

Highlands Latin School Crescent Hill Campus 2017 Christmas Events

The Christmas season is upon us! Listed below is all the information you will need to make the next few weeks smooth, merry and meaningful for your family. Any grade-specific information will be sent by your child's teacher.

All of our students have been hard at work since the beginning of the school year to prepare for their Cantatas. As a courtesy to the performers and other families, we recommend that families with young children find a babysitter for the performances. The Cantatas are lengthy performances (*at least* 45-60 minutes) and therefore tiresome for little ones. If you choose to allow young children to attend, please do not bring hand-held electronic games which can diminish the significance of these reverent occasions and distract others in the congregation. *Thank you for your consideration!*

1. Thursday, December 7th – Primary School Christmas Cantata, CHBC Sanctuary, 8:15AM

- ❖ This is a regular school day for all students.
- ❖ Primary (K-2) students should wear performance uniforms.
- ❖ Performance begins at **8:15**

2. Friday, December 8th – Grammar School Christmas Cantata, CHBC Sanctuary, 4:00PM

- ❖ This is a regular school day for all students.
- ❖ 3rd – 6th grade students should wear **performance uniforms**.
- ❖ Please **pack a snack** for your student to eat in their classroom after school.
- ❖ Students will be escorted to the sanctuary at 2:45PM for rehearsal.
- ❖ Performance begins at **4:00PM**

3. Thursday, December 14th is a **non-uniform day!**

- ❖ All students will be **dismissed at noon**.

- ❖ Children may dress casually and comfortably. Students may wear jeans. Please no flip-flops, tank tops, sweatpants, t-shirts with inappropriate graphics, or hats.

- ❖ JK Christmas Program and Party – 10:30AM in the chapel.

- ❖ **K-6th 'Twas the Night Before Christmas Book Exchange**
Each student should bring a wrapped book, appropriate for the culture of HLS, for a student in his or her age group. Book exchanges will be made during the reading of a very special version of "'Twas the Night Before Christmas." First through sixth grade boys and girls will be divided into separate groups to exchange, so your book choices should be gender-specific. However, Kindergarten book choices may be suitable for either gender. Possible gift items include classic storybooks, novels, biographies, blank books or journals, stationary or note card sets. Please limit your gift selections to *the simple, the classic, the and lovely...* avoiding *the trendy, the cartoonish, and the controversial*. For example:
 - A cloth-bound journal or blank book, *not a Justice League spiral notebook*
 - An illustrated, children's version of Pilgrim's Progress, *not Disney Princess Adventure Storybook*

A list of literature choices for all ages may be found on the HLS Website under Students/Summer Reading.

❖ **Upper School Secret Santa Book Exchange**

This year we are going to do a *Secret Santa Book Exchange* in the Upper School. For the purposes of this event, the Upper School will be divided by gender. Each student filled out a small card, stating their favorite genre of book. Students will receive the name of a classmate for whom they will buy a “Secret Santa” book.

- Books can be gently used or new. We suggest you spend no more than \$10.00.
- Books are to be turned in **no later than Friday, December 8th** to Mr. Borah. You may hand them in sooner.
- Books should be gift-wrapped. The name of the recipient should be written on the wrapping paper.
- Students should sign the inside cover of the book and are encouraged to write a message to the recipient as well.

❖ **Class Christmas Parties**

If you plan to attend or help with your child's party, please make other arrangements for younger siblings.

- **Upper School students** will breakfast in the cafeteria from 8-8:50 with a book exchange from 8:50-9:10. They will then have Cantata rehearsal until the noon dismissal.
- **1st - 2nd grade students** will have their book exchange in the gym from 10:30-10:45 and parties in the classroom from 10:50 – 11:55.
- **3rd – 6th grade students** will have the book exchange in the gym from 10:45 - 11:05 and then “lunch goodies” in their classrooms from 11:10 – 11:55.
- **Kindergarten students** will have their book exchange and parties in their classroom from 11:00-11:55.

Please remember that HLS strives for a simple celebration that focuses on the joy of the season, not on the commercial and material aspects. We ask that you not send in goodie-bags or individual gifts for your child’s classmates. As stated in the Parent Handbook, “Holiday celebrations should focus on the significance of the holiday and our sense of community and family. Celebrations should be age-appropriate and classy without excessive commercialization.”

4. **Thursday, December 14th - Early dismissal**

- All HLS students will be dismissed at 12:00PM. Please pick up at your regular carpool location.

5. **Thursday, December 14th - Upper School Christmas Cantata, CHBC Sanctuary, 7:00PM**

- 7th - 8th grade students should report to the sanctuary in **performance uniforms** at 6:15PM for rehearsal.
- The HLS choir is a performance choir with a pass/fail grading scale. A student’s grade is partially determined by attendance and participation in HLS performances. Students are expected to arrive on time, dressed in performance uniforms.