

CALENDAR ITEMS

MARCH 2006

14-17 Spiritual Emphasis Week

Thurs. 16 Prayer Intercessors 8:30 A.M.
PFA Room Parents 1 P.M.
Golf Tournament Mtg 4 P.M.

Sat. 18 UNIFORM SALE 1 P.M. - 5 P.M.
SAT Prep 2 P.M. - 5 P.M.

21-23 4th Grade Sacramento Trip

22-24 7th Grade San Diego Trip

Thurs. 23 Prayer Intercessors 8:30 A.M.
College Seminar 7 P.M.

Tues. 28 1st-3rd Grade Spring Musical

Thurs. 30 Prayer Intercessors 8:30 A.M.

Fri. 31 ACSI Math Olympics

APRIL 2006

3-14 SAT Testing

Thurs. 06 Prayer Intercessors 8:30 A.M.

Fri. 07 ACSI District Science Fair

Thurs. 13 Prayer Intercessors 8:30 A.M.
Middle School Spring Party

ONLINE CALENDAR: WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG

Don't Miss the Nunes Uniform Sale this Saturday!

This is your chance to save 25% on all Nunes items
Saturday, March 18 from 1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

This special savings is for one day only. Take this opportunity to replace that missing tie or purchase a longer skirt. Many items will be available including the spring line.



by Stephen Allen, Head of School

Staff Retreat: A Necessary Day

Definition: “Retreat” – (1) A signal for withdrawing, from what is difficult, dangerous, or disagreeable. (2) Also, it is a period of group withdrawal for prayer.

This past Monday, the faculty and staff spent a day praying, praising, reading God’s Word, and spending some time of quiet reflection. At the end of the day, individuals shared what the Lord put on their hearts to share with the rest of the staff.

The Bible gives several examples of Jesus getting away to a lonely place because He needed to do so. He began His public ministry in the desert where He responded to Satan’s temptations by referring to God’s Word. Our teachers need to be ready for the enemy’s attacks, thus a day in prayer and reflecting on the Scriptures is necessary from time to time.

In Matthew 14:14 and later in 14:23, Jesus took the time to try to get away from the busyness of ministry. He was found with a few others during the Transfiguration and again in the Garden of Gethsemane when betrayed by Judas.

Recently, someone mentioned that he did not like the word “retreat” as it signified the opposite of advancing and conquering. Not necessarily! Retreat is not surrender. It is preparing to move forward again. During our time of staff retreat on Monday, March 13, our staff had quiet time with the Lord as well as group times of prayer and sharing. Yes, to the prayer time we also added some play time with a team- building exercise. The year is going by rather quickly, and our retreat day was a good boost to further our ministry for the rest of the year.

Speaking of retreats, have you modeled such to your children? Have you individually gotten away and given yourself time alone? Have your children seen mom and dad go away for a retreat so that they see the joy of a husband and wife? Have you considered having a special day of retreat with one of your children? This is something that my wife and I did with our children:

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SHORT SUBJECTS

by Carolyn Krause

Secondary Chapel Dazzles

Enthusiastic and inspirational, the drama troupe from Berean Christian School dazzled Hillcrest secondary students during their chapel on Thursday. Displaying their talents as well as Biblical truths, the thespians performed several vignettes about the masks people wear. From this unique and creative art form, we were encouraged to have authenticity in our Christian walk. A standing ovation goes to Mr. Wallace for treating us to this enlightening experience!

CHILD CARE STAFF CHANGES

Seniors Jenelle Lee and Sarah Taylor will be joining the child care staff the week of March 13th. Jenelle has been a student at Hillcrest since preschool and has worked at Calvary's summer program for the past two years. Sarah has been a student at Hillcrest since the fourth grade and babysits for several HCS families. If you have any suggestions or questions about the program, please e-mail the new child care director, Trish Berg, tberg@hillcrestcs.org

GET INVOLVED WITH GOLF

The next golf tournament meeting will be held at 4:00 P.M. on Thurs., March 16th at the school. Anyone interested in volunteering on any level, should attend. No childcare will be available.



IT'S ELEMENTARY

SPEECH MEET WINNERS

Congratulations to the 2006 HCS Elementary Speech Meet winners! A special "thank you" to parent judges Sheryl Philen and Patty McElvy for devoting time to help; we also appreciate the efforts of speech meet coordinator Rosa Brown.

Green ribbons were presented to students for participation, and blue ribbons were awarded for first place. First-place students will advance in the ACSI Elementary Speech Meet, May 12, at Grace Brethren School in Simi Valley. One pupil from each class in each grade level and category will represent Hillcrest Christian School.



The winners include Cassidy Palka, Hailey Crane, Kailey Pugh, Stephanie Murphree, Patrick McCord, Ashley McElvy, Jack Hill, Juliana DeGiosa, Michael Abraham, Jacob Walker, Christian Carignan, Katarina Bradford, Jasmyn Gillespie, Victoria Crown, Madison Matthews, Christine Lasher, Blake Dundas, Brittany DeVore, Amy Dutton, John Philen, Katie Duncan, Christine McKee, Alec Kunkel, Haley Adelman, Nicholas Ratekin, Matt Cornelison, Kelsey Geller, and Austen Myers.

SACRAMENTO TRIP

The history of our great state will come alive for Mrs. Baldasti's and Mrs. Murray's classes on a trip to Sacramento and San Francisco, March 21-23, to view first-hand what they have been studying in California history. Students and parents will walk in the footsteps of those who have gone before us, seeing many sights and wonders that have shaped California. They will walk the hallways of our 125-year old State Capitol, visit Sutter's Fort (built in 1839), and observe crafts created as they were back then.

Fourth graders will stand on river's edge at the confluence of the American and Sacramento Rivers and pan for gold near the spot where gold was discovered in 1848. They will also walk on wooden sidewalks in Old Town



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Ron Matthews, Elementary Principal



Sacramento and wander through the California State Railroad Museum. Fascinating!

On the way to San Francisco, they will watch the candy making process and taste samples at the Jelly Belly Factory in Fairfield. After arriving in San Francisco, they'll have time to shop and eat on Pier 39, before sailing around Alcatraz Island and under the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco Bay. This study trip will allow fourth graders and their parents to experience educational and unforgettable memories together.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

In an effort to heighten cultural awareness, preschool and elementary students celebrated International Day on Friday, March 10. Students dressed in clothing representing countries chosen by teachers. Parents also dressed festively and served international dishes. The following countries and cultures were represented: Japan, Hawaii (preschool); Tahiti, Ireland, Sweden (kindergarten); Mexico, Korea (first grade); Greece, Cuba (second grade); Israel, Germany (third grade); Spain, India (fourth grade); Thailand (fifth grade); France (sixth grade).

Inclement weather did not dampen our multi-cultural spirit, but did require us to celebrate indoors. Buffet was served in the hallways, while students dined in their classrooms. After lunch, classes met in the auditorium for festivities including an Israeli dance, Mexican music, preschool reciting Romans 3:23, and a raffle from which many students took home prizes. "Gracias" and "Merci" to parents, staff, Senora Norma Mandeville, and student council president Kelsey Geller for making the International Day Food Bazaar and Festival a glorious celebration of God's world and His various peoples. Adios! Au revoir! Bien venuto!



MAD SCIENCE COMES TO HILLCREST

Students in grades one through five are invited to participate in stimulating after-school science classes beginning Tuesday, April 4. Six one-hour sessions will be held each Tuesday from 3:15-4:15 P.M., ending May 16.

This program will engage young minds with exciting hands-on activities, spectacular demonstrations, and inquiry-based discussions. In every class, children build a fun and educational "take-home" to fuel future explorations. Each class is "out of this world" with instruction in space travel, atmosphere and beyond, sun and stars, rocket science, planets and moons, space phenomena, living in space, and space technology.

The cost for this enrichment program is \$84.00 per student. You may sign up online at www.madscience.org/ventura2santabarbara or register in the school office. Registration ends March 31, 2006. This really is rocket science!



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Retreat

me with our son, and she with our daughter. We still try to spend some special times with just one child or the other. It is sad, but true that we are busy enough that these times need scheduling.

When the world is difficult, dangerous, and disagreeable, consider a special time away either alone or with someone else. We have some wonderful places to enjoy – like Solvang, Santa Barbara, Big Bear, the beach, the park, or the quiet of your own home. It is often these times of retreat that help us to focus on what we see ahead of us, or the Lord uses them to prepare us for what we don't know is ahead of us! Consider Luke 9:28, where Jesus is going (with Peter, John, and James) “to the mountain to pray”, and 23 verses later in verse 51, Jesus “resolutely set His face to go to Jerusalem.” Jesus needed resoluteness as He would be facing the crucifixion. Prayer preceded being focused or resolute. What are you facing? What is around the corner? Are you prayed up? ■

by Ben Hernandez, PFA President

A Standing Ovation for the Young Continental Singers

The Young Continental Singers, composed of 12-15 year old students from all over the USA and Holland, opened their six week tour at Hillcrest Christian School's 3rd Annual PFA Family Concert on Wednesday, March 8th. The auditorium was filled to capacity as the group presented, “Reality Check” blessing our hearts with song after song. Hillcrest Christian School, which serves as the world-wide headquarters for the Continental Kids USA-Ventura County, was honored to have the founder and president of the Continental Singers International organization, Mr. Cam Floria and many of the ministry board members in attendance at the concert.

Special thanks to our Hillcrest families who hosted these talented singers in their homes. We will all look forward to next year's concert.

by Andrew Gutierrez, Athletic Director

New Seasons for HCS Golf and Track

After a year without a golf program, Hillcrest is excited to have five players competing in varsity golf. Freshmen Tom Fields and Liz Cornelison will join sophomores Scott Gray, Austin Boyd, and Kyle Sullivan. Coach Tim Dominguez will lead the team in competition against other Westside League schools.

Last year, Dominic and Derek Barksdale made up the varsity track team and finished in fifth place out of eight teams in Harbor League competition. Hillcrest is thrilled to see an expansion of the track program this year as we welcome freshman Hannah Rhodes, junior Amber Parks, and senior Megan Merino to the squad. Events begin in mid-March and continue throughout early May. As always, schedules and maps are located in the front office. Let's support our teams this spring!



SECURITY IS OUR FIRST CONCERN

On Monday, March 20, 2006, we will initiate a new system for the back gates. The gates will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:45 AM and from 2:45 to 3:45. At all other times, the gates will be locked, and all parents and visitors must enter through the front door or the front side gate.

This change is designed to provide added security for your children. We pray that any inconvenience to parents or guests will be minimal and acceptable for the safety of the children.



The administration is reviewing many aspects of school security. If you have any questions or comments please contact Mr. Allen. email: sallen@hillcrestcs.org