

# THIS WEEK

@ HILLCREST CHRISTIAN... NOVEMBER 13, 2008



## CALENDAR ITEMS NOVEMBER 2008

Thurs. **13** Elementary Awards Chapel

**17-21** Barnes and Noble Book Fair

**24-28** Thanksgiving Break  
NO SCHOOL NO CHILDCARE

## DECEMBER 2008

Tues. **02** Booster Meeting 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Thurs. **04** PFA Meeting 1:30-3:00 P.M.  
New Family Information Night

Fri. **05** ACSI Grade Level Geography Bee  
3rd-8th grades 9:30 A.M.

Sat. **06** Saturday Work Day 8 A.M. -Noon

Wed **10** HCS Spelling Bee

Thurs. **11** Kindergarten Chapel  
Preschool Christmas Program  
6:30 P.M. - 7 P.M.

Tues. **16** 1st-3rd Christmas Program  
6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

Thurs. **18** Red & Green Dress Day

**19-04** Christmas Break

## JANUARY 2009

Mon. **05** School Resumes  
ONLINE CALENDAR: [WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG](http://WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG)



By Cathe Jackson, Preschool Director

### Have You Counted Your Blessings Lately?

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, the preschoolers have been talking about why they are thankful. The students draw or paint pictures, sing songs, and read stories about being thankful. It is amazing to hear all the reasons why the children are thankful. Mommies, daddies, siblings, animals, houses, and pets are the most popular items. There is talk of turkey and Thanksgiving feasts in the classrooms and the hallways. The preschoolers get to make Pilgrim and Native American costumes to wear at their Thanksgiving feast. Truly, the most wonderful part about Thanksgiving at HCS is to hear three and four year olds not just to be thankful, but to be giving thanks to God.

Thanksgiving should become a habit, a regular part of our daily routines. I am thankful for this holiday because it is a huge reminder to me that it shouldn't take a holiday to put me in the thanksgiving mood. No matter what our situations, we are called to give thanks to God.

"And whatever you do, in word or deed,

do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." -Colossians 3:17 HCSB.

As believing Christians, we are blessed beyond measure. God sent His only Son to die for our sins, and by His grace, God has given us the priceless gifts of eternal love and eternal life. We should be regularly thanking our Heavenly Father for loving and blessing us with so much! Yet, somehow we get so caught up in the business of life that we can easily fail to pause and thank our Creator for His countless blessings. We need to slow down and express our gratitude to the One who made us so that He can use that same attitude of gratitude to enrich the lives of those around us. Showing gratitude can become contagious when we truly mean it!! As Kay Arthur said, "The act of thanksgiving is a demonstration of the fact that you are going to trust and believe God."

I am thankful that God led my family to be a part of His school, a school that not only brings up children in knowledge, but also teaches His wisdom from His Word. "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift." - 2 Corinthians 9:15 HCSB



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

## SHORT SUBJECTS

### Volunteers Needed

Have fun completing your volunteer hours by helping with the Spelling Bee. Two people are needed on December 10, from 8:30-3:00. Four people are needed to go to Master's College on January 9, from approximately 8:00 – noon. There will be free before-school childcare. Talk to Mrs. Hawisher or leave a message with the office if you are able to help..

### Dog Gone! Another Rule

In the last few weeks, we have noticed a number of our parents bringing dogs onto our campus. As with many rules, we must consider the question "What if everyone did that?" Many have expressed a concern that, as calm as some dogs are, any animal brings a certain level of unpredictable behavior. This can be especially true if more than one dog were here at the same time. This is a liability issue for the school should anyone be bitten while on campus. For the sake of all concerned, please do not bring pets to school. Seeing-eye dogs are, of course, an exception. Thanks for your cooperation.

### Don't forget your SCRIP

Even in this difficult economy most of us will be doing a lot more shopping than usual in the next two months. You can help HCS without spending any additional money if you will take the time to use SCRIP when you shop. See Sharon Geller to get SCRIP for your shopping. Thanks you for your support!



### SAVE THE DATE

#### HCS Barnes & Noble Book Fair, November 17th!

Teacher storytimes ♦ Choir performance  
at 4 P. M. ♦ Shop for the holidays

K-6<sup>th</sup> students get a homework pass for coming!  
Teachers will be scooping Cold Stone Creamery ice cream.  
Eat dinner at Tacones, and Hillcrest gets a percentage.

### Varsity Volleyball Girls Future is All Aces



They did it! They did it! The Varsity volleyball girls are officially the Omega League Champions! They have had an outstanding season thus far. They went wire to wire undefeated in the Omega league with a pristine league record of 14-0.

It was a busy week with the girls playing Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Tuesday, the team traveled to

Westmark and played well in less than ideal conditions, beating Westmark 25-7, 25-12 and 25-11. Noelle Mueller had 17 ace serves to lead the Lady Saints.

Tuesday the ladies traveled to downtown Los Angeles to play league opponent, Pilgrim. Pilgrim proved to be a challenge at times but again, with intensity and determination, the Saints prevailed defeating Pilgrim 25-18, 25-27, 25-16 and 25-19. Lindsay Luebbert's 18 set assists made the hitters look great and led to Noelle Mueller's 11 kills, Brittany Badger's 9 kills and Hannah Rhodes' 8 kills.

Wednesday appeared to be a challenge playing #3 Newbury Park Adventist but the Lady Saints proved that wrong. With their thorough defeat of Newbury Park Adventist, the ladies sealed a perfect 14-0 league record. During their final regular season game they won very convincingly in straight sets 25-7, 25-10 and 25-13. Highlights include Noelle Mueller with 8 kills and 5 ace serves, Brittany Badger with 7 kills, and Lindsay Luebbert had 13 set assists. The Saints took control and totally dominated. What an outstanding game!



### So, off to the Playoffs!

This Tuesday, the Saints hosted the first round of the CIF playoffs against Southwestern Academy First Christian Church in Newbury Park. The girls won this match in three straight sets. They will play today at 4 P.M. against Trona at First Christian in Newbury Park. Come out and support your Saints!

**THIS WEEK**  
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### **Hello and Goodbye**

God is in control, and His timing is not our timing; however, He is good! This is a precept that we teach from preschool through high school. It is true for the world and global events, and it is true in our personal lives as well. The staff, along with Mrs. Cunningham, Mrs. Davis, and the fifth grade parents and students is resting in this as we say goodbye to Mrs. Cunningham who will be moving to Ohio shortly after Thanksgiving. Although this move is not what the Cunninghams would have chosen at this time, the availability of a good job, the close proximity of Mrs. Cunningham's family, and the opportunity to be a stay-at-home mom will be a blessing for them.

HCS will also be blessed as we welcome Mrs. Nicole Thomas. Mrs. Thomas received her bachelor's degree from the University of San Diego and has taught both 4th and 5th grades in the San Diego area. Mrs. Thomas's first day will be Thursday, November 13, and she will work together with Mrs. Cunningham until her last day which will be Friday, November 21. As you see Mrs. Thomas in the halls, please take a moment to welcome her into our community and pray with her as she joins our staff.



### **New Prayer Curriculum For Kids**

In an effort to support our faculty and staff as they encourage and teach spiritual development at Hillcrest, the intercessors will be leading short teaching times once a month in the classrooms on the basics of prayer. These times are designed to get students more comfortable with prayer, to answer questions, and to encourage students to find a place for prayer in their own spiritual lives. The teachings will come from a standard curriculum and have been approved by the administration. If you would like more information on this program or would like to volunteer to help teach, please contact Suzanne Hume at [suz\\_hume@hotmail.com](mailto:suz_hume@hotmail.com) or 805-241-7582.

### **Pancake Breakfast at HCS**

If mornings are hectic at your house, or if you would like to have a hearty breakfast without having to cook or clean up, plan to have breakfast at Hillcrest on Friday, November 21. The senior class will be serving a hot pancake breakfast with sausage, bacon, orange juice and coffee in the auditorium from 7:00-8:30 A.M. Dads, this is a great opportunity for a father/son or father/daughter date. Or how about giving mom the morning off by bringing all of your kids for breakfast?

This event is a fund raiser for their senior trip to Costa Rica in the spring. If you are interested in supporting them, please reserve your breakfasts on the sign-up sheets which are posted outside of your child's classroom. Tickets will be delivered to your child on Thursday. You can then make a donation at the door. Sign up now!! It's just a week away!

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

### **PARENT FACULTY FELLOWSHIP**

#### **You can help with the Annual Teacher Christmas Brunch**

Nancie Blumenthal is looking for volunteers to help set up on Thursday, December 18, from 6-9 P.M. as well as volunteers to help host, cook, or clean up on Friday, December 19, from 8 A.M. until 1 P.M. Help make this year's brunch a special event for our faculty! Email Nancie at [nancieb@mindspring.com](mailto:nancieb@mindspring.com) if you can help.

#### **Christmas Wreath/Garland and Tree Fundraiser**

PFA will be holding a silent auction again this year for wreaths/garland and trees created and made by various Hillcrest school groups such as the senior class, Booster Club, and music department. Fifty percent of the profits go to the group who designs and decorates the tree.

Trees must be completed and ready to display in the front lobby by Wednesday, December 3. Any group can participate. The silent auction will run from December 4 until 3 P.M. on December 17. Contact Nancie Blumenthal at [nancieb@mindspring.com](mailto:nancieb@mindspring.com) if you or your group is interested in decorating a tree.

#### **Parking Cooperation**

Head of School Steve Allen distributed in last week's newsletter a parking plan to make our traffic flow more smoothly and safely at Hillcrest. In light of the recent accident at a local elementary school in which a child was hit by a driver, PFA is encouraging all drivers to be patient and careful when picking up your children and please follow the rules. Thank you!





by *Diego Buller, middle school chapel correspondent*

## Chapel Report

Last week's chapel was about Operation Christmas Child. After praising our big, great God, we watched several videos about Operation Christmas Child. The movies covered how to make your shoebox, what not to put in your shoebox, and inspiring stories of kids in poor areas receiving your shoebox full of toys and necessary items that they only dream of having or of having enough. Your shoebox can make a difference. God delights in the gifts that you give from your heart. He loves it when you help other people in their time of need. Jesus says, "Whatever you do for the least of these, my brethren, you do it to Me." In Matthew 10:42 Jesus says, "And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple ..." Jesus delights in a child-like heart that dreams and believes that big Daddy in Heaven can do it.

[Mark 10:16](#) says, "And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them." These Scriptures

reveal how much God loves the little children. He will certainly bless you with the little shoebox full of toys as it did little Juan when Mrs. Barber went to deliver the toy-filled shoeboxes. In fact, the little boy was sad until he opened the box and pulled one toy out, then he had a smile from ear to ear!!! If the little boy thought that one toy was all he was going to get and had a smile, imagine how he felt about the whole box being his. To see a box full of toys just for me would really brighten my day, even more so it would a child in poverty and sickness. This chapel reminded me of an email that I got from Mr. Yui. He said that in Uganda, they don't celebrate birthdays. The children may not even know how old they are, and they don't get presents to remind them that God loves them. A sad child right now may have just lost his parents and does not know what to do. He may have younger siblings to take care of and are clueless of how to take care of them. They might now be orphans and need your help. Send your shoebox or any gift. A child is waiting for someone to help. Now is your chance. For the child, a smile is dawning. For you, a blessing is at your door. ■



## Be Glorified

Last Monday night, the high school worship band hosted a night of praise and worship for our Hillcrest family. Joined by the elementary honor choir, they played to a full house. Using their gifts and talents to draw us into communion with God, this talented group of young adults representing five different countries along with Mrs. Anne Barbour who leads and plays with the band, demonstrated humility and versatility in music and song along with Scripture reading in four different languages. The Honor Choir under the direction of Donna Essick opened the concert with two numbers that reminded us what is truly important in this life. What a blessing to hear our students of all ages singing praises to our Lord. Mrs. Barbour and Mrs. Essick would like to

extend a giant "thank you" to all of you who came out and for your generosity. Donations from the offering totaled approximately \$1,100 for our seniors and the worship band.

## Thank you, Veterans!

This past Tuesday, November 11, we held a Veteran's Day Assembly honoring our nation's veterans. We live in a privileged country, greatly due to what our veterans have done on our behalf. We had five veterans who attended – two HCS parents, one HCS grandparent, one father of a teacher, and one neighbor of an HCS family.

We enjoyed hearing a special message by Major Lewis Knapp. In summary, Major Knapp shared that he serves for his family, his fellow servicemen and women, and for the people of our nation. Mrs. Shelly Knapp blessed us with a stirring solo, sung a **cappella**, of two verses of our national anthem. Rachel Oglesby, Erin Philen, Jacob Walker, Kelsey Geller, and Matt Woodard blessed us with a reading of their Veteran's Day essays, and the Honor Choir led us in a closing song. We were all reminded of how much we have to be thankful for living in the United States of America. Thank you, Veterans, for all that you have done and continue to do.

