



HUDSONVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

HOME COMMUNICATOR

February 10, 2009

Dear Parents:

Last week was Teacher Appreciation Week at Hudsonville Christian, and we wish to thank the Parents' Club and all the individual parents who went out of their way to make the teachers feel...appreciated! This affirms our joy and the blessing of serving in this loving, encouraging environment and community known as Hudsonville Christian School.

In addition, at the end of this week we will observe Valentine's Day— impossible to miss in today's world of media and inundation with candy hearts, chocolate, and paper valentines. As usual, our society provides lots of distractions from the meaning we have an opportunity to promote. The idea behind Valentines' Day is not all that foreign from our thinking as Christians. The love of God and its effects for our lives is so much a part of who we are as Christians. Our children need to hear us talk about love, not only for each other, but for God. Of all the personal qualities that reflect the image of God in us and our children, certainly love and the ability to sustain relationships is foundational. As we celebrate Valentine's Day, we should look for reflections of God's love in our lives, and celebrate those as signposts of God building His Kingdom in and through us. And, especially for the children, it certainly does not hurt to have a little fun with all the Valentine rituals as well. We look forward to Valentine's Day at HCS!

Karen Ophoff, Elementary Principal

PRAYER CORNER

Pray for a safe trip, good travel connections, and the planning for the visit of John Mutai and Veronicah Kaskei from Plateau School next week. May God bless the partnership for the building of His Kingdom.

SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

AUCTION THANK YOU!

The auction committee would like to thank all of those who attended and supported the auction! A special thank you to our volunteers who worked hard and who did so much to support the auction! We are awaiting the final numbers; look for them next week.

TRIP HOURS UPDATE

Unfortunately no one has responded to our need for help on Tuesday mornings. Therefore, effective March 3, there will no longer be TRIP on Tuesday mornings. Monday hours remain the same: 4:30-7:30 p.m. for order pick-up as well as TRIP on Demand.

LATE START DAY TOMORROW

Tomorrow will be a late start day with school beginning at 9:45 a.m. Regular bus routes will be running two hours later than your normal times. Hudsonville Public Schools is having five of these late start days this year. We are doing two of them, allowing our staff to have time for professional development from 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. We will evaluate the value of these days and the implications to parents prior to developing next year's calendar. Morning preschool, pre-K, and kindergarten will still meet at this later start time.

LIMITED BUS TRANSPORTATION FRIDAY

There will be limited busing this week Friday because Hudsonville Public Schools will not be in session. There will also be a limited busing day on Thursday, March 5, so please mark this date on your calendar. The following buses will run: 18, 23, 25, 26, 37, 44, 45, 62, 66, 72, 76, 82, 84. Bus 24 will also pick up and drop off at Forest Grove Reformed and Jamestown CRC. Please refrain from dropping off your children in the bus drive area on this day.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGAZINE SALE

Thank you so much for the support of our magazine sale again this year. Many of our expenses at the middle school are paid for from the proceeds of this sale alone. We especially want to extend a huge thank you to our magazine "moms" who faithfully worked long days on our two magazine sale turn-in days - Cindy Glashower, Judy Glass, and Sally Jonker; and a special thank you to Julie Doll, our sale coordinator! This year's sales were down a bit from last year; \$33,000 as compared to \$39,000 last year, but we are very thankful for the 40 percent we receive of that amount!

HCS BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Submissions for the HCS Business Directory will still be taken for another week. If you have a business or provide a service that you would like to advertise on our website, you can pick up a form from the school office.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

We encourage your family to attend the HCS Spaghetti Supper that will be held next week Thursday, February 19, in our Oak Street all purpose room from 5 - 7 p.m. This is the main opportunity for our Kenyan visitors to meet our families. Relationships are very important to Kenyans, and they would love to meet you, so be sure to stop by their table and introduce yourselves, or have your children do that. We do need to have an estimated attendance number so we can plan well. Another flier is coming home today that you can fill out and return to the school office to let us know how many will be attending from your family. We hope to have a great turnout to show HCS hospitality, and to support the Kenya Partnership Program at HCS. Your support through Cookies for Kenya and individual gifts have paid for the trip for John Mutai and Veronicah Koskei's visit next week, with a small balance. Now we need to build up our funds again so we can continue to send teachers there next summer and keep the partnership strong. Thanks for support in your family's conversations, prayers, and financially.

FIDDLE FEST CORRECTION

Our apologies to Ethan Blaszak, whose name was misprinted in the program for Fiddle Fest on January 29. Ethan also won the award for best dressed in his class, and we want to make sure he is correctly acknowledged for that effort as well. Keep up the great work in orchestra, Ethan Blaszak!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

COLOR/DAY SCHEDULE

<u>Feb. 11</u>	Adjusted Day	<u>Feb. 16</u>	Red
<u>Feb. 12</u>	Green	<u>Feb. 17</u>	Yellow
<u>Feb. 13</u>	Blue	<u>Feb. 18</u>	Green

HOT LUNCH

Hot lunch this week Wednesday will be cheese breadsticks, marinara sauce, pretzels, Doritos, chocolate chip granola bars, and sugar cookies.

COOKIES FOR KENYA

Chocolate chip cookies will be sold on Friday morning for \$.25 a piece. Team #1 will be working.

RECYCLING UPDATE

The elementary plastic bag count last Friday was 15,075. Last week even more bags were brought in than the week before, so our recycling effort is still strong. Remember, try to use fewer bags (by using the HCS reusable ones--still available in the office), but when we do use them, make sure we recycle them. You're all doing a great job on that. Every little bit helps us to Care for God's World!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS — Continued

5TH GRADE GIRLS NIGHT

Just a reminder that the 5th Grade Girls Night is TONIGHT beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the orchestra room.

SATURDAY BASKETBALL CLUB FOR GIRLS

Saturday Basketball Club for girls in grades 3 and 4 begins this Saturday, February 14 in the Oak Street all purpose room. It will continue on February 21 and February 28. Third grade girls will meet at 9 a.m. and fourth grade girls will meet at 10 a.m. Please contact John DeJonge with any questions at 669-6954.

5TH GRADE PARENT ORIENTATION TO M.S.

Fifth grade parents who will be having their first child come to our middle school next year, please reserve the evening of Monday, March 16 at 7 p.m. for a special night at the middle school. The 6th grade staff, along with other middle school teachers, will be welcoming you to life at HCMS! We really believe our middle school is a pretty special place and we want you to see why. All parents are welcome, but we are focusing our discussion on those parents who will be walking our halls for the first time. Do you know a new family who is interested in becoming a part of HCMS? Bring them along — we would love to meet them!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

HOT LUNCH

Hot lunch this week: Fazoli's Spaghetti w/sauce & 2 breadsticks for \$2.50 OR Fazoli's Spaghetti w/no sauce & 2 breadsticks for \$1.50, Fazoli's 2 pack breadsticks are available for \$.50 each, chips for \$.25, Powerade/pop/water for \$.50.

CHAPEL HAPPENINGS

Friday, February 13: No Chapel today – 7th Grade at Winter Camp
Tuesday, February 17: Mrs. Lexi Roode leads chapel

7/8 COMBINED BAND CONCERT

Our 7/8 band members participate in a Combined Concert this evening at Fair Haven Ministries at 7:30 p.m. Students should arrive by 6:30 p.m. This concert features the 7/8 bands from Allendale Christian, Beaverdam Christian and Hudsonville Christian Middle School, as well as Unity Christian High School's Bands.

7TH GRADE WINTER CAMP

Our 7th grade students head north tomorrow morning to Spring Hill Camp in Everett, MI for their rescheduled Winter Camp experience. Please pray for our students, staff and parent volunteers as they enjoy this time of community and outdoor learning activities in God's world.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Conferences will be held in the middle school south gym on the evenings of March 2, 3, and 5 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Middle school teachers will be at conference tables in the south gym during these scheduled hours to meet with parents. We ask that parents please be mindful of the conference time frame each evening. Please note that middle school students were not given scheduled times for parent teacher conferences.

SPORTS SCHEDULES

The 7th & 8th grade girls volleyball teams and the 7/8 boys wrestling team continue practice schedules this week and next. All team members should have received schedule and athletic packets from their coaches. Please check with your student for this important information.

PARENTS OF 6TH – 8TH BAND STUDENTS

A letter outlining information for our upcoming Hudsonville Christian School Band Solo Festival scheduled for after school on Tuesday, March 24 was sent home with your band student last week. If you have not yet seen this informational letter, please be sure to ask your child today. The piano accompanist information form at the bottom of the letter should be returned by every band student by Wednesday, February 18. If you need another letter copy, please contact Mr. Brian Knot or call the middle school office at 669-7487 to request a copy.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS — Continued

BAND FESTIVAL

The 7th/8th Grade Band will be playing for Band Festival at Freedom Baptist High School on Tuesday, February 17 at 1:00. Busses will leave school at 12:30 p.m. and return by 2:30 p.m. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend. The band will be finished playing by 2 p.m. Students will need their band uniform at school that day. This includes black dress pants, a white button-down dress shirt, black dress shoes, and black socks

MSBOA ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL

The 7/8 Orchestra performs on Wednesday, February 25, at 10:15 a.m. at Grandville High School. Students will be bussed to and from the event and will return to school in time for 7th/8th hour classes and to ride their buses home. Look for an information letter from your student.

PARENTS' CLUB NEWS

FARMERS' CO-OP SCHOOL BENEFIT WEEK

The Farmers' Co-op in Hudsonville will host a school benefit week for Hudsonville Christian from February 23—28. Five percent of all sales affiliated with Hudsonville Christian will be given back to the school this week. Be sure to mention you are buying to support Hudsonville Christian!

CASH FOR CLASS DATES

Cash for Class is coming again soon. The dates at D&W stores will be February 15-21, and the dates at Family Fare stores will be February 22—28. Make sure you give the cashier our school's number — 87580 — when you check out so we receive credit from your purchase. Thank you!

FAIR BANNER

Please check how you can help. Sign up with your friends or family now while spots are available. We are always in need of committee members or people to be in the fair kitchen. Sign up on the banner by the elementary gym, or call Mary at 669-8856.

RELAY FOR LIFE

The HCS Parents' Club has sponsored a team at the Hudsonville Relay for Life the last two years, and is in need of a new Team Captain this year. Won't you consider serving HCS and the community at large in this way? Contact Tricia Bosma at 662-9379 to find out more information about this opportunity.

COMMUNITY NEWS

UNITY VOLLEYBALL CAMP

Unity will be hosting a volleyball camp for girls who are in grades 5—8 on Saturday, February 21 and 28. Information sheets were sent home with girls in these grades or are available at Unity. Deadline to enroll is Monday, February 16.

HUDSONVILLE COMMUNITY ED. PROGRAMS

Information is available by the school offices for the following:

- "From Castles to Cartoons" art program for students in PK-6th; Tuesdays, February 17—March 31.
- Girls Softball Clinic for 2nd—6th graders; Thursday, February 19.
- Boys Wrestling Clinic for boys K-6th grade; various Mondays and Thursdays in March.

3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

- Allendale Chr. School's 3 on 3 — March 28 at Allendale H.S. for girls and boys in 3rd-8th grade. Registration forms due March 13; get them at www.allendalechristian.com.
- Byron Center Chr. School Foundation 1st annual 3 on 3 — March 28 at South Christian's small gym for students in grades 3-8. Registration due March 6; get forms at www.bccs.org.

ADD/ADHD ADULT SEMINAR

Dr. Robert Bulten will speak on "ADD/ADHD and Your Child". This is free seminar hosted by CLC Network will take place on February 19 from 7 – 9 p.m. at the CLC Network, 4340 Burlingame in Wyoming. Call CLC at 855-3123 or email Karen at knienhuis@clcnetwork.org to register.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HUDSONVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

February 10	5th Grade Girls Sex Ed Night, 6:30 p.m. orch. room	March 2, 3, 5	Parent/Teacher Conferences
February 10	7th/8th EOCS Band Concert, 7:30 p.m.	March 5	Limited Busing
February 11	Late Start — School begins at 9:45 a.m.	March 6	Records Day — No School for Students
February 11-13	7th Grade Winter Camp	March 9	5th Grade Boys Sex Ed night
February 13	Limited Busing	March 11 or 12	7/8 Choral Festival