



PARENT NOTE – October 28, 2024

“Creation Caretakers”

Genesis 2:15

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Highland Christian School has been entrusted with unprecedented growth in recent years. This growth has created unique challenges in the form of congested traffic in our drop off line and parking lots. In response to these challenges, a committee of parents, staff, and Administration was created to brainstorm ways to address this issue with a focus on student safety. The committee identified key strategies to increase traffic flow and ensure the physical well-being of students coming to school. These strategies include painting a crosswalk in the parking lot to direct those on foot, adding clear signage near the Jr. High doors to indicate when it is safe to unload students, and reassigning staff to high traffic areas. All of these safety measures should be in place starting in November.

Additionally, we are asking for the assistance from parents with these safety related issues:

1. Please avoid parking along the sidewalk near the garage, on the south east driveway that exits out to Lincoln Street. Parking is permitted on the grass side of the driveway, if needed.
2. Avoid stopping, unloading, or parking in the fire lane along the SEC playground during K-8 drop off as this increases traffic congestion during peak times.
3. Parents should pull up as far as possible before unloading students at the front of school. Stopping at the Jr. High door is not permitted. Wait until you have fully merged into one single line before unloading students.
4. Parents are encouraged to exit the south parking lot via Lincoln Street. Those in the north lot should exit right onto Ridge Road.
5. Do not block traffic on Ridge Road when entering the driveway. If your vehicle cannot fully make it into the driveway, without sticking out onto Ridge Road, please circle the block or park in the lot.
6. Staff is available to assist your child out of the car at the front of school. If the parent or guardian needs to exit the vehicle in order to assist the student getting out of the car, we encourage you to park your vehicle and escort your child to the front of school.

Thank you for your assistance as we continue to make HCS a safe place for all students, parents, and staff!

SCHOOL NEWS:

- **Report Cards will be available on Tuesday, October 29.** Please sign in to OnCampus to check your child's 1st quarter progress.
- **Reformation Day is on October 31** and we will be having an All-School chapel. Please enter through the gym doors. Chapel will begin around 8:30 a.m.
- **Picture Retake Day is this Wednesday, Oct. 30.** If your children need retakes, please send the original pictures back with them on that day. Interstate Studio will not replace the original pictures if they are not returned. If your children were absent on the original picture day, you will need to place your order at <https://interstate.com/FlyerEntry/87550EU> using order code 87550EU.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences – Nov. 6&7:** This year, we are again using Schoolbookings.net to let parents sign-up for the conference slot they would prefer. Like last year, 3rd-8th grade conferences will be student led. Pre-K - 2nd grade conferences will just be with the parents. You may sign up for conferences at <https://www.schoolbookings.net/code/szk44>. Our school code is szk44. **The deadline to signup is on Nov. 1 at 10 a.m.**

- **Saturday Serve (Rescheduled)**- Come join us as we bless our Highland Christian neighbors by raking leaves. Groups will be sent to different areas near HCS to rake leaves from the front lawn to the parkway. We will walk from house to house asking if we can bless them by raking the leaves. For this Saturday Serve, we will work outside raking. Please bring rakes, leaf blowers, brooms, gloves, etc. Please dress for the weather. We welcome any age to help with the clean-up. [November Saturday Serve Sign Up](#)
 - **Date:** Saturday, November 2
 - **Time:** 9 am - 11 am
 - **Place:** HCS parking lot
- **Veterans' Day Chapel: On Monday, November 11 we will honor our veterans in our Veterans Day Assembly.** We would like to invite and recognize our HCS community veterans. If you are a veteran or have a family member who would like to attend, we need you to fill out the form **BY FOLLOWING THIS LINK - [Veterans Day](#)**. All of our veterans will be seated in the front and when their names are called, they will stand to be recognized. Please email any questions to veterans@highlandchristian.org.
- **Junior High Boys' Event- November 2:** On Saturday, November 2, HCS will hold its next Building Christian Men event of the 2024-2025 school year. The emphasis of this initiative is to build spirituality and maturity in our young boys. This event will take place OFFSITE as we plan to hike a number of miles along Lake Michigan and into the dunes. **A LINK WITH MORE DETAILS AND AN RSVP HAS BEEN EMAILED TO PARENTS.**
- **WE'RE HIRING!!** Please click the [link](#) to view our current openings.
- **Homemade vanilla is for sale in the office - \$3.00 for an 8oz bottle.** If you have any empty 8, 10, or 12oz glass bottles, please send them to the office so more vanilla can be made. Thanks!

SECURITY NEWS:

Our school has adopted the "I Love U Guys" Foundation's Standard Response Protocol (SRP).

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is based on an all-hazards approach as opposed to individual scenarios. SRP utilizes clean, common language and five specific actions that can be performed during an incident: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

Today we will highlight the first SRP action: HOLD. This action would be utilized for any situation requiring the hallways to remain clear (medical emergency, etc.).

HOLD "in your classroom or area"

- Students are trained to clear the hallways and remain in their room or area until the "all clear" is announced. Students not in a classroom should proceed to the nearest area (classroom, library, office, etc.) where they can be supervised and remain safe.
- Teachers, Staff, and adults are trained to close and lock the door, account for students, and continue with classroom activities until the "all clear" is announced.

For more information regarding Standard Response Protocol, please see [I Love U Guys Foundation](#).

FAITH CORNER:

After reading a Bible story, ask open-ended questions that have no "right" or "wrong" answers. For example:

- I wonder what you would have thought about . . . ?
- I wonder how this story makes you feel?
- I wonder who you would have run to tell about this story?
- I wonder why we don't notice God working today?

If you need a great Bible storybook, check out these:

The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name - Sally Lloyd-Jones

The Beginner's Bible - Zondervan

The easiest translation of the Bible is The Holy Bible: Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)
It is an accurate translation of the Bible created by the translation team at Bible League International.

ATHLETIC NEWS:

October 29- Boys Basketball Game

- **6th grade vs Calvin (HOME) 4:00 p.m.**
- **7th grade vs Calvin (HOME) 5:00 p.m.**
- **8th grade vs Calvin (HOME) 6:00 p.m.**

October 30- Boys Basketball Game

- **6th grade @ Southwest Chicago Christian (Oak Lawn) 4:00 p.m.**
- **7th grade @ Southwest Chicago Christian (Oak Lawn) 5:00 p.m.**
- **8th grade @ Southwest Chicago Christian (Oak Lawn) 6:00 p.m.**

PTO NEWS:

Please save the date for our Bingo family fun night for 3-5th grade! This event will take place on November 15th from 6-8pm in the school gym. Families and siblings of 3-5th grade are invited, but only the 3-5th grade students will be able to win the prizes. More information will be coming home soon!_

PTO is in need of volunteers for a few upcoming events. If you would like to sign up, please fill out this [FORM](#).

TRIP NEWS:

These retailers are offering smaller denomination gift cards for the holiday season:

\$5 – Barnes & Noble, Cold Stone Creamery, Panera, Starbucks, Taco Bell

\$10 – Amazon, Applebee's, CVS Pharmacy, Darden Restaurants, Dick's Sporting Goods, Disney, Gap Brands, Home Depot, Jewel, T.J. Maxx, Walmart

TRIP orders for physical gift cards are due (online and paper order forms) this week, Thurs., Oct. 31st by 10 a.m. TRIP will be accepting physical gift card orders on Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5 and 12. Online ordering is available 24/7. Contact Ann Lynch at trip@highlandchristian.org for more information.

TRIP Teams for Stuffing Orders: Team B – Nov. 5; Team C – Nov. 12; Team D – Nov. 19; Team A – Nov. 26

COMMUNITY NEWS:

- **Bethel Church Lansing invites you to join us TONIGHT, October 28 for our Trunk or Treat from 4-6pm** followed by a BBQ sandwich fundraiser dinner inside from 4:30-7. All proceeds will go to Golden Hope Ministries!
- **NEW LIFE CRC** (3010 Ridge Road, Highland, IN 46322) will be hosting **Trunk or Treat on Thursday, October 31, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m** in the church parking lot. We will have decorated cars with trunks of candy & treats along with a refreshment table! Don't forget to wear your costumes! Please contact (219) 838-0506 for more information. We hope to see you there!
- **Illiana Christian is once again hosting a Softball Camp for girls in 5th-8th grade.**
 - Saturday, November 23 12:30-3:30pm
 - Saturday, November 30 at 10:00am-1:00pm
 - Saturday, December 14 at 12:30-3:00pm

For more information and/or to sign up, please click the following [LINK](#).