



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

January, 2011 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

I hope that the holy seasons of **Advent** and **Christmas** were a time for reflection, renewal and gratitude for you and your family. On behalf of the **Holy Cross** staff and administration, I extend best wishes for a very **Happy New Year**. I welcome all staff and students back from the **Christmas** break. Special welcomes to **Ms. Claire Bouvier** who has rejoined our teaching staff on a temporary basis, and **Mr. Mike DeSousa**, who will be our computer technician. A fond farewell and best wishes to our former technician, **Mr. Peter Couvreur**, who will be joining the board's tech team. We have valued his quiet focus on improving our efficiency and technological capacity.

Excitement was in the air in the month of **December** just ahead of the break. **Pippin** was phenomenal; thanks to all the dedicated staff and students whose efforts were rewarded by appreciative crowds at each performance. The bands, guitar group, and vocalists entertained us all at lunch time and/or during the **Katharine Splinter Memorial Concert**. The various charitable and social justice issues taken on by a number of student groups, for example **Students' Council** and **CICS** organizing a drive that raised funds and materials for local homeless youth through "**The Space**", as well as helping families in developing countries through Catholic aid organization "**The Chalice**." The **22nd Annual Memorial** basketball games, with monies raised for cancer research, were also a phenomenal success.. In our continued economic turmoil and busy times, I know that families throughout our community gave a little extra.

Now, in **January**, we reserve a little more time to ready ourselves for culminating projects and final exams. The final month of every semester is a busy one for students. The field trip moratorium is one way as a school that we show that academics do take precedence. Another way we can show this is to encourage families to take vacations during the scheduled holidays. Sometimes, teachers receive requests to provide work for students as they go on vacation. Time together as a family is to be cherished; however, when you do so during the school year, there is a price to pay, academically. The in-classroom learning cannot be replicated. The **Education Act** tells us that students may be absent from school for illness, religious holiday, music instruction or some other unavoidable cause (such as inclement weather). **If a student is absent from school for vacation purposes, it is his or her responsibility to get caught up on the work missed and, if possible, to make up any missed assignments.** Some opportunities (for example, labs or group projects) may have to be accomplished in some other fashion, at the discretion of the teacher. **It is not acceptable to expect**

staff to rewrite and reschedule final exams because of a family holiday.

We enter 2011 with many opportunities ahead of us provided we choose to make the most of our opportunities. I wish all students and their families a very Happy New Year and let's all of us as **Holy Cross Crusaders** make 2011 a great year for our school and community. The time to prepare for our **25th Anniversary** is fast approaching. See <http://holycross25thanniversary.myevent.com> (or the **25th Anniversary** button on **HCToday**) for regular updates.

HAPPY
NEW YEAR
2011

Paul A. Walsh

January Events at Holy Cross

Saturday, January 1... World Day of Prayer, NEW YEAR'S DAY
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Feast Day
Sunday, January 2.....Feast of the Epiphany
Monday, January 3..... First Instructional Day of the New Year
January Field Trip Moratorium Begins
Wednesday, January 5 Winter Team Photos in the Gym
Thursday, January 6 Winter Team Photos in the Gym
Yearbook Questionnaire forms in Home Room
Feast Day of St. Brother Andre Bessette
Fri. & Sat., Jan. 7 & 8..... Archbishop Spence Invitational
JV Basketball Tournament at Holy Cross
Wed, Jan 12.....HC Gala Vocal Concert, 7:30 p.m., Cafeterium
OUAC online application submission deadline
Thursday, January 13.....School Mass
Fri & Sat, Jan 14 & 15.....Jr. Boys' Bball Hoops for Hope, Belleville
Tues., Jan. 18 & Wed., Jan. 19.....EQAO Gr 9 Academic/
Applied Math Assessment Days
Week of Jan 16.....Nat'l Non-Smoking Week, www.nnsw.ca
Mon & Tues, January 24 & 25.....In-Class Review Days
Tuesday, Jan 25..... Last Instructional Day for Semester One
Wed., Jan. 26 – Tues., Feb. 1.....Final Examinations Days
Final Day for Semester 1 Textbook Returns
Wed, Feb 2.....Inclement weather day (exams, if necessary)
Thursday, February 3.....P.A. Day (no classes)
Friday, February 4.....Turnaround Day, Exam Returns
& Second Semester Classes

PASTORAL UPDATE

As we begin a New Year, and as we get back to our work and studies after the Christmas break, I would like to extend to each member of our **Holy Cross** community, Christmas greetings and prayers for a happy and blessed New Year. **December** was certainly a busy month here at our school. We celebrated Reconciliation during the first week of Advent. And many of our students and staff availed themselves of this opportunity to be healed and reconciled with God and with others. Then we celebrated our monthly School Mass during the second week of Advent during which **Ms. O'Brien's Drama students** put on a beautiful and moving Nativity Tableau. Throughout the month our school fundraised for several different charities. Our **Advent Campaign** saw our homeroom classes raise thousands of dollars for both a local charity, '**The Space**', which benefits homeless youth here in **Kingston**, as well as an international Catholic organization called '**Chalice**' which provides school and medical supplies, animals and household goods for families in developing countries. Many thanks to all those who helped with this and with all our fundraising efforts this month.

'**LIFETEEN**' continues in the **New Year** at **St. Paul the Apostle Church**. If you haven't been to it yet, come check it out – Sunday afternoons starting with dinner at **5:15 p.m.** followed by talks, discussions, games and a **LifeTeen Mass** at **7:30 p.m.** in the Church.

Our **Jamaica Mission Team** students are now busy with final preparations for their **February 12th – 20th** trip to **Kingston, Jamaica**. Everyone is looking forward to working with the people at **St. Margaret's Remedial School**, the **St. Patrick's All-Stars Marching Band**, and at **St. Monica's Home for the Elderly**. Many thanks to all those who supported our fundraising efforts, especially our **Fish Fry** back in **November**.

We are looking forward to our final school **Mass** for this semester which will take place on **Thursday, January 13th**. At this **Mass** we will continue to pray for those who have experienced illness or who have lost a loved one over the holidays. We will also ask God to bless students who will be writing final assignments and preparing for final exams and any students or staff who will be leaving us after this semester. May God bless our school community with a healthy and happy **New Year**.

Chris Forster, Coordinator of Pastoral Services

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Students' Council is very proud of the **Holy Cross** and **Christmas** spirit shown this month. On **Wednesday, December 15th**, the **Memorial Basketball Games** were held at **Holy Cross** between the **Crusaders** and **Panther Boys' Basketball Teams**. The **Junior Boys** put up a valiant fight against the **Junior Panthers** ending in a 49 - 29 loss. The **Senior Crusaders** had a successful game and dominated **RND 54 - 25**. The school spirit was tremendous! Over **\$10,000** was raised in support of cancer research by both of the Catholic schools. A **tacky Christmas sweater day** was held on **December 16th** to finish off the **Advent** campaign. **Christmas** pictures were taken with **Santa Claus** and **Mrs. Claus** for donations at lunch. The **Advent Campaign** has raised over **2000\$** for local homeless youth and for the **Chalice** program, which provides animals and education to underdeveloped countries. The **Students' Council Executive** also organized a movie trip on **December 17th** to see "**Tron Legacy**". All the students seem to have fun and enjoyed the movie. **Students' Council** would like to wish all the **Holy Cross** community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sara Valentino, Communications Officer

JANUARY 2011 EXAMINATION PERIOD

The **Final Examination Schedule** will be posted on the **HC TODAY** website **Monday, January 3rd, 2011**, as well as attached herewith. Exams are scheduled to be written at **8:30**

and **12:00** beginning on **Wednesday January 26th** and are to conclude on **Tuesday February 1st**. In the case of inclement weather and bus cancellations the exam schedule would be modified with examinations being "bumped" one day; i.e. if buses were cancelled on **Friday January 28th**, then all exams scheduled for the **Friday** would be written on **Monday, January 31st**, and the remaining part of the schedule adjusted accordingly. Further instructions will be given to these students if necessary. Listen to the radio or check the board/school websites for bus cancellations and exam delays.

JANUARY EXAMINATION RETURN

Students will pick up their January examinations at the end of the day on **Friday, February 4th**. An abbreviated Semester Two timetable will be in effect for the day. Students will be able to pick up Semester One exams at the end of the day providing classes with the opportunity to take up and review the exam and final mark calculation (where available).

EQAO GRADE 9 ASSESSMENT OF MATHEMATICS

In **January**, all **Holy Cross** students enrolled in a **Grade Nine Applied or Academic math course** will join others in a **province-wide standardized Grade 9 Math Test**. The 60 minute mandatory assessment will involve multiple choice questions, short answer and extended response. This test which is a component of the **Secondary School Reform** occurring in **Ontario** will be administered over two days during the student's regular math period. The test dates at **Holy Cross** are **Tuesday, January 18th** and **Wednesday, January 19th** for both Applied and Academic classes. Students and parents can get extra practice for the **EQAO Math Test** by visiting www.eqao.com under **Student Resources** and **Parent Resources**. More information will be sent home in **January**. Please note that for students in the **Academic Program**, this accounts for ten per cent of their final mark; for students in the **Applied Program**, an exemption from final exam may take place if they: 1) have term work at level three or four, 2) submit an **EQAO** review book at level three or four, and 3) score level three or four on the **EQAO** assessment. **Teachers will inform their students of exemptions prior to final exams**

TEXT BOOKS FROM SEMESTER ONE

We remind students that textbooks must be returned by the end of their last exam day. The **Textbook Room** is open for this purpose every exam day. Students should bring textbooks to the **Textbook Room** themselves. Please do not leave textbooks in the classroom or examination rooms. These may be considered as "lost" books, which would have to be paid for. Each student's record must be clear of textbooks, library books or library fines before s/he may sign out books for Semester 2. If a book is lost or damaged, it must be paid for before next semesters books can be loaned. Deposit cheques for \$100.00 will not be used at this time. They will be held until the end of Semester 2.

TEXTBOOKS FOR SEMESTER TWO

Students are responsible for picking up their books before classes begin. They will need their green Textbook/Library card. (Replacement cards cost \$5. and will take 24 hrs. so students must arrange for a replacement card ahead of time.) The **Textbook Room** will be open for textbook pick-up every exam day. (Some textbooks may not be available until nearer the end of the exam schedule after previous users will have returned them.) There is no textbook sign-out service during class time once classes begin, but the **Textbook Room** will be open before and after classes, and at noon.

BRIDGES TO COMMUNITY THANKS YOU!

The students of the **Bridges to Community Program** would like to extend a sincere thank you to all those who so enthusiastically supported our annual **Christmas poinsettia** sale. Your ongoing support enables our students to experience many exciting learning opportunities.

ECO-CORNER

Welcome to 2011; a great time to make some green resolutions! Many of us understand that we can reduce our carbon footprint by turning off our electronic devices and using more energy efficient appliances but did you know that the choices we make regarding the food we eat also has a large effect on our carbon footprint? One of the goals of the **HC Green Team** is to educate students on the importance of buying local food. This reduces the great distances that our food has to travel and also supports local farmers. The **Green Team** has been busy this fall digging a large vegetable garden on the east side of the school property. The vegetables harvested from this garden will be donated to community groups in need. If you would like to get involved with the garden project please contact the school.

Thank you to **Jennifer Jang** of the **Green Team** for designing our new logo!



TECH AD WINNERS

Holy Cross Technological Education students were big winners dominating the 4th annual **Whig Standard** "Design-An-Ad" contest placing in the top three spots in sixteen out of the nineteen categories. **Mr. Esford's** and **Mr. Scarpazza's** students produced newspaper advertisements for local businesses and the winning submissions were printed in a special **Whig Standard** advertising feature on **December 17th**. A broad range of nineteen local businesses participated, including; **James Reid Furniture**, **Edwards Ford**, and the **Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic District School Board**, to name a few. 700 Kingston & area students from eighteen schools submitted creatively attractive and technically professional ads for the contest. Students researched their assigned business to learn about the products or services they provide, included logos and contact information, and answered the "5 W's". Students in **Mr. Esford's grade 11 Communications Technology** class produced their own original photographs in addition to the layout & graphic design of their winning advertisements. First place winners included: **D.J. O'Neil (Kingston Hyundai)**, **Nick Robidoux (Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic District School Board)**, **Meggan Greyling (Kingston Paint)**, **Daisy Barrette (Edwards Ford)**, **Alannah Szolopiack (Denny's)**. Second place winners included: **Hayley Dykins (James Reid Furniture)**, **Sabena Sandhu (Putt N' Blast)**, **Sophie Krohn (Whig Standard)**, **Jessica Taylor (YMCA)**, **Charlotte Allen (McCoy Bus)**. Third place winners included: **Jordan Bulhoes (Limestone District School Board)**, **Evan Angers (Kingston Frontenacs)**.

Students in **Mr. Scarpazza's grade 11 Technological Design** class included: first place winner **Jordan Lackey (Hometown Realty)**, second place winners **Colin Carlo (Taylor Chevrolet)**, **Amy Jordison (Wal-Mart)**, and third place winner **Matthew Ferguson (Stradwick Carpet)**.

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

University/College Applications

Applicants should notice that the application centre deadlines (for equal consideration for admission to programs) are approaching. University applications are due to the centre by **Wednesday, January 12th** and college applications by **Tuesday, February 1st**. Students are asked to ensure that all data on the application is accurate (including address and transcript information). Please contact **Student Services** with any concerns.

Semester 2 Timetables

Students are able to access their timetable on the **Parent-Student Maplewood Access** on the **Holy Cross website** <http://hcss.alcdsb.on.ca/hctoday>. The link is under the "academic" section of the **Home Page**. Students should also verify demographic information here and notify **Student Services** of any changes. Students received their usernames and passwords from homeroom teachers earlier this **September**. If you have misplaced your username and password, contact **Student Services**. A new timetable with teacher names and room numbers will be issued in Period 1 class on the turn-around day (**Friday, February 4th**).

Course Selection 2011- 2012

The course selection process for next school year will be outlined in workshops being conducted in **mid-February**. More details to follow.

Looking for a Job OR Volunteer Hours

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

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course / Test

The **Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)** has been scheduled for **Thursday, March 31st, 2011**. All **Grade 10** students who are working towards an **OSSD** will write the test. **Senior students new to the province, or who were unsuccessful on the test/absent the year before will also write the test**. Students who have been eligible to write the **OSSLT** and have been unsuccessful at least once, are eligible to fulfill the requirement through the **Ontario School Literacy course (OSSLC)** which is being offered in Semester Two. Please see your **Guidance Counsellor** if you qualify to take this.

HOLY CROSS CLASS OF 2011 GRADUATION CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony for this year's graduating class will be held on **Tuesday, June 28th** here at the school. Please mark this date on your calendar if you plan on graduating in **June 2011**.

KEY WORDS IN THE GRADE 9 EQAO MATH ASSESSMENT

Throughout the provincewide mathematics assessment, some key words are used to identify the type of response required. The key words, as found on the EQAO website, www.eqao.com, are listed below. Parents can help to ensure that their sons or daughters are familiar with these terms.

COMPARE - tell what is the same and what is different

DESCRIBE - use words to create a mental picture for the reader

DETERMINE - use mathematics to find a solution to the problem

LIST - use point form

EXPLAIN - use words and symbols to make your solution clear

JUSTIFY - give reasons and evidence to show your solution is correct

SHOW YOUR WORK - record all calculations and all the steps you went through to get your answer. You may use words, numbers, graphs, diagrams, symbols and/or charts.

CRUSADER ATHLETICS

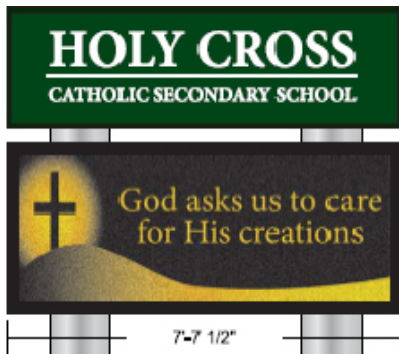
The Memorial and Full Court Press Against Cancer

The **22nd Annual Memorial** was held this year on **Wednesday, December 15th** in our gym. The bleachers were full and the games embodied **Fr. Labelle's** prayer for "friendly competition". Thanks to the organizing committee and volunteers, to the players and coaches, the fans, families and friends and to local businesses who contributed in many ways -all for the shared and ongoing battle to defeat cancer. We raised approximately **\$11,000** at this event. Thanks to **Mr. Esford** and his **SHSM** crew (with volunteers) for providing media reports and coverage, in partnership with **Cogeco** television.

All Crusader teams are back in action following the Christmas break, with games beginning **Tuesday, January 4th, 2011** and continuing up until **Thursday, January 20th, 2011**. Special sporting events upcoming at Holy Cross include: the **Archbishop Spence's Jr. Boys' Basketball Tournament - January 7th and 9th**. Good luck to all of our winter teams as their seasons reconvene and travel toward the championships.

NEW SCHOOL SIGN

Big News! After several graduating classes donated funds and we scrimped and saved money from community use funds, the time has come to purchase an electronic sign for the **Holy Cross!** The plan is for the sign (mock-up shown below) to be installed in time for our **25th Anniversary Celebration** in **May**.



LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

Are you creative and proud of your school? Do you want your handiwork displayed in a public forum? Students, staff, alumni or any member of the **Holy Cross** is invited to design the art work that would be incorporated into the banner of the sign. The contest will conclude in **February** and specs will be posted on www.hctoday.ca. In the meantime, you can begin to plan your design and/or contact **Mr. Paul A. Walsh** at **ext 3411** for details.

| NEXT MONTH AT HOLY CROSS | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday, February 1..... | OCAS Applications Due Examination Day #5 Textbook Return / Pick-up Deadline |
| Wednesday, February 2..... | Snow Day (Exams if necessary) |
| Thursday, February 3..... | P.A. Day, no classes |
| Friday, February 4 | Turn Around Day |
| Friday, February 4 | First Full Instructional Day in Semester 2 |
| Sun, Feb 6..... | KASSAA & Reg'l Cheerleading Championships |
| Tues, February 8 | Semester One Final Marks due at 3 p.m. After-School Literacy Program Begins |
| Wed, February 9..... | Semester Two Grade Assemblies |
| Friday, February 11..... | Semester 1 Report Cards distributed Cheques cashed for unreturned/damaged textbooks Semi-Formal Semester One marks due to OCAS |
| Saturday, February 12..... | Jamaica Mission Trip Departs Jazz Night, 6:30 p.m. |
| Monday, February 14..... | Grade 9 Friends Photos, Room 129 |
| Tuesday, February 15..... | Grade 10 Friends Photos, Room 129 2011-12 Course Selection Assemblies National Flag Day Semester One Marks due to OUAC |
| Wednesday, February 16..... | Grade 11 Friends Photos, Room 129 Grade Eight Parent Information Night |
| Thursday, February 17..... | Grade 12 Friends Photos, Room 129 Toronto Auto Show Field Trip |
| Fri, Feb 18..... | Final Day for Semester Two Timetable Changes |
| Sunday, February 20..... | Jamaica Mission Trip Returns KASSAA Boys' Basketball & Girls' Volleyball Championships |
| Mon, Feb 21..... | Ontario Family Day Holiday (school closed) |
| Tues, Feb 22 – Tues, March 1..... | Course Selection Workshops |
| Wed, Feb 23..... | HC Catholic School Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m. |
| Wed, Feb 23 – Fri, Feb 25..... | Kiwanis Music Festival EOSSAA Boys' Basketball Championships @ HC |
| Friday, February 25..... | KASSAA Hockey Championships (Tentative) Non-uniform Day |
| Saturday, February 26..... | Kingston Improv Games Finals |



Conceptual artist rendering to be used for placement only. May not be exactly as shown.