



Pathways

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

A Newsletter for Holden Christian Academy

October 10, 2013

Principal's Corner

Dear friends,

In my personal life I am keeping a journal/list of blessings and the gifts that God pours into my life. I'm leading a study at my church on Ann Voskamp's book, *One Thousand Gifts*, which encourages the readers to do as she did and list 1000 gifts. Ann believes that gratefulness and discontent can't live in the same space, nor can whiny entitlement and praise. I think she is correct and am close to the 300's at this point (after a few months!). As you can imagine, many of the blessings come directly from this place and I'd like to share just a few with you!

I am so grateful

- ☺ For you, the parents and families of our students, who care enough to sacrifice daily to send your children here.
- ☺ Your children who bless, amuse, and challenge us daily!
- ☺ The faculty and staff who truly love the Lord, each other, and their students.
- ☺ The positive, happy environment that is still the #1 thing people appreciate about HCA.
- ☺ The staff and students can all start the day in God's Word and prayer for one another.
- ☺ For all the professional development the faculty and I have been able to do this fall (and it continues!).
- ☺ For the Parent Council who are actively helping and serving HCA in many creative ways- Healthy Cook Book, Clean-up Days, Silent Auction, and the Dinner Theater Night to name a few!
- ☺ The enthusiasm and success of the first HCA Running Club, led by Mrs. Cleveland and Mrs. Torres.
- ☺ For our Student Council who truly want to serve and make a positive impact on the younger students. **Next week they hope to collect \$1.00 from each student to help alleviate world hunger.**
- ☺ Field trips to orchards, restaurants and museums.
- ☺ For our new staff- Mrs. Younger in Pre-school,

Mrs. Mikol in 3rd grade, and Mrs. Burk-Food for Life. They have each jumped right in and are doing fantastic jobs.

- ☺ The five beautiful new benches that were made by Seth Dayutis, an HCA grad, for his Eagle Scout project!
- ☺ Mrs. Campbell's joy in her new found love of gardening and how she is integrating it into Language Arts.
- ☺ Our new website and Ms. Legro who was able to make it happen!
- ☺ The generosity of parents and staff who gave \$1,190 to Coastlands Consultants for Spiritual Emphasis Week
- ☺ Mrs. Holgate's invitation to be a presenter at the fall Mass. Agriculture in the Classroom conference on Nov. 9th in Brookline.
- ☺ Mrs. Mikol's third graders who are making great progress on shaping a new culture for their class as they become self-aware students.
- ☺ For an amazing new table and stools that are the first items for the Nature Explore Playground. (Check them out in the pre-school)
- ☺ For the freedom to teach from a context of faith, using brain-friendly techniques, in a happy, calm environment where kids love learning and grow in their faith.
- ☺ For Judy Bleau who is patiently waiting for this article and gives me much grace.
- ☺ To be continued for life.....

Joyfull in Him,
Susan Hayward, Principal

PICTURE DAY

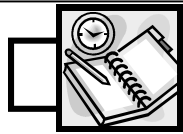
OCTOBER 24, 2013

Lifetouch will be here on October 24 to photograph all of our students individually and by class. These pictures will be used in the yearbook and parents will receive an order form to pre-order portrait packages.

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

October 11	Extra Recess and Popcorn Party! For those who submitted recipes for our new cookbook.
October 14	NO SCHOOL—Columbus Day
October 16	Field Trip, Heifer Project, Grades 5-8
October 16	\$1.00 donations for world hunger
October 17-18	NO SCHOOL—Development Day, ACSI Conference; office open.
October 17-18	Parent work days at HCA
October 24	Lifetouch Pictures
October 25	NO SCHOOL—Term 2 Development Day
November 7	Open House cancelled (Billy Graham event)
November 8	Grade 8 Student Leadership Conference
November 8	Term 1 ends
November 14	Family Dinner Theater (Ping) 5:30 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.

PRAYER (Psalm 68:19)

- For healing for Mrs. Stewart's back.
- 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

- Praise God for this beautiful weather that has allowed for extended learning time in the garden!
- See Mrs. Haywards notes in Principal's Corner, page 1...
- Thank you to an anonymous donor who continues to bless HCA!
- Thank you to Miss Vita, for remembering us and writing to us all the way from Belarus!

School Service Opportunities

- Dismissal help, Wednesdays 2:25-3:00.
- Sign up with Parent Teacher Council for Oct. 17-19 Parent work days. <http://tinyurl.com/HCAworkdays>

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

- 20th Birthday Party committee members needed.
- Recess Monitors

Principal's Book of Excellence celebrates...

Kindergarten

Camren, for helping a friend pick up a spilled lunch.
James, for being a gentleman and letting a girl go first.
Emma, for noticing a friend in need on the playground swings and helping.
Matthew, for excellent behavior during Center Time Switch.
Mia, for helping a friend without even being asked.

Grade 1

Michaella, for excellent behavior during Center Time Switch

Grade 2

Aliyah, for her heart of prayer and concern for the things of God.
Ava, for her depth of knowledge of God's word and her excitement about spiritual things.
Ethan C., for the intellectual stimulation he brings to the class.
Ethan E., for his knowledge of and enthusiasm for God's word.
Nandi, for her cheerful attitude and lovely smile that enriches the class.

Grade 3

Breanna, for sharing her love and knowledge of scripture during Spiritual Emphasis Week.
Charles, for making a wise choice in chapel.
Liana and Madeline, for being excellent students who work hard, follow rules, listen carefully, display integrity, and are respectful to their classmates.

Nate, for being respectful to a parent working in the classroom.
Samuel, for his chivalrous act of holding the door for Mrs. Reed respectfully and patiently.
and for helping friends in the classroom remember rules and make wise choices.

Grade 5

Jeffrey and Matthew L., for demonstrating perseverance during Running Club.

Grade 6

Cameron, for great communication with his math teacher.
Elu, for perseverance in Running Club, even with a skinned knee.
Joshua, for excellent participation in Cultures class.

Grade 7

Aidan, for being a curious and active learner who motivates those around him.
Annabelle, for demonstrating a Christ-like attitude of service to her classmates.
Deacon, for renewed efforts in organizing his cubby, binder, and backpack.
and for sincerity of heart toward an injured student.
Susanna, for her boldness and leadership in worshipping the Lord.

Grade 8

Caleb, for his eager willingness to serve our school, our community, and the world through Student Council.
Colin, for showing great leadership skills on the field trip to Mission E-4.
Caleb, Conway, Lauren, Mackenzie, and Senora Gillon, for fantastic effort in leading our school in prayer during See You at the Pole.



Classroom Happenings

Team A ~ Grades K-2

Ni Hao!! (Hello in Chinese:)) Team A is busy learning about the culture of China. During center time switch we have been doing things like: making Chinese houses, writing the language, learning to speak the language, (Ask about head, shoulders, knees and toes.) making doll size Chinese people, and painting scrolls with plum blossoms. At the end of the term we hope to visit a Chinese Food Restaurant..more details to come.

All of Team A teachers recently attended a Foundations Workshop to refresh and be up to date on the newest technology in teaching your children to read. Ask your child how they tap the sounds of words and letters! Thank you for all who stepped in to sub or help in a class! If you are looking to help we always need recess monitors. The weather has been great! Come enjoy the children outside while the teachers get a lunch break!

~Mrs. Hughes

Grade 3 ~

Mrs. Paharik has been visiting our class on Wednesdays with guest appearances from Zowy the amazing guinea pig. Zowy loves to hear kids read and the students have been taking turns reading to her. This week Zowy visited while I was away at a conference and Mrs. Paharik left a note on the board stating that the class was very respectful while she visited.

Regarding our study of culture, the third grade has discovered that Japanese Botan rice candy is delicious! While on the subject of food, we determined that 91% of the class enjoyed the kale chips we made for Food for Life. Areas in which we are attempting to improve, as a class, are organizational skills with our binders and proper behavior in chapel. Something we are looking forward to in the near future is sushi tasting!

~Mrs. Mikol

Grade 4 ~

Fourth grade is working hard on our Biome posters & India projects in class. Some of our work has been added to our bulletin board....we are looking fabulous!! By the time you read this we will have had lunch at the Bollywood Grille in Shrewsbury. We are having a great time learning about the Indian culture.

Our Biome test is next Tuesday, October 15th. Cultures test is Friday, October 25th. Our fiction book reports are due on October 31st. Check binders for study sheets & book report format.

Everyone is doing a great job!! What a great class...love them...love my job...Thank you, Lord!!

~Mrs. Reed

5th Grade News

During Spiritual Emphasis Week, many of us were moved by what the S.E.W. team had to share. The class had a time of sharing during homeroom, where many students expressed that God was showing them what it really meant to be a disciple, and that they needed to make God more important than anything else.

Language Arts ~ We have had class discussions about "right there" questions versus "think and search" questions when responding to literature. We have been enjoying the book Kite Fighters and are more than half-way through.

Food For Life ~ We planted cabbage INDOORS today. We will be comparing the plants that were sewn outside with the ones that will be growing under grow lights in the classroom. Some would have preferred we planted cocoa plants, as they expressed their dislike for cabbage. Cabbage was obviously chosen because it is a staple crop for Korea, but maybe we'll consider cocoa when we study Latin America in term 4.... hmmm.

Cultures ~ As we dig deeper into the Korean culture, already we have heard back from our Korean pen pal, Danny. We found out that Danny likes American food more than Korean food.

~Mrs. Torres

Team C ~ Grades 5 & 6

5th and 6th Grade Science

They have germinated! We are very excited that the seeds we planted last week have germinated and are peeking above the soil. They are also protected from frost with row cover. The 5th graders will also be planting some cabbage indoors to compare the growth. We can't wait to see how things turn out!

Our study of weather in 5th and 6th grade science has been building a nice base for studying biomes. Students have made a few instruments to monitor our own weather. Also, please check the boomerang folders for our recent quiz on atmosphere.

Just a note about quizzes: As you know, studying is a skill that students need to learn as they discover the ways they retain information best. I have been talking with the class about ways they may have noticed they learn. Does it help to make up a song or rhythm? an acronym? draw a picture to go with it? play a game with flashcards? teach the information to someone else? do something active while studying? Most students say they study by reading the information over and over to themselves, hoping they will remember it. This works well for only a small percentage of students. I want to encourage the students to continue to watch for their own learning style so they can help themselves study for quizzes. As parents, you will have the best insight for them since you have been watching them learn since the beginning! I am so glad to be working in partnership with you!

~Mrs. Cleveland

Classroom Happenings continued on next page...

Classroom Happenings continued...

Grades 6 - 8 Language Arts

The silkworms are here! The silkworms are here! (Yes, I know that's odd to hear from me.) I'm excited to have these little critters in my classroom, so that the 6th graders and I can share in the silkworm experiment, just like our *Project Mulberry* characters. Hands-on learning really is awesome! We plan to have 2 control groups and determine which foods (mulberry tree leaves or silkworm food) produce the best results. The 7th grade class continues to patiently watch as our peppers air dry in the windows of our classroom. Our dehydrated and sun-dried peppers are complete. We have plans to make pepper seasonings when everything is fully dried. In all classes, we are making our way through grammar and loving it. Grammar can be fun with just the right "twist and shout." ☺
Blessings, *Mrs. Campbell*

Team D ~ Grades 7 & 8

We all enjoyed an amazing week with Coastland Consultants during Spiritual Emphasis Week! The students did an amazing job leading us in worship and diving deeper in their walk with God.
We are continuing our study of weather and began our weather tracking project this week. We will continue this project through the entire school year.
We made and ate another yummy batch of Kale Chips and picked a large basket of tomatoes! We are preparing for a day of cooking. We voted on our favorite wheat berry recipes and will be making a wheat berry chili and strawberry-banana bread next week on Tuesday 10/15.
It's hard to believe we are 1/2 way through Term 1! Time flies when you're having fun!
Blessings, *Mrs. Holgate*

Have you sent in your names yet? Please do!!!

Annual Fund mailing list

We will be receiving our annual fund letters back from the printer by next Tuesday, and will have approximately 40 extra, for which we need names!
We need every family who has not already done so to fill out the form below and send it to the office as soon as possible.
Don't limit the Lord's calling on other people's hearts. You might think, "my friend isn't rich so they won't be able to give", but wouldn't that same friend love to see a letter filled with photographs of our students and rejoice with us for all that God has blessed our school with?
Fill out the form below, or email your names and addresses to jbleau@holdenchristianacademy.org.

Who do you know that might like to support HCA? Fill this out and return to the office by September 24, or email this information to jbleau@holdenchristianacademy.org. We will add these names to our mailing list for our Annual Fund. No need to re-submit names if you have given them previously.

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Your Name: _____

Attention parents of 6th, 7th + 8th graders. This just came in the mail and looks interesting, I cut up the impt.



WPI

parts of the brochure to fit it all on one page. We are blessed to have WPI so close.

Mrs H.

FOR...
Students in grades 6, 7, and 8

MEETS...
Saturdays from 9am – Noon

SESSIONS...
I: November 2, 2013 & December 7, 2013
II: February 1, 2014 & February 22, 2014
III: March 22, 2014 & April 5, 2014

COST...
\$50 per session (each session is two Saturdays)

October, 2013

Dear Educator,

As the school year gets underway, I am pleased to announce an excellent math and science project-centered program that WPI will be sponsoring for middle school students.

STEM Saturdays is a Saturday program for girls and boys in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades that will meet six times during the academic year. This half-day STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program is intended to help students gain an early awareness of the academic possibilities linked to the STEM fields and to teach parents more about these fields and how to support and nurture their children's interests and talents in this area. A parent or guardian or teacher must attend at least 3 of the Saturdays with their student.

Please see the enclosed brochure for more information on program dates and times. The program does have a minimal fee associated with it, but will be offered free to those with demonstrated financial need. ^{^ (above)}
\$ 50.

Please provide this information to students in the appropriate grades, especially those who you think may be particularly suited for a STEM program. If you have any questions about this excellent program at WPI, please feel free to contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs directly at 508-831-5796.

Sincerely,

Bonnie J. Hall

Bonnie J. Hall
Director of Multicultural Affairs
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Phone: 508-831-5796
Fax: 508-831-5818
Email: multiculturalaffairs@wpi.edu

STEM Saturdays

A parent, guardian, or mentor must attend the first Saturday of each session with the registered student with the exception of session III where parents must attend on April 5. Return completed form with payment to WPI, Office of Multicultural Affairs, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609. Please make checks payable to WPI.

Student Name _____	Date of Birth _____
School _____	Grade _____
Address _____	
Student Email _____	Phone _____
Parent/Guardian/Mentor Name _____	
Address _____	
Parent Email _____	Phone _____

I am registering for: ☐ I (11/2*, 12/7) ☐ II (2/1*, 2/22) ☐ III (3/22, 4/5*) * Parents required to attend ☐ Payment enclosed

There are 50 slots available for each of the STEM Saturdays sessions (each session is two Saturdays). Participation in all three sessions is not required. The Office of Multicultural Affairs will contact you upon receipt of registration to confirm your participation.

Registration

5th-8th Grade Student Feedback from Spiritual Emphasis Week

(These comments were written down by the teachers as the students shared them publicly with each other, the staff and Mr. Huffman from the SEW team.)

I learned.....

- ✝ That God gave His life and we need to do the same for Him.
- ✝ That God made me bold to stand up for my faith.
- ✝ How I can bring glory to God.
- ✝ I liked connecting with Mr. Huffman
- ✝ I have to love God more than my family.
- ✝ What it really means to be a disciple.
- ✝ What discipleship really means and that nothing is more important than Him.
- ✝ What it means to be a disciple and to be bold for Him.
- ✝ I felt God's presence this week.
- ✝ More about the rabbi and disciples' relationship.
- ✝ To be bold for Jesus and committed like the disciples were.
- ✝ God always takes us back.
- ✝ Not to just sit in church but to listen to what the Pastor is preaching so I can learn.
- ✝ Not to put my Ipod before God.
- ✝ Jesus needs to have a hand in all I do and needs to have the wheel...then I won't crash!
- ✝ Becoming a Christian comes at a cost.
- ✝ Jesus picked people by what was on the inside.
- ✝ Put God before everything else and put all our faith in God.
- ✝ Jesus picked crazy people for His disciples.
- ✝ We must really "do" the great commission and I need to be telling others about Jesus.
- ✝ We need to give our whole lives to God and not just sprinkle our lives with Jesus.

Out of the mouths of babes.....