



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

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

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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Thanks to the coaches, managers, community volunteers, and students for always making us proud to see the **Green and Silver on the courts and fields**. The **Friday Night Lights** event was truly remarkable, a testament to our fierce Crusader pride as well as to undaunting support from the community at large, many of whom go without acknowledgement. We are grateful for all that everyone does to support Holy Cross athletics and all of our endeavours. The football teams gave us reason to cheer and our fans, young and old, made the night an occasion that each participant will cherish for years to come. To view the schedules and standings go to www.coach@gametimes.ca. Much appreciation goes to the athletes, coaches and volunteers who helped to raise **\$5,000 at the PH Classic**. Congratulations to **Vagia Agostino** and her Period Two class which raised **\$2,800** with the **Crusaders Care: Run / Walk for Diabetes**; it was a beautiful autumn day and the hundreds of Crusaders ringing our track made the day even more picturesque. We were also very proud of the **Silver Medal OFSAA** win by our **Golf Team**, comprised of **Kyle Benford, Ryan Desveaux, Jay Fabbro, Simon Reyers, and Coach Chris MacDonald**. This is a first for Holy Cross and for any team in the Kingston region. The **girls' field hockey team** also had an impressive season, ending with a quarter-final loss to our sister school, RND. Congratulations and good luck to **Stephanie Hulse and Brianna LaPierre** as they prepare for **Cross-Country OFSAA**, as well as to all of our teams working towards their seasons' ends.

On **October 5th**, we issued our **Early Semester Report Cards** to students. This was an early indicator of each student's achievement in the first six weeks of this semester. The first half of the semester will end on **Thursday, November 7th** and then on **Friday, November 16th** the **Mid-semester Report Cards** will be distributed in Period One classes. This Report Card provides extensive reporting in each subject including: a percentage grade; course median; absences/lates; learning skills and personal comments on the individual student's strengths, weaknesses and next steps. **There is ample time left in the semester for students to improve their marks and do well in each course.** If a student's mark is below 50%, this indicates the need to examine the work to date. This month will be a time to review academic strategies, goals and objectives for the school year. A discussion with the teacher will help you plan for maintaining the achievement level or ways to improve the student's mark. Teachers may refer some students whose progress is faltering to **Mr. Ihor Dejneha** or **Ms. Deanah Shelly**, our **Student Success** teachers, for what we call "credit rescue", an attempt to regain academic footing.

Congratulations to our school community for contributing so much to the **Thanksgiving Food Drive**. Once again, **Holy Cross** came a close second to **QECVI**, but most importantly, we contributed to the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph's efforts to feed the hungry in our own local community **through the Partners In Mission Food Bank**. Also, we are lucky to have the continued service of former teacher, **Dr. Eva Waller**, to help with after-school tutoring in science courses. Her daughter **Laura Waller**, a Holy Cross graduate, ran the **Munich Mara-**

thon in 4 hours 12 minutes and 29 seconds on **Sunday, October 14th**. She placed 641 out of 1201 women. We know that Holy Cross graduates are accomplishing all sorts of feats worldwide, and we feel a special sense of community when graduates and their families care enough to share their accomplishments with their alma mater.

As the Holy Cross school community, we welcome your input on how we are doing. Please feel free to contact a teacher, counsellor or administrator during school hours. Check our website regularly for important updates on information. Our students, your children, are the centre of our work and their educational and personal accomplishments fulfill our mission.

Paul A. Walsh, walshp@alcdsb.on.ca

THIS MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

Wed., Oct. 31 – Wed., Nov. 7	.....Midterm Test Period
Thursday, November 1	..... All Saints' Day
Friday, November 2	..... All Souls' Day Eco-School Lunch Hour Bake Sale
Saturday, November 3	.....OFSAA Cross-Country at Niagara Falls
Mon. – Fri., November 5-9	.....National Media Awareness Week
Mon. – Sun., November 5 – 11	.....Veterans' Week
Tuesday, November 6	..... College Application Workshop #1 Coffee House at 7 p.m.
Wednesday, November 7	...."Take Our Kids to Work" Grade 9 Day Honour Roll Celebration (Period One) Post-Secondary Information Night for Parents, 7 p.m.
Thursday, November 8	....Term 2 Grade 10 Civics & Careers Courses Begin
Friday, November 9	.....Remembrance Day Liturgies
Saturday, November 10	.. KASSAA Football Championships @ Richardson
Sunday, November 11	.....Remembrance Day KASSAA Girls' Basketball Championships KASSAA Boys' Volleyball Championships
Monday, November 12	.....Try-outs for Winter Sports Teams Begin Grade 9 – 12 Midterm Marks Due
Tues. – Thurs., November 13 - 15	.....C.I.C.S. Toronto Street Retreat
Wednesday, November 14	... University of Guelph – Humber, 2:35 p.m.
Friday, November 16	.....Mid-semester Report Cards Issued
Saturday, November 17	.....Kingston Santa Claus Parade
Monday, November 19	.....Cyberbullying Prevention Talk for Grade 9s
Wednesday, November 21	.....Nipissing University, 2:35 p.m.
Thursday, November 22	.....HC Bands Elementary School Tour Friend and Grad Artist/Athlete photo orders due
Friday, November 23	.....PA Day # 3 - No classes / Staff Retreat
Sunday, November 25	..... Grey Cup, Toronto
Monday, November 26	... Full Disclosure (last day to drop senior courses) Matinée Performance of Drama Production Catholic School Council Meeting 7:00 at HC
Tuesday, November 27	... Morning Performance of Drama Production
Wed., November 28 – Dec. 1	..... Holy Cross Drama Production, <i>Urinetown</i>
Thursday, November 29	.....HC Bands Elementary school Tour
Friday, November 30	..... Tentative Non-Uniform Day

HOLY CROSS PASTORAL SERVICES

PASTORAL EVENTS: We begin this month with the celebration of two important feast days: **All Saints' Day** and **All Souls' Day**.

On these two days, and throughout the month of November, Catholics traditionally pray for all those who have died and gone before us into God's loving presence. As always, we invite students, staff and visitors to remember their loved ones by writing their names in the **Book of Remembrance** which will be kept in the Chapel throughout this month; we will pray for each of these people at our daily masses. We will also be remembering all those who have died in the Great Wars of the past century at our **Remembrance Day Liturgies** in the Cafeteria on **Friday, November 9th**.

RETREATS: Our **Grade 10 home form classes** attended the **Sexuality: Mind, Body, & Spirit Retreats** during the week of **October 16-19th**. These full-day retreats focused on our sexuality and we were fortunate to have two young people this year, **Peter Bagnall** and **Sarah Aubin**, as our main speakers on this important topic. These retreats involved a great deal of work and sacrifice on the part of our staff, and we appreciate their efforts in this regard. The response from the students both during and after the retreats has been very positive.

CICS' CORNER: Our next retreat will be the **C.I.C.S. Toronto Street Retreat** which will take place from **November 13-15th**. **C.I.C.S.** would like to thank all those who contributed to their **October 17th 'White' Bake sale**. Many staff and students donated their favourite 'treats' to this fundraising effort to combat poverty both here in our own community as well as around the world. We also congratulate all those who signed our **Burma Petition Letter** in an effort to urge our government to do more to end the brutal repression of the people of this impoverished country by a military dictatorship which has illegally ruled the country for 45 years.

OTHER EVENTS: All are invited to attend "**Justice In Action**" a Social Justice workshop to be held at the Providence Spirituality Centre on **November 10th** from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This event is sponsored by the **Justice & Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Kingston**. You can pre-register by calling **Chris Forster** at Holy Cross (ext. 3436) or by contacting **Alice Gazeley** at: rgazeley@cogeco.ca. May God's love shine upon us and all our deceased loved ones during this month of November.

Chris Forster, Pastoral Services

ECO CORNER

HOLY CROSS STRIVES TO BECOME AN ECO SCHOOL

Holy Cross is embarking on the "EcoSchools" program, a province wide environmental initiative that the ALCDSB has recently embraced and piloted in over 10 schools. The EcoSchool project provides an excellent opportunity for Holy Cross students and staff to accept their responsibility as a Roman Catholic school community to promote respect and appreciation for God's Creation. The first meeting of the EcoTeam took place on Oct. 29 and we will meet on a monthly basis to identify ways in which we can improve our environmental stewardship. Any parents or students interested in being part of the EcoTeam may contact **Mr. Gervais** or **Mr. Forster**. Please look for updates on our progress in future newsletters as well as our EcoTip of the month. Home EcoTip #1 "Use reusable containers for lunches instead of disposable wrappers as it takes hundreds of years for wrappers to break down in landfills...don't let your plastic outlive you!"

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

It was great to have a large turn-out of parents, especially those of our Grade Nine students, join our first Council meeting. The next meeting of the Holy Cross Catholic School Council will be held on **Monday, November 26th** in the **Library at 7:00 pm**. All interested community members are invited to attend. Congratulations to **Chair Greg Heffernan** on being reappointed Chair of our **Board's Catholic School Council Association**.

MAJOR DRAMA PRODUCTION NEWS

Rehearsals are well underway for the **Holy Cross Arts Department's** production of **Urinetown- The Musical**. Over one hundred students are involved in all stages of production as actors, musicians, and crew. **Urinetown- The Musical** is a humorous tale of greed, corruption, love and revolution. It is set in a city where a water shortage has resulted in the control of all public amenities by a single, corrupt corporation. This attack on personal freedom and human rights produces both villains and heroes, corruption and idealism. The play has been described as "a wild and happy mix of biting satire and loving parody." Despite its startling title, the play delivers a powerful message that all will enjoy. Holy Cross's production promises to be the "number one" musical in town.

Performance dates are November 28th, 29th, 30th, and December 1st at 7:00 p.m in the **Holy Cross Cafetorium**. Tickets are \$10.00 for students and \$12.00 for adults. Tickets are available at the door, or in the front foyer of the school between 11:15 and 12:00 from **November 19th to 30th**.

CRUSADERS CARE: RUN/WALK FOR DIABETES

Congratulations to all who participated in the Crusaders Care: Run/Walk for Diabetes. On **October 16th**, we had approximately **700 students and staff** walking or running around our school track, raising awareness for diabetes. A disease (Type 2 Diabetes) that can be prevented or delay with physical exercise and a healthy diet. Congratulations also to our school community that was able to raise **\$2800** for diabetes research!!!! Fantastic job everyone, but remember - stay active!!

CRUSADERTUCKSHOP

Looking for a Christmas present for your special Crusader? Stop by the tuck shop and see our selection of drawstring knapsacks, sweat pants, t-shirts and hoodies. Candy is also always available! The **Tuck Shop is open Wednesday and Friday from 11:10 to 11:55 a.m.** Parents, grandparents, and other family members are welcome to come in and see what is available or may call the school at **613-384-1919** and speak with a staff member at **ext. 2258**.

CRAFTSALE

December 11th is the day of the annual **Bridges to Community Craft Sale**. The theme of this year's highly anticipated event is "**An Old-Fashioned Christmas**". Come early this sale is famous for selling out quickly!

HOLY CROSS UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

Thank you to all those who generously supported this year's United Way Campaign. Donation pledges, cheese sales and the silent auction were all very successful. Together we have made a difference.

CYBERBULLYING PRESENTATION

Dr. Wendy Craig, a leading local expert on bullying, will return to Holy Cross on **Monday, November 19th** to lead a presentation on the topic of cyberbullying for our **Grade 9 students**.

POINSETTIA SALE

Once again the staff and students of the Bridges to Community 18-21 Program will be selling beautiful, bountiful poinsettias and other seasonal plant arrangements. These treasured classics of the Christmas season will be **available for ordering from October 30th until November 19th**. Plants may be ordered by contacting **Jill Courneya at 613-384-1919 ext. 2258**. Delivery date is **December 3rd, 2007**.

MEDIA AWARENESS WEEK

Many of today's youth spend more time interacting with media than they do in school and curriculum is shifting to provide young people with the critical reflection tools they need to learn about the world and form perceptions of themselves and others. School members are encouraged to visit www.mediaeducationweek.ca in order to learn more about this year's **National Media Education Week, November 5 – 9th, 2007**.

VETERANS' WEEK

The week before **Remembrance Day** has once again been declared Veterans' Week by the Prime Minister. It is a week to honour and remember the achievements and sacrifice of Canada's veterans. For background information on Veteran's Week visit the **Veteran Affairs Canada** web site at www.vacacc.gc.ca

PHOTOGRAPHY

Friend photos have been printed and may be viewed in room 129 over the lunch hour. Order forms for these photos are available in room 129. **Both Friend Photo and Graduating Artist/Athlete photo orders** will be accepted until **Thursday, November 22nd**. Please submit your orders to **Mr. Prior** in Room 129 during the break between periods 1 and 2 or at lunch. Completed orders will be distributed before Christmas.

Grad Photos and retakes were taken in September and October. Students have received their proofs and order forms. Grad orders which were submitted by the October due date will be distributed one week before the Christmas break. Grad Photo orders are still being accepted. Please bring your orders to **Mr. Prior** during the break between periods 1 or 2. Orders placed at this time, however, will not arrive until after Christmas.

School Photos and Retakes. Photos were taken in September, and orders have been distributed to students who ordered packages. Retakes were taken on October 24th. Retake orders will be distributed in late November. For those who missed the school photos as well as the retakes, we have arranged for a **second retake date on Friday, November 23rd at Ecole Secondaire Mille Iles, 164 Van Order Drive, Kingston**. Those planning to attend this last retake day should book an appointment with **Heather at 1-866-969-0489**.

NUMERACY PROGRAM

At this time Holy Cross is planning to offer an **After-School Numeracy Program to Grade 9 and Grade 10 students** who are struggling with Mathematics. **Mrs. Nichol** will be using a set curriculum developed by the Renfrew County District School Board to deliver the course. Students will also receive assistance with their homework as time permits. The course takes place in one-hour sessions after school once weekly in the library at Holy Cross for the rest of Semester One. Interested parents and students should contact **Mrs. Teves at 613-384-1919, ext. 3408**.

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

Honour Roll Breakfast

A ceremony honouring last year's Honour Roll students will take place during Period One on Wednesday, **November 7th**. Our guest speaker will be Holy Cross Alumnus, Matt Hulse.

Post Secondary Information

Workshops for on-line application to OUAC (Universities) were conducted this past week. **Workshops for on-line applications to OCAS (College)** will be held **Tuesday, November 6th** at 11:15 and 2:35. A **Post-Secondary Information night for parents** will be held on **Wednesday, November 7th** at 7p.m. in the Lecture Theatre. Students are encouraged to check out up-to-date post-secondary information at the Holy Cross Website. (www.hctoday.ca and click: "Academic" – "Post-Secondary Info").

This Month:

Friday, November 2.....University of Waterloo, 11:10 a.m.
Humber College Presentation, 12:30 p.m.
Monday, November 5.....Redeemer University, 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 8.Dalhousie University at Halifax, 2:35 p.m.
Monday, November 12.....University of Toronto, 2:35 p.m.

Scholarships

Some prominent scholarships include the Millennium Scholarships, and the Burger King Scholarship. The Millennium Scholarship applications are due mid December and are based on citizenship, strong academic achievement, and leadership. Visit www.millenniumsolarships.ca

The Burger King Scholarship applications are due mid February. Applicants must work an average of 15 hours per week and demonstrate financial need. Go to www.bk.com/scholars for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities

Students are reminded to check the Information Board outside Student Services for volunteer opportunities.

EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY

The Holy Cross Students' Tech Council in partnership with the **Holy Cross Students' Council** are designing, building and exhibiting a float for the second year in the **Downtown Kingston Santa Parade**. The parade is on **Saturday, November 17th** and it starts at **5 p.m.** near the new Wendy's across from the Kingston Centre. All Crusaders are invited to join in the fun and walk along with the float in their grey & green school colours.

TEXTBOOKS

Each student should now have all in-stock required textbooks for every class. As noted in other newsletters, students must take good care of each book and return all items (by barcode) which are signed out when exams end. A reminder also that students should write their name and the date in each book to avoid classroom mix-ups. In late semester, a letter will be issued to each student detailing titles and barcodes signed out.

ATHLETICS

The winter sport season **begins late in November** and Holy Cross is again expected to field extremely competitive teams in **Wrestling, Curling, Cheerleading, Badminton, Boys' Basketball, Girls' Volleyball, and Girls' and Boys' Hockey**. This winter, over 170 student athletes from Holy Cross will attempt to

compete in these championships. Approximately 50 staff coaches and 16 volunteers will provide these opportunities throughout the year. Both the KASSAA website - www.kassaa.ca and the OFSAA website www.ofsaa.on.ca are excellent resources for schedules, league rules and any general information regarding high school sports. Information regarding teams can be obtained through a number of sources, including school announcements, posters, our school's athletic web site - www.alcidsb.on.ca-hcssa, local newspapers and the KASSAA web site - www.kassaa.ca. If you have any questions concerning a team, please contact the coach listed or ask your home room teacher for assistance.

Sport	Coach	Starting Date	Cost
Badminton	Mr. Gervais	Mid December	\$70.00
Jr. Boys' Basketball	Mr. Garant	Mid November	\$175.00
Sr. Boys' Basketball	Mr. Dzierniejko,		
	Mr. McMillan	Mid November	\$300.00
Cheerleading	TBA	Late November	TBA
Curling	TBA	TBA	TBA
Boys' Hockey	Mr. Clarke	November 1	TBA
Girls' Hockey	Mrs. Nichol	November 7 \$	\$300.00
Jr. Girls' Volleyball	Mr. O'Brien	Mid November	\$120.00
Sr. Girls' Volleyball	Ms. LeSarge	Mid November	TBA
Wrestling	TBA	Late November	TBA
Swimming	Mrs. Coombs	TBA	TBA

HOLY CROSS STUDENTS' COUNCIL MESSAGE

Hello again from Students' Council. First of all, we'd like to welcome two new members to our council, the Jr. reps. We would like to thank everyone who decided to run for Jr. Rep and ask that they continue to support the school in every way they can. As for our new Jr. Reps, we congratulate **Jarrett Costron**, and **Jessica Pemberton**. We are confident that they will do a great job in representing the school and are looking forward to the contributions that they are sure to make.

October at Holy Cross was pretty awesome. The Thanksgiving Food Drive was a great success. Also, Holy Cross spirit has never been higher, as the Pep Rally was fantastic. Holy Cross is clearly the place to be and our attitude can be summed up in the HC 300 video shown at the pep rally. Go to youtube.com to see it (*HC 300 style*).

Moving on to upcoming events at Holy Cross... November is usually a slow month, a lull between the hype of Hallowe'en, and the joy of Christmas. In order to relieve this, Holy Cross is going to get you out of the early winter blues into the hilarity of **Urinetown**. The Holy Cross Arts department has been working hard all year to make sure this production will be one to remember. Students' Council encourages everyone to get as involved as possible. There will be intramurals beginning at school during lunch.

Holy Cross is embarking on a new initiative called Eco-Schools and Students' Council is trying to support it as best we can. We deeply encourage all students to be mindful of the garbage they produce, and their ecological footprint. It is important that we start small to make a big difference in the world. On **Tuesday, November 13th** some students from Holy Cross are travelling to the streets of Toronto to try and help the less fortunate. This experience is part of the Holy Cross message

this year, *Feed My People: mind, body, and spirit*, and the individuals travelling to Toronto should be commended.

With everything going on at Holy Cross, we have to remember that first and foremost Holy Cross is an institution of higher education. The Students' Council, in collaboration with the Holy Cross Tech Department, will be involved in creating the float, and marching in the Santa Claus Parade. Anyone who wants to march in the parade with us is invited, so come out and start the festive season with some fun. Thank you everyone, and have a good month.

Chris Ho, Communications Officer

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

One of our goals is to help students on IEPs **develop their self-advocacy skills**. We encourage all of you parents/guardians to review the Strengths, Needs and Accommodation sections of the IEPs to the point where your son/daughter can clearly express what they do well and what they need assistance with to successfully access the curriculum. Also, cross-reference marks on assessment tasks with the use of accommodations and evaluate. You may be surprised. Grade 9 students are demonstrating the benefits of successful Grade 8 transition planning with greater ease in opening their lock and locker, more relaxed demeanor, introductory meeting with guidance counselor and SERT, timetabled for one elective in semester I, having fewer level changes, increased use of the resource room, higher number of students in the GLE Learning Strategy courses and more practice with SEA laptops.

Grade 12 students are organizing their Post-Secondary Transition Portfolio whether they are going into the workplace, apprenticeship, college or university. To access information go to www.alcidsb.on.ca/~hctoday. Go to Academic link to Student Services for post-secondary information. Go to Special Education for Scholarships for students on IEPs and for the accommodations offered at different colleges and universities. Grade 11 and 12 students with Learning Disabilities going to college or university are invited to participate in Queen's On-Line to Success course. For details access the HC website or M. Gavan-Knox.

The organization, Pathways for Children and Youth, offers support groups for parents and guardians of adolescents with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder as well as those within the Autism Spectrum Disorder.

NEXT MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

- 1.....World AIDS Day
- 2.....First Sunday of Advent
- 3.....Christmas Challenge Cup Food Collection Begins
- 6.....Grade Level Reconciliations all day in the Library
HC Bands Elementary School Tour
- 10.....International Human Rights Day
- 10-11.....Holy Cross International Days
- 14-15.....Senior Boys' Basketball Tournament at HC
- 15.Recommended Completion Date: University and College Applications
- 20.....Advent School Mass
Katharine Splinter Memorial Christmas Concert
End of Advent Food Drive
- 21.....Final Instructional Day before the Christmas Break
Tentative Non-Uniform Day

