

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board

Newsletter February 2004

For up-to-the-minute information, visit our website at
www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hcsc/



Grade 8 Parent/Student Information Night

Grade 8 students and parents are invited to attend our Grade 8 Information Night on **Wednesday February 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the Cafetorium**. This is a great opportunity for students who are considering Holy Cross for Grade 9. The Grade 9 program will be presented and students and parents can later tour the school.

Pastoral Services Update

As we begin this new semester, we ask for God's blessing upon all our students and staff that each of us can live out this year's theme of "Praying the Rosary through the Mysteries of Light".

Our school community was deeply saddened over Christmas by the death of **Nick Reed**, a Grade 10 student. Many from our school attended his funeral Mass at St. Paul the Apostle Church and all of our school community remembered him at a special School Mass on January 15th with his family present. We will continue to remember Nick in many ways, especially through the Nick Reed Visual Arts Bursary. Donations can be made in his memory with cheques made out to "Holy Cross".

Since June of last year, 14 students and 3 staff have been busily fundraising and planning for a Service **Learning Trip to Kingston, Jamaica** in March 2004. Inspired by the call of Pope John Paul in his papal exhortation *Ecclesia in America* to seek ways of unifying the Catholic Church on our continent, these enthusiastic students have taken up the challenge. Thanks to some generous donations from local businesses, parishes, C.W.L., and Knights of Columbus Councils, and individuals, we are moving ever closer to our fundraising goal. The students and staff will be staying with the Franciscan Sisters at Stella Maris Parish and volunteering each day at an orphanage and at St. Peter Calvert School. This visit will undoubtedly change their perspective on life, and they are looking forward to sharing with their families, friends and the school community upon their return.

The "**In From The Cold**" youth shelter in downtown Kingston needs help. Donations of clothes, money and food are desperately needed by Sr. Alda Brady. You can drop these off at Holy Cross Pastoral Services and we will deliver them to her.

On February 11th student leaders from all our Catholic Secondary Schools will participate in a **Development & Peace leadership retreat** at the Napanee Board Office. Student will learn about justice issues connected to the use of water in our world as they reflect together on the theme of "**Water: Life Before Profit.**"

Semester One Report Cards

Semester One Final Report Cards will be issued on Thursday *February 12th*.

School Council News

Dr. Phil Wants to Hear From You! Wednesday, Feb. 18th at 7:30pm in the Holy Cross Cafetorium, Dr. Phil Carney will be making a return visit to address the issues facing parents and teens today. This presentation is sponsored by the Holy Cross Parent Council. What do you want to hear him speak about? Please email your questions to filhphcss@alcdsb.on.ca or drop off your questions at the main office by Feb. 10th. There is no need to sign the question(s), this is completely confidential. The regular school council meeting will begin at 6:45 on Feb. 18th in the Library.

Staff Changes.....

Mr. Dave Jarrell and Mr. Rick White will be leaving Holy Cross and we thank them for their hard work and dedication to our students. Mrs. Boyle has left us to be the secretary at Holy Family School. Mrs. Lucy Teves will also be leaving to become the Vice-Principal at Holy Name of Mary. She has enjoyed her time at Holy Cross and is sorry to be leaving. We welcome Ms. Wendy Gallant who will be joining us as Vice Principal. Ms. Kelly Dixon, Ms Bina Mayhew, Ms. Joanne Van Nest and Mrs. Janice Shea will be returning from leave to resume teaching and librarian duties.

Literacy Test Results will be released soon

All schools are currently being asked to verify documentation that will clear the way for EQAO to release the results of the October Literacy Test. We anticipate that this information will be released to students in March. We will contact students who have been unsuccessful in their second attempt to set up the proper remediation.

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Early Dismissal Days

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board in conjunction with the Limestone District School Board will be having early dismissal for all students, elementary and secondary on *Tuesday February 24th*. Holy Cross students will be dismissed at 11:00 and buses will depart at 11:10.

Spring Uniform Sales

The **optional** spring uniform will go on sale for all students *Monday February 23rd through to Friday Mar. 5th*. A memo outlining the details of the sale will go home to all students the week of February 16 - 20 and will be available on the web site. **Please note, Holy Cross is the only supplier of crested spring uniforms.**

February Non-Uniform Days

The non-uniform days for the month of February will be *Thursday February 26th and Friday February 27th*. *Friday February 6th* will be Green and Silver Day \$2/student will be collected for green and silver day. All proceeds go to support cancer research. Uniforms or green and silver only please!!

Semi Formal Dance

Holy Cross Semi- Formal Dance will be at 7:30pm on Friday Feb. 13th

Congratulations

To Ashley Ng who has been selected as 1 of 31 high school students to participate in the *Ramon Hnatyshyn Youth in Science Initiative- Gene Researcher in a Week*. This program places high school students in genetic research labs during their 2004 spring break. Over 260 applications were received for the 31 available spots

Message for the Fire Department

Choose candles that have sturdy holders, candles with glass shades or chimneys are safer. Keep candles away from anything that can burn. Keep lit candles away from young children and pets. Ensure candles are not used in any bedroom. Extinguish all candles when leaving the room or when going to sleep. Test your smoke alarms.

The Memorial

Holy Cross and RND boys' basketball teams will play in "The Memorial" in Queen's Gym on *Sunday February 8th*. All proceeds will be supporting cancer research. During the week of *February 2nd- 6th*, Holy Cross will offer a variety of activities at lunch in the gym to bring attention to cancer research.

Holy Cross Memorial Activities

Monday Feb. 2nd Purchase your "Loonies for Life" Raffle tickets

Tuesday Feb. 3rd 3 points competition in the Gym
\$2 per student

Wednesday Feb. 4th 11:15 – 11:45 students vs. staff
basketball game
\$ 2 to participate

Thursday Feb. 5th \$ 2/ student collected in homeroom
To wear green and silver on Friday

Friday Feb. 6th Green and Silver Day

Student Phone Calls

This is a reminder to students regarding the use of secretarial telephones in the school. In all situations, except where it is an attendance issue, no telephone will be available to students in the various offices of the school for outgoing calls. The offices are business offices where confidential material is prepared and stored, and where sensitive conversations about students or staff could be overheard.

Each student should have money for telephone calls regarding work schedules, rides home etc. These are the types of calls that should be made from the three pay phones in the school.

February Events

Please see the reverse for February's calendar.