



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

March 2012

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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we head into the **March Break**, I express my appreciation to all students and staff for the solid start to **Semester Two**. Our community is blessed to have so many dedicated and talented members who share their time and talents with one another. We welcome to our staff **Mr. Matt Clarke**, who has rejoined our teaching staff this semester in a senior level business class. The **World Day of Prayer** is an international, ecumenical, prayer movement initiated and carried out by Christian women in more than 180 countries and over 1 000 languages. Every year Christians of many traditions and all ages, celebrate a common day of prayer on the first **Friday in March**, this year **Friday, March 2nd, 2012**. God invites us to have a prayer relationship with Himself, but He also expects us to have concerned relationships with our neighbours, throughout the world. Prayer must be accompanied by action, as God moves our hearts and directs our thoughts. We are undergoing an unprecedented stressful time at **Holy Cross**. In the midst of uncertainty and heart-break, I commend the support that has been offered to one another, from students, staff and community. Together, and through the Grace of God, we will be strong and faithfilled.

On Wednesday night, there was an impressive turn-out of parents and community members for our **Teen Stress / Distress Night**, led by **Dr. Mike Condra** of **Queen's University**. His compassionate and clear suggestions for people supporting teens was reassuring. Many thanks to the parents on our **Catholic School Council** who organized this event, our staff who ran the tech end of things and to all of our community partners for being present.

I have witnessed great moments recently at the school and in the community. We enjoyed the full-tilt matches of the **Boys' Basketball** team's games at **KASSAA** and victories at **EOSSAA**. Thanks to the players and their coaches – **Mr. Garant, Mr. Check, Mr. Bes-selink, Mr. Demelo** and **Mr. Dzierniejko**. Good luck to the **Senior Team** as they travel to **OFSAA** for the second consecutive year. Congratulations to **Sydney Delonghi, Emma Arbuckle, Hanna Pho** and **Brooke Maschi**, representing their teammates in the **All-Star Volleyball Games**. Good luck to our **Junior Boy Curlers** as they compete in **EOSSAA**, our **Cheerleaders** who will defend their **Provincial Championship Title**, and to our wrestlers who travel this weekend to compete at **OFSAA**. Just this past weekend, our Improv Team had a solid showing in every event both during their round play and finals. Congratulations to team members and coaches **Mr. Stabile** and **Ms. Rose**. First place honours and A+ ratings at the **Kiwanis Music Festival** are also laudable achievements for our bands and leaders **Mrs. McCombs** and **Mr. Orser**. I am proud of all of our teams' achievements and wish all those who are continuing with their seasons all the best.

Students are reminded and challenged to be stewards of our school environment: to pick up after themselves, to maintain and wear

MARCH DATES TO REMEMBER – NUTRITION MONTH

Thurs, March 1	Wellness Week Day 4 Theme PLAY – Physical Activity
Fri, March 2	Wellness Week Day 5 Stress(ED) – Stress Education Day Deadline for sharing new or significant changes to IEPs with SERTs World Day of Prayer
Sat & Sun, March 3 & 4	Cheerleading Provincial Championships
Sunday, March 4	Second Sunday of Lent
Mon – Wed, March 5 -7	OFSAA Boys' AAA Basketball Windsor OFSAA Wrestling Championships Peterborough
Mon, March 5	KASSAA Boys' & Girls' Hockey Championships
Tues, March 6	Literacy Tuesday Period 3 for Grade 10 Classes
Wednesday, March 7	Cabaret 7:00, Cafeteria Italy Trip Departs
Thurs, March 8	Girls' Rugby Tour of Scotland departs
Friday, March 9	Last day of classes before March Break 2012
Saturday, March 10	2012 March Break begins
Saturday– Sunday, March 12 -18	March Break 2012
Sunday, March 11	Third Sunday of Lent Daylight savings time begins at 2:00 a.m.
Saturday, March 17	HC Italy trip returns
Sunday, March 18	Fourth Sunday of Lent Girls' Rugby Tour of Scotland returns
Mon, March 19	2012 Crusader spring season team tryouts begin Return to classes after March Break Early S2 report cards issued
Tuesday, March 20	Spring Equinox OFSAA Girls' AAA Hockey Mississauga
Wednesday, March 21	100 days to Class of 2012 Graduation Graduation Info Meeting Cafeteria Queen's On-line to Success Opening Day 9:00-3:00
Thursday, March 22	World Water Day Queen's On-line to Success Opening Days 9:00-3:00
Friday, March 23	Class of 2012 Graduates Retreat 2012-2013 Course verification selection sheets issued
Fri – Fri, March 23 – 30	Journey of Faith Cross at HC
Sunday, March 25	Fifth Sunday of Lent
Wednesday, March 28	Grade 10 OSSLT Assembly, Cafeteria P 1 4th Kingston Youth Poverty Conference
Thursday, March 29	EQAO Grade 10 Literacy Test Gr11/ 12 Independent Study Day (if you've completed the test)
Friday, March 30	March Non-Uniform Day Thinkfast Earth Hour at Holy Cross (Classroom lights off 15 min/period)
Sat March 31	Earth Hour 2012 8:30 to 9:30 p.m
Sunday, April 1	Palm Sunday Easter Seals Telethon

their uniforms properly, and to be respectful of one another and of themselves. As mentioned in the grade assemblies at the start of this semester, non-uniform days are contingent upon students upholding the above expectations. We just participated in **Pink T-Shirt Day**, to show by our clothing that we will not tolerate bullying. It is past time to ensure that our actions match our ideals. *More than one-half the time, bullying stops within 10 seconds of a bystander stepping in to help.*

Paul A. Walsh

PASTORAL SERVICES UPDATE

Lots of pancakes were served up at our **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner** on **Tuesday, February 21st**. And, over **\$800.00** was raised for our **ShareLent Campaign**. The next day **Archbishop O'Brien** presided at our **Ash Wednesday Mass** which marked the beginning of our Lenten journey. Staff and students received the ashes on their foreheads at the end of Mass as a sign of our collective need for repentance and healing. On **Thursday, March 8th**, we will celebrate **Grade Level Confessions** with many local priests making themselves available to speak with students and staff and to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**.

Eleven **Holy Cross** students and three staff recently returned from the **2012 K2K Jamaica Mission Trip** which took place from **February 11 – 19th**. We were joined by seven **Regiopolis-Notre Dame** students and their **Staff Supervisor, Mr. Pat Farrell**. Besides our usual volunteer work with **St. Patrick's Foundation** at **Riverton** and **St. Margaret's Remedial Schools, St. Monica's Home for Abandoned Elderly** and the **Performing Arts Band**, we also built a house through "**Food for the Poor**". We were blessed in so many ways during this Mission trip and met and worked with many amazing people. We look forward to sharing about our experiences in the coming weeks.

Our **CICS' Students** and **Students' Council** are organizing this year's **ShareLent Campaign**. Classes will fundraise over the coming weeks in support of various charities both here in Kingston and overseas including our **Brick by Brick** collection to build a school in **Kenya**. We are also planning for our annual 25-hour **Thinkfast** which will take place on **Friday, March 30th**.

Some other upcoming events include: the **Graduates' Retreat** on **Friday, March 23rd**, the **Youth Poverty Conference** on **Wednesday, March 28th**, the **March for Life** bus trip to **Ottawa** on **Thursday, May 10th**, and the annual **Hotel Dieu Hospital Food Blitz** on **Wednesday, May 16th**. We also will be welcoming the "**Journey of Faith**" **Cross** to our school from **March 23 – 30th**. This **Cross** was blessed by **Archbishop Brendan O'Brien** during our **Board Wide Staff Faith Day** in **October** and is visiting each school across our **Board**. God's blessings on all our students and staff as we begin the month of **March** and continue our Lenten journey.

Chris Forster, Chaplaincy Team Leader

NEWS FROM STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Students' Council hopes that all students and staff are off to a good start and enjoying their second semester here at **Holy Cross**. We would also like to thank our **Crusaders** for supporting our various sports events this past and upcoming month. Both **Crusader Boys' Basketball Teams** won their **E OSSAA Championship Tournaments**. Congratulations to both teams! The **Sr. Boys' Basketball Team** will now advance to the **OFSAA AAA Basketball Championships** in **Windsor**. **Cabaret** will be taking place on **Wednesday, March 7th** in the **Holy Cross Cafeteria**. Best of luck to all performers and students are encouraged to support their fellow classmates. The **Crusaders Co-ed Cheerleading Team** will be competing in the **Provincial Championships** to defend their provincial title in **Kitchener** from **March 3rd-4th**. Best of luck to the team! **Friday, March 30th** is a tentative non uniform day. **Thinkfast** will also be taking place on **Friday, March 30th**. We wish all students and staff a fun and safe **March Break!**

Stephanie Constantinidis, Communications Advisor

THE ECO-CORNER

The **Justice and Peace Commission** of the **Archdiocese of Ontario** and the **Anglican Diocese of Ontario's Green Group**, are promoting "**Earth Hour**" on **Saturday, March 31st, 2012**. We are asked to turn out the lights and power down as much as possible from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. that day. This is a world wide movement that started in **Sydney, Australia** in **2007**. The cities of **Montreal, Ottawa, and Toronto**, and many other **Canadian** municipalities have launched **Earth Hour** initiatives. Please participate. Go to <http://www.earthhour.org/canada> for additional info. The **Ecoteam** has been discussing the participation of **HC** in **Earth Hour 2012** by having the school participate on **Friday, March 30th** by reducing the number of hallway lights turned on. Each class can participate by switching off the classroom lights for a minimum of 15 minutes to get a total of one hour. **Keep it Green HC!**

World Water Day (WWD) 2012 will be guided by the theme '**Water and food security**' under the leadership of the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**. Coping with population growth and ensuring access to nutritious food to everyone call for a series of actions we can all help with:

- consume less water-intensive products;
- reduce the scandalous food wastage: 30% of the food produced worldwide is never eaten and the water used to produce it is definitively lost!
- produce more food, of better quality, with less water;
- follow a healthier diet.

For more information see www.unwater.org/worldwaterday and <http://www.worldwaterday.org/>.

HOLY CROSS CLASS OF 2012 GRADUATION CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony for this year's graduating class will be held on **Thursday, June 28th** beginning at **7:00 pm**.

HOLY CROSS CLASS OF 2012 REMINDERS

Teachers of senior courses are asked to review and remind potential graduates of the following significant dates.

Wednesday 21st March	Graduation information meeting
Friday 23rd March	Graduates Retreat
Monday 2nd May	Potential HC Graduates List Published
Monday 7th May	Grad Invitations mailed home
Wednesday 9th May	Valedictorian Election
Friday 11th May	Community Service Hurs documentation due
Wednesday 20th June	Final Course documentation deadline
Thursday 28th June	Grad Mass and Commencement Exercises

A list of potential graduates of **Holy Cross** and eligible to receive their **Ontario Secondary School Diploma** and take part in the **June 2012 Graduation Ceremony** will be published in the **May Newsletter**. The completion of thirty (30) credits (including compulsories), forty (40) hours of Community involvement, and the successful completion of the literacy test, are the key components of the diploma requirements. The community involvement hours (40) are to be completed and submitted to **Student Services** by **Friday, May 11th, 2012**. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all requirements (including night school courses and on-line courses) have been completed or will be completed. The final marks for on-line and night school courses must be submitted to **Student Services** by **Thursday, June 14th, 2012**. Students may contact their counselor regarding any questions concerning graduation.

To mark the beginning of their final 100 days as **Holy Cross** students, the **HC Class of 2012** will assemble in the cafeteria on **Wednesday, March 21st, 2012** in **Period Two**. This date marks the beginning of the last 100 days as a **Holy Cross student** and provides a great opportunity for the school to review and remind the senior class of their obligations and responsibilities in the days and weeks to come. As the saying goes, a student for a short time but an alumnus for a life time, **Once A Crusader, Always a Crusader**.

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

COURSE SELECTION FOR 2012 - 2013

The course selection process for next year was completed last week. It is critical that any student who has not selected courses, do so, before **Monday, March 5th**. Students can access the course selection link through the **HC website**. Click on the **Maplewood Access** link on the front page under "**Student Services**" and enter your username and password. Students can also use the library computers at lunch to adjust their choices. Contact a guidance counsellor if further assistance is needed. A verification sheet listing choices will be issued after the **March Break**.

VOLUNTEER & JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Students are reminded to check the bulletin board for volunteer and part-time job opportunities. **Ontario** summer job opportunities are available through Ontario.ca/summerJobs. Volunteer opportunities are available with the **Canadian Cancer Society** and **Loyalist Township**.

COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

A reminder that university and college applicants who have made course changes recently must check their university/ college site to make sure the changes have been made in their **OUAC/OCAS** file. See your counsellor as soon as possible if the academic info on either the **OUAC** or **OCAS** site is incorrect. Students are encouraged to visit post secondary campuses during **March Break Open Houses**.

EARLY SEMESTER REPORT CARDS

Look for **Early Semester Report Cards** to arrive home just after the **March Break**, on **Monday, March 19th**. These report cards are intended to let students and parents know how well a student is progressing in each of his or her classes. We do not include grades at this point in time because we want to focus on learning skills and the anecdotal comments. Please discuss the report card with your son or daughter. You may also want to make use of this information to prepare for parent-teacher interviews on **Thursday, March 22nd**. We always welcome contact between school and home, starting with subject teachers at any point in the semester.

LITERACY TESTING

The **Literacy Test** will be written on **Thursday, March 29th, 2012**. Literacy Test preparation is being offered to all **Grade 10 students**, throughout the next several weeks. A practice booklet has been sent home with the students. This year, the test will be conducted on one day for two ninety- minute sessions. In order to serve the test writers properly, our **Grade 11 and 12 students** not writing the test are granted an **Independent Study Day** (at home) on **Thursday, March 29th**. **Grade 9** classes will run as regularly scheduled.

LIFETEEN

On **Friday, March 2nd** at **7:00 p.m.** (that's it - **FRIDAY NIGHT!**) **LIFETEEN** is hosting a **Coffee House** at **St. Paul's Church**. Come out for a night of musical and artistic talents as well as a performance from the hilarious **Holy Cross Improv Team**. Tickets are **\$5.00**, including refreshments and can be bought at the door on the night of **OR** on **Friday** at lunch, in the school foyer. Hope to see you there!!

ARTS NOTES

KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL RESULTS

Congratulations to the **Junior and Senior Holy Cross Concert Bands**, the **Holy Cross Symphonic Band** and the **Holy Cross Jazz Band** for their outstanding performances during the **Kiwanis Music Festival**. Both competitive classes had a difference of 1% with **RND** with the **Senior Band** winning its class! Congratulations to all participating musicians!

KINGSTON IMPROV GAMES

On **Saturday night** at the **Kingston Improv Games**, the **Holy Cross Improv** team battled against weather conditions that sometimes made things difficult for some people to see, and still managed to clearly shine with consistently excellent performances that secured them a second place finish. Congratulations to **Arianna Bullet**, **Miguel Martins**, **Matt McaGlashen**, **Talia Phillips**, **Michaela Mc-**

Grath and graduating players **Tyler Check**, **Grace Hill** and **Hailey Masterson** for a memorable season. Your efforts on **Saturday** earned five cowbells out of five - well done!

CABARET 2012

Alice has found herself in a mysterious, magical place called **Fairy Tale Land**. This realm is filled with all sorts of fairytale characters, from **Princess Jazmine** and **Aladdin**, to **Robin Hood** and his **Merry Men**. Come join us on **Alice's** journey on **Wednesday, March 7th** at this year's **Cabaret!** The cost is **\$5** for students and **\$7** for adults. The journey begins in the **Holy Cross Cafeteria** at **7pm**. We hope to see you on this night full of talent!

HOLY CROSS ATHLETICS

This spring, over 200 student athletes from **Holy Cross** will compete for **KASSAA** and **EOSSAA** championships. Both the **KASSAA** website - www.kassaa.ca and the **OFSAA** website www.ofsaa.on.ca are an excellent resource for schedules, league rules, and any general information regarding high school sports. Information regarding teams can be obtained through a number of media, including school announcements, posters, our school's athletic web site - gocrusadersgo.com, 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. To recap the winter season our **Junior Boys' Basketball Team** won a thrilling contest against rival **Bayridge Blazers** at **KASSAA** and then continued to battle through tightly orchestrated contests to capture their first **EOSSAA** championship in 15 years. Our **Boys'** and **Girls' Hockey Teams** have made it to the city finals on **Monday, March 5th**. The **Curling Team** has qualified for the **EOSSAA** championship held **March 1st** and **2nd**. Good job boys and good luck at **EOSSAA!** **Chris Waltner**, **Nick Norris**, **Heather Brousseau**, **Felicia Pascoal**, **Jessica Waltner**, **Kameisha Christian**, **Mikaela Wheeler** and **Mark Brousseau** of the **Wrestling Team** will be off to **OFSAA**, in early **March** in **Peterborough, Ontario**. **Badminton** season hits full stride in **March** and **April**. Spring teams include boys' and girls' soccer, boys' and girls' rugby, co-ed tennis, baseball, and track and field. Spring team photos are upcoming. Only the teams photographed on these dates will appear in this year's yearbook publication. Hope to see everyone on the sidelines in the spring.

DIRECTION OF TAX SUPPORT

Catholic parents and guardians, electors and supporters are being encouraged to continue to ensure that they are registered as **English-Separate Supporters**. The support of residential rate-payers is directly linked to attendance rights and indicates a firm commitment to the system essential to maintaining the existence of Catholic school boards in **Ontario**. If you are not listed as a **Separate School Supporter** and wish to remedy this, please visit our web site www.alcidsb.on.ca and choose the link named "**Direction of Tax Support**" or call our **Assessment Department** at **(613) 354-6257, Extension #455**.

NEWS FROM THE SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, March 29, 2012: **Mrs. Poels**, grade 10 **Special Education Resource Teacher**, has discussed accommodations with all students on IEPs who are writing the **Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test**. Letters will soon be sent to parents and guardians with this information.

SEA Laptops: Semester two textbooks have been loaded onto most SEA laptops. Any students who still need their books loaded are asked to come to **Room 117**.

The **Individual Education Plan** is a living document designed to support academic success. The Draft IEP for semester two will be sent out the week of March 19. As part of the "Consultation Process", you are invited to contact your special education resource teacher with comments, changes, or concerns. **SERTs** may be contacted at **613-384-1919**, **Ms. Gavan Knox @ext.3426**, **Mrs. Hulse @ext 3428** and **Mrs. Poels @3425**

Public Workshops on topics such as "**Addictions**", "**Self-Injury Behaviour in Youth**", "**Understanding Mental Illness**" are offered by the **Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute Inc.** For full details, they may be reached at info@ctrinstitute.com.



BREATHE FREE! SMOKING CESSATION GROUP

KFLA Public Health Nurse Lisa Lollar is facilitating a Q4L: **Breathe Free Smoking Cessation** program which continues on **Wednesdays** until early **April**. It takes more than willpower to quit smoking. It takes skills and support, as well as motivation. The **Breathe Free** program is designed to help youth quit smoking for life. **Breathe Free** can help **Holy Cross** students quit now or learn the steps for quitting later.

NEXT MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

April 1.....	Palm Sunday Mr. Dzierniejko's birthday
April 2.....	2012-13 Student's Council Election Packages Available
April 3.....	Mass of Chrism, St. Mary's Cathedral
April 4.....	Holy Cross Uniform Sale, 3:30 – 8 pm, Cafeteria
April 5.....	Holy Week Liturgies One Day Without Shoes
April 6.....	Good Friday
April 8.....	Easter Sunday
April 9.....	Easter Monday
April 10 – 16.....	Midsemester Test Period
April 11.....	Gr 12 Euclid Math Contest 2012-13 Students' Council Election Packages Due
April 15.....	National Volunteer Week Begins
April 16.....	Earth Week Begins Last Day for Term 1 Careers and Civics Classes
April 17.....	Term 2 Careers and Civics Classes Begin
April 18 – 22.....	Bands/Vocals Trip to Anaheim
April 18.....	Catholic School Council Mtg, 6:30, Library
April 22.....	Administrative Professionals' Week Begins
April 23.....	S2 Midterm Marks due to OCAS
April 24.....	World Malaria Day Students' Council Election Videos
April 25.....	Secretaries' Day S2 Midterm Marks due to OUAC
April 26.....	Students' Council Town Hall Assembly
April 27.....	Students' Council Election Day
April 28.....	Catholic Education Week Begins
April 30.....	Report Cards Issued HC Class of 2012 Potential Graduate List Published ALCDSB Student Trustee Election/Senate Mtg

