



Important Dates in January

*Please refer to the Weekly
"In the Know" and website
calendar for the most
current information!*

Monday, 1/5
Classes resume

Sunday-Thursday, 1/11-1/14
ACSI Accreditation Site Visit

Wednesday, 1/14
Spelling Bee

Thursday, 1/15
Preview Day

Thursday and Friday, 1/15-16
**School Daze –
One Act Production**

Saturday, 1/17
Tournament of Champions

Monday-Tuesday, 1/19-20
**No School
Professional Development**

Thursday, 1/22
**Incoming Kindergarten
Exploration**

Friday, 1/23
**End of Quarter 2
Semester 1**

Thursday, 1/29
**8th and 10th Grade
Science Fair**



WOW – WE'RE GRATEFUL!

Your Voice Matters - Your Partnership Makes us Stronger

As part of the ongoing Park Christian School accreditation process and our commitment to continuous school improvement, we asked our parents, teachers and staff, Board of Directors, and 5th-12th grade students to participate in the Graceworks survey in October. Your feedback from the survey is helping provide us with valuable insight into the overall effectiveness, culture, and health of our school. It is also helping us celebrate what we're doing well, identify theme areas where we can continue to strive for excellence, and better meet the mission alignment of our students, families, and staff. Thank you for your great response.



We heard you, and we are celebrating with you that the overwhelming strengths of our school are:

- **PCS has a high percentage of promoters**—people who love the school and are willing to talk about it. Word-of-mouth is priceless!
- **Our leadership and organizational structure are strong**—thank you for your partnership.
- **Our teachers are qualified, care for students, and actively partner with parents**—thank you for that trust.
- **Our teachers and staff experience high job satisfaction and a strong, effective environment that is Christ-centered**—thank you for supporting them.
- **Effective communication is evident**—with collaboration between teachers and administrators, relational with parents, and transparent with our community.



We heard you, and will continue focusing and strengthening:

- **Relational culture including spiritual, social, emotional, and physical safety within our environment** - actively cultivating a culture of joy and unity among our students and staff.

Thank you for helping us live out the Park Christian School Mission and create the shared story that will move us forward.



Operation Christmas Child: Sharing Hope Through Giving

"My favorite part was knowing how much hope we are giving to others," shared **Emma Colton** after participating in this year's **Operation Christmas Child** project. Students filled over **176 shoeboxes** with gifts and essentials to bless children around the world.

Elementary students packed boxes in their classrooms and prayed over each one, asking God to use these gifts to share His love. Our sixth graders became **Servant Workers**, traveling to **Triumph Church** to assist in packing and loading shoeboxes for shipment to **Chicago and beyond**. This hands-on experience was a highlight for **Kynlee Simmons** and **Eva Wagner**, who loved serving in such a meaningful way.



We are so thankful for your generous giving and support. Together, we are teaching students the joy and blessing of giving—living out Christ's call to love others.

Filling the Dome, Feeding Families

Fill the Dome is a community-wide food drive led by MASA (Metro Area Student Association), a coalition of student councils from across the region. Park Christian's representatives, **Mollie Rogness** and **Kate Nelson**, helped lead the charge this year. After five days of spirited competition, Park Christian students collected **over 10,000 food items** to support families in need. High school classes competed for the ultimate prize—a day off school—by bringing in donations and then transporting them to the Fargodome to create themed displays.

The **senior class** took the top spot, contributing more than **4,000 items** and designing a creative display inspired by the **Batman bat signal**, perfectly matching this year's "**Soup-er Hero**" theme.

Once the displays were complete, Park Christian's student council returned to the Dome to **pack boxes filled with a balanced mix of food items**—enough to feed a family. These boxes were distributed directly from the Dome parking lot on Tuesday, a new system that ensured families received thoughtfully packed meals. It was rewarding to know that each box was prepared by one of our students.

Thank you to everyone who donated so generously!
Together, we made a real difference.

Blessing Our School Through Generosity

A warm thank you to everyone who participated in and donated to this year's Turkey Trot. Because of your generosity, we raised **\$18,845—a tremendous blessing** to our school community.

These funds will help build a **permanent 9-Square structure** on the playground this spring/summer, creating a fun and engaging space for our students. They will also support a special holiday gift for our staff, provide meals for teachers during conference nights, and meet classroom needs throughout the year.

Already, your giving has helped **purchase recess balls, wardrobe storage for third grade's famous people costumes, a library book display, and microbiology lab supplies**—just a few examples of the many ways your gifts make a difference.

Thank you again for **generously supporting our teachers, school, and students**. Your kindness reflects Christ's love in such a meaningful way.



Little Artists, Big Monsters

Our kindergarteners recently teamed up with the high school ceramics class for a creative project that beautifully showcased imagination and collaboration across grade levels. Collaborative geniuses **Mrs. Batterson** and **Mr. Rosenberg**, kindergarten students began by drawing their own unique “monsters,” and the ceramics students took on the challenge of transforming those



drawings into three-dimensional clay creations.

High school artists **Pierce Killerlain** and **Roland McKeon** shared their experience. Both agreed it was a fun and inspiring project. Roland reflected that it was “harder than I thought it would be to follow their vision and bring it to life,” while Pierce added that taking a child’s drawing and



turning it into a 3D monster “was fun, but took a lot of thought too.”

This partnership not only stretched artistic skills but also highlighted the joy of older and younger students learning from one another. We’re grateful for creative opportunities like this that celebrate community and the unique gifts God has given each student. **Community Building and Beauty Creating**

Creative Christmas Collaboration

The seniors in **Mrs. Steffen’s** class helped **Mrs. Watson’s** fourth graders type their Christmas essays. Afterwards, they enjoyed playing board games together. It was so much fun, and a great time was had by all! **Community Building**



Celebrating Creativity: HS Students Featured in Gallery 4 Exhibit

Gallery 4 in downtown Fargo is launching a special January exhibit showcasing the emerging artistic talent of our senior high students. The exhibit will run **January 2–31, 2026** and is open to the public. Artwork will be juried by PCS art teacher **Mr. Rosenberg** alongside Gallery 4 artist **Mark Holter**.



Mr. Holter shared his enthusiasm for the collaboration, saying, “I’m really excited about the opportunity to work with the art students from Park Christian School. I think it’s important to **foster creative habits and to exercise imagination through art.**”

The pop-up exhibit will feature a collection of student work created throughout the first semester, along with independent pieces developed specifically for the show. These artworks reflect the creativity, curiosity, and God-given gifts students are cultivating as part of PCS’s art program.

Mr. Rosenberg expressed his joy in mentoring these young artists: “I have had the privilege to encourage, inspire, and walk alongside these young artists for the past few months. I am excited to share their work with the community and continue to

inspire them in their pursuit of creativity.” The hope is that this exhibit will be the first of many opportunities for local schools to partner with Gallery 4 in celebrating student art across the Fargo–Moorhead community.



Public Reception

You’re invited to meet the student artists at a public reception on **Saturday, January 24, from 3–5 PM** at Gallery 4 in Fargo. Enjoy refreshments, fellowship, and an inspiring display of creativity. Admission is free. We are grateful for this opportunity to share the creative gifts God is cultivating in our students.

Brenner Spaeth Inspires STEM Students

2023 alum **Brenner Spaeth**, now studying Mechanical Engineering at NDSU, recently visited **Mrs. Bates’** 9th grade Physical Science classes to share his experiences and encourage students. This past summer, Brenner conducted research at the **University of Adelaide** in **Australia**, focusing on making biological material a more efficient source of energy—important work in developing sustainable solutions and caring for God’s creation.



Order Discovering

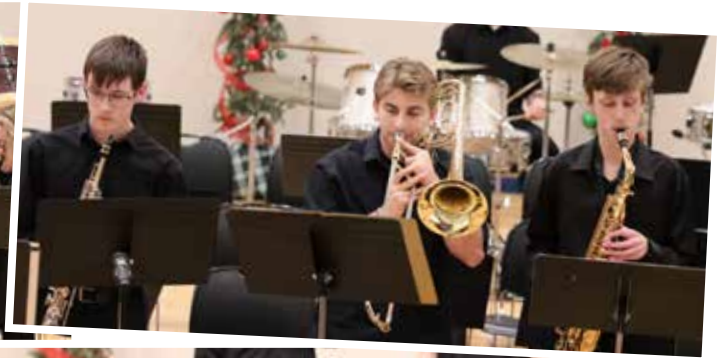
While in Australia, Brenner enjoyed exploring the culture, attending a Footy match, and discovering a favorite food: dumplings from Mandoo. He urged students to keep their options open and **explore their interests**, encouraging them that **God provides** many paths for growth and service.



Christmas Joy in Action

Festive Fun and Faith-Filled Traditions Around Our School

5





Hands-On Explorations

Our 8th graders enjoyed an exciting day at the **Citywide Career Expo**, exploring healthcare, technology, and skilled trades. **Mrs. Titus** and **Mrs. Steffen** guided students as they engaged with professionals, tested simulators, and asked thoughtful questions.

"I wished I had more time," said **Gavin Selzer** as he tried out several simulators. "The variety of careers was amazing!" Nearby, **Hannah Nielsen** shared her enthusiasm: "I'd like to pursue a medical career. The robotic surgery simulator was my favorite!"

To encourage meaningful conversations, each student carried a "passport" to collect stamps at booths—earning chances to win prizes along the way. We're grateful for community partners who helped students connect their God-given talents to real opportunities.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord." — Colossians 3:23



Life Skills in Family Living

Students are gaining valuable, real-life skills in **Mrs. Steffen's** Family Living class. This hands-on course teaches simple stitching and ironing techniques as students work toward making their own pillows. Some plan to keep their pillows, others are excited to give them as gifts, and a few even hope to donate theirs to those in need.

Ruby Nelson shared her excitement about the project: she loved making her pillow and seeing it daily on her bed. When asked about the class, many students said they enjoy learning a new skill and creating something with their own hands. This project not only builds confidence but also **encourages creativity, generosity, and practical life skills** students can use for years to come.



Building Knowledge and Confidence

Mrs. Howe's Geography classes brought history to life through their Castle Project, where students built detailed replicas of famous castles and presented them to their classmates. As they shared fun facts, students learned why castles were originally built for **protection and leadership**, and how many are used today as museums, landmarks, and places of gathering. Through creativity, research, and presenting in front of others, students **strengthened their communication skills** and confidence in speaking before an audience.



Spreading Wise Stewardship This Christmas

Mrs. Steffen's Personal Finance class is helping students and staff approach the Christmas season with wisdom and intention. As part of a recent project, students created posters displayed throughout the school, offering reminders about smart spending, thoughtful giving, and budgeting during the holidays.

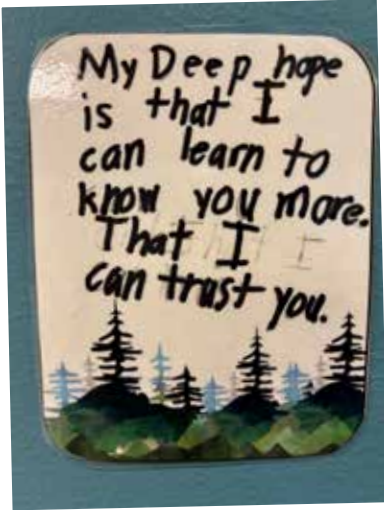
The project encouraged students to think practically about managing money, both now and in the future. *"It helped me realize smarter ways to shop when I go to college and have to buy my own food,"* said **Lindsey Lien**. **Kathryn Larson** agreed, noting that the lessons will be useful as students begin managing their own finances.

Other students shared specific tips they learned through the project. *"Using apps on your phone to cancel subscriptions you don't use anymore can save a lot of money,"* said **Isaac Dunkel**. **Ryan Nelson** added, *"Looking at your bank statements regularly helps you see where your money is going and what you might need to cancel."*

Through this project, students not only shared helpful financial advice but also encouraged the PCS Community.



A Deep Hope Rooted in Christ



Meeting Jesus Right Where We Are

Miss Hoiberg's Deep Hope for her students is that they would truly know Jesus—not just know about Him, but experience Him as both Father and Friend. She prays that their relationship with Christ would shape who they are and lead them to become more like Him, spurring them on to love those around them well.

Each week, students spend intentional time in **Worship in the Word** using RightNow Media. **During this time, Miss Hoiberg emphasizes an important truth:** Jesus knows each student right where they are. He meets them in their questions, their struggles, and their joys, inviting them into a personal relationship that is real and meaningful.

During one of these moments, Miss Hoiberg asked her students what it means to have a personal relationship with Christ. One student responded, "It's to know Him personally and to understand what that really means. It needs to be your own." That response has stayed with

her over the years and became a foundation for her deep hope for every student.

Miss Hoiberg believes **true life transformation happens through the work of the Holy Spirit** when students come to know Jesus personally. This belief is lived out through Teaching for Transformation (TfT), which gives students opportunities to **practice being the hands and feet of Jesus** in authentic and intentional ways.

Guided by **Matthew 4:19**, "Come, follow me," Miss Hoiberg's Storyline reminds students that Jesus walks the path with us—knowing us fully and never leaving our side, even when the journey is difficult or bumpy along the way. Miss Hoiberg teaches students that **Jesus fills us up so that we can fill others up**. Loving God and loving others begins with following Jesus, who is always walking the path with us.



Kindergarten Exploration

Rooted in Christ! Hands-on Learning.

**January 22, February 19
March 10**

**PARK
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

