

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Heritage Oak's Packages of Gratitude
"When you're away in far away lands,
please, take with you our hearts and hands"

Heritage Oak Middle School students organized their first "House"- wide community service project to collect items for American military men and women. In partnership with Packages of Gratitude in Anaheim Hills (<http://www.packagesofgratitude.com>) middle school students collected items and postage to send 80 care packages to American military men and women stationed overseas. Items included personal care articles, stationary supplies for writing home, and snacks. Mary Ann Cordova of "Packages of Gratitude" included warm hand-knitted caps for the cold winter months ahead. Additionally, in their English class, middle school students wrote a letter of thanks to a soldier under the guidance of English and Literature teacher. The pre-school, pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes helped as well. They made flag posters to cheer the troops and enclosed them in the care packages. With the holidays upon us, these contributions will definitely cheer the overseas troops deployed far from home and community.

Heritage Oak is a traditional school appealing to parents who are seeking a proven curriculum and a safe, nurturing environment. Community awareness, academic achievement, and family values are part of its program that focuses on the development of the whole child.

The U.S. Department of Education bestowed its highest honor upon Heritage Oak when it awarded the school the 1998-1999 "Blue Ribbon" award. The "Blue Ribbon", our Nations most prestigious education award, distinguishes Heritage Oak for its excellence in leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement, parent involvement, and community support.