

*C*ALENDAR ITEMS
JUNE 2009

24-30 Mission Trip to Uganda

JULY 2009

Tues. **28** Norman's Uniform Sale 2:30-7 P.M.

AUGUST 2009

Fri. **28** New Student/Parent Orientation K-12
 12:30-1:30 P.M.
 Ice Cream Social - Class Lists Posted
 1:30 P.M.
 7th gd. Student/Parent Orientation
 2 P.M.

Mon. **31** 7-12 Book & Schedule Pick-up
 Preschool Back to School Night
 6:30-7:30 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 2009

WED. **02** FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 2009-10

Mon. **07** Labor Day Holiday
 NO SCHOOL NO CHILDCARE

Thurs. **10** 7-12 Back to School Night 7-9 P.M.

Sat. **12** Movie Night at HCS

Tue. **15** Picture Day

Thurs. **17** K-6 Back to School Night 7-8:30 P.M.

ONLINE CALENDAR: WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG

Secondary Schedule/Book Pick-up

Please note that this year secondary student book and schedule pick-up will be one day only on Monday, August 31, from 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM.

Secondary students who are unable to be here that day will receive their books and schedules on the first day of school.

We'll see you in August!



by Kathy Horan, principal

Students Continue to Score Highly on SAT-10 Tests

Congratulations to the students and teachers who worked so diligently this year! The April SAT results show that 86% of the student body grades K-11 scored at or above the national percentile rank with 50% of those students in the high range. Elementary scores were 87% at or above the national level and 48% scoring above. Secondary numbers were 83% and 56%. Seniors were not tested.

In our second year of elementary math emphasis and with the addition of the ability grouped math, students in grades K-6 scoring above the national percentile rank increased by 4%. The strongest showing of a 6% increase occurred in grades 4-6. Students in grades 7-11 also showed a 4% increase both in the number of students at national percentile as well as those scoring above.

The April SAT results show that 86% of the student body grades K-11 scored at or above the national percentile rank with 50% of those students in the high range.

As the summer develops, we will continue to analyze the scores and will use that data to make decisions that will continue to positively impact student learning. While SAT scores do not tell the entire academic story, they are an indicator, and we are pleased by our results.

You should have received your child's individual results, and we will be happy to help you interpret them. **If there is sufficient interest, we can hold a parent information meeting to assist you in reading the results. Please email Mrs. Horan at khoran@hillcrestcs.org to indicate your interest.**

Thank you for partnering with our teachers to make this a wonderful school year. The elementary teachers have been extensively investigating and evaluating ways to improve our math instruction. The testing shows that it is reaping dividends. We look forward to continued improvement and another very successful year in 2009-2010.

SHORT SUBJECTS

Summer Office Hours

Please note that the school office will be open from 9:00 – 3:00 from June 29 through August 14 and from 8:00 – 4:00 beginning August 17.

Uniform Sale

Norman's Uniforms will be on campus on Tuesday, July 28 from 2:30 – 7:00 P.M. Having your children with you for accurate sizing in the best way to guarantee the right fit. In addition, any items that have to be ordered because they are not in stock at the sale will be shipped directly to your home at no additional charge. Please review the dress code policies on page 4 before making any clothing purchases for the new school year.

Congratulations Erik Jansen

Senior Erik Jansen was recently honored for his outstanding volleyball season this year. Erik had the most kills in the entire state of California for boys' volleyball. He was honored as Westside League MVP, all Ventura County first team for small school teams, and he also earned second team all CIF Southern Section. While HCS would like to say Erik, what an amazing season – we are so proud of you, Erik has said throughout his high school career, it was "FOR HIS GLORY".

by Stephen Allen, Head of School

You Are Invited: Truth Project, Summer 2009

HCS foundationally approaches education from a Christian worldview. As a result, the administration is requiring each HCS employee to participate in all of the sessions of a Focus on the Family DVD series called The Truth Project.

In addition to your own reading and study, consider participating with the employees and other HCS parents in this 13 session-DVD presentation. Join us at HCS on each Tuesday and Thursday at 9 AM from June 30 to August 11. Go to <http://www.thetruthproject.org/whatistruthproject/> to learn more about The Truth Project. Sessions are about 90 minutes long with no homework. Schedules and additional information are posted on the bulletin board in the school hallway.

This series will be presented again beginning August 24th and on selected dates through February 8, 2010. Mix and match the sessions if vacations or other commitments conflict. As you get ready to partner with Hillcrest next year, consider learning a how we can ensure that we are thinking Biblically in all areas of life.

Study and Organizational Skills Elective

Mrs. Navarro will be offering a new one semester elective, Study and Organizational Skills for middle school students. Incoming ninth graders may also take this course depending on their schedules. Mrs. Navarro's premise is that there is an art to being a good student. While it may come naturally to some, others must concentrate on seven areas: attitude, organization, relationships with teachers, time management, effective reading and writing skills, note-taking and homework, and studying for tests and quizzes. This course will not only teach these specific skills, but it will also consider how each student in the course learns. Students will be taught how to study based on the subject area as well as on their own individual learning style.

Although elective choices have already been made, anyone interested in taking this course should email Mrs. Horan at khoran@hillcrestcs.org to indicate that you would like to make this study skills course your first choice. Enrollment is limited to provide the maximum benefit to students. Preference will be given to those who both sign up early and who have struggled with their grades.

At the end of the first semester, Mrs. Navarro will determine whether to continue in second semester with the same students or to offer this course to a new set of students. Please note THIS IS NOT A STUDY HALL. While enrolled students will often be working on their class assignments, this will be a teacher directed class.



HILLCREST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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Summer Reading List

Each summer our secondary students are required to read selected books over the summer vacation and come to school in the fall prepared to participate in learning activities related to their reading. Parents of secondary students are asked to hold their children accountable for this assignment. Students who are not prepared will most likely begin the year struggling to catch up in their English classes.

7th Grade

The Red Pony – John Steinbeck

8th Grade

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry – Mildred Taylor

9th Grade

To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee
Romeo and Juliet – William Shakespeare

10/11th CP

The Scarlet Letter – Nathaniel Hawthorne

10/11th Honors

The Scarlet Letter – Nathaniel Hawthorne
A Farewell to Arms – Ernest Hemingway

12th Grade

Hamlet – William Shakespeare
Wuthering Heights – Emily Bronte



by Mrs. Judy Logan, secondary teacher

2010 8th grade US Historic Study Tour

Important meeting for all 8th grade students, parents, and possible chaperones – Monday, Sept. 14th

Come to the HCS auditorium at 7 P.M. and hear about this amazing “classroom on wheels” where we experience God’s hand on our United States and on our own lives!! This is an amazing extension of our classroom learning. For nine days (March 5th

through March 14th), we will travel to the very spot where our nation began, walk in the footsteps of the patriots who founded our country, see where General Cornwallis surrendered ending the war for independence, experience life on Thomas Jefferson’s plantation, view our government working first hand in the capitol of the United States, visit memorials to Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and the men and women who died defending our country, experience the incredible Smithsonian museums, walk through George Washington’s plantation home and museum, drive through the Gettysburg battlefields where 51,000 men were wounded, died, or taken prisoner in a three day battle of the Civil War, visit the joyful Godly Amish people in Pennsylvania, and stand on the edge of Ground Zero, see the Statue of Liberty, attend a Broadway play, and walk in Times Square. This is just a taste of what we will see and experience! We will be there, God willing!! So, save the date for this important informational meeting!!

Friday, August 28 Three Important Events!!

New Student Orientation 12:30

All new students in grades K through 12 and their parents are encouraged to attend our New Student Orientation at 12:30 P.M. Students will have the opportunity to meet their teachers and other new students in their class as well as see their classroom and get more familiar with campus procedures.

Ice Cream Social and Class Lists Posted 1:30

Every year the anticipation mounts as it gets closer to the first day of school. This year, come view the lists and then celebrate with a big scoop of ice cream at the Ice Cream Social sponsored by PFA in the auditorium at 1:30 P.M. This is a great way to reconnect with HCS families, say “Hi” to your child’s teacher, meet your PFA representative, and catch our enthusiasm for the year ahead.

7th Grade Orientation 2:00 P.M.

Both new and returning incoming 7th grade students and their parents are invited to attend a special orientation session at 2:00 P.M. The transition from elementary school to middle school is often intimidating for parents if not for their children. During this session, we will share some tips on how to make the transition go smoothly. We will talk about schedules, lockers, passing periods, and electives. You will have a chance to ask questions and meet some of the teachers who both teach in the middle school and who have successfully guided their children through it. One session, conducted by Mrs. Krause, will address students and student concerns while the other, hosted by Mrs. Logan, will be for parents.



HILLCREST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL DRESS CODE POLICY 2009-2010

All K-12 students are required to be in uniform while on campus. All pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers, sweaters, blouses, and neckwear must be purchased through Norman's

Apparel:

As published in previous handbooks, all outerwear must have a Hillcrest logo or be solid navy. Please purchase accordingly. Undershirts must be solid white with no lettering or pictures. Long undershirts must not be worn with short sleeve oxfords or polos as Norman's does have ample stock of the long-sleeved polos. Only solid navy blue, black, or white socks or tights may be worn with the uniform. Sheer knee-high stockings are not permitted.

Shoes should be dark blue, dark brown, black, or white in color. Shoes must have a closed toe and heel with rubber soles, and they should have a heel no higher than 2 inches. This is requested to ensure the safety of all students. Elementary students should only wear athletic type shoes as they must participate in P.E. every day. All footwear should be in good repair. High-topped boots and western boots are not appropriate for school. Shoes may not have characters on them. It is acceptable for shoes to have an accent of color.

All students are required to wear the designated chapel attire to chapel. Chapel wear can be worn on other days, if so desired. Elementary girls must wear shorts under their skirts to ensure modesty when participating in P.E. or when playing on the playground equipment. Students may wear HCS logo clothing from previous years. Any HCS logo shirt, letterman jacket, sweater, and sweatshirt is acceptable, as long as it meets the minimum standards for good repair.

Field Trip Uniform:

Depending upon the nature of the field trip, students will be directed to wear one of three field trip uniforms: regular Hillcrest uniform, chapel day uniform, or designated attire approved by the administrator depending on the nature of the field trip.

Chapel Attire:

Every grade has a designated set of clothing that must be worn to chapel. All shirts must be worn tucked in to chapel. Parents, please read entire section.

K-3rd Girls: Plaid jumper, peter pan blouse, or sailor blouse with uniform tie

4th-6th Girls: Plaid skirt with white oxford shirt and uniform necktie

K-6 Boys: Navy twill pants or shorts, white oxford shirt, and uniform blue/khaki striped necktie. No corduroy bottoms on chapel dress days.

7th-12th Girls: Uniform skirt, white oxford shirt, and uniform necktie.

7th-12th Boys: Uniform pants, white oxford shirt, belt, and uniform necktie.

Secondary students may only wear the navy uniform v-necked sweater or vest to chapel. Hooded sweatshirts must be removed for chapel, but may be worn for the remainder of the day. Elementary boys may remove their ties after chapel. Secondary students are required to maintain chapel attire all day and must keep their shirts tucked in except during lunchtime.

Consequences for Uniform Violation:

Elementary students out of uniform may be suspended from class until the situation is corrected. A parent or guardian will be notified if a student is suspended from class and will be asked to bring appropriate attire. Secondary students will be issued "loaner" attire and/or a detention.