



## Sowing the Seeds of Goodness...

### Thanksgiving Feast, Our Appreciation & PTO

Last Wednesday was a remarkable Thanksgiving celebration here at HFGS!

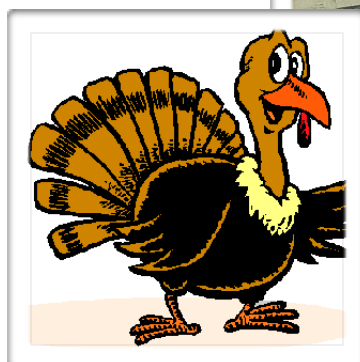


Parents volunteered their hours to serve green salads, rolls, fried chicken, potato chips, pumpkin pie, apple pie, & fresh lemonade. Our students, teachers, staff and parents were gathered from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the open yard, led by Student Council to a school wide prayer, a feast and an entrainment. Cowboy Ken from Dream Shapers performed songs, narrated stories and did some trick roping which were all very

engaging, entertaining and fun. Over all, the stories of the American Heritage Cowboy in the Old West were great as they were told through songs by Cowboy Ken.

We would like to express our sincerest thank you's to our very generous parents who sent in various canned food for our Food Drive & a total amount of monetary donations of \$ 844.00. We truly appreciate the leadership of Mary, Phil Avila & our PTO Board.

The members of Student Council & Kiwanis Club Members made gift baskets for Loaves & Fishes and delivered the baskets to our church.



## **Miss YoungMi Ku, School Bookkeeper**

Our new bookkeeper at the office is Miss YoungMi Ku. Miss Ku will work closely with the school administration and Murphy, Murphy and Murphy Accountants. She will begin officially on Wednesday, 11/30/2011. With the Lord's grace, she hopes to get familiar immediately with the the school set-up, our families, faculty, staff and information on our accounts, activities, SMART Tuition Management System, etc. As usual & for the purposes of accuracy & accountability, we have Mrs. Lile or Mrs. Ganse issuing the receipts for all payments made at the office. Receipts and collections will be turned over to Miss Ku to record payments in the system and do a closing out of the day's collections.

To reiterate, the school requirement is for all families to be in SMART Tuition Collection Management System. Your enrollment in SMART is very much appreciated. Also, on every check that you issue to the school, **PLEASE indicate the appropriate fee and where it is being applied for before submission to the school's main office.** This will help very much our new receiving and bookkeeping system.

## **7:00 a.m. - 7:40 a.m Daily Math & Pre-Algebra Classes for 7th & 8th graders**

It has been two weeks now since another program of advancement has begun for our 7th and 8th grade classes. Our students are loving our Math class held in the High School. Thanks, Mr. Danny Hamm for being a Math wizard to our kids and in helping them prepare for their High School Placement Test as early as now.

## **December 2011 Calendar of Activities**

### **Thurs., 12/1/2011**

- **1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.** Mrs. Walters, Mr. Gerovac, Mrs. Rogers & Ms. Huntley will attend the WCEA/ WASC School Accreditation Visiting Training at St. Ferdinand School, 1012 Coronel Ave., San Fernando, CA 91340. Mrs. Carnevali, Mrs. Ruta & Mrs. Thomas will be subbing in 2nd, 3rd & 5th grade classes.

- HW: Bring a canned food for Loaves & Fishes & come in non-uniform attire tomorrow.

### **Fri., 12/2 - Loaves & Fishes / Non- Uniform Day**

- **6:30 p.m.** PTO Party, GS Auditorium PTO Parents, Teachers, Staff, Past PG Presidents, BVM Nuns & Clergy are invited to come and join this wonderful celebration of Christmas at HFGS.

### **Sat., 12/3**

- **7:30 p.m.** - Holy Family Concert Guild Christmas Concert in the Parish Church. Dr. Christian Marcoe, Parish Director of Music will be conducting

the Annual Christmas Concert featuring our children's choirs in "The Tiniest Christmas Star" and the combined choirs and orchestra performing Antonio Vivaldi's "GLORIA" and Cesar Franck's "Psalm 150." Tickets at the door are \$10 Adults (presale \$9) and \$5 Seniors / Students (presale \$4).

**Mon., 12/5**

- **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon** - Advent Confessions for 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Classes

**Tues., 12/6**

- NO MASS Today. Mass will be on Wed., 12/8 for both the HS & GS Groups

- Early Dismissal at 12:00 noon; 1:00 p.m. Faculty Meeting

- **6:30 p.m.** PTO Board Meeting

- HW: Tomorrow is Recycling Day. Bring all emptied soda cans, plastic bottles & computer ink cartridges.

**Wed., 12/7** - Recycling Day

- **8:00 a.m.** Student Assembly; All Math 2011 Contest Finalists & Winners will receive their awards.

**Thurs., 12/8** - Immaculate Conception Day

- **10:00 a.m.** Immaculate Conception Mass for Both HS & GS

- HW: Jeans for Jesus Day tomorrow.

**Fri., 12/9** - Jeans for Jesus Day

- Annual Gift Giving Campaign begins.

**Sat., 12/10** - Parents' Set-up for Santa Shop

**Sun., 12/11** - Sunday Family Mass

- **9:30 a.m.** - All families, faculty & staff will gather together to hear Mass. Student attendance will be checked for credits.

**Mon., 12/12** - Our Lady of Guadalupe Day

- **6:30 a.m.** HFCC Mass in Spanish & will be followed by a Mariachi Breakfast

- **11:00 a.m.** - Pastoral Staff Meeting

**Tues., 12/13** - Santa Shop Day 1

- **8:00 a.m.** Mass

**Wed., 12/14**

- **8:00 a.m.** Student of the Month Assembly

- **6:30 p.m.** Christmas Pageant at the Open Yard. This is a wonderful Christmas Program for ALL families. The GS Musical Instruments / Band will render its debut performance. All grade level Christmas presentations & Christmas carols will be featured. Parents will be serving hot cocoa, hot apple cider with cinnamon, pastries, cookies and marshmallows. Program details will follow.

**Thurs., 12/15** - Santa Shop Day 2

**Fri., 12/16** - **12:00 noon** Dismissal

**Mon., 12/19** - Christmas Break begins.

**Sun., 12/25** - Merry Christmas!

**Sun., 1/1/2012** - Mary, Mother of God - Happy New Year!

**Tues., 1/3/2012** - Classes resume.

- **8:00 a.m.** Mass

- **12:00 noon** Dismissal

- **1:00 p.m.** Faculty Meeting

**Most Recent Revised / FINAL ACADEMIC Letter Grades and Number  
Equivalency Used & Applied in GRADELINK**

**A+ = 100%**

**A = 97 - 99%**

**A- = 93 - 96%**

**B+ = 90 - 92%**

**B = 87 - 89%**

**B- = 85 - 86%**

**C+ = 80 - 84%**

**C = 75 - 79%**

**C- = 70 - 74%**

**D = 65 - 69%**

**F = 64% or Below**

**Important:** Plans for HVAC ( Heating, Ventilation & Air conditioning) are on their way. The greater majority of our parents started to express their desire to assist in the actualization of this major project. In doing so, we shall solicit ideas and make pledges of commitment to make this dream a reality. As part of the Master Plan, the HVAC is a priority in the Grade School. This major facility upgrade is a significant undertaking that requires collaboration and response from ALL of us. As soon as our Survey Forms are ready for us to get each family's commitment, we shall have the corresponding materials for distribution to gather data, resources & facts of collaboration from our Grade School families and we will send them through family envelopes & / or through an online Survey.

**NEWS:** HFGS has received its School ID & PW as its registration acceptance for the **National Blue Ribbon Schools (BRS)**.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools whose students achieve at very high levels or have made significant progress. The program is part of a larger U.S. Department of Education effort to identify and disseminate knowledge about best school leadership and teaching practices.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program sets a standard of excellence for all schools striving for the highest level of achievement. Each year since 1982, the U.S. Department of Education has sought out schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. Using standards of excellence evidenced by student achievement measures and the characteristics known from research to exemplify school quality, the Department celebrates outstanding schools from states across the country.

We begin by continuously striving hard and keeping excellence in our school academic and extra-curricular offerings. Together, we shall input the great things that are happening here at HFGS on our online application.

### **Advent: A Time of Preparation**



In the Catholic Church, Advent is a period of preparation, extending over four Sundays, before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to," and refers to the coming of Christ. This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; but second, to the coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and finally, to His Second Coming at the end of time.

Perhaps the best-known of all Advent

symbols is the Advent wreath. Consisting of four candles (three purple and one pink) arranged in a circle with evergreen boughs (and often a fifth, white candle in the center), the Advent wreath corresponds to the four Sundays of Advent. The purple candles represent the penitential nature of the season, while the pink candle calls to mind the respite of Gaudete Sunday. (The white candle, when used, represents Christmas.) The light of the candles signifies the light of Christ, Who will come into the world at Christmas.

## MATH CONTEST 2011 FINALISTS

<p><b>Kindergarten</b> Math Teacher: Mrs. Teresa Nelson <b>Participants:</b> 1. Lauren Bondurant 2. Charlene De La Cruz 3. Clint Pascual 4. Mary Jo Makhoul 5. Aidan Cervantes 6. Matthew Selayandia 7. Charbel Slaibi 8. Christina Sun 9. Nicolas Bailon 10. Julian Jimenez 11. Cristine Ceralde</p>	<p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b> Math Teacher: Mr. Matthew Gerovac <b>Participants:</b> 1. Isabela Alejandre 2. Bryce Benedict 3. Edzel Fortin 4. Brandon Johnson 5. Nathan Mendoza 6. Jeremy Reyes 7. Angeli Rozul 8. Bryce Sales 9. Melissa Shun 10. Lauryn Versoza</p>	<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> Math Teacher: Mr. Matthew Ho HR: Miss Ashley Walden <b>Participants:</b> 1. Lawrence Kim 2. Romy Ladero 3. Darryl Buen 4. Sophia Lee 5. Ronaldo Romano 6. Byron Sandoval 7. Ayssa Aldaz 8. Ferdinand Engel 9. Andre Santiago 10. Theo Viado</p>
<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b> Math Teacher: Ms. Johnette Martindale <b>Participants:</b> 1. Renee Pelongco 2. Nicole Paja 3. Anthony Nazareno 4. Channah Reyes 5. Gregory Filipian 6. Carl Cortes 7. Lana Versoza 8. Kenneth Fulgencio 9. Giovana Aldaz 10. Sarah Pineda</p>	<p><b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> Math Teacher: Mrs. Sarah Chatterton <b>Participants:</b> 1. Justin Umali 2. Isabella Geraci 3. Ryan Agatep 4. Izabel Mah y Busch 5. Emily Aguilera 6. Wes Manginsay 7. Giulian Pisua 8. Nathan Valdecantos 9. Sydney Sayoc 10. Justin Whitehead 11. Dylan Brown</p>	<p><b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> Math Teacher: Mr. Matthew Ho HR: Mr. Krikor Kiladjan <b>Participants:</b> 1. Anne Marie Aguas 2. Erin Flores 3. John Junio 4. Alexandra Pena 5. Alex Uribe 6. Renee Paladini 7. Madeleine Santos 8. Katrina Estrella 9. Paul Buan 10. Malea Arriola 11. Andrea Lopez</p>

<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>  Math Teacher:  Mrs. Anahi Walters  <b>Participants:</b>  1.Julian Gatewood  2.Gabriel Javier  3.Luke Brown  4.Sergio Cardenas  5.Miguel De La Cruz  6.Sophia Lim  7.Trisha Antiporda  8.Jacob Oriol  9.Paolo Mah y Busch  10.Jenelle Idian</p>	<p><b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>  Math Teacher:  Mr. Matthew Ho  HR: Mrs. Rogers  <b>Participants:</b>  1.Marylu Eapen  2.Alyssa Edu  3.Phoebe Nabua  4.Jessica Purino  5.Gabrielle Santos  6.Aliyah Camcam  7.Abigail Caringal  8.Daniel Magahis  9.Daniela Gurrola  10.Sibin Biju</p>	<p><b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>  Math &amp; HR Teacher :  Mr. Matthew Ho  <b>Participants:</b>  1.Gary Cruley  2.Maryam Eapen  3.Alejandra Gurrola  4.Justin Idian  5.Dorothy Kim  6.Montzerrat Morales  7.Gabriela Sarmiento  8.Amely Sijo  9.Christian Reyes  10.Klein Cabral  11. Kenneth Pasco  12. Sabrina Khoury</p>
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**Enclosures:**

- Partners in Faith
- Math Contest 2011 Finalists
- Kindergartners
- ITBS Standardized Test Scores - School Profile COMING UP!

Thank you ALL for partnering with us!

Miss Fidela B. Suelto, Principal