



# HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

January 2017

## Principal's Message

On behalf of **Mr. Melim, Ms Gallant**, VPs, and the entire staff at Holy Cross, I wish you and your family a very happy new year. We are back to school and are now focused on preparing for culminating tasks and final examinations. Please know that we are committed to supporting the academic success of all students and we encourage all families to plan ahead for the completion of credits. While we will always work with families to find solutions to issues that might arise, the Education Act does not make allowances for absence from school for vacations; consequently the published examination schedule cannot be adjusted to meet individual needs of this type. Thank you for your understanding.

Check out the important dates for January listed to the right: you will see a number of exciting events – the January school mass and the Memorial basketball games in support of cancer research to name just two. I hope to see you out at these and other events during the month of January.

And, finally, as this will be my final newsletter, I want to take a little bit of space to thank the Holy Cross community, in particular, our School Council and its Chair, Frank Cameron, for its support over the past two and a half years. Let me add to that the best staff in the city of Kingston. Together you have continued the tradition of excellence at Holy Cross, and it has been my honour and the highlight of my career to serve as its principal. I know you will join me in welcoming **Mr. Michael Faught**, the incoming principal, as he disposes of the "burgundy and yellow" of RND and dons the green and silver.  
*Ian Stuart, Principal*

## This Month

- 9th- First Day of classes and field trip moratorium begins
- 11th- OUAC Application Deadline for equal consideration; School Council meeting, at 6:00 pm in the Learning Commons
- 17th– EQAO Math Day 1
- 18th– EQAO Math Day 2; Grade 11 Vocal Music concert; Wellness Wednesday #5
- 19th– January School Mass @ 9:30 am (farewell to retiring teachers Mrs. Pelow, Mr. Chambers, Mrs. Mayhew, Mr. Murphy and departing Student Success Teacher, Mrs. Besselink; The Memorial basketball games at Holy Cross at 5 and 7 pm; HC volleyball vs. RND at HC at 1 and 3 pm
- 19th– Culminating Task and Review Day 1
- 20th– Culminating Task and Review Day 2
- 23rd– Culminating Task and Review Day 3
- 24th– Culminating Task and Review Day 4;
- 25th– Culminating Task and Review Day 5; final instructional day; textbook returns begin and continue all week
- 26th– First Day of Examinations, 8:30 and 12:00;
- 27th– Exam Day 2
- 30th– Exam Day 3
- 31st– Exam Day 4
- Feb 1– Exam Day 5
- Feb 2– Course Reconciliation Day

## Examinations on the horizon

The examination season is upon us, and with it comes added pressure on staff and students. Deadlines for the completion of course work, culminating tasks, studying, increasing hours for students with part-time work—it all adds up to stress and anxiety. And that stress and anxiety often spills over into the home. We are here to help. The week before examinations is a review and culminating task week. **No new curriculum will be introduced during the final week of classes.** Guidance counsellors and youth workers are available for students who need help managing the end of semester timelines. Subject teachers will provide course review work in every class at Holy Cross. Parents and family have a role to play as well. The final examination schedule is published in this newsletter, and on our website. From **Wednesday, January 26h to February 1st, 2017** are the provincially mandated days for examinations. Please avoid scheduling events on those school days. But things do happen. Legitimate reasons for absence include medical, family emergency, or inclement weather. Please know that medical exemptions must be supported with a doctor's note specifying "exemption from examination schedule" due to the particular reason. The school will work with students to complete necessary assessments so that credits may be granted. A student not writing with their class in the regular examination timetable will be expected to complete a final assessment that meets the expectations of the classroom teacher. Our guiding principles are fairness and academic integrity.

Save the Date!

**Holy Cross School Council welcomes Dr. Matt Bellace, Ph.D., speaker, psychologist, comedian on Tuesday February 21st, 2017.**

With support from Parent Reaching Out Grants, and in collaboration with our elementary school partners, the Holy Cross School Council has arranged to have Dr. Matt Bellace, PhD, speaker, psychologist and comedian, address our community on Tuesday February 21st, 2017 at 7:00pm. Holy Cross will host this free parent information event, open to all parents, staff and interested members of our community. Dr. Bellace will explain the impact of substance use on teen brain development, describe the science behind healthy coping mechanisms, and will offer strategies to more effectively communicate with teens around sensitive issues. Dr. Bellace will also address students during the day about healthy choices and 'natural highs' aiming to empower them to be leaders in their lives and make changes in their environment. Dr. Bellace will highlight the basic science behind natural highs such as running, laughing, and helping others and will have students identify their own natural highs and the value of using them to cope with stress. For more information, check out his website at <http://www.mattbellace.com/>.

## Arts Update

Students in the grade 11 vocal music class will present their culminating concert on Wednesday, January 18th, 2017 at 7pm on the Holy Cross stage. This energetic group of students will present a variety of choral pieces. Tickets are only \$5 at the door!



## Athletics Update

The next Crusader wrestling meet is the EOSSA (Eastern Ontario regional) tournament Thursday Feb. 16, 2017 in Smith Falls. If successful at EOSSA, wrestlers will be off to OFSSA, the all Ontario wrestling meet on March 1-3, 2017 in Brampton.

For more information navigate to [www.alcdsb.on.ca](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca) and click on “Policies and Procedures”.



## Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board Policy on Communication, Concerns and Complaint Resolution

Below you will find the ALCDSB ‘Guiding Principles’ concerning communication, concerns and complaint resolution. These statements govern all members of our community. Please pay particular attention to the words ‘open’, ‘fair’, and ‘respect’ - key components of our philosophy.

- Open communication and listening attentively to all constructive suggestions to improve our educational service is vital to our growth as a system.
- All public and interpersonal communication must recognize the dignity of the individual and be conducted fairly and with respect.
- Effective communication and community relations involve the open, continuous and reciprocal exchange of information between parties.
- Effective communication provides accurate, understandable and timely information.
- Concerns and complaints resolution processes will be made available to the community at large.
- The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board shall provide open access to information subject to the limitations of the Education Act, the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

### *Algonquin and Lakeshore District School Board Student Senate Meets at Holy Cross*

The ALCDSB Student Senate is comprised of the elected head(s) of each of the system’s secondary school student governments. Each April, the Student Senate holds an election where the new Student Trustee for the following school year will be elected. The Student Trustee acts as the Chair of the Student Senate. The Student Senate shall meet at least three (3) times each school year and will perform the following specific functions:

- elect the Student Trustee annually;
- advise the Student Trustee as requested;
- raise with the Student Trustee matters of system need or concern from the student perspective.

We are fortunate to have **Kort Clifford** and **Sara Doyle**—looking good in their ugly Christmas sweaters—representing Holy Cross on the Student Senate this year. Special thanks to Superintendent **Terri Slack** who heads up this group of student leaders.





## Looking Forward to February

Feb 1—Exam Day 5;  
Feb 2—Final textbook return and pick up;  
OCAS Application deadline date and earliest date for college application confirmation; Course Reconciliation Day  
Feb 3—ALCDSB PA Day #4;  
Feb 6 - First full day of semester 2 classes and examination return day  
Feb 9—Grade Assemblies for semester two  
Feb 10— Marks available on-line and S1 report cards issued; Sem 1 marks to OCAS  
Feb 14— Queens Teacher Candidates return for Second practicum;  
Feb 15— OUAC marks due to university application centre; Grade 8 Parent Night: Class of 2020  
Feb 16—Student Teacher Practicum block #2 begins; PRO Grant Speaker Sami Jo Small student presentation & parent night; Wellness Week events through Friday  
Feb 17—Final Day for sem. 2 timetable changes; Course selection assemblies  
Feb 20—Family Day  
Feb 21—PRO Grant Speaker Matt Bellace student presentation & parent night; Wellness Week begins;  
Feb 22—Pink Shirt Bullying Awareness Day; Course selection workshops begin today and continue for a week  
Feb 24—February Non-Uniform Day  
Feb 27—OSSLT Accommodation Letter

## Contact Us

Check on-line for more information at [www.hctoday.ca](http://www.hctoday.ca)

**Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School**

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### Welcome Principal Michael Faught



Michael began his teaching career in 2001 at Regiopolis-Notre Dame CHS, in the science and mathematics departments. At RND, he taught in the International Baccalaureate program, coached hockey and golf and was the students' council moderator for three years. He was seconded to the Ministry of Education in 2009 to support the release of the Ministry's Environmental Education Policy Framework, **Acting Today, Shaping Tomorrow**, in the nine English school boards in eastern

Ontario. The following year he returned to Regiopolis-Notre Dame as a teacher until September of 2012, when he was appointed to the position of Vice-Principal. He continues to support system environmental initiatives as the chair of the Environmental Education and Management Advisory committee (EEMAC) for the ALCDSB. He is currently the chair of the Secondary TELT (Technology-Enabled Learning and Teaching) team, which is supporting secondary teachers at ALCDSB in exploring innovation and technology-enabled instruction.

He has been married to Amelia for 20 years (this June). Amelia is a teacher in the English department at Regiopolis-Notre Dame. Michael and Amelia have three children: Harriet (age 12), Essien (age 9) and Tamas (age 5). All three children attend École Catholique Cathédrale in Kingston.

Michael is thrilled to be joining the Holy Cross community in February, 2017.

### Staffing Announcement

We say goodbye and congratulations to retirees **Mr. Mike Chambers**, English Department, **Mrs. Bina Mayhew**, Mathematics, **Mr. Pat Murphy**, Technology, **Mrs. Deirdre Pelow**, English, not to mention **Mrs. Joanna Besselink**, who is moving to RND as Vice Principal. We are certainly happy for these exceptional teachers, appreciative of the time we've spent with them as colleagues, and proud of their contributions to Holy Cross over the years. But we can't help but feel a little unnerved to see so many years of teaching and coaching experience leave our staff, all at once. Nonetheless, best of luck, one and all. Know you are always welcome at Holy Cross!



## COUNSELLORS' CORNER

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#### 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 11th and college applications by Wednesday, 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 Student Maplewood Access on the Holy Cross website hctoday. The link is under the "Student Services" section of the Home Page. Students should also verify demographic information here and notify Student Services of any changes. 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 turnaround day, Thursday, February 2nd, 2017

#### Course Selection 2017- 2018

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

#### Queen's University Enrichment Programs

Enrichment Mini Course (EMC) Grades 9 –

12: May 7-12, 2017

Summer Enrichment Grades 8 – 12: August

13 – 18, 2017

Leadership Training

Registration is currently open at

[esu.queensu.ca/](http://esu.queensu.ca/) 613-533-3181, 2016 pricing

is in effect until January 31, 2017.

To view all Dance Team portraits, go to the Holy Cross Photography page on Facebook, and select the dance team album. The Holy Cross Photography page on Facebook also regularly highlights Photo Booth events at Holy Cross.

## Serving our Community

**Pastoral Services:** We are looking forward to our January 19th School Mass which Fr. Leo Byrne will celebrate with us. This Liturgy will provide an opportunity to say thank you to several retiring staff as well as to pray for those who will soon be writing exams.

**Crusaders In Community Service (CICS):** We had a busy December as students and staff fund raised money in the Grade 9 & 10 classes for Christmas Hampers and in the Grade 11 & 12 classes for Hurricane Matthew Relief Efforts in Haiti. Thanks to some very generous donations from several individual students and staff, as well as the hard work of our home form classes we were able to provide over 20 Christmas Hampers for local families through the Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program as well as



to several families in

need connected to our school community. Special thanks to **Naomi Gazendam** and **Faith Lollar**, our CICS' Co-Chairs, and to our CICS' Executive who shopped for the groceries, loaded up the Hampers and then delivered

them to homes during the last week of school. The families were so appreciative of the food and gift vouchers that were included in the Hampers. We will also be sending off a cheque to the Catholic Development & Peace Organization who will put the Gr. 11 & 12 donations to work in Haiti. *Blessings for the New Year from our Pastoral Team and from CICS. Chris Forster, Chaplaincy Leader*



**HOLY CROSS SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**JANUARY 2017 SUMMATIVE EVALUATION SCHEDULE**  
**Final**

Grade	A.M./P.M.	Thursday January 26	Friday January 27	Monday January 30	Tuesday January 31	Wednesday Feb. 1
12	a.m. 8:30	SPH4U (27) MDM4U (49) HHS4U (17)	MHF4U (107) MAP4C (23)	SNC4M (19) SCH4U (45) BOH4M (23)	BAT4M (17) SBI4U (50)	<b>EXAM</b>
	p.m. 12:00	CGW4U (22) ENG4C (43)	ENG4U (82)	HRE4M (65)	ADA4M (11) HZT4U (14) PSK4U (21)	
11	a.m. 8:30	HSP3U (20) HRT3M (25) ICS3C (10) MBF3C (31) MCF3M (23)	ENG3U (108) SBI3C (14)	SCH3U (58)	CHW3M (9) CLU3M (19)	<b>SNOW</b>
	p.m. 12:00	ENG3C (24) MCR3U (51)	SBI3U (49)	BAF3M (16) HSP3C (20)	SPH3U (18) CHA3U (23) FSF3U (20)	
	a.m. 8:30	MPM2D (97) MPM2P (27)	SNC2D (83)	CHC2D (105) CHC2P (47)	SNC2P (12)	
10	p.m. 12:00	ENG2D (110)	ENG2P (39)	BBI2O (31)		<b>DAY</b>
	a.m. 8:30	ENGID (87)	MPMIP (27) MPMID (89)	SNCIP (22) SNCID (87)	CGCID (89)	
9	p.m. 12:00	CGCIP (43)				
	a.m. 8:30					

## Grade 8 Parent Information Night

Parents of students currently in grade 8, who plan to attend Holy Cross next year, are invited to an information night on Wednesday, February 15 at Holy Cross. During this session, parents will receive information about registration, course selection and extra-curricular activities. We will also endeavour to answer any questions you may have concerning your child's transition to high school. More information will follow

## SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Job Ad Posting Timelines: All Job Ads will be posted on **January 3, 2017** with staggered closing dates **between January 17 and March 28**.

### Hey students! Looking for a summer job?

Have you considered working for the Ontario Government?

**E**ach year the Ontario Public Service targets up to 5,000 summer students to work in locations across Ontario in areas such as:

- ⇒ Ontario Parks
- ⇒ Environment
- ⇒ Science
- ⇒ Administration
- ⇒ Business and Finance
- ⇒ Research and Laboratory
- ⇒ Communications
- ⇒ Customer Service

Earn while you learn! All jobs will be posted on **January 3** with closing dates between **January 17 – March 28**. Learn more at:

**[Ontario.ca/summerstudents](http://Ontario.ca/summerstudents)**