



# HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

March 2022

## **Principal's Message**

Winter arrived in full force during this quadmester, but the sunny day on the last day of February brings some hope of spring days ahead. It is great to see extracurricular activities pick up steam once again. At this time of year, we cheer on our winter season participants and thank all those involved whose seasons have wrapped up. We look forward to the spring season beginning shortly after the March Break. I think most of us are also looking forward to the March Break.

In terms of staffing, we welcome Melissa Markotich to our Religious Education Department, Laleh Afzali to Special Education and Resource, and wish Gillian Harvey-DeMelo good luck as she takes on a new role at RND.

It has been impressive to witness the collective efforts of our community as we navigate some very difficult times. We such generosity, kindness, and compassion on an every day basis. When the world around us can be overwhelming, it nourishes the soul to witness acts of kindness and compassion.

As we have shifted into this most recent incarnation of the coronavirus, the efforts of families and staff to keep each other safe (through PPE and other hygiene measures) and informed (through diligent daily screening and staying home when ill) have been much appreciated. It is truly up to each of us to care for one another.

Next, we move into the Lenten Season. As Pope Benedict taught us, "The purpose of Lent is to keep alive in our consciousness and our life the fact that being a Christian can only take the form of becoming a Christian ever anew; that it is not an event now over and done with but a process requiring constant practice." ([www.catholiceducation.org](http://www.catholiceducation.org)) Let us all prepare for Easter by becoming better Christians.

Terri Daniel

## This Month

**March 2– Ash Wednesday**

**March 7– Quad 3 midterm**

**March 11– Quad 3 full disclosure date**

**March 11– Report cards available online**

**March 14-18– March Break**



**Ash Wednesday**  
— Lent Begins

## **Counsellors' Corner**

### Course Selection for 2022-23

Students have been receiving information regarding the course selection process during classroom visits by guidance counsellors. It is critical that all students select their courses by Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. All students must access myBlueprint, which is found on their virtual commons, to select courses. Informational videos are available on the Guidance Page, which is also found on the students' virtual commons, and the course calendar booklet is available on HCtoday.ca in the Student Services link and also in The Guidance Page. Please contact your child's guidance counsellor if you have any questions.

### College/University Information

A reminder that university and college applicants should check their university/college account to review their transcript information. Also, students should be aware that they must accept offers of admission in their OUAC or OCAS accounts by the deadline dates indicated by the post-secondary institution. The next transmission of marks to OCAS will be on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and to OUAC on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Eastern Ontario College Panel

Virtual Eastern Region Panel Presentations:

**Monday, March 28 at 5:00pm**

The colleges participating in this event are:

- Algonquin College (Ottawa, Pembroke and Perth)
  - Durham College (Oshawa and Whitby)
  - Fleming College (Peterborough, Lindsay and Haliburton)
  - Loyalist College (Belleville, Bancroft and Port Hope)
- St. Lawrence College (Kingston, Brockville and Cornwall).

Participating colleges will share a presentation about college programs, services, the application process, how to pay for college, and program outcomes. The live presentation will be approximately 60 minutes followed by a Q&A.

Check the Guidance Page on your child's Virtual Commons to access the meeting link.

### Full Disclosure Date

Grade 12 students have until March 11<sup>th</sup> to drop a quadmester 3 course not required for graduation purposes. Please see your guidance counsellor for more information.

## Summer Jobs

Each 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 Laboratories
- Communications
- Customer Service

Earn while you learn! All jobs were posted on February 28. Apply early to have a chance to apply to the job types that interest you. You can learn more at: [ontario.ca/summerstudents](https://ontario.ca/summerstudents)

## Elections Ontario

Ontario secondary school students are invited to apply for an Information Assistant positions needed during the 2022 Ontario general election. They help electors at advance voting locations and on election day. Students must be at least 16 years old. More information will be available in Student Services.



# Quadmester Calendar

Quadmester 3: Feb 3– April 12

Exam Days: April 13– April 14

Quadmester 4: April 19– June 23

Exam Days: June 24 - June 28

March Break– March 14-18

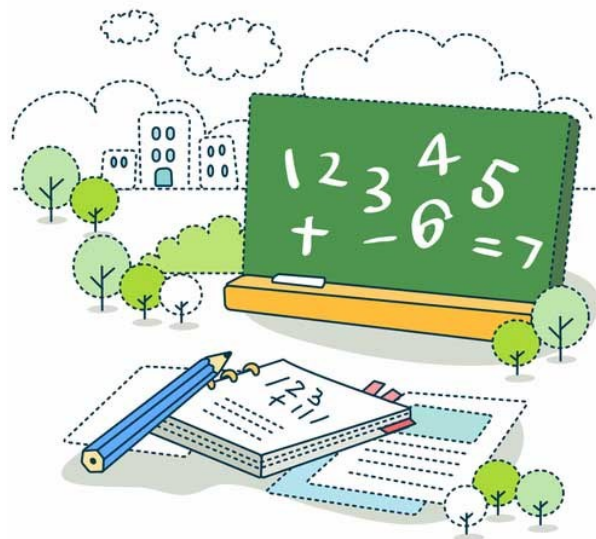
## EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics

Students enrolled in the MTH1W Grade 9 de-streamed mathematics course during the 2021-22 school year will be learning the knowledge and skills that are defined in the expectations found in the new 2021 Ontario mathematics curriculum.

### What Is in the EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics?

The Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics is a computer-based assessment. This year, the assessment will consist of various types of questions, including technology-enhanced items, such as drag and drop, drop-down menu, and single-and multiple-select items. There are 50 questions on the assessment in total. Students will have the opportunity to participate in an introductory session that will familiarize them with the Grade 9 assessment. During this introductory session, students will have access to a sample test of 25 questions that shows the various types of questions.

Students will complete the online assessment in two sessions. **Students currently enrolled in Grade 9 Math during Quadmester THREE will complete Session A of the assessment on Friday, APRIL 8<sup>th</sup> and then Session B on MONDAY, APRIL 11<sup>th</sup>.** At the end of the two assessment sessions, students will be presented with a questionnaire that asks them about their attitudes and perceptions with respect to mathematics.





# PASTORAL NEWS



Beloved  
Children of God  
2021/2022

Although our school community faced various challenges in February, it was inspiring to witness the love revealed through the efforts of individuals coming together to support one another. Thank you to everyone for showing Christ-like care and generosity when it was most needed.

On February 17<sup>th</sup>, students participated in the ongoing Synod on Synodality. As part of this process, they were invited to offer feedback to the Archdiocese of Kingston on their experience of Church. An overview video describing what a synod is can be found on the "Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School" YouTube account. The Synod survey from the Archdiocese of Kingston remains available on the archdiocesan website for those who would like to participate.

The Season of Lent begins March 2<sup>nd</sup>. On Ash Wednesday, students and staff will participate in a pre-recorded liturgy of the word (thank you to Fr. Hibbard and Fr. Shea). Our Lenten fundraiser will be in support of *Sanctuary* at St. Paul the Apostle Parish, a committee working to settle a Syrian refugee family in Kingston. We are thankful to be a part of this important initiative! The fundraiser will run from Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> until Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

During Lent, the Church invites us to grow in three areas to prepare ourselves for Easter:

## **Prayer**

Try taking on a new form of prayer, such as doing an end-of-day reflection as you prepare for bed or reading one of the Gospels this Lent!

## **Fasting**

Giving something up temporarily (even a good thing!) can help us to make room for God in our lives. We are often so busy that we are spiritually distracted. Saying "no" to a small thing can help us say "yes" to God.

## **Almsgiving**

During Lent we are also called to care for our neighbour in a new way. Although almsgiving brings to mind charitable donations (such as our Lenten campaign!), it can also mean doing small acts of service for our friends and family.

The pastoral team will be praying for all in the Holy Cross community as we begin our journey towards Easter. May each of us open our hearts to receiving God's grace in new and life-giving ways this Lenten season.

**"Show me your ways, o Lord; teach me your paths." Psalm 25.4**

Nick Cotman, Chaplaincy Leader

## Beloved Children of God



## Contact Us

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

**Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School**

1085 Woodbine Road, Kingston, Ontario, K7P 2V9

(613) 384-1919

## Looking Forward to April

Apr 12– Last day Quad 3

Apr 13/14– Exam days

Apr 15– Good Friday

Apr 17– Easter Sunday

Apr 18– Easter Monday

Apr 19– Quad 4 starts

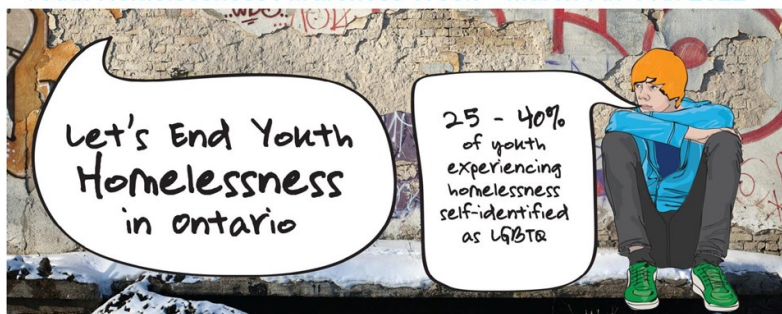
Apr 22– Marks due to OCAS

Apr 25– last day for changes to Quad 4

Apr 28– Marks due to OUAC

Apr 29– P D Day

Youth Homelessness Awareness Week March 7th-11th 2022



## After School Math Help

There is after school math help for grade 9's and 10's being held in room 202 after school on Tuesdays from 2:45-4:00pm. Students can start attending at any time and extra help will be held every Tuesday until the end of the quadmester (Tuesday April 12<sup>th</sup>). See you there!



## Student Council

Holy Cross had a highly successful [Frost Week](#) at the end of February. We had super fun days such as pink and red day for Valentine's Day, Anything but a Backpack day, Cozy day and much more. Some fun activities were held also such as free hot chocolate and candy, a Wii Sports competition and bean bag toss! Lots of students and staff participated and was a fantastic way to bring everyone together!





# Student Council

## The Spirit Shop

Spirit Wear sales continue every Tuesday at lunch just outside of the Student Council room! The HC spirit shop will be available online! HC Spirit Wear can be paid for using the same payment method as the student fees. (schoolcashionline.com). Pickup for online orders will be Tuesdays at lunch outside of the council room along with the school shop! Receipts must be shown. Unfortunately, the student leadership team cannot guarantee inventory as quantities and sizing available. *In the event we cannot fulfil your order, you will be refunded*

<b>Lanyards.</b>	<b>\$3</b>
<b>Drawstring Bags</b>	<b>\$12</b>
<b>HC Pajama Pants</b>	<b>\$40</b> *New Inventory!*
<b>HC Lightweight Jacket</b>	<b>\$45</b>
<b>Grey Sweatpants with Pockets</b>	<b>\$35</b> *New Inventory!*
<b>Grey or Green Crewneck Sweatshirt</b>	<b>\$38</b> *limited sizes
<b>Vintage (Embroidered) Long Sleeve.</b>	<b>\$15 or 2 for \$25</b>
<b>Green or Dark Heather Grey T-Shirt</b>	<b>\$15</b>
<b>Pom Pom Toque</b>	<b>\$20</b>
<b>White Holy Cross Hoodie</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Green/Grey Holy Cross Hoodie</b>	<b>\$50</b>

## Student Council

Dodgeball intermural has started for the senior students! Students can sign up in teams and compete for the Dodgebowl cup. Signup sheets were posted at the end of February and should begin playing shortly! Special thanks to our Sports Leadership team for organizing.





**DONATE UNWANTED  
FURNITURE AND  
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

**& HELP  
RESTORE OUR  
CATHEDRAL**

*a fundraiser for St. Mary's Cathedral restoration*