

Directions for First Day of School and Opening Ceremony at Crescent Hill

Tuesday, September 3, 2013 8:00 AM

The start of the school year is a very special time for families, students, and faculty. Highlands Latin School likes to begin the year with a traditional ceremony that recognizes the importance of the school community. The Opening School Ceremony includes a student procession, followed by a brief, thirty-minute service in the sanctuary. **Students arrive between 7:30 and 7:45.**

Junior Kindergarten Students: proceed directly to their classroom. They do not participate in the Opening School Ceremony.

K-12 Processional Directions:

1) Students in grades 3-12 will assemble with their homeroom teachers and classes outside on the front and side lawns by 7:45 A.M. Flags will clearly indicate the location of each grade. Seventh - twelfth grade parents are asked to take book bags to the 2nd floor hallway. Third - sixth grade parents will put book bags in the Birchwood lobby. Signs will be posted to indicate the correct location.

2) First and second graders will assemble in the Chapel (Chapel entrance is south of the Birchwood Lobby entrance) and be escorted to the Sanctuary by their teachers for the processional. Book bags and lunch boxes will be left in the chapel foyer. Signs will be posted on the lawn to direct you.

3) Kindergarteners should be accompanied directly to their classrooms where teachers will greet and escort them to their places for the procession.

All parents please assemble in the Sanctuary by 8:00 A.M. and await the HLS student procession.

Because the first day of school can be a bit stressful for the younger ones, we ask that parents drop their children off as quickly as possible and proceed to the sanctuary. A quick separation will also give teachers adequate time to prepare the students for the ceremony.

Parents of kindergarteners and students new to HLS: Please talk to your children about these plans. It is a busy, exciting morning and knowing what to expect is important. They should know that they will wait and walk in with their classes. Once in the sanctuary, they should watch their teachers to know when to sit and stand.

During the ceremony, returning 4th - 12th grade students will sing our school song, a copy of which is provided on the back so that your children may refresh their memories to the words of this Latin song. (Younger returning students who know the words are welcome to join in!)

Students will be dismissed to their classrooms for the first day of school after the brief opening ceremony. Students will be available for pick-up at 3:30 P.M.

Rain contingency: If it is raining at 7:30, students will go to their usual gathering locations. Upper School will go to the cafeteria, Primary and Lower School to the gym.

The Opening School Ceremony is meaningful for parents, students, and faculty alike. It conveys the importance we place on the pursuit of wisdom, knowledge, and virtue. We look forward to seeing you there!

RETURNING HIGHLANDERS...
Be prepared to sing our school song with enthusiasm!

Gaudeamus Igitur

Gaudeamus igitur
Juvenes dum sumus.
post jucundam juventutem,
Post molestant senectutem,
Nos habebit humus.

Let us rejoice therefore
while we are young.
After delightful youth,
After tiresome old age,
the earth will have us.

Vivat academia,
vivant professores.
Vivat membrum quod libet,
Vivant membra quae libet.
Semper sint in flore.

Long live the academy,
Long live the professors.
Long live any member,
Long live all members.
May they ever flourish.

Vivat et res publica
et qui illam regit.
Vivat nostra civitas.
Vivat haec sodalitas
quae nos huc collegit.

Long live the republic
and he who rules it.
Long live our town folk.
Long live this association
which gathers us to this place.