

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Student Perception Survey**
January 12
- Martin Luther King FLEX DAY**
January 15
- Book Fair**
January 17-19
- Career Week**
January 23-26
- NJHS/NHS Field Trip**
January 29
- Professional Development**
February 5
- Upper School Seminar**
February 6-9
- Progress Reports**
February 8
- Week of Prayer**
February 12-16
- President's Day**
February 19
- GMM Camp Meeting**
March 2-4
- Piano Recital**
March 4
- Chamorro Heritage Day FLEX DAY**
March 5

GAA's mission is to help students:

- Glorify God in their daily lives,
- Achieve academic excellence with social responsibility,
- Apply diligently the principles of healthful living.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS!

- Martin Luther King Day**
School will not be in session on Monday, January 15.
- Spirit Day**
On Thursday, January 18, we invite students and teachers to show their school spirit by dressing up in the career of their choice. No shorts for the upper school student. Students will change into their PE uniforms for PE class.
- Middle School ACB**
The Middle School ACB Team with coach Mrs. Ward will resume their weekly practices on Tuesdays beginning January 16. Their first 2018 competition will be on January 24 at Untalan.
- GAA Maranatha Pathfinder Club**
GAA Pathfinders will be collecting recycled plastic bottles every Thursday. Grades 5-12 may purchase GAA Pathfinder Tshirts for \$5.00 Pay Ms. Dori and see Mrs. Saladier. Pathfinders campout is postponed, date to be announced soon.
- Senior Class Sabbath**
The senior class of 2018 will be holding the next Sabbath program at Agana Heights SDA Church on February 24.
- Annual Book Fair**
GAA annual book fair will take place next week from January 17 to January 19. Thank you for supporting your child's love for reading.

Nengajo (年賀状)

Nengajo refers to special Christmas or holiday greeting cards sent by people in Japan to their friends at the end of the year, similar to western traditions of sending Christmas or holiday greetings. The students of Sensei Imazu created beautiful New Year's cards in their classes.



SNAPSHOTS GALLERY



ANGELS' MESSAGE

SEIP 2018 Continues

This new year, Guam Adventist Academy welcomed nine new students, ranging from first to seventh grade, under the Social English Interaction Program. SEIP offers an opportunity for visiting Korean students to practice their English-speaking skills with native English speakers.

This program used to run only during Korea's winter season. However, in 2017, a summer program was introduced. This summer program theme exposes Korean students to a Christian environment by acquainting them with the Christian character and teaching them Christian songs. GAA Principal Chrislyn Larrew wishes to promote the school's SEIP to Seventh-day Adventist churches in neighboring countries. The SEIP is a way for GAA students to socially interact with Korean students whilst being witnesses for God.

Fifth and sixth grade teacher, Bertha Saladier, says that this program has positively affected her class. Her students are able to make new friends and learn in an integrated class environment. Her class uses

the Listening Center to allow the Korean students to listen to English audiobooks. She teaches the SEIP students Christian songs and how to use the Bible.

Third and fourth grade teacher, Cynthia Tkalec, says that this program is a way for her students to be good friends while being helpful to others. Her students have stepped up and taken the role of good hosts, making the SEIP students feel at home, being kind, as Mrs. Tkalec states, is the best kind of witnessing. The SEIP students follow the same curriculum, but Mrs. Tkalec carefully and clearly gives instructions so that all the students are able to understand. While English-speaking students are taking their language class, the SEIP students use the Listening Center.

We interviewed a few GAA students and asked them about their new SEIP classmates. Mayah Miyagi admires Suah because she is a talented artist and is great at sketching and drawing.

According to Danilo Tkalec, Chesco is good at making funny faces while sitting across from him at his table. Sarah Miyagi said that Rim is friendly and can double-dutch jump rope very well. "He is also funny," she added. A bigail Manigat said that Rim is kind and likes to share his belongings. She enjoys how he shows her things from Korea that fill his desk. She likes that sometimes he can be serious, and at other times he can be funny, too. Lonnie Benitez made friends with Yelin So, who is gifted in math and helps him understand the lesson. They are in the same grade, so it was easy to become friends. Alana McKeever made friends with Jaehyun Shin, who had previously learned English so it was not difficult to talk with him.

The purpose of each group's visit is to allow foreign students to mingle and improve their English-speaking skills, both of which are being done. The last group of SEIP students really enjoyed their time here. We hope that our newest group of visiting students will have a similar or even better experience.

BOOK FAIR 2018 JAN 17-19

"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32

IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS

The Upper School English classes started their first day of mini-seminars on Wednesday, January 10. English Teacher Assistant Rosetrina Elidok touched on the upside of positivity, as well as a new concept called "Recognizing Your Anger Buttons." The first activity aided the students in identifying their individual ways of thinking. The presentation was designed to help teens realize the importance of choosing to stay positive by presenting them with scenarios in which the only variable was the thought process underlying the experience given. This was quickly followed by an activity

in which the students listed and shared their "anger buttons," or the actions or situations that triggered this particular emotion. They were then taught that the first step in dealing with anger is recognizing what triggered it. The gist of the presentation: emotions are largely determined by our thought processes, and can be controlled or calmed based on the choices that we make. In order to have a positive experience - in most situations - it is truly the thought that counts. This presentation was the first in a Character and Career Building series to take place this week.

PERSEVERANCE AND CONVICTION FOR YOUR CAREER

Dr. Esther LaTour, a Family Physician practicing dermasurgery, completed our trio of speakers this week. A seasoned presenter, she shared her journey as a student, parent, and physician, and how her career has opened up opportunities for her to witness to her patients by praying for them with permission, and sharing the health message to supplement existing treatments. Considering herself the only non-artistic person among her parents and siblings, she calls her work her personal form of art. Performing cosmetic procedures in a partnership with her husband's practice as a dermatologist, the two have seen a variety of

cases, from skin cancers to abnormal facial hair growth on females.

She encouraged students to develop good study habits, enjoy learning, and challenge themselves each day, academically and otherwise. Two memory verses, Jeremiah 29:11 and Proverbs 3:5,6 were introduced and paraphrased. "There is a field for you, and the Lord can use you wherever you are," she said. A woman of faith, conscience, and perseverance, Dr. LaTour urged the students to place their trust in God as they continue to learn, and eventually pursue their respective careers.

THROUGH THE LENS OF A MISSIONARY

On January 11, 2018, the Upper School English classes received a visit from Earley Simon, a video and TV producer from the Office of the Seventh-day Adventist Mission General Conference. On staff for about 5 years, he has travelled to many countries and compiled many missionary stories. Mission360, a 30-minute program on the Hope Channel and 3ABN, visually documents many different mission fields, in all conditions and among all cultures. Shorter features, called Mission Spotlight, are edited and sent out to Adventist churches around the world to inform members of the mission work being done. Throughout his presentation, Simon shared the challenges, as well as the blessings of his job.

God's guidance, flexibility, and tact, Simon has had to navigate many difficult or tricky situations, such as being a Christian in places that do not welcome Christians, and learning how to adapt quickly in areas that are not familiar with Seventh-day Adventism, or Jesus Christ. His team, consisting of two people, understands that the mission field requires "three ingredients: flexibility, flexibility, and flexibility." Thailand, in fact, has one Adventist for every 5,000 Buddhists. In a country that does not welcome Christianity, Simon was taught to respond with, "I am a Seventh-day Adventist. We are a special group of people who are preparing people for Jesus's Second Coming." Because the people in that particular place are also preparing for Jesus' Second Coming, they welcomed him. Though faced with many challenges, and requiring great flexibility and adaptability, the work is truly rewarding. These short clips allow the average person to see through the lens of a missionary.

Simon stated, "I get to travel to these different parts of the world and to meet missionaries who share Jesus's love." With

Principal's message

Dear Parents/Guardians:

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." James 4:8 (NKJV) I used this Bible verse to start the devotion time during our workbee on Sunday, January 7, 2018. I felt this was an appropriate one to use as we begin this calendar year.

Thoughtfully consider the message in this poem.

Time to Pray

I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day; I had so much to accomplish that I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me, and heavier came each task. "Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered. He answered, "You didn't ask."

I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, gray and bleak; I wondered why God didn't show me. He said, "But you didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence; I used all my keys at the lock. God gently and lovingly chided, "My child, you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning, and paused before entering the day; I had so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray.

Author unknown
Source: <http://www.kubik.org/lighter/praytime.htm>

May we always remember that God should be first on our calendar/schedule.



Happy New Year!
Mrs. Chrislyn Larrew
Principal

What are your goals for 2018?



Johana Robert, 11th grade
"To strive for good grades. I also want to improve my relationship with God."



Elijah Mafnas, 12th grade
"To be more active and put my mind more to what I want to do."



Noah Fernandez, 9th grade
"To be more consistent in general, and have a stronger relationship with God."



Maja Tkalec, 9th grade
"I want to have better fitness goals, eat healthier, and strengthen my relationship with God."



Ha'ani Lei Sam, 6th grade
"Become closer to God, eat healthier, and enter in a major musical."



William Flores, 6th grade
"To finish my work everyday, and to read the Bible more."

Youth Summit 2018: Fresh Start!

Beginning the day with breakfast, sleepy-eyed kids emerged from the fellowship hall with full stomachs and alert expressions. After settling in the sanctuary, the first activity, an ice breaker, had them blending their names to create a group name. 2018 Fresh Start! was indeed off to a fresh start.

among the topics of discussion. This summit featured a variety of speakers, both youth and young adults. As it ended and teens filed out for lunch, many of them indicated that they had learned something practical. Hopefully, their newly acquired knowledge would soon be put to good use in their everyday routines and challenges.

January 5, 2018, the Friday before the start of school, the Clinic Church in Ordot AY conducted a Youth Summit to energize our teens and equip them with tools to tackle the new year. "Beating Procrastination and Disorganization," "Relationships, Dating, and Purity" and "Building Your Career Path" were



BIBLE CONNECTION

MY FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE IS FOUND IN PHILIPPIANS 4:13
"I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME"
I LIKE IT BECAUSE THIS VERSE ENCOURAGES ME THROUGHOUT MY DAY AND IT IS A REMINDER THAT I CAN DO ANYTHING WITH GOD'S HELP.
- JO ANN FUKUDA, 12TH GRADE



WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE VERSE?



"Hope" is the thing with feathers - (314)
By Emily Dickinson

"Hope" is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chilliest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.



STEM Project
Edible science:
Earth's layers
activity by the 3rd / 4th grade students

