

@ THIS WEEK

HILLCREST CHRISTIAN... APRIL 24, 2008



APRIL 24, 2008

CALENDAR ITEMS

APRIL 2008

19-25 Senior Trip

21-25 Stanford 10 Testing

28-30 Stanford 10 Testing

Tues. **29** Partnering With Parents 2 P.M.

MAY 2008

Thurs. **01** PFA Coffee 8:30 A.M. - 9 A.M.

Fri. **02** Open House NO SCHOOL NO CHILDCARE

Fri. **09** ACSI Speech Meet

Tues. **13** California Kids contest

Fri. **16** Family Group Service Day

Sat. **17** HCS Hoedown and Auction

21-01 High School China Trip

Mon. **26** Memorial Day Holiday
NO SCHOOL NO CHILDCARE

28-30 4th Grade Sacramento Trip

JUNE 2008

Thurs. **05** Secondary Awards Chapel
Senior Grad Night at Disneyland

ONLINE CALENDAR: WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG



by Kathy Horan, Principal

International Day 2008

Last Friday, the entire school enjoyed an incomparable International Day thanks to the efforts of the parent volunteers led by Martha Gross and Tammy Williams, the elementary teachers and their very talented and hard working students who staged informative and entertaining presentations, and the secondary students who assisted as guides for the kindergarten and first grade students, flight crew for the "international trips abroad", and assistants at the various passport booths.

It was the culmination of months of planning and hours of preparation. Fifth grade parent, Mrs. DonnaRae Caccavo wrote, "I just came back from spending one of the greatest International Days at HCS. I'm a bit tired but wouldn't have missed it for the world." Judging from the crowded blacktop and standing room only crowd in the auditorium, many were on hand to witness the event.

The day's festivities began early in the morning with the arrival of the 10' x 30' "airplane (aka tent) which the students would board to take their flights to the foreign lands on the itinerary for this year. Throughout the morning, parents arrived to set up the tables for the food which they would be serving. In addition to the familiar Chinese, Mexican, Spanish, and German fare, the HCS community experienced Australian, Costa Rican, Swiss, Singaporean, Swedish, Filipino, Russian, and Samoan food. All of us also tasted the food that Mrs. Hawisher and Mr. Yui ate this summer on their mission trips to Kenya and Uganda.

At 11:30, the secondary students were ready to man their stations. Mr. Kempf and his flight crew prepared to welcome the travelers; Mrs. Gross organized the students who would assist the kindergarten and first grade students through the food lines and passport stations as big brothers and big sisters, and Mrs. Williams instructed the group that would be helping at the passport stations. The first students arrived, and the festivities began.

The highlight of the day was the performances. The costumes were creative, authentic, and overall just amazing. The first grade class representing China had twirling pink parasols, graceful scarf dancers, authentic dragon dancers,

3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Libby Madden and Hailey Crane, Sterling Johnson, MaKayla Jackson



continued on page 4

THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK

P.F.A. NEWS

PARENT FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

PFA OPPORTUNITIES

PFA is looking for folks to fill the following positions for the 2008-2009 school year: secretary, treasurer, social committee chairperson, networking chairperson (connecting businesses with Hillcrest), passive fund raising chairperson (Scrip). Get an application from the PFA bulletin board.

COFFEE ANYONE?

On Thursday, May 1, PFA will sponsor a Come-See-Everyone-You-Haven't-Seen-For-a-While Coffee in the Conference Room from 8:30-9:00. The event is FREE and OPEN TO EVERYONE!

HILLCREST HOEDOWN HERE WE COME!

We've Got it ALL!

Unlimited Pony Rides • All-You-Can-Eat Tri-tip and Chicken • Magic Show • Rock Climbing Wall • Carnival Games • Chance to Bid on 2009 Super Bowl and Final-Four NCAA Tickets • Chance to Help Your School and Have Fun with Friends

If you think it's a Great Deal to get all of the above for only \$40 for adults and \$30 for children (ages 2 and under, \$20), then click the Auction link on the Hillcrest webpage and purchase tickets for this fun-filled, family-oriented event. A donation from a major sponsor has made this day so affordable. Come on out and join the fun as Hillcrest celebrates the good things God has done for our school and looks toward the future at Calamigos Ranch in Malibu!



STEPHEN ALLEN, HEAD OF SCHOOL

384 ERBES ROAD, THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91362

TELEPHONE (805) 497-7501 EXT. 204

FACSIMILE (805) 494-9355

WEB SITE www.hillcrestcs.org

SUBMIT ARTICLES TO: lmalcolm@hillcrestcs.org

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Kathy Horan, Principal

SPRING SAT TESTING

It is definitely April at HCS where students from grades K-11 are in the midst of taking or preparing to take the Advanced Placement (AP), Scholastic Achievement (SAT), and the Stanford 10 tests.

The juniors are in the thick of it. For some, daily AP review sessions to prepare for the May 9th U.S. History test and after school and Saturday sessions to prepare for the all important SAT testing in May or June compete for their time along with athletic practices, homework, and social time with their family and friends. Some of the sophomores have also chosen to invest their time to get a jump on their own SAT preparations as the prospect of college looms ahead. These tests will impact the options that these students will have when they make their decisions where to apply to college.

Stanford 10 testing for them is not as stressful as those results will only be seen by their parents, teachers, and themselves. In general, few high school students stress over the Stanford 10 testing, but this is often not the case in the elementary where teachers and parents anxiously anticipate test results. While the testing is important, it should always be viewed from the proper perspective.

The Stanford 10 test is one indicator of student progress; however, the information it provides must be viewed alongside daily assignments and unit/chapter tests. Test results especially for the younger students can vary based on the amount of sleep the child had the night before, the anxiety level that a math or spelling test might produce, the kind of breakfast he/she might have eaten or not eaten etc. Too much emphasis on one test on one day is not warranted. Curriculum choices can impact test results. The Stanford 10 is a national test; however curriculum adopted in each state will follow that state's framework and scope and sequence. For example, World Studies is taught in California 6th and 7th grades, but 7th grade Stanford social studies questions often concentrate on U.S. history which is last studied in California fifth grades. Thus, putting too much emphasis on those social studies scores is not justified. Another common error occurs when all the focus is placed on the grade equivalents. If a kindergarten student scores a 3.2 on a given test, it does not mean that he/she is ready for third grade or even second grade, but more information on interpretation will accompany test results in June.

So, what is the point of this article? Parents, make sure that your children are rested and have a nutritious breakfast. If they express anxiety over "the test" then reassure them that you are proud of what they have learned during this school year, and that you are confident that the testing will show that. Children will be anxious if they feel that too much is at stake. Finally, make sure that they are there for the testing. Elementary testing will run from Tuesday, April 22 – Wednesday, April 30. Please schedule doctor and dentist appointments around these dates.

One last thing....teachers have test anxiety too. Reassure your child's teacher(s) that she/he will not be judged solely on the basis of this year's Stanford 10 results.

by Julie Dimas, fourth grade teacher

Visitors from Uganda Come to Chapel This Week

Pastor Bethuel and Florence Dongo from Uganda will be visiting HCS on Friday morning for chapel at 8:45. They are looking forward to meeting all of you. Hillcrest families have been supporting the ministry of Buyamba for the past 6 years. Pastor Dongo and his wife run God Cares school and orphanage in Kampala, Uganda (Yes, this is where Mr. Yui is going next year as a long term missionary.) We have been supporting this ministry through the chapel offerings every Friday, and there are also many Hillcrest families and staff supporting individual children and this ministry faithfully every month. Through your contributions, Buyamba has used your offerings to lay the foundation of the school (in 2002), to buy school text books, and to buy kindergarten tables and chairs for this school year. If you are interested in sponsoring a child, you can pick up information on Friday or see Mrs. Dimas at any time. The Dongos are looking forward to visiting and they are very appreciative of all that Hillcrest is doing for them. Parents are invited and welcome, as always.

by Joan Davis, 5th grade teacher

5th Graders Experience Colonial America at the Reagan Library

On April 10, the fifth grade classes had quite a colonial American experience at the Reagan Library. They visited the “Town Square” that was home to the interpretation of civilian and merchant activities. Some of the people the students met were the doctor, doll maker, silversmith, and the gun powder horn maker. The “military camp” consisted of both private soldiers’ and officers’ tents where students interpreted the life and times of the soldiers during the American War for Independence. One favorite activity for the students with the Redcoat officer was learning how to start a fire with flint. In the craft center, students were able to experience 18th century crafts such as lace making, quill and ink writing, and pomander making. Hoop rolling, quoits, and graces were some of the 18th century games the students had



the privilege of playing. After all of their activities, the students did a scavenger hunt in the museum where they discovered who shot President Reagan, when the Declaration of Independence was signed, and what was Reagan’s favorite cake. What a fun-filled day!



PARTNERING WITH PARENTS

Please make a note that we will be having April’s Partnering With Parents Seminar next Tuesday, on April 29, at the regularly time, 2:00 P.M. We will feature one of our Hillcrest parents Sunnie DeLano-Regier, a registered dietician and professor of nutritional science speaking on the topic “Healthy Eating Patterns For Your Family”.

It is never too late to establish healthy eating habits in your children or for yourself. This seminar will discuss both the parents’ role in helping their child (at any age) establish a healthy relationship with food as well as the child’s role. Ten important principles for developing healthy eating habits will be discussed with guidance given on how to work as a family to establish healthy patterns. A healthy relationship with food translates into more than just “what we eat” and into a life-long pattern with food. Come hear what your family can start doing now to develop those life-long healthy eating patterns.

SPRING SPORTS NEWS

This year, our boys’ high school golf and volleyball programs are not only competitive, but are developing a great foundation for future seasons. Coach Tim Dominquez sees a lot of potential in his team. With Austin Boyd as junior captain and leader, they look to becoming an independent powerhouse in golf.

Coach Vicki Woodard believes that the boys volleyball squad is truly developing into a competitive team. With senior captain Michael Lubin, the team shows fire and determination. They look forward to an exciting finish in the Westside League.

Our middle school and upper elementary soccer teams are just getting started with a talented group of young men and women who will be the future of sports at Hillcrest. Check our posted schedules and come out and support our spring sport teams!



continued from pg 1

International Day cont.

and drums to celebrate the Chinese New Year. The students in second grade (Switzerland) third grade (Singapore), fourth grade (Sweden), and fifth grade (Russia and Philippines) found creative and interesting ways to share with their audience the wealth of information that they had learned about their countries' geography, history, culture, government, and accomplishments. These presentations were interspersed with the fourth grade flamenco dance (Spain), the third grade Masai wedding dance (Kenya), and the sixth grade Samoan slap dance.

The sixth graders with Mr. Yui accompanying them on the drum danced and sang "Abifuga" the Ugandan worship song. Not to be outdone, the kindergartners from Australia gave us their rendition of "Kookaburra" accompanying themselves with percussion sticks in perfect timing. The second graders from Costa Rica sang their information to us in an original song put to the tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm". Two classes learned songs in their "native" languages, the kindergarten in their dirndls and lederhosen sang, "Jesus Loves Me" in German and the first graders sang "What Color is God's Skin" in Spanish. After the performances, there was little doubt that the children had indeed learned and had wonderfully shared about the countries that they had chosen.

continued next column >

by Bella Guerra, senior

Senior Profile: Andy Hernandez

Andrew Hernandez, better known as Andy, is the son of proud parents, Maria and Ben Hernandez, and big brother to Gio. Andy has been attending HCS since preschool, almost 15 years! When asked about his favorite Hillcrest memory, Andy replied, "playing basketball and scoring all 3-pointers", which caused the fans to go ecstatic and also "receiving the coach's award for basketball". Andy also enjoys "hanging out and having fun with friends" that he has made at Hillcrest over the years. In addition Andy learned a lot from the Washington D.C. trip with Mrs. Logan.

After graduating from HCS, Andy plans to attend Moorpark Community College where he will be taking art classes and then later transferring to an art school. He also plans to major in art design or car design. Andy is well-known for his artwork by teachers and friends. In college, Andy is most looking forward to meeting new people. His funny sense of humor and jokes will be greatly missed by the teachers and staff at Hillcrest.



Friday truly showcased the efforts of our students and the dedication of our teachers and our parents who researched, provided the food, practiced the presentations with the students, and helped with the set up and tear down. Thank you Mr. Kempf, Mrs. Matheson, Mr. Jesse, and Mr. Earl for all of your efforts to support the International Day volunteers. Your good humor and cheerful attitudes never go unnoticed.

To Mrs. Martha Gross and Mrs. Tammy Williams: a huge "THANK YOU" for dreaming big and making this an incredible experience for HCS. As Mrs. Caccavo so aptly stated, "Hillcrest is so blessed to have so many wonderful and caring parents and employees as examples to show our kids what can be accomplished when we all come together!" ■

got scrip?

Have you bought your SCRIP this week? If you think you'll be shopping or eating this week then you need to come in and buy SCRIP from Sharon Geller. SCRIP is an easy way to help HCS raise money. We have Scrip for almost every place you go from Shell gas to Whole Foods, Macy's to Kohls, and Jamba Juice to Starbucks. Come one and ALL to buy your SCRIP cards. Your teacher's will appreciate it too, as they receive a percentage for their classroom account.

AUCTION ITEM OF THE WEEK

Calling all Anaheim Angel fans. Enjoy a June evening at the ball park watching the Anaheim Angels vs. the Atlanta Braves, in amazing seats, 5 rows behind the Angels dugout. The game is June 14, 2008 at 6:05 P.M. and includes a preferred parking pass. This would be an incredible Father's Day gift.



CALAMIGOS RANCH