

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

January, 2008 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 seasons of Advent and Christmas were 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.

The bustle around Holy Cross was never so evident as it was in the month of December just ahead of the break. The play was a triumphant success, thanks to all the dedicated staff and students whose efforts were rewarded by enthusiastic crowds at each performance. Our **arts team** is unparalleled. Kudos to the various charitable and social justice issues taken on by a number of student groups, for example **Students' Council** organizing a Canadian Tire toy drive that raised over \$3200.00, the joint **CICS** and **Council Christmas Hamper Campaign** to help provide Christmas cheer for local families, and the **EcoTeam's** efforts to make us all a little more aware of the ways we can conserve at school and at home. The bands entertained us all at lunch time and during the **Katharine Splinter Memorial Concert**. Our **Bridges Programs** invited their friends and colleagues from RND to join them for a Christmas Party. The **International Program** once again regaled us with song and dance and fed our stomachs with cuisine from around the world. Our **Senior Boys' Basketball** team won their tournament handily and the other teams too have had a variety of successes. **Mrs. Agostino**, along with her husband, culminated her fundraising efforts to combat diabetes with a personal accomplishment of completing a marathon race in Hawaii.

Now, in January, we reserve a little more time to ready ourselves for **culminating projects** and **final exams**. The field trip moratorium is one way as a school that we show that academics do take precedence. As former NHLer **Paul Coffey** once said, "Nobody's a natural. You work hard to get good and then work to get better. It's hard

to stay on top." I hope that everyone works hard to stay on top of their academic goals.

We enter 2008 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 2008 a great year for our school and community.

Paul A. Walsh

PASTORAL UPDATE

On behalf of Pastoral Services, I would like to extend to each member of our Holy Cross community, Christmas greetings and prayers for a happy and blessed New Year. Advent was certainly a busy time here at our school as our homeroom classes worked hard to provide toys and Christmas dinners for 45 local families through the Kingston **Christmas Hamper Campaign**. Our campaign exceeded all expectations as over **\$3200.00 in Canadian Tire Money and cash** was collected along

JANUARY EVENTS AT HOLY CROSS

Tuesday, January 01	Solemnity of Mary, New Year's Day
Monday, January 07	First Instructional Day of the New Year
Wednesday, January 09	Deadline for submission for online application to OUAC
Fri. & Sat., Jan. 11 & 12	Archbishop Spence Invitational JV Basketball Tournament @ HC
Friday, Jan. 18 and Monday, Jan. 21	EQAO Grade 9 Math Assessment
Wednesday, January 16	HC Gala Vocal Concert, 7:30 p.m., Cafeterium
Thursday, January 17	January School Mass(es)
Tuesday, January 22	Last Instructional Day in Semester 1
January 23-30	Grades 9 to 12 Examinations
Wednesday, January 30	Snow Day (Exams), if necessary
Saturday, January 27	National Family Literacy Day
Friday, February 01	PA Day #4 - no classes
Friday, Feb. 01 and Saturday, Feb. 02	Full Court Press Against Cancer

with enough food to provide a Christmas Dinner for every family on our list. A big thank you to **Student Council** and **C.I.C.S.** for organizing the campaign, to **COSTCO** for their kind donation of turkeys, and to our students and staff who gave so generously to help others in need. Even staff and students without a homeroom class wished to donate and, thanks to their generosity, we were also able to provide turkeys and food for the annual **St. Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Dinner**. Congratulations to the six students from **C.I.C.S.** who represented our school at a recent **Development & Peace Student Leadership Retreat** in Napanee. Many social justice issues were highlighted during the day which brought together student leaders from every Catholic high school in our Board.

On Monday mornings throughout Advent, students and staff gathered in the Main Lobby to light candles on our Advent Wreath – a beautiful reminder of Christ's presence among us. We also had our **Reconciliation Celebrations** on **Thursday, December 6th** - an opportunity for students and staff to experience the forgiveness of God in their lives. And, on **Thursday, December 20th**, we gathered in the school gym to celebrate Eucharist and to reflect on the presence of God in our lives. 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 17th**, at which time we will be praying for students as they prepare for final exams and for those students and staff who will be leaving us after this semester.

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

Chris Forster, Coordinator of Pastoral Services

TEXTBOOKS FROM SEMESTER ONE

We remind students that textbooks must be returned by the end of their last exam day. The Textbook Room is open for this purpose from **Tuesday January 22nd** to **Wednesday January 30th**. Students should bring textbooks to the Textbook Room themselves. Please do not leave textbooks in the classroom or examination rooms. These may be considered as "lost" books, which would have to 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, it must be paid for before next semesters books can be loaned. Deposit cheques for \$100.00 will not be used at this time. They will be held until the end of Semester 2.

ECO-CORNER

The **EcoTeam** met in December to discuss EcoSchool certification and the latest results from the Energy and Waste Audits. Eco-friendly lessons will be shared by staff members to help Holy Cross apply for bronze certification. The energy audit found that at the end of the day almost fifty percent of lights in the school are left ON. The **Bridges Program** has designed "Lights Off" signs to help remind us of this simple but effective means of controlling our energy use. Finally, in the spirit of the season, the **Green Team** sold RECYCLABLE wrapping paper for Christmas.

EcoTip #3: *How much wrapping paper did you throw away after Christmas? Next year or for any celebrations coming up, consider using recyclable bags or recyclable wrapping paper and make your gift a gift for the environment too!*

TEXTBOOKS FOR SEMESTER TWO

Students are responsible for picking up their books before classes begin. They will need their **green Textbook/Library card**. (Replacement cards cost \$5. and will take 24 hrs. so students must arrange for a replacement card ahead of time.) There is NO textbook sign-out service during class time once classes begin. We have scheduled textbook pick-up as follows: **Wednesday, January 30th to Thursday February 7th, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Students' Council would like to start by congratulating the entire school on their efforts to provide for the less fortunate this month. Our Canadian tire toy drive was a huge success, bringing in over **\$3200 in Canadian Tire money and cash donations**. Homeroom classes competed to see who could raise the most, and the winners of this competition were **Mr. Hunter's** and **Mr. Dzierniejko's homeroom classes**, who managed to raise about **\$700 together**. They along with the rest of the school should be commended for their generosity. The **Christmas Basket Campaign** is also doing extremely well. Classes are checking off a list of food items, which are intended to take care of local families' Christmas dinner. Within the school many exciting activities are happening. The door decorating contest, wrapping contest, and fashion show happened in the last week before the break. Also, candy-grams and SPC cards have been sold in December and have helped spread Christmas cheer. Student Council would like to congratulate all the **international students** on their two spectacular international days, and the **Senior Boys' basketball** team for winning the **Cru-sader Christmas Classic**.

There are many new things to do in the new year and we would like to encourage you to try them all. The **badminton team** is starting tryouts the first Tuesday morning after the break at 7:00 am. The **chess club** begins January on Tuesday and Thursday at lunch in **Room 213**. Holy Cross placed very strongly in **The Eastern Ontario Chess Championship** last year taking two gold medals and a silver in the senior divisions. Players of all skill level are invited to participate. The scrap booking club is also starting in the New Year on Wednesdays in Room 213. **Scrapbooking** is a great medium to store, protect and display photos in a creative way. Please do not hesitate to ask about any of these new activities at the Students' Council office. Thank you and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Chris Ho

JANUARY 2008 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 **Wednesday, January 23rd** and are to conclude on **Wednesday, January 30th**. 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 24th then all exams scheduled for the Thursday would be written on Friday, January 25th, and the remaining part of the schedule adjusted accordingly.** The exception to this would be the **Grade Nine Religion exams** which will proceed on **Wednesday, January 30th** only "bumping" to **Thursday, January 31st** if there happens to be two "snow days." Further instructions will be given to these students if necessary.

JANUARY EXAMINATION RETURN

Students will pick up their January examinations on the morning of **Monday, February 4th**. An abbreviated Semester 1 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 4th**, 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 One 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.

EQA 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 **Friday, January 18th** and **Monday, January 21st**. 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!.

NEXT MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

Friday, February 01 Professional Activity Day # 4
Monday, February 04 Turn Around Day
Tuesday, February 05 First Full Instructional Day in Semester 2
..... ~~Parade Breakfast~~
Wednesday, February 06 Ash Wednesday Liturgies, Share Lent begins
Thursday, February 07 The Memorial Basketball Games at RND
Monday, February 11 Semester 1 Report Cards distributed
..... After-School Literacy Program Begins
Wednesday, February 13 Grade Eight Parent Information Night
Thursday, February 14 Valentine's Day
..... Grade Level Reconciliations (Library)
Friday, February 15 Deadline for schools to provide Sem. 1 final marks to OCAS
..... ~~Semi-Formal Dance~~
..... Last Day for Semester Two Timetable Changes
Monday, February 18 2008-2009 Course Selection Workshops
Tuesday, February 19 Grades 9, 10 and 11 Math Contests
Wed., Feb. 20 and Thurs., Feb. 21 Kiwanis Music Festival
Monday, February 25 Catholic School Council Meeting in Library
Tuesday, February 26 Canadian Computing Competition
Wed., Feb. 27 and Thurs., Feb. 28 Energy Check Presentations for Gr. 10s
Friday, February 29. 2008 - 2009 Student Registration, Course Selection Deadline
..... Tentative Non-Uniform Day
..... Think Fast

BRIDGES TO COMMUNITY THANKS YOU!

The students of the **Bridges to Community Program** would like to extend a sincere thank you to all those who so enthusiastically supported our **annual Christmas poinsettia and craft sales**. Your ongoing support enables our students to experience many exciting learning opportunities. A special thank you to **Mrs. Joan Amodeo** who donated handmade items for our sale.

CRUSADER ATHLETICS

The Memorial and Full Court Press Against Cancer

The 18th Annual Memorial and Full Court Press Against Cancer. On **Thursday, February 7th**, Regiopolis-Notre Dame 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 2008 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 7th** at RND.

HOLY CROSS CLASS OF 2008 GRADUATION CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony for this year's graduating class will be held on **Wednesday, June 25th** here at the school. **Please mark this date on your calendar if you plan on graduating in June 2008.**

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

University/College Applications

Applicants should notice that the application centre deadlines (for equal consideration for admission to programs) are approaching. University applications are due to the centre by **Wednesday, January 9th** and college applications by **Friday, February 1st**.

Students are asked to ensure that all data on the application is accurate (including address and transcript information). Please contact Student Services with any concerns.

Semester 2 Timetables

A student verification sheet with demographic and semester two timetable information was distributed in mid December. These forms should be signed and returned to Student Services. A new timetable with teacher names and room numbers will be issued in Period 1 class on the **turn-around day (Feb. 4th)**.

Course Selection 2008-2009

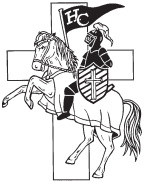
The course selection process for next school year will be outlined in workshops being conducted on **February 19th**. More details to follow.

Looking for a Job OR Volunteer Hours

Students are reminded to regularly listen to announcements and check the postings on the Job & Volunteer Board located outside Student Services.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course / Test

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) has been scheduled for **Thursday, March 27th, 2008**. 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.



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GRADE 11 VOCAL CONCERT

The **Grade 11 Vocal Class** will perform their culminating concert on **Wednesday, January 16th, 2008, at 7:30 pm.** Tickets are **\$5.00** and will be sold at the door. Come out and enjoy an evening of musical entertainment.

SEE EXAM SCHEDULE BELOW

Anyone who has an exam conflict should see **Miss Daniel** by **Friday, January 11th**. Doctor's notes are required to explain absences during the exam period.

Final Exam Schedule JANUARY 2008 JUNIORS

Grade	A.M. / P.M.	Day 1 Wednesday, January 23	Day 2 Thursday, January 24	Day 3 Friday, January 25	Day 4 Monday, January 28	Day 5 Tuesday, January 29	Day 6 Wednesday, January 30
Grade 10	a.m. 8:30					HRE20	
	p.m. 12:00	MPM2D MFM2P	ENG2D ENG2P	CHC2D CHC2P	SNC2D SNC2P	BBI20	
Grade 9	a.m. 8:30	SNC1D SNC1P	CGC1D CGC1P	MPM1D MFM1P	ENG1D ENG1P	FSF1D FSF1P	HRE10
	p.m. 12:00						

Final Exam Schedule JANUARY 2008 SENIORS

Grade	A.M. / P.M.	Last Day of Classes Tuesday, January 22	Day 1 Wednesday, January 23	Day 2 Thursday, January 24	Day 3 Friday, January 25	Day 4 Monday, January 28	Day 5 Tuesday, January 29
Grade 11	a.m. 8:30	Review	HRT3M	FSF3U	CGF3M CLU3E/M SCH3U	BAF3M	HSP3M
	p.m. 12:00	ENG3C ENG3E ENG3U	SPH3U	CHW3M	MBF3C MCR3U	SBI3C SBI3U	MCF3M
Grade 12	a.m. 8:30	Review	CHY4U CIA4U PSE4U	SCH4C SES4U	BOH4M SPH4U	LVV4U SBI4U	MHF4U
	p.m. 12:00	ENG4C ENG4E ENG4U	MAP4C MDM4U	HHS4M SCH4U	HRE4M	CLN4U HZT4U	CGW4U ADA4M ADA4O