

THIS WEEK

@ HILLCREST CHRISTIAN...

JUNE 11, 2009

CALENDAR ITEMS JUNE 2009

Thurs. 11 Elementary Awards Chapel
 Eighth Grade Promotion 2-3:30 P.M.
 Last Day of School

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

Summer Reading List

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

Hamlet – William Shakespeare

Wuthering Heights – Emily Bronte

ONLINE CALENDAR: WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG



by Melissa Dundas, school board chairwoman

Thank You

The most fundamental question of life is this: “Who are you?”

Everything you do – everything you believe – depends on your answer.

There are two broad categories of thought as to the correct answer. The predominant belief among the academically and culturally elite today is that we are essentially, and only, physical beings. To quote Stephen Pinker, noted Harvard professor of psychology and a prolific and talented writer, “And when the brain dies, the person goes out of existence.” He really means that, and many very bright people agree with him. The vast majority of professors teaching at the vast majority of universities and colleges are in this camp, many quite vocally so.

We disagree. We believe that the Scriptures provide the foundation for understanding this question. For instance, in Psalm 8, David asks these questions – What is man that God takes thought of him? Why should God remember us? Why should God care for us? These are profound questions, and happily, the psalmist answers quickly: “Yet you made them only a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.”

That is, we find our ultimate meaning and reality in God and in being His magnificent creation. We are created to be near God. To use the language of Genesis, we are made in God’s image, in His likeness. It is on this truth that we stake our claim that the best education is education that acknowledges this reality. We are God’s people, created in His image, horribly disfigured by sin, but completely and wonderfully redeemed by Christ’s saving work and eagerly waiting for the day when God will wipe away every tear. Creation, fall, redemption, consummation – this truth is the rock on which Hillcrest stands.

As HCS parents, you have acknowledged this truth and have made the provisions necessary to provide your children with a Christian education. To that we say thank you. Thank you for the sacrifices you have made so your child could experience life at Hillcrest. Thank you for all of the hours spent in prayer and support for your children and those who surrounded them each day. Thank you for your listening ear as Bible verses were recited. Thank you for the late nights spent proof reading essays, or helping with the final touches on a project. More than all of those things, thank you all for your dedication to Christian education and for instilling the morals, ethics, and Christian values in your children that will allow them to impact the world for Jesus Christ in a profound way.

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THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK
 2 Timothy 3:17

SHORT SUBJECTS

Parent Education, Truth Project, Summer 2009

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths.” (II Timothy 4:3-4)

Question: Do you have strategies to be able to sort out the truth from a lie? Our culture presents many possible directions. How do you sort out the truths of the Bible from what sounds good on the surface, but is not biblical?

Answer: In addition to your own reading and study, consider participating with the employees and other HCS parents in The Truth Project, a 13 session DVD presentation from Focus on the Family. Join us at Hillcrest on each Tuesday and Thursday at 9 AM from June 30 through August 11. You can find out more about this at <http://www.thetruthproject.org/whatistruthproject/>. Each session is about 90 minutes long and there is 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.

Graduation Speech – Class of '09

Throughout the year, we try to keep both our mission and vision statements before our staff, parents, and students. On June 6, senior Hannah Rhodes delivered a commencement address that provided evidence that our 2009 graduating seniors have had the opportunity to meet the challenges set forth in those statements. While the board, administration, and faculty should be vigilant to stay true to our mission and vision, it is a blessing to know that we have encouraged our students to accept and embrace them as we do.

Kathy Horan, Principal



Good evening parents, friends, and family, and thank you all very much for sharing this special night with us. Speaking on behalf of my class, I think we would all agree that this year has truly been significant in the growth of our class as a whole, and in finding who we were individually. With Mr. Windle leaving last year, Mr. Waggoner was the next senior home-room advisor to step up. Because Mr. Waggoner had only been at Hillcrest for a year, many of the students did not have the opportunity to build a

strong relationship with him, but this year has been a blessing getting to know a man of God that loves our class and wants only the best for us. So thank you Mr. Waggoner for your continuous love and support for our class daily, and for all of the effort you put into making this senior year the best.

Before I begin sharing our experiences, I would like to share a couple of important words that describe my class—unified, faithful, and leadership. Our class has become unified and has made it through some rough times together whether it was a personal life struggle with family, friends, or relationships or a struggle with school. We look past our differences and respect each other, and that is the reason why we have such a close bond within our class. We have been faithful in keeping each other accountable, not only in our daily lives, but in our spiritual walk with God; we have made that difficult journey hand in hand and have grown as a class spiritually. As for leadership, we are the leaders of the school, and younger students look up to us and are in awe of the fact that we are seniors, but you will not find another school where the seniors pay attention to and love those kids like they are our younger brothers and sisters.

In January, our class went to Mammoth for senior retreat. On this trip, we went snowboarding, skiing, sledding, and most of all fellowshiped as a class every moment. On the last night, we had senior affirmations where each person went around and spoke their feelings about the others in the class. This was a special opportunity because deep and honest feelings were

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shared amongst the group, and it only emphasized our unity as a class.

In April, we traveled to Costa Rica as a class and had one of the most amazing experiences of our lives. We went white water rafting, ziplining in the rainforest, catamaran cruising, and helped with a mission project. This trip was truly memorable for each of us because we were able to participate in all of the activities TOGETHER and we were able to get to know each other on a more personal level. Thinking about all of the funny things that happened such as folk dancing with the professionals, screaming our lungs out on the Tarzan swing, and all of the inside jokes that were created in each of the rooms, this trip couldn't have gone any other way, and it was truly a great way to finish senior year.

Many students at Hillcrest complain of the small class size, uniforms, and the tight quarters, but it is truly a blessing to have teachers that love you more than anything and want you to succeed and nothing less. I know that each senior in my class would say the very same thing as I would, "Stay at Hillcrest through senior year, even if you are struggling with something at the school, because if you go anywhere else, you are not going to have an experience that will change your life. You will not have a dependable staff that loves God and loves you more than anything in the world, and most importantly, you will not have the opportunity to learn about God daily and have the freedom to worship him."

Seniors, as we reflect on these last four years of high school, we can all agree that we have had the most incredible staff, administration, and friends in our lives as well as incredible experiences. We have all been so blessed to be in the same class, and it was no accident that God placed us in this class together.

As a class, we want to thank Mrs. Horan for leading us on the right path and for continuously being the person that we look up to for the best encouragement and advice. At what other school can students like Ellie, Lindsay, and me walk into the principal's office just to chat about life in general and grow closer together? Not many.

As a senior class, we would like to thank each and every staff and administration member, parents, friends, and each one of the people that shaped our high school years and contributed to this journey into college and the future.

Senior class of '09, remember this quote "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." As we move on into the next chapter in our lives, let us remember that we have each other to take on this journey together. Let us go out into the world and do something great! Congratulations to the senior class of 2009, we did it! ■

by Nancie Blumenthal

Independent Study at Hillcrest

It is with honor, that we announce Hillcrest Christian School's private satellite program, the Satellite Saints.

As Christians, we believe that God has entrusted us with the responsibility of raising and educating our children. Here at Hillcrest, we strive to be an extension of the home to aid parents in this endeavor. With this in mind, we have extended our ministry to include a home school/independent study program known as a Private Satellite Program (PSP). It is our hope that together we can help Christian parents educate their children in a way that glorifies our Lord and falls within the legal parameters of the state.

This new program is designed to help in two areas. First, a PSP allows families to home school legally under the Private School Provision by maintaining all records and files. Second, the Satellite Saints will provide families with support and guidance by offering educational and social opportunities that many home schooling families lack. In addition to park days, field trips, and parent support meetings, our PSP students will be invited to join us for weekly chapel. This program is open to all grades and will include CIF participation for those in high school.

If you know of any families in your community, or if you are considering home schooling yourself, Hillcrest is now in a position to offer this much needed service. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 818-929-7971 or e-mail me at nancieb@mindspring.com.



Alumni Update

Many of you will remember Angela Michael, (formerly Jill Eggleston) who graduated from Hillcrest in 1996. She went on to Belmont University in Nashville, TN where she earned a Bachelor of Music degree in 1999, and then moved back to California to pursue a singing career.

Angela has toured with Matt Brouwer (a former Reunion Recording Artist), singing background vocals. She also wrote and recorded a full length CD in 2002, entitled All Of You which hit over 30 radio stations in Texas. Angela's primary pursuit is studio work. Her career as a studio singer continues to grow rapidly largely due to her versatility. Most recently, Angela has been chosen as one of two background singers to go on the 2009 American Idol Tour this summer. Congratulations, Angela! We are so proud of you!!



By Cathe Jackson

Pre-K Promotion

Pre- Kindergarten promotion was a huge success despite the rainy weather. The children marched into the auditorium and took their seats on the floor. The parents and children were treated to a slide show of pre-K experiences throughout the year. It was amazing to see how much they have grown.

The children were called up one at a time to receive their certificate of promotion and a big hug from their teacher. After all the children received their certificates, they stood up on the stage and sang and danced for their parents.

Following the ceremony, pre-K students had a picnic lunch with their families and enjoyed fellowship with each other. It was a truly amazing day and year. HCS is thankful to have been blessed with the opportunity to impact God's children.

We want to send a huge thank you to Nina Medrano for putting together the slideshow for the ceremony. Thank you, Genevieve Richardson for making DVDs of the ceremony and slideshow for each pre-K parent. Thank you to Cathey Stueber, Samantha Tamburro, Genevieve Richardson, and Lisa Bucaro for planning and orchestrating the promotion ceremony. Lastly, thank you to all the parents for your never-ending support. We love you!

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Thank You cont.

Our thanks must also be given to those that have surrounded our children each day, their teachers, mentors, and supporters. Many of you may never truly know in this life the impact you have had on the students you teach and mentor every day. Thank you for your commitment to helping us raise our children in a loving, Christ-centered environment.

As Theodore Roosevelt stated, "To train a man in mind and not in morals is to train a menace to society." As Hillcrest parents, you have made the commitment to do both and as a school we share that commitment to your children and to our partnership with you.

by Tim Dominguez, Athletic director

Thank You Coaches

What a wonderful and successful year we had in our athletic programs! This would not have been possible without the service of our coaches, especially our volunteer coaches. The administration, parents, and student athletes would like to send a HEARTFELT THANK YOU to all our coaches:

Vanessa Tull
Shelley Knapp
Jane Neill
Nina Medrano
Trudy Medrano
Tammy Williams
Carol Buller
Lori Schroeder
Kecia Davis
Heather Neuman
Vicki Woodard

Christina Kerner
Joe Williams
Mike Kunkel
Steve Livingston
Bill Pickard
Matt Madden
Jeff Hawkins
John Barbour
Scott Thurman
Chris Kerner.

We pray that our Lord will bless you mightily for your investment in our students!!