



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON
March 2014 Newsletter... visit our web site at www.hctoday.ca, or Twitter @HCtoday1
Main Office 613-384-1919; Attendance Office 613-384-1355; Student Services 613-384-2023; Fax 613-384-8665,
 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 back to our staff **Mrs. Christine Waters**, and wish **Ms. Sarah Davey** well in her next teaching position. This winter weather has wreaked havoc on our roads and on our curriculum. The flexibility of staff and students in overcoming these difficulties is essential. On a related note, it was a real privilege to share in so many **Olympic** moments at **Holy Cross**; to witness **HC** alumna **Jayna Hefford** capture her fourth **Olympic** gold medal with the women's hockey team was one such special moment. We also enjoyed many other special **Canadian** moments in the classrooms, the **Cafeteria** and, for many of us, at home, I am sure. I would like to thank our **Catholic School Council** members at **Holy Cross, RND** and many of our partner elementary schools who spearheaded and fundraised (largely through Parenting Reaching Out grants) so that we could bring **Jesse Miller** here from **Vancouver** to share his knowledge and passion about Social Media for over 3500 students from grades five to twelve as well as to approximately 350 parents and other members of the **Kingston** community. He challenged students at each level to be aware of the mechanics and consequences of being users of social media and adults to be aware of what their young people are doing online as well as to be good role model ourselves.

This year, the **World Day of Prayer** takes place on **Friday, March 7th, 2014**. The theme is "Streams in the Desert"; my wish is for **Holy Cross** to serve as a stream in the desert for all of our staff, students and community members. This begins with the embodiment of our faith in our everyday interactions.

As the month begins, many of our athletic teams are competing in regional and provincial competitions – our **Boys' Curling Team of Franklin Parkes, William Parkes, Kyle Penney and Jamie Sammon**, who competed at **EOSSAA**, the **Boys' Hockey Team** who captured **KASSAA** over **LaSalle** in a tightly contested game, the **Girls' Hockey Team** who also head to **EOSSAA** this week after winning our school's first **KASSAA** title ever, the **Wrestling Team** who captured the **EOSSAA Silver**, with Golds for **Jessica Waltner, Samantha Pascoal, Mikala Wheeler, and Connor Quinton**, and Silvers for **Shannon Anderson, Michaela Gooding, Ashley Callery, T.J. Taylor, Andrew Martins**, and a Bronze for **Jonah Johnston**. Good luck at **OFSAA!**

Our **Improv Team** had a solid showing in every event both during their round play and finals, ending up with first place results in the **Kingston** region and once again earning a national berth. Congratulations to **Matt McGlashan, Arianna Bullett, Miguel Martins, Claire Choiniere, Andrew Hurt, Sara Doyle, Nick Lansdown**, and

MARCH - EASTER SEALS MONTH – NUTRITION MONTH	
Monday, March 3	RND & HC Bands Music Workshop, P3&4
Tuesday, March 4	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast
Wednesday, March 5	Ash Wednesday Mass London/Paris Trip Departs
Thursday, March 6	Queen's Student Teachers end practicum Last Day of Classes for students before March Break ShareLent Collection Begins
Wed & Thurs, March 6 & 7	OFSAA Wrestling, Brampton
Friday, March 7	P.A. Day for CUPE staff & admin Unpaid day for teachers (not at work) Jamaica Mission Trip Departs World Day of Prayer
Sat, March 8 – Sun, March 16	March Break (no classes)
Saturday, March 8	International Women's Day
Sunday, March 9	Daylight Savings Time First Sunday of Lent
Friday, March 14 (Pi Day)	London/Paris Trip returns
Sunday, March 16	Jamaica Mission Trip returns
Monday, March 17	2014 Spring Season Team Tryouts Begin Return to classes after March Break S2 Early Progress Reports Issued St. Patrick's Day
Tues – Fri, March 18 – 21	OFSAA Girls' Hockey, Sudbury
Wed – Fri, March 19 – 21	OFSAA Boys' Hockey, York Region OFSAA Curling, Brampton
Wednesday, March 19	100 Days Until Graduation Graduation Information Meeting ALCDSB Beacons of Hope Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.
Thursday, March 20	Spring Equinox Grade Level Reconciliations in the Library KASSAA Sr. Boys' All-Star Basketball Game, HC, 5:30
Fri, March 21	Gr 10 Comm Tech Trip to Ryerson & Much Music
Saturday, March 22	World Water Day
Monday, March 24	S2 IEPs mailed home 2014-15 Students' Council Exec Election Packages Avail.
Tuesday, March 25	COMPASS survey, all grades, P3 KASSAA Doubles Badminton Tournament, HC Parent – Teacher Interviews, 3:30 – 5:30, 6:30 – 8:30
Wednesday, March 26	KASSAA Mixed Doubles Badminton Gr 10 OSSLT Assembly, Cafeteria, Period One Bands' Night Grand Theatre, 7 pm.
Thursday, March 27	OSSLT / Practice OSSLT for Gr 9s Gr 11/12 Ind. Study Day (unless have to complete test)
Friday, March 28	Holy Cross Earth Hour Tentative Non-Uniform Day Course Selection Verification Sheets Issued Grade Twelve Grad Retreat
Saturday, March 29	Earth Hour 2014, 8:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Mon, March 31	ALCDSB Student Senate Meeting @ St. Paul Nominations for Catholic Education Week Awards deadline

Kort Clifford and coaches **Mr. Stabile** and **Ms. Rose**. **Winter Coffee House** provided an evening of entertainment showcasing the talents of so many of our students. I am proud of all of our community's achievement 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 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 for the third time 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 Breakfast on Tuesday, March 4th**. The money raised will go to our **ShareLent Campaign**. On **Wednesday, March 5th**, **Fr. Jan Kusyk** will celebrate our **School Ash Wednesday Mass** with the distribution of the Ashes at the end of the Liturgy. On **Thursday, March 20th**, we will celebrate our Grade Level Confessions with many local priests making themselves available to speak with students and staff and to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**.

Seventeen students and five of our school staff will be involved in this year's **Jamaica Mission Trip** from **March 7 – 16th**. They will be doing the 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 **Seaview Gardens Performing Arts Band**. They will also be building a house with a local family through "**Food for the Poor**". They will be touched and changed in so many ways through this Mission trip and they are thankful to all who supported them with donations over the past few months. We look forward to hearing about their experiences in the coming weeks.

Our **CICS' Students** and **Student Council** are busy organizing this year's **ShareLent Campaign**. Classes will fundraise over the coming weeks in support of various charities both overseas and here in **Kingston**, including the **Kingston Birthright Association**, the **Catholic Organization for Dev't & Peace** as well as one of the projects our Mission Group will be working with in **Kingston, Jamaica**. Students from **CICS** participated in a one-day **Kingston Street Retreat** in February and we are hoping to take more students on this volunteer experience during **Lent**. We are also planning for our annual annual 25-hour **Thinkfast** which will take place on **Friday, April 11th**. Graduating students are reminded of the **Graduates' Retreat** on **Friday, March 28th**. And mark in your calendars the **March for Life** bus trip to **Ottawa** on **Thursday, May 8th**.

God's blessings on all our students and staff as we begin the month of **March** and enter into our Lenten journey of fasting, almsgiving and repentance.

Chris Forster, Chaplaincy Team

HOLY CROSS CLASS OF 2014 GRADUATION CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony for this year's graduating class will be held on **Thursday, June 26th, 2014**. Please mark this date on your calendar. Students eligible to graduate this **June** will receive an invitation in **May**.

HC Class of 2014 Assembly: To mark the beginning of their final 100

days as **Holy Cross** students the **HC Class of 2014** will assemble in the cafeteria on **Wednesday, March 19th, 2014** in Period Two. This meeting 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, well in advance of the **Thursday, June 26th** graduation date. As the saying goes, a student for a short time but an alumnus for a life time, *Once a Crusader, Always a Crusader*.

Holy Cross Class of 2014 Reminders

Potential graduates should be mindful of the following significant dates.

Wednesday 19 th March	100 Days to Class of 2014 Grad Day
Wednesday 19 th March	Graduation Information meeting
Friday 28 th March	Graduates Retreat
Thursday 1 st May	Potential HC Graduates List Published
Monday 5 th May	Grad Invitations mailed home
Wednesday 7 th May	Valedictorian Election
Friday 9 th May	Community Service Hours documentation due
Wednesday 18 th June	Final Course documentation deadline
Thursday 26 th June	Grad Mass & 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 2014** 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 9th, 2014**. 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 **Wednesday, June 18th, 2014**.

EARTH HOUR 2014

Earth Hour 2014 aims to reach more than one billion people in 1000 cities around the world, inviting communities, business and governments to switch off lights for one hour at 8:30 pm on **Saturday, March 29th, 2014** and sending a powerful global message that we care enough about climate change to take action. We are promoting "**Earth Hour**" by turning out the lights and power down as much as possible from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. that day. **HC** will participate in **Earth Hour 2014** by reducing the number of hallway, classroom and office lights turned on throughout the day on **Friday, March 28th**.

LITERACY TESTING

The Literacy Test will be written on **Thursday, March 27th, 2014**. Literacy Test preparation is being offered to **all Grade 10 students (as well as senior students who are writing the test)**, 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 graded an Independent Study Day (at home) on March 27th**. **Grade 9 classes will run as regularly scheduled and all grade nines will participate in a Practice Literacy Test during their afternoon classes**. The **Literacy Team** will mark the practice tests and provide individualized feedback to our Grade Nine students.

EARLY SEMESTER REPORT CARDS

Look for **Early Semester Report Cards** to arrive home just after the March Break, on **Monday, March 17th**. 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 Tuesday, March 25th**. We always welcome contact between school and home, starting with subject teachers at any point in the semester.

ARTS NOTES

CABARET

Cabaret will be held **Wednesday, April 2nd at 7:00 pm** in the **Cafetorium**. Tickets for adults: \$7 and \$5 for students. They will be sold the week of and at the door. **Cabaret** is the spring showcase of talent at Holy Cross. The night includes performances by our singers, musicians, dancers, comedians, bands, and sketch artists. Auditions for **Cabaret** will be held on Tuesday, March 18 and Wednesday, March 19 after school in the **Lecture Theatre**. A sign-up list will be posted on the Drama Board on Monday, March 3. See **Ms. Rose** for any other information.

KINGSTON IMPROV GAMES

This year on **Friday, February 22nd** our team of **Matt McGlashan, Arianna Bullett, Miguel Martins, Claire Choiniere, Andrew Hurt, Sara Doyle, Nick Lansdown, and Kort Clifford** placed first at the Kingston Regional Tournament and now advance to the National Games from **Thursday to Saturday, April 17th to 19th** at the **National Arts Centre** in **Ottawa** along with coaches are **Ms. Rose** and **Mr. Stabile**. The team is looking forward to once again continuing the tradition of **Improv Excellence** at the Nationals.

TECH NEWS

Following an "in-house" competition between fifteen students, the following **HC SHSM ICT** students have qualified to represent **HC** in the **2014 Limestone Skills Competition** on **Thursday, April 3rd, 2014** at **St. Lawrence College**: Graphic Design **RYAN PURDY**, Photography **CLAUDIA PAWLAK**, Video/TV Production **KATIE CROSS** and **AMANDA LLOYD**. If successful, students have the opportunity to advance to the **Skills Qualifier (Eastern Ontario Region)** **Saturday, April 12th** at **St. Lawrence College**. The **Provincial Skills Competition** takes place from **May 5 – 7th**, in **Waterloo**. On **Tuesday, March 3rd**, **SHSM** students will obtain **General Health & Safety** and **WHMIS** certification courses. And on **Thursday, March 27th**, we call this the Math Day, students will complete a math unit and project connecting math with Com Tech. Plus, many are busy with preparations for our **NYC trip Wednesday, April 23rd to Sunday, April 27th**.

HOLY CROSS ATHLETICS

This frigid winter saw our athletic teams torch the competition. The **Girls and Boys Hockey** teams have moved on to the **EOSSAA** championships running in **Kingston, March 4th and 5th** respectively. The teams captured the **KASSAA crowns** on **Friday, February 28th**. The boys defeated **Lasalle** 2-0, while the girls continued their undefeated season with a 3-1 victory of the **Napanee Golden Hawks**, the girls' crown was a **Holy Cross** first.

Seven wrestlers have qualified for the **OFSAA championships** – **Jessica Waltner, Sam Pascoal, Connor Quinton, Mikhaila Wheeler, Shannon Anderson, Andrew Martins, and Ashley Callery**. We had a record four gold medals at this year's **EOSSAA Wrestling Championships**.

Our **boys' Curling team** of **Franklin Parkes, William, Parkes, Kyle Penney** and **Jamie Sammon** have qualified for **EOSSAA** after capturing the **KASSAA** title. 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.**

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

COURSE SELECTION FOR 2014 - 2015

The course selection process for next year was completed last week. It is critical that any student who has not selected their courses, do so, before **Thursday, March 6th**. 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 **April 4th**.

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.

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**.

STUDY AND GO ABROAD FAIR

Students can meet representatives from Universities and Colleges from around the world offering internships, volunteer programs, work abroad and language travel. **March 2nd – Toronto Convention Center**. To pre-register go to www.studyandgoabroad.com.

KEDCO

The **Kingston Economic Development Corporation (KEDCO)** will be hosting several information sessions about the **Ontario** government's youth entrepreneurship **Summer Company** program for all interested students and parents. These sessions will allow students and parents to learn more about the **Summer Company** initiative eligibility information, and program requirements while also providing an opportunity to ask questions directly to the program provider. Sessions will all be taking place in the **KEDCO Boardrooms** located at **Innovation Park** at **945 Princess Street**. The session dates are as follows:

March 5th 2014 3:00 PM -4:30 PM

March 26th 2014 3:00 PM -4:30 PM

April 9th, 2014 3:00 PM -4:30 PM

For further information please visit kingstonentrepreneurs.ca/ events/ or email any questions to **Rebecca Darling, Senior Business Consultant**, at darling@kingstoncanada.com

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 ratepayers 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.alcdsb.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 27th, 2014. Mrs. Poels, Special Education Resource Teacher, has discussed accommodations with all students on IEPs who are writing the **Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test**. Letters have been sent to

parents and guardians with this information. All students are being encouraged to use all of their accommodations during the six practice literacy sessions; most students are doing so.

SEA Laptops: Kurzweil version of semester two textbooks have been loaded onto several SEA laptops. Students who still need their books loaded are asked to come to **Room 117**. Students who use their SEA laptop are able to access **Kurzweil** at home. If you are experiencing any difficulty doing so, please contact **Mrs. M. Hulse** at **613-384-1919 ext.3428**.

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 25th**. As part of the "Consultation Process", you are invited to contact your special education resource teacher at any time, with comments, updates, or concerns. SERTs may be contacted at **613-384-1919, Ms. Gavan Knox @ext.3426, Mrs. Hulse @ext 3428** and **Mrs. Poels @ext.3425**

Post-secondary Transition Planning meetings with student parents /guardians are easily scheduled by contacting **Ms. Gavan Knox** at ext. **3426**. Plan a visit to your post-secondary destination over the **March Break**. Check their websites for dates. **Holy Cross Alumni** who wish to share their transition stories are asked to contact **Mrs. Gavan Knox** at ext.**3426**.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Along with the month of **March** comes the season of spring and the season of lent. Reflecting on **February, Student Council** was pleased with the outcome of the **Valentine's Day Semiformal** and **2014 Olympics** in **Sochi, Russia**. Both events brought people together in the school. We must carry the **February** excitement with us as we enter **March**. The annual **Shrove Tuesday** pancake breakfast and **Ash Wednesday** liturgy take place within the first week of the month. Almost instantly students and staff receive a much earned rest as March break runs from **Saturday, March 8th** to **Sunday, March 16th**. I hope students and staff on the **Jamaica Mission Trip** and **Britain/France Trip** have a safe and memorable **March Break**. I look forward to touring the iconic and unique European cities of **London** and **Paris** this month. On **Monday, March 24th**, **Students' Council Election Packages** for **2014-15** become available. Students in **Grade Eleven** who feel they have what it takes to represent their fellow students are encouraged to apply and run for one of seven positions on council. It doesn't seem like that long ago when I was planning and running my own campaign! On **Thursday, March 27th** senior students who have successfully completed their **Ontario Literacy Test** can enjoy an **Independent Study Day**. I wish the best of luck to all grade ten students writing. **Holy Cross'** edition of the worldwide "**Earth Hour**" will take place on **Friday, March 28th**. Each period, classes are asked to reduce their lighting to save energy and raise awareness about power consumption. Also on this day is the **Grade Twelve Grad Retreat** where graduating students gather at **Rideau Acres** campground and reflect on the conclusion of high school. It's hard to believe that the countdowns to spring, Easter, and graduation commence this month. While walking to and from classes this month, especially out in the snow, remember to keep a "spring" in your step...

Sarah Flisikowski, Communications Officer

BANDS AT THE GRAND

The music departments of **Regiopolis-Notre Dame** and **Holy Cross Catholic High Schools** of the **Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board** will be performing a joint concert at **Kingston's Grand Theatre** on **Wednesday, March 26th** at **7:00 p.m.** The concert is sponsored by **Investor's Group** and **McCoy Bus Service**. The bands will be the first high school groups to perform in the renovated **Grand** and experience its outstanding acoustics. Both the **RND** and **HC** music programs have enjoyed continued success and great accomplishments in recent years and their senior ensembles rank among the best in the province. At the local **Kiwanis**

Festival both schools have shared first and second place in the highest competitive band class for many years with **Holy Cross** winning the lion's share. Both bands have commissioned new works for concert band and performed world premieres by local **Canadian** composers. The bands are excited to play at their local concert hall and home of the **Kingston Symphony**. At the **Grand Theatre** performance the bands will each perform a short program separately and then come together at the end of the night for a joint performance of **Amazing Grace**, brilliantly arranged by **Frank Ticheli**. Special guest performers for the evening will be the **Holy Cross Vocal Ensemble**. Tickets will be on sale at the **Grand Theatre** box office **613-530-2050** starting on **February 21st** for **\$10**.

NEXT MONTH AT HOLY CROSS

Tuesday, April 1	April Fool's Day
Wed, April 2	Holy Cross Uniform Sale, 3:30 – 8 pm, Library World Autism Awareness Day Junior Badminton Cabaret, 7 pm, Cafetorium
Thurs, April 3	Limestone Skills Competition, St. Lawrence
Fri, April 4	2014-15 Course Selection Verification Sheets Due
Sunday, April 5	National Volunteer Week Begins
Tues, April 8	Third Annual Dodgebowl Competition KASSAA Spring Transfer Deadline
Tues – Tues, April 8 – 15	Midsemester Test Period
Wednesday, April 9	Vimy Ridge Day Spring Team Photos Spring League Basketball begins Student Council Nomination Package due
Thursday, April 10	2014-15 Course Verification Sheets returned
Friday, April 11	THINKfast Lacrosse Tournament
Sat, April 12	Skills Qualifier Comp at St. Lawrence College
Sunday, April 13	Easter Seals Telethon, 12 to 4 Palm Sunday
Monday, April 14	KASSAA Spring Season begins
Tuesday, April 15	Mass of Chrism, St. Mary's Cathedral Last Day for Term 1 Careers and Civics Classes
Wed, April 16	Term 2 Careers and Civics Classes Begin Euclid Mathematics Contest Sr. Badminton Tournament
Thursday, April 17	Holy Thursday School Liturgy for Holy Week (Cafeteria)
Thurs – Sat, April 17 – 19	Cdn National Improv Games
Friday, April 18	Good Friday (no school)
Sunday, April 20	Easter Sunday Administrative Professionals' Week Begins
Monday, April 21	Easter Monday (no school) Earth Week Begins
Tuesday, April 22	Earth Day
Wednesday, April 23	Secretaries' Day
Wed – Sun, April 23 – 27	HC Bands Trip to Washington Comm Tech Trip to NYC
Thursday, April 24	Midterm Marks due to OCAS & OUAC
Friday, April 25	World Malaria Day Rugby Tournament Pitch-In Kingston Day Track and Field Invitational
Saturday, April 26	Sr. Girls' Soccer Invitational
Sun, April 27	Students' Council Election begins
Mon, April 28	Report Cards Issued HC Spring Uniform Begins ALCDSB Student Trustee Election & Student Senate mtg.
Tues, April 29	2014-15 Students' Council Executive Videos Lacrosse Tournament
Wed, April 30	College applicants must confirm admissions offer Make the CUT at Algonquin College