



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

November, 2008 Newsletter... visit our web site at www.hctoday.ca

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The Holy Cross newsletter is issued on the first school day of each month.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Thanks to the coaches, managers, community volunteers, and students for always making us proud to see the **Green and Silver on the courts and fields**. The **Students' Council**, with help from emcees **Sheila Edwards** and **Lewis MacDonald** roused our school spirit with a **Pep Rally**. The **Second Annual Friday Night Lights Bill McLeod Memorial Catholic Cup** event was truly remarkable, a testament to our fierce Crusader pride as well as to undaunting support from the community at large, many of whom go without acknowledgment. We are grateful for all that everyone does to support Holy Cross athletics and all of our endeavours. The football teams gave us reason to cheer and our fans, young and old, made the night an occasion that each participant will cherish for years to come. To view the schedules and standings go to www.coach@gametimes.ca. Much appreciation goes to the athletes, coaches and volunteers who helped to raise \$6,000 at the **PH Classic**. We were also very proud of the **fourth place finish at OFSAA** by our **Golf Team**, comprised of **Kyle Benford, Ryan Desveaux, Jay Fabbro, Simon Reyers, and Coach Chris MacDonald**. The **girls' field hockey team** also had an impressive season, finishing first in league standings. Congratulations and good luck to **Stephanie Hulse, Brianna LaPierre, Nicole O'Sullivan, Samantha Searle, Simone Cunningham, Sarah Valentino and Olivia Reyers** as they prepare for **Cross-Country OFSAA**, as well as to all of our teams working towards their seasons' ends.

It was truly inspirational to see the enthusiasm and dancing in the Cafetorium on Tuesday, October 21st for an evening of Jamaican music, dance and drama featuring the **St. Patrick's Foundation All Star Performing Arts Band** from Kingston, Jamaica. The concert highlighted the talents of these gifted young Jamaicans as well as those of Holy Cross performers on the stage at the school. The Cafetorium was filled with over 300 participants from our community.

On **October 17th**, we issued our **Early Semester Report Cards** to students. This was an early indicator of each student's achievement in the first six weeks of this semester. The first half of the semester will end on **Wednesday, November 5th** and then on **Thursday, November 20th**, the **mid-semester Report Cards** will be distributed in Period One classes. This Report Card provides extensive reporting in each subject including: a percentage grade; course median; absences/lates; learning skills and personal comments on the individual student's strengths, weaknesses and next steps. **There is ample time left in the semester for students to improve**

their marks and do well in each course. If a student's mark is below 50%, this indicates the need to examine the work to date. This month will be a time to review academic strategies, goals and objectives for the school year. A discussion with the teacher will help you plan for maintaining the achievement level or ways to improve the student's mark. Teachers may refer some students whose progress is faltering to **Mr. Ihor Dejneha** or **Mrs. Kim Hulton**, our **Student Success** teachers, for what we call "credit rescue", an attempt to regain academic footing.

THIS MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

Fri., Oct. 31 – Fri., Nov. 7Midterm Test Period
 Saturday, November 1OFSAA Cross-Country in Sarnia
 Saturday, November 1 All Saints' Day
 Sunday, November 2 All Souls' Day
 Mon., November 3. Organizational Meeting for Coffee House, lunch, Rm 134
 Mon. – Fri., Nov. 3 – 7National Media Awareness Week
 Sign-up for Coffee House, lunch, Room 134
 Tuesday, November 4... College Application Workshop #1
 Wednesday, November 5... "Take Our Kids to Work" Gr. 9 Day
 Honour Roll Celebration (Period One)
 Term 1 Grade 10 Civics & Careers Classes End
 Wed. – Tues., November 5 – 11 Veterans' Week
 Thursday, November 6Term 2 Grade 10 Civics & Careers Courses Begin
 Friday, November 7 Author Ken Oppel visits Holy Cross
 Saturday, November 8 KASSAA Football Championships @ Richardson
 'Beyond the Food Bank' workshop 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at HC
 Sunday, November 9... KASSAA Girls' Basketball Championships
 KASSAA Boys' Volleyball Championships
 Monday, November 10 .. Try-outs for Winter Sports Teams Begin
 Tuesday, November 11..... Remembrance Day Liturgies, Period 1, Caf.
 Thursday, November 13.....Grade 9 – 12 Midterm Marks Due
 Friday, November 14.....Students' Council Dance #2
 Mon/Tues, Nov 17-18...Morning Performances of *The Crucible*
 Wednesday, November 19.....*The Crucible*, 7 p.m.
 Thursday, November 20.....Mid-semester Report Cards Issued
 The Crucible, 7 p.m.
 Friday, November 21..... *The Crucible*, 7 p.m.
 Saturday, November 22..... *The Crucible*, 7 p.m.
 Thurs. & Fri., November 20 - 21.....C.I.C.S. Toronto Street Retreat
 Thursday, November 20.....Mid-semester Report Cards Issued
 Monday, November 24.....Catholic School Council Meeting 7:00 at HC
 Thursday, November 27..... Full Disclosure (last day to drop senior courses)
 Non-Uniform Day (tentative)
 Friday, November 28.....PA Day # 3 - No classes
 Sunday, November 30.....First Sunday of Advent

Congratulations to our school community for contributing so much to the **Thanksgiving Food Drive**. Once again, **Holy Cross** came behind **QECVI** and **RND**, but most importantly, we contributed to the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph's efforts to feed the hungry in our own local community **through the Partners In Mission Food Bank**.

As the Holy Cross school community, we welcome your input on how we are doing. Please feel free to contact a teacher, counsellor or administrator during school hours. Check our website regularly for important updates on information. Our students, your children, are the centre of our work and their educational and personal accomplishments fulfill our mission.

Paul A. Walsh, walshp@alcdsb.on.ca

HOLY CROSS PASTORAL SERVICES

PASTORAL EVENTS: During the month of November, Catholics traditionally remember and pray for friends and family members who have died. We invite students, staff and visitors to our school to remember their loved ones by writing their names in the **Book of Remembrance** which will be kept in the Chapel throughout this month; these people will be remembered in our daily prayers and at mass. We will also be remembering all those who died in the Great Wars of the past century or who perished while serving on peacekeeping missions at our **Remembrance Day Liturgies** in the Cafeteria on **Tuesday, November 11th**. All are welcome.

RETREATS: Our **Grade 10 home form classes** attended the **Sexuality: Mind, Body, & Spirit Retreats** during the week of **October 6-9th**. These full-day retreats focused on ways we can nurture a healthier attitude towards our sexuality. We were fortunate to have Lisa Lollar, our health unit nurse, and two young people, **Lorne Plooard** and **Sarah Aubin**, from London as guest speakers. Thank you to our Grade 10 teachers and other staff whose hard work and sacrifice made these retreats possible.

CICS' CORNER: Our guests from **St. Patrick's Foundation in Kingston, Jamaica** enjoyed their recent visit to Holy Cross. While here they visited hospitals, **Queen's University**, local parishes and participated in a wonderful **Jamaica Concert** here at **Holy Cross** on **Tuesday, October 21st**. Thanks to all who extended a hand of welcome to these talented young performers and who supported their fundraising efforts. They are looking forward to welcoming us to **Kingston, Jamaica** when we visit them during our next Mission Trip in 2010. C.I.C.S. would also like to thank all those who signed the petition letters to our governments on **October 17th** and who joined our school campaign to help 'Make Poverty History'. Our next CICS event will be the **Toronto Street Retreat** which will take place from **November 20-21st**.

UPCOMING EVENTS: All are invited to attend "**Beyond the Food Bank**" a Social Justice workshop to be held at Holy Cross on **November 8th** from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This event is sponsored by the **Justice & Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Kingston**. You can pre-register by calling **Chris Forster** at Holy Cross (ext. 3436) or by contacting **Alice Gazeley** at: rgazeley@cogeco.ca. May God's love shine upon us and all our deceased loved ones during this month of November.

Chris Forster, Pastoral Services

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

It was great to have a large turn-out of parents, especially those of our Grade Nine and Ten students, join our first Council meeting. The next meeting of the Holy Cross Catholic School Council will be held on **Monday, November 24th** in the **Library** at **7:00 pm**. All interested community members are invited to attend. Congratulations to **Chair Greg Heffernan** on behalf of the Council for co-organizing a worthwhile and thought-provoking afternoon with **O.A.P.C.E.** representatives, **Sr. Claire Fitzgerald**, and a host of other speakers to share with us the importance of Catholic education.

MAJOR DRAMA PRODUCTION NEWS

A small town. Witches. Hysteria. Hangings. Who will be next? Find the answer to this question when the **Arts Department** presents **Arthur Miller's** modern classic **The Crucible**. Rehearsals and technical production are in full swing as over eighty students work toward creating the world of seventeenth century **Salem, Massachusetts** and bring to life the shocking events that destroyed a community and resonate to this day. The play opens on **November 19th** and runs until **November 22nd**. Curtain time is **7:00 p.m.** Tickets are **\$8.00 for students, \$10.00 for adults**, and go on sale the week before the show. This year's production will be accompanied by a special art exhibit - **Black, White, Gray** - in which our visual arts students explore the play's themes. Don't miss this unique opportunity to experience the collaborative artistic efforts of our gifted students.

COFFEE HOUSE

This fall's Coffee House will take place on **Wednesday, December 3rd** in the **Holy Cross Cafetorium**, starting at **6:30 p.m.** The cost is **\$5.00**. Sign-up for performers will run from **November 3 – 7th** in the **Guitar Room (134)** at lunch time. There will be an organizational meeting on **Monday, November 3rd** during the lunch hour.

BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Thank you to all those who supported the **Bridges to Community** pink T-shirt sale. With your help our program was able to donate **\$500.00** to Breast Cancer Research.

POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER 2008

The Bridges to Community 18-21 Program is once again proud to offer you this timeless Christmas classic. Students and staff will be taking orders from **October 20th** to **November 12th**. Delivery will be on **December 3rd**. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to support exciting learning opportunities for our students!

THINK CRITICALLY, ACT ETHICALLY

The third annual **National Media Education Week** takes place **November 3 – 7th, 2008**. Once again, **Media Awareness Network** and the **Canadian Teachers' Federation** have partnered for the week to promote media education and encourage media literacy activities throughout Canada. Under the theme **Think Critically, Act Ethically: Inside and Outside the Classroom**, this year's events aim to encourage young people to become thoughtful, informed and empowered cyber citizens.

CRUSADER TUCK SHOP

New clothing items arriving soon! Take advantage of this opportunity to purchase **Crusader gear** for yourself or Christmas gifts for the Crusaders in your family. Show your Crusader pride!

ECO-CORNER

The bins are here! New bins for recycling cans and plastic bottles have arrived and have been placed throughout the school next to the garbage bins. Early reports suggest they are making a positive difference in our recycling and garbage habits. The bins are being used and they are being used properly. Look for more recycling and waste-reduction efforts in the coming months as HCSS works towards Eco-Certification.

Eco-tip: Leaves are falling, it's time to start raking. Here's an opportunity to trim your waste and your time! Instead of bagging leaves for pick up, keep a supply close to your compost bin to add to your compost pile in between layers of kitchen waste. Alternatively you can use your leaves as mulch on your vegetable garden or flower beds, to help retain moisture and prevent weed growth; fallen leaves are full of important nutrients, which are returned to the soil as the leaves decompose.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE

On November 26, the **Bridges to Community Program** will be offering **Christmas Crafts** for sale in Holy Cross foyer from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. Students have been working hard to create unique gifts for your family and friends.

HOLY CROSS UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

Thank you to all those who generously supported this year's United Way Campaign. Donation pledges, cheese sales and the silent auction were all very successful. Together we have made a difference.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Friend photos and graduating artist/athlete photos which were ordered before October 28 have been printed and may be picked up in room 129 over the lunch hour. Order forms for these photos are still available in room 129. **Both Friend Photo and Graduating Artist/Athlete photo orders** will continue to be accepted until **Thursday, November 20th**. Please submit your orders to **Mr. Prior** in Room 129 during the break between periods 1 and 2 or at lunch. Completed orders will be distributed before Christmas.

Grad Photos and grad retakes were taken in September and October. Students have received their proofs and order forms. Grad orders which were submitted by the October due date will be distributed one week before the Christmas break. Grad Photo orders are still being accepted. Please bring your orders to **Mr. Prior** during the break between periods 1 or 2. Orders placed at this time, however, will not arrive until after Christmas.

School Photos and School Photo Retakes were taken in September, and orders have been distributed to students who ordered packages. Retakes were taken on October 29th. Retake orders will be distributed in late November. For those who were unable to get to the retake date, Lifetouch has set up a studio date on our next PA day (November 28th) at their Kingston studio located at 1784 Bath Rd, across from Frontenac Secondary. The phone number to book an appointment is **1-866-969-0489**.

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

Honour Roll Ceremony

A ceremony honouring last year's Honour Roll students will take place during Period One on **Wednesday, November 5th**. Our guest speaker will be Holy Cross Alumnus, **Heather Brady**.

Post Secondary Information

Workshops for on-line application to **OUAC (Universities)** were conducted this past week. Workshops for on-line applications to **OCAS (College)** will be held **Tuesday, November 4th** at 11:15 and 2:35. Students are encouraged to check out up-to-date post-secondary information at the Holy Cross Website. (www.hctoday.ca and click: "Academic" – "Post-Secondary Info").

This Month

November 6th - University of Toronto 11:15
- Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, 2:30
November 7th - University of Waterloo, 11:15
November 12th - University of Guelph-Humber, 11:15
November 13th - Redeemer Christian University, 11:15

Scholarships

Some prominent scholarships include the **Millennium Scholarships**, and the **Burger King Scholarship**. The Millennium Scholarship applications are due mid December and are based on citizenship, strong academic achievement, and leadership. Visit www.millenniumsolarships.ca

The Burger King Scholarship applications are due mid February. Applicants must work an average of 15 hours per week and demonstrate financial need. Go to www.bk.com/scholars for more information.

myBlueprint.ca

Grade 9 students will participate in a workshop to introduce them to an educational planning resource. Students will be able to build customized high school course plans, identify post-secondary options that are available to them and explore information about apprenticeships, college programs, university programs and workplace opportunities across Canada. To access this site, visit www.myBlueprint.ca and input the activation code "hckington".

Volunteer Opportunities

Students are reminded to check the Information Board outside Student Services for volunteer opportunities.

VETERANS' WEEK

The week before **Remembrance Day** has once again been declared Veterans' Week by the Prime Minister. It is a week to honour and remember the achievements and sacrifice of Canada's veterans. For background information on Veteran's Week visit the **Veteran Affairs Canada** web site at www.vacacc.gc.ca

LATE BUSES

Soon, two late bus runs will commence, traveling from **Holy Cross to Napanee or to Yarker / Moscow** (Hwy. 2 up Camden East Road). These buses will only run if numbers warrant. Please contact the Main Office if you are interested in making use of this service.

TEXTBOOKS

Each student should now have all in-stock required textbooks for every class. As noted in other newsletters, students must take good care of each book and return all items (by barcode) which are signed out when exams end. A reminder also that students should write their name and the date in each book to avoid classroom mix-ups. In late semester, a letter will be issued to each student detailing titles and barcodes signed out.

ATHLETICS

The winter sport season **begins in November** and Holy Cross is again expected to field extremely competitive teams in **Wrestling, Curling, Cheerleading, Badminton, Boys' Basketball, Girls' Volleyball, and Girls' and Boys' Hockey**. This winter, over 170 student athletes from Holy Cross will attempt to compete in these championships. Approximately 50 staff coaches and 16 volunteers will provide these opportunities throughout the year. Both the KASSAA website - www.kassaa.ca and the OFSAA website www.ofsaa.on.ca are excellent resources for schedules, league rules and any general information regarding high school sports. Information regarding teams can be obtained through a number of sources, including school announcements, posters, our school's athletic web site - www.alcidsb.on.ca/~hcssa, local newspapers and the KASSAA web site - www.kassaa.ca. If you have any questions concerning a team, please contact the coach listed or ask your home room teacher for assistance.

Sport	Coach	Starting Date	Cost
Badminton	Mr. Gervais	Mid December	\$70.00
Jr. Boys' Basketball	Mr. Garant	Mid November	\$175.00
Sr. Boys' Basketball	Mr. Dzierniejko	Mid November	\$300.00
Cheerleading	Mrs. Carr	Late November	TBA
Curling	TBA	TBA	TBA
Boys' Hockey	Mr. Clarke	November 1	TBA
Girls' Hockey	TBA	November 7	\$300.00
Jr. Girls' Volleyball	Mr. O'Brien	Mid November	\$120.00
Sr. Girls' Volleyball	Mr. Sicoli	Mid November	TBA
Wrestling	TBA	Late November	TBA
Swimming	Mrs. Coombs	TBA	TBA

HOLY CROSS STUDENTS' COUNCIL MESSAGE

October was a busy and eventful month for us all. We had our annual Pep Rally where everyone got to show off the true Crusader spirit by supporting our sports teams. It was a success and thank you to all who helped out. Congratulations to **Kyle Derue** who won the new ipod shuffle in the raffle at the end. The **Paul Halligan Classic** was this month. It was very successful in raising money for cancer research. The basketball teams supported the cause very well. **Friday Night Lights at Richardson Stadium** was outstanding this year! Both the junior and senior teams won the Catholic Cup. Holy Cross took part in the Thanksgiving Food Drive high school competition coming in third. Thank you to everyone who contributed. The **Jamaican All-Stars from Kingston, Jamaica** visited us this month and enlightened everyone to how lucky we are to believe in such a great place. The All-Stars raised HC's roof at their final concert raising money for a recreational centre. We are having an **Orange and Black Day on Friday, October 31st** and we'll also be judging home-rooms with a **Door Decorating Contest** that day. Prizes will be awarded to the top three classrooms. Holy Cross had an excellent October and we are looking forward to an even better November. Thank you.

Laura Brown, Communications Officer

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

One of our goals is to help students on IEPs **develop their self-advocacy skills**. We encourage all of you parents/guardians to review the Strengths, Needs and Accommodation sections of the IEPs to the point where your son/daughter can clearly express what they do well and what they need assistance with to successfully access the curriculum. Also, cross-reference marks on assessment tasks with the use of accommodations and evaluate. You may be surprised. Grade 9 students are demonstrating the benefits of successful Grade 8 transition planning with greater ease in opening their lock and locker, more relaxed demeanor, introductory meeting with guidance counselor and SERT, timetabled for one elective in semester I, having fewer level changes, increased use of the resource room, higher number of students in the GLE Learning Strategy courses and more practice with SEA laptops.

Grade 12 students need to organize their Post-Secondary Transition Portfolio whether they are going into the workplace, apprenticeship, college or university. To access information go to www.hctoday.ca. Go to Academic link to Student Services for post-secondary information. Go to Special Education for Scholarships for students on IEPs and for the accommodations offered at different colleges and universities.

Everyone is welcome to attend an information meeting for Parents/Guardians of adolescents on the **Autism Spectrum Disorder** which will be held at **9:00 am on November 12th**. Dale O'Flynn, AS.D., consultant from Pathways for Children and Youth is at Holy Cross every Wednesday from 9:00-11:55 am.

There will be an information evening for **Queen's On-Line to Success course** for senior students in grade 11 or 12 with a Learning Disability scheduled at McArthur Faculty of Education, Union St. on **November 6th, 2008 at 6:30 pm**. For further information, please contact **Ms. Marie Gavan Knox at 613 384-1919, ext. 3426**.

AUTHOR KEN OPPEL VISITS HOLY CROSS

On **Friday, November 7th**, **Kenneth Oppel**, author of many young adult novels, will visit Holy Cross and lead workshops for students from many of our English classes. He will also lead a workshop for intermediate classes from three of our feeder schools (**Mother Teresa, St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, and Our Lady of Lourdes**) during one period of the day. Kenneth Oppel's works have won many awards in Canada and abroad, including the Red Maple Award, where students make the selections themselves. We look forward to making literature come alive by putting a face to the works students are reading in early November.

NEXT MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

1.....	World AIDS Day
	Advent Food Drive/Collection Begins
1-3.....	Improv Try-outs, 2:45 – 4:00 p.m., Rm. 246
3.....	Coffee House, Cafetorium, 6:30 p.m.
4.....	Grade Level Reconciliations all day in the Library
6.....	National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
8 & 9.....	Holy Cross International Days
11...	Catholic Development & Peace Student Leadership Day
12 & 13.....	Senior Boys' Basketball Tournament at HC
15.....	Recommended Completion Date: University and College Applications
18.....	Advent School Masses
	Katharine Splinter Memorial Christmas Concert
	End of Advent Food Drive/Collection
19.....	Final Instructional Day before the Christmas Break
	Tentative Non-Uniform Day
20 – January 4	Christmas Holidays