



Pathways

Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths. Ps. 25:4

A Newsletter for Holden Christian Academy

October 9, 2014

Principal's Corner

Okay, so I'm having a little pity party right after my quiet time...how ironic. I start to have breakfast with my unsuspecting husband and decide to "share" it with him. Instead of sympathizing and validating my feelings, like any good girlfriend would do, he decides to solve my problems, analytically, like men do. Well, this infuriates me so I up the emotional ante desperately hoping that he sees how difficult my life really is, how exhausted I am, how I never get to use my gift of hospitality because I'm too tired on Friday nights and no one wants to drive all the way to Barre anyway, and besides that we can seldom leave on weekends because he's a pastor so we hardly ever get to visit our grandchildren on Cape Cod ...ya..da..ya..da..ya..da...and on TOP of that not one person has ever thanked ME for giving up 34 years worth of weekends so he can be a pastor. No, they just tell me how blessed I am to be married to such a wonderful man (women do that) and the fact that he cooks dinner is simply over the top. Of course I cooked dinner every night for the first 16 years of our marriage and no one noticed or commented to him. If I had a dollar for every woman who has told me how lucky I am to be married to such a wonderful servant.....

So tearfully I get in the car, a little shaken, trying desperately not to really cry because I'm on my way to be "the principal", when a neighbor walks by while walking her dog. Does she say oh poor you, you have to drive off to work every morning at 7:00 while I get to take a leisurely walk and your husband gets to work alone in the quiet house? Of course not...she looks up and says, "Lucky you, your husband warmed up your car for you!" I had to laugh.

I'm sure no one can relate to any of this because we are Christians, right? Wrong! We Christians live in a real world, with real issues, and real emotions. Jesus said, "in this world you will have trouble." No matter how great someone else's life looks on the outside, when you really get to know them, they too live on planet earth and have troubles. We are in it together and need to dig just below the surface, or our own pre-

conceived ideas, and see the real person inside.

That being said, I am blessed to be married to my husband. I usually love my roles of pastor's wife at church and principal at school. I truly do. However, I am not just a role and I am tremendously blessed by so many of you who have in the past and continue to dig deeper with me. Young mothers are more than that as well, single parents are more, retirees are more, doctors, teachers, pastors are all more. We all need to look within each other to the fragile, insecure child who lives within., the one that Jesus loves, protects, and nurtures. The one He died to save.

So what's my point? I guess I just want you to know that we really are in this life together and no one gets out unscathed, no matter how good their life looks like on the outside. I have the following verses hanging near my desk and sometimes I move them around the house just to remind myself. Maybe they will help you just after your next pity party, as they have helped me today.

**Therefore, as God's chosen people,
holy and dearly loved,
clothe yourselves with
compassion, kindness,
humility, gentleness and patience.
Bear with each other
and forgive one another if any of you has
a grievance against someone.
Forgive as the Lord forgave you.
And over all these virtues put on love,
which binds them all together
in perfect unity.**

Colossians 3:12-14 NIV

In humility and love,
Susan Hayward, child of God

EARLY ARRIVAL NEXT TUESDAY, GRADES K-4

Our arrival door will open at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 14, for our Plimoth Plantation/Mayflower Field Trip. Please be here on time so we can get on the road promptly!

Students need to wear their blue HCA polo shirts and bring a disposable nut-free lunch.

Our Mission ~

To challenge children to a lifetime of learning, working in partnership with families, to integrate Biblical truth with academic pursuits.

Holden Christian Academy
508-829-4418
www.holdenchristianacademy.org



HCA Calendar

Oct. 10	Plimoth Preview 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Oct. 13	NO SCHOOL—Columbus Day
Oct. 14	K-4 Field Trip—Plimoth/Mayflower
Oct. 16	PK NO SCHOOL—Development Day
Oct. 19	Hay Day!
Oct 21	3 p.m. Parent Teacher Council Meeting
Oct. 23	Lifetouch Picture Day
Oct. 24	K-8 NO SCHOOL—Development Day
Oct. 31	ACSI Middle School Leadership Conf. Gr. 8
Nov. 7	Plimoth Re-enactment

Weekly:

Parent Prayer Group ~ Thursdays ~ join parents in praying for HCA from 8:20-9:00 in the Holden Chapel Prayer Room.

Fridays after lunch: Ice cream \$1 each. Proceeds will benefit our field trip fund.

PRAYER (Psalm 68:19)

Prayer requests may also be submitted in writing and our Parent Prayer group will cover these requests in prayer. There is a prayer request box in the office; confidentiality will be maintained as requested.

- For the Burk family as they mourn the loss of their husband/ father, that they feel welcomed back at HCA as we surround them with love.
- For our Open House, that people will know about HCA, follow God's call, and trust in His provision.
- For our Annual Fund, that former and new donors will faithfully support Christian education.

PRAISE & THANK YOU

- Praise God for a wonderful Spiritual Emphasis Week!
- Thank you to all who sent in donations for Coastlands Consultants; we were able to send them over \$2,700, thanks to your generosity!
- Thank you to Mrs. Talbot who will be our new ice cream lady for Term 1!

Service opportunity:

The art room is undergoing some reorganization. Currently we are in need of someone who has carpentry ability to move and hang some cabinets, cut and move the existing laminate counter as well as build some new shelving. I would hope that this could be done in one weekend. I could possibly bring my teenage son to help with the work. Please call the school office at 508-829-4418 if you are able to provide this service.

Thank you,
Mrs. M

Principal's Book of Excellence celebrates...

Kindergarten

James, for setting up a friend's mat and putting a sheet on it without being asked.

Audrey and Nathan, for standing up for what is right and convincing the class to obey even when they were being tempted to disobey.

Phoebe, for organizing the mats without being asked when everyone else left a mess.

Grade 2

Dayton, for showing compassion during a field trip, asking if a student was okay after he fell off the slide.

Madelyn, for her sweet, cooperative attitude in getting her work done.

Nathan, for helping the class see what happens to paper when you hold a magnifying glass up to the sunlight during science.

Grade 3

Adriana, for being a good friend to a new student.

Carlie, for being a positive influence in the classroom.

Ethan, for patience with a talkative preschooler while waiting for his mom.

Grade 5

Daniel, for sharing his history note cards with a classmate who had been absent.

Jonathan, for being a positive and encouraging group member.

Noelle, for staying after theater class and pushing all the chairs in for her classmates.

Victoria, for checking on the welfare of an injured student.

Grade 6

Matthew, for diligence and perseverance on weekend homework.

Parent Meeting ~ Tuesday ~ Oct. 21st ~3:00

Child-care provided

Many, many thanks to those of you who signed up at Parent Night to help with event planning, refreshments, décor, etc. . We appreciate your interest and desire to serve! We know there are probably more of you who haven't signed up as yet. It's not too late!

The Parent Council works together to coordinate events and/or help the staff with events. They have provided help with events such as Family Fun Night, the Read-a-thon, Book Fair, Banquet, and Teacher Appreciation Week. We need everyone who would like to help, in any capacity, to attend the first meeting on Oct. 21st at 3:00 just to coordinate all the helpers. It will be held in the Media Center and childcare will be provided. RSVP to the office so we can provide enough childcare. Thank you all so much!

Apartment needed

There is an HCA family of 2 looking for a small affordable apartment. If you know of any available, would you please contact the school office at 508-829-4418 or info@holdenchristianacademy.org. Thank you!



Classroom Happenings

Team A ~ Grades K-2

How do you fare, good Team A parents? We are gearing up for our trip to Plimoth and the Mayflower on Tuesday, October 14, 2014. Kindergarten has harvested and dried herbs; first and second grades have dried and sampled dehydrated apples. We have also participated in a very crowded mock voyage on the Mayflower and have learned about what pilgrims might have packed for their trip. We have been discussing colonist homes and clothing and Indians too.

We encourage you to check out books about pilgrims and colonist life from your library to help make the trip even more meaningful. You can also practice speaking "pilgrim" and learn more about Plimoth plantation at this link: <http://www.plimoth.org/learn/just-kids/talk-pilgrim>

Pray pardon me, I almost forgot, we have asked parents to send in non-skid slippers for their child that can be kept at school. The slippers need to be hard-soled along with non-skid because of fire and safety. The sole needs to be impenetrable to objects. Some students still need to bring in their brown t-shirts. If you haven't done so already, please send those in too.

Fare thee well, *Mrs. Torres for the Team A teachers*

Team B ~ Grades 3 & 4

Third & Fourth grades have been working so hard to get ready for our Plimoth Preview this Friday from 1:30-2:30 (Not at 1:00).

Don't forget, 4th grade, a parent is bringing in pizza for us at 12:00 on Friday, so only pack a snack :)

Students who have not brought in their book report book for our October book report are past due. Remember it's to be a historical biography for the 1400-1700 time period.

There will be not be a prepositions test on Friday, only Bible verse test for 4th grade. Next Friday is the 13 colonies test.

We are also so excited about going to Plimoth Plantation on Tuesday!! See you early! Bless you and thank you for everything! ~ *Mrs. Reed*

Team D ~ Grades 7 & 8



We've huddled up to read Sonia Levitin's **Roanoke** in 7th & 8th grades, we are exploring mystery. It's really neat to discover how often mystery is mentioned in Scripture. The 8th graders spent much time pouring through concordances to find how often the Bible speaks of mysteries.

Colossians 1:27 states, "To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." These "mysteries" are amazing. Take some time to find them with your children.

I enjoy the process of literary analysis. Taking our time and looking closely at literature allows us to understand the mind of the author and to investigate literary materials more fully. The students are performing well in this realm. It's fantastic to pause with them as we read aloud and search for theme, mood, and much more. In Spanish 7, we continue to use "ser" conjugations and make them part of easy usage. 8th grade Spanish is working on new verbs as well. ~ *Mrs. Campbell*

Spiritual Emphasis Week was amazing... for all of us. Thank you for your prayers. We are so grateful for that special week so close to the start of the year. It is an absolutely beautiful way to focus our year. We were reminded that our HOPE must be fully in the Lord! Ask your child(ren) how the Lord spoke to them last week.

MATH: The students did very well on their first Chapter math tests. Way to go!

SCIENCE: The students successfully completed their first science essay on Creation vs. Evolution. This was the first of many opportunities we will have to practice writing in science and applying the laws to everyday living. We will have a double block of LAB TIME this week ~ The 8th grade will conduct a lab to Isolate Copper using electrolysis this Thursday. The 7th grade will conduct a lab to test earthworm responses to stimuli on Friday.

In Partnership, ~*Mrs. Holgate*

Team C ~ Grades 5 & 6

Team C has been very busy in all subjects. Our focus for this issue of *Pathways* is Language Arts and History.

In Language Arts 5th and 6th graders have been continuing to work on vocabulary, sentence-building, and most recently, paragraph construction. They continue to write impressive entries in their Integrated Writing Journals. I intend to send the Journals home at least once each week. Please take a moment to enjoy the thoughts they are all expressing so well (and feel free to join in the dialogue by writing a few lines of your own).

In History we have taken a broad look at the several European settlements in North America, ranging from the French settlement in Acadia to the Spanish settlement in St. Augustine. Our

main focus, however, has been Jamestown. Through reading, discussion, reenactment, and model-building, the students have discovered and explored the political, social, economic, and spiritual elements of the first permanent English settlement in America. Soon we will be turning to Plimoth and the arrival of the Pilgrims, culminating in our Plimoth reenactment in early November. Look for more details on that event in the coming weeks.

On behalf of my teammate, Mrs. Cleveland, let me thank all of the Team C families for continued prayers and support. It is such a blessing serve Him through our collective endeavor to

prepare the children for their place in His kingdom.

Many Blessings, *Mr. Reno*

Grades 5-8

Progress Reports are being emailed to parents through RenWeb today. If you do not receive this, please contact the office. If you have any questions about the progress report once you have received it, please contact the teacher directly.

Thank you so much to all who supported the staff from Coastlands Consultants by sending in donations. We were so excited to be able to present them with a donation over \$2,700!

Open House for Prospective Families

Our next Open House for Prospective Families is Wednesday, October 15 from 9:00—11:00 a.m. At the request of some very excited students who can't wait to share HCA, we will soon have invitations available in the office that may be used to formally invite someone to this event. This invitation will also list our future Open Houses. Word of mouth continues to be our best form of advertising, and the most cost-effective :-)



HAYDAY HARVEST FEST

Holden Chapel field

OCT 19 3- 5 PM

**FREE EVENT !
ALL WELCOME!**

KIDS SHOW: "Vic N Sticks"
Horse circus Act

**harvest games . . . face painting . . .
crafts . . . pumpkin patch . . .
balloon creations . . . bouncy house . . .
pie walk . . . and more!**