High Level Christian Academy



**“WALK WORTHY”**

*“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of*

 *the calling you have received.”*

Ephesians 4:1

**January 2021**

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Happy New Year! I hope that your Christmas season was full of joy, peace, and hope for the future. This past year has been a difficult one, but through it all God has been working and He is good. I would like to take some time to remind you of just some of the things God has been doing this year: January 2020 began with HLCA needing a new K/1 teacher ASAP and within days, He provided Ms. Ahn. When we needed, He provided. He kept us healthy and drew families closer during the lockdown. It was a blessing to hear from various families in the community the ways they were enjoying each other. We were reminded how precious our friends and extended family are, when we could not be with them, the same with our church family. We, as teachers, were challenged and stretched beyond our own comfort as we learned to teach in entirely different formats; God enabled and equipped us. God provided for our school throughout the lockdown and He provided the staff we needed to operate this year. We were permitted to return in the fall and can operate as a cohort; God has continued to preserve the health of our staff and students. We were able to replace our roof in September and God has continued to provide for our school. The Purdy’s fundraiser did better than usual, and bottles were donated without doing a drive. As I write this list, I am reminded of more and more things that God has done this year; we have much to be thankful for.

I know that 2021 has started with more difficult news of Covid-19 and both Canadian and American politics; it is challenging to look ahead with optimism, but we can have hope and peace in these tumultuous times because God has overcome the world (John 16:33). Because we have Christ in us, we also have the greatest calling in these divisive times, to “love one another just as I (Christ) have loved you” (John 15:12). This does not mean that we cannot speak truth or defend our thoughts and beliefs, but it does require that we do it with “gentleness and respect,” sanctifying or setting apart Christ as Lord in our hearts (1 Peter 3:15). As we enter 2021, let us remain firm and solid in our faith, knowing that God is in control; He is good, and He is faithful to His word. He is love, the Prince of Peace, and He is the God of all comfort. In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Paul reminds us to “rejoice always,” to “pray without ceasing,” and to “give thanks” in everything “for this is God’s will for you;” I do not think that we can easily rejoice, without first stopping to give thanks. So, let’s choose to remember all that God has done in 2020 and rejoice in the Lord in 2021.

God is good all the time!

Ms. Jeffrey

**CLASSROOM REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*\*All Students will be completing the CAT-4 exams (Canadian Achievement Tests 4th Edition) over the next few weeks; these tests will assess current student levels in literacy and numeracy. There are tests that assess reading, word analysis, writing conventions, spelling, mathematics, and computation. These tests evaluate our students according to Canadian curriculum versus Provincial; this test will evaluate our students’ learning as well as assess where they stand according to Canadian benchmarks for same-grade peers. These tests will not be for grades but are going to provide the school with a clear picture of our strengths and areas in need of approvement. This data will inform our planning and practice in the coming years. The last time we administered the CAT-4 exams were in the 2017-2018 school year.

**ECS – GRADE 2**

Greetings! It is 2021! I wish everyone a wonderful year full of cheer.

**ECS**

I have uploaded a kindergarten program outline for your reference onto Schoology. It is available in the kindergarten AM course. For details on the Sight Words, please refer to the Sight Words List that will be sent home and uploaded onto Schoology.

I have great news! Kindergarteners finished learning all the alphabet sounds in early December. In December we started Sound Book #2 which contains digraph sounds for kindergarten students to practice. I will be updating the Sound Book after each lesson. Please remember to put the Sound Book in the agenda pocket after home practice.

Also, we are starting Sight Words practice for kindergarten students. Students are blending letters to read. Sight Words are words that appear often in written text, but do not follow traditional phonetic rules. It is our goal for kindergarteners to know 100 sight words by the end of the year. Once students learn these 100 sight words, they will be able to read many more books! I will be sending home a sight word sheet for home practice. For every week, please practice with your child at home. There will not be a test every week, but it will be beneficial for your child to practice reading out loud the sight words and to practice printing. There will also be time during school to practice sight words.

**Grades 1 and 2**

**LA**: In literacy, we will continue to work on story writing. In January, we will focus on writing with more detail. We will also learn about structure and how to create better endings for our amazing stories!

**Math**: Grade 1 and 2s will be focusing on addition and subtraction for Number Sense. We are learning addition and subtraction within 100. We will be learning various strategies to help us do math!

**Science**: We are starting a new unit called Buoyancy and Boats. We will be learning the answer to our inquiry question, “How did Noah’s Ark float?”

**Social**: We are learning about the Acadians in Nova Scotia. We will learn to appreciate different cultures and learn to extend love and respect to others.

**GRADES 3–6**

In **Science**, we will begin our unit on electricity and magnetism; there will be a lot of hands-on work in this unit. Students will build circuits, test materials to see if they are conductors, and test our power usage.

In **Social Studies** we will study the physical geography of both the Interior Plains and the Cordillera regions. Students will be given a fur trade fort project to be completed at home over the next few weeks.

In **LA,** we will be learning about writing reports and the research process; this will take us both January and February to complete. We will continue to practice our typing and our cursive writing; the reading challenge is still on-going.

In **Math**, the Grade 3s are continuing to learn their multiplication tables through skip counting, doubling, and patterns. The Grade 4s will be reviewing multiplication and learning division. The Grade 5s will continue to work on sorting quadrilaterals and using the correct geometric labels for them. Then we will move on to data management and graphing. The Grade 6s before the break began their chapter on numbers looking at multiples and factors; they will continue this chapter studying divisibility, prime and composite numbers as well as the order of operations. Then we will move on to our chapter on fractions.

**GRADES 7-9**

**Grade 7**

**LA**: Students are embarking on a month long unit on persuasive writing. Expect your child to be writing essays.

**Math**: In their new measurement unit, students will be exploring the relationship between length, area, volume and capacity.

**Science**: We will be studying ecosystems for the next month and a half.

**Grade 8**

**LA**: For the next month and a half, students will be reading and analyzing the stories of heroes. A permission slip will be sent home for a film study in this unit.

**Math**: In January students will cover a couple of units, one on Pythagorean Theorem and another focusing on integers. There will be a math midterm on January 22.

**Science**: For the next two months we will be covering our mechanical systems unit. There is a science midterm covering material from the first two units, Friday, January 15.

**Grade 9**

**LA**: The month of January we will be studying poetry. Please note that there is no midterm for this course but there are practice PAT’s throughout the year.

**Math**: Our current unit is on polynomials. Please note that there is no midterm for this course but there are 3 practice PAT’s throughout the year which combined, account for 15% of the students’ final grade. Please encourage your child to study for these tests.

**Science**: Students will be wrapping up their unit on environmental chemistry before moving on to electrical principles and technologies.

In **Social Studies**, the students will have a big test on Wednesday January 13th; then we will begin to study the conflicts between the French and the British leading up to the War of 1812.

In **Bible**, before Christmas we completed our study of the Biblical worldview on Law, now we will begin looking at what the Bible says about Politics.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**ALLERGIES/MEDICAL**

Please let us know if any of your children have any allergies or medical concerns we need to know about so we can best accommodate them.

**HOT LUNCHES**

A hot lunch will be offered every Thursday. Order forms will be sent home the last Monday of the month for the following month. Please return the orders by the first Wednesday of the month.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. January Calendar
2. Hot Lunch Order Form

**CUTLERY/UTENSILS**

The school WILL NOT be providing any cutlery to students except for hot lunch. The students MUST bring their own. We suggest they always have a set in their backpacks or lunch kits.

**WATER**

Due to COVID-19 restrictions we have shut off our water fountain and will be using a water cooler stationed in the hallway for students to be able to fill up their water bottles. Students must bring their own water bottles. The water is tap water and is not filtered.

**VISITOR SIGN-IN**

Please report at the office before proceeding to any classroom. Scan the COVID-19 health check posted on the entrance door before entering the building.

**STUDENT PICKUP**

The afternoon dismissal time is 3:20pm. There is no bus service for any HLCA students this year, therefore all students must either walk home or be picked up by a parent or guardian. If someone other than the parent or guardian is picking up a student, the school must be notified prior to dismissal time.

**STUDENT SIGN-IN**

Please stop by the office to sign your child "in" if you are dropping them off after 8:50am or "out" if you are picking them up throughout the day before 3:20pm. This will assist us in knowing which children are on site.

**NEWSLETTERS – MEMOS**

Each last Monday of the month the **youngest child** in the family will bring home the Memos with attachments for the coming month. Please take time to read the newsletter to keep yourselves informed of the upcoming expectations and activities.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

Please check out our website @ [www.hlcacademy.ca](http://www.hlcacademy.ca) for upcoming events and homework. HLCA has a Facebook group. Its purpose is to be an additional source of information for parents, supporters and alumni to keep up to date on current events at HLCA. It is a supplement to our school newsletter. If you wish to have something posted, (information, encouragement, praise/prayer) please contact the school. Essentially, it is like an electronic billboard. Questions, comments, and concerns need to come to the school by way of phone, text, email or in person. Questions related to your child's class are best communicated by phone, text, email, or a note in your child's agenda.

**FUNDSCRIP**

The High Level Christian Academy is enrolled in a fundraising program called **FundScrip**. This is a program where supporters use *gift cards* to pay for things that they are going to buy anyway, such as grocery, gas, restaurant, and household item expenses. By simply changing your method of payment for everyday spending, the school will receive a percentage of the sales. We encourage families to take advantage of this fundraising opportunity to help HLCA raise funds for operation. The cards are available at the office and are payable by cash, debit, credit, and e-transfer. Please call the office if you have any questions.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Jan 11: First Day of Classes**