

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board

Newsletter March 2004

For up-to-the-minute information, visit our website at

www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hc/ss/



Semester Two Early Diagnostic Reports

Students will receive their Early Diagnostic Report Card on Tuesday March 9th along with a form for interview requests. Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on **Thursday March 25th** from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend. Parents who did not receive the interview request sheet from their son or daughter can download one from our website.

Uniform

The non-uniform days for the month of March will be **Thursday March 25th and Friday March 26th**.

A notice was distributed to students on February 25th containing information regarding Spring Uniform Orders. Grade 9 students will place orders in the week of March 1-5 during Period 1 classes. Grades 10-12 students will place orders in the weeks of March 1-5 and March 8-11 during lunch hour.

School Council News

There is no meeting in the month of March. Our next meeting is **Monday April 5th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. Gerry Bibby, Executive Director of the Eastern Ontario Catholic Curriculum will address the topic of Reclaiming our Roots—Celebrating the History of Catholic Education. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

Pastoral Update

This year our Share Lent campaign will support the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace under the theme "Thirsting for Justice". Over 1 billion people in our world do not have access to adequate clean water, and multinational companies are pushing for more profitable privatization. Students and staff are being asked to support "Water declaration" during Holy Week.

Pancake Tuesday was well received in Period 1 on Monday February 23rd. Our Lenten season began on February 25th with our Ash Wednesday Mass. Students who are going on the Jamaica Service Learning Experience were commissioned at this time. Three staff members and 14 students will be leaving for Jamaica on March 10th.

On March 31st, students will be making the 2004 Pilgrimage Walk to St. Paul the Apostle Church to attend a mission talk by the "Miriam Beth'Lehem" retreat team from Quebec. The theme to be addressed is "Starting Afresh from Christ".

We pray that God will bless our students and staff with a deep experience of God's forgiveness and love throughout this Lenten Season.

Parish News

An information night for M.O.M.S. (Ministry of Mothers Sharing) will be held on Monday March 8th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle Church. The intent of this program is to present an opportunity for women to develop self-esteem, relationship skills and a more defined sense of their own spirituality while facing the challenges of raising a family.

Congratulations to:

...James Arsenault, a grade 11 student, who has won entrance to the Shad Valley program, an exciting learning and employment opportunity designed for top students in senior high school. James will spend the month of July at a Canadian university to participate in the award-winning international program.

... the H.C Band who won 2nd place in the competitive category at the Kiwanis Music Festival in February.

.... the Holy Cross Jr. and Sr. boys who won their basketball games against Regi at the 15th Annual Peter Carty Memorial in February at Queen's. The 15th annual initiative raised approximately \$18,500.00 for KGH.

Nick Reed Bursary for Visual Arts

A paint-a-thon fundraiser will take place on Saturday March 27th, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., at Holy Cross in order to raise money for two bursaries which will be awarded to two graduating visual arts students who have demonstrated artistic merit and who will pursue their artistic studies at college and university. A silent auction will be held, with some of these works, on Cabaret Night, Thursday April 15th.

Math Assessment Results

Holy Cross is very pleased with the results of the Grade 9 Mathematics Assessment. It is due in no small part to the preparation our staff and students put into this exercise.

Our academic math program shows that 84% of our students are at/or approaching Level 3, the provincial standard. The board's figure is 77% and the province's figure is 78%.

Our applied level math program shows that 63% of our students are at/or approaching Level 3, the provincial standard. Our board's figure is 52% and the province's figure is 58%.

Course Selection 2004-2005

Course selection sheets for 2004-2005 are due in homerooms on **Tuesday March 2nd**. Please talk to your son/daughter about their choices. If you have questions, please contact Student Services at 384-2023.

March Calendar

See the reverse page for the March Calendar Events.