

May 25, 2010

Dear Parents:

At this time of the year we take time to participate in many types of traditions related to the end of the school year such as class field trips, band and orchestra concerts, graduation open houses and ceremonies. On Thursday another tradition we have at Hudsonville Christian will be upheld: hosting a special luncheon to honor our retiring teachers while room moms have lunch with the students and supervise the playground. Then on Friday will be yet one more tradition that is rather unique to Hudsonville Christian: holding a parade to honor Bob VanderLaan's 42 years at HCS.

Traditions are the things that enhance community. Traditions tie people together and give a shared sense of belonging. As our world becomes smaller through globalization and media communication, it's a paradox that we need to work harder to protect the blessings of face-to-face interaction with our local community. Traditions help keep us together.

In our communications from HCS, we often praise our community, and with good reason. We have an amazing constituency of families that support each other and our Christian school. Our parents are remarkably giving, resourceful, creative, and helpful. When you attend the parade on Friday and the lunch in the park afterward, give some thought to what it is we are doing there. Foremost and most obvious is to honor Bob VanderLaan, whose career went a long way to build the type of community that exists at HCS. Beyond that, a number of other things will happen such as: people connecting to enjoy a meal together, getting acquainted with families they have not met before, talking about their children, reminiscing about another school year completed, sharing in each others' joys and struggles as they talk, and blessing each other as they say goodbye for the summer. That's community!

Traditions serve a great purpose. They make the end of a school year busy, but they also make it rich by enhancing our sense of community and making us thankful for the place and time in which God has called us to live and serve. I hope you and your family have a great time in the traditions you will uphold this spring!

Karen Ophoff, Elementary Principal

Prayer Corner

- Continue to pray with those in our school community who suffer with cancer. Please see the information below regarding a prayer vigil for these individuals.
- Pray for students and teachers to focus well on their work/learning, and continue to build good relationships.

SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

PARADE THIS FRIDAY!

Plans have been finalized for our Friday parade for Mr. VanderLaan and this is the week! We are rejoicing in the favorable forecast and expecting a large crowd for lunch following in Hughes Park. We appreciate parents turning in their Student Plan forms so all of our students will be accounted for and safe. The route will be the following: School Avenue north to Hillcrest, following Hillcrest west to 36th, 36th south to Van Buren, and Van Buren to Hughes Drive into the park. We hope you all have a wonderful time watching the creativity of our teachers and students in the various parade entries, and that lunch together in the park is a time of fellowship that sends us into a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend.

CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA PROGRAM

The final Choir and Orchestra program for the year will be tonight at 7 p.m. at Grace Community Church. This concert will feature our 6th – 8th choirs and the 4th – 8th grade orchestras. Students need to arrive at 6:30 p.m.

SPRING BAND CONCERT

The Spring Band Concert will be held at Grace Community Church on Thursday, May 27, with our 4th – 8th grade bands performing at 7 p.m. Students should arrive at 6:30 wearing black dress pants/skirt, a white dress shirt, and black dress shoes & socks. Sixth grade band members should wear their green concert shirt.

CONGRATULATIONS PRESCHOOL GRADUATES!

Congratulations to our four classes of preschoolers who have their graduating ceremonies this week. Mrs. Cole's classes had their ceremony last night at Hillcrest CRC. Tonight will be graduation for Mrs. Boomsma's classes also at Hillcrest at 6:30 p.m.

HCS GOLF OUTING

The Hudsonville Christian School Golf Outing will be held on Monday, August 9 at Railside Golf Club in Byron Center. This golf outing supports our Tuition Assistance program. You are welcome to enter a twosome, a foursome, or you can help by sponsoring this event. Look for registration/sponsorship information coming home next week!

TRIP NEWS

There will be a TRIP Information and Registration meeting on Monday, June 7 at 6:30 at the elementary school.

PRAYER VIGIL FOR THOSE WITH CANCER

Moms In Touch (MIT) will be holding a prayer vigil for those in our school community struggling with cancer. All are invited to participate as we lift up several parents who are suffering with this disease. This vigil will be held on June 3 at 9:30 a.m. at Tammy Rappuhn's home at 2007 Cory Drive in Hudsonville. For more information, please call Tammy at 669-3881 or email her at trenttammy@comcast.net.

ENROLLMENT FOR 2009/2010

1. Mail-in registrations must be received by Monday, June 14.
2. If you are not enrolling by mail, Hudsonville Christian School will be having registration for the school year on Monday, June 14 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the library of the Oak Street building. Previous tuition commitments must be paid on or before this time. Your enrollment fee, applicable to the 2010/2011 tuition, is required at this time.
3. The June 14 registration is necessary for classroom assignment, student scheduling, and to complete student enrollment. Registration must be completed by June 14 for your child to be on a class list. These will be mailed to parents during the first week of August.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The last day of school for grades K—7, Thursday, June 10, will be a half day dismissing at 12 noon. Students should bring a snack to school, but not a lunch. Regular bus routes will be running on this day.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

COLOR/DAY SCHEDULE

May 26	Red/Day 1	May 31	No School
May 27	Yellow/Day 2	June 1	Green/Day 3
May 28	Zero Day	June 2	Blue/Day 4

HOT LUNCH

Hot lunch tomorrow will be cheese breadsticks, Doritos, pretzels, raspberry rainbow yogurt, and vanilla ice cream.

LOST AND FOUND

The bins by the elementary gym are full of lost items. Please check out the bins and hanging items to see if they may belong to your child.

Elementary School News (Continued)

YEARBOOK SIGNING RECESS

Students in the elementary school will have a special opportunity next week Wednesday, June 2, to have their HCS yearbooks signed by the teachers during a joint long recess. Please remind your PK - 5th grade students to bring their yearbooks to school on this day!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

HOT LUNCH

Hot Lunch this week: Blimpie Subs \$2.50, chips for \$.25, and can pop for \$.50.

HOT LUNCH FINAL WEEK TREAT!

This week is our final week for hot lunch at the middle school. As a special treat our Hot Lunch Committee will also be offering M&M ice cream cookie sandwiches for \$.50 with our hot lunch items. Please remember to add in a little extra this week if you would like to purchase this treat.

CHAPEL HAPPENINGS

Friday, May 28:

Chapel Team leads chapel

Tuesday, June 1:

Mr. Terry Steenstra "Year-In-Review" Chapel

Thursday, June 3:

Mr. Pott leads the end of the year chapel and our 8th grade student academic honors recognition ceremony

CONGRATULATIONS!

We extend our congratulations to Kalee Butterworth, Nick Keuning, Troy Lutke, Mackenna Nesky, Kelli Nesky, Bryce Schreur, Mackenna Senti, Katie VanderPloeg and Tristan Visser whose poetry was accepted for publication in the anthology A Celebration of Poets. This book is a celebration of young poets from Michigan for 2010. Congratulations to these 7th grade middle school students!

LOST AND FOUND TABLES

A table with "lost" items is set up at the middle school this week – the items could belong to your son or daughter! Please remind them to browse through the items and/or parents you are welcome to stop by the school to locate any items missing from your home closets! All items still left at school on June 25 will be donated to a local charity.

UNIFORMS/LIBRARY BOOKS

Parents, please take a few moments with your middle school student to check your homes for things that **NEED TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL**. Make sure that all team uniforms are washed and returned to school after their final game or meet. All middle school media center library books must be returned by May 25. Please make sure your son/daughter does not have any overdue books and/or fines due in the library.

6th GRADE TRACK

A HCMS 6th grade track meet is set for Thursday, May 27 beginning at 3:00 p.m. at our track. There will also be a 6th grade track meet at Grand Rapids Christian High School on Friday, June 4 at 4:00 p.m. with other league 6th grade middle school students.

7/8 TRACK SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 26

***3:30 p.m.** Track Meet at Grand Rapids Christian High School

***NOTE: Please note the earlier start time for this meet.**

Tuesday, June 1

3 – 4:30 p.m. 7/8 Full Track Practice

Wednesday, June 2

4 p.m. 7/8 Track Prelims at GR Christian High School

Thursday, June 3

7/8 Track Finals at Grand Rapids Christian High School

- Field events begin at 2:00 p.m.
- Running events begin at approximately 4:00 p.m.
- Admission Cost is \$5.00/family or \$1.00/individual.
- Concession stand will be open.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The Grand Rapids Area Christian Middle School Tennis Tournament took place this past Saturday, May 22. We thank the following students for representing HCMS at this event: Kerri DeVries, Libby Ritsema, Kristiana Volkens, Ross Bremer, Tommy Huisman, Ryan Johnson, Michael Baas, Grant Blouw, Tysen Bos, John Koetsier, Joel TenHarmsel. Thanks for participating players!

Middle School News (Continued)

8th GRADE STUDENT SCHEDULE

- June 1 – 4 are Journey Project and exam days and full days of school for students.
- Monday, June 7 is the class trip day. We will meet and begin our day at school at 7:50 a.m. Parents plan to pick students up again at 9:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 8 — There will be NO school for 8th grade students.
- Wednesday, June 9 — 8th grade students will begin school as normal at 7:50 a.m. Students will be bussed to Fair Haven for graduation practice. Eighth grade students will need to be picked up at the middle school at 11:00 a.m.

8th GRADE GRADUATION

The graduation ceremony takes place at Fair Haven Ministries on Baldwin and 28th Avenue at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 9, 2009. Students should plan to be to the church by 7:00 p.m. Students should come back to the middle school to board busses that will leave for their graduation celebration at The Visser YMCA in Grandville at 10:00 p.m. sharp. Parents, please pick your son/daughter up at the middle school parking lot at 12:50 a.m.

PARENTS' CLUB NEWS

COMING THIS FALL!

We are excited to be bringing Market Day to HCS! Starting in October, you can purchase groceries that are high quality, nutritious, affordable, and delicious! HCS will automatically get 10 percent back on all purchases. Through personal experience with these products, we can say that we absolutely love everything about Market Day! Watch for more details in the future, and call Holly Postma at 669-5131 or Cathy Dykstra at 662-5443 with any questions or to ask us what our favorite products are. Sample order forms are located in the elementary office for you to come and check out!

BOX TOP CHALLENGE COMING SOON

We will be doing a Box Top Challenge over the summer, so start saving your box tops for our summer challenge! Ask your family and friends to save their box tops for you too!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ELEMENTARY CAMP OUT!

The Hospitality Committee will be hosting a camp out for elementary students and their families at school on Friday, September 17. Mark this date on your calendars and be ready to enjoy a time of fun and fellowship together! More details to come!

COOKING OIL

Are you interested in cooking oil to use as bear bait or for bio- diesel fuel? Contact Mary Miedema NOW at 669-8856 to reserve a supply for yourself to be picked up after the fair. The oil would be available for pick up August 26 and August 30, in either a plastic jug or covered pail.

COMMUNITY NEWS

UNITY CHRISTIAN SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Unity Christian High School is still accepting enrollments in their summer camps. If you need information on the camps, it can be picked up at Unity or found on Unity's website – www.unitychristian.org.

SUMMER FLUTE AND VIOLIN LESSONS

Are you interested in private flute or violin lessons for your young musician this summer? Meagan and Katelyn Brummel, 2008 Graduates of UCHS & Music Ed. Majors at Calvin College, are again available to give individual instruction to your child on the flute or violin for several weeks this summer. If interested and/or questions, please call at 896-0280. References available from Mr. Brian Knot and Mrs. Sara Jager. Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HUDSONVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

May 25	Preschool Graduation, 6:30 p.m. at Hillcrest CRC	June 7	8th Grade Class Trip
May 25	Spring Choir/Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m. at Grace	June 9	8th Grade Graduation
May 27	Spring Band Concert, 7 p.m. at Grace	June 10	Last Day of School; dismissal at noon
May 28	HCS Parade, 11 a.m.		