

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

Start of the Year Newsletter (September 2020)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome Back!

I am so delighted to welcome each of our students and families back after such a long break. Covid-19 has brought all of us different challenges and blessings; through it all we have unshakable, unsinkable hope in God who is unfailing and without fault! I am so very thankful for all the wonderful things God is doing; from all the rain to extinguish fires, to the hand of protection over our staff and students. It is only by God's grace that we have all remained as healthy as we have; I find it miraculous that last school year, I was not sick once. That is God's grace. It is also God's grace that has allowed us to cohort as an entire school this year; this means that masks will not need to be worn as often, that we can continue to foster cross-grade relationships with reading buddies and joint chapel times.

HLCA has had to put into place several procedures to help protect your students and the staff. We will have students hand-washing multiple times a day; students will no longer be permitted to use school cutlery or utensils; students will be required to wash their desk before and after eating; books will be quarantined between readers; there is so much more. We are asking that you as parents keep your student at home if they complain to not be feeling well. A day at home to see if it is serious or not will keep all of us safe and healthy. If you would like more information on how HLCA intends to mitigate Covid-19 and the government's guidelines, please visit the school website for the full copy of our re-entry plan: <http://www.hlcaacademy.ca/documents.html>. I am happy to hear your thoughts and answer your questions.

The theme for 2020-21 is "Walk Worthy;" God has called us and therefore we can walk worthy and confidently in His enabling. This year's Bible Memory program will help students understand what it means to walk in a manner worthy of His calling. Each staff member in our building has been called by God to serve in our school; often after God's calling comes Satan's attack. Satan feeds on our doubts; he attacks our vulnerabilities. We need your prayers and support and we value your encouragement. Each staff member this year will have a higher workload than others, between the extra cleaning from Covid-19 and the 3 and 4 grade class splits. Please take the time to encourage staff; take the time to invite them into your homes and give them a break. There is great power in these little things.

HLCA is pleased to welcome back Ms. Ahn, who will be teaching Kindergarten through Grade 2. I, Ms. Jeffrey will be teaching Grades 3 through 6 and Ms. Dyck will be splitting her time between the Kindergarten room and the Junior Highs. These teachers are all taking on a larger than normal workload this year. Kathy Zorrilla will be facilitating our remote learning families. We are also thankful for Vern Rand from Red Deer and KCES (our Koinonia board) who has agreed to share some of the Principal responsibilities with me; he will provide oversight of the remote learning and will take the time to do the various reports for Alberta Education. I will be the Principal this year and will also be teaching full-time in the classroom. Finally, HLCA cannot operate without its volunteers; from our board, to hot-lunch, library, and fund-raising; volunteers keep us operating year after year and this year is no different. If you want to help, please let us know; we can always use your help.

Welcome back to school!
Ms. Jeffrey

CLASSROOM REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION:

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.

EARLY DISMISSAL/STUDENT PICKUP

Our early dismissal time is now 1:50pm. The pm 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, except September, the **youngest child** in the family will bring home the Memos with attachments on it for the coming month. Please take time to read the newsletter to keep yourselves informed of the upcoming expectations and activities.

MEMORY VERSES

Attached is a list of this year's memory verses related to our year's theme – Walk Worthy. Students are introduced to the verses in class and although there is some practice done in school, please encourage & assist your children to be successful at memorizing the verses, hiding God's Word in their hearts. An award is given to all students who can recite all the verses at the end of the year.

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. The first hot lunch for this year will be on Thursday, Sept 17th.

ATTACHMENTS

1. HLCA Handbook
2. Student Permission Forms (*return ASAP*)
3. Collection of Personal Information Form - PIPA (*return ASAP*)
4. Monthly Calendar
5. Yearly Calendar (*new families*)
6. Memory Verses
7. ECS Schedule
8. Hot Lunch Order Form (*return by Sept 9*)
9. Parent/Staff Phone List

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please check out our website @ www.hlcaacademy.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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept 1: First Day of School for grades 1-9

Sept 3: First Day of School for ECS

Sept 3: **Meet the Teacher Night**

Starting at 6:30pm at HLCA – weather permitting, we will be outside. Please bring your own lawn chairs. Frozen treats will be served.

The time slots for each teacher will be 15 minutes as follows:

Ms. Ahn (ECS-Gr2) – 7:00-7:15pm

Ms. Jeffrey (Gr 3-6) – 7:15-7:30pm

Ms. Dyck/Ms. Jeffrey (Gr 7-9) – 7:30-7:45pm

Sept 7: Labour Day – No School

Sept 17: First Hot Lunch Day

Sept 24: Early Dismissal 1:50pm