



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

January, 2007 Newsletter... visit our web site at www.hctoday.ca

Main Office 613-384-1919; Attendance Office 613-384-1355; Student Services 613-384-2023; Fax 613-384-8665

The Holy Cross newsletter is issued on the first school day of each month.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I hope that the holy season of Advent and Christmas was a time for reflection and renewal for you and your family. On behalf of the Holy Cross staff and administration, I extend best wishes for a very Happy New Year. I welcome all staff and students back from the Christmas break.

Longtime Student Services stalwart **Bev Dzierniejko** retired at the end of 2006. We will certainly miss her presence as her knowledge and compassion have been an integral part of Holy Cross since February 1990 at our Victoria Street location. At the end of our December liturgy, Mrs. Dzierniejko had these words of advice for the students and staff: "As doors of opportunity present themselves to you, have the courage to open them." We wish Mrs. Dzierniejko many joyous opportunities in her retirement. **Mrs. Linda Chapman**, former secretary at Archbishop O'Sullivan will be joining the Student Services team and we welcome her to Holy Cross.

Student Services will also be losing the other half of its administrative dynamic duo – **Kathleen Cronyn** – to retirement at the end of this month. We wish Mrs. Cronyn all the best in her retirement as well.

Mrs. Tricia Rodrigue has begun her maternity leave and will be replaced by **Mrs. Mary Lynn Jefferies** and **Mr. Peter Gaudet**. We also welcome to our staff **Mr. Mike McGonegal**, who will be working with our office team. We welcome back **Mrs. Gillian Harvey DeMelo** from her maternity leave as well as **Ms. Julie Adams**, a new Educational Assistant in the Bridges Program.

We enter 2007 with many opportunities ahead of us provided we choose to make the most of our opportunities. I wish all students and their families a very Happy New Year and let's all of us as Holy Cross Crusaders make 2007 a great year for our school and community.

Paul Walsh, Principal

PASTORAL UPDATE

On behalf of the Pastoral Team, I would like to extend best wishes to all our school community for a happy and blessed New Year. Advent was certainly a busy time here at our school. Our **Reconciliation Celebrations** on **December 7th** went very well and we experienced a beautiful **Advent Mass** on **December 21st** during which we said thanks and farewell to **Mrs. Dzierniejko** who has now retired from Student Services. **Student Council** and **C.I.C.S.** (Crusaders in Community Service) are still counting the donations of money from this year's Advent Collection for the **'Build-a-School'** campaign. With money still coming in, we have raised close to \$6,000. When combined with Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic High School, this year's total is well in excess of **\$12,000.00**, an amount which will not only build a school in Sri Lanka through **"Free the Children"**, but also help staff and equip the school for the coming year. Well done Crusaders! We thank everyone for their generous support of this worthy cause as well donations to our **Food & Christmas Hamper collection** for families in need in our local Kingston community.

We are now looking forward to the end of Semester One and to final exams. Our final school Mass for this semester will take place on **Thursday, January 18th**, at which we will be praying for students as they prepare for final exams, as well as for

JANUARY EVENTS AT HOLY CROSS

Monday, January 08	First Instructional Day of the New Year
Wednesday, January 10.....	Deadline for submission for online application to OUAC
Tuesday, January 16... ..	Family Literacy Evening at KCVI, 7 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 17 and Fri., Jan.19.....	EQAO Grade 9 Math Assessment
Thursday, January 18	January School Liturgies
Wednesday, January 24.....	Last Instructional Day in Semester 1
January 25-31	Grades 9 to 12 Examinations
Saturday, January 27.....	National Family Literacy Day
Monday, January 29.....	Catholic School Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 1	Exam snow day, if required
Friday, February 2.....	P.A. Day # 4 – no classes
Friday, Feb. 2 nd and Sat., Feb. 3 rd	Full Court Press Against Cancer
Thursday, February 8 th	The Memorial, 7 p.m.

those students and staff who will be leaving us after this semester. And we ask your ongoing prayers for the sick, especially **Archbishop Anthony Meagher** who continues to be seriously ill at this time.

May God bless our students, staff and their families with a healthy and happy New Year.

Chris Forster, Coordinator of Pastoral Services

FAMILY LITERACY EVENING

Our **Catholic School Council** has purchased 100 tickets for an **evening of celebration** with author and educator **David Bouchard**. Bouchard is an author, speaker, former teacher and school principal whose love of reading is compelling – and all this from a man with a learning disability who didn't learn to read until he was 27 years old! Come celebrate a love of reading with your family on **January 16th** in the **KCVI Auditorium**. The **Holy Cross Jazz Ensemble** will be performing as the evening commences. Tickets are available, free of charge, through the main office. If you would like to find out more about this exciting event, please call **Terri Daniel** at **613-384-1919, ext. 3406**. We hope that many in our community take advantage of this event.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Students' Council and **CICS** would like to congratulate everyone in the Holy Cross community who helped raise money for the **"Brick-by- Brick" campaign** in support of **Free the Children**. Our goal has been reached thanks to your support. The school in Sri Lanka will be dedicated in honour of **Father Stan Kurusumuthu**, a former teacher at both RND and HC. Your efforts are much appreciated. Throughout the last week, before Christmas holidays, Students' Council organized daily Christmas activities. Thanks to all the Crusaders who participated in the successful door decorating contest, and Christmas wrapping contest. **The Christmas Fundraiser Ball** was also a success as **we raised \$1000** to contribute to the "Brick by Brick" campaign. Thanks to all the students who attended. Look out for a theme vote for the next school dance, and lots of exciting activities coming after exams. We wish you a happy and healthy New Year!

JANUARY 2007 EXAMINATION PERIOD

The Final Examination Schedule will be distributed to homerooms on January 11th. Exams are scheduled to be written at **8:30** and **12:00** beginning on **Thursday, January 25th** and are to conclude on **Wednesday, January 31st**. In the case of inclement weather and bus cancellations the exam schedule would be modified with examinations being "bumped" one day. **i.e. If buses were cancelled on Thursday, January 25th then all exams scheduled for the Thursday would be written on Friday, January 26th, and the remaining part of the schedule adjusted accordingly.**

JANUARY EXAMINATION RETURN

Students will pick up their January examinations on the morning of **Monday, February 5th**. An abbreviated Semester I timetable will be in effect for the morning only to provide classes with the opportunity to take up and review the January examination and final mark calculation.

TURNAROUND DAY

On **Monday, February 5th**, an abbreviated Semester 1 timetable is scheduled for the morning and semester 2 classes will meet for the first time later in the day. The morning provides an opportunity for Semester 1 classes to conclude any unfinished business, such as the return and take-up of the January examination, return of projects and assignment, collection of any course resources, review of the final mark calculation, and completion of surveys concerning the course.

TEXTBOOKS FROM SEMESTER ONE

We remind students that her or his textbooks must be returned at the end of the last exam. The Textbook Room is open for this purpose from **Tuesday January 23rd** to **Wednesday January 31st**. Please do not leave textbooks in the classroom or examination rooms. These may be considered as "lost" books, which must be paid for. Each student's record must be clear of textbooks, library books or library fines before s/he may sign out books for Semester 2. If a book is lost or damaged, deposit cheques for \$100.00 will be cashed beginning **February 5th**.

TEXTBOOKS FOR SEMESTER TWO

Students are responsible for picking up their books before classes begin. Please bring your **green Library/Textbook card** with you to the school. There is NO textbook sign-out service during class time once classes begin. We have scheduled textbook pick-up as follows: **Monday, January 30 to Thursday February 2, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** As in the August period before school begins, it may be necessary that students provide their own transportation to Holy Cross to pick up textbooks.

EQAO GRADE 9 ASSESSMENT OF MATHEMATICS

In January, all Holy Cross students enrolled in a **Grade Nine applied** or **academic math** course will join others in a province-wide standardized Grade 9 Math Test. The mandatory assessment will involve multiple choice questions, short answer and extended response. This test which is a component of the Secondary School Reform occurring in Ontario will be administered on two days. The dates for the testing at Holy Cross are **Wednesday, January 17th** and **Friday, January**. Testing will occur during the scheduled math period ranging for 60 minutes. Students may also get extra help through TV Ontario's Eureka! Ask A Teacher website - www.tv.o.org <<http://www.tv.o.org>>. This interactive site offers exercises and links to help them improve their math skills and students can also take Eureka! Sample test. The site is an engaging way for students to learn, assess how ready they are, or review what they know. Students who do not own a computer can use a computer in the library to use Eureka!.

AFTER-SCHOOL LITERACY PROGRAM

Beginning in early February, we will be offering an after-school literacy program geared for students who need extra support in reading strategies, writing skills and test-taking suggestions in preparation for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test in March. If you think that your son or daughter would benefit from participating in this twice-weekly program, please contact **Terri Daniel** at **613-384-1919, ext. 3406**.

CRUSADER ATHLETICS

The Memorial and Full Court Press Against Cancer

The 18th Annual Memorial and Full Court Press Against Cancer. On **Thursday, February 8th**, Holy Cross will host The Memorial basketball games with the Junior Varsity game beginning at 6:00 and the Senior Varsity game scheduled to begin at 8:00. The 2007 edition includes **The Full Court Press**, a two day elementary school tournament to be held on **February 2nd and 3rd**, followed by the Memorial on the 8th here at Holy Cross.

HOLY CROSS CLASS OF 2007 GRADUATION CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony for this year's graduating class will be held on **Thursday, June 28th** here at the school. **Please mark this date on your calendar if you plan on graduating in June 2007.**

IMMUNIZATION MESSAGE

Students between the ages of 14 and 16 need a booster of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (dTaP) called Adacel. They are also eligible for Meningococcal C vaccine between the ages of 15 and 19. KFL&A Public Health will be holding clinics at all secondary schools in the new year. More information will be coming home regarding these clinics.

Each year, the Immunization Team reviews the immunization records on their immunization Record Information System (IRIS) and sends questionnaires home to parents of students whose information is not up-to-date. The questionnaire will show you the immunization information they have for your child and will indicate the immunizations they do not have recorded in their system **This does not always mean that your child needs more immunizations, just that Public Health does not have all the dates on file.**

If your child receives a booster at the doctor's office, ask the office to send the information to **KFL&A Public Health** or you may call the automated vaccine reporting line at **613-549-1232 ext. 445 or 1-800-267-7875 ext. 445** to give them an update.

Parents need to have immunization records for all children, and keep them in a safe place. Doctors move and retire, so you need to keep an up-to-date record at home. The immunization record is an important piece of your child's health history.

Lucy Teves, Vice Principal

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

University/College Applications

Post-secondary application workshops and information sessions have concluded. PIN numbers required for University applicants and OEN numbers required for College applicants are available from Student Services. The application deadline for OUAC is January 10, 2007 and the OCAS deadline is February 1, 2007.

Students are asked to ensure that all data on the application is accurate (including address and transcript information). Please contact Student Services if the information is not accurate.

Semester 2 Timetables

Copies of timetables for Semester 2 will be distributed this week. Any adjusting of the timetable is to be completed by the 25th. The course selection process for 2007-08 will take place in mid February. Workshops outlining the process will be conducted at that time.

Address and Change of Parental/Guardian Information

Please be advised that if there is an address/telephone number/custody information change for your child, forms are available in Student Services for completion. For the safety of your son/daughter, it is imperative that we have this revised data noted as soon as possible.

Looking for a Job OR Volunteer Hours....

Students are reminded to regularly check the postings of the Job & Volunteer Board located outside Student Services. There are many opportunities for part-time jobs and volunteer hours.

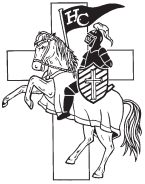
Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) has been scheduled for March 29, 2007. All grade 10 students who are working towards an OSS will write the test.

Students who have been eligible to write the OSSLT and have been unsuccessful at least once, are eligible to fulfill the requirement through the Ontario School Literacy course (OSSLC) which is being offered in Semester 2. Please see your Guidance Counsellor if you qualify to take this course. Successful completion of the OSSLT or the OSSLC is a graduation requirement.

Student Services Website

We invite all parents and students - particularly graduating students - to explore our newly expanded Student Services link on our HCTODAY website (www.hctoday.ca). In our Counsellors' Corner you will find information pertinent to our graduates and the post secondary application process. We are so fortunate to have a reputable university in our city. Find out more under our University Information - Queen's link. Interested in scholarships? Explore our Financing Your Education link. Our site should be completed in **January 2007**.



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Final Exam Schedule January 2007

Grade	A.M. / P.M.	Day 1 Thurs, Jan. 25	Day 2 Fri, Jan. 26	Day 3 Mon., Jan. 29	Day 4 Tues, Jan. 30	Day 5 Wed, Jan. 31
Grade 10	a.m.	HRSDM MG4M	SCBAC SCB4U SES4U	BOH4M SPH4U	LYY4U SBH4U BAT4U	CIY4U CL4U PS4U
	p.m.	ENG4C ENG4E ENG4U	BLAPC HDD4U	CL4U MCE4U	HR4AM HET4U	CCW4U AB4AM AB4U
Grade 11	a.m.	HRT4M	ENG4C ENG4E	CG4SM CL4E CL4SM KCS4M	BAI4M	ESP4M
	p.m.	PS4E	SCB4U	MB4C MCR4U	SR4C SR4U	CEW4M MCP4M SP4U
Grade 12	a.m.			PS4E	BB4D	BB4D
	p.m.	MEM4P MED4D	ENG4P ENG4E	CEC4P CEC4E	SNC4P SNC4E	
Grade 9	a.m.	SNC4P SNC4E	CG4C CG4E	PS4P PS4E	MEM4P MEM4E	BB4D
	p.m.		ENG4P ENG4E			

Please note: there are eleven students with exam conflicts. Administration will meet with these students. Inclement weather exam day is Thursday, February 1st.

MEMO TO STUDENTS:

Exams begin at 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the scheduled days. Students are encouraged to be in their exam location at least **fifteen minutes prior** to the beginning of the examination. Buses will arrive and depart at their regularly scheduled times.

Examinations are a required component of course work at Holy Cross in many of our programs. Requests to be exempted from exams or to write early will only be considered in the most exceptional of circumstances. Do not plan work or holidays until after your scheduled exams are completed. Please make sure that you have discussed this with family members and employers.

All exam conflicts should be reported to **Ms. Daniel** as soon as possible, in order to make a plan for managing your schedule. If students have personal reasons that may qualify them for consideration for an exam deferral, they must submit a written request to Ms. Daniel.

Good luck. Be diligent in your preparations.

NEXT MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

Friday, February 02 Professional Activity Day # 3
Monday, February 05 Turn Around Day
Tuesday, February 06 First Instructional Day in Semester 2
Thursday, February 08 The Memorial Basketball Games at HC
Friday, February 09 Semester 1 Report Cards distributed
Tuesday, February 13 Grade Eight Parent Information Night
Wednesday, February 14 Valentine's Day
Thursday, Feb. 15 2006-2007 Course Selection Assemblies
Friday, February 16 Holy Cross Semi-Formal
Friday, February 16 Deadline for schools to provide Sem. 1 final marks to OCAS
Tuesday, February 20 Grades 9, 10, and 11 Math Contests
Tuesday, February 20 Pancake Breakfast
Wednesday, February 21 Ash Wednesday Liturgies, Share Lent Campaign begins
Thurs., Feb. 22 and Fri., Feb. 23 Kiwanis Music Festival at HC
Monday, February 26 Catholic School Council Meeting in Library
Tuesday, February 28 Canadian Computing Competition