



# HCS News

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Heritage Christian  
School

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## Coin War

Since pennies are no longer being produced and are becoming harder to find, our traditional Penny War has been renamed Coin War. Next week, January 12–16, each class will have a collection bucket and will compete to gather the highest amount in coins while avoiding paper money, which counts against their total. Buckets will be collected at 11:00 each day, and the class with the best net total will receive 1000 points for that day. At the end of the week, 1st–3rd places will be awarded points. Coin War points are added to spirit week points to determine class rewards for elementary and secondary classes. Money raised is used to support missions, making an eternal impact. Start collecting US coins, plan your strategy, and get ready for the COIN WAR to begin!

## Spirit Week

Spirit Week is coming January 20–23! Get ready for a fun-filled week of creativity, energy, and class unity as we celebrate with themed dress-up days and daily activities! Students and staff will be dressing according to the theme for each day as follows:  
Tuesday: Patriotic Day (Wear your red, white, & blue.)  
Wednesday: Dress to Impress Day (Look your sharpest, classiest, and most ready for success.)  
Thursday: Career Day (Wear clothes appropriate for your chosen profession.)  
Friday: Comfy-Cozy Day (Relax in your favorite, school-appropriate, comfy clothes.)

There will be game competitions, jump rope challenges, and all-school worship time each day, as well as other ways for each class to earn points toward special rewards. We are looking forward to a week of Christ-centered fun, so let's make this Spirit Week unforgettable!

## Lil Eagles Cheer

Lil Eagles cheer practices are on Jan. 7, 14, & 21, 3:45–4:30pm, HCS gym. They will cheer at these games:  
Sat. 1/10 - varsity girls, 3pm,  
Tues. 1/20 -junior high boys, 4:30pm,  
Fri. 1/23 - junior high girls, 4:30pm,  
Mon. 1/26- junior high girls, 4:30pm.  
and perform cheer dance to "The God I Know".  
They will cheer for the first half and can be picked up at halftime. T-shirts are included in the registration cost!



## PTF News

The January PTF Night Out is at Panera Bread from 8am–8pm, on Thursday, January 15. A flyer is attached to this newsletter, and extras are available on the table in the front lobby. The February PTF Night Out will be at Jason's Deli from 10am–8pm, on Thursday, February 12. The next PTF meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 17 at 6:30. Please make your best effort to attend this meeting and to support the PTF Nights Out. Thank you for your support!

## Covering HCS in Prayer

God continues to bless HCS in countless ways, and we know prayer is one of the greatest tools and privileges we have. Each Saturday morning, from 8:00–9:00, in their homes, a group of HCS moms and grandmothers pray by name for our students and intercede for our staff and school. This dedicated time is already a powerful encouragement and spiritual support.

We would love to see this ministry grow; imagine several groups of Heritage families across Topeka, united in purpose, seeking God's protection, wisdom, and blessing over HCS every week. If God stirs your heart to join this ministry, or if you would simply like more information, please contact Melissa Pagán at 785-221-7504.

Would you like to join other Heritage moms to pray for your children and the school? We have a group of moms meeting every Wednesday morning at 7:45, in the library. We would love to have you join us. Contact Kathleen Rothe (785-383-5944) for information about this opportunity and her desire for unity within the HCS family and to have a mom's prayer group for each grade. Your prayers matter, and they make an eternal difference. "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving." Colossians 4:2

## Yearbook News

We are excited about adding the dedications to this year's yearbook. We hope that families will purchase dedication pages and that others will consider donating the \$50 cost of the dedication for students whose families are not able to buy one.

The deadline for purchasing a dedication is **February 6, 2026**. They can contain one or two pictures and text. Please submit your orders to Mr. Fanning by email: jamesfanning@hcstopeka.org, or by text: 620-273-9013. Digital photos can also be emailed to him or put on a flash drive and taken to the HCS office.

Parents who are interested in selling ads will earn PSC's for your time spent and earn a free yearbook if they sell 10 ads. Ads must be submitted to Mr. Fanning by **February 6, 2026**. If you are interested in helping to sell ads, please contact Mr. Fanning by email or text as listed above.

Information and order sheets for both dedications and ads are available on the table in the front lobby. Order your 2025–2026 yearbook through the HCS office. Please contact Mr. Fanning or the office if you have any questions.



## Calendar of Events

Spring Semester Begins	1–6
Secondary Winter Retreat 12:12–3:30	1–6
Coin War Week	1–12 to 16
PTF Night Out at Panera Bread 8am–8pm	1–15
HCS Board Meeting 7:00, Room 14	1–15
Class & Winter Sports Pictures 8:30	1–16
No School—MLK Day	1–19
Spirit Week	1–20 to 23
Senior Pictures due for Yearbook	2–2
CLT Testing 9th & 10th	2–3
Deadline for Yearbook Dedications & Ads	2–6
HCS Board Meeting 7:00, Room 14	2–12



## Sports Calendar\*

**Friday, 1–9 vs. Blue Ridge**  
JH Girls: 4:30, JH Boys: 5:30, HS Girls: 6:30, HS Boys: 8:00  
**Saturday, 1–10 vs. Whitefield** JH Girls: 1:00, JH Boys: 2:00, HS Girls: 3:00, HS Boys: 4:30  
**Tuesday, 1–13 @ Flint Hills** JH Girls: 4:00, JH Boys: 5:00, HS Girls: 6:00, HS Boys: 7:30  
**Friday, 1–16 @ Whitefield** JH Girls: 4:00, JH Boys: 5:00, HS Girls: 6:00, HS Boys: 7:30  
**Tuesday, 1–20 vs. Shawnee Mission** JH Boys: 4:30, HS Girls: 5:30, HS Boys: 7:00

\*The Sports Calendar is subject to change. Up-to-date schedules and directions can be found on the HCS website under "Athletics." Be sure to scroll all the way to the bottom of the page.

## 2025-2026 Theme: Soar!

“But they who wait for the LORD shall  
renew their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;  
they shall run and not be weary;  
they shall walk and not faint. “

Isaiah 40:31

Seek God Daily

Obey His Word

Abide in Christ

Rejoice Always

**Our Mission:** To provide a Christ-centered, quality education in order to prepare our children to serve Christ.

**Our Vision:** Students at Heritage Christian School will acquire wisdom, knowledge, and a Biblical worldview as evidenced by a lifestyle of character, leadership, service, stewardship and worship.



## School Improvement Plan

Each year HCS administration reevaluates our School Improvement Plan to address current needs. The 2025-2026 School Improvement Plan has three goals based upon the overarching needs of our students and faculty:

1. By the end of the 2025-26 school year, 85% of students will demonstrate growth, or learning gain, and be on grade level or above as measured by the Iowa Basics standardized tests core composite. 2. Enhance the rigor and relevance of curriculum to ensure that all students have access and entry points to high level content and skills. 3. By the end of the 2025-2026 school year, all HCS students will have received discipleship and opportunities to serve our community. Our teachers will also continue to work toward building the technological skills of our students.

Our K3 & K4 classes learned many things in the first semester. They worked on letter formation, number order & recognition, being obedient, color recognition, and learning Bible stories, Miss Clubb and Mrs. Parker have used a variety of techniques in order to reinforce these important concepts. When they were learning about colors, they had a visual with pictures that were different colors; each student had to complete a sentence to explain their favorite picture and why. One said, “My favorite object is the red strawberry because strawberries are sweet.” When working on letter formation for the letter “O”, the students made “race tracks” on the floor and practiced staying on the track and going the correct direction so they didn’t crash. When learning about obedience, Mrs. Parker used Ephesians 6:1 as a basis for why we obey. For number order and recognition, the students were timed on getting number cards for 0-9 in the correct order. To reinforce a Bible story, they went outside and reenacted the story of Elijah at Mt. Carmel using animal crackers for the sacrifice, pouring water (alcohol) on it, and setting it on fire.

## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, January 6**— 1st Day of 2nd Semester

**Tuesday, January 6**— Secondary Winter Retreat after 5th hour

**Monday-Friday, January 12-16**— Coin War Week!

**Thursday, January 15**—PTF Night Out at Panera Bread 8am-8pm

**Thursday, January 15**—HCS Board Meeting, 7:00 in Room 14

**Friday, January 16**—Class and Winter Sports Pictures 8:30

**Monday, January 19**—No School, MLK Day

**Tuesday-Friday, January 20-23**— Spirit Week!

**Monday, February 2**—Senior Pictures due for Yearbook

**Tuesday, February 3**—CLT Test for 9th & 10th grades

**Friday, February 6**—Deadline for yearbook dedication orders and ad purchases

**Thursday, February 12**—HCS Board Meeting, 7:00 in Room 14

Check upcoming issues of the newsletter, the HCS website, your elementary students’ class newsletter, and the BAND app for more information on these events and on potential PSC opportunities.

## Gift Cards

You can purchase gift cards from the HCS office or by ordering from the Raise Right app. Contact Mrs. King in the office for information about the cards that we have in stock or how to order by using the app. Forms listing all of the cards available can also be picked up in the office.

## 2025-2026 LUNCH PRICES:

Hot Lunch (includes milk):

PK-2<sup>nd</sup> - \$4.25

3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> - \$4.50

Milk - \$ 1.00

Side Cart Items - \$1.00 or \$1.50

Side Beverages - \$2.00

Salad - \$2.00

Extra Entree- \$2.00

Extra Slice of Pizza - \$2.00

PBJ or PB only - \$2.00

Ramen Noodles - \$1.75

Set up your prepay family lunch account in the office. You will receive an email reminder to replenish your account if the balance drops below \$10.00.

## 2025-2026 AFTERCARE FEES:

3:30-4:00 p.m.: No Charge

4:00-5:00 p.m.: \$5.00 per family  
After 5:00 p.m.: \$5.00 per child for every 5 minutes or part of a 5 minute increment

Aftercare accounts, like lunch accounts, are set up as prepay family accounts. Charges for each family for the entire week are billed out the following Tuesday or Wednesday. Payment may be made online through the Family Portal or in the school office.



## January Character Trait: Integrity

**Integrity is a God-like life of consistency and sincerity with no deception or pretense.**

**“The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.”**

**Proverbs 11:3**

**People of integrity have nothing to hide and nothing to fear.**