



# Branches

*a school to home newsletter*

December 19, 2025

## CHRISTMAS BREAK

DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> - JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>

### PRINCIPAL'S PULSE (WORDS FROM OUR HEAD)

For a child has been born—for us!  
the gift of a son—for us!  
He'll take over  
the running of the world.  
His names will be: Amazing Counsellor,  
Strong God,  
Eternal Father,  
Prince of Wholeness.  
His ruling authority will grow,  
and there'll be no limits to the wholeness he brings.

These words from Isaiah always bring the message of hope and Joy, even in the midst of times of sorrow. We have gone through some difficult months, and we pray that as we enter into this Christmas season, we will be able to experience some of the Joy that the Christ Child brings to us, regardless of our circumstances.

May the God of peace go with you all!

Blessings,

Ron Donkersloot



*Merry Christmas*  
from the  
Donkersloot Family



# HOT LUNCH PROGRAM IN 2026

The HCS Grad Class of 2026 is excited to announce a Hot Lunch Program fundraiser starting in January. Using a government grant that helps supplement food costs for families in need, our grads will be offering students one hot meal each month from January through May. Meals are \$5 each, and all proceeds will go directly toward supporting the HCS Grad Ceremony and Grad Trip.

Sign-up forms will be sent home with students during the first week back in January. If you'd like to register early, please use this [link](#) to access the fillable electronic registration form. Please complete one form for each participating student, then email the completed form(s) to the HCS office at [office@houstonchristianschool.ca](mailto:office@houstonchristianschool.ca).

We ask that meals be paid for in one lump-sum payment at the start of the program. Payments can be made by e-transfer to [kim.vanb@houstonchristianschool.ca](mailto:kim.vanb@houstonchristianschool.ca) (please write "Grad Hot Lunch" in the memo), or by cash or cheque at the HCS office once school reopens in January.

It's a great way to provide your child with a warm, nutritious meal while also supporting our HCS Grad Class of 2026.



## HCS ALUMNI VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT



**TEAM REQUIREMENTS:**  
2 guys + 2 girls  
+ 2 HCS Alumni  
need to be on the court.

~all players must be HCS students,  
staff, alumni or spouse of alumni

~grade 9+

Please send your team name and roster to  
[bradenvanderwoerd@gmail.com](mailto:bradenvanderwoerd@gmail.com)

# ATHLETICS UPDATE: GAMES, TOURNAMENTS, AND TEAM SPIRIT!



From the Athletics Team:

As we close out 2025, it's hard to believe how quickly the year has passed. As we reflect on the past year of athletics, we recognize both victories and disappointments, highs and lows—and most importantly, God's hand of guidance and protection over all that we do. As we look ahead to the coming weeks, we invite our school community to support our teams at two upcoming basketball playdays.

- Junior Boys Basketball – December 19–20 | Lakes District Secondary School, Burns Lake
- Senior Girls Basketball – January 3 | ECRS

We also invite you to stop by HCS on December 26 to cheer on the volleyball teams at the HCS Alumni Volleyball Tournament. Please check social media for updates on the event and schedule as the day approaches.

As our regular school athletics pause over the Christmas break, we encourage students and families to remain active by enjoying the outdoors and all that Houston has to offer. The Claude Parish Memorial Arena offers a variety of public skate and shinny programs throughout the holiday season. In addition, the Houston Leisure Facility will have public swimming available for much of the holidays. More information can be found on Facebook by searching for "Leisure Services – District of Houston". The Morice Mountain Ski Club also has beautiful cross-country ski trails developed, and they are well worth checking out as a family.

We are thankful for each of you who contributes to our athletics program. Your support does not go unnoticed, and we truly appreciate you all.

May your Christmas break be filled with the peace of Christ's love. We look forward to seeing you all in 2026.

— The Athletic Team

HOUSTON CHRISTIAN  
**WILDCATS**  
ATHLETICS

## JUNIOR BOYS TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY 4:30PM HCS VS. STKR

SATURDAY SCHEDULE DETERMINED  
FROM FRIDAY'S GAME.  
CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UPDATES.

**LOCATION: LDSS**

HOUSTON CHRISTIAN  
**WILDCATS**  
ATHLETICS

## SENIOR GIRLS PLAY DAY

SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD

11:00AM HCS VS. HAZELTON  
2:00PM HCS VS. BVCS

**LOCATION: ECRS**





Lesley  
Wells

Richard

Dorothy  
Pinn

Praise His name for  
He is the living God,  
He was born to save us all.

Brandon  
Vanderbrink

Lena  
Michaluk

Kim VanB.

**MERRY  
Christmas**

from all of us at HCS

Kim Southerland

Ally

Daniela  
Michaluk

Patty  
Brown

Cheri Kobes

Nicole  
Kendrick

Candace  
Whelan

Cheryl  
Chapman

Dawn  
Bishop

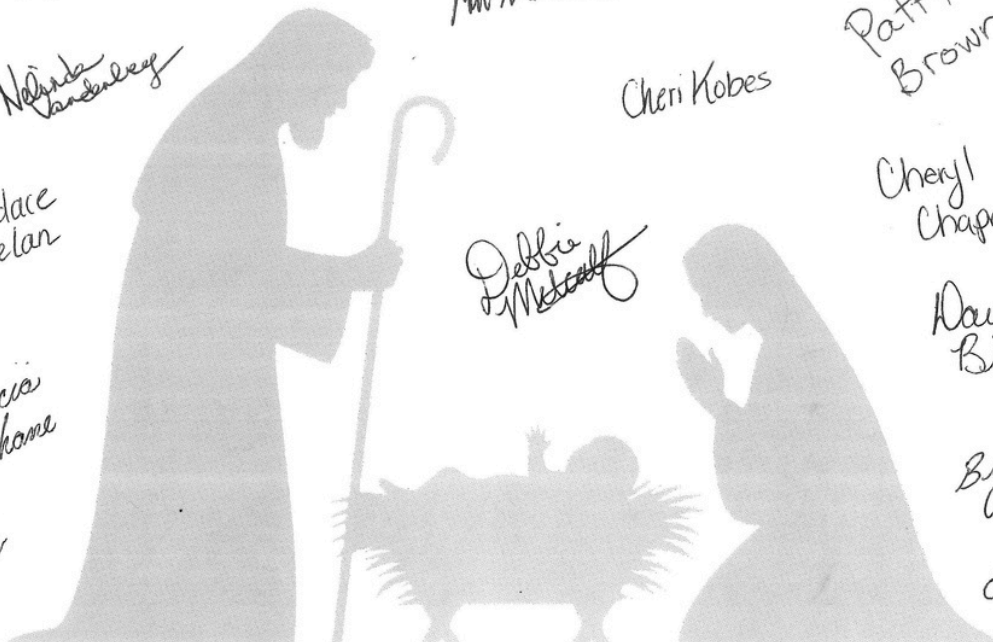
Debbie  
Metcalfe

Brian  
Cuddihill

Jessie  
Shane

Jenna  
Kanis

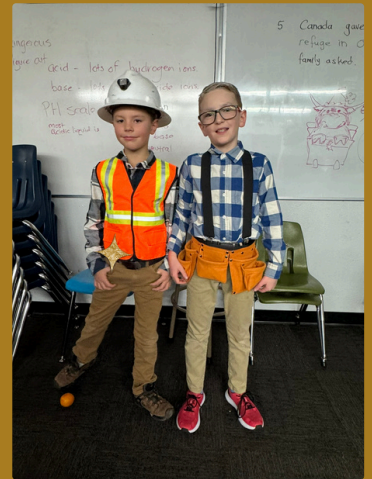
Angie



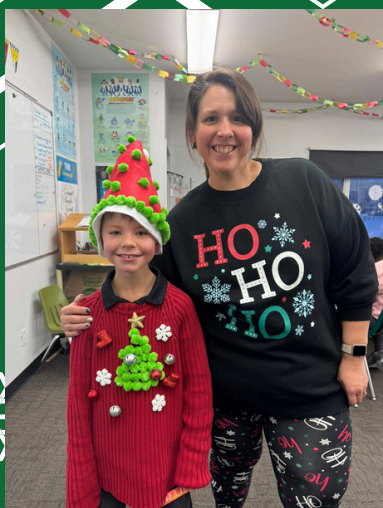




# A PLAY IN A MANGER



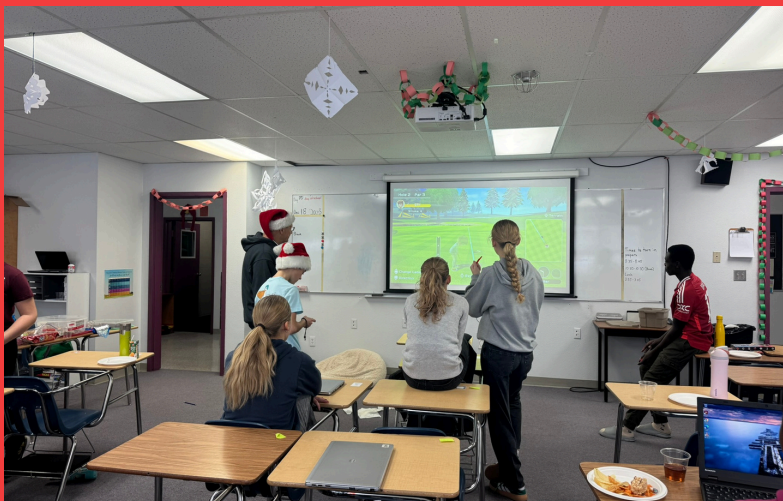




# Tacky Christmas Sweater Day







# CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AT HCS





# Employment Opportunity: Financial Administrative Assistant

**Job Type: Part-Time**

We are seeking a detail-oriented and reliable Financial Administration Assistant to support our financial administrative operations. The ideal candidate will maintain accurate financial records, assist with budget preparation and provide general administrative support to ensure smooth daily operations. The Position is approximately 25 hours per week.

## **Key Responsibilities:**

- Record accounts payable and receivable processes
- Reconcile invoices, petty cash, deposits and bank statements
- Implement tuition collection, record payment, reconcile and prepare annual tax receipts
- Prepare and process expense reports and reimbursements
- Support budget tracking and financial reporting to the School board bi-monthly
- Maintain organized financial and supporting administrative records (digitally and paper)
- Prepare bi-weekly payroll and time sheet verification,
- Administrate payroll benefits, pension plans and T4 reporting
- Monitor insurance plans (Building and vehicles)
- Arrange and attend Finance Committee meetings
- Other duties as assigned

## **Qualifications:**

- Degree or certificate in Accounting, Finance or Business Administration strongly preferred
- 1-3 years of administrative or financial support, office experience
- Must be proficient in Microsoft Office (especially Excel) and SAGE (Simply Accounting) Software
- Strong attention to detail and organizational skills
- Excellent communication and problem-solving skills
- Ability to handle confidential information with integrity
- Be an active, engaged member of a church that shares Houston Christian School's commitment to Christ's lordship.

## **What HCS offers:**

- Wage will depend on experience, with an annual increase per hour
  - Compensation Range: \$25.54 – \$30.43 per hour (Hourly rate is from the SCSBC grid)
- Benefit and pension plan (after probation period)
- Supportive and collaborative Christian working environment

## **How to apply:**

Please submit your resume and a brief cover letter outlining your experience to Ron Donkersloot (Principal) at [r.donkersloot@houstonchristianschool.ca](mailto:r.donkersloot@houstonchristianschool.ca)

# Employment Opportunity: High School Teacher

**Job Type: Part-Time**

Based on our anticipated needs for the remainder of the 2025 school year, we are searching for a Part-Time High School Teacher (Subjects TBD). Applicants should hold, or be eligible for, a BC Teaching Certificate. The Position is approximately 15 – 20 hours per week.

## **Key Responsibilities:**

- Exhibit spiritual maturity and Christlike character in daily teaching and relationships.
- Integrate a biblical worldview into high school instruction across multiple subject areas.
- Teach a range of courses, with specific assignments determined by school needs and teacher strengths.
- Build strong, positive relationships with students and contribute to a supportive classroom environment.
- Collaborate effectively with colleagues and communicate clearly with families.
- Use sound instructional practices and assessments to support student learning.
- Participate actively in school life through supervision duties, extracurricular involvement, and other responsibilities that support the overall student experience.
- Approach challenges with grace and professionalism.
- Demonstrate a commitment to ongoing professional and spiritual growth.

## **Qualifications:**

- Be an active, engaged member of a church that shares Houston Christian School's commitment to Christ's lordship and the centrality of God's Word.
- Holds a valid BC teaching certificate.
- Strong academic background and training in secondary education, with the versatility to teach multiple high school subjects.
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills, with a collaborative approach to working with staff and families.

## **What HCS offers:**

- Compensation Range: \$16,123 – \$26,197
  - The rate range is from the SCSBC grid and based on a 30% FTE
- Benefit and pension plan (after probation period)
- Supportive and collaborative Christian working environment

## **How to apply:**

Interested applicants are invited to submit a cover letter, résumé, statement of faith, and three professional references to the HCS Principal. Please email applications to Ron Donkersloot at [r.donkersloot@houstonchristianschool.ca](mailto:r.donkersloot@houstonchristianschool.ca)