



Inspire • Discover • Believe

Inside HGA

Parent newsletter of Holy Guardian Angels Regional School

D a t e s t o R e m e m b e r

- December 16** - Confessions
- December 17** - Potlatch - 5th grade
- December 21** - Advent Prayer Service
- December 22** - Noon Dismissal
- December 23-January 1** - NO SCHOOL
(Christmas Observance)
- January 4** - School Resumes
- January 11** - Joe Corbi's Sale Begins
- January 16** - Father/Daughter Dance
- January 18** - NO SCHOOL
(Martin Luther King Day Observance)
- January 18** - Barnes & Noble Day
- January 19-22** - Mid-Term Exams
- January 22** - Joe Corbi's Sale Ends
- January 27** - 3rd Quarter Begins
- January 28** - Step Up Day - 8th grade
- January 31** - Catholic Schools Week Begins
Opening Mass - 10:00 AM
Open House - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- February 1** - Classroom Observations
- February 2** - Winter Carnival
- February 3** - Faculty/Staff Luncheon
- February 5** - Rock-Paper-Scissors Competition
- February 6** - Joe Corbi's Delivery
- February 10** - Ash Wednesday
Mass 9:00 AM
- February 10** - Rolling Out the Dough
- February 11** - Cookie Baking Day
- February 15** - NO SCHOOL
(Presidents' Day Observance)

Merry Christmas: Handmade From the Heart

Beautiful Christmas ornaments adorn the Fleetwood Bank, Brandon Office, courtesy of the artistic talents of HGA students, under the direction of their art teacher, Mrs. Kate Kasperowicz.

This long-standing community partnership with Fleetwood Bank confirms their strong support of the arts and is a great opportunity to showcase

art work created by students across all grade levels. Homemade ornaments of snow globes (gr. 5), 3D shaded candy canes (gr. 7), and press metal (gr. 8), are just a few of the items hanging on the bank's Christmas tree.

Thank you to the faculty, staff, and students who gave of their time to hang all the trimmings and give the bank a festive holiday look. Fleetwood Bank invites you to stop by and take in the beauty. While you are there, place a name on the Prayer Angel. Our students will be praying for these individuals all school year.





"We are reminded of our personal preparation, taking time to reflect on the past year and see how we can improve our spiritual resolutions for the year to come."

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This month we celebrate the beautiful season of Advent, prayerfully preparing and waiting for the birth of the Christ child. It is such a blessing to be able to focus on the true meaning of Christmas with our students, helping them to understand the gifts of obedience and patience that Mary and Joseph exemplified, the humility personified by the shepherds, and the glory of the new born king as acknowledged by the three Wise Men.

As we gather each week to light a new candle of the Advent Wreath, we are reminded of our personal preparation, taking time to reflect on the past year and see how we can improve our spiritual resolutions for the year to come.

I would like to wish all of our HGA parents, students, faculty, staff, and friends a safe, happy and holy Christmas and holiday season. I would like to acknowledge the contribution of staff, parents and students to HGA in 2015. 'You can dream, create, design and build the most wonderful ideas in the world, but it requires people to make the dream a reality'. This is certainly the case as a principal. The reality is that the learning experiences and projects that have taken place this year could not have happened without a great deal of commitment and support from the staff, parents and students.

May God truly bless you and your family with love, grace and mercy. We look forward to what 2016 will bring Holy Guardian Angels Regional School!

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mrs. Maureen Wallin

Principal



First Honors:

3rd Grade

- Zeruiah Allen
- Rian Coulter
- Elizabeth East
- Eduardo Franco
- Riley Gofus
- Diego Roma-Ibanes
- Ayden Jimenez
- Evan Kroenig
- Addison McKittrick
- Tony Nguyen
- Eva Noll
- Nathan Perez
- Maya Smith
- Melina Stinsky
- Shawn Swavely
- Sam Vicari

4th Grade

- Olivia Brady
- Marli Emrich
- Samantha Holland
- Sara Holland
- Olivia Jones
- Elijah Mecham
- Grace Sands

5th Grade

- Stephen Askey
- Ty Barretto
- Luke Brenner
- Alyssa Coccia
- Madison Esterly
- Katherine Gabriel
- Adian Gaffney
- Dominic Iaccarino
- Brian Kroenig
- Zyna Lopez
- Riley Murphy
- Bryleigh Reddy
- Abigail Sabatucci
- Kyla Stutzman

6th Grade

- Melany Agosto
- Julia Baney
- Mya Dubbs
- RJ Emrich
- Mason Iswalt

- Hannah Medina
- Molly Mogford
- Emma Moody
- Sydney Ouano
- Peyton Stricker

7th Grade

- Akin Adio
- Maya Barreto
- Kevin Brown
- Haley Davis
- Kelly Kline
- Lindsey Kroenig
- Anthony Myers
- Thea Piskorski
- Xavier Ruiz
- Elizabeth Trumbore

8th Grade

- Tamara Barrera
- Andric Brena
- Veronica Botch
- Morgan Gebhard
- Rachel Glembocki
- William Hertzog
- Nicco Iaccarino
- Kylee Iswalt
- Quinn Malinowski
- Amara Midouhas
- Michelle Nguyen
- Dante Porcaro
- Heather Szymborski-Pratt
- Michaela Rosenberger

Second Honors:

3rd Grade

- Jonathan Acker
- Sophia Billman
- Anthony Colon
- Gardlyne Deshommes
- Justin Eschevarria
- Jacqueline Palagion-Gallo
- Jocelyn Palagio-Gallo
- Matthew Glembocki
- Gabriel Iswalt
- Lilly McCormack
- Isabella Mondelli
- Kevin Nguyen

First Quarter Honor Roll

- Jessica Ortiz
- Jovany Rodriguez
- Maverick Stinsky
- Charles (Trey) Stricker
- Ricardo Tinoco
- Gavin Wenrich

4th Grade

- Helena Christ
- Natalia Figueroa
- Sean Hall
- Skylar Herb
- Klaudia Jarombek
- Hannah Nied
- Brayan Olivares
- Joshua Ortiz
- Hailey Schmeck
- Desirae Sullivan

5th Grade

- Christie Gonzalez-Almanza
- Moises Diaz
- Hector Franco
- Sophia Gattone
- Lainey Horst
- Mariame Kaba
- Jose Lopez
- Riley Monahan
- Julian Sandoval
- Nicholas Stoudt
- Joseph Taimanglo

6th Grade

- Olakanmi Adio
- Christopher Adio
- Christopher Echevarria
- Peyton Malinowski
- Geraldly Perez
- Aidan Sands
- Emily Zatorski

7th Grade

- Jakub Czyz
- Ashley Lynch
- Sydney Grim
- Julia Harris
- Cade McLaughlin
- Dana Mejia
- Sam Robertson
- Soleil Twyman
- Katella Villaseñor
- Alexander Zavala

8th Grade

- Farren Christ
- Ashlie Eveland
- Jack Krishock
- Emily Scianna
- Arianna Smith
- Hailey Speece
- Owen Wolfe

Honorable Mention

3rd Grade

- Yovanni Ortiz-Diego

4th Grade

- Carmella Costa
- Leandra Moyer
- Gabriella Moyer
- Kayla Thompson

6th Grade

- Bavian Galarza
- Tristan Hertzog
- Renika Prud'Homme

8th Grade

- Jackson Gofus
- Abigail Young

Second Grade

Saints Come Marching In



November began a day early for grade 2 when the saints came marching in for our annual All Saints' Day Mass.

Some of the holy people represented were St. Nicholas, St. Edward the Confessor, St. Katharine Drexel, and several of Jesus' apostles.

We also held our annual Native American Day with food, crafts, games, face painting, pottery making, and a visit from a real Native American, Dr. Bowan, a professor at Alvernia University. Both second grade classes enjoyed the special day, despite the rainy weather. We learned a lot about these first Americans.



Third Grade

3A - Joyful Hearts

The month of November ended with turkey hats shared with Mrs. Wallin and a perfect Thanksgiving Feast. Thank you to all who gave their time and donations for making it a wonderful day for all!

Now that December is here, 3A is alive with very busy elves. As we begin the season of Advent, the children are preparing their hearts for Jesus in se Tree and learning the ger for Baby Jesus.

hay to make a soft bed to wrote descriptive paragraphs to tell what it would be like to be at the birth of Jesus. Their writing was thoughtful and very heartwarming. Reading these was a pleasant reminder of the love that lives in the heart of a child.

We are working very hard as the days of this month fly by us. In reading, we began our first book, The Family Under the Bridge, a perfect story for Christmas. It touches the heart with the true spirit of the season. In math class, the number of Fact Masters is multiplying. Keep practicing 3A! In social studies, we are learning about the birth of our country. The Boston Tea Party, The American Revolution, and the origins of the Declaration of Independence have been the topic of some long and very interesting class discussions. The students are developing a great appreciation for the country they live in.

With so much to do we are being mindful of the season and taking time each day to appreciate the true meaning of Christmas. May the true meaning of Christmas fill your hearts and homes this season.



many ways. We began by making a classroom Jes- importance of each symbol. We also have a man- Students' good deeds and kind acts earn pieces of welcome Jesus into their hearts. The children

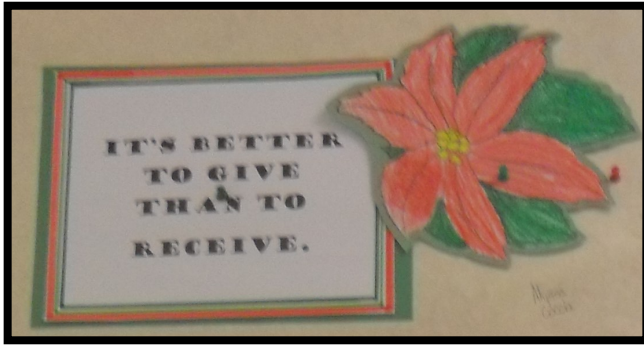


Fourth Grade



Fourth grade was very thankful this November as we celebrated the annual HGA tradition of third and fourth grade Thanksgiving Feast on Monday, November 23rd. During this annual event, the fourth grade dressed as the Indians and the third grade dressed as the pilgrims to commemorate the first Thanksgiving Feast of 1621. We created Indian headdresses and vests to outfit ourselves, and during the celebration we recited a Henry W. Longfellow poem and performed an original acrostic poem. The wonderful parent and grandparent volunteers decorated the social hall and cooked us a delicious meal of turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, and corn. The best part of it all: the dessert table!

Fifth Grade



In keeping with the spirit of giving, fifth grade is all action. We have been collecting stocking stuffers for Opportunity House. Instead of stockings we are using Santa hats. Every day new items are added!

HGA's fifth graders have truly embraced the meaning of "it is better to give than receive."



Eighth Grade

The 8th grade is very happy to report that this year's Talent Show, "A Harvest of Talent", was a great success! The show was held on Friday evening, November 6 with a performance for the school in the afternoon.

There were a variety of acts such as vocalists, pianists, dancers, and a gymnast. We even had special performances by faculty members, Mr. Oros, Mr. Dowd, and Mrs. Siatkowski. Our faculty ensemble, with a student choir singing, performed our school song on the tone chimes. Our master of ceremony, Ben Villareal, did a superb job announcing the acts and keeping us entertained.



We would like to thank all of our 8th graders who assisted at the show. Special thanks to our 8th grade parents and Home and School Association for donating refreshments. We are pleased to report that we raised over \$300 to donate to the HGA Scholarship Fund. We'll see you at next year's show! We are so thankful that our students shared their talents with us.

HGA Mathletes

It's All About the Math!

Congratulations to this year's Mathletes team for doing a terrific job at the fall competition held at Berks Catholic on November 9. The team was comprised of 8th graders, Quinn Malinowski, Kylee Iswalt, Michelle Nguyen, Michaela Rosenberger, and Heather Szyborski-Pratt. Our alternate was Tarmara Barrera. The team will continue to meet weekly to prepare for the spring competition.

Here are some problems from this year's competition –

1. A newspaper ad costs \$12.50 plus 30 cents for each word after the first twelve. Joe paid \$17 for an ad. How many words were in the ad?
2. Solve for x : $5x - 2(4+x) = 5 + 3(1+x)$
3. Change 0.13% to a fraction in lowest terms

If you need any help solving these math problems, or any other math problems, please ask one of our Mathletes. They are certainly willing and able to help!

Evergreen Sale Update

This year, back by popular demand – the Evergreen Fundraiser!

Parents asked for the evergreen fundraiser to return and the response was amazing. This year's fundraiser earned a profit of \$1,602! The beautiful wreaths, garland, centerpieces, and swags will be enjoyed by our families both near and far. Many of you took advantage of mailing gifts to family and friends. We checked in with the gift givers and the recipients were thrilled with their evergreens. Thank you for your support!

Also back by popular demand - the Joe Corbi Pizza and Dessert Sale will begin on Tuesday, January 11th. This fundraiser is your last opportunity to fulfill your fundraising obligation.



No Act of Kindness

No matter how small,

Is ever wasted . . . Aesop

Thank you to all the families of HGA who generously supported the following outreach opportunities:

- **PAWS** (Providing Animals With eSentials)

All items collected (dog and cat food, snacks, and toys) were given to the Humane Society of Berks County and shared with various shelters through Humane League.

- **Saint Joseph Church Food Pantry**

Our food collection will go a long way to filling the bags of the needy family who come to the pantry for food assistance.

- **Favorite Color Dress Down Day for Ryan** (Alumni of HGA diagnosed with Leukemia)

As a school community a total of \$1,700 was raised! Your generosity is greatly appreciated. The family will receive gift cards towards purchasing gas, grocery items, and a few personal items for Ryan while he is in the hospital.

MIDDLE STATES *Update*

The entire Middle States Self Study Process is a group effort involving the entire HGA Regional School community of parents, students, staff, and stakeholders. We will be publishing our progress as we complete the various stages of the process, culminating in a multi-day visit by the Middle States Visiting Team in the Fall of 2016 who will decide whether or not to recommend our school for reaccreditation. If you have any questions regarding this process, please don't hesitate to contact the school office. ***Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school.***

What we have accomplished so far. . .

- Establishment of our Planning Team: This team consists of members who each bring a unique perspective to the process and serve as the final decision-making body throughout the process.
 - Principal: Mrs. Maureen Wallin
 - Internal Coordinators: Mrs. Rebecca Kinyo, Mrs. Terry Pietruch
 - Faculty Members: Mrs. Sondra Bard, Mrs. Theresa Bernardo
 - Board Members: Mr. John Huemrich, Mr. Lew Quaglia
 - Parents: Mrs. Ana De la Cruz, Mrs. Maria Mogford, Mr. Joseph Taimanglo
- Evaluation, Revision, and Creation of our Founding Documents: These documents clearly state our mission and our beliefs as a community, as well as outline the profile of an HGA graduate. You may access these documents on our website.

What we are in the process of completing. . .

- Developing the Profile of the School: Research concerning aspects of the school such as the school's history, demographic trends, staff certification, local community resources, and economics is currently being completed in order to create an accurate profile of the school and its surrounding communities.
- Research and Reports Concerning the 12 Standards: Our entire faculty and staff is currently working very hard to thoroughly investigate various aspects of the school community. The completed surveys from our parents, students, and staff will be a key component to their reports. In addition to the survey feedback, our 12 Standards Committees (composed of faculty and staff members) are also analyzing data from a variety of sources. The Standards Committees are investigating the following 12 areas:
 1. Mission
 2. Governance and Leadership
 3. School Improvement Planning
 4. Finances
 5. Facilities
 6. School Organization and Staff
 7. Health and Safety
 8. Educational Programs
 9. Assessment and Evidence of Student Living
 10. Student Services
 11. Student Life and Student Activities
 12. Information Resources

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 primary mission is to develop and promote a Christian student focused on loving and serving God, self, and others. We strive to achieve high academic standards in an environment which embodies diversity and creativity in order to nurture open-minded, faith-filled individuals who positively and responsibly contribute to their community.



Christ Centered - Faith Filled

Guardian Angels Gift Certificate Program - GAGC

January/February

As of November 30, 2015, **\$8,203.27 has been earned in Tuition Credit** and several participating families have surpassed the \$150 mark which means they are now earning double back! How much did your family earn?

- An 8th Grade family has earned \$901.74!
- A 2nd Grade family has earned \$612.97!
- A 6th Grade family has earned \$544.25!
- A Kindergarten family has earned \$507.40!
- A 7th Grade family has earned \$360.22!



Some things to remember...

December 13th will be the FINAL Special Order for 2015. Gift cards ordered by 12/13 will be available for pick up on Friday, December 17th at noon – plenty of time to finish your Christmas shopping!

December 15th will be the FINAL Pouch Order for 2015. **Note: This will not include any Special Orders as there will be no order date following 12/13.**

In-Stock Gift Cards (Giant, Redner's, Sheetz, & Weis) will be available at the rectory Monday-Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM (closed daily 12-12:30 PM) and before & after each weekend Mass.

Not enrolled in the GAGC Program? Start the New Year off by signing up to earn money off of your tuition bill! Enrollment is easy – just contact Tricia Christ at tac317@ptd.net or 610-451-1959 for more information and enrollment forms.



Would you like to receive updates via email on all things GAGC? Sign up for our email list to make sure you won't miss announcements, product updates, or bonuses! Visit <http://eepurl.com/bCHBnX> to sign up today!