

MARCH 2010

schoolbell

HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Geography Bee

Honor Roll

Spelling Bee Buzz

Wish List

Huskies Unite to
Aid Haiti Relief

Sports

How to Be

from
the COVER



Golf Outing Save the Date!

The HCS Foundation Golf Outing will take place on Saturday, July 17, 2010 at the White Hawk Country Club in Crown Point, IN.

Plan to join us for a wildly fun day in support of Christian education at Highland Christian School.

The weather is always nice and the company, sure to please! See you there!

The Ripple Effect of God's Love and Faithfulness

When we stand in the center of our circumstance, it is often difficult to see beyond the mundane; our focus riveted on our own individual settings. But step back. Take a breath. We must only look at the biographies of the Old Testament and the testimonies of those around us to see the larger story. It is here we find joyful rest as we see how God's right hand reaches through time and space to care for His creation and the children He so desperately loves.

Our children's life stories are just now being penned. It is our responsibility to guard their imaginations and develop a framework of truth from which to think. We will walk alongside them as they learn to watch for the ways God is working. We will sit with them as they learn to listen to the voice of God. They will learn from our words and our actions that He is the common center from which we all move.

As rosy winter cheeks fade and sun-kissed faces appear, we mark the midpoint of this school year. Let's step back from our individual experiences and take a minute to see the ripple effect of God's amazing love as seen here at Highland Christian School. Then pass it on. Let the effects ripple out and touch those with whom you enjoy community. Together, we will show His glory to our children and carry His hope to our world.

Psalm 103:13-18

As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;
for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.

As for man, his days are like grass,
he flourishes like a flower of the field;
the wind blows over it and it is gone,
and its place remembers it no more.

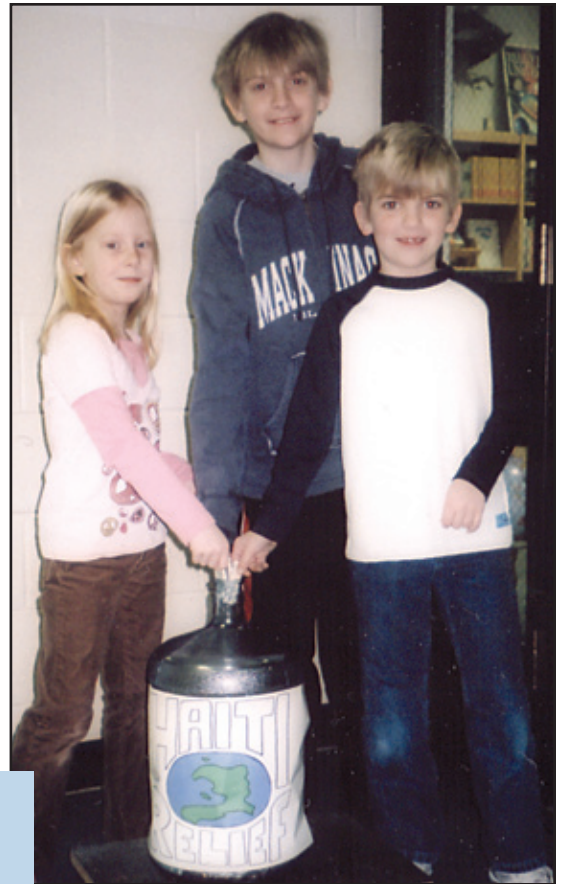
But from everlasting to everlasting
the LORD's love is with those who fear him,
and his righteousness with their children's children-
with those who keep his covenant
and remember to obey his precepts.

The LORD has established his throne in heaven,
and his kingdom rules over all.

Huskies Unite to Aid Haiti Relief

Mrs. Schipper, Laura Kortum and all other HCS students, Mrs. Moes, Mr. Brink, Mrs. Hines. What is the connection between all these people; a heart to help those in need. As Christians we share a unique characteristic bond that unifies us despite differences, and Highland Christian School demonstrated this to the fullest in the collection that was taken for CRWRC to assist in their relief efforts in Haiti.

The story begins with Mrs. Schipper's family discussing the devastation in Haiti after the recent earthquake that rocked the country. Seeing the way the devastation affected family members, Mrs. Schipper asked in the office and suggested that we do something as a school. It just happened to be Mrs. Hines' plan period as Mrs. Schipper talked this over with Mrs. Moes and in a matter of minutes, a plan was put together to get HCS involved. It started with getting an o.k. from the principal, getting a container from Mr. De Young, asking Mr. Brink to draw up a sign to put on our container, and Mrs. Hines researching a bit of information that



HCS 100th Anniversary Worship Celebration

Highland Christian School will conclude our 100th Anniversary Year with a Worship Celebration on Sunday, May 2, at 6:00 pm, at Faith Church in Dyer. A wonderful service of music and praise led by HCS students and alumni is being planned. Please join us as we give thanks to God for past blessings and pray for Highland Christian's future!

The planning committee for this service is seeking pictures of HCS alumni at work or volunteering in God's world in the past and today. Please email large digital photos ASAP to jlineburg@highlandchristian.org with your name, occupation, and place of employment.

Former HCS band members interested in playing for the service should contact Pat Menninga at 219-558-2499 or patriciamenninga@gmail.com. Rehearsals will possibly be on Tuesdays or Thursdays after March 20.

Also, as we end our year of celebration, the Heritage Room will be closing on Friday, April 16. If you haven't visited yet, please stop in soon to see the wonderful display of history and memorabilia. If you have donated items for display, you may stop in after that date to pick them up.

The 100th Anniversary Commemorative Books are on sale in the office for \$10. We'd be happy to mail you a copy; just send a check to the school with your name and address. Calendars are only \$1 and are great for scrap-booking! It's a wonderful memento of your child's year at HCS!

*"Come and see what God has done,
how awesome His works in man's behalf!" Ps. 66:5*

could be shared with those who would want to know who was getting the money.

A large water jug was placed outside the library for two weeks to give students and parents a chance to drop off their donations, and when all was said and done, the Lord used Highland Christian School to help gather a total of approximately \$2460.00 to send to CRWRC. "This was a complete group effort," reports Mrs. Hines. She told of one story she knew about where a student in 7th grade, Laura Kortum, went to her church and got permission to leave a basket in the back to help collect money. Laura brought \$250.00 in the next Monday! Certainly there are many more stories just like this one that shows just how much God wants to use anyone and everyone to accomplish His work. Thank-you to all the people involved in collecting and donating to this cause.

It was an unlikely group that put the collection together, yet it seems to be the unlikely hero's that the Lord seems to use in mighty ways. To God be the glory for great things He has done!

friends in action

etc... a resale marketplace

One of the fun parts of operating *etc...* a resale marketplace is coming up with different sales and promotions for every day or week. We have had BOGOs (that's Buy One Get One for the uninitiated), sales by color- such as all pink and red clothing on sale for the week of Valentine's Day, or our newly minted "Frequent Buyer Card". We have even done sales similar to Kohl's, where our customer chooses their discount via a chip they pick out of a bowl.

Our customers have come to learn that Wednesdays are Senior Day- 50 % off their entire purchase, Tuesdays are "2s days" with 2 for 1



sales, and recently, we have made Monday the day all display items are for sale, and on occasion we will have a "Super Saturday". All of this gives our customers a reason to return repeatedly- they never know when the best deals will happen.

We have learned that the thrift store customer likes to see fresh merchandise on a regular basis, and is pretty well educated in what we have had for a while, and what the merchandise is worth. We have tried also to supplement our donations with liquidation purchases. These have been both house ware items and furniture, which has increased the quality of our furniture department, and increased our sales.

If you haven't visited *etc... a resale marketplace* yet, we would encourage you to give it a try. The old stereotype of an overcrowded, unattractive store with old smelling items is not what we are about. Many of you who have visited have been very surprised to see what we are like. We are bright, clean and a lot of fun to shop- we carry all types of merchandise, including some designer names and one of a kind items.

The best part of all of this is that we are doing this for you, the Highland Christian School community. Many of our volunteers have little connection with Highland Christian, but are happy to be a part of a business that is contributing so positively to the cause of Christian education. Every day we get a little closer to being able to contribute to the Foundation Fund, which will in turn reduce your tuition. By giving donations, and encouraging others to shop with us as well as yourself, gets us closer to that goal.

Auction Reminder

Mark your calendars for our Centennial Year Silent Auction/ Bake Sale on Friday, April 23rd and the Live Auction on Saturday, April 24th. We are in need of Silent Auction shoppers. Check those sale flyers and clearance areas for great deals! You may drop off your donated items in the school office or call Suzanne at 838-0356 to arrange for pick-up. Come join us for some fun while supporting HCS and making our Centennial Year Auction the Best Ever!

2010 Auction Committee Members:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Sandy Burgess | Suzanne Jonkman |
| Wendall & Karin Carey | Matt Lenting |
| Ted Chapman | Gary Meter |
| Bob Crowel | Larry Otte |
| Joyce Groen | Dawn Stammers |
| Don Hofstra | Chuck & Joi Thompson |
| Randy & Rae Huizenga | Rick Vander Woude |

3rd Grade Mission Sale

The third grade classes sponsored a craft sale to support three ministries that serve God's people around the world. Handmade cards from Thailand were sold in December, and items from Honduras and Zimbabwe were sold in February. Students were able to purchase handcrafted jewelry, bookmarks, toys, and more. Over \$400 was raised, and all profits were donated to Hearts in Motion (Ken Mulderink), New Life Community-Thailand (Dave Veldhorst) and T.E.A.M.-Zimbabwe (Sean Doyle). Thank you for helping the third graders reach out and show the love of God across the globe.



Accelerated Reader

At HCS, we participate in a program called Accelerated Reader (A.R.). This program encourages students to select books that are appropriate for their reading level. Students' reading levels are based on many things, the main determinant being standardized testing. Based on this, teachers find an appropriate nonfiction and fiction reading range for each child. Each child is then encouraged to choose books in that "range." The books in the school's library and in the classroom libraries are marked with the book's reading level. Each child can check this and choose books appropriate for him or her.

Every student at HCS in grades 3-8 has been given an A.R. goal. This goal tells the student how many points he or she needs to get in a given quarter. The students get points by reading the books and taking the ten question multiple-choice quiz on our computer. A book might have a 3.1 reading level and be worth 2 points. This means that after the students pass the computerized quiz with 100%, he or she will earn 2 points toward their goal. However, if that child scores a 70%, he or she will only earn 1.4 points (70% of 2 points). Points accumulate throughout the quarter.

It is important that each child meet his or her goal every quarter. Not only is it part of their reading grade, but we also have a terrific school-wide incentive program to go along with this. Every quarter a child meets his or her goal, they will be invited to that quarter's A.R. party. Parties in the past have included outdoor and indoor games, movies, and always a treat. The students look forward to these parties! Also, if students in grades 3-5 meet their goals for all four quarters, they are invited to go to the dunes for a picnic lunch and some fun in the sand, and the junior high students get to go to a ballgame!

Our elementary incentive program also includes an A.R. store. After each quarter, students may "spend" the points they have earned or save them for a larger "item" later. Some items in the store are candy, pop, gift certificates, craft items at recess, donuts, Wendy's Frostys and fries, and more! However, before we spend the points, the act of tithing is explained to the children and we talk about how we can bless others through our tithe. Our tithed points are then converted to money. This year our tithed points are going to Hearts in Motion.



7th Grade Holocaust Studies

Holocaust study has been the focus of 7th Grade Literature this year. After reading *The Hiding Place*, by Corrie ten Boom, and learning about Dutch resistance work, 7th grade took a trip in December to the new Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie, IL. Students took a tour through the museum and were able to listen to a survivor who later escaped to the United States. To follow up with this experience, geography students will take a look at our world today to look for examples of genocide.

Also, during the week of March 15-20, the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana is sponsoring *The Diary of Anne Frank* at the Munster Performing Arts Center. Students in 7th grade will also be attending this play and will see an exhibition of photos that are on display at the center. This display will be open to the public on Saturday, March 20 if anyone is interested in seeing the exhibition. Mrs. Joyce Groen, an 8th grade teacher will be a docent and will be available to guide you through the exhibit on that day.

students in action



Spelling Bee Buzz

In January, all junior-high students participated in a spelling bee. The class winners were: Jack Thompson, Martha Mapes, Sean Armendariz, Carmen Huizenga, Hallie Hofstra, and Joanne Klapak. A spelling bee was then conducted with the six winners, and Hallie Hofstra took the title of HCS 2010 Spelling Champion. She went on to compete at the Lake/Porter District Spelling Bee on January 13. She correctly spelled recalcitrant, spaghetti, animosity and several other words before she missed bromeliad. Do you even know what a bromeliad is? Well, just ask Hallie! She finished in fifth place and will advance to the Regional Spelling Bee held on March 13 at Union Township Middle School located in Valparaiso. Well done, Hallie!

Junior High Honor Roll

Second Quarter 2009/2010

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| James Bell | Kalie Johnson |
| Rebecca Dauro | Chad Ketelaar |
| Garret Lytle | Laura Kortum |
| Elyssa Patricks | Kristen Laninga |
| Takoda Potts | Katherine Reynhout |
| Mikinsey Pruum | Courtney Smith |
| Mandie West | Andrew Stammis |
| Sean Armendariz | Leah Vander Wall |
| Joel Bergsma | Maggie Durham |
| Arthur Carey | Joanne Klapak |
| Carlie Cruse | Cassidy Robertson |
| Colton Ebbens | Natalie Vander Woude |
| Justine Evenhouse | |



Orange Shirt Day

Junior High High Honor Roll

Second Quarter 2009/2010

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Luke Boss | Joel Kostelyk |
| Lucas Delahunty | Aireal Sandidge |
| Lorna De Windt | Leah Smit |
| Noah Holesinger | Hannah Sonner |
| Aaron Knapper | Sara Vander Woude |
| Martha Mapes | Molly Boender |
| David Montalvo | Mackenzie Chapman |
| Jonathan Neeley | Andrew Clark |
| Emily Otte | Tony Dykstra |
| Jonathan Otte | Glenn Haag |
| Steven Otte | Hallie Hofstra |
| Emma Spoelman | Emily Horvat |
| Jack Thompson | Caleb Jonkman |
| Allison Towriss | Delia Mapes |
| Cameron Zandstra | Nikki Moes |
| James Zandstra | Alex Riemersma |
| Matthew Zandstra | Edythe Robbins |
| Robby Zandstra | David Schell |
| James Fedele | Samantha Tarkington |
| Rachel Herrera | Ben Van Til |

Century Club

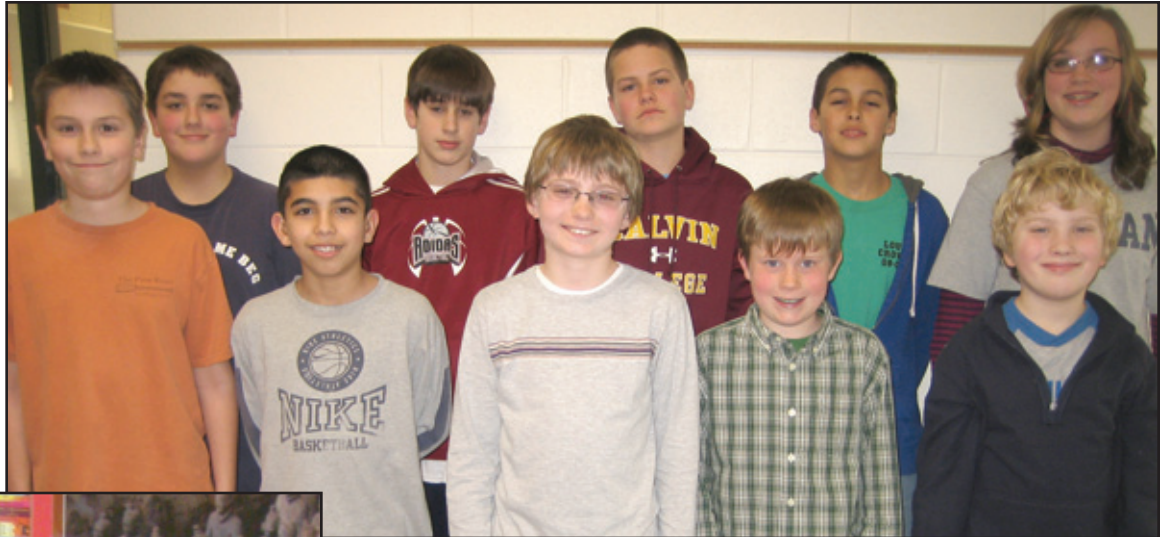
In the Library we are celebrating the 100 year anniversary of the school by reading 100 books. So far there have been 22 students who have completed this daunting (but enjoyable) task! They are members of the HCS Century Club!

Grade 2 - Marco Amatulli, Isabel Arndt, Ella Crowell, Anna Delahunty, Logan Kikkert-Miller, Jamie Klapak, Clarissa Koutz, Joshua Maticcik, Lance Mulderink, Eddie Spoelman, Kayla Sylvester, Lexi Terpstra, Joe Thompson, Angelina Verastegui, Arianna Winchell

Grade 3 - Abby Bennett, Heidi Bultema, Madilyn Holesinger, Julia Oostema, Cate Peerbolte, Dylan VanderWoude

Grade 5 - Jared Jonkman

Congratulations to all these wonderful readers! If you are wondering what book to read next, I am sure that they will have a good suggestion for you! We look forward to more students becoming members of the Century Club.



Geography Bee at HCS

Every November, Highland Christian receives the testing materials from National Geographic to host our annual Geography Bee. Students in grades 4-8 take a 70-point test to determine a class winner.

Congratulations to the following finalists from each class in the National Geography Bee:

4th – Andrew Feikema, Collin Bultema

5th – J.P. Peerbolte, Jack Barth

6th – Luke Boss, David Montalvo

7th – Andrew Sitter, Joel Kostelyk

8th – Hallie Hofstra, Tony Dykstra

All finalists were treated to Aurelio's pizza for their accomplishments.

On Friday, Jan. 8th, we had the finals for our Geography Bee. The winner was J.P. Peerbolte, with runner-up Luke Boss. J.P. Peerbolte took a written test to determine if he will go on to compete in the coming months in Indianapolis for the State Geography Bee. Congratulations finalists!

Christmas Concert

On Thursday, December 10, parents, grandparents, students, and friends gathered in Highland Christian's gymnasium for the annual Christmas Concert. Each year the Christmas Concert includes the Fourth Graders playing recorders, the Beginner Band, the Junior High Band, and the Junior High Choir.

The recorders began the evening with Jingle Bells, followed by some songs from our Beginner Band, which included a rousing rendition of Angels We Have Heard on High. The Junior High Band shared some traditional Christmas carols, followed by "Jubilant Song of Christmas." Everyone in the gym was then asked to join the Band and Choir in singing some Christmas carols. The Choir ended the evening with "Rise Up Shepherd" and a combination of "Pachelbel's Canon and the First Noel."

It was an enjoyable evening for all. Everyone did a fantastic job and we are looking forward to next year's concert!

Birthday Books –2009/2010

The Library Birthday Club is a way for students to celebrate their birthday and also share with other students. They donate a book they love, and their name and year is placed in the book so that everyone can enjoy that student's birthday for a long time to come. The following students have donated books to the Library Birthday Club:

October

If You Give a Pig a Party – Olivia Yonkman

January

The Guinness Book of World Records 2010
– Payton and Alivia Ash

February

Superstar Watch – Erin Yonkman

Thank you kids! We hope you had a great birthday!

wish list

Academic Support Center

| | |
|---|---------|
| REWARDS Reading Program Teacher's Edition | \$89.95 |
| Set of 10 student workbooks: | \$95.95 |

Discovery Center

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|---|----------|
| 3 reading and spelling games from Van Cleave Educational Consulting..... | \$100.00 |
|---|----------|

Academic Support and Discovery Centers

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|---|--------------------|
| CDs to update Read Naturally Program (5 levels) | \$130.90 per level |
|---|--------------------|

Sonshine Enrichment Center

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|---|----------|
| Super-size outdoor molded sandbox..... | \$780.00 |
| Set of four alphabet sequencing wooden puzzles..... | \$46.00 |
| Set of four number sequencing wooden puzzles..... | \$46.00 |
| Hexie Snaps Manipulative set..... | \$35.00 |
| Two sets of Crayola Markers Classpacks..... | \$118.00 |
| Four table mats..... | \$48.00 |

Kindergarten – Mrs. Brown

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|------------------------------------|----------|
| Computer games Word Munchers | \$500.00 |
| Computer games Math Munchers..... | \$500.00 |

Kindergarten – Mrs. Zandstra

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| Magnetic Patterning Kit | \$29.95 |
| Phonemic Awareness Boxes/Rhyming..... | \$34.95 |
| Using Site Words | \$24.95 |
| Creative Site-Word Sentences Center | \$39.95 |
| Five floor puzzles | \$12.99 each |
| Picture/Word Phonics Puzzles Level 1 | \$39.95 |
| Picture/Word Phonics Puzzles Level 2 | \$39.95 |
| Tactile numbers 1-30..... | \$14.95 |
| Two Pocket Charts..... | \$23.29 each |
| Two storage boxes | \$10.29 each |
| Listening Center | |
| Storage center..... | \$299.00 |
| Junction box | \$24.95 |
| Four headphones..... | \$13.95 each |
| Set of five books/CDs..... | \$159.00 |

First Grade – Mrs. Otte

| | |
|---|----------|
| Books with CDs for Listening Center..... | \$100.00 |
| Digital pictures for Journals (\$5.00/child x 25 students)..... | \$125.00 |
| Write and Wipe black Expo markers for Phonics..... | \$99.75 |
| Write and Wipe Lapboard set of ten | \$28.50 |

First Grade – Mrs. Moore

| | |
|---|----------|
| Magnetic pocket chart..... | \$24.95 |
| Digital pictures for Journals (\$5.00/child x 25 students)..... | \$125.00 |
| Write and Wipe black Expo markers..... | \$99.75 |
| Write and Wipe Lapboard set of ten | \$28.50 |

Second Grade – Mrs. Donovan

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|---|----------|
| Hardcover books for classroom library..... | \$100.00 |
| Guided reading beach balls and comprehension cubes..... | \$25.00 |
| Dry erase markers and cleaner..... | \$50.00 |

Second Grade – Mrs. Reinhout

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|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Magnetic pocket chart..... | \$30.00 |
| Paper keeper/student mailbox..... | \$68.00 |
| Dry erase lapboards | \$42.00 |

Third Grade – Mrs. Sylvester

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|---|----------|
| Compartment Organizer for students' papers..... | \$178.00 |
|---|----------|

Third Grades

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|--|----------|
| Offset cost of bringing students to Tri-Town Safety Village..... | \$400.00 |
|--|----------|

Fifth Grade – Mrs. Mulderink

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|---|----------|
| 30 clipboards..... | \$150.00 |
| Football, basketball, soccer ball | \$50.00 |
| Magnetic fraction tiles and circles set | \$40.00 |
| American Milestones – 10 book set | \$80.00 |

Junior High

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|---|---------------|
| 7 tablets for use with wall-mounted flat screens..... | \$400.00 each |
|---|---------------|

Mrs. Groen

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|----------------------------------|----------|
| Copies of Lord of the Flies..... | \$239.70 |
|----------------------------------|----------|

Mrs. Scheeringa

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|--|---------|
| A Year of Poems and Lessons by Nancie Atwell | \$75.00 |
|--|---------|

Music – Miss Boekeloo

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|--|-----------|
| Set of 7 Primary Orff Instruments..... | \$3000.00 |
| 13" Djembe Drum | \$300.00 |
| Fun with Composers Kit 2..... | \$115.00 |
| Contra Bass Bar "F" | \$375.00 |
| Contra Bass Bar "D" | \$575.00 |

Transportation Committee

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|--|---------------|
| 7 sets of wiper blades..... | \$20.00 set |
| 3 gallons of soap | \$10.00 each |
| 7 oil changes..... | \$200.00/bus |
| 4 tires | \$250.00 each |
| Replace 8 cell phones with GPS versions..... | \$69.00 each |

Building & Grounds Committee

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|--|-----------------|
| Flagpole | unknown |
| Additional concrete sidewalk by south entrance..... | \$1,500.00 |
| Eight additional White Boards in classrooms | \$800.00 each |
| Electric Hammer Drill..... | \$200.00 |
| Hallway floor tile upgrade and repair..... | \$15,000.00 |
| Soccer/Track field leveling and reseeded (poss. new goals) | \$7,500.00 |
| Tractor maintenance and repair | \$300.00 |
| Boilerroom paint and shelving upgrade | \$2,500.00 |
| Mill and Resurface East Parking Lot (2007 pricing)..... | \$16,563.00 |
| Re-carpet 3 classrooms (includes main office)..... | \$3,500.00 each |
| Paint 3 classrooms (includes main office) | \$1,500.00 each |
| Mulch landscaping (labor covered by volunteers)..... | \$1,200.00 |
| Camera for East side of building..... | \$350.00 |
| Camera for the Front Entrance..... | \$350.00 |
| Window treatment main office | \$400.00 |
| Wireless Projector (in protective cage) for gymnasium | \$1,500.00 |
| 28 Classroom Desks (currently 21 on loan)..... | \$100.00 each |
| 2 Work Stations in the main office..... | \$700.00 each |
| Energy Efficiency of Building Interior Lighting System: | |
| Payback 1.65 years | \$26,720.00 |
| Paint for Hallways (labor covered by volunteers) | \$900.00 |

Education Committee

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|---|------------|
| Testing materials for the Dibbles Program | \$134.00 |
| Continuation of Spanish Curriculum..... | \$3,668.50 |
| Continuation of Science/Health Curriculum..... | \$4,195.00 |
| Social Studies Grade 2 | \$2,825.00 |
| Social Studies Grade 3 | \$3,262.50 |
| Social Studies Grade 4 | \$3,865.00 |
| Social Studies Grade 5 | \$4,290.00 |
| Social Studies Grade 6 | \$3,613.50 |
| Social Studies Grade 8 | \$3,898.50 |

Office

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|---------------------|----------|
| Vacuum | \$200.00 |
| Paper shredder..... | \$300.00 |

Athletics

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|---|-----------------|
| 70 Track Uniforms 2010 Spring Season | \$18.50/uniform |
| 32 Basketball Uniforms, 7th Grade Boys and Girls 2010/2011 Season (includes home/away top, shorts one color) | \$95.00/uniform |
| Basketball game & practice balls, scorebooks, misc..... | \$200.00 |
| Volleyball game & practice balls, scorebooks, misc..... | \$150.00 |
| Soccer game & practice balls, scorebooks, misc | \$150.00 |
| Track field event equipment, batons, stopwatches, misc..... | \$150.00 |

Library

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|--|----------|
| 56 Bible Titles DVD..... | \$21.00 |
| 43 Other DVD Titles | \$40.00 |
| Accelerated Reader Search Engine | \$200.00 |

Technology/Audio/Video

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|--|-----------------|
| 35 Computers for the Lab..... | \$500.00 each |
| 7 Computers for the Office..... | \$700.00 each |
| 24 Computers for the Classrooms (Staff)..... | \$500.00 each |
| 4 Airline Tablets w/software | \$400.00 each |
| Scanner | \$200.00 |
| 12 LCD Video Displays (52" TV) | \$1,300.00 each |
| One Smart Board..... | \$1,300.00 |
| Projector for Smart Board..... | \$1,100.00 |
| Projector in Computer Lab..... | \$700.00 |
| Site Licensing..... | \$4,000.00 |
| Anti-virus protective software..... | \$1,500.00 |
| Filtering..... | \$1,300.00 |

6th Grade Boys Basketball

The Highland Huskies 2009 6th Grade Roster: Luke Boss, Isaiah Gaiser, Ryan Griffin, Noah Holesinger, Chandler Kimmel, Garrett Lytle, Jack Thompson, James Zandstra, Luke Zandstra, Matthew Zandstra, Robbie Zandstra

Thank you to all the players, parents, grandparents, teachers, and fans for a very fun & successful season. We really appreciate the outstanding support at all the home and away games. We could always count on a supportive HCS Huskies cheering section. We really enjoyed working with these guys and watching them develop during the season. We stressed to the guys that they are Christian student athletes and challenged our players to show passion for our amazing God and for the game of basketball. Before each game we would ask them why we play this game & we would get an enthusiastic response "To Glorify God!" These are His children & we play for Him!

From the start of conditioning (painful running, sprints & plyometrics) to the challenging practices these guys pushed themselves, played as a team and were excellent teammates. We stressed defense, defense and more defense – the guys know that defense never takes a night off. We called our 2nd unit the "missiles" because they were intense on defense and would dive on the floor for every loose ball. By the end of the season, all of our guys improved, understood what we expected, demonstrated significant effort and they supported each other as Christian teammates. This sixth grade team set the bar very high this year and said that they wanted to win every game and they met their goal by having a record of 11 wins and 0 losses, including dominating wins in the year end tournament against Demotte & Lansing – congratulations guys! It has been a lot fun coaching these guys and we wish them well and God's blessings as they finish their school year and enjoy their summer. Thanks again to the Highland Christian community for your ongoing support – Go Huskies!

Coach Z (Chuck Zandstra) & Coach K (Matt Kimmel)



8th Grade Girls Basketball

Overall the 8th grade girls' basketball season was a good but difficult season. Although we didn't win many games, the girls grew individually and as a team. At the beginning of the season, the girls played as individuals on the court, but as the season progressed, they grew to play as a team. Our win over Oak Lawn at the Illiana Tournament proved the girls learned to play as a team and showed their overall skills. The players on the team were Joanne Klapak, Emily Horvat, Edythe Robbins, Nikki Moes, Hallie Hofstra, Marissa Lang, Cassidy Robertson, Lauren Ladwig, Mackenzie Chapman, Natalie Vander Woude, Jessica Gillespie, and Andie Durham. As a coach, I learned a lot about the game of basketball and coaching. I was blessed to coach a great group of girls. The highlight of the season was Cassidy winning the 3-point shooting contest at Illiana. Thanks girls for a great year!

Heidi Vermeulen

6th Grade Girls Basketball

The 6th grade girls' basketball team had a very fun, learning filled season. We had an incredibly aggressive defense that often times "intimidated" the opposing team. We ended our season with a 5-4 record over-all. The highlight of our season was when we took 2nd place in the tournament, where we beat an undefeated DeMotte Christian team to advance to the championship game!

The 6th grade girls' team consisted of LaTanya Gaiser, Emily Otte, Destini Pimental, Emma Spoelman, Allison Towriss, Alivia Ash, Anneke Brummel, Lorna DeWindt, Elyssa Patricks, and Mkinsey Pruiim. This was a very fun and caring group of girls who worked very well together on and off the court. It was a joy coaching these girls this season!

Dianne Ebbens



Great Is Thy Faithfulness...

I could think of no other words to capture the full meaning of the time I've spent with such a special group of our covenant young men. My journey with some of these players began back in the first grade when they picked up a basketball for the first time. I could see then as I do now God's faithful hand guiding each of us through these years on the hardwood learning life lessons together from the game of basketball.

It is even more fitting to praise God for his faithfulness to these young men in this centennial year of celebration at Highland Christian School. It has been a true blessing for me to see God's hand move these young men's lives to a greater maturity of spirit and love for him.

We began our season as we always do with a challenge and a goal. I really felt we had the talent and ability to transform ourselves from a half court oriented offense to a full court running and pressing type of team. We also felt we needed to erase 2 years of disappointment in tournament play and get into this year's championship game.

The team had to work very hard on its conditioning and it paid off for us in our first game at Oak Lawn. A smothering half court press and a solid passing attack helped us to our first win of the season 46-33.

Game 2 found us at home against Tinley Park. Excellent rebounding and a spectacular offensive and defensive effort by Danny Dittrich put us in the win column again.

We finished at Crown Point before the Christmas break with a win highlighted by some fine outside shooting and solid team defense.

The New Year brought with it the heart of our schedule and a visit from Calvin Christian. Our new 3 man press puzzled our opponents and we skated to an early lead that we never gave up. David Eriks and Caleb Jonkman combined to score 28 points and we won by a final score of 56-41.

7th Grade Boys Basketball

It has truly been a blessing to coach the 7th grade team once again. The 7th grade team includes Andrew Sitter, Zach Pruijm, Arthur Carey, Payton Ash, Chad Ketelaar, Nathan Zuidema, Colton Ebbens, Joel Bergsma, Gavin Yonkman, Andrew Stammers, Devin Terpstra and Sean Armendariz. We had a great season and the team played very well together and had a great time throughout the whole season. The B team finished 0-3 and the A team finished 8-1 and tournament champions!

The entire team worked very hard at every practice and game, and the results showed. Some of the highlights of the season were beating Crown Point in overtime in the first round of the tournament, with Colton Ebbens having the game winning shot. It was a very close and intense game and the Huskies came through. Another highlight was beating the Protestant Reformed team in the championship. We would both like to thank the many parents and fans that came out and supported the team in every game. We couldn't have been successful without the help of the parents. We are very thankful for the opportunity to coach these great kids and look forward to coaching them next year.

Glory be to God,
Neil Krooswyk and Tim Wiltjer

We hit the road to play our oldest rivals, Lansing Christian. The game was played at a very quick pace and unfortunately we came up short losing 35-24.

Roseland came to visit next and we gave the home crowd a lot to cheer about. A stellar defense and an incredible running attack fueled a high energy game which also featured some exciting outside shooting by Caleb Jonkman who finished with a season high 29 points. The tally at the buzzer was 56-45 with the Huskies on top.

We took to the road once again to begin a stretch of 3 games in 4 nights starting against Demotte and we played a fine all around game. Our offense was top notch with all 10 of our players scoring in this contest.

Game 2 of the week found us away at Tinley Park and what a contest it was! We played what I felt was our finest all around game in 3 years. Our running game was superb and our defense was suffocating. The team played unselfishly constantly looking for the open man and shut down Tinley offensively. The final score was 47-20.

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Our third contest brought Lansing home to our floor. Early foul trouble took us out of our game plan and we fell behind early. Trailing by 14 points to start the third frame we made one of our strongest comebacks ever cutting Lansing's lead to 4 points to begin the fourth. We ran out gas though and couldn't finish losing by a final of 67-48.

We finished the regular season with a win at home against Crown Point and the second seed going into our conference tournament at Illiana. Game 1 of the tournament found us in a rematch against a very pumped up Crown Point team. After struggling in the first half we fought through some difficult turnovers and won 44-23.

Our semifinal game matched us against Calvin Christian. We jumped out to an early 10-0 lead but several turnovers and some excellent adjustments at halftime by the Calvin coach turned this contest into a real nail biter. After changing leads several times in the third and fourth quarters this one went all the way down to the wire with Calvin scoring a bucket at the buzzer but falling short 43-42.

We were all thrilled to watch Cassidy Robertson win the girls' 3 point shooting contest before Saturday's championship game, which matched us up one final time with Lansing Christian. We fell short in this one 53-34 but the score doesn't tell the real story of the game. Our team fought hard all the way, never gave up and played the game with class and dignity. Watching them receive their medals from the bench was a first class thrill!

So one chapter of these young men's lives ended with the medal ceremony on Saturday and a whole new exciting one begins in high school this fall. It is my hope and fervent prayer that they continue to walk in the fear and the knowledge of their Lord, and that they can apply what they have learned on the court to a life of service in his kingdom.



No season would be complete without giving thanks so here it goes...

To: my wife for her continued support and encouragement in doing what I love and lending me her "voice" for the first 2 games of the tournament (I was battling laryngitis.)

Jared Jonkman my super assistant coach and 11th man (I'm already looking forward to 6th grade b-ball in the fall... start running now!)

Derek Van Dyke for running the program and his support for me and our team.

A big shout out to Andrew Clark for stepping up to be the "official" video man extraordinaire of Highland Husky basketball.

The cheerleaders and their coach!

The parents: Your sons are winners in the eternal race of life...the only race really worth running or winning. Thanks for "lending" me your sons and supporting me with your kind words throughout the years. They were all a joy and have made the last 3 years very special for me indeed!

My players: Thanks for all the memories...you will always be winners in my book! Don't ever stop running the race, always "finish" strong -1 Corinthians 9:24-25.

Last but not least...Mr. Rick Dykstra for generously parting with me on basketball afternoons...it is deeply appreciated!

- Coach Joe

HCS MISSION STATEMENT

In order to honor God,
we nurture and guide students
to see the Father's creation
to sense order in a world saved by Christ
to serve God through the leading of the Holy Spirit

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Terry Krooswyk
Jeff Laninga
Matt Lenting
Mary Mitchell
Larry Otte
Frank Van Til
Don Zuidema

Upcoming Events

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| March 8-12 | ITBS Testing |
| March 16 | Pastors' Event |
| March 16 | Illiana Jr. High Choir Festival |
| March 18 | Junior High Spring Concert |
| March 26 | Records Day – 12:15 dismissal |
| March 29 –April 4 | Spring Vacation |
| April 5 | Students return to school |
| April 13 | Open House 6:00-8:00 p.m. |
| April 16 | HCS Service Day |
| April 21 | Professional Development Day – 1:45 dismissal |
| April 23-24 | Auctions |
| May 2 | 100th Anniversary Worship Service - 6:00 p.m. |
| May 3 | Society Meeting – 7:30 p.m. |
| May 6 | Kindergarten Round-Up |
| May 6-7 | Junior High Musical |
| May 14 | 8th Grade Banquet |
| May 28 | 1:45 dismissal |
| May 31 | Memorial Day – no school |
| June 1 | Graduation |
| June 8 | Last day of school – 11:00 dismissal |
| July 17 | Foundation Golf Outing |