



**DECEMBER MEMO**

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

*““Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
    you may now dismiss[*[*d*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%202&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25003d)*] your servant in peace.**For my eyes have seen your salvation,*

*which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
    and the glory of your people Israel.”*

*The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him.**Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against,**so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”*

*There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four.[*[*e*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%202&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25011e)*] She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying.**Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.” (Luke 2:29-38 (NIV)*

In recent years, this part of the Christmas story has become increasingly special for me. Simeon and Anna waited their whole lives for this moment; they spent their days in prayer and fasting, waiting for the day when they would see the salvation of Israel. Waiting is hard; patience is a virtue lacking in our world today. We live in an instant gratification society: fast food, technology, and overnight shipping. Advent is a season specifically dedicated to waiting; waiting to celebrate Christ’s first coming, but it also is a season that highlights that we are all waiting for Christ’s return. We all experience seasons of waiting in our lives, just as Simeon and Anna did. It is in these seasons that God reminds us that all is not right or perfect with the world. Christ’s first coming as a baby brought salvation to all who would receive it for the Jews and the Gentiles. Christ’s second coming will put an end to Satan forever. God’s kingdom will be established. Let us look forward in expectation for His kingdom to be established on earth.

December is a short month. We will be hosting a Christmas Family Fun Night on December 16th and our Candlelight chapel will be on December 20th. Keep your eyes peeled for notes coming home from teachers about class parties and other fun happenings. Christmas break begins December 21st and students return to school on January 9th. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas season!

Merry Christmas!

Ms. Jeffrey



There will be stockings hung on the teacher and staff doors if you would like to bless them with small gifts.

**IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS**

**Dec 16: Family Fun Night** 7-8:30PM

**Dec 20: Last Day** before Christmas break

**Dec 21-Jan 8: Christmas Break**

**Jan 9: Classes Resume**

**CLASSROOM REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ECS – GRADE 1**

Christmas is quickly approaching, and the weather has been getting colder. I am thankful for a warm school, home, and vehicles. Please remind your children to dress appropriately for our ever-changing weather conditions, to keep illnesses at bay. We will be having a joint-class Christmas party with Mrs. Bartlett’s class, so please keep an eye out for more details in your child’s agenda. May our focus ever be on Jesus and the salvation He granted us, as we celebrate His birth.

**LA - Grade 1:** We will continue to expand sentence writing, focussing on the 3 different sentence types (telling/., asking/?, and exclamatory/strong feelings/!). We will work on capitalization, opposites, and basic sight words. Guided reading will continue this month as well as nursery rhymes. We will continue with word families, shared writing, making words, and journaling.

**ECS:** This month we will continue to experiment with letter sounds through song and nursery rhymes. We will focus on ee, z and w sounds, and review all of the sounds we have already learned. We will begin to learn letter names and capital letters. We will work on guided reading using word family words and will continue with drawing to read and write. We will continue to practice breaking words into sounds as we hear them in our Jolly Phonics books.

**MATH - Grade 1:** We will be counting by 10’s this month and developing counting strategies to 100. We will also begin adding and subtracting.

**ECS:** We will continue to develop counting strategies to 50, focus on patterns, and flat shapes.

**SOCIAL STUDIES - Grade 1:** We are learning about rights and responsibilities within groups. We will discover how our actions and decisions contribute to groups and communities. We will also discover the importance of caring for the environment, or nature God has created.

**ECS:** Through Discovery we will learn to cooperate and interact with each other respectfully. We will learn about how characteristics and interests unite members of communities and groups.

**SCIENCE - Grade 1:** We will wrap up our Building Things unit. Thank you for sending materials. We have really been enjoying building. We have plenty of extra materials, and will be sending unused items home after we have finished using them. We will be making pop-up cards, learning about hinges, and building homes and animal homes.

**ECS:** Themes we will touch on through Discovery are building, sorting, and learning to use materials in our environment and discover how others use materials

**BIBLE:** This month’s focus is on Love (1 Corinthians 16:14), and Christmas. Please continue to keep an eye out for letters in your child’s B.E.E. folder that come home as we introduce new units.

**GRADES 2 - 3**

Merry Christmas to all families of HLCA! I pray God’s richest blessings over you in the coming weeks as we prepare our hearts and homes once again for the celebration of the birth of our Messiah.

**Language Arts:** Our first writing unit for Narrative Fiction is going well. Students have been practicing using graphic organizers to brainstorm their thoughts and ideas to then pull together into a story format. In the coming weeks we will begin looking as revising our writing to include good strong leads and developing characters, setting and plot. Guided reading continues, as well as learning about synonyms, antonyms, and homophones.

**Math:** Gr.2s have just concluded another unit, using 10 to add and subtract. Next, they will move onto equations and word problems. Gr.3s will continue with their chapter on mental math before beginning their first chapter of Measurement as the month progresses.

**Science:** We began our second unit Boats and Buoyancy a couple of weeks ago. So far, we have explored things that float and things that sink. In the coming days we will need 2L cardboard milk or juice cartons, as well as Styrofoam trays or corks you might have at home. Please send along with your child as soon as possible. This unit will carry over after the Christmas break.

**Social:** Unit 2 of Social: Looking at People. Continuing on with the three communities in Canada, Iqaluit, Saskatoon and Meteghan, we will look closely at the traditions of these people groups and compare to our own.

**Bible:** The focus of Bible this month will be on the birth of Jesus!

**GRADES 4-6**

**ELA** – We are continuing with our novel study for *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*; we have been looking at character development, comprehension, and will be working on retelling Bible stories in our own words. I will be sending a permission slip home soon, so that we can also compare the movie version with the book. While doing our novel study, we will continue with our normal weekly learning activities of spelling, typing, etc.

**Math**- The grade 4s are just wrapping up their multiplication unit, while the grade 5s are wrapping up their division unit. The grade 6s just completed their unit on divisibility, factors, and multiples. All three grades will begin units on measurement this month. We have been working on number sense concepts since September and it’s time to switch gears and take a break. We are continuing with our multiplication drills and all students need to continue studying and memorizing their times tables.

**Social Studies** – We have been learning about Alberta’s natural resources and how important they are to our provincial identity and economy. Students will learn to make resource maps and will have a final unit project after we complete our chapter and our unit on Alberta’s physical geography.

**Science** – We will be wrapping our unit on light and shadows before Christmas. The students have enjoyed studying light and its characteristics. We’ve learned about refraction and what happens when light travels through other things. Over the next few weeks, we will be making various items such as periscopes, kaleidoscopes, and magnifying glasses with various household items. Please keep your eyes on your students agenda’s for supplies needed from home.

**GRADES 7-9**

**LA** – All students are wrapping up their units and preparing to write unit exams before the break. The grade 7s are wrapping up their novel study. The grade 8 & 9s are completing their short story units.

**Science** - All students are wrapping up their units and preparing to write unit exams before the break. The grade 7s are completing their Heat and Temperature unit, the grade 8s Cells and Systems and grade 9s Matter and Chemical Change.

**Social Studies** – We have been studying the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and analyzing it in terms of our individual rights. Our next chapter will cover collective rights and freedoms entrenched in the Charter.

**Math** – The grade 7s will continue to study multiplying and dividing decimals. The grade 8s will complete their chapter on ratios and rates this week and will begin studying percentages. The grade 9s will complete their study of similar polygons and will apply their learning in their next chapter on cube and 3-D structures.

**Bible –** We have been studying God’s Biblical foundation for Law and its purpose in society. Students have been learning about the importance of taking responsibility for themselves and setting their own boundaries for right living. We will complete our unit on the Christian Worldview on Law just before Christmas break.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**HOT LUNCHES**

A hot lunch is offered every **Thursday**. Order forms were sent home November 24th.

**CUTLERY/UTENSILS**

The school WILL NOT provide cutlery to students except for hot lunch.

**VISITOR SIGN-IN**

Please report at the office by signing in before proceeding to any classroom.

**STUDENT PICKUP**

End of day dismissal time is **3:25pm**.

If someone other than the parent or guardian is picking up a student, the school must be given advance notice. A note in the student’s agenda or a call to the school are both acceptable.

**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 before 3:25pm. This will assist us in knowing which children are on site.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

Our school website is [www.hlcacademy.ca](http://www.hlcacademy.ca). HLCA has a Facebook group. If you wish to have something posted, (information, encouragement, praise/prayer) please contact Melody in the office.

**(HLCES) UPDATE FROM THE BOARD:**

Board Members are:

* Shawn Wiebe - Chairman
* Ray Lapka - Vice Chair and Secretary
* Troy Kidder - Treasurer
* Jerry Krahn - Fundraising
* Josh Clark - Maintenance
* Suzanne Wolfe - Member

**FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

**Purdy’s:** A profit of **$2,957.85** was made with this fundraiser. Thank you for your involvement in the sales!