

# Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board

## *Newsletter October 2004*

For up-to-the-minute information, visit our website at

[www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hcss/](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hcss/)



### **Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)**

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test has been scheduled by the Ministry of Education for **Wednesday and Thursday October 27th and 28th**. All grade 10 students who are working towards an OSSD will write the test. Holy Cross will be conducting the test between 8:30 and 11:15 a.m. both days. Students / parents must reschedule any appointments that are currently booked for these days. Students who arrive late to the test will jeopardize their completion of the tasks. There will be NO extra time allotted for these circumstances.

All grade 10 students will be reviewing their literacy skills once/twice a week for a three-week period prior to the test date. All components of the test will be reviewed with students during these classes. All grade 10 students received a copy of a workbook entitled, "The Grade 10 Test of Reading and Writing Workbook" that they will be using in their literacy classes. All students are encouraged to take this workbook home for continuous review. Once again, you may obtain practice materials, student resources, and sample questions & answers at the Education Quality and Accountability Office website at [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com). Parent/guardians will be advised in writing of their son/daughter's test outcome in the new year. Students who are not successful will retake the test next year.

Students who were previously unsuccessful on the OSSLT have an opportunity to attend an After School Literacy Program which will run for 5 weeks prior to the test date. Students who are not successful after two attempts at the OSSLT will be encouraged to write again this year and if they are unsuccessful they will enrol in the Gr.12 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course. Successful completion of this course will meet the literacy requirements for graduation. Students must have had the opportunity to write the literacy twice before they are eligible to enrol in this course.

Accommodations will be made for students who have an individual education plan.

### **Pastoral Care Update**

**Thanksgiving Food Drive:** In order to share some of our bounty with those less fortunate around us, C.I.C.S. is asking students to collect non-perishable food and/or money over the next **TWO WEEKS**, until our Thanksgiving School Mass on Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. The food will be donated to the Partners in Mission Food

Bank and the monies collected will go towards projects and hurricane relief in Jamaica. We look forward to your generous support of our 2004 Thanksgiving Food/Jamaica Mission collection. If you have any questions please contact any member of the C.I.C.S. Executive or Mr. Forster, Staff Advisor.

Fabian Brown a guest speaker from Jamaica will be making a presentation at H.C. on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Please join us.

### **Early Reports**

Early Report Cards will be distributed to students on **Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004**. Students will be booking appointments for their parents with teachers on **Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** Please make every effort to be in attendance to discuss your child's progress.

### **News from the Library**

Grade 9 parents & guardians - please note. This fall the Public Library is registering all grade 9 Holy Cross students for membership at no cost. Normally those living outside of the Library's territory (e.g. Amherstview) must pay an annual fee, but the fee is being waived this year for Holy Cross students. This enrolment is taking place as each Grade 9 home room comes to the Library for a one-period session to familiarize students with the vast resources of the HC library and that of the local Public Library. Parents/guardians are asked to return, signed, the two forms which were sent home with each student during September and early October. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Shea or Mr. Cortis in the Library 384-1919 Extension 3413 or 3414.

### **Early Dismissal**

Holy Cross teaching staff will be participating in one half day of professional development on **Monday October 25<sup>th</sup>**. Buses will depart H.C. at 11:10 am.

### **School Council**

Our next meeting is **Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** in the library. All members of our school community are welcome to attend.

### **Non-Uniform Day**

The one non-uniform day this month will be on Friday October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

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### Textbooks

As of late September, 95% of students had been issued the necessary textbooks for each course.

Students, parents and guardians are asked to note the following three reminders. Firstly, the green card received at the beginning of the semester must be presented each time a textbook or library book is signed out. Secondly, students are responsible for the condition of all of their textbooks. Any items requiring repair should be brought to the library immediately. Finally, and most importantly, students are responsible for the text or texts bearing a unique BARCODE found on the back cover of each text. For various reasons, it is fairly common for books to change hands. To avoid mix-ups students should write their name and the date PROMINENTLY in all of their textbooks.

All questions regarding cards, repair and particular barcodes issued to students are welcome in the library. For more information, please call 384-1919, x 3413 or 3414.

### Volunteer Hours

The Sisters of Providence of the St. Vincent De Paul provide many volunteer opportunities for students. Brochures have been delivered to the main office.

### Paul Halligan Classic

This year the Paul Halligan Classic will be played on Thursday October 28<sup>th</sup> at Regiopolis-Notre Dame. The junior girls basketball teams will tip off at 6:00 pm. The senior girls will follow. Come support both teams as they raise awareness and funds for the Kingston Breast Screening Program.

Many lead up activities will be held in order to heighten spirit and raise funds for this important cause.

Tuesday, October 19th	Bump (gr. 9&10) \$1
Wednesday, October 20th	Colors (homerooms)
Thursday, October 21st	Two Ball (gr. 11&12) \$2
Friday, October 22nd	Green / Silver Day \$2
	Two Ball (gr. 11&12)

All week tickets will be sold for Halloween Baskets. They can be purchased for \$1 from members of the basketball teams or in the main foyer at lunch.

### School Dance

The next school dance will be held on **Friday October 29th** from 7:30-11:00 p.m. Students are asked to listen to morning announcements for more details.

### School Absences

Parents are reminded that they must call or send a note to the school if their children are absent or going to be late. Parents/guardians should call and leave a message on the attendance line at 384 -1355.

### Tech Design News

Holy Cross Technological Design student models were displayed at City Hall during the last weekend in September during Architecture Week. A Model prepared by HC graduates Nick VanHerpt and Noel Marshall of a renovated Kingston Memorial Centre along with a model of St. Paul the Apostle addition by Scott Campbell, Reba Plante, Colleen Lake was also on display. Holy Cross CSS was the only high school in the area to have an invitation extended to them for this opening.

On Thursday Sept 30, 2004 local architect Armando Sardinha visited the school in the lecture theatre to discuss with students ideas about architecture and related professions.

### Graduates!

Graduates are asked to note the following dates which are pertinent to portraits, photo orders and write-ups for the 2004-2005 Holy Cross yearbook:

- Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> Final photo day for Graduating artist/athletes
- Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> Graduation portrait proofs- pick up day
- Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> Final day for Grad. Yearbook Write-ups
- Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> Graduation Photo orders due
- Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> issue HC Spin (Student Newspaper)
- Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> Friends & Artist/Athlete photo orders due
- Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> Last day for late yearbook orders

### October Calendar

Please see the attached October's calendar of events. The most current event information is available at our website at [www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hcsc/](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hcsc/)