

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HCS

September 29 - Monday

- Orange Shirt Day

September 30 - Tuesday

- National Day of Truth and Reconciliation - No School

Oct 13 - Monday

- Thanksgiving Day - No School



JOIN THE HCS ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE

Houston Christian School is looking for a new member to join our Accessibility Committee.

The committee works to identify, prevent, and eliminate barriers to accessibility and inclusion for students, staff, and visitors. Members provide advice on ways the school can be more welcoming and accessible to everyone and help shape our Accessibility Plan.

This is a unique opportunity to directly impact our school community and help ensure everyone can fully participate. If you are interested and believe you can contribute, please contact Cheri Kobes, our Inclusive Education Coordinator, at c.kobes@houstonchristianschool.ca

WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU AT SCHOOL!

PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU INVOLVED IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

Whether it's helping in a classroom, lending a hand at special events, or pitching in with practical tasks like tidying and organizing, your time and talents make a difference!

If you're interested in volunteering, please reach out to k.vandenbrink@houstonchristianschool.ca.

Thank you for being part of our school family!

ENJOYING THE OUTDOORS THIS FALL

Autumn has arrived, bringing its signature unpredictable weather! One day, students might be running around in shorts and t-shirts; the next, they're bundled up in rain gear or navigating frosty playground equipment.

To help children stay comfortable and make the most of their outdoor time, we encourage parents to send students with layers that can be adjusted throughout the day. On rainy days, waterproof jackets and shoes keep outdoor recess and lunch enjoyable.

Thank you for helping us keep our students active, happy, and enjoying the beautiful fall season!

PRINCIPAL'S PULSE (WORDS FROM OUR HEAD)

Truth and Reconciliation

This Tuesday is Truth and Reconciliation Day. I recognize that this day can bring many different emotions for people, and I want to acknowledge and respect those feelings. Still, I would like to take this opportunity to use the heading “Truth and Reconciliation” as a way to reflect on a few matters that I believe are important for our community.

“Truth”

The first word in the heading is “truth.” Speaking the truth is often challenging. Speaking in love can be even more difficult. Yet in Ephesians, Paul encourages us to speak the truth in love so that we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

As a Christian school, we are called to model this in everything we do. That said, I want to acknowledge that we, too, are still growing into what Christ calls us to be. Sometimes we don't communicate as well as we could. Sometimes our communication is unclear, and perhaps sometimes it is even unloving. We would ask for your grace and forgiveness as a parent community when we fall short of what Christ calls us to be.

I have appreciated getting to know many of you as parents, though I also recognize that I've met far too few of you! My door is always open, and I would love to hear from you—whether it's concerns you'd like to share or moments of joy you'd like to celebrate. I pray that as I grow in understanding of this community, we can truly be a place where truth is shared with both love and grace.

“Reconciliation”

This brings me to the second word in the heading: reconciliation. Paul calls us to be agents of reconciliation in 2 Corinthians 5. I am aware that the word “reconciliation” can have different meanings in this context. I would like to see it both in the way of helping others to be reconciled to God through Christ, yet also in the way of us being reconciled to each other and to the people we live among. May we as a school be a place that brings peace and healing to the community of Houston and beyond.

So it is in this spirit that I call us to celebrate Truth and Reconciliation in all of its fullness!

May God's grace go with you all.

Blessings,

Ron Donkersloot



ATHLETICS UPDATE: GAMES, TOURNAMENTS, AND TEAM SPIRIT!



Our Athletics Program is off to a Strong Start!

Our Senior Boys hosted a successful play day last weekend and followed it up with an in-school game this morning—a great community builder.



The Senior Girls recently attended a tournament in Prince George, which included several nail-biting matches, and finished in 2nd place. Tomorrow, they'll be heading to Hazelton for their next competition.



The Junior Boys are practicing twice a week and will be hosting on October 4—stay tuned for game times!

The Junior Girls are heading to their first play day this weekend at SSS, and we are excited to see what the next few weeks hold for them.



Yesterday, our Grade 4–7 students attended a soccer play day in Smithers. We were encouraged by the strong turnout and enjoyed seeing the sportsmanship and enthusiasm of our students.



As an Athletics Team, we recognize the commitment our coaches make, and we want to extend a big thank-you for using your gifts and time to bless #teamHCS. And to our parents—we couldn't run these programs without your support. From shuttling students to encouraging their commitment to sports, your partnership makes a huge difference.

Thank you!

-The Athletics Team



FULTON RIVER SPAWNING CHANNEL

The Kindergarten and Grade 1/2 class had the chance to learn about the life cycle of salmon at Fulton River. It's wonderful to have this learning opportunity so close to our community. Thank you to the Fulton River Spawning Channel for hosting our students.

