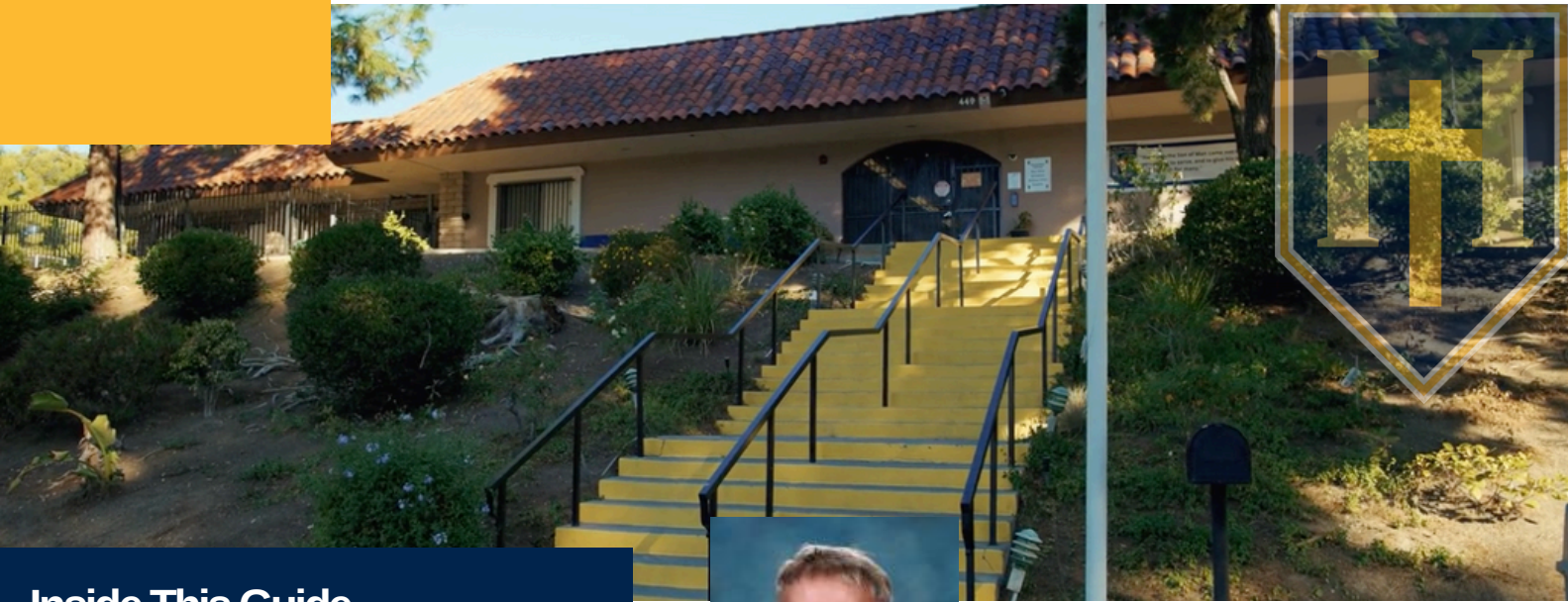


2025/
2026

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HILLCREST  CHRISTIAN

FAMILY GUIDE



Inside This Guide

- Parent Resources & Communication Tools
- Supply Lists & Dress Code Guidelines
- Orientation & Meet-the-Teacher Events
- First Day Details & School Hours
- Order Lunch from Cafe & Extended Care Info
- Fundraisers, Events, & Volunteer Opportunities
- How to Get Involved at Hillcrest
- Athletics Info & Sign-Ups

Your Back-to-School Survival Guide is Here!

While we are busily preparing the campus for an incredible year, there are a few important items to note as your family gets ready for the start of school. Please take a few moments to read through this packet thoroughly—it's full of helpful information and answers to many of your questions. If you don't find what you're looking for, feel free to call our office at 805-497-7501.

As the year begins, we pray your child(ren) learn to see Christ in every part of life. May they be challenged, encouraged, and filled with joy as they grow, dream big, and experience all that God has planned for them this school year.

In Him,
Dan Vande Pol



 www.hillcrestcs.org

 805-497- 7501

SUMMER INFORMATION

SUPPLY LISTS

Click the button below to take you to the Parent Resources page on the Hillcrest Website. Scroll down to find the 25/26 Class Supply Lists for all grades- Early Education through Secondary.

[SUPPLY LISTS HERE](#)

SUMMER EVENTS

Hillcrest Campus Clean-Up

Saturday, August 16 · 8:30 AM–12:00 PM

Join us for our annual **Hillcrest Campus Clean-Up!** Bring your work gloves and help get our classrooms and grounds ready for a great year. This is a fun and meaningful opportunity for the whole family to serve together - (10yrs and older preferred).



**SIGN UP BY EMAILING FAITH CHARTRAND
AT FCHARTRAND@HILLCRESTCS.ORG**

UNIFORM SALE

Preloved Uniform Sale

Our PFA is hosting our **Preloved Uniform Sale** on **Tuesday, August 19th** from **3:30–4:30 PM**—a great chance to stock up on gently used uniforms at amazing prices! Please come to the main entrance breezeway and we will direct you to the room.



STAYING INFORMED



School Calendar

Click to access events and daily happenings on campus through our school calendar. (Complete calendar posted August 18th)



Emails and FACTS Family Portal

Email and phone calls are HCS's primary methods of communication, so it's essential your contact information is always up to date. To make changes, log into FACTS > Web Forms > Family Demographics. For help, contact Cathey Stueber at cstueber@hillcrestcs.org or ext. 1004.



FACTS FAMILY



The **FACTS Family App** is used school-wide (Early Education through 12th grade) to view billing, access the family directory, log volunteer hours, preorder lunch at the café, and stay connected with class-specific information. Please be sure to download the app. There is a \$4.99 annual subscription fee to use the app.



Newsletter

Hillcrest newsletters are sent bimonthly and highlight each department—Early Ed, Elementary, Middle School, and High School. They include athletic updates, upcoming events, and local church happenings, along with meaningful glimpses into how we're discipling your child through chapels, service projects, and daily academic and social life.



Hillcrest Website: Parent Resources Page

The Parent Resources section serves as a central hub that reflects our main communications. It's where you can revisit the biweekly newsletter, check the school calendar (also found on the app), view upcoming events featured in emails and newsletters, access all sign-ups, and explore café menus with seasonal offerings—all in one place.



Social Media: Instagram and Facebook

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for a fun, behind-the-scenes look at daily life at Hillcrest. You'll find highlights of our academics, spiritual life, and discipleship program—all captured in real time.



COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

MAJOR EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

- **Family Fun Run:** Saturday, August 23rd 9:00 AM (Sign Up Here)
- **EPIC Obstacle Course Day:** Friday, September 26th 9:00-2:30PM
- **Backyard BBQ:** Saturday, November 8th 1:00-4:00 PM
- **Grandparents' (and Special Friends') Day:** Friday, November 21st (Elementary 9am-11:15am; EE 11:45AM-1:00 PM)
- **Mother Son Glow Bash:** Saturday, January 24th 6:00-8:30 PM
- **Daddy Daughter Dance:** Saturday, February 21st (Time TBD)
- **Gala:** Saturday, March 21st 5:00-10:00 PM at Sherwood CC
- **Spring Open House:** Thursday, May 7th (EE, Elementary, and Secondary 5:30-7:00 PM)
- **Senior Graduation:** Friday, May 29th 5:00-7:00 PM

GET INVOLVED

Join the PFA (Parent Faculty Association)

Get involved and make a difference at Hillcrest! The Parent Faculty Association (PFA) is a welcoming, fun group of volunteers who support our teachers, students, and families while building community. Whether you have just an hour or many to give, there's a place for you to serve and connect. Join us and help shape your child's school experience!

PLEASE CONTACT JILL HOGUE AT
HCSPFA@HILLCRESTCS.ORG IF YOU INTERESTED IN PFA.

Parents In Prayer

Join us **Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.** in the **Covenantal Coffee Shop** as a dedicated group of parents, grandparents, and guardians come together to pray for our school. Prayer is the heartbeat of our school, and all are warmly welcome to join this faithful community.

PLEASE CONTACT SONYA WEBB AT
COUNTITALLJOYSMW@GMAIL.COM IF YOU WANT TO
KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS GROUP.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Thank You for Your Partnership

We're so grateful for the way Hillcrest families show up and serve—your support makes such a difference in the life of our school. Throughout the school year, we have several volunteer opportunities available that are perfect for completing your family's service hours.

As a reminder, all families are encouraged to partner with us by completing **12 volunteer hours** throughout the school year. This helps us keep our campus thriving and creates a strong, connected community.

Hours must be recorded in your FACTS account. You'll find a list of volunteer opportunities posted in our Newsletters. Thank you for being a vital part of the Hillcrest community!

**HOW TO VIDEO:
POST YOUR HOURS**

SCHOOL HOURS AND DAILY LOGISTICS

SCHOOL HOURS BY DIVISION

Early Education (18mo–TK)

- **Class Begins:** 8:00 AM
- **Half-Day Dismissal:** 12:00 PM
- **Full-Day Dismissal:** 3:15-3:30 PM

*students still on campus at 3:30 PM transition to Extended Care

Elementary (K–6th)

- **Regular Drop-off Window:** 8:00-8:25AM
- **Warning Bell:** 8:25 AM
- **Class Begins:** 8:30 AM
- **Dismissal:** 2:55 PM (1:45 PM on Fridays)
- **Carpool Pick-Up:** begins 3:00 PM
 - K–2 → Front lot | 4–6 → Back lot
 - 3rd grade families will receive lot details from teachers.

Secondary (7th–12th)

- **Warning Bell:** 7:55 AM
- **Class Begins:** 8:00 AM
- **Dismissal:** 2:35 PM (1:10 PM on Fridays)

Extended Care Program

Available for Early Education & Elementary students after full-day dismissal.

- **Hours:**
 - **Mornings:** 7:30-8:00 AM
 - **Early Education Afternoons:** 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM
 - **Elementary Afternoons:**
 - Mon-Thurs 3:15-5:30 PM
 - Friday 2:00-5:30 PM
- Authorized adults listed in FACTS may pick up.
- Pricing & program details can be found by clicking the button below.

EXTENDED CARE

SCHOOL HOURS AND DAILY LOGISTICS

SNACK

Early Education

Each day, please send your child with a morning snack and water bottle. If they stay past 3:30 PM, be sure to include an afternoon snack as well.

Elementary and Secondary

Elementary and Secondary students can either pack their own snack or order one at the HCS Cafe during snack time.

LUNCH

Hot Lunch - HCS Cafe

Hillcrest is blessed to have a gifted kitchen staff who makes fresh food daily for our students. This year, we have a new café menu, and will provide many opportunities for students and parents to sample some of the healthy options available, and see firsthand our commitment to their well-being. From partnerships with local organic suppliers like The Berry Man to organic options, our café prioritizes wholesome, thoughtfully prepared meals.

Lunch is available for all students from **Preschool through 12th grade**. Families place lunch orders online through the FACTS portal, and monthly menus with seasonal favorites are posted under the Parent Resources section on our website.

Our menu will be posted Monday, August 18th.

**“HOW TO” TUTORIAL:
PREORDER LUNCH ONLINE**

No Lunch Policy

If a student forgets lunch, we'll provide one and charge the cost to your family's account (exceptions may apply).

Preschool Lunch Policy

If your child will be staying all day, please be sure to pack a lunch with all necessary items included (spoon, fork, freezer pack, etc.).



EARLY ED DRESS CODE

Early Education

Free-choice play clothes or HCS spirit wear; closed-toe athletic shoes only (no sandals, crocs, boots, wheeled, or noise-making shoes).

ELEM/SEC DRESS CODE

Elementary and Secondary

The Hillcrest uniform policy has been updated for the 2025–2026 school year. Please take a moment to review the following resources: 1) **Uniform Policy document** and 2) watch a **brief video overview** of the updated policy and expectations.

**DRESS CODE
ONE PAGER**

**DRESS CODE
SLIDESHOW**

Preloved Uniform Sale

Preloved Uniform Sales – Monthly Pop-Up

Our Preloved Uniform Sales take place on **the first Friday of every month**. Location will be announced in newsletters and on the Parent Resources page, along with sale times.

***Don't miss our final summer sale on **Tuesday, August 19th from 3:30–4:30 PM**. For this sale, please come to the Main Entrance Breezeway, and we will direct you to the room.

HANDBOOKS

Early Education, Elementary and Secondary

All handbooks will be posted Monday, August 18th. They must be read and signed by both parents and students. Instructions on how to access and submit the handbook acknowledgment will be provided during the first week of school.

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

MEET YOUR TEACHERS

Early Ed Back-to-School Night (Parents Only)

Monday, August 18 · 4:30 PM

Join us under the tent for an important evening designed just for Early Ed parents (18 months–TK).

You'll meet your child's teacher, hear about their classroom routines and curriculum, and learn what to expect for the year ahead. Please bring your child's supply kit with you.

BACK
TO
SCHOOL
NIGHT

*If you are unable to attend, please email Cheryl as this night covers key information you'll need before the first day of school.

Early Ed Popsicle Party (18mo–TK)

Tuesday, August 19 · 3:30 PM

Our littlest Saints and their families are invited to meet teachers, enjoy a popsicle, and connect with classmates and parents **at the Preschool Yard**.



Elementary Welcome Back Ice Cream Social (K–6th)

Tuesday, August 19 All K–6 students and their parents are invited to kick off the school year by visiting classrooms and enjoying ice cream on the Elementary Yard. Schedule & Instructions:



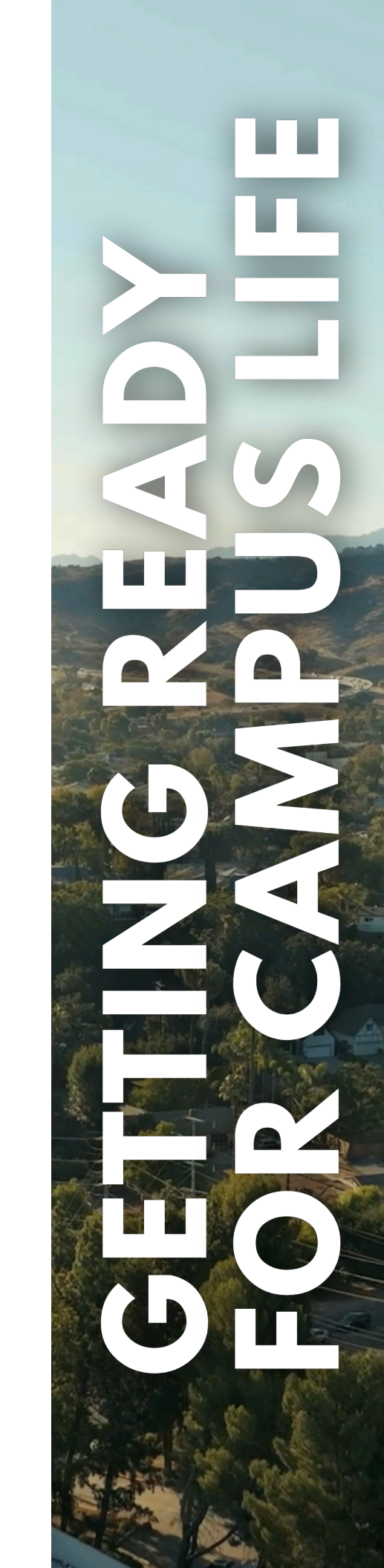
- **1:00 PM | All Kindergarten & New Students (Grades 1–6):**
Meet at the Outdoor Tent with your supply kits for a warm welcome, then head to your classroom to meet your teacher and drop off supplies.
- **2:30 PM | Returning Students (Grades 1–6):** Meet at the Front Entry Breezeway and you'll be directed to your new classroom to meet your teacher and drop off supplies.
- **2:30–3:30 PM | Ice Cream Social (K–6th):** After visiting classrooms, join us on the Elementary Yard as Kona Ice and a classic ice cream truck will be in attendance with a variety of options.

Secondary Treats (All 7th–12th Grade)

Monday, August 18 - times specified on following page

We're kicking off the school year with treats and fellowship in the coffee shop! All 7th–12th grade students are invited to stop by the Covenantal Coffee Shop to enjoy music, and a complimentary treat as we welcome our Saints back to campus. It's the perfect way to reconnect with friends, meet teachers, and start the year together.

TREAT
YOURSELF



GETTING READY FOR CAMPUS LIFE

STUDENT ORIENTATIONS

Elementary New Student Orientation (All Kindergartners and New K-6th Students)

Tuesday, August 19 · 1:00 PM

All new elementary students—including incoming Kindergarteners—will bring their supply kits and gather under the tent to meet staff, get important information, and take the first step into a great year at Hillcrest.

Middle School New Student Orientation (All 7th + New 8th Grade Students)

Monday, August 18 · 8:30 AM

Parents and students will meet in the coffee shop for a short welcome, then walk through their schedules and practice opening lockers. Students may bring books and supplies. This is a great time to go check out your classes and get a flow of the schedule.

High School New Student Orientation (New 9th–12th Grade Students)

Monday, August 18 · 11:00 AM

New high school students will meet in the coffee shop to learn about upcoming events, how to get involved, and what to expect this school year. Students may bring books and supplies. This is a great time to go check out your classes and get a flow of the schedule.

Returning 8th–12th Grade Students Locker/PE Uniform Pick Up

Monday, August 18 · 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

All returning students in grades 8–12 are invited to come pick up their locker assignments and HCS PE uniforms. If you have any questions about your class schedule, Mrs. Stueber will be available to meet with you upon request.

FIRST DAYS AND KEY BACK-TO-SCHOOL EVENTS

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Parent's Welcome Back Coffee

Wednesday, August 20 7:45-9:00 AM

We're excited to welcome all students back to campus! To celebrate the start of a new school year, **parents are invited to stop by the Covenantal Coffee Shop for coffee and fellowship from 7:45 AM–9:00 AM**, hosted by our Parent-Faculty Association (PFA). This is also a special opportunity **to preview our new café menu, sample some of the healthy options your children will enjoy**, and see firsthand our commitment to their well-being.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE PARENT-ONLY EVENINGS. THEY WILL BE A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR FROM SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AND YOUR CHILD'S TEACHERS ABOUT EXPECTATIONS, CURRICULUM, AND CLASSROOM LIFE.

Early Education (18mo–TK)

Monday, August 18 · 4:30 PM

Parents will bring their child(ren)'s supply kit(s) and gather under the tent for a warm welcome, then head to their child's classroom to hear from teachers and drop off supplies. Please contact Mrs. Curtis if you are unable to attend as there is important information shared this evening.

Elementary (K–6th)

Thursday, August 28 · 5:30 PM

Parents will gather under the tent for a warm welcome before visiting classrooms to hear from their child's teacher and learn more about the year ahead.

Secondary (7th–12th)

Tuesday, August 26 · 5:30 PM

After a brief welcome from the Administration in the coffee shop, parents will follow their student's class schedule, visiting each class and meeting each teacher to learn what to expect this year.

PHYSICALS

Physicals

All students planning to participate in any **high school sport** during the upcoming school year must have a current physical on file. **Physicals are valid for 12 months**, so we strongly encourage families to complete this during the summer to ensure eligibility for all sports throughout the year.

We are pleased to **partner with Exer Urgent Care**, which is offering **free sports physicals** to all Hillcrest athletes. While you are not required to use Exer, this is a convenient and cost-effective option—especially for those who may have already completed a physical within the past year but would like to align it with the school year. Taking care of this now helps prevent any disruptions to your child's participation in practices or games during the season.

ELIGIBILITY/CLEARANCE

Eligibility / Clearance

To be eligible to participate in any sport during the 2025–2026 school year—including High School Girls Volleyball and Football, which begin in July—all student-athletes must be registered and cleared through www.homecampus.com/clearances.

The clearance process includes entering medical and emergency contact information, as well as completing a series of required forms to be signed by both a parent/guardian and the student-athlete. This clearance must be completed before any student may participate in practices, tryouts, or games.

Please plan ahead to ensure your athlete is fully cleared before their season begins.

HIGH SCHOOL

Fall Sports Start July

The Fall seasons for **High School Girls Volleyball** and **High School Football** officially begin on **Monday, July 14**. Although practices start in July, they are part of the official school Fall season and are required for participation on these teams.

If your student is interested in playing, **please use the sign-up links below**. This helps us plan, communicate, and provide important updates throughout the summer. Only those who have signed up will receive further information, so if your student is considering joining, we encourage you to sign up—even if they're still deciding.

**HS GIRLS
VOLLEYBALL**

**HS BOYS
FOOTBALL**

**SIGN UP FOR HS GIRLS CHEERLEADING BY
EMAILING SUZANNE HUME AT
SHUME@HILLCRESTCS.ORG**

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Fall Sports Begin August

Middle school athletics will kick off within the **first two weeks of school**. The first sports of the season will be **Flag Football** and **Girls Volleyball**, with practices beginning shortly after school starts and games starting in mid-September.

Please use the sign-up form to indicate your interest—this helps us determine how many teams to plan for. We'll follow up with more details once the school year begins!

**MS GIRLS
VOLLEYBALL**

**MS BOYS FLAG
FOOTBALL**

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Fall Sports Begin August

Upper elementary athletics will kick off within the **first two weeks of school**. The first sports of the season will be **Flag Football** and **Girls Volleyball**, with practices beginning shortly after school starts and games starting in mid-September.

Please use the sign-up form to indicate your interest—this helps us determine how many teams to plan for. We'll follow up with more details once the school year begins!

**5TH/6TH GIRLS
VOLLEYBALL**

**5TH/6TH BOYS FLAG
FOOTBALL**

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Fall Sports Begin August

Lower elementary sports program kicks off this **fall** with **basketball**, followed by **flag football** in the winter and **soccer** in the spring.

Please see the sign-up sheets below to register your child and help us plan for the season. We're excited to offer these fun, skill-building opportunities for our youngest athletes!

**1ST-4TH
BASKETBALL**

**1ST-4TH FLAG
FOOTBALL**

**1ST-4TH
SOCCER**