



PARENT NOTE – January 22, 2025

“Creation Caretakers”

Genesis 2:15

SCHOOL NEWS:

- **ATTENDANCE REMINDER:** Parents **MUST** call the office (219-838-0356) or email the office by **8:25 a.m.** to inform the school of a student's absence and indicate why the student is not at school that day. Please leave a message if the office is closed. Notifying the teacher is helpful and encouraged, but the official call off must be done through the school office. To view the full **Attendance Policy** please refer to the [Parent – Student Handbook](#) found on our website.
- **Everyone is invited to the All-School Gifts Assembly this Friday at 8:30 a.m. in the gym!**
- **Donut Day has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 29.** Donuts will be \$2.50 each and we will have chocolate, strawberry, vanilla and glazed donuts. All proceeds will go to the 8th grade class trip.
- **Saturday Serve:** January’s Saturday Serve will focus on supporting the HCS community by serving at our thrift store. **Come as a family and gather at etc. . . Thrift Store to sort, hang, size, and color code clothing.** Since we will gather before the store opens, we may have the opportunity to organize and clean some of the displays. This is a great family event! What a great way to show our support and thanks to this organization who gives back to the families of HCS. Thank you for your work in bringing God’s Kingdom on earth. Questions? Contact Vicki Huizenga at vhuzenga@highlandchristian.org
Date: Saturday, January 25
Time: 9 - 11 am
Place: etc . . . Thrift Store 1650 US-41, Schererville, IN 46375
Link to Sign up: [January Saturday Serve Signup](#)
- **Girls on the Run:** Mark your calendars! Our spring season starts Monday, March 3. **Registration for the girls opens February 3.** The 5K will take place on May 17! This program is for girls in 3rd-5th grade. We are looking for coaches! No running experience needed. If you're interested please contact Amber Powell at apowell@highlandchristian.org. We love having junior coaches as well. If you have a teen 16+ who is interested please let me know.

ATHLETIC NEWS:

- **January 14: Girls Basketball Games**
 - **6th grade vs. Crown Point Christian (HOME) 4:00 p.m.**
 - **7th grade vs. Crown Point Christian (HOME) 5:00 p.m.**
 - **8th grade vs. Crown Point Christian (HOME) 6:00 p.m.**

HCS will continue to have a concession stand at all home games! We typically serve hot food, snacks, candy, and various drinks. Stop by and support the Athletic Department! **We are in need of volunteers for the concession stand.** If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Kristy Tebben at ktebben@highlandchristian.org.

- **Spectator Guidelines-** With the girls basketball season underway, we wanted to send out a few reminders on the guidelines we have in place for students attending games. We love when students come to our games and support our teams and we had a good amount of students at our first home game this year. We encourage our students to come out and support but please review and talk with your students about the spectator guidelines.
 - K-5 students need to have a parent present in order to attend the games. They must be supervised at all times.
 - 6-8 can stay without supervision but need to be in the gym or concessions area and not hanging out in other parts of the building.

- **Coaches Needed-** We are in need of a few coaches for our upcoming spring seasons.
 - **7th Grade Boys Volleyball Coach** - Tryouts start on February 25th and the season ends on March 22nd.
 - **8th Grade Boys Volleyball Coach** - Tryouts start on February 25th and the season ends on March 22nd.
 - **Assistant Track Coach** - The dates of the meets are below.
 - Mon, Apr 14 - Chicago Christian
 - Wed, Apr 23 - Chicago Christian
 - Thurs, Apr 24 - Illiana Christian
 - Mon, Apr 28 - Chicago Christian
 - Mon, May 5 - Chicago Christian - League Meet

Please reach out to Mr. Hillegonds if you are interested in any of these positions or have any questions.

FAITH CORNER:

A new year is a great time to reflect on how we can grow in faith, serve others, and deepen our walk with Jesus. Just like any new habit we try to build into our lives, developing Faith Practices take time and repetition to become godly habits.

Faith Practices are repeated actions that help us:
 grow in our love for God and our neighbor,
 listen to the Holy Spirit, and
 become more like Jesus.

One Faith Practice is Worship. Children learn through observation, but they learn best through participation. When we regularly take our children to church, worship becomes a fabric of their lives. Here are some ways to help kids worship:

Be Positive - Instead of saying, “We have to go to church,” say “We get to go worship God.” Teach your kids that worship isn’t just a place to go; it is something to **do** with God’s family.

Let Kids Choose the Seats - Families often sit toward the back of the worship space so they won’t be embarrassed by their children’s behavior. Often kids prefer the front so they can, see, hear, and participate.

Be a “Church Whisperer” - Help kids stay engaged during worship by asking questions and making observations. During a song whisper, “This is my favorite part.” As Scripture is read, ask your child “Wonder” questions about the passage. Point out what is happening in the service - baptism, Lord’s Supper, prayer, etc.

TRIP NEWS:

- **TRIP Voucher Vendors** - TRIP has several businesses on a Voucher Vendor list. Businesses participating in the TRIP voucher program can be found on the HCS website under the TRIP tab. Voucher forms can be picked up in the school office before you shop at these businesses. Contact Ann Lynch at trip@highlandchristian.org if you have any questions.

- **TRIP orders** for physical gift cards are due (online and paper order forms) this week, Thurs., Jan. 23rd by 10 a.m. TRIP will be accepting physical gift card orders on Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 20, 27, Mar. 6, 13 and 20. Online ordering is available 24/7. Contact Ann Lynch at trip@highlandchristian.org for more information
- **Team A** will be putting the TRIP orders together today. Orders will be ready for pick up in the school office today by 2:45 p.m.
- **TRIP Teams for Stuffing Orders:** Team B – Jan. 28; Team C – Feb. 4; Team D – Feb. 18; Team A – Feb. 25

COMMUNITY NEWS:

- Brandon Rukes, Senior Pastor at Griffith First Christian Church, is excited to announce the upcoming performance of **Jason Gray** at GFCC on February 15th! Jason Gray has brought listeners to Shine.FM and K-Love with songs like, “[Remind Me Who I Am](#),” “[Sparrows](#),” and “[Good to Be Alive](#).” Jason is calling this Better Together: The Live Recording Tour. We are hoping to sell all of our seats for this event, because all profits will go towards our 2025 Mission Trip with our Next Gen Youth Group. Our High School students will be traveling this summer with TEAMeffort Missions to repair homes and living spaces for those in great need in Tennessee. This will be a great concert that will support a great need! Get your tickets by going to gfcc.net/concert. Tickets range from \$25 with an option of a VIP Meet and Greet Ticket for \$50. Any questions, please email Jaime Garcia at jaime@gfcc.net
- It's pizza and pie time! Illiana Christian's annual PIE Fundraising Dinner has begun and now's the time to reserve your Rosati's deep dish pizza (cheese, sausage or pepperoni) and Rise 'n' Roll pies (apple or cherry). Ordering will be open until Wednesday, January 29 using this link: <https://form.jotform.com/csiersema/pie-2025>. Pickup will be at school on Thursday, February 6, 2:00-5:00. Take them home to bake that night or freeze them for later. Giving is by donation and can be done via credit card on the order form or by cash/check at pickup or in the school office. All donations directly support the PIE Committee's Excellence in Education fund that purchases educational supplies for teachers and staff that they would not otherwise be able to provide for the students. Thank you for your support!"