



HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

February 2021

Principal's Message

Welcome back everyone to the second half of the year! It is an honour to return to Holy Cross, this time as principal. It is hard to believe that I started my first year of teaching here, in February 1995, and then served as VP for eight years, from 2007 – 2015. I am so pleased to be back in this wonderful school, with its excellent students and staff. It will take some time to get to know the students and I am looking forward to it, even in these restricted times. It's also exciting to have Mrs. Anna Coe and Mrs. Amy Goodberry on the admin team as vice-principals.

I wish Mr. Faught all the best in his new role as Supervisory Officer. His skills and personal assets will be welcomed throughout the board and he is certainly up for the challenge. Mrs. Gallant will be missed here, although she is returning to familiar territory at RND. They will be the better for her energy and compassion. Congratulations are in order for Mrs. DeSantis who is now a principal at Sacred Heart, Battawa. I know she will like the shorter commute and has tremendous experience and organizational skills to bring to her new role.

What a change here though and I ask for your patience and help as we familiarize ourselves with the school. Mrs. Goodberry, thankfully, has the institutional knowledge of this place.

Other staff changes include the departure of Ms. Ross, Mr. McCue, Ms. Hollands, and Ms. Pugh and we wish them well in their new schools. Recent arrivals to staff are Mr. Ruffolo, Mrs. Marshall-Pryor, Ms. Downey and Mrs. Hanna. I think most of these staff members have been part of the Holy Cross staff before and am sure they will be great additions to staff.

Students and parents, please keep in mind that covid safety protocols are still very much essential. Daily self-screening for students must now be confirmed by school staff, as per provincial mandate. At this point in time, teachers will ask students in the morning class to confirm they have completed the screening protocol. If they haven't, students will have to do so before continuing on with their school day. The other change is that masks must be worn on school property, whether inside or out. And students cannot gather in groups larger

This Month

- Feb 1 Ontario Colleges Applications due**
- Feb 2 Octomester 5 starts**
- Feb 3 last day to change Octo 5 classes**
- Feb 10 Virtual Grade 8 Night**
- Feb 14 Valentines Day**
- Feb 15 Family Day**
- Feb 17 Octo 5 Midterm**
- Feb 17 Ash Wednesday**
- Feb 24 Octo 5 full disclosure date**
- Feb 24 Pink Shirt Day**

than five (unless they are with their class cohort). All of this is a bit unnatural, I know, but we can do this. Our community has been so diligent and no one wants to become sick or to spread this illness to our vulnerable loved ones. I thank you in advance for your help.

This is going to be good. Once a Crusader, always a Crusader as they say.

Terri Daniel

Counsellor's Corner

COURSE CHANGES

Students who require a timetable change may do so within 2 days of the start of each octomester.

COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

At this time of year, student will begin the process of selecting courses for the 2021-2022 academic year. It is critical for all students who plan on returning to Holy Cross that they follow the timelines in order to ensure that they are able to obtain the courses they desire. Student services will be conducting the on-line process of selection of courses during the month of February. Information will be made available to students in their classes and also on the Guidance Page found on the students' Virtual Commons.

GRADE 8 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Grade 8 Parent Information evening will be hosted on Wednesday, February 10th, 2021 at 6:00 on YouTube – the link will be available on the Holy Cross website HCtoday.ca. Registration packages were dropped off to feeder schools, and packages for ALCDSB remote learners and non-feeder school students will be available at Holy Cross on February 11th from 5-7pm, and also in the main office during school hours starting on February 12th.

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Applicants should note the application center deadlines for equal consideration for admission to programs. University applications were due by January 15th and college applications by February 1st. Students are asked to ensure that all data on the application is accurate. Please contact Student Services with any concerns.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

RBC Indigenous Students Awards provides Indigenous students with scholarships based on achievements and financial need. Go to www.GoToApply.ca/RBC. The deadline to apply is February 28, 2021.

Marguerite Bourgeoys Bursary is available for students with financial need and who have volunteered in areas of social justice. Applications are available in Student Services.

Queen's University Promise Bursary is available to students who have applied to Queen's and are the first in their family to attend post-secondary and have financial need. Please see Mrs. Cantarutti for more information.

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITY

Queen's university is hosting a Let's Talk Science online symposium on February 20th and 21st from 1-4pm. Participants will have a chance to meet and hear from astronomers who will speak about a range of topics related to astrophysics. Students are required to register for this event. More details can be found on <https://www.queensu.ca/physics/lta>

Octomester Dates

Octo 5 class: Feb 2-Mar 4, 2021

Octo 5 exam: Mar 5, 2021

Octo 6 class: Mar 8-Apr 15, 2021

Octo 6 exam: Apr 16, 2021

Octo 7 class: Apr 20-May 19, 2021

Octo 7 exam: May 20, 2021

Octo 8 class: May 21 - Jun 23, 2021

Octo 8 exam: Jun 24, 2021



HC WELLNESS SAYS ... MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

COUNSELLORS, YOUTH WORKERS,
SOCIAL WORKERS AND CHAPLAIN
ARE HERE @ HC STUDENT SERVICES

KIDS HELP PHONE
1-800-668-6868 or text **CONNECT** to 686868

AMHS-KFLA (24 hrs)
Kingston & Frontenac 613-544-4229
Lennox & Addington 613-354-7388


TALK LINE
613-544-1771
telephoneaidlinekingston.com

MALTBY CENTRE
Mon-Fri 613-546-8535 or 1-844-855-8340
maltbycentre.ca

HELPFUL APPS

Calm 

Headspace 

Stop, Breathe & Think 

Mindshift 





PASTORAL NEWS

Congratulations to students and staff on completing Octomester-4! It was amazing to witness the fortitude and creativity in practicing remote teaching/learning and the transition back to in-person.

Through this time of adjustment, the Holy Cross community has been sure to keep prayer in a central and grounding place. In an effort to observe 2021 being the “Year of Saint Joseph,” as announced by Pope Francis, we recently completed a novena to this inspiring saint. We continue to keep in our prayers all those who are sick, lonely, and working in healthcare and on the frontlines.

This time of separation and restriction can bring about loneliness and unique mental health challenges. I would strongly encourage anybody struggling in this regard to seek support. We are blessed with two wonderful youth workers, Terrie and Amey, who are always happy to chat. Furthermore, there are plenty of helpful online resources. I would like to highlight a series of upcoming live talks from jack.org, a charity aimed at offering education on mental health. On February 18th, 22nd, and 23rd, the organization is hosting (free!) live-streamed talks on how to support one another through COVID-19. You can register and find more info at this link: <https://jack.org/Talks/Ontario-Talks-Series>.

Although it may feel like it, we have not yet entered Lent! This year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 17th. You can find local parishes offering online liturgies here: <https://romancatholic.kingston.on.ca/prayer-corner>. As we prepare for Lent, may we be reminded that God’s grace is so abundant that it may always be found, even within the very challenges we face.

Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand. Isaiah 41:10

Nick Cotman, Chaplaincy Leader

All Are Welcome In This Place

Looking Forward to March

March 5 half day class (am)

March 8 Octo 6 starts

March 9 Octo 6 last day to change class

Match 15-19 March Break

March 29 Octo 6 Midterm

Contact Us

Check on-line for more information at www.htoday.ca

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

1085 Woodbine Road, Kingston, Ontario, K7P 2V9

(613) 384-1919

Pink Shirt Day

February 24th



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC
SECONDARY SCHOOL

VIRTUAL
**GRADE 8
NIGHT**

WED ★ FEB 10TH ★ 6PM




YOUTUBE LINK WILL BE POSTED CLOSER TO THE EVENT



UPCOMING STUDENTS' COUNCIL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES IN FEBRUARY:

- Frost Week
- Matchomatics

Connect with us:

-  **Instagram:** @holycrossstudentcouncil
 **Twitter:** @hcstudco
 **Email:** holycrosscouncil1986@gmail.com

The Spirit Shop

The HC Spirit Shop continues to be online only. New items have been added! HC Spirit Wear can be paid for using the same payment process as for student fees. (schoolcashionline.com). Samples are displayed in the main foyer. Students may not try on samples for sizes. New item photos below. Other photo examples will be posted on social.

*****Weekly purchased items by Wednesday
will be given to homeroom teachers to distribute by Friday**
Please note some orders may be delivered later than a week***

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Grey HCSS Hoodie | \$45 |
| • Grey or Green Crewneck Sweatshirt | \$40 |
| • Grey Sweatpants with pockets | \$35 |
| • Vintage (Embroidered) Long Sleeve | \$15 or 2 for \$28 (green or white) |
| • HC pajama pants | \$40 |
| • "We the West" Lanyard | \$ 3 |
| • HC pom pom toque | \$25 NEW |
| • Drawstring/cinch bag | \$18 NEW |
| • Green or Dark Heather Grey T-Shirt | \$20 NEW |

Unfortunately, the student leadership team cannot guarantee inventory as there are limited quantities and sizing available. In the event we cannot fulfil your order, you will be refunded. If your student has not yet received their item that was previously purchased, please email.

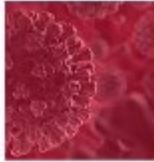


International Culture Experience

Are you and your family looking for an international cultural experience without leaving Canada? Why not host a high school international student from Germany, Spain, Japan or somewhere else in the world. We are looking for host families that might be interested in providing a homestay experience to these students beginning September 2021. All students must receive a negative COVID test before coming to Canada and must follow all public health measures.

If you would be interested and would like to find out more about becoming a homestay please contact the International Education office at international@alcdsb.on.ca or by calling 613-544-2116.





COVID-19 Update for Schools

Dr. Kieran Moore, Medical Officer of Health at KFL&A Public Health is asking everyone to consider voluntary, asymptomatic testing for COVID-19 if you:

- have travelled outside of the region (i.e., beyond Hastings, Prince Edward, Leeds, Grenville, or Lennox & Addington counties),
- have had visitors from outside the region, or
- have moved to the region in the last 14 days.

This asymptomatic testing initiative is being recommended in the KFL&A region, as KFL&A Public Health has received a lab-confirmed B.1.1.7 case, a new, more easily transmissible variant of COVID-19 that was first found in the United Kingdom.

The recommendation is to monitor closely for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and get tested 5 to 7 days post return to the KFL&A area, even if no symptoms have developed. Students and staff do not need to isolate while waiting for results of asymptomatic testing.

Tests can be booked at the:

- COVID-19 Assessment Centre – Beechgrove Complex, 51 Heakes Lane, or
- COVID-19 Assessment Centre Lennox & Addington – LACGH Westdale Campus, 12 Richmond Park Dr. Napanee.

Please remain vigilant and continue to adhere to public health measures over the coming weeks and months as schools begin in-person learning. The continued efforts of individuals and families to stay home, stay local, and to not travel unless for essential purposes will help keep the number of positive cases low in our area and help our community stay safe until vaccines are available to all.

*Note: International travel requires a mandatory 14 day quarantine upon return.



KFL&A
Public Health