



Principal's Message:

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One of the things I remember from my academy days is the trips our school would take. They were looked forward to by the students with much anticipation and excitement. These trips also provided opportunities to expand horizons and develop relationships. Pine Hills Adventist Academy also has a history of taking trips with our high school students. Last year we combined all the high school trips/tours (other than the senior's) into a one week trip. Each year the main focus is on a different area of study, last year was science with this year being fine arts. Other subjects are still a part of each trip, just not emphasized as much. We believe this current format for trips is more inclusive, better educationally, and less disruptive to the school program and family life. In addition, the total cost for the average high school students four years' worth of trips has been reduced significantly. This year the trip will highlight some of California's fine arts offerings in the Los Angeles area. We will be leaving on Wednesday, April 3 and returning on Tuesday, April 9. Wednesday, April 10 has been built into the high school calendar as a day to re-coup from the long trip, as we have school activities planned for Sunday, April 6. Our goal is for students to complete all work while on the trip, culminating in a major presentation which will take advantage of the equipment/technology at the La Sierra University Business Department.

All high school students are required to go on this trip. The cost per student will be \$300 which includes, all meals but three, admission tickets & transportation. There are three ways you can pay for this trip:

1. Pay in full by cash, check, or credit card
2. Charge the trip cost to your school bill
3. Set up a payment plan with Mrs. Wareham (example: \$100 each for March, April & May)

Your partner in Christian Education,
Mr. Joe Fralick

Thank you for taking care of your **pre-registration!** This information will be helpful for planning purposes for next year.

Make sure you have the upcoming **Academic Fair** on your calendar! All students in grades K-8 will be showcasing a special Social Studies / History project for this special event. Please look for specific information regarding your child's project from his/her teacher. The date is set for Thursday, April 18, in the PHAA gym, from 5:00-7:00 PM.

The **last day to claim Lost & Found Items** will be on Friday, March 15th. Tables will be set up in the school lobby. All left-over items will be donated to the Auburn Community Services.



The office will be closed March 18- April 1. School will resume on Tuesday, April 2.

All golfers please save the date for our **18th annual golf tournament** which will be held on Friday, May 10, 2019 at the Dark Horse Golf Course. Come and enjoy a great day of golf and a chance to win several prizes, not to mention the proceeds will go toward supporting our school!

Change in Date: Our high school Academic & Sports Awards Night has been changed to Tuesday, May 28 at 6:30 pm.

Take a few extra minutes during the spring break to **collect Box Tops for Education** and return them with your student on April 2. Every dime counts.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will bring a half day on Thursday, April 18. Classes will dismiss at 12:10. This early dismissal will allow parents to meet with their child's teacher, have an early dinner and return to the school by 5 PM for the Academic Fair which will be from 5:00-7:00 PM.

PHAA Calendar At-A-Glance

- Mar 8** High School Vespers
- Mar 10** Daylight Savings
- Mar 12** 1/2 Field Trip B st Theater in Sacramento
- Mar 13-15** H.S. Quarter Testing
- Mar 14** Kinder Field Trip to Sierra College
- Mar 15** Quarter Ends
- Mar 17-24** Mission Trip
- Mar 18-29** SPRING BREAK
- April 1** NO SCHOOL Teacher In-service

Hot Lunch Schedule

Tuesday Taco bell
Sponsored by the Junior class

Wednesday Haystacks \$5
Sponsored by the Junior class

Thursday Musical Pizza
Sponsored by the music department

Student Art by: Rianna Krussow



High School Attendance Remind-

er: PHAA requires a minimum of 85% attendance per class, per semester in order to receive credit in that class (even if you were receiving an A in the class). This policy relates to total absences, excused and unexcused which is approximately 14 absences per semester for a class that meets five days/week and approximately 7 absences per semester for classes that meet two days per week. Remember three tardies also equals an absence.

What constitutes an excused absence?

- Illness of the student
- Death in the immediate family
- Mandatory Court Appearance
- Unavoidable medical or dental appointment
- A PHAA sponsored trip (These do not count towards the 15% allowed total)

For unexcused absences no make-up work will be allowed.

What constitutes a prearranged absence?

- Two weeks prior to the event a Pre-arranged Absence Form is submitted
- Limited to two events per year
- Limited to five school days total

Make-up work may be required at the discretion of the teacher

We thank you for your continued support as we work collaboratively together to help your child develop good attendance habits.

Through our **Cafe Press Fundraiser** we have earned \$108. Because of this Mrs.



Kuest was able to buy 10 beautiful new water-color sets and a pack of 50 paint brushes for our classrooms to

use. She still has \$35 left to go shopping for needed supplies like paper. Thank you so much for supporting our art classes! The fundraiser is ongoing into June. Check in monthly to see new artwork from your children at www.cafepress.com/PHAAstudentart

A special high school RESTPERS is being planned for Friday, March 8

at the Stoke's home. This will be a time for the students to enjoy each other's company, relax and share a meal together as well as play some games and most importantly spend some time in worship to God. The event is from 5:30-8:00. The Stokes live at 1330 Squirrel Creek Place, Auburn, CA 95602. Dinner will be provided.

Elementary students who have been at Pine Hills for more than a year have had a chance to participate in either our Home & School sponsored Jog-A-Thon or Read-A-Thon. This annual spring fundraiser helps to generate funds for a school wide facility improvement project. This year we are planning something different: **A Track & Field Fundraising Event** which will be held on April 19, 2019. Last year \$10,000.00 were raised for the purpose of remodeling our kitchen. This year's Track & Field Event will also be raising funds to help with the same project. Packets of information about this event will be sent home on Friday, March 15. We thank you in advance for your support of this fundraiser.

Studies show that the most impactful **mission trips** are those that return to the same location and develop a relationship with those they serve. This year we have the privilege of returning to Linda Vista Adventist Elementary where we had our mission trip in 2017. The 2 main projects we will be working on is putting up a fence and working in their small avocado orchard. Lind Vista is a small K-8 school in Oxnard Southern California. Throughout the trip our group will be exploring in our worships what true mission is and how real service is needed. I am very much looking forward to the growth in personal relationships with our group between our school and theirs and most importantly to have an encounter with God. We are seeking tools to use for our trip. We need an auger for drilling holes, and drills with chargers for building the fence. Please contact DanaRae.

Our **high school boys varsity volleyball team** is gearing up for a tournament which will be hosted by our school on Friday, March 15 from 9:00-3:00 in the PHAA gym.

An after school Drawing Club for students in grades 6 to high school

is being started by Mrs. Kuest, our elementary art teacher. If your child would like to learn how to draw people or would like to hone their skills, this Drawing Club is for them. This four week class will cover correct proportions and shading in portraits of people starting with the head and moving to full body. Student can bring their own reference pictures and drawing materials, or use the ones provided. All proceeds



from this class go towards the PHAA Art Fund. The group will meet on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30. The subject will be drawing people. The cost is \$10 per class (make checks payable to PHAA with "Art Fund" in the memo line). If your child is interested in participating, just call the office at 530-885-9447 to reserve their spot

The end of the third quarter will be on Friday, March 15th.

For high school students, this 3rd quarter marks a half-way checkpoint and is not a permanent grade on their transcript. High school transcripts reflect the 1st & 2nd semester grades. Students in grades K-8 receive grades at the end of each quarter. For those students in grades 9-12, eligibility to continue to play boys varsity volleyball will depend on third quarter's academic and attendance performance...no D's or F's. Make sure your child is aware of this policy, especially if this could be a motivating factor for their academic improvement. Use FACTS to check on your child's progress. Teachers try their best to keep their grade-book updated on a regular basis...at the minimum once per week.

March 9
at
Pine Hills Adventist Academy

Happiness Comes
from Giving

Girls Guys

Jr High Basketball Fundraiser
For the Dawson Family

Time: 5:45pm vespers
Followed by the most delicious SDA Haystack dinner
west of the Mississippi for only \$5

All while enjoying a Jr High Basketball Bonanza

Journal entry by Bryan & Ruth Dawson

Today marks an exciting step in Xander's recovery: he has moved to the step-down ICU! He is no longer in the "extremely critical" section of the unit, and his team is preparing him for transfer to pediatric rehab at UC Davis Medical Center in about a week or so. While we hate the thought of leaving familiar territory and starting all over in a new place with a new team, we are very thankful that Xander has come so



far so fast and is almost ready to move on. He'll be at UC Davis for a month, so we are about halfway through the hospital journey.

Yesterday (Wednesday), Xander got into a wheelchair for the first time and went for a ride to the PICU playroom for a few minutes. When we wheeled him into the hall, the nurses came out of the other rooms to see him and cheer him on and one of the nurses was in tears. She has been here from the beginning and was so happy to see Xander's progress.

Xander's chest tube and dialysis catheters are out, so yesterday Feather got to snuggle next to him in his bed. They both enjoyed that and stayed cuddled together for a long time. We've all gotten attached to this sweet girl!

Xander's hair has been falling out for some time now due to malnutrition, stress, and some of the many, many medications he has been on the past several weeks. This week his hair began coming out in clumps, so yesterday he got a buzz cut. He was disappointed to lose his beautiful, thick hair, but likes how easy it is to care for and how much lighter and cooler his head feels. He's looking forward to growing it all back once he gets home.

Last night, as I was tiptoeing away from Xander's bed after singing his bedtime songs and praying with him, he whispered "Thank you for taking such good care of me." My heart melted - yesterday was a tough day for him. His PT and wheelchair ride had thoroughly exhausted him. He was in a lot of pain, and he still thought to thank me as he drifted off to sleep. My first thought was of what a pleasure and gift it is to be able to take care of him; that he is still here to be taken care of, and my second thought was of all of the people who are taking such good care of us so that we can take care of Xander. We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the many, many people who have surrounded us with love, support and prayer from the very beginning of Xander's ordeal, and want to acknowledge as many of you as we can.

That Tuesday night when I took Xander to the ER, I texted our friend Sharon to let her know what was happening and ask her to pray for Xander. She immediately sent word to Jennifer, who handles our church emails. Jennifer quickly emailed our entire church family requesting prayer, and has continued to keep them all updated over the last four weeks (for which we are so grateful - thank you, Jennifer!). When I called Sharon at 5am to tell her the doctor had said Xander may not survive, she prayed with me, completely unconcerned about being woken up so early. When Xander came back to us after his cardiac arrest and was put on ECMO, Sharon went into action and before we knew it, had lined up people to bring us food, organized a prayer chain and coordinated Xander's school and six different area churches to feed and encourage us. Her friendship has always been invaluable to us, but we know now more than ever what a genuine treasure she is. She's going to hate that I'm sharing all of this, but that's just too bad. ☐

Our lovely friend Katie, who understands very well the stress and heartache of having a hospitalized child as

well as overcoming a critical illness, immediately thought of the tangible needs we would be facing and started a fundraising campaign, even though I had already told people not to. She knew better than we did the financial challenges ahead of us. She has also been tireless in her prayers, and has organized wonderful support for us from members of the Grass Valley church. She will always hold a special place in Xander's heart - when he was little, he wanted to marry her! ♥

That first morning, before I knew it, we were surrounded by friends who sat with us, prayed with us, wept with us and just let us move through the shock and fear in whatever way we needed to. I remember sitting in the PICU waiting room when suddenly there was Pastor DeTar, Xander's school chaplain, who has gone above and beyond to head up support teams from Pine Hills Academy and the Auburn church. She has been a wonderful friend to our family and has done so much to help carry us through all of this.

Also there right away was Lindsey, the beloved "Mrs. Q" to our boys, another faculty member at Pine Hills who has become so special to our family. She was by our side for hours that day and has been here for us continually, bringing food, running errands, texting encouragement and sneaking in some fundraising too. It's hard not to smile when she is around.

One of those first visitors that surprised me the most was Janice, the mother of Xander's classmate Kylie. We had only met once before, yet she arrived immediately with snacks (I hadn't eaten in 24 hours and knew my husband would be hungry soon) and gave up her morning to pray with and support us. I was so touched by that gesture, and remain so grateful.

Our friend and fellow church member Marilyn came loaded down with bags of food and water, both of which we were lacking at the time. She has continued to support us with grocery delivery, wonderful homemade meals (we're still talking about that fabulous lasagna!) and encouraging messages, to which I sometimes forget to reply (I'm so sorry!). Marilyn is one of those "behind the scenes" dynamos who quietly does so much but always deflects credit and praise. She is a true blessing and her kindness has not gone unnoticed!

We have had incredible pastoral support from our current pastor, Kevin Doe, who has not only visited and prayed both with and for us, but has also taken our three month-old son into his home and given up many nights of uninterrupted sleep. His wife Denise is taking wonderful care of our little Rowan, and my heart is happy knowing he is so well loved while I am unable to be with him. Thank you for the photos, videos and long drives to the hospital for visits so we can stay connected with our sweet baby boy!

Our former pastor, Mike Thompson, is family to us and has visited us almost daily for the entire month we have been here. His calming presence and earnest prayers carry us through, and his sense of humor keeps us smiling. Xander is always happy to have a visit from "Grandpa Mike." We love him and his wife Helen and appreciate them both so much.

Heidy, the Pine Hills Home and School leader, arrived that first afternoon with an amazing care package of toiletries, blankets, pillows and so many other practical things we didn't even realize we needed until we had them. She has lead a support team of members of the Colfax church, who have showered us with delicious food, beautiful cards, and constant prayers. Her sweetness and encouragement mean so much to us! Our friend Cheri is an RN here at Sutter and has prayed, visited and offered valuable medical insight, advice, and encouragement. We know we can count on

her cheerful presence each Sunday and Wednesday and appreciate having an "insider" on hand to help us navigate hospital life.

We have had visitors from near and far, friends and family who dropped everything to be at our sides and help us through those difficult first days (Heidi, Lizzie, Yolanda and Kathe - Thank you for making the drive from Fresno!) . Members of our church and other area churches have showered us with love, prayers and some amazing meals. To the members of our sister churches- Colfax, Auburn, Grass Valley, Granite Bay and Gracepoint - THANK YOU! So many of you, the majority of whom have never even met us, have made the long drive to downtown Sacramento to visit and feed us, and we are so grateful. You have no idea what your kindness and generosity have meant to us.

Our Meadow Vista church family has been unbelievable in their support of our family. We love that church and its members with all of our hearts and can't imagine a better group of people to live out our lives and faith with. God has gifted us with the most wonderful church community!

Thank you to the many Amazing Facts Ministries employees and friends who have visited, prayed for and encouraged us. Brian B., thank you for making it possible for Bryan to work remotely and be here at the hospital with Xander each day. We are indebted to Doug & Karen, who are so busy but have still taken time out of their schedule to visit, and Doug's greeting to Xander last week during the broadcast made him SO happy!

We owe a huge thank you to the Longo, Fiess and Taylor families, who have cared for our two other "big boys." You have taken on an enormous task and we are deeply grateful. We cannot express the relief we have felt, knowing that our children were safe, happy and well taken care of while we have had to be separated from them. They have thoroughly enjoyed being with all of you!

We feel incredibly privileged to be part of the fantastic community of Pine Hills Adventist Academy. The faculty, parents and especially the students have blown us away with their support. In a private school, there are no government subsidies, and each class must fundraise for many of the things they want or need. They all work so hard to raise money, and so many of them have selflessly donated their hard-earned funds and even held special fundraisers, sacrificing so much in order to contribute to Xander's care. They are an amazing group of young people. To all of the students, particularly the First & Second grades (we love you Mrs. LeBarre and Miss Cooke!), Sophomore and Senior classes, THANK YOU! You have blessed us tremendously. To the five VERY special young people who got together and donated from their own sports camp funds, we don't even have the words to tell you how much your gift and your sweet words mean to us. You are phenomenal young people and we love each of you!

We are blessed with wonderful parents who we can never thank enough for being here for us and our children. What a privilege to have such loving moms and dads, and fantastic grandparents for our boys! We thank the Lord for each one of you and we love you all so much.

I know this post is way too long, but we had to make sure we thanked the many, many, MANY people who have joined us on this journey and let God love us through them, including those of you all around the world who have prayed for Xander and our family. If I have missed anyone, please know that we love and appreciate you! In Xander's words, "Thank you for taking such good care of [us]!"