



# Pathways

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

A Newsletter for Holden Christian Academy

December 17, 2015

## Principal's Corner

Dear friends,

My husband and I are expecting a grandbaby any minute! This child will be the first for our son Jon and daughter-in-law, Jenelle. They are ready. The nursery is prepared and Jenelle has had two baby showers. This week in a corporate office in Boston Jon went into a meeting and found out it was a shower for him, complete with decorations, food and gifts! I guess that's what happens to men who work in office groups that are predominately women! The anticipation is mounting and the wait more agonizing every day.

Thank God we only have to wait nine months. The nation of Israel had to wait for several millennia. Because God was the initiator of both waiting periods we know there will be a culmination, a birth, a coming (good news for Jenelle!). Israel put their trust in God's promise for a redeemer, a King, a Messiah or as **The Jesus Storybook Bible** so aptly puts it, a Rescuer.

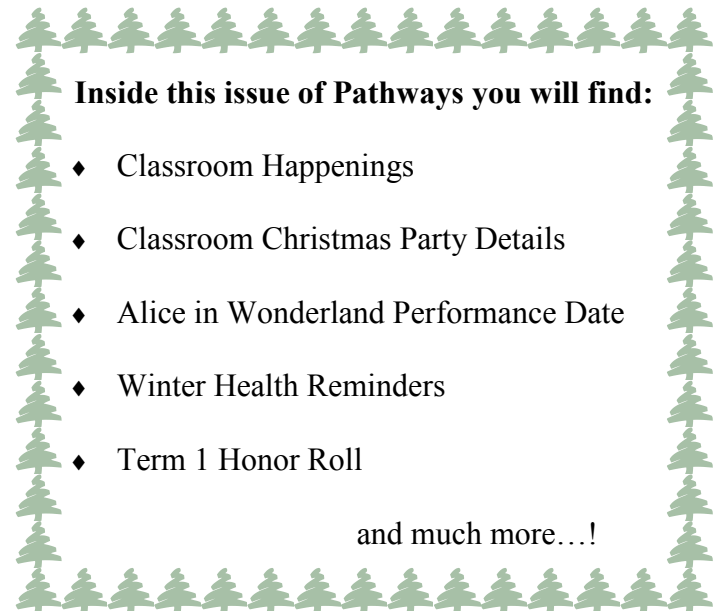
Few expected a baby. When our grandson is born he will be little, helpless, precious and sweet, just like Jesus was. No one at the hospital will think he is a King or rescuer. Only those with a word from God recognized Jesus

as such. How like God to do His greatest work in all eternity so quietly and meekly. How like His people are we to be so distracted that we miss the whole thing? How like God to love and forgive us anyway!

My prayer for you this Christmas is that you may have those quiet, still moments to connect with that baby/Savior of the world and step into His presence, love, forgiveness and grace. I pray for rest and peace. Remember that it's in the little things where God does His greatest work. I am looking forward to meeting our newest member of the family and I pray a blessing on you and yours!

In Him who loves us just as we are,

Susan Hayward, Principal



### Inside this issue of Pathways you will find:

- ◆ Classroom Happenings
- ◆ Classroom Christmas Party Details
- ◆ Alice in Wonderland Performance Date
- ◆ Winter Health Reminders
- ◆ Term 1 Honor Roll

and much more...!

### ~ Our Mission ~

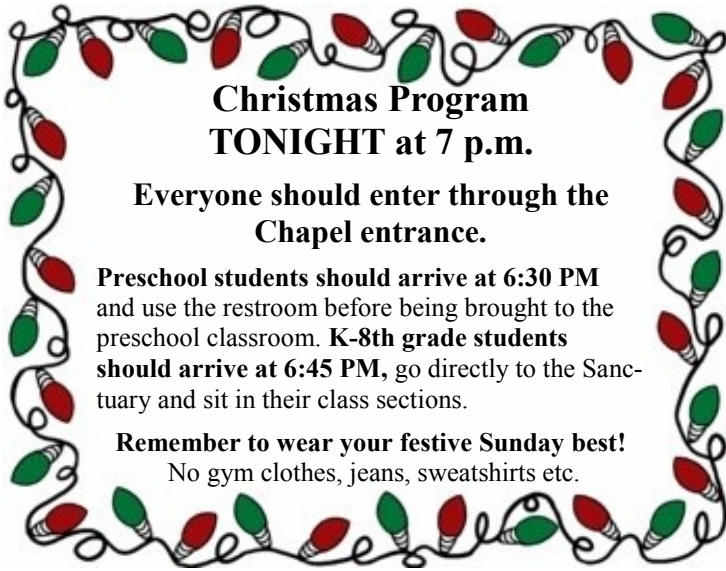
Honoring God through Creative learning and strong Academics,  
in a caring, fun-filled school!

Holden Christian Academy  
508-829-4418  
[www.holdenchristianacademy.org](http://www.holdenchristianacademy.org)



## Mark Your Calendar!

December 21	Belarus Chocolate Donation Deadline
Dec. 23-Jan. 1	Christmas Break-NO SCHOOL
January 15	Term 3 Development Day-NO SCHOOL
January 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day-NO SCHOOL
January 22	Chicago World's Fair/Term 2 Ends
January 25	Read-a-thon Begins
Feb. 5	Theater Production of Alice in Wonderland, <i>show times and ticket prices TBD</i>

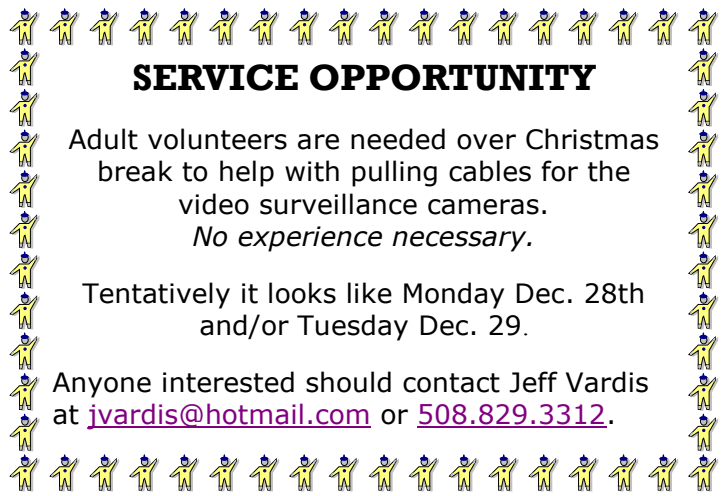


## Christmas Program TONIGHT at 7 p.m.

Everyone should enter through the Chapel entrance.

Preschool students should arrive at 6:30 PM and use the restroom before being brought to the preschool classroom. **K-8th grade students should arrive at 6:45 PM**, go directly to the Sanctuary and sit in their class sections.

Remember to wear your festive Sunday best!  
No gym clothes, jeans, sweatshirts etc.



## SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Adult volunteers are needed over Christmas break to help with pulling cables for the video surveillance cameras.  
*No experience necessary.*

Tentatively it looks like Monday Dec. 28th and/or Tuesday Dec. 29.

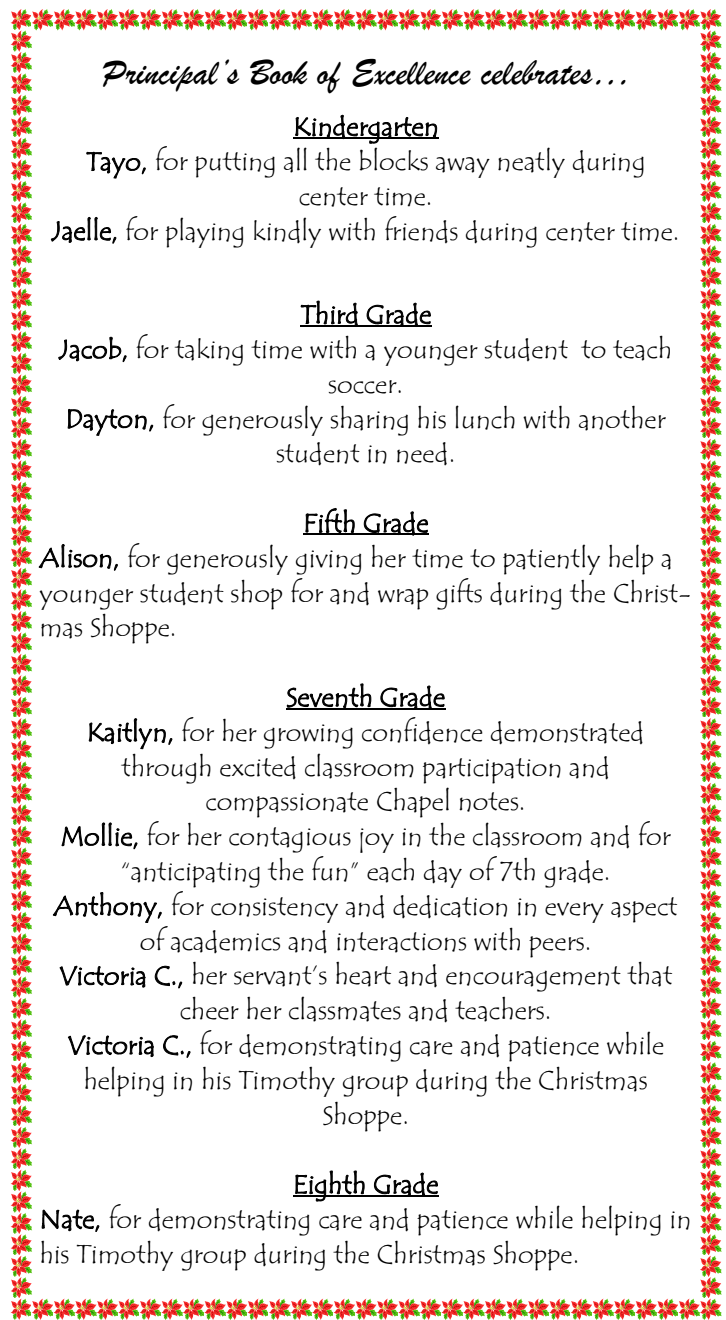
Anyone interested should contact Jeff Vardis at [jvardis@hotmail.com](mailto:jvardis@hotmail.com) or [508.829.3312](tel:508.829.3312).

## 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!

We are looking for lots of props and display items that you or someone you know might have around. Please check out our list online at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949A9A82BA6FB6-items> and sign up to bring in any items you might have or could get access to for the Fair!

Thank you for your help and be sure to mark your calendars to join us on January 22nd!



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

### Kindergarten

Tayo, for putting all the blocks away neatly during center time.

Jaelle, for playing kindly with friends during center time.

### Third Grade

Jacob, for taking time with a younger student to teach soccer.

Dayton, for generously sharing his lunch with another student in need.

### Fifth Grade

Alison, for generously giving her time to patiently help a younger student shop for and wrap gifts during the Christmas Shoppe.

### Seventh Grade

Kaitlyn, for her growing confidence demonstrated through excited classroom participation and compassionate Chapel notes.

Mollie, for her contagious joy in the classroom and for "anticipating the fun" each day of 7th grade.

Anthony, for consistency and dedication in every aspect of academics and interactions with peers.

Victoria C., her servant's heart and encouragement that cheer her classmates and teachers.

Victoria C., for demonstrating care and patience while helping in his Timothy group during the Christmas Shoppe.

### Eighth Grade

Nate, for demonstrating care and patience while helping in his Timothy group during the Christmas Shoppe.

## 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 Annual Fund, that former and new donors will faithfully support Christian education.
- Continued prayer for loved ones that are battling sickness and health struggles.

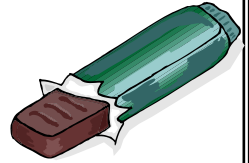
## PRAISE & THANK YOU

- Praise God for a fantastic, well attended Open House; thank you to all those families that attended and invited friends!
- Thank you to the Parent Teacher Council for all their hard work and help in the Christmas Shoppe!
- To all our elective helpers, thank you for your dedication!

See Pathways issues in color and clickable links at [www.holdenchristianacademy.org](http://www.holdenchristianacademy.org)

## The Gift of Chocolate

In the month of December it has been our tradition to collect money for buying chocolate for orphans in Belarus. HCA has a long-standing relationship with a mission to orphans in Belarus through our friends and coworkers in the Kingdom, Olga & Yasha Goncharenko. Olga started Spring of Revival Ministry many years ago as a single woman. Today they serve hundreds of orphans in several different orphanages. The traditional Christmas present for Belarussian children is a box of chocolates. For the orphans it is a special treat and if Olga doesn't provide it then the kids will get no gift! Every year we raise funds so Olga can purchase the chocolates.



We pray you might give generously and provide the funds for at least one child (\$5.00). All money for chocolate should be sent to the office by December 21. Please make checks payable to HCA.

### News from the Art Room

Square 1 Art Update: As part of the Square 1 Art program, Square 1 Art gives back a portion to their schools. Due to your great involvement, HCA earned \$766.25! Great job HCA!

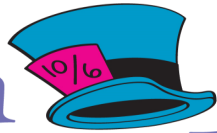
Remember that you may order anytime and even from prior years art work simply by going online and visiting

[www.square1art.com](http://www.square1art.com)

~Mrs. M

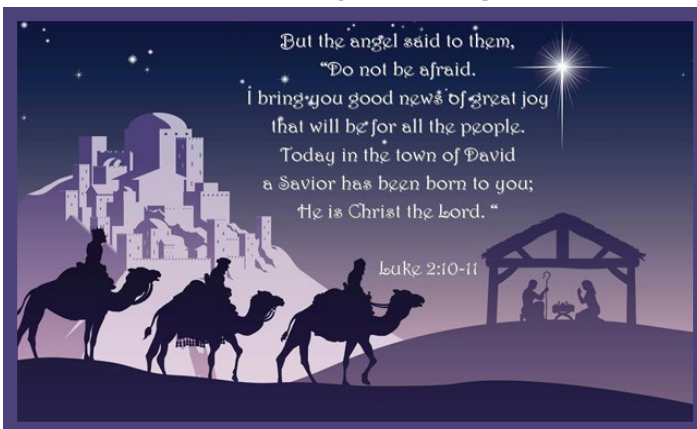


## Disney Alice in Wonderland JR.



Mark your calendars! HCA's Theater elective is presenting Alice in Wonderland on Friday, February 5, 2016! More details coming in January!

### Scripture Memory Verse of the Week



### WELL CHILD and ILLNESS POLICY

*addendum to Parent Student Handbook*

It is our desire at Holden Christian Academy to provide the healthiest possible environment for our students, so we kindly ask that you DO NOT bring your child to school if he or she has any of the following symptoms:

- Green or yellow runny nose
- Persistent coughing
- Discharge from the eyes
- Fever
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Unknown or contagious rash
- Any communicable disease



If a student has a contagious illness such as conjunctivitis (pinkeye) or strep throat, he/she **must** be on antibiotics for a **full 24 hours** before returning to school.

If a student has been vomiting or had a fever, he/she should be **sickness or fever free for at least 24 hours** (without fever reducing medication) before returning to school.

In the case of chicken pox, a student cannot return to school until all lesions are dried and scabbed over. This usually takes about 5 days; however, each case will vary.

By way of reminder, here is our current **Dismissal Due To Illness Policy**:

Any student who becomes ill while at school will be sent home at the discretion of the staff.

If the student has a fever of 99.6 or above, he/she will be sent home.

*Thank you for your cooperation and partnership in striving to keep illness at HCA to a minimum.*



# Classroom Happenings



## Team A ~ Grades K, 1 and 2

**Merry Christmas to you!** Our hallways and bulletin boards are filled with displays of angels, stars and nativity scenes. There is excitement all around as we look forward to Christmas. We look forward to seeing everyone at tonight's Christmas concert performance. Our class party is set for Tuesday. Most details can be found on the 12/3 issue of Pathways (see online), but here's the short list:

- ◆ Two parents have offered to send in cupcakes and the frosting. Thank you!
- ◆ Class Gift
 

We will not have individual student gifts, instead we will have a class gift that will be shared.

PLEASE SEND IN A DONATION BY TUESDAY, DEC. 22<sup>nd</sup>. We suggest you send the amount you would have spent for an individual exchange gift.
- ◆ Show and Tell- send an item that helps describe a family tradition.

To see what our classes have ordered, please click on the appropriate links (check Pathways out online for clickable links if you are reading a paper copy) however, please don't share these with the students. We would like the kids to be surprised :)

### Grade K Gift Info.

Grade 1 Gift 1 Info.  
Grade 1 Gift 3 Info.

Grade 1 Gift 2 Info.  
Grade 1 Gift 4 Info.

### Grade 2 Gift 1 Info.

### Grade 2 Gift 2 Info.



**Our Center- Time Switch** theme has been "Lights and Candy". We have been looking closely at the lightbulb and electricity in our science studies. As for candy (and who doesn't love candy,) the team has heard all about our Friend from the Past, Milton S. Hershey, the entrepreneur, philanthropist, and chocolatier extraordinaire.

### **Upcoming events:**

We have an opportunity to purchase Ecotarium tickets for 50% off the admission and workshop. We've planned a field trip, which includes an electricity workshop, on Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>. We will need drivers and chaperones. Permission slips and checks for \$8.50 will be due by Tuesday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Instead of a check, you will have the option to have the payment added to your January Facts payment. **Look for a permission slip in your child's folder on Friday.**

### **Chicago World's Fair:**

Every class will be re-creating the contents of one of the major buildings at the Chicago World's Fair (CWF.) Kindergarten class will be representing the Government Building, First Grade will represent the Horticultural Building, and Second Grade will represent the Women's Building. After Christmas we will be collecting authentic props for our buildings. If you have any expertise in these areas or know of a fabulous resource please contact one of the teachers. Mrs. O'Brien will be posting more details of needed items on Sign-up Genius, the link can be found on page 2 of this Pathways and will be emailed after Christmas.

### Team A Calendar

12/17 *Christmas Concert*

12/18 *CWF Person report due for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade.*

12/22 *Money for class gift and field trip due- you may send a combined check*

*Send a Christmas tradition show and tell item*

*Team A CHRISTmas Birthday party*

1/4 *Genealogy assignment due for all Team A classes*

1/22 *Chicago World's Fair re-enactment*

We wish you a blessed time with your families as you celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mrs. T, Mrs. Caron, and Mrs. Hughes





# Classroom Happenings



## Team B ~ Grades 3 & 4

Grade three will be having their Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you have any questions as to who your child should buy for please feel free to email me or refer to our 'week at a glance'. We will have pizza for lunch, popcorn and a movie in the afternoon. A healthy snack contribution would be appreciated.

I have sent home My Family Tree Workbook with each student. over Christmas vacation, when families are visiting, it is a wonderful opportunity to talk with your child and record your family's heritage.

We have been talking about Ruth and her descendants. Ask your child about her family tree.

Looking forward to see you tonight at the Christmas Concert! Students need to be here for 6:45 PM in the Sanctuary.

Merry Christmas!  
Mrs. Jorritsma



Fourth grade is all excited about our Christmas party. The party information went home on the back of the Weekly Peek last Friday. If you haven't seen it, be sure to check binders for the orange paper, please ask for another copy if you need one.

It's been my experience in the past that even having a few weeks off of school can cause kids to forget multiplication facts. There are tons of really fun math apps & even playing games in the car, will help their brains to remember.

I cannot thank you all enough for your love & support. I pray that you have a blessed Christmas and wonderful vacation with your families.

All my love,  
Ms. Reed



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## Team C ~ Grades 5 & 6

Feliz Navidad from Team C

Christmas is only a week away can you believe it? I certainly cannot, and if you are like me the shopping and wrapping waits until the last minute. But the cookies and goodies have already begun and won't stop until well after the Holidays have passed. But as you know Christmas is not about the cookies or gifts it is about something and someone far greater. C.S. Lewis always puts its very eloquently, "The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God." Just take five minutes and wrap your mind around that thought.

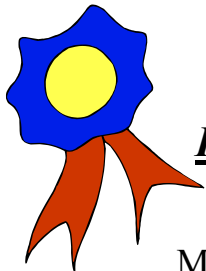
Let us get back to the party, Team C will hold our annual Christmas party on Tuesday 12/22 in the afternoon. Activities include; Secret Santa gift exchange done by each grade, the gift should not exceed five dollars. White elephant yankee swap, which is an item recycled from your home it can be comedic or practical. We would also like to have a cookie decorating contest and are looking for parents to provide 24 sugar cookies and the frosting. If anyone is interested in sending in one of their families traditional Christmas snacks that would be gladly accepted. I would like to remind you that parents' hold veto power in terms of what snack

can be sent in. If you are interested in sending something in for the party feel free to email Mrs. Cleveland or myself. P.S. I am never one to turn down food ;)

In terms of academia, Team C was blessed to have a visit from Dr. Ervin this week who explained the intricacies of how the ear works. I always find it so meaningful to the education of our children when we can have a visitor who is a professional in a particular area come in and explain in greater detail. Which brings me to our next point of interest the Chicago World's Fair. Mark your calendars and invite your family and friends for January 22nd because the fair is coming to town and you won't want to miss it. Fifth grade will be emulating the mining building and has begun looking for six construction hard hats. Sixth grade is presenting the crown jewel of the fair, George Ferris' Wheel. Students have begun research into their historical characters and should begin putting together pieces of attire to complete their costumes. Salvation Army, Good Will, and Savers are all good places to start.

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Mr. Curtis and Mrs. Cleveland



### High Honors (All A's)

Madelyn Graham  
Abigail Leahy  
Daniel Paharik

## Holden Christian Academy

5th & 6th Grade Term 1 Honor Roll 2015-2016

### Honors (All A's & B's)

Alison Cummings  
Madeline Curran  
Isabella Ervin  
Abigail Goodell  
Vincent Gilbert  
David Jewett  
Nathan Larrabee



Victoria Njoroge  
Charles Palmatier  
Hannah Pollitt  
Nicole Ramos  
Noelle Steinau  
Steven Younger



# Classroom Happenings



## Team D ~ Grades 7 & 8

Integration is such a hallmark of the HCA way! What a great way to learn and teach. Watching the students make connections between subjects is such a highlight of the teaching process. Our LA "dialogue" project has been a neat exchange of ideas. It is still a work in progress, but we are working through it.



Merry Christmas! I so enjoy being able to say that... over and over again. During this advent season we have been using the Focus on the Family advent videos to remind us of God's faithfulness and unchanging nature. Heartwarming!

As we approach Christmas, trying to intentionally slow down and be still is near and dear to me. I have started to read aloud with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders and will do so in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade as well. We are working on Advent poetry in Devotions time too. What a treat to stop and read together! I highly recommend it.

7<sup>th</sup> grade Christmas party plans have been confirmed. We will celebrate on Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, after lunch with fun treats, games, and a Yankee Swap. Please read details below:

- ◆ Bring your assigned food item to share
- ◆ A wrapped gift (\$5.00 + tax – maximum)

Finally, we have compiled a list of needs for the CWF. We are working on the Manufacturers Building and recreating the Dutch Cocoa House, which was reconstructed in Brookline, MA. We are in need of the following items:

- ◆ Small-base antique lamps
- ◆ Typewriters
- ◆ Antique lace, preferably from other countries
- ◆ Antique jewelry
- ◆ Antique instruments
- ◆ Antique cameras & photography equipment
- ◆ Christmas lights
- ◆ Cardboard



Thank you very much for your continued help and support. Blessings for a Merry Christmas!

~ Mrs. Campbell

Students are spending this week finishing up their Gases in Balance lab. We spent the last two weeks

comparing the chemical equations of Respiration and Photosynthesis. We finished this unit with a lab that visually compared the gases used and produced by those two life-giving processes.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade class also jumped into the periodic table and began their Adopt-an-Element project, due 1/8/16. Last week we still had kale in the garden and were able to kick off our Element study with a roasted kale snack. There are 7 elements from the periodic table present in the yummy vegetable kale!

There is still time to bring in donations for the Belarus chocolate drive. I have encouraged the students to consider donating their own money or to take on extra chores so they can earn a few dollars to donate.

I look forward to seeing you on at the Christmas concert Thursday evening at 7pm.

Christmas Party - We will have our Christmas party on 12/22 at 1:00 pm. The students have decided they would like to have a pot-luck lunch together. Each has signed up to bring something to share. In addition, they would like to do a gift swap. Please bring in a unisex wrapped gift (< \$10). We will eat, play games, exchange gifts and finish up our Advent study.

Please be sure to turn your heart to the Lord and thank Him for the amazing gift of Jesus Christ.

In partnership,  
Mrs. Holgate

## Holden Christian Academy

### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Term 1 Honor Roll 2015-2016

**High Honors**  
(All A's)

Hannah Cleveland  
Charlotte Mourere  
Ryan Singley  
Elu Tatis

**Honors**  
(All A's & B's)

Mollie Burk  
Cameron Campbell  
Kyle Cheung  
Victoria Christo  
Jeffrey Curtis  
Anthony Gilbert  
Erin Hong

Joshua Kim  
Naomi Kwinji  
Nathaniel Leahy  
Garret Osborne  
Bethany Peterson  
Dylan Ramos  
Katherine Wren

