

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

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December, 2009 Newsletter ... visit our web site at [www.hctoday.ca](http://www.hctoday.ca)



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The season of **Advent** helps to prepare us for **Christmas**, when we recall **Christ's** first coming. This is a season of joyful expectation and preparation. Christmas is a time of giving as we celebrate the greatest gift the world has ever received, the baby **Jesus**, **God's** one and only Son. At this time of year, I encourage all to give generously to assist those who are in need. May the true spirit of the season and Christmas touch each of you and your families. Here at **Holy Cross**, students and staff will be entering into the spirit of this season together.

Congratulations to all of our fall sports teams for representing **Holy Cross** on the court, the field and the trails. We are proud of all of your accomplishments. In particular, what will stand out for me includes the fearsome foursome who won the bronze medal at **OF-SAA Golf**, the **Senior Girls' Basketball Team** rallying to capture the **EOSSAA** title, the **Junior Boys' Football Team** who are **KAS-SAA** champions for the fourth time in five years, and the **Senior Boys' Football Program** which made **Holy Cross** history. They defeated the **Falcon** powerhouse in the **KASSAA** final, becoming champions for the first time in school history, and went on from there to make it all the way to the **National Bowl** semi-final game. Unfortunately, our boys lost to **St. Peter's** but were in the game until the final seconds. We are proud of the team, and all of the students, staff and volunteers who help to build our athletics program.

As we near Christmas, so many arts initiatives are underway, it's awe-inspiring. I note in particular the wonderful performance of **West Side Story** and the corresponding art / photography display. We look forward to **Coffee House** and to the **Holy Cross bands** getting us into the Christmas spirit during our lunch hours and at the **Katharine Splinter Memorial Concert**.

I wish students, teachers and support staff good luck in their endeavours to complete the semester with the best results possible.

Paul A. Walsh

## PASTORAL NEWS

Christmas decorations are quickly going up and the **First Advent Candle** has been lit as we begin another **Advent Season** here at **Holy Cross**. Students and staff will have an opportunity to celebrate **Reconciliation** on **Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>** and to celebrate as a community at our **Advent School Mass** on **Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**.

Congratulations to members of **C.I.C.S.** who were part of this year's **Toronto Street Retreat** from **November 16 – 17<sup>th</sup>**. The students worked with the homeless on the streets of **Toronto**, talked with refugees at **Romero House** and volunteered either at **St. Francis Table** or **St. Felix Centre** where they helped prepare and serve inexpensive, nutritious meals to underprivileged people. One of the participants, writes of her experience: "This experience has been so eye-opening. It has completely changed my outlook on the homeless and made me rethink my future." All agreed this was an "eye-opening" experience of what it is like to be homeless and poor on the streets of our largest city.

This year's **Advent Food Drive** will once again involve our Home form classes in collecting money to provide **Christmas Dinner and toys** for local families through the **Salvation Army's Christmas Hamper Campaign**. Each of our Hampers will be delivered personally by **Students' Council** and **CICS** to the homes of our 'adopted' families on **Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**. In this time of economic crisis, even more people are facing financial hardships. So, I encourage everyone to give generously this year to this and other local charities which are struggling to help the many people who are coming to them seeking food, clothing and adequate shelter. This is a time to recognize **God's** presence in the poor and marginalized of our society – and to accept our responsibility to help them in any way that we can. It was after all among these very people that Jesus was born. I pray that God may bless each member of our **Holy Cross** community with a Blessed Advent Season and a Holy and Merry Christmas.

Christopher Forster, Coordinator of Pastoral Services

## DECEMBER EVENTS AT HOLY CROSS

Sunday, November 29.....	First Sunday of Advent
Mon, Nov. 30 – Thurs, Dec. 3.....	Grade 11 P1 Assemblies, Lecture Theatre
Nov. 30 – Thurs, Dec. 15.....	CICS / Students' Council Advent Food Drive
Tuesday, December 1.....	World AIDS Day
Tues, Dec. 1 – Thurs., Dec. 3.....	Improv Try-outs, Rm. 246, 2:45 – 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 2.....	Coffee House, Cafetorium, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 3.....	Grade Level Reconciliation-Library, All Day International Day of Persons with Disabilities Jazz Ensemble at Our Lady of Lourdes, a.m.
Friday, Dec. 4.....	Queen's Online To Success Registration Deadline
Sunday, December 6.....	Ntl. Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women Second Sunday of Advent
Tuesday, December 8.....	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Archdiocesan Feast Day Mass at St. Mary's, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 10.....	International Human Rights Day
Thurs. & Fri., Dec. 10 & 11....	Crusader Bands Foyer Performance Bridges to Community Craft Sale 10:30 - 12:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 11.....	Jazz Ensemble at Mother Teresa, a.m.
Fri & Sat, Dec. 11 & 12....	Sr Boys' Basketball Tournament at HC
Sunday, December 13.....	Third Sunday of Advent
Mon, Dec. 14....	Wisdom of the Ages Medicine Wheel Presentation
Tues, Dec. 15.....	Rec. Date for University & College applications
Tues. & Wed., Dec. 15 & 16...	Crusader Bands Foyer Performance
Thursday, December 17.....	Advent Community Liturgy Christmas Concert at 7:00 in the gymnasium Bridges Under 18 Bake Sale
Friday, December 18.....	(Tentative) Non-uniform day Last Instructional day for 2009 Delivery Day for Christmas Hampers and Toys Requested Date for Sem 2 Timetable Changes
Thursday, December 24.....	Christmas Eve
Friday, December 25.....	Christmas Day

## ECO-CORNER

Holiday Greetings from Eco-Corner! Thanks again to everyone for their participation in the 'HC 350' photo and a belated extra special THANK-YOU to **Mr. Prior** and his **photography students** who were one of the driving forces behind its organization and of course for taking the memorable picture. We haven't stopped our focus on 350 there. The **HC Green Team** distributed a **KYOTOplus petition** to all classrooms calling on **Canadian politicians** to set a target and implement a plan for cutting our country's greenhouse gas emissions, to aid other countries in reaching these goals, and to adopt '**a bold, strengthened second phase of the Kyoto Protocol**' in **December** of this year at the climate conference in **Copenhagen**. We hope our voices and the voices of all concerned citizens of this planet are heard. In the new year, the major focus will be **Earth Week**; the theme for this year is **Energy Reduction**. The **Green Team** has already applied for funding for our activities for the week. So, keeping in mind the season, the **Climate Action Conference**, and the "Energy Reduction" theme, *here is a tip from the EcoTeam*: Change your old holiday lights to LED lights this season, reduce your energy consumption, while keeping 'spirits bright'. Your old lights can be taken to a collection depot for proper disposal, and in some cases turned in for savings on new LED lights at participating stores. Merry Christmas!

## REMEMBRANCE DAY – CELEBRATION AND CONTESTS

Thanks to **Mr. Dusome's Audio students** for their behind the scenes expertise, to **Ms. Check Drumm's Vocal class**, led by **Sean Fleet** and **Jessie Treneer**, and to **Ms. Rose's Drama class** for such a poignant commemoration of the sacrifices made for us by fallen Canadian soldiers. **Mr. Lobo's class** designed wonderful posters for the **Legion** contest and these were displayed in the school and showcased in local newspapers.

## COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY TORONTO FIELD TRIP

Communications Technology students had the opportunity to take advantage of experiential educational experiences in the exploration of post-secondary studies and career opportunities in the television industry. On **Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**, **Mr. Esford** and **Mr. Pat Murphy** took their **Grade 12 Com Tech students** to **Toronto** to tour **Ryerson University's** campus, the **Radio & Television Arts** production facilities, **City TV**, **Much Music**, and **Fashion TV**. Students were live studio audience members in the national broadcast of "**Much on Demand**". The day wrapped up with a delicious dinner at "**The Old Spaghetti Factory**".

## COMM. TECHNOLOGY PHOTOGRAPHY AND ART EXHIBIT

**Mr. Esford's** and **Mr. Murphy's Grade 12 Communications Technology students** mounted a photography exhibit along with **Ms. Dalton's Art students**. The exhibit entitled "**West Side Story: The Other Story**" explored juxtaposing themes from the **Arts Department's** dramatic production of **West Side Story**. Students were invited to paint, draw, assemble mixed media or photograph images to display during the plays' run **November 25 to 28<sup>th</sup>**. Thought provoking photographs depicted themes of good and evil.

## HOLY CROSS H1N1 INFLUENZA VACCINE CLINIC

The pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine is available at **KFL&A Public Health's Pandemic H1N1 Community Immunization Clinics** for all residents. Children under 16 years of age not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian must have signed consent. The **KFL&A Health Unit** will host an **H1N1 Vaccine clinic** at **Holy Cross** on **Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>** from **8:00 am - 12:00 pm**. **This Clinic will be for both staff and students**. Parent letters and consent forms are available via the school website, [www.hctoday.ca](http://www.hctoday.ca) and through the Main Office.

## CHRISTMAS, CHRISTMAS, CHRISTMAS

What would be a better gift for your Holy Cross student than a new hoodie, track pants, or hat? **Santa** does not make clothes this nice! The **Tuck Shop** is open on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays** from 11:15 a.m. to 11:55 a.m. If this time does not work for you call **Kelly Davison** at **613-384-1919 ext. 2201**. She is available to open the shop when it is convenient for you. There is limited stock so you better act quickly!!

## BRIDGES TO COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING

We would like to express our gratitude to the many staff, friends and families who ordered our beautiful poinsettia plants. A reminder that delivery is on **December 2 or 3<sup>rd</sup>** depending on your location. Payment will be due on delivery day. Our annual **Christmas Craft Sale** will be on **December 9<sup>th</sup>** during lunch in the Main Foyer. Be sure to purchase some unique handmade gifts for your family and friends!

## BRIDGES UNDER 18 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

The "**Bridges**" students have been busy baking and preparing Christmas treats! Come out early and choose from a wide variety of goodies. Our sale will take place on **Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** in the **Holy Cross** foyer from 11:00a.m. to 12:00p.m.

## WISDOM OF THE AGES MEDICINE WHEEL

As a part of the Increasing Knowledge and Awareness among Students and Educators in Secondary Schools grant, provided through the **Aboriginal Education Office, ALCDSB** is pleased to offer **Wisdom of the Ages Medicine Wheel**, a workshop by **Shannon Thunderbird**. The workshop will be offered at **Holy Cross** on **Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**, from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. This workshop is designed for students who are taking or will be taking a **Native Studies course** and one teacher-supervisor. The workshop is participatory – participants will be asked to perform and create. The workshop is dedicated to the elevation of the human spirit using a combination of Arts and Education as the basis for its presentations, **Thunderbird's** vision has been to offer a dynamic circle of entertaining, inspirational, educational and alternative programs that celebrates **First Nations** cultural teachings, history and spirituality. It will also build awareness around aboriginal education initiatives in **ALCDSB** secondary schools. The workshop is open to a 60 students, 30 from **Holy Cross** and 30 from **RND**.

## INFORMATION FROM SPECIAL EDUCATION

Draft **Individual Education Plans** were sent home on **October 16<sup>th</sup>**. We thank the 50% of parents and guardians who have returned the **Contact Form**. We ask that the remainder of the **Contact Forms** be returned before **December 16<sup>th</sup>** so that we may update the IEPs and meet this Ministry obligation. If however you need clarification on any of the documentation, please contact us. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

**On-Line to Success** is a course offered for students with learning disabilities which teaches students more about their own learning disability, self-advocacy skills, adaptive technology, and learning strategies for college and university. This on-line course is offered through **Queen's University** and the deadline for registration is **Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**. For further information, contact **M. Gavan-Knox** at **613 384-1919 ext. 3426**.

## STUDENTS' COUNCIL

November is quickly coming to an end and December is fast approaching. All students have been hard at work and deep into their studies. Hope all mid-terms were good indicators of your progress. November was a smooth month for us and we would like to thank everyone for that, especially **Ms. Rose** and **Ms. Check-Drumm's classes** and vocals for the very moving **Remembrance Day** presentation. Our second school dance had the theme **Techno**

**Colour.** There was a tremendous turn out and students presented good behaviour. Many of our students have been diligently working since the beginning of the year on the play *West Side Story*. It was a truly enjoyable presentation: congratulations to all of your hard work paid off. We would like to congratulate the **Senior Boys' football team** in all their efforts. They made history by being the first **Holy Cross** team to win **EOSSAA**. As well to our **Senior Girls' basketball** and **Senior Boys' volleyball** teams as they both made it to **OFSAA**. Winter season sports teams have been selected. Good luck to all in your seasons. We are all looking forward to December and our **Christmas Hamper Campaign**. In this campaign we donate to families in need to help make their Christmas more enjoyable. We are planning to raise over **\$4,000**. **Students' Council** has also organized **Holy Cross Dodgeball intramurals**. The season will commence the beginning of **December**, with over 200 students participating. Merry Christmas to all our students, and have a safe and joyful holiday season.

Kaitlyn Barbosa on behalf of Students' Council

### COFFEE HOUSE

This year's student-run **Coffee House** is an evening of talent ranging from singers, to rock bands to rappers. The student volunteers and organizers were pleased to include the **Comm Tech Department** to participate in the event. **Mr. Esford** will be leading the team who will provide a video recording of the evening. A DVD will be available for purchase. This musical extravaganza will occur **Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**, doors opening at **6:00 pm**. Tickets are **\$7** each. Thank you for your continued support of the **Arts and Technology Departments!**

### EQAO GRADE NINE ASSESSMENT OF MATHEMATICS

In **January 2010**, Holy Cross students who are currently enrolled in a **Grade 9 Applied or Academic** course will join others in a provincewide standardized **Grade Nine Math Test**. This mandatory assessment will involve multiple choice questions, short answer and extended responses. This test, which is one component of the **Secondary School Reform** initiative, will be administered over two of the students' regular mathematics classes: **Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>** and **Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>** for the Academic and Applied classes. Additional information can be obtained from teachers in the **Mathematics Department**.

### CRUSADER ATHLETICS

The Winter Season has begun. Up to date information on schedules can be found on the **KASSAA website** <http://www.kassaa.ca/>. Additional sporting information can be found on our athletics web page - <http://www.alcddb.on.ca/~hcssa/>.

Special sporting events upcoming at **Holy Cross** include: the **Holy Cross Sr. Boys' Basketball Tournament - December 11 and 12<sup>th</sup>** and **Archbishop Spence's Jr. Boys' Basketball Tournament - January 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>**. Basketball's annual cancer fund-raiser will take place in early **February**.

### TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK DAY

**300 Grade Nine** students from **Holy Cross C.S.S.** participated in **Take Our Kids to Work Day** with a parent, relative or family friend on **Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**. Students found themselves in a variety of workplace situations including offices, penitentiaries, and retail businesses. Many students were treated to tours, career presentations and free lunches. Some felt that the contact might prove useful to them later when seeking part-time employment, and many concluded that the day served as a valuable form of career exploration.

### COUNSELLORS' CORNER

#### HONOUR ROLL CELEBRATION

**Holy Cross** held its annual **Honour Roll Celebration** on **Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009**. The guest speaker was **Andrew McIntyre**, former **Holy Cross Valedictorian** and **Trent-Queen's Concurrent Education** graduate.

#### 2008 – 2009 Grade 9 Honour Roll Students

Gabriella Allegrini, Charlotte Allen, Megan Allen, Jeffrey Arnold, Michelle Augustyn, Daisy Barrette, Kristen Beattie, Jack Benia, Sydney Benjamin, Sarah Besselink, Ariel Bissett, Kaylee Blackett, Adam Brett, Cortney Brewer, Tiara Bromfield, Mark Brousseau, Jessica Bullett, Rachel Burgman, Cecilia Cacha, Andrew Campbell, Emily Carter, Daniel Choi, Madeline Clark, Lee Collins, Nicholas Cotman, Ethan Craig, Thomas Daechsel, Sarah Denie, Eric Dodwell, Michaela Dowling, Nicole Du Bois, Sarah Dyck, Grace Esford, Ashley Fabbro, Matthew Ferguson, Hannah Finn, Zachary Flindall, Brooke Funnell, Katharine Gagnon, Elyssa Garofalo, Isaac Gazendam, Alison Geary, Adam Gencarelli, Micheal Gencarelli, William Gervais, Brendan Ginn, Stephen Goodfellow, Ben Grady, Samantha Gray, Meggan Greyling, Jacob Hadley, Evan Harbec, Grace Hill, Anita Hojabr, Eric Holland, Kelsey Hulton, Jessica Hunter, Ben Jalink, Nathalie Jones, Tanya Joshi, Jessica Kennedy, Caitlin Kinsella, Rosa Kwon, Lindsey Lattimore, Mary Leake, Johnathan LeBlanc, Iain Lott, Natasha Lowcay, Connor Makarucha, Peter Mark, Brooke Maschi, Hailey Masterson, Michael McConnell, Alanna McLatchie, Marise Meiklejohn, Diogo Moreira, Samantha Morin, Michelle Nguyen, Madison Norman, Matthew Palma, Madlynn Palmer, Andrew Papadakis, Mitchell Patterson, Karlycia Payne, Matt Pendergast, Raegan Perin, Samantha Pho, Anna Pollard, Brittany Posthumus, Luke Prinsen, Stephanie Raposo, Kayla Raymond, Olivia Reyers, Emma Ronan, Joshua St. Peter, Jamee Simpson, Esme Sinclair, Sydney Smith, Sydni Steele, Alannah Szolopiak, Jessica Taylor, Sara Taylor, Garrett Tomalty, Brandon Verkerk, Aarti Vyas

*Award winner for best overall average:* Samantha Pho

#### 2008 – 2009 Grade 10 Honour Roll Students

Stephen Arbuckle, Lucas Arseneault-Ball, Jonas Azeredo Lobo, Lindsay Barbatun, Conor Barnes, Stephanie Benton, Brooke Blaskie, Taylor Braida, Shannon Broekhoven, Eden Cameron, Stephanie Cantlay, Timothy Christie, Joe Cifala, Mathew Clancy, Katie Coleman, Jarrett Costron, Simone Cunningham, Ashley Davidson, Julia De Boer, Mary Grace Dela Fuente, Katie Desjardins, Patrick Desrochers, Tiffany Desveaux, Molly Doherty, Laura Donohue, Kyle Douglas, Kathryn Doyle, Stephanie Drapeau, Adam Dutra, Mariana Evaristo, Emma Farant, Taylor Farrell, Brittany Fitzgerald, Kimberly Fleming, Brianna Flude, Dustin Ford, Melanie Fowler, Derek Fox, Alexa Fraser, Mary Grace Garner, Ian Gibson, Erika Giugovaz, Mireille Golemiec, Haley Gourdiere, Devon Gray, Adriana Green, Kevin Guo, Thomas Hawkins, Shannon Hill, Alexander Hiller, Jeremy Ho, Malcolm Hodgskiss, Grace Iori, Yun Jeung Jang, Pamela Kenney, Emily King, Kelsey Kirbyson, Izabella Knap, Brianna LaPierre, Daniel Larocca, Heather Lewis, Abigail Maddocks, Jessica Madore, Cailey Mayer, Colleen McGuire, Allison McLean, Shelby McLeod, Joel Minnema, Lindsay Murphy, Laura Murray, Nicholas Murray, Jennifer Nantau, Jarrett Neal, Michael Nguyen, Alana Niles, Alison Obress, Carley O'Hara, Amanda Oliveira, Nicole O'Sullivan, Luke Ottenhof, Jessica Pemberton, Laura Perry, Ian Philip, Lauren Pickett, Justine Pineau, Gabrielle Porter, Eric Quanz, Trevor Reade, Ciara Roberts, Jennifer Roberts, Ryan Rochefort, Lauren Rowe, Melanie St. Cyr, Samantha Searle, Connor Shkimba, Pearl Silver, Lauren Smith, Clare Stafford, Megan Stewart, Robbie Sullivan, Jeffery Troywalchuck, Sara Valentino, Beatrice van Herpt, Rachel van Herpt, Michael Vermeersch, Rachel Weir, Jessica Wigle

*Award winner for best overall average:* Kelsey Kirbyson

#### 2008 – 2009 Grade 11 Honour Roll Students

Julia Allen, Zach Allen, Rachel Arnold, Jason Arseneault, Rebecca AuCoin, Andrew Baldwin, Jamie Beauchamp, Pierre Bedrossian, Jenna Bergeron, Martin Bigger, Chantel Bolarinho, Jeffrey Borges, Myranda Branco, Shelley Cao, Kaci Carter, Madeline Corsi-Johnson, Sarah Dillon, Joshua Dorey, Georgio Doulas, Kyle Dunphy, Kevin Feeley, Andrina Fellger, Sarah Ferguson, Christine Ferris, Corey Flude, Taylor Fox, Aaron Gazendam, Michael Gencarelli, Samantha Gike, Christopher Grady, Mary Hanley, Lucas Hargrave, Andrew Harper, Erin Hayes, Sam Hume, Matthew Jalink, Amy Jordison, Kyle Kinsella, Soo Lee, Simon Li, Sarah Lindsay, Virginia Lott, David Loyst, Adam Mahoney, Alexandra Makula, Colin Mantle, Hannah Mark, Samantha Martin, Katie Maschi, Manju Mathew, Lindsay McCarthy-

Mowbray, Fiona Mills, Marcus Mills, Hugo Moreira, Luke Morrison, Brooklin Murphy, Dillon Murphy, James Murphy, Maria Murphy, Graham Mushet, Brian Parfett, Howard Park, Sophia Park, Erica Pascoal, Kristin Patry, Calvin Perault, Laura Petrunka, Courtney Reid, Peter Sanfilippo, Jessica Shannon, Matthew Shephard, Graham Sigurdson, Leandra Silver, Olivia Simpson, Andrew Slaughter, Christina Stewart, Nicholas Sullivan, Grace Sylvester, Laurissa Tassielli, Jessie Treneer, Tessa Turkeli, Ashley Upton, Erik Veenendaal, Adam Wilson

Award winner for best overall average: Christine Ferris

### Looking for a Job or Volunteer Hours...

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

### Course Changes for Semester Two

Students intending to make changes in their Semester Two timetable are asked to do so by **Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**.

### College/University Applications

Post-secondary application workshops and information sessions have concluded. Although the deadline for applications to **OUAC (University)** is **January 13<sup>th</sup>** and **OCAS (College)** is **February 1<sup>st</sup>**, the **Holy Cross** recommended date is **December 15<sup>th</sup>**. All PIN numbers for university applicants have arrived, and students should have stopped by **Student Services** to pick up theirs. PIN numbers are not required for college applications, however, students do require their OEN number which can be found on their report card.

### Enrichment Opportunities

#### University of Toronto:

**Saturday Science and Engineering Academy:** An advanced academic program for students in Grades 7 to 12 who have a desire to explore science, math, and technology in challenging and creative ways.

**Da Vinci Engineering Enrichment Program (DEEP) Summer Academy:** A program that offers one of the most diverse ranges of pre-university engineering and science courses in North America, tailored for gifted and highly motivated high school students from across the globe.

**RobotX:** An invigorating hands-on program that immerses high school students in a week-long, live in robotics competition. Each student team works closely with a mechatronics expert.

For more information about these programs, please visit: [www.outreach.engineering.utoronto.ca](http://www.outreach.engineering.utoronto.ca)

**Marine and Environmental Science Program at Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific Victoria, British Columbia:** Earn a grade 12 credit, study Marine Biology and Environmental Science, and SCUBA certification & advanced diving programs. Visit [www.oceaned.com](http://www.oceaned.com) for additional information, dates, prices and an application.

**Shad Valley:** A pre-university experience for grade 10, 11 and 12 students. **Shad Valley** offers an ambitious curriculum of academics, collaborative projects, and physical/recreational activities. An application form, personal accomplishment profile, reference letter and essay are part of the application process. There are two application intake dates: **Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009**, and **Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010**. Applications are available in **Student Services**.

### Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program

*"The skilled trades are more important to Ontario's future than ever before. Establishing the College of Trades recognizes the sector's professionalism, and will help Ontario produce the skilled workers we need to compete in tomorrow's economy."* – **John Milloy, Minister of Training Colleges and Universities (October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009)**.

**The Minister of Training Colleges and Universities** recently announced the government has passed legislation to establish the **'Ontario College of Trades'**. He indicated this will be a regulatory college to modernize the province's apprenticeship and skilled trades system, and that it will put the skilled trades on similar footing with teachers, doctors and nurses, who have their own regulatory colleges.

**What is an Apprenticeship?** – An apprenticeship is a hands-on training program for people who want to work in skilled trades or occupations. About 90% of an apprenticeship involves on-the-job training by employers; the remaining 10% involves theoretical training at a college or with a training provider.

**How long does an Apprenticeship last?** – Most apprenticeships take 2 – 5 years, depending on the trade. There are usually 2 or 3 in-college training segments associated with the overall apprenticeship term.

**Can a student start an apprenticeship while attending high school?** – Yes! The **Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)** provides opportunities for senior students (grades 11 and 12) to become registered apprentices while finishing high school.

**Does the ALCDSB have any examples of OYAP student involvement?** – Yes! Over the past 5 years there has been significant interest and growth in **OYAP** enrollment. For example, in 2008-09, 242 students were enrolled in cooperative education placements in skilled trade areas. Of this group, 46 students were formally registered as apprentices with employers, and 35 received their Level 1 apprenticeship training at either **St. Lawrence College, Loyalist College** or **Local 183**. **Note:** College tuition fees for **OYAP** students enrolled in the **Carpentry, Hairstylist, Brick and Stone Mason, Automotive, Cook, Early Childhood Education, and Construction Craft Worker** programs are paid for by **MTCU**.

**How do high school students get involved?** – Information about **OYAP** may be obtained from the guidance departments or cooperative education teachers in any of the Board's high schools. (Web information at [www.oyap.com](http://www.oyap.com))

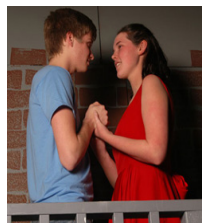
**Who Should Consider OYAP?** - Students who:

- Are at least 16 years of age and have completed 16 credits
- Are either in grade 11 or 12 and have an interest in a career in a skilled trade

Additional support or information is available from **Jim Johnston** or **Paul Denison, OYAP Coordinators** with the Board. **Jim** may be reached at **(613) 532-3985**; **Paul** may be reached at **(613) 849 – 8550**.

### NEXT MONTH

January 1..... World Day of Prayer, NEW YEAR'S DAY  
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Feast Day  
Monday, January 4..... First Instructional Day of the New Year  
Wed., January 13...OUAC online application submission deadline  
Fri. & Sat., Jan. 8 & 9..... Archbishop Spence Invitational  
JV Basketball Tournament at Holy Cross  
Thursday, January 14.....School Mass  
Fri., Jan. 15 & Mon., Jan. 18.....EQAO Grade 9 Academic  
& Applied Math Assessment Days  
Fri., Jan. 22 – Wed., Jan. 27.....Final Exam Days, Semester One  
Thursday, January 28.....Inclement weather day  
(exams, if necessary)  
Monday, February 1..... Professional Activity Day (no classes)



**Josh Blackstock and Jessica Bullett** as Tony and Maria in **West Side Story**