

HPC HUNTING PARK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

CA

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Transforming Hearts and Minds



by Kevin Deane,
Principal

“RISE”-ing Hope

“but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” - Isaiah 40:31



Greetings, Friends of HPCA. As we wind down our 17th year at HPCA, our theme, RISE, is still as potent and energizing as it was when I wrote about it in September. We expect our HPCA students to RISE - Respond to the Gospel, Ignite the Community for Change, Serve God and Others, and Excel in Academics and Life - and we remain **hopeful** that we will see the fruit in each student's life.

Rising, by its very definition and nature, is a challenging undertaking. It involves struggling upward against multiple obstacles - deception, injustice, peer pressure, trauma, and gravity. We have asked our students to do a difficult thing. Knowing the struggles that some of our students are facing, some might say that rising is nearly impossible. **Hopeless.**

The final memory verse of the year is Isaiah 40:31. This beautiful section is sandwiched between chapters telling of Assyrian invasions and the Babylonian exile. The Israelites were hurting, hard-pressed, and struck down. “Rising” wasn't exactly going to be easy. How could they possibly be restored? How could they rise again to former freedom and status? Some may have said it was nearly impossible. **Hopeless.**

But we see here in verse 31 that there is, in fact, **hope**, and it has everything to do with the work of the Lord and our response to Him. Those who **hope** in the Lord (or, wait upon, eagerly look for, and expect the Lord) will renew their strength. Even though they are down-trodden, they will soar on wings like eagles. They will rise. This is the heartbeat of the **hope** we have for our students, as well as ourselves - waiting expectantly on a God who “gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.” (v. 29)

I have seen it! I am here to bear witness: I have seen students, by the grace and power of Jesus, RISE! God is at work in the lives of our students and their families - it is real and tangible. It is precisely because of the nature and work of our Lord that I remain **hopeful**, expectantly waiting, watching to see what God has in store for our children. I welcome you to partner with us as God continues to work here in Hunting Park. I encourage you to become co-witnesses with us as we watch the God of Israel impact the lives of students and families of Hunting Park with **hope**. I invite you to see them RISE. Thank you for your help and partnership this year. God bless.

Upcoming Events...

Kindergarten Graduation
June 16th, 10:00 am

8th-Grade Graduation
June 17th, 10:30 am

Back-to-School Work Days
Saturday, August 13th
& Saturday, August 20th

WAYS TO HELP

- Make a financial contribution to support the work of HPCA
- **PA Business Owners:** Donate to our scholarship fund through OSTC (Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit)
- Include HPCA in your estate planning
- Join our e-mail prayer team
- **Participate in Back-to-School Work Days** (see above)
- Send us your Box Tops for Education, used ink cartridges, and Labels for Education
- Organize a donation drive for Good Stuff Thrift Store
- Organize a donation drive for back-to-school supplies (see website or e-mail us for a list of needed supplies)

Mission Statement: Hunting Park Christian Academy's mission is to provide an affordable, quality, Christian education that celebrates a diverse community and leads children to know and serve the Lord.

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2016 RACE FOR EDUCATION



On April 20th, HPCA held its 11th Annual Race for Education in Hunting Park. It was an absolutely gorgeous day! Our pre-k through 8th-grade students and special runners ran/walked for one hour with the support of their sponsors.

Together, participants ran a total of 2,440 laps (610 miles). The total amount of contributions (including pledges) is \$32,700, making this our most successful Race for Education ever!!! This is a tremendous blessing to HPCA as the funds will go toward replacing our existing boiler this summer and improving our heating system. Thank you!

Many thanks to our volunteers and business sponsors, including Chick-Fil-A Whitman Square, Coca-Cola, our special runners, parent supporters, and a generous donor who blessed us with awesome Race for Education t-shirts.

Check out more pictures at www.hpcaphilly.org/2015-2016.cfm.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



May has been an exciting month at HPCA, filled with opportunities for our students to live out the "I" in this year's theme of RISE! (Ignite the community for change).

Students collected various toiletries and made cards which were distributed to the homeless. They also made cards for a local seniors group (see above). Students from multiple grades passed out the cards after they performed in a talent show featuring art, singing, dance, Tae Kwon Do, violin, and piano.



Older students were able to do a few projects around the neighborhood, including planting a community garden, laying mulch in two gardens, planting flowers in planters, and doing general cleaning on two blocks.



THEME WEEK

In May, HPCA held its annual "Theme Week," designed to provide fun, school-wide activities for students. The week consisted of:

Milky Way Monday: Students dressed in space-themed outfits and studied planets and constellations, landed a moon rover, and made rockets.

Teamwork Tuesday: Students were divided into Team Red and Team Blue and did various cooperative challenges throughout the day.

Wacky Wednesday: Everyone got to dress in wacky outfits, and students searched for wacky objects in the overflow room, played Dr. Seuss charades, and made their own slime.

Thankful Thursday: We gave thanks for our superhero staff with a special extended lunch, provided by parents, and an assembly honoring all our staff for their hard work.

Friendship Friday: Students talked about what Biblical friendship looks like and what qualities are displayed in true friends. Students also made cards for other students who needed a note of encouragement.

