

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board

Newsletter December 2003

Visit our website at www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hcsc/



Final Examinations and Report Cards

Students were issued their report cards on Tuesday November 18th. Examinations will begin on Thursday January 22nd and conclude on Wednesday January 28th. Thursday January 29th will be Course Reconciliation Day. During that day, students can meet with their teachers to discuss their progress over the semester. Students will begin Semester 2 classes on Monday February 2nd. Final Report Cards will be issued to students on Thursday February 12th.

Crusader Community Supports Needy Children

The students and staff of Holy Cross Bridges Program would like to express a heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to "Operation Christmas Child". Your kindness and generosity enabled the Bridges Students to deliver 200 shoeboxes to be sent to needy children in countries around the world. Once again the Crusader community has risen to the challenge of sharing their spirit of giving with others less fortunate than themselves.

Let's Hear It For...

...the Varsity and Junior Varsity Girls Basketball team who are KASSAA and EOSSAA champions. The Varsity team will be competing at OFSSAA on Thursday November 27th in Sudbury. Special thanks to coaches Kelly Dixon, Alf Demelo and Sean Murphy.

...our students who successfully competed in the Royal Canadian Legion's Remembrance Day Poster contest. Winners in the senior black and white poster category include Jordan Mayne and Erin Tayles. Winners in the senior colour category include David Lukaszuk and Jennifer Taylor. Winning posters will advance to three other levels of competition at the Provincial and National level. Junior winners were Sarah Splinter and Salina Ramsaran.

...Kera James who competed in the British Association of Teachers of Dance on Nov. 15th in Toronto. Kera was awarded 1st place in Tap and 2nd in Jazz. She also won a dance scholarship for this year and is eligible to compete in England for additional scholarships.

... Cast and Crew of My Fair Lady congratulations on such a fine production. Special thanks to Ms. O'Brien, Mrs. McCombs, Ms. Rea-Dalton, Ms. Check Drumm, Mr. Sean Roberts, Mr. Lobo, Ms. Rose, Ms. Dowsley, Mrs. Pelow, Ms. Bland, Mr. Esford, Ms. Lalonde, Mr. Gary Cassidy, Sr. McCallum and Mr. Dan Roberts.

Message From Your Student Trustee

My name is Julia McBride, and I am the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board's Student Trustee for this school year. I am responsible for voicing your concerns to the Board on countless issues that affect you every day at school. I encourage you to contact me at mcbride@alcdsb.on.ca about any ideas or problems that you have. Your voice is important to me and to the School Board. Together, we work to better your experience as a student.

I would also like to let you know about an important organization, called the Ontario Student Trustee's Association-Association des élèves conseillers it conseilleres de l'Ontario (OSTA- AECO). This is a bilingual organization, made up of Student Trustees from all over Ontario. I encourage you to visit www.osta-aeco.org. Best of luck in all your endeavours, and God bless.

Student Services Update

Student Services will be hosting a session on the application process and scholarship opportunities for applicants to university and college. This session will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd at 7:00pm in the Lecture Theatre.

The City of Kingston, Cultural Services Division is looking for any students interested in participating with the Cultural Services Youth Action Council. The council offers youth in grades 7-10 a strong voice and greater opportunity to participate more fully in their community while gaining valuable leadership, experience and knowledge of municipal government operations. Community Youth Projects include; Youth Week Celebrations, Youth Arts and Entertainment, Environmental Issues, Youth Views and Media. The program also features professional development opportunities and is a great way to obtain valuable job experience while completing your 40 hours of community service. Please contact Mrs. Cantarutti for more information.

International Days

On Monday December 8th and Tuesday December 9th the Holy Cross Community will be celebrating International Days. On Monday the International students will display various objects from their countries. On Tuesday the International Students will host a Food Fair. They will prepare and sell popular foods from their countries.

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Early Dismissal Day

Holy Cross teaching staff will be participating in professional development on Friday December 5th. Classes will be dismissed at 11:00am. Buses will depart at 11:15am.

Holy Cross DVD Year Disc

The 2003- 2004 Holy Cross DVD Disc is now on sale for \$10.00 .

The DVD will contain 90 videos on every sports team, arts performance and school activities.

Every student who orders a DVD Year Disc before the Christmas break will have their name entered in a Christmas draw for a free home DVD player and television system.

Orders may be placed at room 215 with Mr. Esford.

Music Department News

The Music Department will offer their December Band Concert at 7:00 pm. on Thursday December 18th in the cafetorium. This will feature the Wind Ensemble the Grade 9 students and the Jazz Ensemble. The Jazz Ensemble will be performing in the Foyer during the lunch hour on Dec. 12th and the Wind Ensemble will perform in the Foyer during the lunch hour on Dec. 17th. Don't miss this annual Christmas Event! The Band will also be performing at John XXIII on Thursday Nov. 27th and at St. Theresa in Belleville on Wednesday, Dec. 10th

Pastoral Services Update

During this Advent Season, we are invited to prepare our hearts once again for the coming of Christ into our lives. Our next School Mass will take place on December 17th and our Advent Reconciliation is scheduled for December 4th.

Jamaica Mission Update

We are now selling tickets for our Christmas Draw to support students involved in this March Break trip to Kingston, Jamaica. There are 12 great prizes to be won with Early Bird Draws each week. We thank the local church groups and businesses that continue to donate to our Mission fundraising.

Archbishop Spence Invitational Basketball Tournament

The Junior Crusaders on December 5 and 6 will host Archbishop Spence Invitational Basketball Tournament. Games will be played at RND and Holy Cross on Friday while all games will be played at Holy Cross on Saturday. Championship game will be at 6pm on Saturday.

Non-Uniform Days

There are no non-uniform days in the month of December.

Senator Douglas Roche

Senator Douglas Roche is a former Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament and has received many international awards for his efforts to promote peace and social justice, including the Papal Medal, the Mahatma Gandhi Foundation for World Peace Award and the Canadian Islamic Congress' 2003 Peace Medal Award. Senator Roche will be speaking to senior students at Holy Cross on December 11th on the topic of "Politics, Morality and Peace". He will also be giving a public lecture at Regiopolis – Notre Dame at 7:00pm on the topic of " The Human Right to Peace".

Advent Food Drive

One way of entering into the spirit of this season is by giving to others in need; here at Holy Cross our annual Advent Food Drive begins on December 1st. The need has never been greater in the Kingston area. Donations of food and money will be collected through homerooms by C.I.C.S for the local Food Bank and the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Basket Campaign. Again this year we are challenging R.N.D for the **Christmas Challenge Cup**. Last year R.N.D earned this prestigious award by collecting over 80 boxes of food. We want to bring it home to H.C. this year. **Go Crusaders!!**

Community Outreach

Our School choir is preparing songs to entertain senior citizens and people in local hospitals. We also have students who continue to volunteer at Rosewood Retirement Home and in many other local institutions.

Christmas Blessing

As we face the advertising and commercial blitz of this season, may each of us still find time to experience God's peace in our lives. May the grace of this Christmas season touch and bless each one of us and our families.