



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

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October, 2011 Newsletter ... on our web site at www.hctoday.ca

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Now that the month of **September** has come and gone, let me take a moment to thank all members of our school community for a great start to the school year. Some highlights of our first month together include:

- The 30 members of our **Holy Cross** community who participated in the **31st Annual Terry Fox Run** at **St. Lawrence College** on **Sunday, September 17th**. Many participants wore **Crusader** spirit attire, making our participation clearly visible. It was great to hear the spirited C R U cheer just ahead of the starting gun. Once again, we come together as a community to fundraise for cancer research.

- Our **Students' Council**, led by **Mr. Richard Coleman**, for spearheading our initiatives to welcome **Grade Nines** into our school from our day in **August** set aside to make sure students had their books and their lockers and were able to locate their classrooms, to the **Grade Nine Orientation** morning, which was good, if not clean, fun and ended with a BBQ by **Brown's Fine Foods**, to the first school dance. We are proud of all of our students who were well-behaved at the dance, living up to the responsibilities charged to **Holy Cross** students. Our **Students' Council** and **CICS** executives ran **Speak Up in a Box**, a student voice forum whereby students' perspectives on learning will be filtered back directly to the Ministry of Education. They are now collaborating with the **CICs** Executive to spearhead our **Thanksgiving Food Drive**.

- Our fall sports teams, which are well underway, are demonstrating **Crusader** spirit in their preparations and fierce but fair play. We are very excited about the annual **PH Classic** on **Tuesday, October 18th** and **The Catholic Cup**, being played at our sister school on **Friday, October 7th**.

- Our **Arts and Tech Departments**, many of whom are preparing for this year's school musical, **The Phantom of the Opera**. A first for the **Kingston** area, this large and challenging production is sure to have something for all.

- **Ms. Faith Bland** and her Civics and Careers classes for organizing an all-candidates debate at our school as well as the **Student Vote** on **Tuesday, October 4th**.

- Another eco-initiative: distribution of this monthly newsletter electronically to all parents and interested community members. Over the last four years, staff have reduced photocopying costs from just over \$60,000 to \$42,000. This is a significant savings to the school and, ultimately, to the environment. We will still make some hard copies for homeroom classes to share and for distribution in some public areas of the school, such as **Student Services** and the **Main Office**. If your email address (provided to the school on registration forms), is out of date, please contact **Student Services** to update it.

We welcome teacher candidates throughout this month (and again in late **November** and early **February**) to **Holy Cross**. This year's teacher candidates are **Jessica Bouchard, Sarah Dicks, Eliza Garret, Amy Kemp, Patrick Oberle, Shannon Perugino, Alexandra Trotter, Gregory Winson, and Paul Lewis**. I hope and trust you'll enjoy your experiences at **Holy Cross** as much as we gain from your enthusiasm and talents.

Paul A. Walsh

THIS MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

Sat, Oct 1.....	Queen's U Tricolour Sr Girls' Bball Tourn. RND Jr Girls' Basketball Tournament U of Toronto Sr. Boys' Volleyball Tournament
Sunday, Oct 2.....	20th Annual CIBC Run for the Cure
Monday, October 3.....	Fall Team Photographs Loyalist College 2:30
Tuesday, October 4.....	Fall Team Photographs College App. Timeline & Process, 11:00 a.m. Fleming College, 2:30 p.m. Student Vote 2011, all day, Library
Tues & Wed, 4 & 5	Public Health "Drive For Life", Gr 11s
Wednesday, October 5	World Teacher's Day Public Health Drive For Life", Grade 11s
Thursday, October 6.....	40th Ontario General Election College App. Timeline & Process, 11:00 a.m. Gr 9 Take Our Kids to Work permission forms distributed Superintendent of School Effectiveness School Visit
Friday, October 7.....	Thanksgiving Food Drive ends Graduation Portrait Orders due in room 129 Graduation Write-ups due in room 129 Green and Silver Pep Rally Day
October 9 – 15	Ontario Fire Prevention Week
Monday, October 10.....	Thanksgiving Day (no classes)
Wednesday, October 12.....	Grade Representative Elections
Thursday, Oct 13	October Thanksgiving School Mass Early Semester Report Cards Issued
Fri, Oct 14.....	Bay of Quinte Invitational Cross Country Meet Ontario Universities Fair
Oct 14 & 15	RND Jr Boys' Volleyball Invitational St. Matt's Girls' Bball Tournament
Sat, Oct 15	Preliminary SAT at RND, 9 – 11 a.m.
Sunday, October 16	World Food Day
Tuesday, October 18.....	Twonie –for-non-Uni Day (prepaid) 11th Annual PH Classic at HC (Breast Cancer Research)
Mon, Oct 17	International Make Poverty History Day
October 18 – 21	Gr 10 Retreats, Rideau Acres
Wed, Oct 19	Catholic School Council, 6:30, Library
Thurs, Oct 20	Gr 9 Take Our Kids to Work permission forms due School Photo Retake Day Parent-Teacher Interviews
Fri, Oct 21.....	KASSAA 2011 Cross Country Championships
Sun, Oct 23	International Action Day on Climate Change
Mon, October 24.....	ALCDSB P.A. Day #2 (no classes) System Faith Day for staff, Belleville
Tues, Oct 25	Fr. Tony Ricard Assembly @ Holy Cross, 9:30am (Gr 12s) Uni. On-line Application Workshop, 11:15 & 2:30 Ontario Universities Information Program @ RND, 6:30
Wed, Oct 26	Parent – Teacher Interviews
Thurs, Oct 27	KASSAA Girls' Field Hockey Championships University Online Application Workshop, 11:15 and 2:30
Fri, October 28	Jamaica Mission Trip Fish Fry at HC EOSSAA 2011 Cross Country Championships Tentative Non-Uniform Day
Monday, October 31	Hallowe'en

PASTORAL UPDATE

We are now well into this year's **Thanksgiving Food Drive** which runs until **Thursday, October 13th**. Once again, we are in a friendly competition with other local high schools to see who can collect the most food for the **Partners In Mission Food Bank** and win the coveted **K-ROCK High School Challenge**. This annual campaign provides our school community with a wonderful opportunity to share our blessings with those less fortunate than ourselves. Our **Crusaders In Community Service (CICS)** are now meeting regularly during lunch hours on Mondays and new students are welcome to get involved in our Social Action Projects, including the Food Drive, seniors outreach, Leadership Training Workshops and volunteer work at **Martha's Table**.

"CALLING ALL TEENS": Keep in mind that Sunday nights at **St. Paul the Apostle Church on Taylor-Kidd Blvd** are now **Life Teen Evenings**. All teenagers in our area are invited to the dinner which begins at **5:00 p.m.** followed by a talk, games, group discussions and an upbeat **Youth Mass** in the Church at **7:30 p.m.**

We are also planning for our **Grade 10 "Personal Growth: Body, Mind, Spirit" Retreats** which will take place from **October 18 to 21st**. All of our **Grade 10 students** will participate in these retreat days which will be focusing on some very important aspects of our lives: our sexuality, dating, and relationships. The format for the day format has been developed in consultation with our **Religion Department, Pastoral Services, Youth Worker Services, School Board, School Administration** and the local **Health Unit**. We look at our sexuality from the perspective of a healthy and well-balanced Catholic moral framework. We are especially fortunate that **Fabian Brown, Coordinator of Youth Programs** for the **Archdiocese of Kingston, Jamaica** will be part of our retreats this year, along with **Dan Schultheis** from **Ajax** and **Lisa Lollar**, our **Health Unit Nurse**.

And, members of the **2012 Jamaica Mission Team** invite you to their **"All You Can Eat" Fish Fry** on **Friday, October 28th** at **Holy Cross**. **Mike Mundell** will be serving up the fish and chips, and members of the **Jamaica Team** will be providing the salads, buns, desserts and refreshments. It runs from **3:30 - 7:00 p.m.** and Take-Out is available. **Cost: \$15.00** with all proceeds going to the **2012 Jamaica Mission Trip**.

Blessings to all this Thanksgiving and throughout the month ahead.

Christopher Forster, Pastoral Coordinator

NEWS FROM STUDENTS' COUNCIL

The **Students' Council** would like to thank all students and staff for an amazing first month of the new school year! The **Students' Council** was busy throughout the month with the various activities for our school community! This year's **Grade Nine Orientation** officially welcomed our grade nine students to the community as they participated in a variety of team building games, making new friends throughout the day. Our first dance, **Welcome to the Jungle**, was a success with an attendance of over 400 students! We would also like to thank everyone who was contributed to this year's **Thanksgiving Food Drive**, which will end on **Thursday, October 13th**. We encourage students to bring in non-perishable food items or money donations to support those in need in our community. The homeroom class, in each grade, that brings in the most weight per person/ money donations will win a pizza lunch. **Friday, October 7th** will be the **Pep Rally** and we encourage all **Crusaders** to show their school spirit!

Stephanie Constantinidis, Communications Officer

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Council met for the first time this school year on **Wednesday, September 21st** in the school library. Nominations were held this year **Lori O'Connor** will serve as Chair for the second year running.

Catherine Pollitt was named Vice-Chair, and **Barbra Brousseau** agreed to serve as Secretary. Parent members for 2011-2012 include: **Adam Check, Denise Clifford, Lynn MacKinder, Chris Murphy, Kim Pho, and Nicole Taylor; Christopher Forster** as Nonteaching Representative; **Marie Gavan-Knox** returns as teacher representative; members from the **Administration Team** and from **Students' Council** also participate regularly in these meetings. School Council is an advisory body that forms an important link with the school. All are welcome to join meetings. Please see the minutes on www.hctoday.ca for **Catholic School Council** information.

THE PAUL HALLIGAN CLASSIC

On **July 21st, 1997**, our fellow school community, **Regiopolis - Notre Dame**, lost one of its greatest supporters. **Paul Halligan** died of cancer after a two year battle with the disease. **Paul** was a graduate of **RND**, a basketball and football coach, an organizer of the **Alumni Association**, founder of the **Irish Ontario Basketball Club**, and the driving force behind the **Peter Carty Memorial**. Above all else, **Paul** was a devoted member of the school community, continually demonstrating his Christian call to service. He lived a vocation of service and our school communities are blessed to have known him and touched by his life.

October is **Breast Cancer Awareness** month; therefore we have decided to focus our efforts in the direction. This year alone 25,000 women will develop breast cancer and 5,500 of these women will die from this disease. We are hopeful that through your donations, we will continue the progress in **"Shooting For A Cure!"**

HC ATHLETICS

Our fall sports teams, who are underway, are demonstrating **Crusader** spirit in their preparations, and fierce but fair play. The 11th annual **PH Classic** will take place on **Tuesday, October 18th** at **Holy Cross** in the evening, with boys' volleyball matches preceding the event at **RND** in the afternoon. Unfortunately, **The Catholic Cup** will not be played "under the lights" this season, but will be held at **Regiopolis-Notre Dame** on **Friday, October 7th**. Come out wearing green and silver and support your **Crusader** athletics this month!

FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

Parents are reminded that if their child is going to be absent from school, they must call the **Attendance Office (613-384-1355)** before 8:30 on the day of absence.

Parents are asked to remind their children that they must not leave school without going through the **Attendance Office** first.

EARLY DISMISSAL FOR APPOINTMENTS (E.G. MEDICAL & DENTAL)

Students must have parent/guardian permission and show the note to the attendance secretary to obtain permission to leave the school.

EQAO GRADE NINE MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENT

The **Grade Nine EQAO Math Assessment Individual Results** will be distributed shortly to all students who wrote the assessment last year. The detailed results will be available on the **Holy Cross** website by **mid-October**. All staff, especially the mathematics department, will continue to work diligently to help this year's grade 9 students achieve at or above the provincial standard.

SCHOOL SAFETY

The **Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board** has taken steps to ensure your child's safety while in school. Each school has developed school safety plans including the steps staff will take in the event of an emergency, including a parent communication plan and evacuation plan.

FIRE SAFETY

In accordance with **Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997** and the **Ontario Fire Code (O Reg. 388/97)**, it is necessary to practice proper fire evacuation procedures three times per semester. We have had two successful fire drills to date with the third drill to be determined by the **Fire Department** during **Fire Prevention Week** set for **October 9 – 15th**.

LOCKDOWN DRILLS

A lockdown is an emergency situation which prevents the safe evacuation of a school building and requires steps to isolate students and staff from danger by requiring everyone to remain inside the building. In order to empower our students and staff with the knowledge of what to do in the event of a lockdown, we will be holding a lockdown drill sometime during the month of **October**. Teachers will review proper procedures and protocols with the students prior to the drill.

ANNUAL BRIDGES TO COMMUNITY POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!!! Beautiful, lush poinsettias available for the **Christmas Season**. Sales will start at the end of **October**, concluding on **Monday, November 14th**. Delivery will take place on **Thursday, December 8th**. Families interested in supporting this fundraiser should contact us at **613-384-1919 ext 2258**. Thank you for your ongoing support of the **Bridges Community Program**.

TUCK SHOP

The tuck shop will be open **Tuesdays** at lunch hour. Supplies are limited, so come check out **Holy Cross** spiritware before **Spirit Week!** New stock will be arriving soon!!

NOT-SO-PINK, PINK BAKESALE

Bridges to Community will be selling baked goods in the foyer on **Friday, October 14th** at lunch to raise money for **Breast Cancer Research** and the **PH Classic**.

INTRODUCTION TO THE HOLY CROSS LIBRARY

Every year, we devote one class period to introduce all **Grade Nine** students to our **Holy Cross Library** and to give them information about our facilities and services. New students to our school will need to start developing advanced research skills and will need to become familiar with the resources available to them. This will be a hands-on experience which will involve the students in activities designed to teach them about the various areas of the library. These will include the fiction, non-fiction, and reference sections, especially our various sets of encyclopedias, the PC computer lab, the OPAC computers, the newspaper and periodicals section, both current and archives; as well as the various on-line databases accessible to them.

We see the library as a focal point of our school and our aim is to have each and every student feel welcome and comfortable with the use of all our facilities.

BEFORE AND AFTER-SCHOOL HOMEWORK HELP

The **Library** will be open on a regular basis between **7:45 a.m.** and **3:30 p.m.**, staffed by *Educational Assistants*, who are available to help students.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RESOURCE

Welcome to all new students on IEPs and their Parents/Guardians. All grade nine students on IEPs have had an orientation visit to resource room 117 during the first two weeks of **September**. On a separate occasion, Mrs. Hulse reviewed the protocol with students who have SEA laptops. There will be a **Parent/Guardian SEA training session** before **Christmas** with **Ms. Kim Car-**

michael, ALCDSB Special Assignment Teacher for Assistive Technology.

An Individual Education Plan (I.E.P) is developed each semester for your son or daughter. As part of the consultation process, we receive your input through I.P.R.C. meetings, your returned IEP Consult Form, transition meetings, parent-teacher-counselor meetings, notes, phone calls, assessment reports, case conferences etc. As you are our valued partner, we invite you to communicate any recent information on your child that might affect his/her learning process.

Contact information for **Special Education Resource Teachers**: Grade 9, A-M: **Mrs. Poels** ext.3425; Grade 9, N-Z: **Mrs. Hulse**, ext.3428; Grade 10: **Mrs. Poels**, ext.3425; Grade 11: **Mrs. Hulse**, ext 3428; Grade 12: **Ms. Gavan Knox**, ext.3426; and **Ms. Terri Daniel**, Vice-Principal for Special Education, ext.3406, danielte@alcdsb.on.ca.

The Draft IEP as formulated by the IEP Team will be mailed to you on **Monday, October 18th**. Provincial legislation requires that parent(s)/guardian sign the Consult Form and return it. An I.E.P. will be sent home each term with the provincial report card, and will reflect any changes that are made to the plan during the term. Please note that the IEP box is not checked on the early, mid-term or final reports if accommodations only are being used.

Support: If you are a parent/guardian interested in meeting with other parents/guardians to discuss the challenges/issues facing either parents of /or children with disabilities, contact **Ms. Gavan Knox**.

On-Line to Success course for senior students in grade 11 or 12 with a Learning Disability:

There will be a parent information meeting for **On-Line to Success Program** at the **Faculty of Education, Duncan MacArthur College**, on **Wednesday, November 16th** at **6:30 pm**.

Post-Secondary Transition Planning – Graduating Students on IEPs It is strongly recommended that graduating students on an Individual Education Plan focus on their self-advocacy skills and complete a Transition Portfolio available from **M. Gavan Knox**, room 117. Please see our website for further information.

Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston presents “**Meeting at the Crossroads**”...

The overlap between Nonverbal Learning Disabilities, Asperger Syndrome, & ADHD Speaker: **Dr. Garth Smith Medical Director, Child Development Centre, Hotel Dieu Hospital, Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, Queen’s University at St. Lawrence College, Oct. 22nd**. from **9am - 12pm**. (ldak@ldakkingston.com)

GRADUATION PHOTOS AND YEARBOOK WRITE-UPS

Grad photos and grad retakes were taken during **September**, and proofs have been distributed to students. Grad photo orders and grad yearbook write-ups are both due on **Friday, October 7th** by **11:15 a.m.** in **room 129**.

EARLY SEMESTER REPORT CARDS AND INTERVIEWS

On **Thursday, October 13th**, the **Early Report Cards** for Grades 9 – 12 students will be distributed in homeroom classes. Parent-teacher interviews are scheduled for **Thursday, October 20th**, from **3:00 to 6:00 p.m.** and from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** and **Wednesday, October 26th**, from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Each parent-teacher conference is scheduled for ten minutes, and should be booked by appointment, in advance, in the days prior to the interview. Students will be bringing home their report card and a teacher appointment booking form which will require the teacher’s signature in order to confirm the appointment time. Parents and guardians should feel free to contact their son or daughter’s teacher at any time in order to learn more about his or her performance, but this time, in particular, is reserved for the essential link between home and school.

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

Post Secondary Information

Application information session #1 for students applying to universities has been completed. College information sessions will take place **October 4th** and **October 6th** at **11:10 a.m.** In the upcoming months, **Student Services** will be hosting many presentations from **Ontario** colleges and universities as well as workshops for the application process. Students may access dates for presentations and the application process online at www.hctoday.ca. A note to parents that the power point presented at the **Post Secondary Info Session** will be available on the **HC website www.hctoday.ca**.

Parent-Student Maplewood Portal access

All students have access to their credit history through the parent-student **Maplewood** portal on the **Holy Cross** website. Passwords and usernames are available from student services. Grade 12 students are encouraged to check their credit histories to ensure all requirements are fulfilled for graduation and post secondary applications.

Volunteer Opportunities/Part time Jobs

Students are reminded to check the **Information Board** outside **Student Services** for volunteer opportunities. Some part time jobs opportunities are also posted. Volunteer opportunities are available at the **Boys and Girls Club** and the **United Way**; see your Counsellor for more information.

Take Our Kids to Work

Wednesday, November 2nd is **Take Our Kids to Work Day**. Information sheets, including permission forms, will be distributed to Grade 9 students. **Students are required to return a signed permission form by October 19th in order to participate.**

Scholarship News

The deadline for two prominent scholarships is approaching. The **Loran Award** (formerly known as the **Canadian Merit Scholarship**) website is www.loranaward.ca. We can sponsor/nominate three candidates and if you are not chosen as the sponsored candidate, you can apply to the direct entry pool. You must download the application and read it carefully. If you are submitting your application for consideration as the school sponsored applicant, we must have the COMPLETED application form by **October 1st**.

The deadline for the **TD Canada Trust Scholarships for Community Leadership**, www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship/index.jsp is **October 31st, 2011**.

The deadline date for **Queen's** major entrance Scholarships and Awards is **December 1st**. Students interested in being nominated for the **Queen's Chancellor's Scholarship** must see **Mrs. Hill** by **October 5th**. Students must have an average of 90% to be eligible.

If you have any questions about these or any other scholarships, please contact **Mrs. Hill** in **Student Services**. Students can access general scholarship information on the **HC Today** website under **Student Services** in the **Financial Aid** link.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos were distributed during the last week of **September** through home room. School photo retakes will be taken on **October 20th** during period 1 in the cafetorium. To qualify for a retake, please bring the original photo package to the photographer on **October 20th**.

ECO-CORNER

Holy Cross is again working towards becoming a school that minimizes its impact on the environment and educates its students on the importance of conservation. The **HC Green Team** environmental club has begun to meet on **Tuesdays** at lunch and afterschool. New members are always welcome. Our first activity has been to start up our composting program. Vegetable and fruit scraps will be collected from four sites around the school and composed in one of our four composters located on the east side of the school. The rich soil from the composters will be used in our vegetable gardens that were established last year. **Keep it green HC!**

KFLA HEALTH UNIT PRESENTS DRIVE FOR LIFE

An impaired driving prevention program for *Grade 11 students*, this event features four interactive presentations that address the consequences of alcohol use, strategies to avoid drinking and driving, and strategies to manage situations where alcohol is involved. The presentations are taking place on **Tuesday, October 4th** and **Wednesday, October 5th** in the **Duffey Gymnasium** and **Lecture Theatre** during Period 1. For additional information, contact Youth Worker **Terrie Hoey**.

NEXT MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

1.....	All Saints Day Ottawa University, 2:30 College Info Program, St. Lawrence College, 4 – 6 p.m.
2.....	Mid-semester Test Period Begins All Souls Day Take Our Kids to Work Day (Gr 9 students) Honour Roll Celebration (Period 1) Huron University-College, 11:15 a.m.
3.....	Nipissing University, 11:15 a.m.
4.....	Veteran's Week Begins
5.....	KASSAA Sr. Football Championships
6.....	Daylight Savings Time ends
8.....	College Online App Workshop 11:00 Dalhousie University, N.S., 2:30
9.....	Mid-semester Test Period Ends Last Day of Classes for Careers/Civics University of Western Ontario, 2:30
10.....	Term 1 Gr 10 Civics/Careers Courses Begin Remembrance Day Liturgies College Application Workshop, 11:00
11.....	St. Jerome's U, Waterloo, 11:30
12.....	KASSAA Jr. Football Championships
13.....	KASSAA Boys' Volleyball Championships
14.....	KASSAA Girls' Basketball Championships Crusader Winter Sports Tryouts Begin
14-15.....	Toronto Street Retreat
15.....	Guelph University, 2:30 S1 Midterm Marks Due
16.....	Catholic School Council, Library, 6:30 Queen's Online to Success Parent Info Meeting, 6:30
17.....	Lakehead University, 11:15 a.m. Redeemer University College, 2:30
18.....	Students' Council Dance #2
19.....	National Child Day
21.....	Mid-Semester Report Cards Issued
22.....	Cdn Intermediate & Senior Math Contests
22 - 24.....	Winter Season Team Photographs
23.....	Brock University, 11:15 a.m. S1 Marks due to OCAS Making the Cut, Carleton University
24-26.....	OFSAA Girls' Basketball, HC
24.....	Tentative Non-Uniform Day KCVI Pre-Season Boys' Hockey Tourn.
25.....	ALCDSB P.A. Day #3
27.....	First Sunday of Advent
28.....	Afternoon Performance of Phantom CICS Advent Collection begins P1 Gr11 Post-Secondary Info Assembly
29.....	Afternoon Performance of Phantom P1 Gr 11 Post-Secondary Info Assembly
30.....	Opening Night, The Phantom of the Opera P1 Gr 11 Post-Secondary Info Assembly