wonderful time of learning and I thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to engage the students in academically challenging, yet fun-filled activities. This makes my job such a joy. Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education.

Preparations for the Chicago World's Fair 1893 reenactment are beginning to take hold of our school. Historical figures selections are in the works and several novels with an 1893 CWF setting have been our focus for paragraph and essay writing in Language Arts.

In Geography/HOH, we spent some time digging into *Kids Discover Magazine: Inventions*. After reading, we discussed the following words of Thomas Edison, "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." His words sparked great discussions about some inventions, goals, and dreams that our students have. Many of our students want to take a missions trip while they are still young. Some wish to develop video games. Others have various inventions they would like to create, while a few aspire to become writers. I have encouraged each one to share these ideas with an adult. Take some time to listen to what is on the heart of your child. You will be inspired.

Speaking of inspiration, the Middle School Leadership Conference was just that for our 8th graders: **INSPIRATIONAL!** We were to able dive deeper into our Spiritual Gifts and how best to work in the gifting the Lord has given us. What a blessing to learn how God sees us and has knit each one of us together uniquely for His purposes. How fitting that Ephesians 2:10 was the verse hanging in our conference room. "For we are God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works which He has prepared in advance for us to do."

Finally, our business letters are due to be mailed on Friday. Many of our students are extending invitations to town/city officials to join us for the CWF reenactment. They are so welcoming.

Once again, I invite students to join me for **Team D Language Arts/Spanish Help Club** on Tuesdays from 3:00 to 3:30.

Blessings, Mrs. Campbell





Animal Adventures

of Bolton is bringing a van full of animals to

Holden Christian Academy

Open House

Thursday, Dec. 3rd ~ 6:30-8:00 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION

Parents must accompany children.



279 Reservoir St, Holden Ma. ~ 508-829-4418
Questions? Please email info@holdenchristianacademy.org



This year, students are voting to decide which exotic animal will visit us!



~Other HCA Updates~

News from the Art Room



Our Square 1 Art fundraiser is now going on! Order forms were sent home on Thursday, November 5. Please take time to order something to support the arts at HCA as well as show your child how much you care about their work. Your child's art work makes a great gift for any family member and there is such a diverse selection of good quality items to choose from. You may order online or use the paper form. If you lost your form or access code- call the office and we will find your code for you. Ordering deadline is November 17. Thank you!
~Mrs. M

P.S. We are in need of **Styrofoam** egg cartons!!

After School Program News

Our After School kids are enjoying lots of activities, as well as earning stars for great behavior that gives them a chance to choose from the prize box. So far this month they have created most of their own games--stuck in the mud, freeze dance, playground tag and more quiet games on the rug with puzzles and artwork. We are also including a weekly Science experiment...ask them to show you how air holds a paper up when they hold it on their stomach! Make room for them to run this experiment out!

Thanksgiving is coming and we also started a special list of what your children like about each other. Before the holiday we will send it home for you! You will be delighted to know how others view your child in the light of all their good traits! We can always count our blessings with the help of our children who really are true blessings in our lives.

~Mrs. Ravina & Mrs. Wheatley