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Inside HGA

Parent newsletter of Holy Guardian Angels Regional School

CELEBRATE 2018

For one week during the month of January, Holy Guardian Angels Regional School takes a few moments to showcase our faith while accentuating the importance of family, academics, and community. Plus, have a little fun! This year's Catholic Schools Week highlights include:

Grandparents
& Grandfriends Day



Mary's Shelter
Baby Shower



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February 14 - Ash Wednesday - Mass 9:00 AM

February 24 - Joe Corbi's Delivery -

Pick-up 11 AM - Noon

March 6 - EARLY DISMISSAL 1:00 PM

ALL FUNDRAISING BALANCES DUE

March 8 - Third Trimester Begins

March 10 - Spaghetti Supper Take Out - 2-4 PM

Sit Down - 4-8 PM

March 12 - Spring Portraits (PS-Gr. 7)

March 14 - Report Cards

March 15 - Gr. 6-8 - Berks Catholic Musical

March 16 - Gr. 8 Portraits and Classroom Picture

March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

March 18 - First Communion Parent Meeting

6:00 PM Social Hall

March 19-23 - IOWA Testing Grades 2-7

March 24 - Youth Ministry Egg Hunt-12:00-2:30 PM

March 28 - Lenten Retreat Day

March 29 - NO SCHOOL - Holy Thursday

March 30 - NO SCHOOL - Good Friday

April 1 - EASTER

April 7 - Ladies Night Out

Doors Open 5:30 PM

Message from the Principal



"Let us remember this Lent that Christ's love is given every day, not just one day a year."

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This past month we celebrated Catholic Schools Week, which has been recognized across this nation every year at this time for the past thirty years. It has become a time to pause and realize the gifts that emerge from the education provided through Catholic Schools. Our mission allows for children to receive gifts of faith formation, knowledge, and service to others, which ultimately leads to the individual success of all our children. As a Catholic school and one which is part of the larger Allentown Diocese, we want to thank our parents, parishioners, and benefactors for realizing these gifts and sharing a partnership with HGA.

With the month of February comes the beginning of Lent, which is a time of prayer, fasting, and alms giving. It is a time when all that we are - how we live our lives - how we share the Good News through our words and actions - how we love unconditionally must be bold and ever present. The fact that Valentine's Day falls on Ash Wednesday is the ultimate expression of love. St. Valentine was martyred for His love of Christ and for refusing to stop promoting Christianity. Let us remember this Lent that Christ's love is given every day, not just one day a year.

Allow this season of Lent to be a time of renewal, transformation, and tremendous blessing for you and your family. Let every day be a day of love and life in Christ.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Maureen Wallin,
Principal*

Snow Days Cause Change to Calendar

HGA IS IN SESSION

Monday, February 19th

&

Monday, April 2nd



*Mark
Your
Calendar!*

Religious Ed Corner

Sacramental News

First Penance took place on Saturday, February 10, 2018, at 10:00 AM. Please pray for all the students who will be receiving this beautiful sacrament. May the forgiving love of Jesus enter into their hearts and fill them with every grace and blessing.



First Communion Parent Meeting - Sunday, March 18th at 6:00 PM in the School Social Hall.

First Communion Retreat Day - Wednesday, April 18th during the school day.

Confirmation News - Reminder all Sponsor Eligibility Forms are due by the end of May!



Lenten News

Lent begins on February 14th with Ash Wednesday. Mass at 9:00 AM. During the season of Lent the students will have many opportunities to embrace their faith through Prayer, Fasting, and Alms Giving.

Prayer: The students will have weekly Stations of the Cross, a Lenten Retreat Day, Lenten Confessions, and many more prayerful times. They will also have a traveling Vocations Chalice that will go from classroom to classroom where the students can pray for the increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

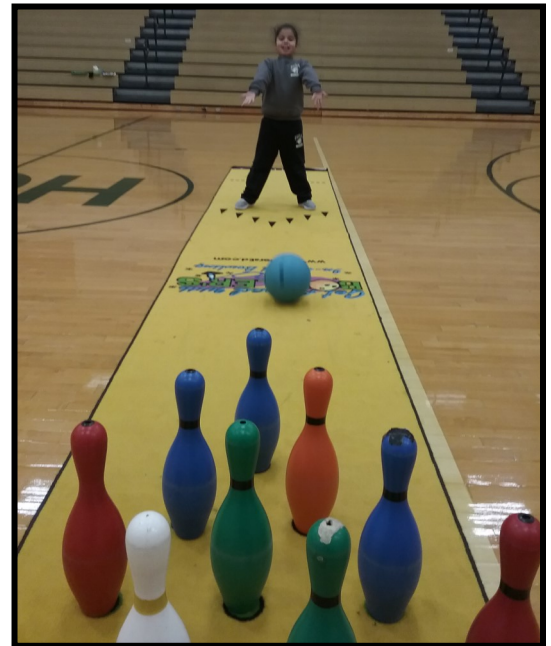
Fasting: The students will fast from meat on Fridays and Ash Wednesday during the season of Lent and will also learn, in religion class, the importance of fasting (sacrificing) something for the whole season of Lent.

Alms Giving: The students will be able to donate, during the season of Lent, to the Catholic Charities of the USA. Starting on Ash Wednesday, each student will receive a Lenten coin folder. Each day they can put a quarter in the folder for the Catholic Charities of the USA.

Fun in Phys Ed

As we returned from Christmas break, the students took part in a two week bowling unit during their physical education class.

Thanks to Berks Bowling Lanes for providing the equipment, we were able to learn the in's and out's of this sport. Students in Kindergarten through second grade focused on



learning the terminology, properly gripping the ball, and keeping the ball on the carpet. Our third through fifth graders learned how to keep score the easy way with strikes and



spares only counting as ten pins, and our middle school students learned how to keep score the proper way with strikes and spares. Fun was had by all! So visit your local bowling alley and challenge them to a game.

The STEAM Team Continues to Inspire

Our Enrichment Program for students in grades five through eight (STEAM Team) is now in its fourth trimester. Since its inception, our students have combined their interests in STEM and Art to explore a wide range of concepts. In past sessions, they created stop-motion animation movies, tricked the eyes with their optical illusions, and discovered the interplay between light and shadow. This trimester, thanks to the generosity of Fr. Seifert, our STEAM Team members have been intricately working with circuitry and robotics with their very own R2D2!

Through the various missions with our bot, we have assembled him, disassembled him, driven him using multiple controls, recorded our own voice sound effects, transformed him into an intruder alarm with a motion sensor, manipulated him through an obstacle course of our own design, and used him to

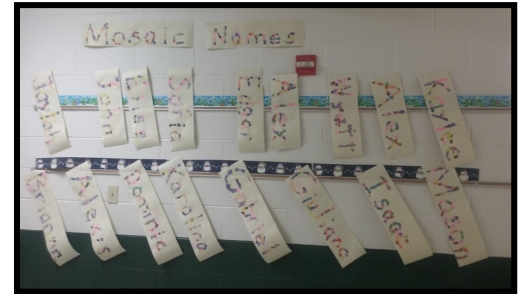


create a unique artistic masterpiece! Before this trimester ends, we hope to accomplish more missions, especially configuring R2D2 to self-navigate and be manipulated using "The Force".

Throughout these missions, we have learned so many things beyond the basics of robotics. We have discovered how Bluetooth technology can be used for communication, how the circuits connect and how they are affected if they get dirty, how to draw our own three-dimensional sketch of R1, and most importantly, how to work together to accomplish our goals.

Preschool

Even with all of our snow days, preschool has been very busy. We have been reviewing our numbers 1-10 while learning 11-20, and we know our letters up to O! Each afternoon time is spent creating art projects and doing hands-on activities that reinforce what we have been learning. Our latest project was creating Mosaic Names using small pieces of colored paper.



In Religion, we learned that God made the Earth, which included lessons on land, color, air, water, weather, and light. The children had fun experimenting with colors to see that when certain colors are combined together, they create new colors. To help remind us that Jesus is



the light of the world, we made beautiful candles.

Joe Corbi Pizza and Dessert Delivery



Third Grade

Snow Days and Snow Globes in 3A

The month of December was such a busy time for 3A as we were preparing for Baby Jesus. We prepared our hearts for Jesus with kind acts and good deeds for our families and our friends. Snoopy even made a new friend. Snoopy and Blizzard, our elf, became best buddies. Since our return from Christmas vacation, the days seemed to fly by. With snow days and special events, the class has been very busy. In Religion class, we welcomed the new year with a new year blessing of our classroom. We placed our blessing symbol over



our door and discussed its meaning as well as the names of the three Wise Men. We are also learning about the gifts God has given us and discussed faith, hope, and charity and how they are present in all our lives. Our focus during Catholic Schools Week was on charity.

In Reading class, we are working on comprehension skills and using informational text. Our current story is about dinosaurs. The children have much to offer during our class discussions, and are very well informed on the topic. In Math class, learning is fun as we explore the world of Geometry. The children are exploring geometric shapes, area, and perimeter. Their creative use of the



geometric blocks has been very impressive. As for our new Fact Masters, our count is currently half of the class. With four months remaining, I am very confident we will have 24 in all by the end of

the year. Keep practicing each night! As always, we are writing, writing, writing. Our most recent writing piece was "My Life In a Snow Globe". Their original stories and creative pictures were just wonderful. Their projects look great. It is hard to believe that Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday are both right around the corner. With both days in mind, our word for the month is LOVE!

Eighth Grade

In between all our January inclement weather days, the 8th grade has been staying warm and keeping busy with several special events. The students enjoyed a friendly competition during our Fun Friday Volleyball Tournament. We were assisted by our parent referees, Mrs. Hendrix and Dr. Emrich, who kept the games moving right along.

The 8th graders also spent a day at Berks Catholic for Step-Up Day. Our students were able to meet their freshmen teachers, get oriented to the building, and experience a typical day at BC. They also received BC t-shirts which they can now proudly wear with their HGA gym uniform as they excitedly look forward to beginning their secondary school careers!

During Catholic Schools Week, we had a special Math Enrichment afternoon where geometry collided with art. The students worked on two different projects involving tessellations and transformation dilations. It is neat to see how math can be used in creating art. The 8th grade also enjoyed our Catholic Schools Week Movie afternoon complete with refreshments. Which movies were selected? 8A watched E.T., while 8B viewed Diary of a Wimpy Kid.

We are now looking forward to warmer weather and continuing to prepare for a successful transition to high school!



Fifth and Sixth Grade

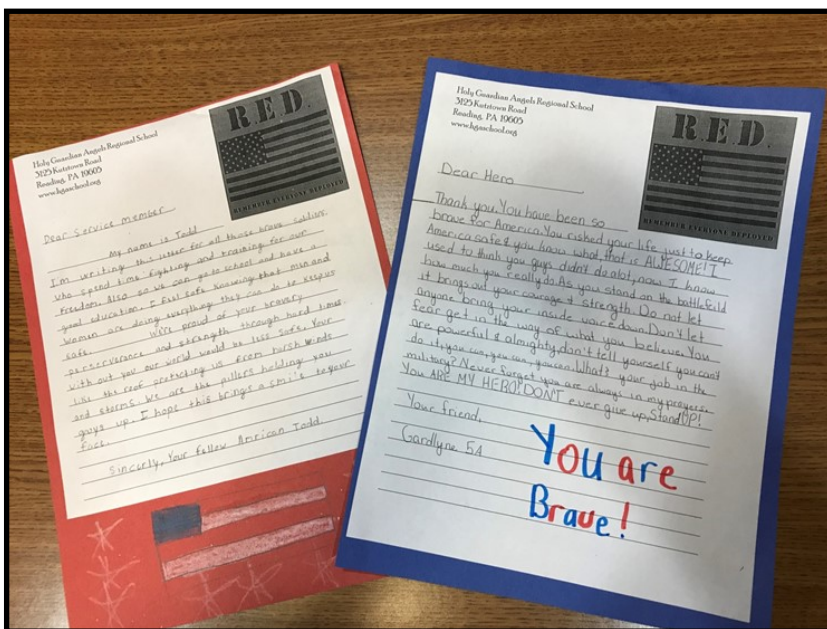
Thursday, February 1st, was a very busy day during Catholic Schools Week. The students in grades Kindergarten through second enjoyed a morning of celebrating their grandparents and grandfriends, third and fourth grade students held a baby shower supporting a local charity and our seventh and eighth graders enjoyed an afternoon that included two enrichment programs. For the students in fifth and sixth grade, their focus and emotions were that of gratitude and support as they wrote letters to service men and women in the United States armed forces. Writing of their appreciation for the sacrifices being made for our freedom, sharing stories of their school and activities they are involved in, the students expressed their personal thanks and prayers for continued safety.

As part of a two month service project, the letters were just the beginning. Raising



awareness and wanting the school community to share their pride for America and the support for our troops, HGA will adopt R.E.D (Remembering Everyone Deployed) Fridays beginning February 23rd through March 23rd. Only on those Fridays, students may wear: RED TIES (for the boys) and RED HAIR RIBBONS/ HEAD BANDS/BARRETTES (for the girls), with their school uniform.

In the weeks ahead, our fifth and sixth graders will hold a collection for items needed for our military personnel. Detailed information will be coming home soon on how you can help.



2018—2019 School Year

school registration

Have you re-registered? There is still time! We want to save a seat for your child - contact Mrs. Reber for registration information.

science fair winners



7th Grade Natural

- ◆ Bryleigh Reddy - 1st Place
- ◆ Brian Kroenig - 1st Place
- ◆ Luke Brenner - 2nd Place
- ◆ Jazmine Mejia - 2nd Place
- ◆ Lainey Horst - 3-rd Place
- ◆ Ty Barreto - 3rd Place

7th Grade Physical

- ◆ Sophia Gattone - 1st Place
- ◆ Madison Esterly - 2nd Place
- ◆ Stephen Askey - 2nd Place
- ◆ Joseph Taimanglo - 2nd Place
- ◆ Abigail Sabatucci - 3rd Place
- ◆ Hannah Nied - 3rd Place
- ◆ Riley Murphy - 3rd Place
- ◆ Ian Pummer - 4th Place
- ◆ Christie Gonzalez-Almonza - 4th Place
- ◆ Olivia Rosa - 4th Place

8th Grade Natural

- ◆ Kathryn Gabriel - 1st Place
- ◆ RJ Emrich - 1st Place
- ◆ Peyton Stricker - 2nd Place
- ◆ Emma Moody - 3rd Place
- ◆ Paul Impellizzeri - 4th Place

8th Grade Physical

- ◆ Peyton Malinowski - 1st Place
- ◆ Ryan Merchancano - 2nd Place
- ◆ Angelene Jimenez - 3rd Place
- ◆ Emily Zatorski - 3rd Place
- ◆ Tristan Hertzog - 3rd Place
- ◆ Christopher Avram - 4th Place
- ◆ Gia Myers - 4th Place
- ◆ Molly Mogford - 4th Place



Forty-one competitors from grades 2-8 competed in HGA's Spelling Bee Contest on Friday,

December 15, 2017. After weeks of studying, memorizing, and practicing, our spellers took their seats, pushed away their nerves and even a few tears.

Round-after-round, in an effort to reassure themselves, participants exercised

great caution, seeking repetitive pronunciations and definitions through a total of 194 words. Once the dust settled on round 23, 8th grader Kathryn Gabriel was victorious spelling the words *petulance* and *endeavor*. Fellow 8th grader Emma Moody was runner-up.

Katie will represent HGA at the Berks County Spelling Bee sponsored by Reading Eagle on Monday, March 12,

2018, at the Miller Center for the Arts. Best of Luck!



CARNIVAL



Our Learning Commons Continues to Transform

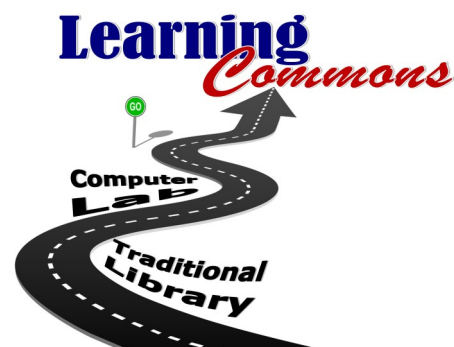
Two years ago, we started our plans to transform our existing traditional library into a more dynamic and student-centered Learning Commons.

During the summer of 2016, we completed Phase One of this transition in which the physical layout of the room was changed to create three areas of activity: Library, Collaborative Learning, and STEM. All of our library holdings were reorganized to create the comfortable and accessible Library space. Group tables, eleven desktops, and 12 laptops were brought in to create the Collaborative Learning space, and we started to gather materials and develop curriculum goals for our newly created STEM class. We are proud to say that with the help of volunteers and the repurposing of materials, we were able to accomplish Phase One with very little expense.

During 2016-2017 school year, our Home and School Association worked very hard to raise the money to fund Phase Two of the Learning Commons transition. This phase included a flooring update to the entire room and the addition of a portable sink in the STEM area. It was decided to replace the carpeting with tile in the STEM area in order to better meet the unique needs of activities planned for STEM classes; in addition the Collaborative Learning area, as well as the Library area, received new carpeting. The flooring updates were completed over Christmas break and the new portable sink is expected to arrive very soon.

Looking ahead to Phase Three, it is our hope to replace the existing tables and chairs with more functional and flexible seating that will accommodate a variety of learning activities by the start of the 2018-2019 school year.

Thank you to EVERYONE who has contributed in any way to our Learning Commons transformation!



Catholic Schools Week 2018



From start to finish, Catholic Schools Week was a week of empowering our students and families as they celebrated Catholic education.

Open House: Our doors were open to current and new families who wanted to visit with teachers, meet our principal, Mrs. Wallin, and enjoy the beautiful artwork displayed throughout the hallways.

Classroom Observations: Having the opportunity to sit in on your child's classes gives you the chance to witness first-hand HGA's academic setting. Not only current year classes are available, but also looking ahead to next year!

Spirit Day/Winter Carnival: A perfect match! By day, the school was a sea of green and gold with new and vintage HGA apparel on students and faculty/staff alike. By night, the gymnasium was transformed into a backyard carnival. Games of chance, popcorn, cotton candy, and FUN, FUN, FUN!

Faculty/Staff Luncheon: HGA is blessed to have the support of its parents and grandparents. The Home and School Association organized its annual luncheon for the faculty and staff and once again it was a delight. We thank everyone who help make this event special!

Grandparent/Grandfriend Day: Students in grades Kindergarten through 2nd grade enjoyed a morning of BINGO, snacks and reading with their special person(s).

Mary's Shelter Baby Shower: Hosted by the third and fourth grade, a school-wide collection of needed household items and Target gift cards were presented to Mrs. Monahan, Assistant Director. What would a shower be without cupcakes? They were tasty!

Rock-Paper-Scissors: HGA's 11th Annual Event was live-streamed on Facebook for the first time! This year's winner, Anthony Ramires, a Kindergarten student, beat the faculty member and 6th grade contenders for the title! Way to go, Anthony!

Home & School Association

Annual Spaghetti Supper

Saturday, March 10, 2018

Take-Out: 2 to 4 PM

Sit-Down: 4 to 8 PM

Adult Dinner - \$9.00 / Child Dinner - \$5.00

Children 3 and Under—FREE

Purchase your Oliver's Place Sandwich Tickets at HGA - cost \$7.50. Ticket entitles you to any small hot or cold sandwich. Ticket never expires!

Oliver's Place
1007 Mt. Laurel Road, Temple
610 - 921 - 1306
Boar's Head

SAVE **Saturday, April 7,**
the **2018**
DATE

Doors open at 5:30 PM



Holy Guardian Angels Regional School

3125 Kutztown Road
Reading, PA 19605
Phone: 610-929-4124
Fax: 610-929-1623
Email: 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



GAGC February & March News

As of January 15, 2018 - \$9,720.78 has been earned in tuition credit by participating families. The top five tuition credit accounts are:

\$1241.42 6th Grade Family	\$1,185.10 4th Grade Family	\$701.49 8th Grade Family	\$473.55 Preschool Family	\$418.11 2nd Grade Family
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How much did your family get? In addition to our highest earning participants, there are many, many more families who currently have several hundred dollars in their tuition credit account. It's never too late to sign up and start earning tuition credit. The credit adds up quickly. Tuition Credit Statements reflecting credit earned 6/1/17 - 1/31/18 will be distributed in mid-February.

WHAT'S NEW?

- \$50 Walmart gift cards are now available In-Stock and are listed on the white order envelopes.
- New in ScripNow: Hollister co., Abercrombie & Fitch, Pep Boys, Sunglass Hut, AutoZone, and UBEReats.
- No activation fees! GAGC offers universal pre-paid cards including Visa, American Express, and Discover - but unlike universal gift cards you find at other retailers - GAGC universal cards have ZERO activation fees!
- Did you know you can order an eGiftCard and send it as a gift? Check the box marked "Make this a gift?" when you order ScripNow. You'll be prompted to enter the recipient's name and email address. You will add your name and personalized message you want to appear on the gift, and select the date you would like the gift delivered on. The recipient receives an email telling them they received a gift from you, and they follow that link to view and print their eCard to be used at the retailer or online.

For more information on the GAGC Program, contact Tricia Christ at 610-451-1959, email - triciachrist.hga@gmail.com, or call the rectory.