



# Holmesburg Christian Academy

## The paw print

October, 2018

Volume 6, Number 2

Dear H.C.A. Family and Friends,

Linda C. Lewis

Head of School

### *The Missing Ingredient*

Dear Parents and Friends of the H.C.A. School Family,

***Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who built it...***

Psalms 127:1a

I try to walk through the school daily and visit each classroom, even if it is to just stand and observe through the window in the classroom door. One day this week, I was visiting a classroom near the end of the day. The students were engaged in some afternoon activities that were less structured and they were allowed the freedom to talk and walk around the room as they did their work. I stood inside the room; I watched and listened. One of our young boys was singing a praise song in class. It wasn't Chapel or Music class, he was just happy to be singing to the Lord. He was content and filled with the joy of the Jesus. My heart was blessed and I was reminded why I do what I do every day. Such blessings ease the burdens of difficult days. It made me realize that, no matter how hard the public school tries to entice parents with free preschools and modern facilities and charter schools attempt to separate themselves from the local public school, with the promotion of modern technology, new playground equipment and educational agendas that promise high academic achievement, they will never have what we have. We have JESUS..

Not too long ago, I had reason to bake a Jewish Apple Cake. After preheating the oven and greasing the pan, I pared and sliced the apples just right, then coated them with sugar and cinnamon. After measuring the dry ingredients, beating the eggs and adding the orange juice and oil, I layered the batter and the perfectly sliced apples. Just before placing the cake in the oven, a mixture of sugar and cinnamon was sprinkled on the top. After sixty minutes of baking, I pulled from the oven a beautiful looking cake. The crispy, crunchy looking top, coated with cinnamon and sugar, next to moist apple slices popping out of the cake, seemed to cry, "eat me, I'm delicious tasting." By all outward appearances, I had baked the perfect cake.

Later that day it was time to eat the cake. As the cake was sliced and passed around, one by one, those around the table looked at each other thinking, "What is wrong with this cake"? Finally, I said, "there must be something missing; this cake has no taste." Sure enough, when I reviewed the ingredients, I had left out the vanilla. The cake looked OK. In fact, it appeared delicious and tempting, but it was missing an ingredient, one that flavored the whole cake.

Holmesburg Christian Academy has an ingredient that flavors the whole school, an ingredient, which sets us apart from every secular school. We may not have the newest computers, or the fanciest playground

equipment, but the educational and spiritual foundation of H.C.A. is built on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. His Gospel penetrates and flavors every aspect of our school day, from academics to our biblical approach on discipline.

Other schools may be tempting and appear to have all the ingredients that a child may need, but unless a school has Jesus Christ as the building block it is missing an ingredient and “they labor in vain who built it...” I thank God for Holmesburg Baptist Church, our students, parents, and teachers, who recognize the need for an education that looks to the Word of God, as the main ingredient in a school’s educational program. We are here for you and helping you to develop a biblical worldview in your child will remain one our deepest commitments.

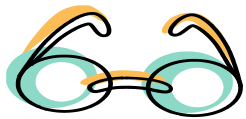
In His Precious Name,

Linda C. Lewis  
Head of School

## Prayer Requests and Praises

- \* Praise for a successful start to a new school year.
- \* Pray that all our students adjust to their new environments
- \* Pray for Grandparent's Day. May students and their guests have a rewarding time together.
- \* Pray for the hurricane victims as they try to recover and rebuild.
- \* Health concerns and issues for many of our staff members and their extended family members
- \* Praise for a successful start to clubs
- \* Pray that God prepares the hearts of our students as we begin our season of Spiritual Emphasis. Prepare our speakers to impact our students.

**PRAYER**  
*changes things*



LOOKING AHEAD

November 1 and 2 – No School (All PS-8<sup>th</sup> Grade) Teachers' Conferences/Staff Development

November 7 - First Marking Period Ends

November 7 - Special Veterans Chapel

November 12 and 13 – Open House – 9am – 2pm

November 15 and 16 – 11:30 Dismissal (HD PS – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade) Report Card Conf. and MS Project Fair Info Mtg

November 21 – 12:30 Dismissal (All PS – 8<sup>th</sup>) Thanksgiving Feast/No PM Ext. Care

November 22 and 23 – No School (All PS – 8<sup>th</sup>) Thanksgiving Break

November 29 – PTF Christmas Event

## Student of the Month

**SEPTEMBER**

**K – GABRIELLE PERRIN**

**1<sup>ST</sup> – ELISA BROWN**

**5<sup>TH</sup> – GINGER SAYEGH**

**2<sup>ND</sup> – KARA CHISHOLM**

**6<sup>TH</sup> – GEMMA RICHARDSON**

**3<sup>RD</sup> – GREGG FORTUNE**

**7<sup>TH</sup> – GABRIEL FORTUNE**

**4<sup>TH</sup> – MACKENZIE SMITH**

**8<sup>TH</sup> – REWMONE BROOKS**

## ATTENTION PARENTS

The 2018-2019 school year is up and running full steam ahead. Many field trips and events are planned. We want you to be part of these activities but we must have the following clearances if you are going to volunteer in the classroom, attend class trips, chaperone any school related activities, help with parties, drive for or coach sporting events. The necessary clearances include:

1. **Criminal History Record** (SP4-164) – obtained from the PA State Police online at <https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>. The clearance is free for volunteers only.
2. **The Child Abuse Clearance** (CY113) – obtained through the PA Department of Human Services online at: <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS> This is free for volunteers only.
3. **Federal Criminal History Record** (FBI Fingerprints) - obtained by submission to PA State Police or FBI. This check may be waived for volunteers who “swear or affirm” in writing that they have resided in PA for 10+ years and have never been convicted of any crime. To register and pay for the fingerprint process (cost is \$28.75) go to, [www.pa.cogentid.com//index\\_dpw.htm](http://www.pa.cogentid.com//index_dpw.htm). After you register you may go to the UPS Store #5145, 2417 Welsh Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114. Phone 215-464-1877 during the hours of Monday – Friday 10 AM – 4:30 PM and Saturday 10 AM -1:30 PM to complete the process.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Mrs. Lewis



## **HBC – FALL FESTIVAL AND FLEA MARKET**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FUN DAY OF SHOPPING, GOOD FOOD, FUN AND CRAFTS ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup> FROM 8AM-1PM. HOLMESBURG BAPTIST CHURCH WILL BE HAVING A FALL FESTIVAL IN THE GYM. WE'RE HAVING A FLEA MARKET WITH GREAT ATTIC AND GARAGE TREASURES AND A FEW CRAFT ITEMS TOO. THE HOMEMADE BAKED GOODS TABLES WILL FEATURE COOKIES, CAKES, BROWNIES, PIES, BREADS, CANDY APPLES AND CHOCOLATE COVERED PRETZELS. THERE WILL ALSO BE A WELLNESS CENTER, **RITE AID** WILL BE OFFERING FREE FLU SHOTS WITH YOUR INSURANCE OR MEDICARE CARD. **COMMUNITY CARE CENTER** WILL BE GIVING FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS AND WILL HAVE INFORMATION ON HOME HEALTHCARE, WHEELS FOR INDEPENDENCE AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES. THE COMMUNITY CENTER WILL FEATURE **AARP** AND THE PHILADELPHIA FREE LIBRARY-HOLMESBURG BRANCH WILL HAVE A FREE BOOK GIVEAWAY. WE WILL ALSO BE COLLECTING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS FOR THE **HOLMESBURG FOOD PANTRY** AT **HOLMESBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**. ANYONE MAKING A FOOD DONATION WILL RECEIVE A COUPON FOR A FREE HOT DOG AT THE SNACK BAR. THE SNACK BAR WILL FEATURE A LUNCH MENU AS WELL AS SNACKS. WE WILL ALSO HAVE **FREE CRAFT MAKING** FOR CHILDREN ON THE STAGE.

## UNIFORMS

With the **end of September**, we also see the **end of the warm weather dress option**. This option will return again on **April 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please check the dress code in the handbook for any questions you may have. If you're in need of uniform items you should contact **DiGiulio's**, visit your local store at **6948 Frankford Avenue, Phila., PA 19135**, or call **215-335-5512**. Students in K-5<sup>th</sup> are permitted to wear their gym clothes to school on their gym days. Sweatshirts, jackets or non-school sweaters may not be worn in the classroom. If children are cold they must wear the appropriate school sweater or a school spirit wear item. Ties must remain on students on chapel day. **Uniform notices will be issued for students who do not comply.**

**Note:** Sweatpants and stretch pants are not acceptable gym attire. Students will receive uniform notices for noncompliance.



## VETERANS CHAPEL

Do you know a veteran? Do you know someone who is currently serving? We want to honor our men and women in the military. Please send a photograph of this individual for our November bulletin board by October 26<sup>th</sup>. Include their name, rank and branch of service. Please join us at 9AM on November 7<sup>th</sup> for a special Veterans Day Chapel. Light refreshments will be served to veterans and service men and women at 8:00AM prior to chapel. All Veterans, and those currently serving are invited to join us.



## The Book Fair is Coming!

The HCA Book Fair, sponsored by Scholastic is scheduled for November 5<sup>th</sup> through November 9<sup>th</sup>!

Do you enjoy helping younger children find and choose books? Would you like to be a part of the Book Fair crew? If you are willing to volunteer to help at the Book Fair, please send a message to Mrs. Wismer at:

[CandaceWismer@HolmesburgBCA.com](mailto:CandaceWismer@HolmesburgBCA.com). We will need adults and students in grades 4 through 8 to help.

Adults, please include which day(s) and hour(s) you are available. Students, you will be scheduled according to your classes. Thank you! Remember, adult helpers must have their clearances.

# PTF NEWS



## PTF Pretzels

Tuesday is Pretzel Day. Pretzels will be sold during snack time for .50c each for grades K-5. Middle school students may purchase their pretzels during lunch.



## October PTF Steak Sandwich lunch will be Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>



## GRANDPARENTS DAY - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup>

The day will begin at 9:00am with chapel. Grandparents or special guests will be escorted to the classrooms they wish to visit. At 11:30 Grandparents and special guests will enjoy a lunch in Fellowship Hall. Sorry but students may not eat lunch with grandparents. If grandparents will be taking children home following lunch they must have parental permission and sign students out in the main office.



## PTF SUPER HERO DAY - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>

PTF IS HAVING A DRESS DOWN DAY ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>. DRESS AS YOUR FAVORITE SUPER HERO OR WEAR A T-SHIRT WITH YOUR FAVORITE SUPER HERO ON IT. THE COST FOR THIS DRESS DOWN DAY IS \$1.00.



## PTF HARVEST NIGHT - OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> @ 6:30 PM

PTF will hold its annual Harvest Night on 9/25/18 at 6:30PM. Come out for a night of Fun Family Fellowship. PTF will host a fall dinner including Hot Dogs, Chips and dessert. Nathan J. will be our DJ for the evening, bringing with him games, moonbounce, cotton candy, popcorn, prizes and more. The night is free to all PTF member families. Otherwise the cost is \$5.00 per family. If you have not signed up for PTF membership the forms are in the school office.

## PTF MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

PTF MEMBERSHIP DRIVE HAS ENDED, BUT YOU MAY STILL JOIN BY SENDING IN YOUR \$7.00 AND COMPLETE THE FORM ATTACHED TO THE NEWSLETTER.