



HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

April 2021

Principal's Message

As the season of Lent draws to a close, we look forward to the hope offered by both Easter and spring. Let us rejoice and be glad for our blessings and hopeful as more and more of our loved ones start the vaccination process. We are hopeful to return soon to outdoor visits in a safe and comfortable setting.

Our recent school experiences with the coronavirus serve to remind us of our relative privilege whereby we have easy access to our amazing Public Health Nurse team, to time where we can work and live at home, and where all are presently healthy and well. We are also reminded of the precariousness of living in the pandemic; we should all endeavour in this stage of the game, so close to promise, to be vigilant about hand hygiene, masking and eye protection, and maintaining physical distance.

Students are to continue to eat with their class cohorts and to wear their masks throughout the rest of the day, whether inside or out, on school grounds. This holds true also for bus transportation. Students should also maintain distance from one another as they are in the neighbourhood, waiting to get in to one of the nearby stores or using the sidewalk. Courtesy with our neighbours is always appreciated. I will absolutely say that our students have been pretty amazing throughout all of the restrictions they have faced and we have tremendous support from our family partners.

Good luck to all those students who are awaiting responses from their college and university applications. Be sure to follow all steps of the process carefully. We are starting the transition process for our incoming grade eight students, always a time of excitement. We are hopeful to have some form of welcoming in advance of the next school year for our incoming class.

The optional spring uniform will begin with Octo Seven (April 19th). Information about obtaining a new spring uniform can be found on our school website. Also, the schedule is shifting so that our grade nines have a more respectable lunch time

This Month

- April 2– Good Friday**
- April 4– Easter**
- April 5– Easter Monday**
- April 9– half day class**
- April 12-16 April Break**
- April 19– Octomester 7 start**
- April 19– start Spring Uniform**
- April 20– Last day changes for Octo 7**
- April 21– Catholic School Council Mtg
6:30-7:30 virtual**

start. All of this is based on continuing in-person learning and we are hopeful to be able to do so.

Early plans are in the works for a modified June graduation celebration, likely on Thursday, June 24th, where students and some family members can walk across the stage, either indoors or out. Again, this will be based on what we can offer at that time in terms of provincial and local public health guidelines. More to come.

Stay well, everyone. Take care of yourselves and one another.

Terri Daniel
Principal



Visit our website at www.hctoday.ca

Counsellor's Corner

College/University Information

A reminder that university and college applicants should check their university/college account to review their transcript information. Also, students should be aware that they must accept offers of admission in their OUAC or OCAS accounts by the deadline dates indicated by the post-secondary institution. The next transmission of marks to OUAC and OCAS will be on April 22nd.

St. Lawrence College – Virtual Open House

St. Lawrence College will be offering a Virtual Open House from April 5th – May 7th. This event will give students the opportunity to attend multiple sessions throughout the month. Students will also have the opportunity to hear from current students and alumni of each program. Students can register for their sessions of interest at <https://www.stlawrencecollege.ca/2021-Virtual-Open-House>

Leader In Training Online Course

CFB Kingston is offering a LIT – Leader In Training online course for youth during the April break. Sessions focus on developing skills, attitudes and behaviours needed to be an effective leader. Youth will learn key skills to prepare for future volunteering and for employment in recreation. The instructors are the CFB Recreation team and KMFRC Youth & Child Development Coordinator. Registration is available at CFB Kingston – Public Access(cfmws.com) For more details contact hebert.eric@cfmws.com

ALCDSB Summer School – e-Learning

E-Learning courses will be offered by ALCDSB in July over 4 weeks for new credit delivered through on-line learning. Courses available are:

BTT10 – Information and Communication Technology in Business (Grade 9, Open)

CHV20/GLC20 – Civics and Careers (Grade 10, Open)

ENG3U – English (Grade 11, University)

ENG4U – English (Grade 12, University)

ENG4C – English (Grade 12, College)

HRT3M – World Religions (Grade 11, University/College)

MCF3M – Functions and Applications (Grade 11, University/College)

MCR3U – Functions (Grade 11, University)

MHF4U – Advanced Functions (Grade 12, University)

OLC4O – Ontario Literacy Course (Grade 12, Open)

Co-op – Cooperative Education is also available. Students can achieve 1 credit for a workplace experience in July.

Please contact your guidance counsellor in order to register for any of these courses.

A.Cantarutti – cantarut@alcdsb.on.ca

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G. Vella-Bowry- vbowry@alcdsb.on.ca

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

In our March 2021 School Newsletter, we shared that our school plans on having students in Grades 10 and 11, and non-graduating Grade 12 students, attempt a new online OSSLT field test in their assigned classes **during the week of May 3rd - 12th, 2021.**

The field test will be available to students participating in **in-person learning and working toward their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)**. This will allow the opportunity for students in Grades 10 and 11, and non-graduating Grade 12 students to attempt the test and, if successful, have it counted on their transcript. As the Ministry of Education has waived the literacy graduation requirement for all students graduating during the 2020–2021 school year, graduating students do not need to take the OSSLT field test.

The school Literacy Committee continues to work diligently to provide support, materials and information to both students and teachers in order to best prepare students for the upcoming assessment. All Grade 10 and 11 students are also reminded that they have been added to the Holy Cross D2L course "**OSSLT Literacy Test Prep Materials**" if they would like to engage in any extra practice at home. As students are required to be in-class learners at the time the Field Test will be administered at the school, it is important that parents/guardians plan accordingly with their students to ensure they are engaged in in-person learning during Octomester Seven (start date April 19, 2021) if possible.

Students who need to continue their studies remotely during Octomester Seven will be provided the option to come into the school on **Thursday, May 20th (designated Credit Rescue/Recovery Day)** to complete the on-line Field Test. Please contact Mrs. Anna Coe at the school to have your child placed on the list of participants for May 20th as all students choosing this option must be registered in the EQAO database accordingly. **The assessment will begin at 9 am in the Learning Commons on May 20th; technology will be provided by the school.**

For more information about the OSSLT and to access the practice test available to students, you are encouraged to visit <https://www.eqao.com/the-assessments/osslt/> . If parents/guardians have questions regarding the OSSLT on-line field test to occur the week of May 3rd through the 12th, please call the school and your queries will be directed to Mrs. Anna Coe.



Octomester Dates

Octo 6 class: Mar 8-Apr 8, 2021

Octo 6 exam: Apr 9, 2021

Octo 7 class: Apr 19-May 18, 2021

Octo 7 exam: May 19, 2021

Octo 7 Credit recovery : May 20, 2021

Octo 8 class: May 21 - Jun 22, 2021

Octo 8 exam: Jun 23, 2021

Octo 8 Credit recovery: Jun 24, 2021

Octomester 7 Schedule

Grade 9/11 Schedule		Grade 10/12 Schedule	
Time	Block	Time	Block
8:30 – 9:45 am	Learning Block #1 (1:15)	8:30 – 9:55 am	Learning Block #1 (1:25)
9:45 – 9:55 am	Body Break	9:55 – 10:05 am	Body Break
9:55 – 11:00 am	Learning Block #2 (1:10)	10:05 – 11:40 pm	Learning Block #2 (1:35)
11:00 - 11:40 pm	LUNCH	11:40 – 12:20 pm	LUNCH
11:40- 1:15 pm	Learning Block #3 (1:35)	12:20- 1:25 pm	Learning Block #3 (1:05)
1:15 – 1:25 pm	Body Break	1:25- 1:35 pm	Body Break
1:25- 2:30 pm	Learning Block #4 (1:05)	1:35- 2:30 pm	Learning Block #4 (0:55)



PASTORAL NEWS

I hope that all have had a blessed and fruitful Lent! It is hard to believe The Easter Triduum is already at hand. This high point of the liturgical year recognizes the central Christian mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, the triumph of life over death. If Lent is a season of darkness, and Easter a time of light, Holy Week is a time of transition. The Triduum is a single liturgical observation spanning three days: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening. This year, Easter Sunday falls on April 4th. The days ahead are more than a recollection of Christ's final hours; we are meditating on the story of our own life, passion, death and resurrection.

We will be observing the Stations of the Cross as a school community via YouTube on Holy Thursday. You are invited to view a recording of the opening hymn performed by our very own choir at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sAC5f6LNJml>.

Limitations on public Masses continue as we enter into the Easter Season. Thankfully, local parishes are continuing to refine their technical skills and are still offering online services! We are so blessed for the opportunity to participate in a virtual manner. You can view a list of parishes offering online Mass and other liturgies at the following link: <https://romancatholic.kingston.on.ca/prayer-corner>. Schedules for Easter Weekend are posted on the site of each individual parish.

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” 2 Corinthians 15:7

Wishing you all a safe and blessed Easter,

Nick Cotman, Chaplaincy Team Leader

All Are Welcome In This Place

Contact Us

Check on-line for more information at www.hctoday.ca

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Looking Forward to May

May 1-response to college offers due

May 3-midterm Octo 7

May 10- full disclosure date Octo 7

May 19- half day classes

May 20-credit rescue day

May 21-Octo 8 starts

May 24-Victoria Day

May 25-Octo 8 last day changes

International Student Experience

As the situation with the pandemic improves we have new interest in the number of international students eager to come study at Holy Cross. Therefore we are looking for families who would like to host a student and share a cultural experience with them. If you are interested and would like more information please call 613-544-2116 or email: international@alcdsb.on.ca .

