



## WELCOME TO HCS

### MISSION STATEMENT

Huntington Christian School exists to serve families as a ministry and **outreach** of First Christian Church. The school will maintain a Christ-centered academic education, **connecting** students to God and establishing values for Christian **growth**, so that they may **celebrate** God and **serve** others through their character and leadership.

“And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.”

*~ Colossians 1:28*

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[www.hcsonline.org](http://www.hcsonline.org)

Huntington Christian School is a  
Ministry of First Christian Church  
of Huntington Beach  
[www.fcchb.com](http://www.fcchb.com)

**H**untington Christian School has a history of rich memories and plentiful success that propel the escalation of our bold vision and accomplishments. I hope you will grab hold of our excitement and join with us to pursue with determination our goal of deeply making a difference in the character, intellectual development, and social endeavors of our students. Only an education that has the liberty to address the whole child -- social, intellectual, emotional, physical AND spiritual -- reaches the possibility of excellence.



We are a ministry of First Christian Church of Huntington Beach, a non-denominational church. Bible lessons are integrated with academics and character building is achieved through discipline and dignity with a Christian heart. Individual attention and small class sizes result in high academic achievement.

“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness” ~ 2 Timothy 3:16

# History of Huntington Christian

## NO UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION

Huntington Christian School (H.C.S.) maintains a Christ-centered academic education, connecting students to God and establishing values for Christian growth. H.C.S. does not discriminate based on race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of H.C.S.'s admissions or educational policies or with regard to any school related program administered by H.C.S. As a religious ministry, H.C.S. may, and reserves the right to, deny admission, admit or dismiss or otherwise discriminate against a student, parent, or guardian based upon religious beliefs held or expressed by the student or the student's parents or guardian that are inconsistent with or detrimental to the religious beliefs or best interests of H.C.S.



The enrollment our first year was approximately 40 students. Over the years God has blessed HCS and we added a second class at each grade level. Enrollment for the 2011 - 2012 school year was 580 students. We now have three classes at each grade level in grades K-5



In the late 1970's the leadership of First Christian Church wanted to begin an elementary school. HCS opened its doors in September 1981 with grades kindergarten, first and second. We were located on the same property as our church at the corner of Main and Adams in Huntington Beach.



and we will continue to add a class for middle school over the next two years.

In September 2002, HCS moved to our current seven acre campus. We currently lease our facility from Huntington Beach City School District and in 2008 HCS signed a 30 year lease with the school district.

## TUITION AND REGISTRATION FEES

- Tuition and registration are the only two fees HCS charges. Books, activities such as field trips, parties, yearbook, locks for middle school lockers, etc. are all covered through these two fees. There are no other fees required.
- Huntington Christian is very conscious of the cost of our program. We are doing everything possible to keep tuition costs as low as possible without sacrificing our academic excellence.
- Extra-curricular programs such as band and athletics have additional charges. Middle School has several optional activities, which also have additional costs.
- See enclosed page for current yearly costs.

# ACADEMICS

Huntington Christian School offers an outstanding academic program. Our overall SAT scores are above the 90th percentile, nationally. We have adopted state curriculum standards in the core subjects of math, reading, science and social studies.



We use a combination of Christian textbooks and secular publishers. Our goal is to use curriculum that will challenge our students to think and grow so that they are not just performing rote memorization and stating facts. We want to raise their level of critical thinking to ultimately use reasoning and analysis as they work through their academic skills.

HCS also offers the following classes on a weekly basis:

- **Art:** *Meet the Masters* beginning at first grade
- **Computers:** *Microsoft Office* and *Apple Macintosh* applications
- **Music:** vocal (K-5th), as well as extracurricular instrumental band (6th-8th)
- **Physical Education:** (K-8th)
- **Spanish:** (4th & 5th ~ *Rosetta Stone*)(6th, 7th & 8th ~ Live Instruction)

All classes are limited to 24 students. In addition, kindergarten through second grade have a dedicated classroom aide assigned to each teacher and grades 3rd through 5th share a classroom aide per grade level.

## SPIRITUAL TRAINING

- We want to partner with each family and help students come to know and grow in their relationship to God and His Son, Jesus Christ.
- Each grade level has a Bible curriculum that they work on four days a week. Bible time also includes scripture memorization.
- Once a week each department level (K-2; 3-5; 6-8) has a chapel time. Chapel combines music worship with presentations from a variety of people, classes and special guests.
- We also want to make our spiritual training practical. Classes will do a variety of community and outreach projects. Middle school further enhances our goal by offering students an opportunity to participate in student ministry programs and mission trips.
- Our FCC Children's Pastor works closely with our elementary students and our Junior High Pastor works with our middle school students. Both pastors provide a strong tie to our church and children/youth programs, camps and activities.



## FACULTY

Every teacher and staff member is a qualified professional and a Bible-believing Christian. It is the policy of HCS to hire teachers who hold a California Teaching Credential, an ACSI equivalent or an out-of-state equivalent. Teachers and staff participate in a variety of staff development programs.

Approximately ½ of our teaching staff holds a Master's degree. HCS has a very low turnover in our staff from year to year.

## SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

The Administrator(s) are given the responsibility of day-to-day operations of the school. The Elders of First Christian Church have appointed a School Board to oversee the governing of the school. The Board consists of members of FCC and one Elder representative. The board has between six and nine members. The school board is given the responsibility of overseeing policy, curriculum, finances, future planning/goals and development.

# TECHNOLOGY

## INTERACTIVE BOARDS

Interactive Boards transform classrooms into productive, integrated learning environments where teachers, students and technology work together harmoniously. ActivBoards connect seamlessly with learning response systems to enable students to become engaged participants, interacting with digital content. Teachers are able to conduct real-time assessment of student understanding. Community web based tools powered by world-class resources, software and content are available. Teachers can access a wide range of timesaving resources and rich content designed to simplify planning and transform lessons from one-way monologues to immersive, engaging experiences.



Children today have grown up with technology as a normal part of their culture. Therefore, we have developed our educational curriculum with this reality in mind. Beginning in kindergarten, students are introduced to technology and computers. The hub of technology at HCS is our full Apple Mac Desktop computer

lab. The lab's capabilities include the full range of Microsoft Office Suite products, as well as, the Apple iLife/iWorks software programs. This allows students to use both Mac and Windows based software in one lab.

Our campus is also equipped with wireless technology enabling an Apple Mobile Learning Lab that houses 28 wireless laptop computers that can be used for



instruction in any classroom on campus.



Each classroom also has a Promethean Activboard. These interactive boards enable anything that can be seen or done on a computer screen to be projected onto a whiteboard. The Promethean Activboard transforms the classroom into a truly interactive learning

environment. Each student is given a handheld learner response system to allow immediate individual feedback to teacher-directed questions. Students can express themselves through text, numbers, likert scales and more allowing them to respond to questions in the dynamic way that they think.

# OTHER PROGRAMS

## KID'S OVERTIME

Kid's Overtime (loving child care) is available before and after school starting at 7:00 a.m. and ending at 6:00 p.m. It is an environment that promotes learning and fosters growth in the Christian faith. Kid's Overtime provides a safe, supervised place for students who need to arrive early at school or stay late. Students may arrive as early as 7 a.m. and eat breakfast provided by KO. In the afternoon it is available until 6 p.m. with afternoon snacks. Students have supervised time for completing homework, working in the computer lab or having time to play with friends. Separate fees apply for Kid's Overtime.



## GUIDING NURTURING & OFFERING MORE EXPERTISE (GNOME)

GNOME is offered after school to students in Grades 3rd through 8th. GNOME is to accommodate students who may need additional time or need a quiet place to do assignments or need occasional assistance from teachers while



trying to complete assignments. Students may come into the assigned room after school and will be responsible for doing their assignments. Regular classroom teachers will be in the room and able to answer questions. There is no additional fee for GNOME.

## ACCELERATED READER

AR is a supplemental reading program and will be used in conjunction with all current reading programs for 3rd - 8th grade. The goal of the program is:

1. Make reading practice more effective for every student
2. Personalize reading practice to each student's current level
3. Assess students reading with 4 types of quizzes: Reading Practice, Vocabulary Practice, Skills and Textbook Quizzes
4. Build a lifelong love of reading (and learning)

## SCHOOL LIBRARY

HCS has an extensive elementary school library. Kindergarten through fifth grades each have an assigned time each week to come to the library and select books, read or work on assignments. Books that have an Accelerated Reading level are marked so students can more easily select books at their level. Our library also has a number of reference materials for helping students do research in completing projects and assignments.



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## FALL

### Boys

- 5th Grade Football
- 6th Grade Football
- 7th/8th Grade Football

### Girls

- 5th Grade Basketball
- 6th Grade Basketball
- 7th/8th Grade Basketball

## WINTER

### Boys

- 5th Grade Basketball
- 6th Grade Basketball
- 7th/8th Grade Basketball

### Girls

- 5th Grade Volleyball
- 6th Grade Volleyball
- 7th Grade Volleyball
- 8th Grade Volleyball

## SPRING

### Boys

- 7th/8th Grade Volleyball

### Coed

- 5th Grade Soccer
- 6th Grade Soccer

## ATHLETICS (SPORTS)



The athletic department of Huntington Christian School has dedicated itself to two key overarching concepts for success:

1. Honor God first and foremost, remembering that all we do is ultimately for Him.
2. Develop the whole student athlete-spiritually, academically, and socially.

We place personal character above the price of winning. Our goal is to produce young men and women of character who have the capacity to be successful citizens in our highly competitive society, and ultimately to bring God glory through their lives and lifestyles. HCS belongs to the Christian Athletic League of Orange County where we compete successfully at the highest levels. Every year a number of our teams bring home championship trophies. Boy's sports offered are flag football, basketball, volleyball, and soccer. Girl's sports include basketball, volleyball, softball, and soccer.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HCS P.E. teachers have been trained using the SPARK program. SPARK Elementary Physical Education was designed to be more inclusive, active, and fun than traditional P.E. classes. This program was developed through San Diego State University and originally funded by the Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. All students have physical education which meets the state requirement.

SPARK effects are lasting and include:

- Increased moderate to vigorous physical activity in students (to over 50% of class time)
- Fitness achievement (as measured by the Fitnessgram test)
- Sport skills development (throw, catch, kick)
- An enjoyable atmosphere
- Improved teacher instruction (quantity and quality)



# MUSIC AND BAND



## MUSIC

Generally, music classes at HCS follow the national standards for music education. In our music classes children gain the understanding that music is a gift from God and a basic expression of human culture. They realize that music is a tool of expression in worship and in their daily lives.

Grades Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd focus on basic concepts such as high/low, loud/soft, fast/slow and same/different. Students learn to read simple rhythm patterns in various meters. We learn to sing expressively, on pitch keeping a steady beat. They experience many movement activities, listening activities and rhythm instrument activities and also learn a variety of songs in various styles from several historical eras.

In grades 3rd, 4th & 5th we continue to study musical concepts while engaging in music reading activities. Students are taught to follow the signs and terms used in printed music and create their own music using pitched and un-pitched rhythm instruments. Each grade level experiences a variety of listening activities including composer biographies and their music. Students learn to play the recorder and read notation as it applies to the instrument as well as learn performance skills, proper stage presence and behavior as well as how to follow the cues of the conductor. Also, we study the historical setting of various songs and the part they played in the lives of the people of that era.

## EXTRACURRICULAR BAND

Band is available for all students, grades 4th - 8th. All bands will be composed of two necessary parts:

- Full band rehearsals before school
- Individual instrument lessons after school



## BEGINNING BAND

Beginning Band is open to current 4th through 8th grade students. It will offer instruction of brass (trumpet / trombone / baritone), woodwinds (flute / clarinet, alto sax) and percussion (snare drum and bells).

## ADVANCED BAND

Advanced Band is open to current 4th through 8th grade students by audition or by completion of one year of Beginning Band. It will offer instruction of all wind band instruments and concert percussion.

## JAZZ BAND

Jazz Band is open to current 4th through 8th grade students who are concurrently enrolled in Advanced Band. Students will be instructed on the fundamentals of different styles of jazz and improvisation.

# READINESS FOR KINDERGARTEN

## FIELD TRIPS

Pumpkin Patch, Heliport, Fire Station, Rainforest Café, Old World Village, Dentist Office, Shipley Nature Center, Bolsa Chica Wetlands

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Child, Holiday Parties, Spirit Days, 100th Day Celebration, Christmas Concert, Grandparents' Day, End-of-the-Year Party, International Day

## PARENT HELPERS

Friday packets, field trips, classroom helper/crafts, special holidays, class parties, sharing special talents or presentations, room mom/dad, Moms-in-Touch, P.T.F. Representative



Huntington Christian School focuses attention on determining a child's readiness for kindergarten by using developmental age as the criterion for school placement instead of the usual criterion of chronological age.

Rather than looking at the child in terms of intelligence, chronological age or academic achievement, the concept of developmental age attempts to understand the child at the present level of functioning, which includes physical, intellectual, social and emotional growth. One has to ask if the child can cope with the large school building, classmates, waiting in line, following rules and schedules, and being able to sit and give attention to a directed lesson or working independently. A child needs maturity to cope and learn at the same time. A child who is not ready will spend time using energy trying to cope with all the distractions in a classroom and have little energy remaining for learning.

A child can be superior mentally and not be mature enough for the stresses of the school day. Children may fool parents into thinking they are ready for kindergarten because they are verbal and learn quickly. Knowing numbers, letters, colors, or even being able to read does not mean that they are developmentally ready for school. Parents must be careful not to confuse intelligence with readiness, as they are not the same. The recommendation that a child not attend HCS's kindergarten is not an indication that either the parent or the child has failed. Through the process of living and growing another year, the child will become ready for school. It is most important to realize that there is no way the growing process can be rushed by anyone. Pushing and hurrying tend to put a child's natural development out of balance.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN ENTRANCE

- **AGE:** Children must be five years old on or before September 1.
- **MEETING:** Parents must attend a New Parent Information Meeting.
- **TESTING:** Child must take a test developed specifically for the H.C.S. program. Test is administered by one of our kindergarten teachers.
- **TEACHER EVALUATION:** (if applicable) Form to be filled out by current preschool teacher.
- **NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE:** When all criteria has been satisfied, parents/guardians will receive notice by mail or phone and a registration packet will be sent.
- **REGISTRATION:** Please bring completed registration forms and fee to the Registrar's office.

# KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

- Character foundation training in traditional values, good citizenship and respect for the individual.
- Promotion of developmental and emotional skills through learning centers, science, physical education, computer, music, and art as well as participation in the Christmas musical, field trips and seasonal classroom parties.
- Teaching academic excellence by introducing a reading program based on phonetic concepts, number awareness and addition families through 10, writing skills and much more.



The Huntington Christian School Kindergarten entrance criterion requires a child to be five years old on or before September 1st. Besides chronological age, the importance of developmental age is emphasized. Developmental age is measured by how closely the child's social, emotional, physical and perceptual maturity corresponds to the child's chronological age. A child's chance for success in school depends largely on developmental readiness for school.

Our kindergarten classes meet five days a week from 8:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. An environment is provided that promotes learning and fosters growth in the Christian faith. It is balanced with cooperative learning activities, arts and crafts. Experienced teachers provide a loving and nurturing environment where children can grow to their full potential.

## CURRICULUM

**Bible** – ABeka, Old Testament Stories, Life of Christ

**Language Arts** – ABeka

**Mathematics** – Sadlier-Oxford & Puppy Dog Math

**Social Studies** – ABeka, Children of the World, Community Helpers, America

**Science** – Houghton Mifflin and ABeka, Living Things, Senses, Body Parts

**Other** – Art, Computer, Library, Music, Physical Education, Cooking

## HOMEWORK

Monday-Thursday: Reading 15-20 minutes in homework book

# FIRST GRADE PROGRAM

## CURRICULUM

Bible – ABeka

Language Arts – ABeka,  
Four Square Writing

Mathematics – Sadlier-  
Oxford

Social Studies – ABeka:  
*Traveling Across America*

Science – Houghton Mifflin,  
Healthy Eating, Living Things,  
Solids, Liquids & Gases

Other – Art, Computer,  
Library, Music, Physical  
Education

## HOMEWORK

Monday-Thursday: 15-20  
minutes  
Nightly: Reading at least 15  
minutes



## FIELD TRIPS

- Discovery Science Center
- La Habra Children's Museum
- Cerritos Library
- Santa Ana Zoo
- Albertson's
- Long Beach Aquarium

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Special Child
- Holiday Parties
- Spirit Days
- 100th Day Celebration
- Thanksgiving Feast
- Christmas Concert
- Grandparents' Day
- End-of-the-Year Party

Our first grade program focuses on the fundamentals of learning. In math, we work on critical thinking and committing math facts to memory, among the other mathematical standards. Our phonics program stresses the importance of reading comprehension. In writing we work very hard in sentence structure, understanding complete thoughts, and creating stories.

In social studies, each class has a culminating activity that combines creativity, intelligence, and communication. Our first grade teachers work to develop social and emotional skills. This is the year we teach students how to work independently and develop lifelong work habits.

To develop spiritual maturity, in Bible we begin our year with the story of creation and work through the life, death, resurrection and ministry of Jesus, emphasizing how God works through each Bible story as well as through our lives. In addition to academics, we stress the improvement of fine motor skills through thematically related weekly crafts.

# SECOND GRADE PROGRAM

## FIELD TRIPS

- Natural History Museum
- Shipley's Nature Center
- Long Beach Carpenter Theater
- Knott's Berry Farm Centennial Heritage Museum
- Orange County Performing Arts Center

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Special Child
- Holiday Parties
- Spirit Days
- 100th Day Celebration
- Thanksgiving Feast
- Christmas Concert
- Grandparents' Day
- Plant Party
- End-of-the-Year Party



Second grade is committed to reinforcing concepts learned in first grade such as phonics, sentence structure, and paragraph writing. Our emphasis in second grade is placed on developing creative writing skills and focusing on the importance of reading comprehension.

Math skills taught in second grade range from addition and subtraction facts, to problem solving, and the development of multiplication and division concepts. Another highlight in second grade is that we begin learning and developing cursive skills. Our second grade teachers are dedicated to developing independent workers.

A positive learning environment is provided as we work together to master these skills while also encouraging Christ-centered behavior. In Bible, we study Jesus' birth, His life and ministry and the resurrection as well as units on Godly examples such as Daniel and Moses.

## CURRICULUM

**Bible** – ABeka, Life of Moses, Life Of Jesus, Daniel

**Language Arts** – ABeka, Four Square Writing

**Mathematics** – Sadlier-Oxford

**Social Studies** – ABeka, Pilgrims, Washington, Lincoln, Colonial Life, Maps

**Science** – Houghton Mifflin, Plants, Spiders, Rocks & Minerals, Energy, Dental Health, Marine Life

**Other** – Art, Computer, Library, Music, Physical Education

## HOMEWORK

Monday-Wednesday: Written work

Thursday: Study for tests

Monthly: Reading 300 pages or more and book reports



# THIRD GRADE PROGRAM

## CURRICULUM

**Bible** – Standard Publishing: *Biblical Choices for a New Generation*, Old Testament Heroes, Life of Jesus

**Language Arts** – Houghton Mifflin: *English*, Four Square Writing

**Literature** – Mysteries of the Deep, Fairy Tales, Beverly Cleary, *Little House in the Big Woods*

**Mathematics** – Sadlier-Oxford, Multiplication and Division Facts

**Social Studies** – Pearson/Scott Foresman: *Our Communities*, Regions of California, California Indians, American Heroes

**Science** – Houghton Mifflin: *Discovery Works*, Energy, Forces, Living Things

**Other** – Art, Computer, Library, Music, Physical Education

## HOMEWORK

Monday-Thursday: 30-45 minutes  
Nightly: Reading 10-20 minutes



## FIELD TRIPS

- Riley Farms - Frontier Days
- Post Office
- Laura Ingalls Wilder Presentation
- Native American Presentation
- Fossil Safari and Forces in Motion by Discovery Science Center

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Spirit Days
- Holiday Parties
- Spring Musical
- Market Days
- Grandparents' Day
- Fairy Tale Fantasy Day
- Field Day
- End-of-the-Year Party

Third grade is an exciting transition from lower elementary into upper elementary with an emphasis on developing organizational skills, independent work habits, and good study skills. We encourage students to transition from “learning to read” to “reading to learn”, and to practice critical thinking and application skills in everything they read.

Academically, third grade focuses on mastering multiplication and division facts in math. In language arts, we work on grammar and developing writing in language, and comprehension and critical thinking in reading. We also study living things, energy and forces in science; learn geography skills and about our community in history; and how to make good choices and fulfill the Gospel message through Jesus’ ministry in Bible. Weekly chapels focus on serving others and developing Christ-like character qualities through mini-sermons, worship, and guest speakers.

Upper elementary, grades 3rd through 5th, introduce students to mini-societies where students form and establish their own classroom communities. Students are able to earn community currency and learn real life skills of supply and demand, laws, salaries, fines, profit and loss, competition, and entrepreneurship. As a culminating activity, students participate in Market Day where they have the opportunity to open their own business to sell goods or provide special services to their classmates, putting all they have learned into practice.

# FOURTH GRADE PROGRAM

## FIELD TRIPS

- Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary
- San Juan Capistrano Mission
- George Key Ranch - Placentia
- Sacramento Trip (2 days)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Spirit Days
- Holiday Parties
- Spring Musical
- Market Days
- Grandparents' Day
- Father Serra visits H.C.S.
- Walk through California
- Field Day
- End-of-the-Year Party



The fourth grade history curriculum focuses on California. Students experience the curriculum through various modes such as skits, videos, and the core text. Classes enjoy a visit from Father Junipero Serra, the Spanish missionary who started nine California missions and the "Walk-thru-California" assembly. After mid-year, we go on the Sacramento overnight trip. While in Sacramento, students visit the state capital, the Veteran's Memorial, railroad museum, old Sacramento Sutter's Fort, and Coloma Valley where they pan for gold.

In mathematics students build from third grade curriculum: rounding and estimating, basic and complex forms of addition, subtraction, multiplication (multi-digit) and division (long), digital root, decimals and fractions, and pre-algebra concepts.

In the reading/literature and English programs, students read about the California Gold Rush in *By the Great Horn Spoon!*. Students also read *Island of the Blue Dolphins* written by Scott O'Dell. This historical fiction story encompasses Native American life as well as some California history. Along with these great novels, biographies on Walt Disney, Marian Anderson and Roberto Clemente are read. Students are challenged to write daily, understand the cause and effect of actions, and write thorough 3 to 5 paragraph essays throughout the year.

## CURRICULUM

**Bible** – Association of Christian Schools: *Bible doctrine & Its Application*

**Language Arts** – Houghton-Mifflin: *English*

**Literature** – *Great Horn Spoon, Magician's Nephew*

**Mathematics** – Sadlier-Oxford

**Social Studies** – Pearson/Scott Foresman: *Our California*

**Science** – Houghton Mifflin: *Discovery Works*, Electricity, Land, Biomes

**Other** – Art, Computer, Library, Music, Physical Education, Spanish

## HOMEWORK

Monday-Thursday: 1 hour  
Nightly: Reading at least 20 minutes

# FIFTH GRADE PROGRAM

## CURRICULUM

**Bible** – Association of Christian Schools: *My Choices, Old Testament Heroes*

**Language Arts** – Houghton Mifflin, Prentice Hall: *Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes*

**Literature** – *Mrs. Frisby & the Rats of NIMH* and *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*

**Mathematics** – Sadlier-Oxford

**Social Studies** – Scott Foresman: *Our Nation*

**Science** – Houghton Mifflin: *Discovery Works*, Living Things, Nature of Matter

**Other** – Art, Computer, Library, Music, Physical Education, Spanish

## HOMEWORK

Monday-Thursday: 1 1/4 hour  
Nightly: Reading at least 20 minutes  
Quarterly: Book reports



## FIELD TRIPS

- Various plays
- Riley's Farm - American Revolution

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Grandparent's Day
- State Report Project
- Spirit Days
- Holiday Parties
- Spring Musical
- Market Days
- Walk through American Revolution
- End-of-the-Year Party

Our fifth grade students are challenged to look at how their choices affect every aspect of their lives through studying Old Testament characters and the choices they made. We also focus on teaching “Life skills” that are found throughout the Bible curriculum; character qualities such as perseverance, initiative, integrity, responsibility, friendship, and others. Students are offered a wide range of learning opportunities including works of literature, hands on science experiments, simulation activities in history, and math with higher level thinking.

- **Literature:** We read *Where the Red Fern Grows* and *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*. In addition we also introduce students to various short stories, plays, poems, and myths.
- **Science:** The students learn about living systems and the nature of matter through weekly hands-on experiments and in-depth reading.
- **History:** The students learn about the foundations of our country (early explorers through the American Revolution). The students participate in many simulation activities including “Walk Through the American Revolution” where students become a part of history.
- **Math:** We use effective strategies to foster computational skills, conceptual math development, and problem solving challenges.

One of the exciting projects is the State Report where students learn the process of writing a research report. They are taught how to find resources, take notes, make an outline, and turn the outline into a paragraph. This culminates with a booklet and a 3D model of the state.

The fifth grade year provides students with an environment that fosters opportunities to be challenged and gain independence in preparation for Middle School. This is a year that students learn how to balance and prioritize their academic life with extra-curricular activities.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

## FIELD TRIPS

- Washington D.C. (8th grade)
- Mission Trips
- Outdoor Education - Alpine Christian Camp (6th grade)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Holiday Parties
- Spirit Days
- Grandparents' Day
- Bond Fire event
- Plays
- End-of-the-Year Party



## SPIRITUAL

It's all about the heart! We do not want the Bible to become just another textbook. Study of the Scriptures should not be purely academic. We serve a relational God and when He takes hold of a middle school student's heart – things change. During weekly chapels dynamic speakers relate relevant truths that challenge students to grow in their relationship with Christ. HCS teaches Bible daily from a non-denominational point of view. However, biblical truths are not confined to just Bible class. They are interwoven into every subject.

## ACADEMICS

Sixth through eighth grades are set up in a traditional style of students changing classes for their different academic periods. The maximum class size is 24 students. All middle school classes have Bible, language arts and a grade level specific science and history course. In addition, all students have physical education three times each week, which meets the state requirement. HCS's math curriculum is a two-tiered program. Sixth grade math, pre-algebra and algebra, are offered at regular and high (plus) levels. Testing, grades, and teacher recommendations are used for placement.



## CURRICULUM 6TH

**Bible** – Association of Christian Schools: *Christ & My Life*, the Gospels, the early church, and the letters to the churches

**Language Arts** – McDougal Littell: *Language Network*, Prentice Hall: *Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes Bronze*  
**Writing** – Jane Schaffer Writing Method

**Mathematics** – Sadlier-Oxford: *Progress in Mathematics*

**Social Studies** – McGrawHill/Glencoe: *Discovering our Past - Ancient Civilizations*

**Science** – Christian School International: Earth Science

## HOMEWORK

6th & 7th Grade: Up to 1½ hours each night

8th Grade: Up to 1¾ hours each night

# MIDDLE SCHOOL CONTINUED

## CURRICULUM 7TH

**Bible** – Max Lucado: *Experiencing the Heart of Jesus, Life of David, Bible* reference materials

**Language Arts** – McDougal Littell: *Language Network*, Prentice Hall: *Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes* Silver; **Writing** - Jane Schaffer Writing Method

**Mathematics** – Prentice Hall

**Social Studies** – McGrawHill/ Glencoe: *Discovering our Past - Medieval & Early Modern Times*

**Science** – Christian Schools International: Life Science

## CURRICULUM 8TH

**Bible** – Biblical principles, prayer, and worship, James, Ephesians, 1 John

**Language Arts** – Prentice Hall: *Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes Gold*; **Writing** - Jane Schaffer Writing Method

**Mathematics** – Prentice Hall

**Social Studies** – McGrawHill/ Glencoe: *Discovering our Past - The American Journey to WWI*

**Science** – Prentice Hall: *Focus on Physical Science*

## ELECTIVES



One of our goals at HCS is to help students discover what they are passionate about. We offer a wide variety of elective classes that students can choose to explore. Students change electives three times a year to allow for their eclectic interests. Some examples of electives may include art, computers, robotics, cooking, sewing, woodshop, ceramics, student council, oil painting, aerobics, teacher's aide, musical theatre or multimedia presentations. Electives are for one trimester and may vary from trimester to trimester.



## REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADES 1ST THROUGH 8TH ENTRANCE

- **AGE:** Children must meet September 1st cut off dates for appropriate grade level.
- **MEETING:** Parents must attend a New Parent Information Meeting.
- **TESTING:** Sign up child for testing at the conclusion of the meeting.
- **TEACHER EVALUATION:** Form to be filled out by present teacher and sent back to HCS.
- **STUDENT EVALUATION:** Bring in report card and standardized test scores on day of test.
- **NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE:** When all criteria has been satisfied, parents/guardians will receive notice by mail or phone and a registration packet will be sent.
- **REGISTRATION:** Please bring completed registration forms and fee to the Registrar's office.