

**Important for the Weeks of November 20 and 27, 2023**  
**Happy Thanksgiving.**

Dear **HFGS Families, Faculty, Staff, Students, and Friends,**

***Parent- Teacher Conferences on Friday, 11/18/23***

Thank you for taking the time to attend the parent-teacher conferences. Your presence and active involvement in your child's education mean a lot and are truly appreciated. Your commitment to partnering with us in supporting your child's academic journey is invaluable. Our faculty and school administration have always believed that successful parent-teacher conferences are marked by open communication, mutual respect, and a shared focus on the student's progress. We are grateful that our parents and faculty have met and have highlighted the positive aspects discussed, such as the student's achievements, areas of improvement, and goals for the future. Mentioning the collaboration between the parent and teacher to support the student's growth was also a positive note. Additionally, both sides' acknowledging any specific strategies or plans that were discussed to enhance the student's learning experience both in the classroom and at home is a sure win for all. Thank you for your attendance last Friday.

***ALA, Academic League and Ambassadors from Mrs. Ofelia Ruta, Main Coach & Miss Marie Romillo, Assistant Coach on Catholic Math League School Results for top scores from HFGS as of 11/19/23:***

8th Grade Pre-Algebra ALA - **3rd Place** out of 60 Catholic schools which competed nationwide

7th Grade Math ALA - **1st Place** out of 49 schools

6th Grade Math ALA - **16th Place** out of 70 schools

***Top scorers from HFGS nationwide:***

***8th Grade ALA Pre-Algebra out of 863 students competing nationwide - Top 10%***

#4 Kaseidy Kochoa

#27 Shanessa Diaz

#41 Cailey Villanueva

#42 Audrey Monilla

#82 Noah Samuy

#83 Mia Rose Flores

#84 Emma Aguilar

#85 Isaac Acosta

***7th Grade ALA Math out of 766 participants - Top 5%***

#2 Joaquin Lopez

#4 Calix Salonga

#5 Jacob Nagano

#6 Gavin Miguel's

#7 Autumn Braden

#11 Camille Gammad  
#22 Camila Tagorda  
#28 Christopher Caceres

**6th Grade ALA Math out of 1,020 participants - Top 25%**

#48 Bethany Samuy  
#87 Aiden Valdez  
#88 Zoe Klebes  
#134 Ace Aguilar  
#196 Josh Tojino  
#251 Emma Baradas  
#252 Daniel Reyes

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

ALA Coach Ofelia Ruta outlined additional topics that our Academic League will delve into for their ongoing readings and study sessions. Throughout the upcoming school days and holidays, including Thanksgiving and Christmas, students will engage in the book "Journey to the River Sea" by Eva Ibbotson. Moreover, the Academic League will explore various significant subjects such as catechism for kids, our world history, weather phenomena, and the exploration of famous buildings and structures across the globe.

***A Message from Our Band Director Mr. Gabriel Martin***

Once again, I can't express how proud I am of the band for their performance at the Parish Country Fair. With over half of the band being new to their instrument this year, it has been amazing to see everyone work so hard and come so far. The older students have been amazing role models and excellent at giving their classmates musical tips, and the success of the band would not be possible without such a great group of kids.

As amazing as the band has been, there is of course always room for improvement. The best way to improve is to play each instrument regularly. Consistent practice leads to mastery. I would like every band member and those aspiring to be part of our school band to be able to play in school and at home, and having your instrument and music with you is the first step.

The next concert coming up is the Christmas concert on December 15th. All of the songs have been picked out by the students and we can't wait to share them with you! As always please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns, and thank you all for being such an amazing community!

***Thanksgiving Food Drive 2023***

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous Thanksgiving food donations. Your contributions have made a significant impact on our community. The Student Council Commissioners and Kiwanis Builders' Club with Mrs. Alexa Isaac Soliman supervising, took great care in organizing and distributing these donations. With their dedicated efforts, each item was thoughtfully placed in bags, ensuring that every contribution reached those in need. Our 7th and 8th Grade classes led by Dr. Krikor Kiladjian and

Mrs. Ashley Liberda delivered all the bags to our Church for Catholic Charities. Your generosity and the collaborative efforts of these student-led organizations have truly made a difference in the spirit of giving this holiday season. Thank you for your kindness and support.

***How can both school and home share the significance of Thanksgiving among our children?***

Parents and teachers can convey the history and genuine essence of Thanksgiving to children by offering a balanced perspective that includes historical context and cultural significance. They can share age-appropriate stories or materials that explain the origins of the holiday, emphasizing the shared meal between the Pilgrims and Native Americans as a symbol of gratitude and unity. It is essential to discuss the diverse perspectives and contributions of different cultures while acknowledging the complexities of this historical event. Encouraging discussions about gratitude, empathy, and the importance of coming together in times of hardship can help children grasp the broader values of Thanksgiving beyond its historical roots. Engaging in activities like making crafts or preparing food from different cultural backgrounds can also reinforce the idea of diversity and thankfulness during this holiday.

During this season of Thanksgiving, we thank our parents and teachers for imparting the true essence and history of Thanksgiving to our children. Your efforts in educating them about the significance of this holiday, its cultural importance, and the values of gratitude, unity, and understanding are deeply appreciated. Your dedication to teaching the meaning behind Thanksgiving is instrumental in shaping our children's perspectives and fostering a sense of appreciation for diversity and shared heritage.

***Winter Dedication Book 2023***

Join us in immortalizing your warm wishes and showcasing your support for our school community through the Winter Dedication Book project! Time is running out for this exclusive opportunity to purchase a page and share your heartfelt greetings or advertise your business. Don't miss the chance to be prominently featured in this cherished book, leaving a lasting impression during this festive season. Act now to secure your space and be part of this wonderful initiative before it's too late!

Please contact the school office for any questions.

***Sincere Gratitude for your prayers and support of The Torres Family***

To our **5th Grade and families of other grade levels** - Your presence last Saturday at the final funeral Mass offered immeasurable solace during a deeply emotional time. Your support and attendance at Church were profoundly appreciated, lending strength and unity to our community in honoring Jennifer Torres.

**Fr. Anthony** - Your taking the lead, guidance and comforting words during the funeral Mass brought peace and reassurance to us all. Your spiritual leadership was invaluable in honoring the life of Jennifer with reverence and grace.

To our **Esteemed Friends from the Parent Board, Faculty, Dr. Fernandez, Altar Servers, The Bereavement Ministry** - Your dedication in ensuring the solemnity and dignity of the final rites was invaluable. Your contributions and support until Jennifer's peaceful rest were deeply meaningful to all of us. Thank you.

### ***Advent Confessions***

As we approach the Advent season, we want to emphasize the significance of Advent Confessions for our Catholic school children. Advent is a time of preparation and reflection, and participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation provides a unique opportunity for our students. Advent Confessions offer a chance for self-examination, repentance, and spiritual renewal. By seeking forgiveness and receiving the sacrament, our children deepen their understanding of the importance of mercy and reconciliation in their faith journey. Encourage your child to embrace this season of grace by participating in Advent Confessions. It is a meaningful step in their spiritual growth, fostering a stronger connection to their faith and the community. Thank you for working hand-in-hand with us in guiding our students on their spiritual journey.

### ***Christmas Concert Program 2023***

We thank those who have returned their slips for concert admissions at the UCCG. Please forward your slips if you have not done so. Thank you. Save the day - Friday, **December 15** for a magical evening of holiday cheer from our HFGS classes.

### ***Private Tours - Welcome New Families.***

Our school warmly embraces new families, offering personalized private tours. We greatly appreciate your referrals of prospective students who can benefit from our high-quality academics and faith-filled education. Your support is invaluable, especially as we proactively prepare for our upcoming two days of Open House in January 2024.

### **Important for the Weeks of November 20 and 27, 2023**

#### **Mon. 11/20**

9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - 6th Grade Field Trip to the Natural History Museum

**Note:** La Da Vie Fundraiser for Cheer, Choir, Sports, and STEM clubs ends.

#### **Tues. 11/21**

8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. - School Mass

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Thanksgiving Student Assembly led by Student Council

**Wed. 11/22** - No School / Thanksgiving Break begins. Classes will resume on Monday, the 27th.

**Thurs. 11/23** - Happy Thanksgiving.

**Sat. 11/25** - Happy Birthday, Coach Karl Johnson!

**Sun. 11/26** - Solemnity of Christ the King

**Mon. 11/27** - Classes resume and welcome back.

11:30 a.m. - Deanery 6 Principals' Meeting, HFGS

**Tues. 11/28**

8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. - School Mass

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Faculty Meeting

**Wed. 11/29**

1:30 p.m. - Super EcoHero Assembly for TK/Kinder through 3rd Grade, GS Auditorium

**Fri. 12/1 - Loaves and Fishes**

***A Prayerful Meditation to begin another week -***

Psalm 128:1-5

1 Blessed is every one who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways!

2 You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall be well with you.

3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

4 Lo, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD.

5 The LORD bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life!

Lord Jesus, be the ruler of my heart and thoughts, be the king of my home and relationships, and be the master of my work and service. Help me to make good use of the gifts, talents, time, and resources you give me for your glory and your kingdom.

A blessed Thanksgiving week to all,  
Dr. Suelto

**References:**

[Fr. Anthony's Message](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)