



PARK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Falcon Flier

February 2026

Important Dates in February

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

Thursday, 2/12
Giving Hearts Day

Thursday, 2/12
Singing Telegrams

Saturday, 2/14
Pine to Prairie Conference
Championship

Friday-Monday, 2/13-2/16
No School

Tuesday, 2/17
Continuous Enrollment
Deadline

Wednesday, 2/18
Kindergarten Mom's Tea

Wednesday, 2/18
JH Spiritual Emphasis Day

Thursday, 2/19
SH Spiritual Emphasis Day

Thursday, 2/19
Incoming Kindergarten
Exploration

Thursday, 2/26
Preview Day

Invite a friend!

Falcon Fever Week Dress Up Days

Tuesday, Feb 17
High School - Celebrity
Elementary - Animal

Wednesday, Feb 18
Country vs.
Country Club

Thursday, Feb 19
Blackout

Friday, Feb 20
Falcon Fever



Early giving is now available!

FEBRUARY 12 GIVING HEARTS DAY



Please donate to
PARK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

24-hour online fundraising event
givingheartsday.org

State Champions Make Waves

The Shanley-Park Christian co-op Swim & Dive team celebrated an outstanding performance at the 2025 North Dakota State Swim & Dive Championships, highlighted by championship titles and individual honors.

Leading the way was **Arianna Hoff**, who captured the **state championship in the 200 Free** and helped secure another title as a member of the **200 Medley Relay** team. Her exceptional season was further recognized when she was named **North Dakota Senior Athlete of the Year**, a prestigious honor reflecting her leadership, dedication, and athletic excellence.



Joining Hoff in championship success was **Alexa Heckaman**, who also earned a **state title as part of the 200 Medley Relay**. The relay team's victory showcased the depth of talent, teamwork, and preparation within the program.

These achievements mark a memorable year for our Swim & Dive team and highlight the program's continued tradition of excellence at the state level. Congratulations to Arianna Hoff, Alexa Heckaman, and the entire team on an incredible championship season.



Honor Band Recognition

Under the direction of **Mr. Bergantin**, **Hannah Bronson** and **Madeline Jost** participated in the Northwest Minnesota Band Directors Association (NWMBDA) Music Festival. Hannah and Madeline are a part of the Honor Band.



Buzz-Worthy Success at the Spelling Bee

Louijay Dort (8th Grade), First Place Winner - 2 years in a row - he moves on to compete in the state-level competition in Fergus Falls.

Braden Lysne (8th grade) and **Amelia Smith** (4th Grade) - Tied for second place.



Finding Joy in the Journey: Annika Johnson Reaches 1,000 Points

Annika Johnson recently reached a major milestone, scoring her 1,000th career point in basketball—an achievement that reflects years of dedication and hard work. More than the points, it represents her growth as a student-athlete who gives her best on and off the court.

Teammates describe Annika as a “bundle of joy” whose positive spirit lifts the team. “She is so fun to play with and so deserving of this,” shared **Hailey Frueh**.

As a Christ-centered community, we celebrate not only Annika's athletic success but the character she displays. Congratulations, Annika, on this incredible milestone—we look forward to cheering you on as you continue your journey.



Third Grade Teaching Transition

Mrs. Hennen finished her time at Park Christian School at the end of December. We are grateful for the dedication, care, and commitment she has shown to her students and our school community, and we send her off with our full blessing.



We are pleased that **Miss Elissa Wennblom** will be stepping into the third-grade teaching role. Miss Wennblom has been part of the Park Christian staff since the beginning of the school year as a student

teacher and has participated fully in staff training and development. She will continue to receive mentoring and support from our third-grade team.

While we are sad

to see Mrs. Hennen go, we are grateful to God for His provision. Welcome Miss Wennblom!



Learning Together: Bigs & Littles

Mrs. Jost and **Mrs. Kalina** recently partnered to create a meaningful learning experience by bringing seventh graders together with third graders. The seventh graders helped their younger peers log onto computers and begin typing their animal research projects.

Third graders were excited to receive immediate technology support and felt proud of their success as they typed their reports independently. The seventh graders were kind, patient, and supportive, offering help without taking over the work. Mrs. Kalina said, "The seventh graders were leaders and role models for the younger students." Some of the third graders were able to work with their siblings.

Boden Levang said, "*He did it all by himself, dude can type.*"

This collaboration highlighted our school's positive culture and the impact of leadership, teamwork, and learning across grade levels.



A Standing Ovation for PCS Theatre

And that's a wrap on PCS's fall theatre production! **Angels of Bataan** was a truly special performance, made even more meaningful by the powerful Character Event and heartfelt tribute to nurses. Congratulations to the entire cast and crew for an outstanding show, and a huge thank-you to **Mrs. Jen Dobbins** and **Mrs. Cambria Larson** for the countless hours, dedication, and heart they pour into our Theatre Department. Bravo to all involved.

Our theatre program has been busy this year. In addition to *Angels of Bataan*, **School Daze**, our junior high one-act, was a big success—bringing both laughter and reflection as it reminded us of those unforgettable middle school years.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our spring production of **Charlotte's Web** on March 26, 27, and 28. We can't wait to see what our talented students do next.



Photo credit, Kensie Wallner



4

Celebrating God's Faithfulness:

The **ACSI accreditation** visiting team has unanimously recommended PCS for a new term of accreditation (2026-2032)! It was a joy to welcome these experienced Christian school professionals into our school and to have them witness firsthand the incredible work happening at Park. We are celebrating.

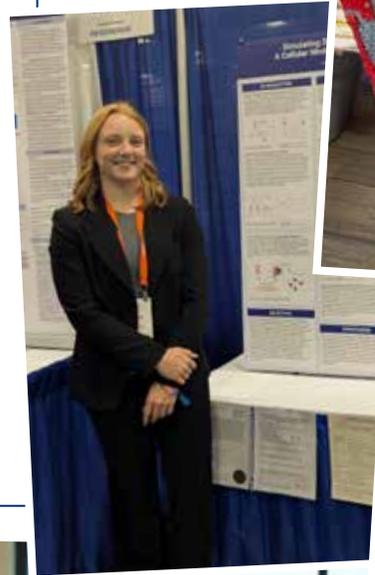
Below, you will find the Major Commendations—areas where the team noted PCS is doing exceptionally well—along with action items that will guide us over the next six years to become even better. We **praise God** and we are **grateful** for our partnership with you!

Major Commendations

- The school clearly and consistently communicates its mission and expected student outcomes, and effectively embeds them throughout its programs, operations, and curriculum.

Expected Student Outcomes (ESO's)

- **Think Biblically** – PCS students love like Jesus loves with hearts aligned with God's Word.
- **Live Wisely** – PCS graduates utilize knowledge and experience with discernment and integrity for the glory of God.
- **Serve Faithfully** – Whether they possess dynamic leadership or a quiet presence, PCS graduates have a meaningful impact upon the world around them.



- PCS provides **fair and competitive compensation** for their staff in comparison to local public schools in the immediate area. The school also has a strategic goal to continue improving staff compensation.



Photo credit, Kensie Wallner

- PCS has expanded facilities and enrollment through visionary strategic planning, ensuring the provision of current and future Christian education for as many mission-appropriate families as possible in the Fargo-Moorhead communities.
- PCS fosters a Christlike and distinctly Christian school culture in which students are known, supported, and encouraged to grow spiritually, academically, socially, and emotionally through intentional relationships and a safe, caring environment.

Accreditation Action Items:

- Develop and implement a systematic and objective process for assessing students' spiritual formation and biblical worldview and intentionally use the results to inform program evaluation and school improvement.
- Use assessment data to drive curriculum development, inform instructional practices, and achieve student outcomes.



Are You Smarter Than Our Knowledge Bowlers?

Mr. Kemp is our Knowledge Bowl advisor, and 47 high school students are participating this year. At the Concordia meet, our teams placed 2nd and 6th. This spring, PCS staff plan to take on our Knowledge Bowlers in the annual Are You Smarter Than... competition as students prepare for the State meet.



The 4th Graders have been studying C.S. Lewis's *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*. During Preview Day **Pastor Ryan** was a guest reader for the combined classes.

Hoops, Hustle, and Huge Numbers

Park Christian students and supporters have plenty to celebrate. A total of **73 students** from grades 3–8 participated in a school-wide shooting challenge – Shot Club, and together they achieved an incredible milestone—**1,116,195 shots**. Their commitment, perseverance, and school spirit were on full display.

Adding to the excitement, the **Booster Club** recently concluded our annual Tournament of Champions, and it was the biggest one yet. With exactly 100 teams traveling from Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota, the tournament showcased outstanding **competition** and **community support**. Thank you to all the players, families, volunteers, and organizers who made this event such a success. <https://www.parkchristianschool.org/support/booster-club>



Mr. Kemp's Class Gets Creative with Cell Division

Mr. Kemp and our **Biology students** recently brought creativity into the hallways with a hands-on activity to model **mitosis**, the process of cell division. Using colorful pool noodles, students demonstrated each stage of mitosis—from prophase to telophase—in a fun and interactive way.

This engaging approach helped students visualize how genetic material is organized and separated during cell division. By turning a complex concept into a tangible experience,

Mr. Kemp made learning both memorable and enjoyable!



Future Worship Leaders

During the school day, our **Junior High Worship Arts** students led memorized songs as classes gathered in the commons to lift high the name of Jesus. It was a beautiful reminder that God is already shaping future pastors and worship leaders among us. **Mr. Inion** leads our Worship Arts class.



Intro to Business Students Visit Fame 3D

Mrs. Steffen recently took our **Intro to Business** class on an exciting field trip to Fame 3D, where students got a firsthand look at how a real business operates from start to finish. During the visit, students learned how products are designed, 3D printed, marketed, and sold entirely in-house. It was a hands-on, behind-the-scenes experience that brought classroom concepts to life in a meaningful way.

The class had a great time exploring the creative and technical process, and students were especially encouraged to see how **a small hobby can grow into a successful business** and company. This real-world learning opportunity helped students better understand entrepreneurship, innovation, and **stewardship of talents**—showing how God-given skills and ideas can be developed into something impactful.



Planting Seeds & Growing Deep Roots



Mrs. Fisher's deep hope for her kindergarten students is that they would **know** the truth of who God is, **grow** into who God created them to be, and **show** His love to the world in both their work and play. Through prayer, she felt continually drawn to the biblical image of planting seeds and growing deep roots, rooted in the truth of Jeremiah 17:8.

"He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit." — Jeremiah 17:8 (ESV)

Kindergarten plays an important role in setting the tone for a child's school experience, laying a strong foundation as students grow and learn. Mrs. Fisher is intentional about building relationships not only with her students, but also with their families, partnering together as

students grow academically and spiritually.

In the classroom, students are learning who God is and what the Gospel means, as well as how to reflect His love to others. A classroom tree serves as a visual reminder of these truths: the roots represent **who God is**—unchanging and faithful; the trunk represents **who God says we are**; and the leaves represent how we show God's love to others.

Through this Christ-centered approach, Mrs. Fisher is helping her students grow strong in faith, deeply **rooted in truth**, and ready to bear fruit for God's glory.



My deep hope is that my students
KNOW
the Truth of who God is
GROW
in who God made them to be
and
SHOW
the world God's love as they work and pl



Kindergarten Exploration

Rooted in Christ! Hands-on Learning.

February 19 or March 10
5-6 pm

