

Formal Day *April 17*

Formal Day is almost here—time to suit up, sparkle, and show off your style! Whether you're rocking a sharp suit, a dazzling dress, or your trendiest semi-formal look, let's make it a stylish celebration!



THE HCS APPAREL STORE IS NOW OPEN



It's the perfect time to stock up on all your HCS gear! Whether you're gearing up for school events or just want to represent, we've got you covered. Click the [LINK](#) to place your order today!

Store closes on May 9.

What's happening at HCS?

April 16 - Wednesday

- Ready, Set, Learn

April 17 - Thursday

- Spirit Day - Formal Day

April 18 - Friday

- Good Friday - NO SCHOOL

April 21 - Monday

- Easter Monday - NO SCHOOL

April 25 - Friday

- Northern Teachers Convention
- NO SCHOOL

April 28 - Monday

- Professional Development Day
- NO SCHOOL

NO AFTERNOON BUSES April 16 & 17



Please be advised that due to parent-teacher interviews and an early dismissal at public schools, there will be no afternoon bus services on Thursday and Friday of next week. Please make alternate arrangements.

HCS SPRING FUNDRAISER

APRIL 4 - MAY 7

PICKUP DAY: MAY 21

ORDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP AND SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE HCS OFFICE ONCE COMPLETED. ORDERS CAN ALSO BE PLACED ONLINE BY CLICKING THIS [LINK](#). PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ONLINE, IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE AT THE HCS OFFICE, OR VIA E-TRANSFER TO [KIM.VANB@HOUSTONCHRISTIANSCHOOL.CA](mailto:kim.vanb@houstonchristianschool.ca)



FLOWERS THAT GIVE BACK

BASKETBALL FEES

Athletic fees are collected at the end of each sports season to help cover the cost of referees, trophies, and ribbons for playdays. The host school charges HCS a fee per athlete for each event. These extracurricular activities are not funded through the school's operating budget or included in tuition costs.



As the 2025 Basketball Season comes to a close, HCS is collecting each student's portion of the athletic fees charged to the school. Without parent contributions, these costs must be absorbed by the school.

Payments can be made:

- By e-transfer to kim.vanb@houstonchristianschool.ca (please include your child(ren)'s name and "sports fees" in the memo), or
- At the office by cash or cheque.

If your family is experiencing financial hardship and is unable to pay at this time, please contact Wendall Ewald to discuss alternative arrangements.

Your continued support makes these sports programs possible, and HCS is grateful for your involvement in helping provide these opportunities for our students.

Grade 8 Boys	\$75
Junior Basketball	\$100
Senior Basketball	\$275



For any questions about basketball fees, please reach out to Brandon Vandenbrink (Athletic Director).

HCS is in Search of a **USED MAC BOOK**

Our school is in need of an older Apple MacBook to help manage our fleet of iPads. If you have a MacBook from 2018 or newer that you're no longer using and would be willing to donate, we'd greatly appreciate it! It does need to be capable of running macOS 14 or later. Please let us know if you can help!



Palm Sunday Hope and the Journey to Sacrifice

HOW DID JESUS GO FROM BEING ROYALLY WELCOMED BY THE CROWDS ON PALM SUNDAY TO HAVING THOSE SAME CROWDS CALL FOR HIS EXECUTION LESS THAN A WEEK LATER? TURNS OUT IT WAS EASY. LET'S WALK YOU THROUGH SOME OF THE REASONS.

FIRST, JESUS HAD BEEN INVITING HIS FOLLOWERS INTO A COMPLETELY NEW WAY OF LIFE (MATTHEW 11:28-30). HE ALSO TAUGHT WITH SUCH AUTHORITY THAT PEOPLE RECOGNIZED THERE WAS TRULY SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT HIM (MARK 1:22). HE EVEN CRITIQUED AND CALLED OUT THE RELIGIOUS ELITE (MATTHEW 23:13-39). IF ALL THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, HE CLAIMED TO BE THE SON OF GOD (JOHN 5:16-24, 10:1-33, 11:1-44). THIS WAS CONSIDERED BLASPHEMOUS BEHAVIOR.

SECOND, MANY PEOPLE IN JERUSALEM ASSUMED THAT THEIR SAVIOR WAS GOING TO BE A MILITARY AND POLITICAL HERO COMMITTED TO BRINGING THEM FREEDOM FROM WORLDLY OPPRESSION. THEY BELIEVED THIS EVEN THOUGH JESUS OFTEN TOLD THEM OTHERWISE (LUKE 19:10, MATTHEW 16:21). AND SO, WHEN JESUS DIDN'T SEEM INTERESTED IN VIOLENTLY CASTING DOWN THEIR ENEMIES, TENSIONS BEGAN TO RISE.

LASTLY, WITH HIS MESSAGE AND MISSION ALREADY MISINTERPRETED BY THE MASSES, PALM SUNDAY OCCURRED. PALM SUNDAY WAS THE DAY THAT JESUS TRIUMPHANTLY ENTERED THE CITY OF JERUSALEM RIDING ON A DONKEY (MATTHEW 21:7), FULFILLING THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY OF A KING COMING IN PEACE (ZECHARIAH 9:9). CROWDS LAY DOWN THEIR CLOAKS AND PALM BRANCHES, REPRESENTING THEIR NATION'S HOPE IN A ROYAL AND POLITICAL LEADER. THE CROWDS THEN SANG SONGS OF HOPE AND DELIVERANCE, THINKING THE KING HAD FINALLY ARRIVED TO BRING REVOLUTION. THEY THOUGHT PHYSICAL FREEDOM WAS HERE.

LISTEN TO THEIR SHOUTS, "HOSANNA! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, EVEN THE KING OF ISRAEL!" (JOHN 12:13) THIS CROWD WAS FULLY CONVINCED THEIR KING HAD COME. AND WHILE THEIR SAVIOR HAD INDEED ARRIVED, IT WAS NOT IN THE WAY THEY WANTED OR EXPECTED. JESUS CAME TO BRING PEACE TO JERUSALEM NOT BY OVERTHROWING ROME, BUT BY OFFERING HIMSELF AS A ONCE-FOR-ALL SACRIFICE FOR THE SINS OF THE WHOLE WORLD. HE HAD NOT COME TO BRING PHYSICAL FREEDOM, BUT TO RESOLVE A MORE PRESSING ISSUE AND PAVE THE WAY FOR SPIRITUAL FREEDOM. THE PEOPLE'S HEARTS WERE NOT READY FOR THIS KIND OF KING. SO, ONLY A FEW DAYS LATER, THEY CALLED FOR HIM TO BE CRUCIFIED. THE SAME PEOPLE WAVING PALM BRANCHES AND OFFERING PRAISES WOULD SOON SCREAM, "CRUCIFY!" (LUKE 23:21) — ALL BECAUSE THEY SAW AND HEARD BUT DIDN'T TRULY UNDERSTAND.

PRAY THAT WE WOULD ALL SEE, HEAR, AND UNDERSTAND.

A HEARTFELT GOODBYE TO MRS. IRWIN



Today, the Grade 2 class said a heartfelt goodbye to Mrs. Irwin as she begins her maternity leave next Monday. She will be greatly missed, not only by the Grade 2 students who have spent nearly two wonderful years with her, but also by the entire HCS community. Thank you, Mrs. Irwin, for always bringing a warm and cheerful presence to our days at HCS. We wish you rest and joy as you prepare to welcome your new little one!



Grad Cookie Sale

