Houston Christian School

Branches

a school to home newsletter

September 18, 2026

Whats Happening at HCS?

Sept. 30 - Wednesday

- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - No School

October 1 - Thursday

- Orange Shirt Day at HCS

Grad Bottle Drive

The grad class is already starting to fundraise in prepartion for their graduation at the end of this school year. They will be collecting bottles all year long. If you have bottles you would like to donate please reach out to Michelle Dykstra at (250) 845-8207 during regular school hours. Thank you for supporting our grads.

Annual Low-Risk Field Trip Permission Form

Permission slips for students to participate in low-risk field trips throughout the school year were sent home earlier this week. If you have not yet completed and returned your form, please do so next week.

If your form has been misplaced, another copy can be picked up at the HCS office or printed using this link.

Buy Low Gift Cards Update

With our local grocery store changing from Buy-Low Foods to Save-On-Foods, we have received several questions about what this means for our gift card fundraiser.

We have contacted Save-On-Foods and have been assured that the local store will continue to accept Buy-Low Foods gift cards. Once the school has sold our remaining Buy-Low gift cards, we will transition to the Save-On-Foods fundraising program.

We are very pleased that this fundraising opportunity will continue and hope families will keep purchasing their grocery gift cards through the school. It's an easy way to support HCS while buying the groceries you already need.

Principal's Pulse

words from our head

Thank you, everyone, for your warm wishes and greetings to me and HCS as a whole. Things rarely go as planned at the start of a new school year, and this year was no different. Busy days and changing plans were met with grace and kindness from students and staff alike.

I am so grateful for the community supporting the school and feel intensely blessed to be helping our students refresh their knowledge of our Biblical Throughlines.

This month, we are focusing on being **God Worshipers**. In this throughline, "students learn that worshipping God is about celebrating who God is, what God has done and is doing, and what God has created. It is literally about standing in awe and wonder of God and His promises" (Trinity Christian School). This worship should shape our lives.

Last week we focused on the Name of LORD:

"from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised."
Ps. 113:3

This usage of the name of LORD shows that we should come to our saviour in awe and reverence. It speaks of the true name of God and ALL that that name holds. Such a small name with a huge impact; we truly can only go to God in reverent praise when thinking of this name.

This week we focused on the Name of Immanuel:

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."
Is. 7:14

In Matthew 1:23, we are reminded that Immanuel means "God With Us." As God is with us and is present in our lives, our response should be one of joy and awe. In our joy and awe, we can praise him in many different ways, from the quiet whisper of a desperate prayer on our hearts to hands raised in worship with a community of believers seeking to bring Him glory.

Thank you for entrusting the education, engagement, and equipping of your children into the care of the dedicated staff at HCS. We pray that God grants us all we need to carry out this mandate for His glory, so that we can all become God Worshippers standing in awe of our amazing God.

With gratitude and blessings,
Cheri Kobes

Source: Trinity Christian School. "Core Practice: Throughlines." Teaching for Transformation, 2026. https://www.tcskids.com/teaching-for-transformation-tft/core-practice-2-throughlines. Accessed September 16, 2026.

Athletics Update:
Games, Tournaments, and Team Spirit!

And just like that, we are back into the swing of sports!

A warm welcome as we begin the 2026/2027 school year! We hope everyone had a wonderful and blessed summer break and is looking forward to the year ahead.

It was really great to connect on Monday evening- thank you for setting your evening aside. For those of you who were unable to attend, the HCS Athletics Handbook can be found on our website at the attached link:

HCS ATHLETICS HANDBOOK

A few housekeeping items as we start the season:

- Please familiarize yourself with the athletics calendar on the website and app. This will be your best reference point for any practices, weekend play days, tournaments and schedule changes.
- Located just outside the Athletic Office, across from Mr. Cuddeback's room, you will find an athletics bulletin board. Schedules, resources, and other relevant information will be posted here throughout the season. Parents and students are welcome to stop by, take a look, and help yourselves to any available resources!

Earlier this week, we rolled out some new systems regarding athletic fees, jerseys, and student-athlete commitments. A huge thank you to everyone for your positive and prompt responses as we navigate these new processes. Your support, cooperation, and willingness to adapt are very much appreciated!

As we head into our first weekend of play, we'd love to see our HCS community come out and cheer on our athletes! Below are the locations where each team will be playing:

Senior Girls – Hosting at Houston Christian School
Junior Girls – Ebenezer Canadian Reformed School
Junior Boys – Smithers Secondary School

A huge thank you to our coaches who have been so flexible as we build a practice schedule. Your commitment to our program does not go unnoticed!

Have a blessed weekend - The Athletics Department