

# THIS WEEK

@ HILLCREST CHRISTIAN ...



JUNE 04, 2009

## CALENDAR ITEMS JUNE 2009

**03-04** Senior Finals

**Thurs. 04** Secondary Awards Chapel 8 A.M.  
PFA Meeting 1:30-3:00 P.M.  
Grad Night at Disneyland

**Fri. 05** Vision Meeting With Mr. Allen 2 P.M.

**Sat. 06** Senior Graduation 5 P.M.

**08-09** Secondary Finals Review

**Mon. 08** Spring All School Worship Concert  
2 P.M.

**10-11** Secondary Finals

**Wed. 10** Kindergarten Graduation 10 A.M.  
Sixth Grade Promotion 6 P.M.

**Thurs. 11** Elementary Awards Chapel  
Eighth Grade Promotion 2-3:30 P.M.  
Last Day of School NO CHILDCARE

**24-30** Mission Trip to Uganda

## JULY 2009

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

## AUGUST 2009

**Fri. 28** Ice Cream Social - Class Lists Posted

ONLINE CALENDAR: [WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG](http://WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG)



*By Stephen Allen, Head of School*

### Service, Survey, and Seeking Input

#### Family Groups – Service and Community Involvement

On Thursday of last week, our students in kindergarten through grade twelve gathered in their “family groups” to provide a service in a variety of ministries. This activity was the culmination of several meetings and planning throughout the year.

There are several purposes of the family groups. First, they provide an opportunity for all-school unity and fellowship combining the younger and older students who get to know one another, help one another, and build community spirit. Second, there is an opportunity for applying some of the principles that are taught in chapels and Bible classes all year. The end of our school’s mission statement states that our primary goal is for “the development of well-rounded students who will impact this world for the Lord Jesus Christ through Biblical thought and action.” Last week’s family group activity gave the students an excellent opportunity to live out that mission statement.

Some of the groups, combined with other groups and some moved forward alone. What exactly did they do? Using the groups’ animal names, here is a brief summary of some of the projects.

The Butterflies went to Gateway Church in Agoura to use their kitchen facility to make cookies. The cookies were then delivered to other organizations that feed the needy or homeless. Megan Thornton of the Lions stated, “I ran laps for the Lord. I did it for the kids in Buyamba. I raised \$111. I have sore feet but it was worth it.” Evan Lasher of the Turtles stated, “Our family group made boxes for the kids that are poor and cannot afford school supplies. People in Brazil don’t have school supplies so we made some for them. God is showing me that we should help the kids, so they could learn more things.” Allyson O’Neal, a Gopher, stated, “I think it helped because my group made blankets and put Bible verses in them. I know that those people need the Holy Spirit because they are cold, hungry, and homeless, and they need someone to comfort them. And they get blankets! I had a great time, too.” The Frog family made 100 gospel bracelets for Joni and Friends. The Blue Jays and the Geckos stuffed 1000 goodie bags for a Meals on Wheels fundraising event. The Fox family went to serve at Atria Senior Home after meeting beforehand to make picture frames with Bible verses on them and to practice worship. We are so proud of all the groups and the ways in which they served our community, locally and abroad.

*continued on page 4*

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

2 Timothy 3:17

## SHORT SUBJECTS



Last Friday, Hillcrest students dressed in the colors of the rainbow to signify God's faithfulness in keeping the promises in His Word to believers. In order to participate students donated \$2 each to be buy textbooks for God Cares School in Uganda.

### US Geography Expert Contest - 5th Grades

Last week, our annual contest was held to determine the HCS US Geography Expert. Previously, Mrs. Davis had given a series of written tests on spelling, location, and matching of states and their capitals. The written tests resulted in three students being able to participate in a game show contest. Congratulations to Michael Abraham who came out as this year's champion as he competed against Claire Williams and Chloe Zgorzelski. All three did very well in answering some tough questions about our country.



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](http://www.hillcrestcs.org)

SUBMIT ARTICLES TO: [lmalcolm@hillcrestcs.org](mailto:lmalcolm@hillcrestcs.org)

*by Kathleen Brooks, School Board Member, Alumni Mom*

### Alumni Update

Following a school board meeting a couple of weeks ago, I was asked by another one of the board members about our son Kyle's college graduation. As I shared about our experience, I was overwhelmed with the feeling of gratitude for all that Kyle and our older son Damon received from HCS as they journeyed through two very important times in their lives ... middle school and high school ... here at Hillcrest. Both of our sons graduated from Hillcrest Christian High School fully prepared for their college experience academically, socially, athletically, and most important to us, spiritually. Damon focused on playing college soccer and was blessed to be part the Azusa Pacific University soccer team which was one of the top two in the NAIA several years in a row. He graduated with a degree in Business Marketing and a minor in Graphic Arts. He is happily married to Michele and is continuing to pursue his dream of professional soccer along with other career goals in the marketing field. Kyle, having just graduated, went down a different track as he heavily pursued the academic opportunities available in college although he found time to play one semester of college soccer and several intramural sports. He also met his fiance, Stephanie at A.P.U., and they both just graduated with Honors, Summa Cum Laude. I do give all the glory for the men our sons are becoming to the Lord and I also know it took hard work on their part for sure! However, here on earth as parents it was a HUGE piece of their life-picture for all that the Hillcrest administration, teachers and staff poured out into our boys. They, other parent friends from HCS, and our church adults poured themselves selflessly into our sons and in coming along side us in providing the environment of love, growth,

*by Julie Dimas, fourth grade teacher*

### A Special Thank You

I am so overwhelmed by all the efforts for the Uganda ministry in these past two weeks. God is really doing something in the hearts of the Hillcrest community towards the children of Uganda. This is so exciting, not only because the kids receiving will be so blessed by the love extended, but also because of the fact that the Lord is teaching all of us how to truly care for others who are less fortunate than us globally. This is part of our mission statement that is alive and growing at our school!

Thank you for all the group projects... the hand designed shirts for the kids, the blankets made for their beds, the devotionals for the team that is going this month, all the money collected from the "Jump for Jesus" and "Laps for the Lord" (\$400) ... not to mention the \$600 raised for the Uganda Dress Day!

Did I miss anything? There is just so much, I could have! Unbelievable!

I will be sure to take photos and record the experience of bringing all these items to Uganda and personally handing them all the gifts you have given. May God bless you and your groups abundantly for what you have given with your hearts and your hands. God bless you All!

and support for the boys to thrive in. They were ready for life, and we could not be more thankful than we are for the rich blessing HCS has been in the lives of our sons and in the life of our family!

I sometimes am asked why I am still involved at Hillcrest as an alumni parent on the School Board. I can tell you I could never out-give what has been generously given to our family from HCS. I completely support keeping your students here all the way through high school graduation because I have seen the end result! I have personally seen the result in many many young adults ready to move into life with vigor to make an educated difference for Christ in our world! It is an honor to continue to serve on the school board and to watch the excellence in and ever-improving education offered here and the authentic love given by our administration team, teachers, and staff to your children! The best is yet to come! Wait and see!

**Principal's Note:** Kyle graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, with minors in Greek, Religion and Psychology. Kyle was given a Certificate of Distinction in philosophy from the APU School of Theology, was recognized as an Honor Scholar and is a member of California Gamma Chapter of Alpha Chi Honor Society. He was also recognized for his mission work in Guatemala and his semester abroad studying at Oxford, England. Kyle feels he is being called to be a pastor and will begin seminary at Calvin Theological Seminary located in Grand Rapids, Michigan in August.



## P.F.A. NEWS

### PARENT FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

#### WAY TO GO, HILLCREST PARENTS!!!

PFA is ecstatic to report that Hillcrest placed third out of thirty schools in the Oaks Mall School Cents fundraiser and earned over \$900 to be spent at any of the mall establishments. PFA voted to give the money to Mr. Kosako to purchase items to upgrade the computer lab. Thanks to all of you who participated by shopping at the Oaks Mall and by logging your receipts. A big thank you goes to Carrie Knight for spearheading this new fundraiser for Hillcrest. We are automatically placed into next year's program, so get ready to raise more money!

Also, thank you, Hillcrest Von's shoppers. You earned us \$4477.65 this year! We want to thank all the parents who have supported Hillcrest through our scrip program. You really do make a difference.

#### PFA POSITIONS BEING FINALIZED

PFA is finalizing positions for next year. If you would like to serve on PFA, please contact Meighan Kelleher or Robin Oglesby as soon as possible at [hscpfa@hillcrestcs.org](mailto:hscpfa@hillcrestcs.org). PFA would like to thank everyone who supported Hillcrest this year with their donations of time, encouragement, and funds. We could not have accomplished anything without your awesome support. We hope that you will continue to be a member of PFA next year and help us make it another great year for Hillcrest families!

#### BOOSTERS

Please check the Lost and Found for any Hillcrest and non-Hillcrest items that you may be missing. At the end of the year, all non-Hillcrest items will be donated to a charity, and any Hillcrest uniform items will be donated to the Booster Club for used uniform sales.

Used Uniform donations are now being accepted at the volunteer office. If you would like to join the Booster Club and help organize any of our used uniform sales (volunteer hours) over the summer, please see Brande Voss @ [bradvoss@aol.com](mailto:bradvoss@aol.com).

by Tamara Smith, preschool teacher

### Butterflies in Preschool

Mrs. Smith's and Mrs. Baltau's classes have been learning about butterflies. With approximately thirty real caterpillars in the classroom, they watched as each one transformed from a caterpillar to a chrysalis and then into a beautiful butterfly. Once they were all transformed to butterflies, they were let go into a net in Mrs. Smith's class. One by one each child went into the netting and had pictures taken with butterflies on their noses, ears, hair, etc. They were so excited to watch them flying around in the classroom. Eventually, all the children went outside to set the butterflies free.

After letting the butterflies go, they celebrated with a butterfly party. They wore butterfly wings and antennas and had their faces painted. They even had butterfly cupcakes to celebrate the occasion. Feel free to stop by and see all the fun pictures of the butterflies on both classroom windows.

Along with all the fun, the preschoolers learned how they are like butterflies. God does such amazing things like turning a caterpillar into a beautiful butterfly. In that same way, when we invite Him to enter our hearts, He takes each one of us as human beings and transforms us into beautiful and unique children of God.



*continued from page 1*

## Service, Survey, and Seeking Input cont.

...the development of well-rounded students who will impact this world for the Lord Jesus Christ through Biblical thought and action.

### Survey

Recently, an online survey of a general nature was distributed to our school families. Thank you to all who took the time to respond to the survey which is now closed for further input. There was a significant response that gives school administrators and teachers valuable insights. The real value of the survey is in the analysis and use of the data to make decisions. This is only one of several surveys that are being used by the administration and teachers. The data is posted on a hallway bulletin board, if you would like to view the entire survey. We try to keep surveys short, so that they will not take too much time. Some of the salient points gleaned from the survey include:

The survey was taken by 108 individuals representing a good cross-section of the school population by grades and by length of time enrolled at HCS.

We asked for your rating of several points about HCS. For all of the issues addressed, “very satisfied” and “satisfied” were the overwhelming responses. Two questions related to communication. While both were ranked very highly, this was an area that parents would like to see improvement in – from teachers and from administration.

Ranked most highly were the following: Quality of instruction, teaching a Christian worldview, and fulfills mission statement.

Related to communication, parents expressed that 15% check RenWeb daily, 21% two to four times weekly, 52% once per week, and 12% were not sure what RenWeb was. Further, 58% read our weekly publication, “This Week @ Hillcrest” every week, others (33%) read it “most weeks”, 9% read it rarely, and no one stated they never read it.

Half of the respondents stated that they enrolled at HCS with the intent of staying through high school with another 24% enrolling and not sure on that issue.

We have four ESLRs here at HCS. This stands for Expected School-wide Learning Results. Each had very high ratings, with Authentic Christianity ranked the highest in terms of parents seeing related activities and growth.

Finally, there are also seven other goals rated to how we are doing. In these areas, parent respondents ranked HCS best in “Students will be academically prepared to pursue the next stage of life.” (83% as satisfied or very satisfied) and the lowest in “Students will be resilient against worldly influences.” (71% satisfied or very satisfied rating)

Parents were given opportunities to write in additional comments which will be analyzed along with the other data. The administration will now analyze the data and use it to make decisions toward improvement in the HCS education. On analysis, it is clearly understandable that many of our goals can only be reached through a partnership or team effort by home and school. We need each other.

### Seeking Input –

#### Friday, June 2, at 2 PM

As your Head of School, I seek your input as I am developing a more extensive vision statement for HCS. One of my (and the Board of Directors’) jobs is to determine the desired future for HCS. Your input in this regard is welcomed as Friday, June 5, at 2 PM, I will host a time to collect input from parents. Parents can also email me with any comments regarding a vision for HCS. Consider what HCS should be in the future. Keep in mind that this is a vision-setting discussion, which is different from how we will strive toward it in the future.



*by Erik Jansen*

### Senior Spotlight: Brittany Badger

Brittany Badger has made a huge impact on Hillcrest in her many years attending here. Her parents, Edna and Jim Badger, have supported her all throughout her school career. She also has two brothers, Aaron and Ryan, and two nephews, Chandler and Cole. Brittany has attended Hillcrest for 15 years and is planning on attending Bryan College in Los Angeles where she will major in court reporting. She is most excited to meet new people and have new experiences in college. Brittany’s favorite Bible verse is 2 Corinthians 12: 9-10. Her favorite Hillcrest memory was making volleyball quarter finals this year. At the end of the volleyball season, she was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> team Omega league. Brittany’s gentle smile will forever be missed in the halls of Hillcrest.