



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

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April 2008 Newsletter... visit our web site at www.hctoday.ca

The Holy Cross newsletter is issued in the first week of each month.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

On **Thursday, March 27th**, 380 students wrote the **Grade 10 Literacy Test at Holy Cross**. I am very confident that our students were very well prepared thanks to our **classroom teachers, Special Education Resource Teachers, the HC Literacy Committee and our EQAO Test Preparation Team** led by **Anne Poels, Ana Cantarutti, and Literacy Co-ordinator Sean Roberts**. I thank all parents for the encouragement and support they offered to their sons and daughters in the acquisition and development of their literacy skills. The **Individual Student Reports are expected by mid-June**.

Students who plan to return to Holy Cross for next year should ensure that they have completed the course selection process and have made selections based on their interests, abilities and destinations. At this time, many registrations have been received for the **Class of 2012**. Please ensure that you have completed the course selection process while space is still available. Classes do become full quickly.

Congratulations to Grade Nine student **Erik Lacharité** whose artwork was selected by the Boards' **Social Justice Committee** as the award winner for the secondary panel in the **Water Campaign Poster Contest**. **Erik** will receive his award at a Board Meeting in April. **Erik's** artwork shows that words aren't always needed when conveying the dangers of global warming.

Thanks also to our staff members who often go unrecognized.

Catholic Education Week runs from **April 27th to May 2nd** this year and the theme is "**We Are Called.**" The implications of the unique Divine call are clarified for us by the prophet Micah when he elaborates on the question of what does God require of us as a consequence of our calling. **The answer is profound and demanding in its simplicity – only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8)** The 'only this' is beguiling in its candour. At first glance, the challenge does not appear to be too daunting or too difficult. It is concise, understandable, and maybe even simple. Intellectually, we grasp the essential details; emotionally, we perceive the nobility of the direction and then we look for the courage and the willpower to see it through. But somewhere along the road of acting justly and loving tenderly and walking humbly, our redeemed but frail human nature wearies of the quest, and our response weakens. The beauty of being human is that even though we are very capable of making mistake after mistake, and piling stupidity upon stupidity, the Grace of a Benevolent and Forgiving God is always there to '*strengthen the limbs gone weary and the hands that are failing*'. The God that calls us provides the courage and the strength to pursue the call. **(Adapted from Noel P. Martin, Director of Catholic Education, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association)**

I pray that the Risen Christ blesses you and your families with His peace and love.

Paul A. Walsh

PASTORAL UPDATE

2008 Jamaica Mission Trip: This year's Mission Trip to **Kingston, Jamaica** deepened many of the friendships and connections that were established during our previous visits in 2004 and 2006. Our students and staff thank all those who supported this experience and look forward to sharing more about it in the coming weeks.

ShareLent: This year's **ShareLent Collection** raised close to **\$4000.00** for charity. These monies will be divided between **C.C.O.D.P.**, the **Buy-A-Net** program to supply DEET-Treated Nets to villages in **Uganda** and the **St. Patrick's All-Stars' Marching Band** in **Kingston, Jamaica**.

International Earth Day Assemblies: **Students' Council, CICS** and our **Green Team** will be presenting grade level assemblies on

APRIL AT HOLY CROSS

Tuesday, April 1	.....	HC 2009 Costa Rica Trip Parents' Meeting
Wednesday, April 2	.....	Parent-Teacher Interview Night, 3–6 p.m. and 7–9 p.m.
Thursday, April 3	.....	Mid-semester Examination Period Begins
Thursday, April 3	.....	ALCDSB Student Senate Meeting #4, Board Office
Thursday, April 3	.....	Halpern's Spring Uniform Sale, 3–8:00 p.m. Cafetorium
Thurs. & Fri., April 3 and 4	.....	Spring Team Photographs in Room 129
Sunday, April 6	.....	Easter Seals Telethon
Thurs. to Sat., April 10–12	..	HC Improv Team at Canadian Improv Games, NAC, Ottawa
Thursday, April 10	.....	HC Bands at Our Lady of Lourdes Elementary School
Friday, April 11	.....	Mid-semester Examination Period Ends
Fri. & Sat., April 11-12	..	Fostering the Faith & Growth of Youth through Justice & Service
Monday, April 14	.....	Students' Council 2008/9 Executive Election Packages Distributed
Tuesday, April 15	.....	Euclid Grade XII Math Contest
Wednesday, April 16	..	Meningococcal Vaccination Clinic in the Library, a.m.
Wednesday, April 16	.....	Mixed Doubles Badminton Championships at HC
Fri. & Sat., April 18-19	.....	3 rd Annual Greg Hulse Memorial Soccer Tournament at HC
Mon. to Fri., April 21–25	.....	Earth Week: Reducing Waste at Holy Cross
Monday, April 21	..	Environmental Club Waste Display at lunch
Tuesday, April 22	.....	Earth Day
Tuesday, April 22	.....	Semester Two Midterm Report Cards Issued
Tuesday, April 22	.....	Environmental Club Grade Level Assemblies
Tuesday, April 22	.....	ALCDSB Student Trustee Election
Wednesday, April 23	.....	Administrative Professionals' (Secretaries') Day
Wednesday, April 23	.....	Waste-Free Lunch Day
Wednesday, April 23	.....	Holy Cross Band Trip to Chicago Departs, 3 p.m.
Thursday, April 24	.....	Technology Showcase at HC
Thursday, April 24	.....	Holy Cross Pitch-In Day
Friday, April 25	.....	P.A. Day #5—no classes
Friday, April 25	.....	World Malaria Day
Saturday, April 26	..	Rotary Talent Showcase—preliminary round
Sunday, April 27	.....	Chicago HC Band Trip returns, 7:30 p.m.
Sun. to Sat., April 27 – May 3	.....	Catholic Education Week
Monday, April 28	.....	Spring Uniform Begins
Monday, April 28	.....	Catholic School Council Meeting, HC Library, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 29	..	ALCDSB Catholic Education Week Mass @ St. Mary's Cathedral, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 22nd as part of our observance of **Earth Week**. The assembly and other presentations during the week will focus on important issues connected with reducing waste and respecting the environment in our school community.

Thinkfast: One of our more popular Lenten Activities is the annual 25-hour **ThinkFast**. This year's event took place from **February 29 - March 1st**; over 70 students and staff participated in the icebreakers, reflected on how Canadian-based mining companies are abusing Third World Communities and the environment around the world and raised close to **\$3000.00** for the **Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace**.

April Liturgical Celebrations: Our Easter School Liturgies took place on **Friday, March 28th** with the **Jamaica Mission Group** giving a short presentation before each Mass about their recent visit to **Kingston, Jamaica**. On **Tuesday, April 29th**, students and staff from our school will join others from across the Board as they attend the **Catholic Education Week Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral** with **Archbishop Brendan O'Brien** presiding. All are welcome to this wonderful celebration of our Catholic faith.

May each member of our Holy Cross community experience the Risen Christ during this Easter Season and be blessed with the joy and peace that is God's gift to us.

Chris Forster, Pastoral Services

JAMAICA MISSION TRIP

This past March Break, 12 students were blessed with the opportunity to travel to **Kingston, Jamaica** on a 12 day service mission learning trip. While in Jamaica the students experienced first-hand the life and culture of Jamaica. They spent their days working at **St. Margaret's School** teaching, painting, and getting to know the 200 students at the school. The nights were spent getting to know the **St. Patrick's Performing Arts All-Stars**, a phenomenal band organized to keep teens from Seaview Gardens off the streets and inspire them with music. The traveling Crusaders also experienced a traditional Jamaican Masses each Sunday and visited **Maxfield Park Children's Home** and **St. Monica's Home for Abandoned Seniors**. The trip was an enlightening experience for all the students. In the near future, the students will be making presentations to classes about their Jamaican experiences, as well as organizing fundraisers. These funds will go towards the **Greg Hulse Performing Arts Centre**, being built in **Kingston, Jamaica**. Also, ten members from the **St. Patrick's Performing Arts All-Stars** will be arriving to Canada in October to perform benefit concerts to fund the performing arts centre. Overall the trip was an amazing experience and Holy Cross plans on keeping strong ties with the connections made in Kingston Jamaica.

Brianna Roberts, Student Delegate.

ART AND HISTORY ITALY TRIP

A keen group of **Holy Cross** students and staff toured **Venice, Florence** and **Rome** this past March Break. Highlights included visits to medieval forts, renaissance palaces and art museums. New experiences included a gondola ride, opera performance, Italian gelato, and running at **Circus Maximus**. We were awed by the **Vatican Palm Sunday Mass** celebrated by **Pope Benedict**, who welcomed all of the pilgrims in a multitude of languages. It was an inspiring trip that has broadened our awareness of history, art and culture. The group of students were terrific ambassadors of **Holy Cross**. Bravo to all!

The Art and History trip for next year has been announced. We will begin with a tour of **Rome**, then travel south to **Sorrento/Pompeii/Capri/Naples** and finish up with a tour of **Sicily**. If you are interested in travel enrichment, see **Mr. McCombs** or **Ms. Dalton** for information.

SENIOR FRENCH STUDENTS VISIT EUROPE

During the March Break, 17 senior French students participated in

the cultural excursion to **France** and **Spain**. The students started their trip in Madrid, where they toured the **Royal Palace** and the **Prado Museum**, and they also visited **Toledo**, an ancient city that was once the capital of **Spain**. They also got to participate in a very exciting Flamenco evening. The students then travelled to **Paris**, where they visited famous sites such as **Versailles**, the **Louvre**, and **Notre Dame Cathedral**. The last night of the trip began with a cruise on the **Seine River**, and ended on top of the **Eiffel Tower** overlooking the city of lights. The students enriched their perspectives on **French** and **Spanish** culture, and had a wonderful experience full of lasting memories.

QUEEN'S MINI-ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Twelve Holy Cross students will be participating in **E=MC²**, a mini-enrichment program at **Queen's University** from **May 5 – 9th**. The program provides students in grades 9-12 the unique opportunity to go to Queen's and study a subject of their choosing at an advanced level for the week. There are 47 subjects offered, covering aquatic ecology, robotics, sport psychology, dance choreography and anything in between!

IMPROV TEAM; BREAK A LEG IN OTTAWA!

Every spring for the past 30 years, hundreds of energetic and dedicated student improv enthusiasts from across Canada have been meeting at the **National Art Centre** to engage in competition. By virtue of their first place finish in the February Kingston Improv Games Holy Cross will compete in the **31st Annual Canadian Improv Games 2008** from **April 8th to 12th** at the **NAC** in **Ottawa**.

Break a leg is extended to the team of **Mike Cox, Sheila Edwards, Alison McLean, Luke Ottenhof, Brianna Roberts, Ciara Roberts, Rob Taylor, Mike Vermeersh** and teacher coach Carrie Rose.

NEWS FROM THE SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Parents/guardians of students identified as exceptional learners will be invited to IPRC meetings in the next few weeks. Graduating students are encouraged to make an appointment with **Mrs. Gavan Knox** in order to discuss their Transition Portfolio.

The Special Education Staff will provide resource assistance to students from **8:00am - 8:20 am, in Rm. 136**, on a daily basis. Students wishing to get help with their homework, finish assignments, and use assistive technology are welcome.

Parents/guardians wishing to discuss the early report card results, academic choices for next year, or any other concerns should make an appointment with the Special Education Staff.

ECO-CORNER

The EcoTeam met on **Tuesday, March 18th**. We are eagerly awaiting news on the funding of a purchase of additional recycling bins for the school; we should have a report on that for the May newsletter. On **Friday, March 28th**, Holy Cross celebrated **Earth Hour** (an international event planned for **Saturday, March 29th**). All classes reduced or eliminated the use of their classroom lights for fifteen minutes per period. It is our hope that these efforts helped to make our school community aware of this important event. Our next school Eco-event will coincide with **Earth Week (April 21-25th)**. The **Green Team, EcoTeam, and Students' Council** will work together to bring students information and fun events relating to reducing our waste.

EcoTip #5: What is a waste-free lunch? Reduce the packaging of foods you eat by buying fresh produce and bulk bin items. Pack your food in reusable containers and drinks in refillable bottles, add reusable utensils and even a cloth napkin. Hopefully any waste left over is recyclable or can be composted and can be put in bins where you eat lunch, or brought home to be recycled there.

HOLY CROSS CLASS OF 2008 REMINDERS

To mark the beginning of their final 100 days as Holy Cross students the HC Class of 2008 assembled in the cafeteria on the morning of **March 19th**. This date marked **the beginning of the last 100 days** for our Class of 2008 as Holy Cross students before they become a Holy Cross graduate on **Wednesday 25th June 2008**. Our potential graduates were informed and reminded of their obligations, responsibilities and timelines in the days and weeks to come. Graduates are asked to be mindful of the following graduation requirements, dates and timelines to be achieved.

Thursday, May 1st Potential HC Graduates List Published
Week of May 12th Grad Invitations distributed in Period 1
Tuesday, May 13th Valedictorian Submission Deadline
Friday, May 16th Community Service Hours documentation due
Monday, June 16th Final Course documentation deadline
Wednesday, June 25th Grad Mass 12:00 St. Paul the Apostle Church
Graduation Ceremony 7:00 p.m. at Holy Cross

A list of students who are potential graduates of Holy Cross and eligible to receive their **Ontario Secondary School Diploma** and take part in the **June 2008 graduation ceremony** will be published in the **May Newsletter**. The completion of thirty (30) credits (including compulsories), forty (40) hours of Community involvement, and the successful completion of the literacy test, are the key components of the diploma requirements. The community involvement hours (40) are to be completed and submitted to Student Services by **Friday, May 16th, 2008**. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all requirements (including night school courses and on-line courses) have been completed or will be completed. The final marks for on-line and night school courses must be submitted to Student Services by **Monday, June 16th, 2008**. Students may contact their counsellor regarding any questions concerning graduation.

HC SPRING UNIFORM SHOPPING

On **Thursday, April 3rd** from **3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** The Spring Uniform will be available for purchase from the **Halpern's Mobile Store** in the Holy Cross Cafeteria. Flyers with this information and the price list were sent home with the early progress report cards on **Friday, March 28th**. Students may begin wearing their spring uniforms on **Monday, April 28th**.

Please note **Halpern's** accepts cash, Master Card, Visa and debit cards. **Halpern's** does not accept cheques. This will be the only day students and their families may purchase the spring uniform at Holy Cross. After this date, the spring uniform will be available at **Newman's Men's Store** on Princess Street.

Available clothing and prices may be viewed at the **Halpern's** web site at www.halperns.ca.

Boys

Men's green golf shirt, short sleeve, crested
Youth \$19.95, Adult \$24.95
Khaki walking shorts, "H" crested \$29.95

Girls

Ladies green golf shirt, short sleeve, crested
Youth \$21.95 Adult \$26.95
Khaki walking shorts, "H" crested \$29.95

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

An excellent enrichment field trip is being offered by **HCTV** (Holy Cross Television club), inviting senior Holy Cross Communications Technology students to travel to **Toronto** on **Wednesday, April 2nd**. Staff and students will attend a selection of exciting events to explore potential post-secondary school studies and

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

On **Tuesday, April 22nd** mid semester report cards will be issued to all students in Period 1. Students will be directed to take the report cards home that day. No formal interviews are scheduled at this time. Parents with concerns are asked to contact **Student Services** at **613-384-2023**.

Summer Job and Volunteer Opportunities

Students are reminded to check the bulletin board for volunteer and job opportunities.

University and College Acceptances

Final first semester marks have been forwarded to both OUAC and OCAS. Please be aware of the fact that universities vary widely in when they send their offers of admission. Some students may have already had an early acceptance, but this is not the norm. Mid-term marks will be forwarded to OUAC by the end of April. Grade 12 students enrolled in a night school course must have a midterm mark submitted to Student Services by **April 15th** and a final mark by **June 16th**. Universities will then begin to send offers of admission. Please reassure your son/daughter that they should not be alarmed if they do not hear at the same time as their friends. Students should expect a response from Universities by **May 26th** (latest). **May 28th** is earliest date by which Ontario universities may require a response to an offer of admission. College applicants must confirm their acceptance of a college offer by **May 1st**.

Course Selection Process

Students have had the opportunity to complete the on-line application process. Any student who has not completed the process must contact their counsellor. A verification sheet outlining course selected will be sent out this week. This is an opportunity for corrections/changes to selections to occur. Students should make a guidance appointment if they have any concerns.

St. Lawrence College Connections

A number of **Grade 10/11 students** will be attending a one day enrichment program at St. Lawrence College, for students who are seeking more information about what colleges have to offer and may be unsure of their future destination. Sessions are being held on **May 7th**.

More Opportunities

McMaster University Health Science Department is inviting **high school science students** in Grades 11 and 12 for an opportunity to work alongside researchers this summer, through a \$1,500 research bursary award. Students gain valuable hands-on experience and receive a \$1,500 bursary award upon completion of the summer placement. Placements run from **June 30th through to August 20th, 2008**. Successful applicants from out of town will be provided with accommodations, meal vouchers, and transportation.

For more information and details please contact your guidance counselor. Applications are due by **April 15th, 2008**.

Queen's University is offering the **University Experience Program** for students (all grades) who would be the first in their family to attend college or university in Canada. Students and their family members are invited to the Queen's campus on **Saturday, April 5th, 2008**, for a series of activities, including a campus tour with current students and seminars on financial aid, career options and a wide variety of degree programs. Contact **Mrs. Cantarutti** for more information.

Grade 10 and 11 students are invited to attend a lunch time presentation in the Lecture Theatre on **Wednesday, April 2nd** on post secondary planning. Topics including college and university research, scholarship information and useful websites will be presented. Bring your lunch.

Financing Your Post Secondary Education

Holy Cross invites all graduating students and their parents to a presentation on financing your post secondary education. The evening is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 30th** and will begin with a presentation by an OSAP representative followed by a presentation by a bank representative on budgeting, financing your education through savings, transferring funds (from a parent's account to a student's account of course!), and responsible use of credit. The evening will close with a presentation by a **Queen's University** student on scholarships and bursaries and a first hand account of the costs of university/college life. The meeting will be held in the **Library** and will begin at **7 p.m.** We encourage you to take advantage of this one stop opportunity to learn about the financial implications of post secondary life.

career opportunities in the film and television entertainment industry. Com Tech students will tour **Ryerson University's** general campus facilities, tour Ryerson's Radio & Television Arts program and facilities, talk with an RTA student and HC grad **Dan Greenwood** who is a member of the Ryerson teaching faculty, tour **City TV** (Bravo studios, City TV Newsroom, Much Music, etc...), be members of a live national television broadcast on **Much Music's "Much on Demand"** show (tune in to **Cogeco** cable channel 26 from 5 to 6 p.m. to see us!), and enjoy a delightful dinner at **The Old Spaghetti Factory**. This field trip promises to be an exceptional learning opportunity beyond the classroom.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

This month, the Students' Council is very busy making preparations for the annual **Town Hall Assembly** that will take place on **Wednesday, April 30th** in preparation for our **Students' Council Elections on Friday, May 2nd**. Any students interested in running for a position on the Students' Council in the **2008 / 2009** school year is asked to see **Mr. Zanette** or any of the members of Students' Council for information.

To be eligible to stand for election a student must:

- i) Attain and maintain a minimum 75% academic average
- ii) Be a student in good standing
- iii) Submit a nomination form which includes 50 signatures from peers
- iv) Submit 3 teacher references

Application packages will be available for distribution on **Monday, April 14th**. If students have any questions of concerns, please feel free to ask one of the members of the Students' Council. Applications must be returned by **Thursday, April 24th**.

COACHING THE COACHES

On the evening of **Friday, April 25th** and on **Saturday April 26th**, **Holy Cross** will play host to a coaching clinic that will provide education for athletic coaches. **"Coaching the Coaches"**, a clinic sponsored by **Tourism Kingston** and the **Investors Group**, will be a series of seminars designed to help coaches of children of all ages to provide better learning and playing environments for their athletes. Top level coaches will provide their expertise in dealing with athletes and provide examples of their best practices that can be used by coaches for all levels. The Clinic features **Jock Climie**, Lawyer, T.S.N. Analyst, and 12 year CFL Veteran; *along with* **Chris Oliver**, Men's Basketball Head Coach, Windsor Lancers; **Dave Preston**, Men's Volleyball Coach, McMaster University; **Marcel Bellefeuille**, Ass't Coach, Hamilton Ti-Cats; **Michele Belanger**, Women's Basketball Head Coach, Univ.



of Toronto; **Shane Lakins**, Head Cross Country Coach, FISU Canada World Games; **plus** Top Coaches of Basketball, Track & Field, Field Hockey, Football, and Volleyball. Additional information and registration forms available at <http://www.planandplay.ca/coaching.html>.

P.A.S.S. (FOR TEENS WITH ASD)

Are you the kind of person who has those typical family issues; are you the person who needs some assistance with that? Well, look no further, if you join and become a member of **Pathways Adolescent Social Society**, we can help you on the ways of growing up, talk about the problems you have, make new friends, and have fun. If you're between the ages of 14-18, then call us now and we can fit you in with P.A.S.S. The club starts **April the 15th**, from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. at **Pathways, Portsmouth Avenue** office on the third floor. Just call now at **(613) 546-1422, ext. 25**. Snacks will be provided.

Student author: Andrew Slaughter.

Catholic Education Week
April 27 - May 2, 2008



"We are Called "

"We are called to act with justice,
to love tenderly,
to walk humbly,
to give generously,
and to live peacefully"

- Micah 6.8

MAY AT HOLY CROSS

May 1.....	Gr. 12 S.I.N. Physics Contest
May 1	Potential Graduate List Published
May 1	Monthly School Masses in Gymnasium
May 2.....	Rotary Talent Showcase Final Gala
May 2	Students' Council Executive Elections
May 5-9.....	Queen's Enrichment Course Week
May 7.....	St. Lawrence College Connections Program
May 8.....	Grade 8 Orientation Day at HC
May 9.....	Track and Field Bay of Quinte Invitational Meet
May 9	Grade 9 Student Retreat with N.E.T.
May 9 & 10....	St. Lawrence Transition Camp for Students with LDs and ADHD
May 14.....	22 nd Partners in Mission Food Blitz
May 27 or 28 (Exact date TBA).....	Athletic Awards Banquet
May 29.....	End of Year School Mass

Crusader Athletics

Team Photographs for all spring teams will be taken on **Thursday, April 3rd** and **Friday, April 4th**.

Track and Field Thursday on track at 11:20
 Lacrosse Thursday on field at 11:30
 Rugby Thursday after school
 Soccer Friday at lunch in Room 129
 Tennis Friday at lunch in Room 129
 Rowing Friday at lunch in Room 129

Teams photographed at this time will appear in this year's yearbook.