 High Level Christian Academy

**Gratitude**

*“Give thanks to the God of Heaven. His love endures forever.”*

Psalm 136:26

**Start of the Year Newsletter (September)**

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Welcome Back!

It hardly seems right that fall and back to school have begun once again! The theme for the 2022-2023 school year is Gratitude! We want to acknowledge all that God has done and is doing. This year is about remembering God’s goodness and faithfulness. He is alive and active, working in all our circumstances. The theme verse for our year is Psalm 136:26, “Give thanks to the God of heaven. *His love endures forever.*” Psalm 136 is a declaration of God’s faithfulness to His children from creation to the days of David. It is a declaration of God’s supremacy over creation, the nations, and kings. David declares 26 times that God’s love endures forever, each time David states something that God has done he follows it with the declaration of God’s enduring love. Let’s remind ourselves of the many things God is doing:

God answers our prayers.

*His love endures forever.*

He brings hope and light in dark times.

*His love endures forever.*

His purpose and plans are perfect.

*His love endures forever.*

He provided health and safety throughout Covid.

*His love endures forever.*

He provided teachers and finances.

*His love endures forever.*

He allowed us to cohort as a school.

*His love endures forever.*

He has filled our school board.

*His love endures forever.*

He provided a school secretary.

*His love endures forever.*

He fills our classrooms with students.

*His love endures forever.*

He expands our school family.

*His love endures forever.*

He provided students and a way for high school in the building.

*His love endures forever.*

He provided desks for our students.

*His love endures forever.*

He equips HLCA with volunteers and help.

*His love endures forever. . .*

It is a joy to welcome students back and tell you about all the changes happening at HLCA. God’s been busy! As many of you know, Mrs. Brock stepped back from her position as school secretary, she will continue to work as the school bookkeeper. Mrs. Sewepagaham has joined our staff as school secretary and has been doing a great job learning the ropes and helping visitors. Mrs. Kidder has also joined our staff this year as our janitor! Mrs. Connie Gerbrandt will be teaching our kindergarten and grade one class and Mrs. Bartlett will teach the grades two and three class. I, Ms. Jeffrey, will teach our grades four, five, and six class as well as half the junior high core subjects, and will continue as the school principal. We are still eagerly trusting that God will provide another teacher for our school. Mrs. Derkson will be joining us as a full-time educational assistant, joining Ms. Dyck in supporting students and teachers. We are so very excited to welcome 19 new students to our student body! We have also opened our doors to three high school students who will be learning online with Koinonia@Home. We are praying that this year will be successful as they transition into online learning for high school.

The fact is that every school year brings unknowns and new adventures; this year is no different. I hope that you will join me in singing about our God’s great and perfect love for us and eagerly look ahead to all that He will do this year. With so many changes and new things happening in our school, we have much to be thankful for!

Welcome Back!

Ms. Jeffrey

**CLASSROOM REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ECS – GRADE 1**

Your teacher this year will be Connie Gerbrandt. Please come out to meet the teacher on September 9, 2022. We will start with a BBQ at 5:30.

**GRADES 2 - 3**

Hello everyone and welcome to a brand-new school year! My name is Mrs. Bartlett, and this is my 13th year teaching at HLCA. I’m excited to see what God will be doing in and through the school this year. Our theme is Gratitude, which is such a great reminder to us that in all things we keep a grateful heart. Thank you for trusting me to teach, lead and guide your child in Grades 2 and 3 this year. Many Blessings!

**GRADES 4-6**

Your teacher this year will be Alisa Jeffrey. Please come out to meet the teacher on September 9, 2022. We will start with a BBQ at 5:30.

**GRADES 7-9**

Your teacher this year will be Alisa Jeffrey/EA Danielle Dyck. Please come out to meet the teacher on September 9, 2022. We will start with a BBQ at 5:30.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**ALLERGIES/MEDICAL**

There are no peanut allergies this year. There are some gluten free students as well as an egg allergy. Please check with your teacher before bringing in class snacks so we can accommodate this. Please let us know if there are other allergies that we should be aware of.

**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 ensure the orders are in at least 2 days before hot lunch day. The first hot lunch for this year will be on Thursday, Sept 22nd.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. HLCA Handbook
2. Student Permission Forms *(return ASAP)*
3. Collection of Personal Information Form - PIPA *(One per family, return ASAP)*
4. Monthly Calendar
5. Yearly Calendar *(new families)*
6. Memory Verses for the year
7. Hot Lunch Order Form *(return by Sept 20)*
8. Parent/Staff Phone List

**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**

There will be a water cooler in the hallway available for students to fill up their water bottles just as we had last year. The water fountain is functional also for students that forget to bring their water bottles.

**VISITOR SIGN-IN**

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

**STUDENT PICKUP**

The afternoon dismissal time is 3:25pm. 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 3:25pm. 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.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Sept 1: First Day of School** for ECS

**Sept 5: Labour Day** – No School

**Sept 9**: **Meet the Teacher Night**

Starting at 5:30pm at HLCA – weather permitting, we will be outside. Please bring your own lawn chairs. Family last names from A-K bring a salad, L-Z bring a dessert. Please bring enough for at least 10 people.

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

Mrs. Gerbrandt (ECS-Gr1) – 7:00-7:15pm

Mrs. Bartlett (Gr2-3) – 7:15-7:30pm

Ms. Jeffrey (Gr 4-6) – 7:30-7:45pm

Ms. Jeffrey (Gr 7-9) – 7:45-8:00pm

**Sept 14-17: PD Days** – No School

**Sept 30: National Truth and Reconciliation Day**

**HIGH LEVEL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SOCIETY (HLCES)**

**UPDATE FROM THE BOARD:**

We encourage all parents to become members of the society. Being a member of the society helps to keep you engaged in school and board activities and entitles you to vote at school meetings. There are applications and society by-laws available at the school office. They will also be available at the Meet the Teacher night on September 9, 2022.

**BO****ARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chair - Shawn Wiebe

Secretary/Vice Chair – Ray Lapka

Treasurer – Troy Kidder

Member – Josh Clark (Maintenance)

Member – Jerry Krahn (Fundraising)

Member – Suzanne Wolfe

**FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

**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.