



Inspire • Discover • Believe

# Inside HGA

Parent newsletter of Holy Guardian Angels Regional School

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**October 1-2** - Forty Hours

**October 2** - Feast of the Guardian Angels

**October 4** - Blessing of the Animals 8:30 AM

Confirmation - 4:30 PM

**October 5** - Kindergarten - Duncan Farm

**October 8** - Columbus Day

SCHOOL IS IN SESSION

Progress Reports Issued

**October 9-12** - Parent/Teacher Conferences

**October 11** - Walk-a-thon FUN DAY

**October 12** - Gr. 1 - Brecknock Orchard

**October 15** - Evergreen Fundraiser Begins

**October 16** - Kitchen Capers - Gr. 6-7-8 @ HGA

**October 17** - Gr. 2 - Middle Creek

Gr. 8 - CPR Class

**October-18** - Gr. 8 - CPR Class

**October 19** - Talent Show - 7:00 PM

**October 25** - Trick-or-Trunk - 5:30-7:00 PM

**October 31** - Early Dismissal - 1:00 PM

Evergreen Fundraiser Ends

**November 1** - All Saints Mass - 9 AM

**November 2** - Gr. 7 - Franklin Institute

**November 3** - Kitchen Capers

County Competition LaSalle Academy

Night at the Races

Doors Open 5:00 PM /First Race 6:00 PM

**December 6** - Report Cards Issued

**December 8** - Mass - 9:00 AM

Feast of Immaculate Conception

**December 10** - Advent Vespers



## New Faculty - New Programs a New Year of Excitement & Fun

The smiles were contagious and the excitement palpable, as the buses and cars arrived at HGA on the first day of school. As always, Principal, Mrs. Wallin was there to greet the students and parents with her warm smile and affectionate hugs.

The school year ahead holds promise for rewarding and exciting times. Our FUN DAY celebration will provide a nice break from daily routines. We are especially excited to unveil our new programs, Math Enrichment, Aquinas, and Responsible Centered Discipline.



We welcome several new faces and grade-level responsibilities:

Preschool: Mrs. Rebecca Perry (teacher) and Gina Burke (aide)

Kindergarten: Mrs. Stephanie Mallery (teacher)

Third Grade: Mrs. Albina Hall (teacher)

Fourth Grade: Miss Olivia Andrefski (teacher)

Fifth Grade: Mrs. Kelly Gorski (teacher) and Heather Rosado (aide)

STEM: Mrs. Samantha Rechieru

Aquinas Program: Mrs. Stephanie Furniss (teacher)

Head Teacher: Mrs. Rebecca Kinyo

I know that you will join me in wishing everyone a successful year!



# From *the* Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The month of September has flown by and our students have successfully settled into their daily routines. I am grateful to the staff and families in our community for their support, cooperation, and warmth in welcoming the many new teachers and support personnel this school year. Although some changes occurred last-minute, I thank you for your prayers and confidence in my ability with filling the open positions.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Meet-the-Teacher Nights. Your presence is truly a positive message of your commitment and participation in working together in the success of your child's education. It is so important that we continue to develop a strong partnership between school and home. Research shows that when schools involve parents, there is an increase in student achievement.

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As we look forward to the month of October, the Month of the Holy Rosary, our school community will spend time praying the rosary. Our devotion to Mary is an outward sign of our relationship with Jesus and his Mother. God wants each of his children to be happy and in a loving relationship with Him, and praying the rosary is one way of building that relationship.

Congratulations to our eighth grade students upon receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. May the Holy Spirit enlighten, illuminate, and guide you.

Yours in Christ,  
Mrs. Maureen Wallin  
Principal

## PRAYER FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

*Lord, You send our Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in You and in Jesus whom You sent.*

*Look kindly on all candidates for Confirmation as they listen to Your voice. Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfilment the good work that You have begun in them.*

*As we prepare these children for Confirmation, make each of us an instrument of Your love. Teach us to appreciate what is holy in others, and to be patient with what we do not understand.*

*Deepen our faith in the Gospel and help us to pass it on by our example. We pray that You will continue to guide us and sustain us.*



# Aquinas Learning Support

*Every child is unique and learns in different ways, to be challenged to reach their potential.*



The Aquinas Learning Support Program is now available at HGA! This program provides our students in need of extra support a unique solution. Each student

receives an instructional plan and guided help to build learning strategies and study skills to foster independence and personal growth.

Students in grades 3-8 receive specialized instruction in math and/or reading. They join their peers in their own grade levels for religion, social studies, science, and specials - art, music, STEM and physical education, thereby assuring integration.

Mrs. Jennifer Furniss and Mrs. Karen Kroenig meet with the students daily in the Aquinas Room.



# Preschool

## Settling In and Making Friends!

With backpacks and lunch boxes in hand, and a few tears, this year's preschool class came prepared and eager to begin their academic journey.

Our day is so full!  
We're learning about God, how to share, sit

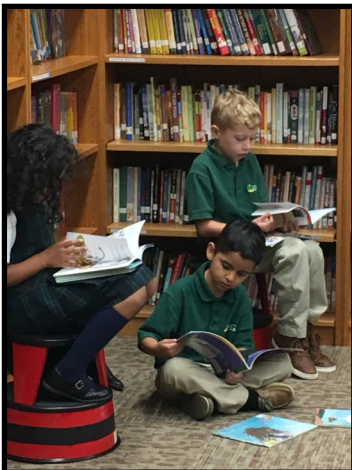


quietly during story time, and how to play nicely both in the classroom and on the recess yard. Preschool is so much fun!



# First Grade

## Learning to Read...Reading to Learn!



# Second Grade

## AN APPLE A DAY IN 2A

Mrs. Zatorski's class has been learning about apples. The class brainstormed adjectives about apples and wrote acrostic apple poems to start off the unit. We watched videos on the life cycle of an apple and how it gets into a grocery store.



The students really enjoyed tasting three types of apples. We graphed our favorites. Surprisingly, Granny Smith apples were the most popular! To end the unit we made an apple cake in the crock pot which was very yummy. The recipe is listed - ENJOY! It sure was a great beginning to fall in 2A.



### Crockpot Apple Cake

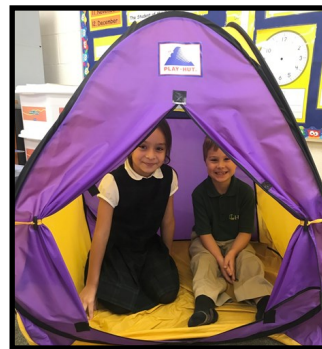
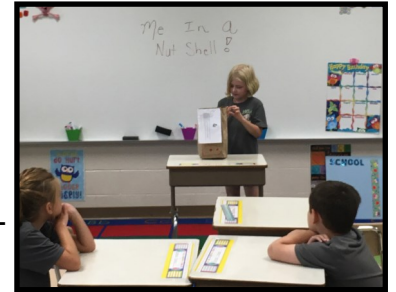


- 4-5 sliced cooking apples
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 box cake mix, white, vanilla, butter, or yellow
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup margarine or butter, softened
- 1-1/2 cups milk
- Cinnamon

Place sliced apples in the crockpot. Add brown sugar. Pour the batter of 1 box of cake mixed with eggs, margarine and milk on top of apples. Sprinkle with a little cinnamon on top of cake mixture. Cover and let cook on high for 4 hours.

## 2B HAS BEEN A HOOT!

We have spent time getting to know each other by participating in a project called Me in a Nutshell. We presented to the class four objects that are important to us. It was so much fun to learn new facts about each other. We also are really enjoying the new readers in Reading class. The stories have been great! So far our favorite story was Henry and Mudge and the Starry Night. To enhance our



reading experience, we set up a tent in the classroom where we could sit in and read. We even made S'mores! Whoooo would have known second grade would be this fun!



# Third Grade

## 3A - READY FOR ADVENTURE WITH SNOOPY!

3A is off and running as they begin their new school year.



Snoopy and Charlie Brown extended a warm welcome to their new classmates. As part of the Peanuts Gang, everyone is doing an awesome job working together.

Everything is falling very nicely into place after a few weeks of adjusting to a new routine and being “upstairs”.

In religion class, we have been discussing the fact that God made each of us unique. He made each of us special with very important gifts to share. We all have something to offer. In October, we will be honoring our Blessed Mother and learning more about the Rosary and its important meaning.

In social studies, we are learning all about communities and what it means to be a part of one. At home, at school, and with friends, we are a part of many types of communities in our daily lives. We applied this knowledge by working together with 3B to create a paper chain American flag in honor of 9/11. The children worked together in honor of lives that were lost, and all those who selflessly risked their lives to save others that day.



As we move ahead, we will be working very hard on our math skills, and earning those Fact Master headbands. (Snoopy has his!) So, keep practicing those skills. Practice makes perfect!

Last but not least, things may get a bit messy as we wrap up our science unit on matter. We will be making Oobleck to more thoroughly explore the three States of Matter. Is it a solid or is it a liquid? Is it both? We will have fun finding out.

## WELCOME MRS. HALL - WE'VE BEEN BUSY IN 3B

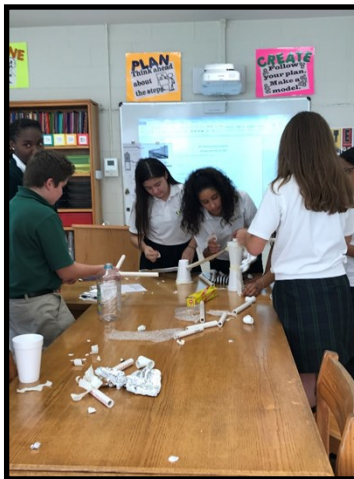
The students have adapted well to being upstairs and to all of the new responsibilities of being in third grade.

Together with 3A, we created an American flag to remember those who lost their lives on 9/11, as well as to remember the freedoms we have because of all the men and women who serve our country proudly.



## What's Happening in STEM

HGA's new STEM teacher, Mrs. Samantha Rechieru has settled in to the STEM lab and is enjoying getting to



know all the students and introducing them to a new year of STEM activities.

Hands-on activities include 8th grade Urban Planners constructing a

water pipeline for clean water and Kindergarten molding numbers out of play-doh and counting apple seeds to strengthen their math and engineering skills.



## Fourth Grade

As we enter a new school year at HGA, fourth grade would like to extend a pleasant welcome to Miss Olivia Andrefski, the newest member of our team.

Miss Andrefski is an Alvernia University graduate and is excited to share her teaching expertise with all of us in our faith-filled community. Fourth grade students have many thrilling events to look forward to during this school year. We will begin our quest toward mastering



multiplication facts and earning a delicious ice cream sundae treat. Students in both classes will soon begin preparing for the traditional Thanksgiving Feast. Another annual event is the ever popular Biography Report and Presentation Assembly. Students choose an inspirational or influential role model to research and portray at the assembly. Additionally, we are seeking parents or

family members of fourth graders who would be interested in sharing their joy of reading aloud. We welcome you to be a "Mystery Reader" in your child's classroom. Please contact Miss Andrefski or Mrs. Burkman to schedule a read aloud.

For additional information, please give us a call. Remember: you will be a "Mystery Reader". Students are not to know who is coming to read. These are some of the fantastic happenings we have to look forward to this year in fourth grade.



As a team, Miss Andrefski, Mrs. Burkman, and Mrs. Jones hope to inspire our Class of 2027 to "Be the Change" this world needs.

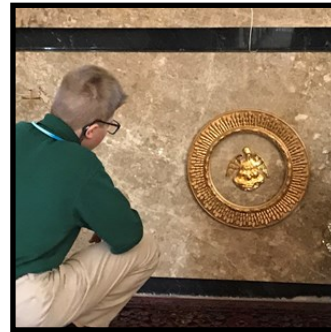
## Fifth Grade

### GETTING A BEHIND THE SCENES LOOK AT HGA CHURCH

During their religion classes this year, our fifth graders will focus on what it means to be a part of a worshipping community, especially through participation in the liturgy and the sacraments. People use colors, images, signs, and symbols to show that they belong to various groups.



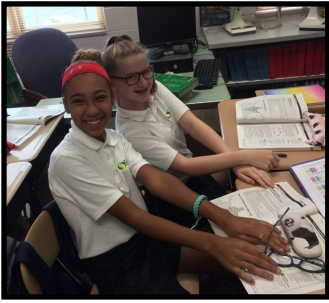
(Consider the colors, uniforms, and symbols associated with various sports teams, universities, or military groups, for example.) As Catholics, we also use many signs, images, and symbols to show that we are united in faith, such as rosaries, the crucifix, and the colors of the liturgical year.



In order to get a hands-on experience with the symbolism of the Catholic church and how the parish of Holy Guardian Angels incorporates that symbolism and tradition, Fr. Finlan led the fifth-grade students through a very informative behind-the-scenes tour of the church. Starting their tour in the main vestibule, they traveled through the church and into the sacristy, seeing everything along the way from the imagery of the mysteries of the rosary in the stained glass to the relics of two saints found within the structure of the altar. Fr. Finlan ended the tour in the chapel with a question and answer session - and boy did the students have questions! The only down-side to the trip was that we ran out of time. Part two of our adventure will



include a show-and-tell from Fr. Finlan, when he will bring into our classroom some of the items used during the celebration of Mass.



# hello seventh GRADE

Seventh grade at Holy Guardian Angels Regional School has begun another year full of exploring, fun, and prayer. In religion, the students have been introduced to the famous “Confirmation Questions”. We recite them every day and the students will soon know the answers like the back of their hands.

Every month we will be concentrating on a new theme in the Church. In September, we discussed how the Church recognizes the “Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary”. This month the Church’s concentration is the rosary.



Jesus and the New Testament is the religion curriculum in 7th grade. The students have started to realize that Jesus was true God and true man. He came to Earth to save us from our sins. Later we will talk about Jesus’ life, Passion, Resurrection, and Ascension.

Seventh grade social studies has started identifying why geographers do what they do. We have also talked about human’s effect on the environment. Later, we will start our exploration of the World by studying Central America. Our field trip in November will be to the Franklin Institute to visit an exhibit on the Vikings. The students are very excited about visiting the very hands-on establishment.



With all of the fun events coming up on the HGA agenda, the seventh graders can hardly contain themselves. They are looking forward to a very interesting start to their seventh grade year.



Friday, September 21, seventh grade celebrated the International Day of Peace. Seventh grade read the novella “Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes” in our reading class. Our main purpose, besides focusing on the development of the plot, was to reflect on some issues still impacting our world today. The end of this unit, which was planned to end on Friday, just so happens to be the International Day of Peace, sometimes unofficially known as World Peace Day!

To celebrate and to recognize this day of peace, seventh grade made a total of over 200 paper cranes. As we folded the cranes, we discussed the importance of working for peace as an individual, as a member of the HGA school family, as a Christian, and as a citizen of the world. The discussions were lively and we experienced working together with the same goal in mind. We all helped each other out during the daunting process of folding paper cranes.

Our cranes are not ordinary. Our cranes carry a special meaning and serve a specific purpose which is to celebrate and recognize peace. Our cranes are adorned with the word “peace” on them in all various languages, and some even carry names of individuals who we pray for.



This project is continuing, as our goal is over one thousand cranes. We celebrated International Day of Peace reflecting on the importance of peace in our society. We continue to fold our cranes and to pray for peace within our school, with our community, and within our world.

# Eighth Grade



## Confirmation

The eighth grade has been very busy both last year and this year preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. A great deal of work was done in seventh grade under the direction of religion teacher, Mr. Dowd. Last year, the students learned about Confirmation and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They completed twenty hours of service, kept a reflection journal, wrote a report about a patron saint, and began memorizing their Confirmation questions.

This year, in 8th grade religion with Mrs. Bard, the students practiced their Confirmation questions. Each student also wrote a letter to the Bishop explaining why he or she wanted to be confirmed. Additionally, the Confirmation students participated in the close of the parish 40 Hours ceremony and attended both a religious retreat organized by Director of Religious Education, Mr. Angstadt, as well as a Confirmation practice.

Congratulations and best wishes to our newly confirmed 8th graders. May you continue to grow in your faith and live each day as a disciple of Christ.

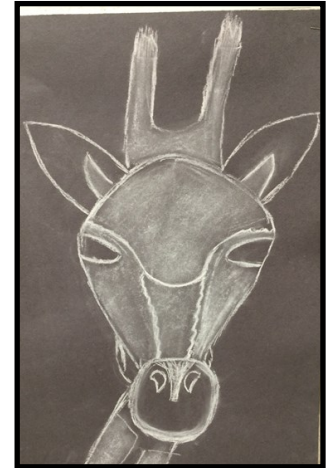


On Saturday, September 29th, our Confirmation students had a retreat day to focus on their faith and the importance of the

Sacrament of Confirmation. We were also joined by St. Joseph, St. Peter, and St. Margaret's Parishes. Our school and parish was filled with 150 Confirmation students who were able to come together and witness their faith.



# Art Class Back-to-School Creations





# Principal and Parent Partnership Program



HGA's first Principal and Parent Partnership Program got off to a great start! Thank you to our second grade parents, **Family**

**Bingo** was a night of fun for all ages. Several lucky students enjoyed assisting our celebrity callers, and five winners walked away with the great raffle baskets. Be sure to check out the photos from the event on the Principal and Parent Partnership Program Facebook page. You can access it on HGA's website.



## What's Coming Soon?

- Grade 4 Event - Night at the Races - 11/3
- Grade 5 Event - Dining Out - 11/13
- Grade 6 Event - Breakfast with Santa - 12/9

Details on volunteer opportunities for your child's grade-level event will be sent home through the Communication Folder.



## 4th Annual

# A Night at the Races

Saturday, November 3, 2018  
Adult Only Event - 21 & Over

**RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!**

Doors Open: 5 PM / First Race: 6 PM

- *Cost: \$20 per adult in advance*
- *\$25 at the door*
- *Raffle Baskets & 50/50*



For additional information or to purchase tickets, contact Kelly Prechtl at [kelpre@hgaschool.org](mailto:kelpre@hgaschool.org) or 610-310-9455.

Save  
the  
Date



## Spaghetti Dinner

**Victor Emmanuel II**  
**311 Hazel Street**  
**Reading, PA 19611**

**Tuesday, November 13th**  
**4:30 - 7:00 PM**

## Annual Fund

Our school's Annual Fund is our annual giving program that invites friends of Catholic education to invest in our mission. These generous supporters include current school families, alumni, and local businesses. In 2017-2018, a total of \$48,000 was raised providing us the ability to purchase needed school items: including new podiums for teachers, classroom learning centers, classroom carpets, and the installation of a new telephone system (to be completed in December). The Annual Fund also assists with providing funds for our school's growing need for financial assistance.

## Thank You! to our Sponsors

Fr. Robert Finlan

Mr. and Mrs. John Wallin

Meares Family

Russ and Caroline Reber

Gethsemane Cemetery

Armo & Company

Early Beginnings Childcare, LLC

Stitzel Family Funeral Homes Crematory, Inc.

Fleetwood Bank

Emrich Family

Prechtl Family

Alumni of HGA

McGinn School Apparel, Inc.

East Penn Manufacturing, Co.

Reading Dermatology Assoc.

Tactical Plumbing and Heating, LLC

Hartman, Valeriano, Magovern & Lutz, P.C.

Friends of HGA

HGA Boosters

## Fund Raising

School families are required to fulfill a \$350 family fund raising fee, a fee separate from their school tuition. Through the Walk-a-thon FUN DAY solicitation letters, Evergreen sale, and Joe Corbi Pizza and Dessert sale, families earn a percentage towards their fund raising fee or if desired, this fee is added to their monthly tuition payment.

All monies raised through fulfilled fund raising fees is directed to the school's operating budget for fund raising of \$130,000.

We make every effort to keep your tuition payments as low as possible, which is why it is necessary for all families to fulfill this fee.



## Evergreen Sale

it's beginning to  
look a lot like...

Sale Runs: October 15th - 30th

Delivery: The week of November 26th

You will receive notice when delivered.

Fundraising Quota: Earn 50% towards your fee

Money must accompany order  
(make checks payable to HGA)

### Holy Guardian Angels

#### Regional School

3125 Kutztown Road  
Reading, PA 19605  
Phone: 610-929-4124  
Fax: 610-929-1623  
Email: [www.hgaschool.org](http://www.hgaschool.org)

#### Our Mission Statement

*We, the community of Holy Guardian Angels Regional School, recognize that our mission, embodied in Catholic tradition, is to develop a Christian student focused on loving, respecting, and serving God, self, and others.*

*We strive to achieve high academic standards in an environment which celebrates diversity and creativity in order to nurture open-minded, faith-filled individuals who positively and responsibly contribute to the global community.*



Christ Centered - Faith Filled

## Holy Guardian Angels Gift Certificate Program - GAGC



### GAGC News for Fall 2018

School just began but the GAGC Program Year started on June 1st! Be on the lookout for your tuition statement in October.

**Tuition Statements** are issued three times each program year, October, February, and End-of-Year. The statements are in summary form, but if you would like to know your tuition credit amount or would like to see a detailed statement, please contact Tricia Christ at [triciachrist.hga@gmail.com](mailto:triciachrist.hga@gmail.com).

**Planning Ahead:** be sure to get gift cards now for . . . fall outdoor clean up, Black Friday & Cyber Monday shopping, October & November birthdays, anniversaries, and other special occasions.

**Not a planner?** The Online Option is for you! With so many retailers offering eGiftCards - you can purchase what you need on the go. Visit the [GAGC Tab](#) on the school website for a Quick Start Guide and details.

**ICYMI** - Disney now offers ScripNow eGiftCards in \$10 increments from \$20-\$1,000. Use Disney Gift Cards at Disney destinations nationwide for practically all things Disney to shop, dine, stay, and play! Redeem at the Walt Disney World Resort, Disneyland Resort, Disney Cruise Line, Disney Store locations in the U.S., DisneyStore.com and beyond.