

# THIS WEEK

@ HILLCREST CHRISTIAN ...



OCTOBER 15, 2009

## CALENDAR ITEMS

### OCTOBER 2009

- Fri. **16** HCS Geography Bee Gr. 3-8
- Thurs. **22** Norman's Uniform Sale 2:30-6 P.M.
- Fri. **23** Teacher In-Service Half Day K-12  
Elementary Dismissal 12:30 P.M.  
Secondary Dismissal 12:20 P.M.  
ACSI MS Leadership Conference
- Sat. **24** Woman's Tea & Boutique 2-4 P.M.
- Fri. **30** International Day

### NOVEMBER 2009

- Mon. **02** Worship Concert/Ice Cream Social  
6:30 P.M.
- Tues. **03** Make-Up Picture Day
- Fri. **06** End of 1st Quarter
- Sat. **07** Saturday Work Day 8 A.M. - NOON
- Wed. **11** Veteran's Day Assembly
- Thurs. **12** Secondary Conferences
- Fri. **13** Preschool Elementary Conferences  
PS-6th NO SCHOOL  
Secondary Begins 9 A.M.
- Tue. **17** HCS Book Fair at Barnes & Noble

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



by Head of School, Stephen Allen

### From Vision to Action Steps

For many years, thousands of children have been served through the programs here at HCS. While we have many wonderful programs...while we are accredited...while our achievement test scores are outstanding...while we offer programs for academics, spiritual growth, fine arts, and athletics that have beautifully served our community...while we have a wonderful cadre of employees to love, teach, and guide your children...still, we desire to reach an even higher level of excellence at HCS.

**What is the vision of Hillcrest Christian School?** The Board of Directors and the administration with input from employees and parents have created a set of nine vision statements over various areas of our school. These vision statements were made available at Back to School Nights. There are also copies available in the school hallway located near the main office.

**Now what?** Remember that vision statements are not statements of current reality but are statements of what we desire to be. So, where do we go from here? The next step is to determine the portions of the vision statements that are not yet reality and to develop appropriate action steps to bring us closer to the vision.

**How can you help?** If you would like to participate in brainstorming ideas and developing action steps and strategies, we welcome your input. Simply pick up a set of the vision statements and write suggested action steps that will help us realize our goals on the back side of each sheet and give them to Mrs. Malcolm. Once we have created a list of potential action steps, we will need to prioritize them. Finally, we will need to develop strategies to complete the action steps.

Please pray for the wisdom and the resources to bring these steps together in His timing. Included with the vision statements is a two-page list of advancements we have been able to achieve at HCS, greatly due to the support of our families. While "more" is nice, let's not forget to appreciate what we have and rejoice in what the Lord has done in our school.

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*"And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith." – Galatians 6:9-10*

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

## SAINTS SPORTS

### What A Football Game!

Even though the middle school flag football team came up a little short in their first game of the year, it was an exciting game. The Saints scored on their first drive of the year with a nice run by Blake Dundas, but could not get the ball across the goal line on the extra-point conversion. It was a defensive struggle for the duration of the game.

David Livingston had a great interception to thwart a drive by Pleasant Valley Christian on the first possession of the second half; however, PVC scored a touchdown on the next drive and was successful on their extra-point conversion. With Daniel Fanto and Mitchell Williams making some great catches thrown by quarterback David Livingston, the game came down to the final play, and PVC made an outstanding interception to end the Saints threat.

Our young men played with grit and determination, but more importantly they showed great Christian sportsmanship throughout the game. The young Saints are made up of Alec Buchanan, Matthew Carter, Blake Dundas, Daniel Fanto, Braxton Lazar, David Livingston, Cullen Madden, Dante Shane, Alex Smith, and Mitchell Williams.

### Q and A on Donations at HCS

Recently, someone new to HCS asked questions about how donations can be made. Here is a brief Q & A article to provide basic information. If you would like more information, do not hesitate to email our Head of School, Mr. Allen at [sallen@hillcrestcs.org](mailto:sallen@hillcrestcs.org) or call him at 805-497-7501, ext. 210.

**Q.** Are donations to Hillcrest Christian School tax deductible?

**A.** HCS is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. All standard donations are fully deductible. If there is something unusual about the donation, consider that an administrator needs to approve the donation to assure that the intent is within the mission/purpose of the school.

**Q.** If I donate, will I be provided with a tax receipt?

**A.** Tax receipts are usually mailed out to you within one week of the donation.

**Q.** How can I know what the school needs?

**A.** There are several ways to ascertain the donation options. (1) Our Heritage Fund is for undesignated support of the school. Currently, this is probably our area of greatest need. (2) Each teacher has a wish list of items for donation requests – items that our budget is not able to support. (3) Our Head of School has a similar list of ways the school could be advanced through donations. He would be glad to meet with you to discuss possibilities. (4) There are several fund raising events that parents and friends can support. PFA is currently raising funds to help with technology and other goals. You do not have to buy gift wrap (Sally Foster products). You can donate directly to that cause with a check made out to HCS with a notation of “donation to PFA”. Similarly with our



### by Kelsey Geller, high school student High School Retreat 2009

It isn't until something is threatened to be taken away that one really begins to appreciate it. That was very much the case this year for High School Retreat, as there were rumors spreading that suggested postponing it because of the sickness that had spread through the middle school. As soon as this was even mentioned, the whole group of high school students began fighting for their retreat, looking forward to it more than



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upcoming Tea Event, a check can be made out to HCS with a notation of “donation for financial aid” as a memo. The Annual Auction will be held in March.

**Q.** In what ways can I make a donation?

**A.** (1) Cash and/or credit cards can be used to donate to HCS. (2) Gifts “in kind” are items that can be donated. These must be approved by an administrator as some items are not practical. The receipt for such indicates the item’s description, not the dollar value. (3) Stock donations are another option. To donate stock, please contact Mr. Allen, Mr. Meyers, and/or Sharon Geller to use our established broker account.

**Q.** How important are donations?

**A.** Donations have been, and will continue to be, extremely important at HCS. This year is no different and perhaps more than ever as we have fewer students and did not raise tuition rates from last year to this year. We praise the Lord for the generosity of our families. Recently, through the donation process, one of our classrooms was supplied with all new chairs for the students’ desks. Many of our school improvements have been accomplished through donations. Examples include our security camera system, carpet in the auditorium, in-class technology for instruction, and much more. Donations can seriously make the difference in schools such as Hillcrest, so that all school advancements do not have to be funded through tuition (which is not tax deductible).

**Q.** Can my donation be anonymous?

**A.** Yes, except for those involved in the accounting and receipt process, all donations are treated confidentially.

ever. The energy of excitement spread from person to person, in anticipation of those wonderful three days.

When we finally arrived at the Oaks Conference Center, there was a sense of relief along with the craziness of fighting for top bunks. Retreat had finally happened! No school for three glorious days of paintball, archery, volleyball, and many other activities. As soon as bags were unpacked and sleeping bags were unfolded, many people took part in various games on the fields to start the fun on the first day of retreat. The first night brought some tears, as the senior speeches were first on the list of things to do. The seniors spoke about their testimonies from Hillcrest and included some advice for the freshman. (The most popular advice? Stay at Hillcrest! Where else will you have as awesome a retreat as this?)

After all the tears, the speaker, Patrick Levis, introduced himself. As an actor, he began his first lesson about how even in Hollywood, he can be a witness for God, just as we can be witnesses no matter where we live. His lessons taught the high schoolers multiple ways that we can use to define ourselves as followers of Christ. Overall, the retreat was well worth the anticipation, because each student walked away feeling refreshed and ready to come back down the hill and live for our God. The friendships that were formed at this retreat aren’t ones that will be soon forgotten.

## **P.F.A. NEWS**

### **PARENT FACULTY FELLOWSHIP**

#### **MOVIE NIGHT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!**

##### **The Winners**

Here are the ice cream party winners from Movie Night for the highest attendance percentage:

Pre-school: Mrs. Sweet’s class

Elementary: TIE - Mrs. Michelle Brown & Mrs. Gonzales’ 2nd grade classes

Secondary: Mr. Waggoner’s 12th grade class



##### **Our Thanks...**

The HCS Booster Club would like to express a huge thank you to all of our awesome school organizations (ASB, Girls Varsity Volleyball Team, Varsity Cheer Team), the PFA, the senior class, the 8th grade trip moms, the 6th grade teachers, the preschool teachers and parents, Mr. Jesse, and all of the families who were able to join us for movie night on September 26th. A wonderful time was had by all, and we couldn’t have done it without you. Thank you all for making our third annual movie night a great success!

##### **USED UNIFORMS**

Just a reminder that used uniforms are available for sale at great prices in the volunteer office. Also, if you have used uniforms which no longer fit, please consider donating them to the Booster Club. They can be dropped off in the volunteer office. HCS sports thanks you!

##### **FAMILY PHOTOS**

Drop off a family photo (maybe you have one from a summer vacation?) in the front office, so it can be placed on our Family Photo Wall!



## Women's Fall Tea and Boutique

The Women's Fall Tea and Boutique is just around the corner - don't delay in purchasing your tickets! All the proceeds from the event will go directly to the HCS financial aid program. The tea is from 3-5 P.M. and includes a menu of sandwiches, scones, sweets, and fruit. There will be a brief program with plenty of time to visit and shop. The boutique will run from 2-6 P.M. with 15% of the sales going back to the school. For those who cannot attend the tea, the boutique is open for shopping from 2-3 and 5-6 P.M. To attend a school that offers a truly Christian education is a wonderful privilege. Please support this event by purchasing your tickets to the tea and shopping at the boutique. **Tickets are on sale NOW at the front office for \$30.**

If you have an item you would like to donate to the raffle/silent auction, please contact Sunnie at [sunniedelano@aol.com](mailto:sunniedelano@aol.com).



## IMPORTANT DATE CHANGE

### Attention: K-8 Spellers

Please make a note on your school calendars that in order to qualify for the district Spelling Bee, the K-8 Hillcrest spelling bee has been moved from Wednesday, December 9 to Wednesday, December 2. Please make a note of it. We will need two volunteers that would be willing to work the bee that day. Please contact Sylvia Hawisher at [shawisher@hillcrestcs.org](mailto:shawisher@hillcrestcs.org) if you can help.

## HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

American Home Life International is currently in need of host families for several students who are interested in attending Hillcrest. Host families receive \$500 per month to cover food and housing expenses. If interested, please contact Ms. Farah or Mrs. Malcolm.

by Mrs. Rosa Brown, sixth grade teacher

## Sixth Grade Outdoor Education Week 2009

A five day, four night outing and a six hour bus ride (each way), with no TV, computer, cell phone or I-Pod, just to go to camp might seem like too much trouble for sixth graders and teachers, but each year, the trip to Hume Lake is always the highlight.

Every day started and ended with lively, age-appropriate songs led by Kokua that got everyone out of their seats, jumping, singing, and dancing songs of praise. Kyle, our Hume Lake chapel speaker, led our students in thought provoking topics and challenged them to "walk the walk, not just talk the talk", or as Danielle Coogan put it, "I learned that I need to BE a Christian, not just say I am one."

Each day we took classes such as Entomology, Group Initiatives, Leathercraft, Meteorology, Native American Life, and Wilderness Survival. These classes meet California state standards for science, but more importantly are taught from a Biblical point of view. Each class started and/or ended with the Hume staff explaining what God's Word says about each specific topic. For example, the students learned in Wilderness Survival the difference between, and how to make, a debris hut,



natural shelter, and a lean-to. Then they discussed Psalm 91:14 "Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges My name," and the importance of this verse not only when in the wilderness, but in everyday life.

Attending Hume Lake Christian Camp Outdoor Education allowed the sixth graders to grow closer to each other as a class. As teachers, we get to spend more personal time with our students, allowing them to see us outside of the classroom; playing silly hide-n-seek and sock games, paddling boats, and worshipping. Through this closeness, trust is built. Because of this trust, our time in chapel, and God at work, four Hillcrest students accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior for the first time, while many others re-dedicated themselves to Christ or made a commitment to better their Christian walk.

Our week ended with Hume's Victory Circle. We all sat around a large campfire, sang songs, and listened to Kyle speak one last time. Toward the end, he asked if anyone wanted to stand up and share what he/she had learned at Outdoor Ed. Jackson Lane stated that he learned he didn't need to do what his friends were doing to make him cool; he just needs to do what God wants him to do, and that's cool enough for him!