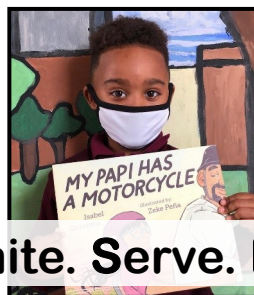




HUNTING PARK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

JUNE
2021



RISE: Respond. Ignite. Serve. Excel.



by Kevin Deane,
Principal

Hallelujah. The 2020-2021 school year is officially in the books. We just celebrated the graduating class of 2021, and I am writing to you on graduation day.

This year, we have spent much of our time speaking about the **present** – the pandemic, massive overhauls in our approach to education, difficulties, and struggles. But, once I started to prepare my remarks for the graduates, I was refreshed to think about the **future**. Past, present, future – it's all connected, of course. But what does God have in store for our graduates? I don't know, but I am awfully excited to find out.

Our students' futures are full of potential, and they are greatly impacted by their present. When trying to think of a creative way to present this concept to the students, I kept returning to the idea of **ore**. Ore contains valuable material, but revealing and refining it takes any number of change agents. Similarly, our graduates (and, indeed, all of us) have passed through struggles during the past 15 months. And, like Paul says to the Romans in chapter 5, some suffering produces perseverance, along with a couple other worthwhile traits. Below is an excerpt from my graduation speech (and I even got to bash a rock, which was fun and maybe cathartic):



*God has a process for changing us. Thinking of ore, what things do scientists do to change ore, to extract the valuable stuff out of it? Electromagnetism, chemicals, good ol' fashioned hammering! But what's the point? To make the valuable material within it useful. **You, in a way, are ore...a naturally occurring solid material containing value.** We can be used by the Lord to bring light and love and the good news of the gospel into the lives of others.*

*Sometimes, the suffering and difficulty we face produces something beautiful. **God creates beauty from the brokenness.** You have great value! You have great value as yourself. You have great value in the eyes of the Lord. You have great value in His Kingdom and the work He is doing on Earth.*

*What kind of valuable material do you have within? My best advice is that you allow the Lord to direct you and change you. **Follow Him.** What talents and drives do you have in you that the Lord will continue to work to unlock and refine? I don't know, not for sure. **How wonderful that we get to watch the mystery unfold as the Lord shapes you into who you are and what you will do.** What a privilege it has been to watch and be a part of that process for 10 years. And what a blessing it will be to hear and see what God continues to do as you come back and visit and share. You are ALWAYS invited back home. So visit. And let us see what the Lord does, so we can glorify Him together.*

All of us are ore and are precious. God was, is, and will continue to be at work. Past. Present. Future. It is all a part of the work of the Lord, the shaping and refining of His saints, and the good news of His gospel. Praise the Lord for 2020-2021. Hallelujah.



**Saturday, August 7th &
Saturday August 14th**
9:00 AM–3:00 PM

Help us get HPCA ready for the next school year! We will be doing general cleaning, painting, moving furniture, and small maintenance jobs. Please contact Jen Deane at jen@hpcaphilly.org if you are able to come or have questions.

WAYS TO HELP

- Contribute toward this year's fundraising goal of \$563,000.
- **Pay taxes in PA?** Donate to our scholarship fund and receive a **90% tax credit**. Ask us for more information!
- Join our e-mail prayer team.
- Organize a donation drive for back-to-school supplies or donate gift cards to teachers. Contact us to get the current list of supplies needed.
- Become a part of our team! Check our website to see the current employment opportunities.

Contact Jen Deane, Director of Development, at 215-324-9180 or jen@hpcaphilly.org if you would like more information on these ways to help.

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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ADVENTURE BOOK FAIR

In May, HPCA held an adventure book fair for our students. This was only made possible because of a generous donation of books from a high school student who organized a book drive for HPCA. She loves to read and wanted to spread this love of reading to our students. What a tremendous blessing to our families!

To add to the fun, students were encouraged to dress as their favorite book characters. They even got to listen to a special book reading by Mrs. Figueiredo. The students were so excited to browse through the many books and got to take several home to keep, sometimes more than they could carry! We are so thankful for this generous donation that will continue to bless our students with great books for their summer reading!



2021 RACE FOR EDUCATION



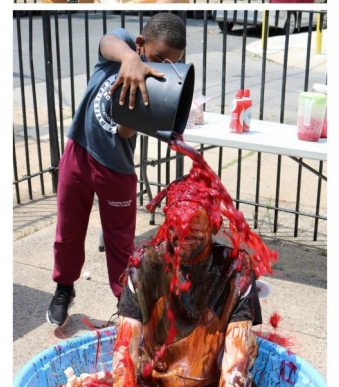
On May 6th and 12th, we held our 16th annual Race for Education! We had two gorgeous days at Team Vick Field in Hunting Park. It was so wonderful to have an in-person event again and have students, families, and Special Runners race together for a great cause.



All the money raised this year goes to our scholarship fund, helping keep HPCA affordable for all families. **This year, we raised \$58,716 in generous contributions, making this the most successful Race for Education ever!!!** Praise God! We were overwhelmed by the amazing support and so thankful for everyone who donated.



Because we reached our goal, Mr. Deane finally became a human ice cream sundae! The top two fundraisers in each class had a blast completely covering Mr. Deane with different ice cream toppings. The story even aired on ABC and CBS news. It was such a fun event—at least for the students!



Check out more pictures and videos of race day and the human ice cream sundae at hpcaphilly.org!

