



The Husky Herald



“PROVIDING, PRESENTING, AND PUBLISHING NEWS FOR THE CHRISTIAN LEADERS OF TOMORROW”

May 2023

5/1 IB DP Examinations
Begin

5/15-17 Spring Semester
Final Examinations

5/18 Commencement
Ceremony

5/19 Faculty Inservice (NO
STUDENTS)

Memorial Day (NO
SCHOOL)

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SENIORS' COLLEGE DECISIONS

By APRIL LEE on April 24, 2023



It's already the almost end of our 2022~23 school year and time to say goodbye to our seniors. With hard work, they've gotten

accepted they've gotten accepted into some great colleges and it's now time for them to make life-changing decisions!

Class of 2023's college decisions:

- ❖ Cherise Ilagan - USC
- ❖ Christopher Tan - Pepperdine University
- ❖ Dale Lee - Yale University
- ❖ Doil Kim - Cal Poly Pomona
- ❖ Ellie Park - Boston University
- ❖ Kurcy Kim - Occidental College
- ❖ Harmonia Kim - University of California, Berkeley
- ❖ Maria Kong - University of California, Berkeley
- ❖ Ann Lee - New York University
- ❖ Jenna Lee - University of California, Santa Barbara
- ❖ Jasmine Lee - Loyola Marymount University
- ❖ Abigail Pastel - University of California, Los Angeles
- ❖ Jovanni Perez - Pepperdine University
- ❖ Sou Hamura - University of California, Santa Barbara

THE BUDDY PROGRAM INTERVIEW

By MARIA KONG on April 24, 2023

As schools seek to provide a nurturing and supportive environment for students of all ages, many have turned to buddy programs to help build positive relationships and foster academic success. These programs connect high school students with elementary school students, providing one-on-one support and guidance as younger children navigate their academic

and social worlds. At our school, the Buddy Program has been a fixture for several years, with high school volunteers serving as "big buddies" to elementary students in need of extra support. To learn more about this program and its impact on students, I sat down with the program's co-coordinator and current senior, Ann Lee.

Q: Thanks for speaking with me today, Ann. Can you tell me a little bit about the Buddy Program at our school?

The Buddy Program is a volunteer opportunity at NCA where high school upperclassmen ("Big Buddies") have the opportunity to mentor younger students ("Little Buddies"). This way, elementary students are also able to interact and learn from older students. Furthermore, the program serves as an excellent opportunity for high school students to develop leadership skills at an earlier age, which will become crucial later in their lives.

Q: What inspired you to start this program?

I wanted to create an opportunity for high school students to gain leadership experience that is easily accessible because I know it can be daunting to search through thousands of volunteer organizations to find one that is the right fit and has a welcoming community. Given the ease of joining and the presence of familiar students in the Buddy Program, I believed that it would be less daunting for high school students to participate and engage with their community.

Q: How do you select volunteers for the program?

The selection process for the Buddy Program is quite simple; you must be in either grade 11 or 12 and have genuine intent to serve as a mentor. Prior volunteering experience, high GPAs, etc. are not necessary and anyone is welcome to join.

Q: Have you seen any notable success stories from the program?

I have heard a multitude of stories from both the Little Buddies and Big Buddies that they were able to create bonds with each other that otherwise wouldn't have been possible without the connection that the Buddy Program provided. I often see Little Buddies and Big Buddies interacting with each other even outside of the designated Buddy Program time.

Q: What are your hopes for the future of the Buddy Program at our school?

For the continuing Big Buddies, I hope that they continue to strengthen their bonds with the Little Buddies and find that the Buddy Program has taught them invaluable lessons and skills that they can use later on in their lives. For our new Big Buddies, welcome! I hope you have an enjoyable experience, and don't be afraid to ask the continuing Big Buddies for any help or guidance with becoming a mentor. The Buddy Program is for all Buddies to interact and learn from each other. I hope that the Little Buddies, as they grow older, find that the Buddy Program has given them a unique experience of creating unique experiences and memories. Who knows? Maybe they'll be inspired to join the program once they are of age to do so. All in all, I just hope that the Buddy Program continues to thrive and provides NCA students with an enriching experience.

Q: Finally, for any high school students who may be interested in volunteering for the Buddy Program, what advice would you give them?

As stated in my responses to previous questions, the Buddy Program always welcomes new Big Buddies. Just find a student coordinator for the Buddy Program (either me or Maria, or any future student coordinators) And let them know that you're interested! And as previously stated, don't be afraid to ask questions to other fellow Buddies if you ever need guidance with anything! The purpose of the Buddy Program is for all students at NCA to interact with each other and develop relationships in a collaborative setting.

FINISH STRONG

By DR. SONG May 2, 2023

One of the most awesome benefits of working at a school is the fact that, every school year, there are clear demarcations such as the beginning of the semester, middle of the semester, end of the semester, and end of the school year. I think only the grownups know how important that is – to measure progress and have timelines and goals.

As May is the end of the school year for NCA, I always address the topic of *finishing strong* in May Newsletters. The Bible states in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever." Run the race. Run to win. Train and work hard toward the goal. Seek the crown. That's pretty straightforward.

We all know that a good start is necessary, but that does not guarantee a good finish, let alone victory. Many of us have watched those "epic fail" YouTube videos about those who started well but couldn't finish strong because they were distracted or showboating. We must remember that the race isn't over until you cross the finish line. That's the same way with learning at school: we all began the semester or school year with good intentions – and most of us have done pretty well up to this point. But, now it's time to finish well and finish strong by pressing on *through* the finish line.

For the seniors, it's about finishing your last year in high school well. For other students, it's preparing well for last projects or final exams. For teachers, it's about wrapping things up, covering topics our students must learn, and making sure that administrative duties are completed. So, we all have our to-do items toward finishing well.

We can push forward by asking the following questions: How did I run today's race? How was this week in terms of making

measurable progress toward the end goal? What have I learned so far, and what will I do differently in the future to obtain better results? How much progress have I made so far, and how close am I to the finish line? What is the ultimate goal or objective of life for which I'm striving and making efforts?

This type of reflection requires time, space, and brutal honesty. And, finishing strong also requires hard work. As the cliché goes, "No pain, no gain." Anything worth gaining requires a lot of time, sweat and work. We must also resist the temptation to quit or give up. Of course, there are times when we need to quit or change the course, but that is not what we're talking about here. As far as schooling or education is concerned, there should be no quitting, no giving up, no dropping out. The immortal words of Winston Churchill apply to students: "Never, never, never give up."

Hence, in this final edition of the 2022-23 school year newsletter, I want to urge everyone to give 100% effort, don't take the foot off the pedal, press on, keep moving forward, and cross the finish line before celebrating. When the race is over, well, you can rejoice with those who helped you along the journey – your parents, grandparents, friends, teachers, administrators, and everyone else whose shoulders you stand on.

Personally, I want to thank all students, teachers, staff, and parents who helped me to press on to complete the 24th year of leading NCA. Mrs. Song and I are honored, blessed, and loved by so many people... We also give all glory and praise to the One who cheers for us – He is at the finish line, ready to embrace us! So, let's go, Huskies! We got this!

MEMORIAL DAY

By SUEJUNG PARK April 24, 2023



Aaron P. Bernstein/Getty Images North America/Getty Images

Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday of May every year. Even though it can be seen as a day off from school and work, there is much more as to why this day is celebrated and honored. Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for all that have died in effort to defending our country. It marks the end of the Civil War, a tragic event in which many soldiers have sacrificed their lives. General John A. Logan, the leader of an organization of Northern Civilian veterans, designated May 30, 1868 as Decoration Day, and this day later became known as Memorial Day. In addition, an act was passed by Congress, making the last Monday of May, a federal holiday.

As the original name of the holiday suggests, this day has an early tradition of decorating graves with flowers, wreaths, and flags. From ancient Rome, people had a firm belief that decorating the gravestones of the dead would create a comforting environment in which the deceased's spirit could wander around and wander around the grave. Graves are often

decorated with the American flag, red poppies, and the gladioli. During World War I, a Canadian soldier called John McCrae noticed that thousands of red poppies were surrounding the spots of where soldiers were buried. He started to write poems in the viewpoint of the dead soldiers, inspiring Moina Michael, the person who made efforts to make the red poppy a national symbol. As the gladioli is shaped like a sword, it represents the strength of character seen in brave women and men.

Students and staff in New Covenant Academy take the time to give recognition and remembrance to those who have lost their lives to protect our country. Instead of just celebrating it being a day off of our busy lives, I hope that we can honor and be thankful for those who dedicated their lives to fight for our freedom.

CINCO DE MAYO

By JOAN HUH on April 24, 2023

Every year on May 5th, the world comes alive with the vibrant colors, sounds, and flavors of Cinco de Mayo—a celebration of courage, unity, and Mexican culture that's become a beloved tradition around the globe.

The day commemorates the Mexican army's unlikely victory over French forces at the Battle of Puebla on May 5th, 1862. This battle was fought during the French intervention in Mexico, a time when the French were attempting to establish a new government in Mexico under French influence. Despite being heavily outnumbered and outgunned, the Mexican army emerged victorious in the Battle of Puebla. The victory at Puebla was not a decisive one, and the French would go on to capture Mexico City a year later. However, the battle represented a symbolic victory for Mexico and has been remembered as such ever since. The day is celebrated with parades, parties, and other events throughout Mexico, particularly in the state of Puebla. In the United States, celebrations often include traditional Mexican music, dancing, and food.

SAN FRANCISCO

By YEJOO NAM on April 24, 2023

There are many places in California. However, if I were to pick one favorite place, it would be San Francisco, also known as "The Golden State". My reason for choosing this place as my favorite is because of the spacious ocean view, different attractions, and the amazing restaurants.

If you love the ocean, this is the right place for you! San Francisco's vast, blue ocean is something you don't want to miss out on. The view is so breathtaking that there are no words to describe it. The ocean breeze is very cool and refreshing too! This is not the only best feature in this place.

There are many places to go and visit along with your friends and family. For instance, Alcatraz, the Golden Gate Bridge, Palace of Fine Arts, etc. . . All of these places hold historic values, whilst having stories to tell of their own. You will be left in awe as you listen and learn whilst treading along each of these attractions, which makes you want to come back just to experience what you have felt when you first came across these amazing places. It really is a feeling you will never be able to forget.

Lastly, the amazing restaurants! With 39 Michelin stars awarded to 28 restaurants, San Francisco is no stranger to award-winning foods! Therefore, if you ever feel like treating

Even though Cinco de Mayo is not a major holiday in Mexico, it has become a significant cultural celebration in the United States, particularly in areas with large Mexican-American populations. In recent years, some communities have chosen to use the holiday as an opportunity to celebrate Mexican-American culture and promote understanding between different cultural groups. Cinco de Mayo celebrations can be a way to bring together people from different backgrounds and promote cultural exchange.

While Cinco de Mayo is a fun and festive holiday, it is also important to recognize its historical significance. The holiday is a reminder of the sacrifices made by Mexican soldiers and citizens who fought for their independence and sovereignty, and it is a celebration of the resilience and strength of the Mexican people. By remembering and honoring this history, we can help build bridges of understanding and respect between different cultures and help create a brighter future for all.



yourself to something mouthwatering, San Francisco won't disappoint you! Along the vast streets of this amazing city, you will be surrounded by different types of restaurants to choose from. My personal favorite restaurant there is called The Happy Lamb Hot Pot. There, they serve you with just the right portion of food! Therefore, nothing goes to waste. On top of that, their food has great splashes and a diversity of flavor that you will always remember.

With all these amazing traits from this city, no wonder it still and always will have a place in my heart. Someday, I hope I will be able to visit this city again just to reminisce on the wonders this city can only provide. There is no place like San Francisco.

NEXT YEAR'S JOURNALISM HEADS

By JOAN HUH on April 24, 2023



Photographed by DAVID FABIAN (11)

Next Journalism Heads!

Olivia Kim - Head Designer

Joan Huh - Head Editor

Sarah Chun - Head Photographer

We have an Art & Writing column where we proudly display the talents of the students at NCA! If you would like to have your own artwork, poem, or writing piece displayed in next month's edition of The Husky Herald, please email your submissions to aelee@students.e-nca.org along with your name and grade! Submissions can also be anonymous if that happens to be your preference. We look forward to seeing your amazing creations soon!

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The Husky Herald is published due to the hard work of NCA's Journalism Club each month! The students who worked on this month's issue are Abigail Kim, Abigail Pastel, Ann Lee, Cherise Ilagan, Dale Lee, Harmonia Kim, Jenna Lee, Joan Huh, Maria Kong, Olivia Kim, Sarah Chun, and Sou Hamura. Additional thanks to Dr. Jason Song, Mr. McLeod, Mrs. Han, Ms. Bufano, and Mr. Franklin Park for helping make this month's issue possible.