

# Haven Christian Academy



*Maximizing Your Child's God-Given Potential*

2105 King Road SW, Winter Haven, FL 33880 863-293-0930 [www.achurchworthfinding.com/academy](http://www.achurchworthfinding.com/academy) December 7, 2009

## From the Headmaster

As I craft this month's newsletter, I still find myself "grieving" (although that may be a tad hyperbolic) at the recent loss of my beloved Florida Gators in the SEC Championship Game. Many of you may not know that much of my enthusiasm for the Gators is due to the fact that I am an alumnus of the University of Florida, having graduated in 1985. I was fortunate enough to attend Florida as a "Gator Marine" in the early 80's. At that time, the Marine Corps had a program called M.E.C.E.P. (Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program) that helped enlisted Marines (I was a sergeant at the time) attend



the university. However, I had never cared so deeply about "my team" until the 2006 season when a freshman from Jacksonville began getting the call on "3<sup>rd</sup> and short" and I marveled at a young quarterback who ran over and through opposing linebackers for first downs wearing Scripture verses on his face. Football enthusiasts of various loyalties (even SEC rivals) all have come to appreciate and respect the way this player plays the game of football. I marveled during a recent post-game interview when a reporter from Alabama told him that the entire state of Alabama "loves and respects you" and the reporter seemed almost apologetic by her team's victory and by his team's loss. I have enjoyed these Gators for four years because of the manner in which this particular player has

played the game. Upon reflection, it seems to me that my love for the current Gators has more to do with my respect for a younger brother in Christ and my desire to see him represent Christ with excellence than anything else. Tim Tebow has spent the last



four years in Gainesville making His God (and ours) look great. He is a testimony to what God can do in the life of a young person who is radical (even revolutionary) about his love for God. He represents my hope for every student at Haven Christian Academy in that his love for God is evident in everything he does and is. Shortly after I arrived at Haven, our leadership team created the slogan "Maximizing Your Child's God-Given Potential." Surely, the case could be made that Tim Tebow, because of his radical love for the living God, is "maximizing his God-given potential." As we partner with our parents, my hope and prayer for every Haven student is that we could equip them to live lives of excellence because we have helped them develop a similar radical love for the living God. Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who

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are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven (Matthew 5:14-16)." My prayer is that Haven students would live lives that reflect the excellences of the God who made them.

## **Inaugural Grandparents' Day: A Great Success**

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Haven held its first Grandparents' Day Celebration in the history of the academy. The purpose of Grandparents' Day was to honor and love our grandparents. Over 120 grandparents and several parents were treated to student presentations from grades PreK3-6 and celebrated Thanksgiving with us by partaking of an excellent Thanksgiving meal. We were all truly blessed. Please inform the grandparents that we were thankful for their attendance and for giving us the opportunity to bless them.

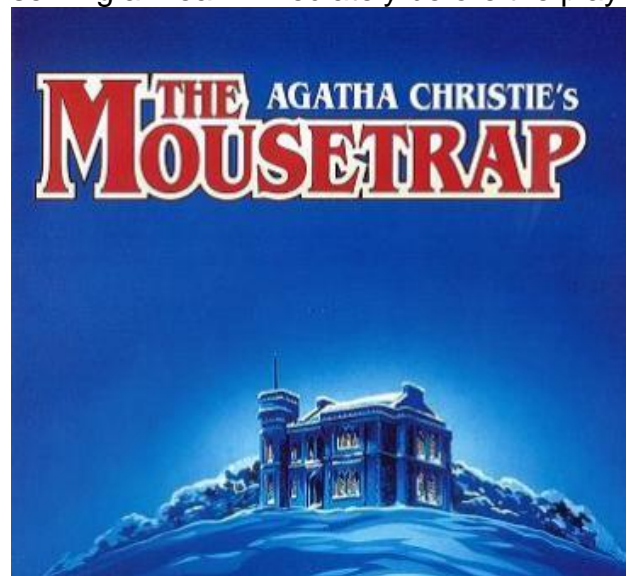
## **PTF Dinner & Christmas Play**

The Parent Teacher Fellowship is a parent and school organization whose primary purpose is to enhance the relationships between the school staff and the parents. Enhancing these critical relationships is something that we feel needs to be intentional as we believe this is a vital step in becoming and remaining an excellent school. On December 8, we invite all of our parents to attend a PTF dinner for the purpose of relationship building. The meal is being sponsored by the school and is free. The meal will be followed by a Christmas play presented by the students of HCA entitled "The Christmas Tree Lot" written by Mrs. Vegter and directed by Mrs. Vegter and Karen Wiggins. Dinner will begin at 6:00PM followed by the Christmas

play at 7:00PM. Everyone is welcome.

## **HCA Drama Team Prepares for "The Mousetrap" Dinner Theater**

On January 15, the HCA Drama Team will present Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" in the HBC sanctuary. The Drama team has been preparing all year for what promises to be one of the top performances in HCA history. Tickets are on sale now through the HCA office. Invite a guest! We will also be serving a meal immediately before the play.



## **Upcoming Events**

- Monday, December 14 – Home Basketball games against Westgate Patriots – 4:30
- Tuesday, December 15 – Away Basketball games against Community Crusaders – 4:30
- Friday, December 18 – Early Dismissal for Christmas break – 11:30AM
- Tuesday, January 5 – Home Basketball games against Faith Christian – 4:30
- Thursday, January 7 – Away Basketball games against Land O Lakes Eagles – 4:30
- Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, School resumes from Christmas break.