



# HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

September 2022

## Principal's Message

**Welcome to the 2022 -23 school year at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School.**

The start of the 2022 - 2023 school year looks a bit different than last year. We have semestered classes, an open cafeteria and the return of extra-curriculars. The health protocols have shifted once again and we encourage all members of the community to familiarize themselves with the daily screener and to stay home when sick.

This year's board theme – Formed in the Faith – reminds us that we are all on faith journeys and blessed to be part of a Catholic school community and school board where faith is infused in all that we do. Our first school Mass, celebrating the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross also marks the blessing of our new Chapel name, St. Andre Bessette. What a special opportunity to formalize a connection with St. Bessette of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

As the school year begins, we celebrate the retirement of Educational Assistant Christine Garrett. Many thanks to her for her years of service to ALCDSB and we wish her all the best in her next ventures.

Students have had a good start with their uniforms and all the demands of a semester system – classes seem to fly by quickly! Please remember that if you are away from school, checking D2L is your go to. If you are out of the country, please contact the school and we can ensure your settings allow for D2L access. Every school day counts so being here and on time as much as you can is important.

Take care good, everyone.

Terri Daniel

## This Month

- Sept 6– First day of School
- Sept 11– 9/11 Day of Remembrance
- Sept 12/13– School Photo Days
- Sept 15– School Mass & Chapel Blessing
- Sept 16-Gr 9 Welcome afternoon
- Sept 19– Auditions begin for Musical
- Sept 20– Catholic School Council Mtg
- Sept 26– PD Day
- Sept 28– Rowan's Law Day
- Sept 30– Orange Shirt Day/Every Child Matters
- Sept 30– National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE**

<b>GRADE 9</b>	<b>GRADE 10 - 12</b>	<b>GRADE 12 (<i>Graduating</i>)</b>
Student Council ID Card	Student Council ID Card	Graduation Fee
HC Spirit T-Shirt		( <u>pays</u> for cap, silver cross, gown rental)
4 Toonie – Non-Uni Days to support cancer research	4 Toonie – Non-Uni Days to support cancer research	
HC Yearbook - INCLUDED	HC Yearbook-OPTIONAL	
School Lock for locker		
<b>Total Fee: \$85.00</b>	<b>Total Fee: \$65.00</b>	<b>Total Fee: \$35.00</b>

- Please make payment online using the School Cash Online system at [hctoday.ca](http://hctoday.ca)

## Holy Cross Daily Timetable

Time	Regular School Day	Time	Activity or Mass Day
8:30-9:45	Opening Exercises & Period 1	8:30-9:30	Opening Exercises & Period 1 call down
9:45-9:50	Travel time	9:30-10:40	Activity Period
9:50-11:05	Period 2	10:40-11:40	Period 2
11:05-11:55	Lunch	11:40-12:25	Lunch
11:55-1:10	Period 3	12:25-1:25	Period 3
1:10-1:15	Travel time	1:25-1:30	Travel Time
1:15-2:30	Period 4	1:30-2:30	Period 4



## Parking Lot Safety

The safety of our students is a major concern at Holy Cross, so please pay attention to direction and speed restraints while driving in the school parking lot. The entrance to the school parking lot is at the east end of the school and exit is at the west end. **Please do not go out the in and vice versa.** Reduce your speed while driving and watch for students. When dropping off and picking up students, **do not block traffic flow.** When possible, park in a designated parking space. **Do not block the “No Parking” area or the handicap parking spaces** in the front of the school as these areas are needed for students with special needs as well as students crossing the parking lot to get to the city bus stop. Finally, there is **no parking in the laneway at the back of the school.** This is where the busses drop off and pick up students. Vehicles parked in the rear laneway not only delay the busses, but also create a risk to students trying to get to their busses. Caution and consideration will make things safer for all.





## ARTS DEPARTMENT UPDATE



Welcome back to all of our students and a special hello to all of our new HC artists! We are thrilled to be offering not only all of our creative arts classes this year but also to have our extra-curricular activities back in full-swing!



## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

**Musical Information Meeting:** Thursday, September 8th at 11:15am in Room 246

**Musical Auditions:** Week of Monday, September 19th. Sign-up on Drama Board in the arts hallway (outside 246) and be sure to attend the info meeting on Sept. 8th.

**Choir:** Monday, September 12th in Room 146 (Music Room) at 11:15am. Everyone welcome! Bring your lunch and a friend!

**Art Club:** Every Wednesday in Room 133 starting September 21

**Fall Coffee House -** (October 26th, TBD)

**Grease: High School Edition:** December 7-10, 2022

**Dance Team Tryouts:** December 13-15, 2022

**Music Christmas Concert:** Thursday, December 15, 2022

**Christmas Coffee House:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022

**Improv Team Tryouts:** January 2023

**Vocal & Dance Showcase:** January 2023



Follow us @hcart\_ for all the news and updates!





Lifetouch.

# PICTURE DAY IS COMING!

Monday, September 12, 2022 and Tuesday,  
September 13, 2022

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School



## What to Expect:



Students are  
photographed on  
Picture Day



Pictures are  
sent home with  
your child



Review pictures  
& purchase on  
[mylifetouch.ca](https://mylifetouch.ca)

All students will be photographed. Please notify your child's teacher if you do not want an individual picture taken of your child. Your child may be included in a group picture if requested by the school.

Questions? Contact our Help Center at [lifetouch.com/support-ca](https://lifetouch.com/support-ca).  
Select K-12 School Photography for assistance.

## Catholic School Council Meeting

The next Catholic School Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, September 20th at 6pm in the Learning Commons.

All are welcome. Please contact Ms. Daniel if you have any questions.





## PASTORAL NEWS

It has been a blessing to see familiar faces and witness peers reuniting after the summer break. I hope everyone has been enjoying the first week and is getting situated nicely at the school.

In July, Pope Francis made a penitential pilgrimage to Canada to listen and dialogue with Indigenous Peoples as part of the journey of reconciliation. We will be participating in Orange Shirt Day on September 30<sup>th</sup> to remind us of the residential school experience and mark our commitment to the ongoing process of reconciliation. You can find helpful information and resources at [orangeshirtday.org](http://orangeshirtday.org).

Fr. Shea will be celebrating our first school Mass of the year on September 15<sup>th</sup>, observing the Feast of Cross. Following Mass, we will also have a ceremony to consecrate our newly named chapel to St. André Bessette. As we learn to incorporate St. André's witness of faith into the culture of our school, I would encourage everyone to pray for his intercession over the school year ahead!

I would like to invite all students to get involved with CICS (Crusaders in Community Service) as we begin the school year. CICS is a faith and social outreach club that organizes volunteer opportunities around the school and within the Kingston community. Some of the club activities include organizing bake sales, food drives, raking for our neighbours, and visiting a retirement home. It is an excellent way to gain valuable skills, meet new friends, and get volunteer hours!

This year's pastoral theme, "**Formed in Faith,**" calls us to nurture our relationship with God. God invites each one of us into relationship with him, and growing in faith is our response to this invitation. Over the year ahead, may we come to know God more fully through our community, the sacraments, prayer, and the other many blessings of Catholic education.

Be sure to reach out at any time to your many resources at the school, and never hesitate to ask God for grace and guidance over the year ahead.

*"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." Colossians 2:6-7*

Nick Cotman, Chaplaincy Leader

**Formed in the Faith**



## 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 October

**Oct 2– National Custodial Workers Day**

**Oct 5– World Teachers Day**

**Oct 10– Thanksgiving**

**Oct 24– P A Day**

**Oct 31– Hallowe'en**

## Attendance Procedures

Regular attendance greatly improves a student's chances for success in school, and until a student is 18 it is their parent's/guardian's responsibility to ensure that they are in attendance daily. **If your student is going to be absent**, either for part of the day or for the full day, please advise the school through our online app, **Safe Schools**. If you are unable to access the online application, please call the attendance office at 613-384-1919 extension 2, or send an email to [filhphcss@alcdsb.on.ca](mailto:filhphcss@alcdsb.on.ca) and provide a general explanation for the absence. If we do not receive a call about an absence, an automated call will go home to remind you to verify that you are aware of the absence.

If a student will **not be in class due to a school activity**, such as a field trip, participation in a sporting event or the cancellation of busses due to weather, you should not need to contact the school.

**Occasionally a call will go home in error.** If you receive an absence call, and your student says they were in class, or that they were at a school event, please call the attendance office so that we may look into the error, and ensure attendance is accurate.



## **Counsellors' Corner**

### Timetable changes and course load:

All students in grades 9, 10, and 11 will carry a full course load; which is 4 credits per semester. Students in grade 12 who have a minimum of 24 credits may elect to have 2 spares. Returning students interested in playing sports will need to have 2 courses in each semester in order to be eligible to play. It is the view of the school that students fully engaged in the classroom will perform better academically and will progress to graduation with fewer challenges. Students have until Friday, September 16 to request a timetable change. Students must meet with their guidance counselor to discuss their request.

Counsellor Assignments by student surname:

Mrs. Cantarutti:

Grade 9 A-J

Grade 10 L-R

Grade 11K-Q

Grade 12 A-E, Grade 12 Returners G-R

Mrs. Vella-Bowry:

Grade 9 K-M

Grade 10 A-K

Grade 11 A-J

Grade 12 F-O, Grade 12 Returners A-F

Mrs. LeSarge:

Grade 9 N-Z

Grade 10 S-Z

Grade 11 R-Z

Grade 12 P-Z, Grade 12 Returners S-Z

### **E-Learning Courses**

ALCDSB will be offering the following asynchronous eLearning credit courses during the 2022-2023 school year:

Semester 1:

Geography World Issues – CGW4U

Analyzing Current Economic Issues – CIA4U

English, University Preparation – ENG4U

English, College Preparation – ENG4C

Business Leadership – BOH4M

Semester 2:

Travel and Tourism – CGG3O

Understanding Canadian Law – CLU3M

Introductory Kinesiology – PSK4U

## **Counsellors' Corner cont'd**

Writer's Craft – EWC4U

Computer Science – ICS4U

Accounting – BAT4M

Math for College Technology – MCT4C

**Please contact your guidance counsellor if you would like to take an online course.**

### Post-Secondary Information

Post-secondary information sessions will be available soon. Counsellors will provide an informational video on the Guidance Page, as well as provide a timeline of university and college application dates. Universities and colleges will also offer online and in-person presentations and information sessions. Students should be researching on the Ontario Universities Application Center site [www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca) and on the [www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca](http://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca) website for Ontario university information. Students should be using the college research site [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) for college information.

Dates to keep in mind:

September – October – information sessions by colleges and universities available at lunch and after school

January 12, 2023 – deadline date for students to apply to Ontario University Application Center

February 1, 2023 – deadline date for students to apply to Ontario College Application Center

Ontario Universities Fair – October 1-2 at the Toronto Metro Convention Center

Ontario Colleges Fair – October 19 and 20 in Toronto

University Virtual Info Sessions – October 11, November 9, December 1

College Virtual Presentations every Monday, October through November.

Ontario Universities Regional Fair – October 11 at Queen's University

Visit [www.Ontariouniversitiesfair.ca](http://www.Ontariouniversitiesfair.ca) and [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) for more information

A full list of presentations and application deadline dates will be made available soon by Student Services.

September 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians of Grade 9 Students:

A healthy mind and body have an important impact on learning and the quality of life for everyone, staff and students alike. We support physical activity in our schools and would like to encourage this lifestyle with all our students.

Current data indicate that if physical activity patterns do not change, this generation may have a shorter life span than ours. To help achieve our goal of having our students become more physically active, Kingston Gets Active in partnership with all of our communities (Loyalist Township, Town of Greater Napanee, Township of Central Frontenac, City of Kingston, Township of South Frontenac, Township of Stone Mills), is encouraging an active lifestyle through an *ActivPass*. All grade 9 students can use their Student Card as their *ActivPass* or pick up an *ActivPass* from the main office. With this pass students have free access to participating recreation centres for public swims, skates, or gym use. Queens Athletic and Recreation Centre will waive the gate fee when Grade 9 students are accompanied by a paying adult or current ARC member (some restrictions apply). **The schedule of all the recreation centres and times that are available from September 26, 2022 to August 31, 2023 can be found at [www.KingstonGetsActive.ca](http://www.KingstonGetsActive.ca) after September 26th.**

Our overall objective is to make our children healthier and improve learning through physical activity. We hope your child will take advantage of this unique opportunity that has been provided by our many community partners and Kingston Gets Active ([www.KingstonGetsActive.ca](http://www.KingstonGetsActive.ca))

Sincerely,



Carey Smith-Dewey, Superintendent of Education



September 8, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board (ALCDSB) and our community partners are committed to providing safe and caring school communities and learning environments for students, staff, school visitors and community members. We believe that each person should be able to study, work and attend our Catholic schools in an environment that is safe and free from threats of violence. The ALCDSB acknowledges the importance of promoting and supporting appropriate and positive student behaviours in schools. It is our hope that all members of our community demonstrate respect for the dignity of all persons.

In 2011, the ALCDSB and its community partners adopted the ALCDSB Community Threat Assessment Protocol (CTAP). This risk/threat assessment process is designed to be a proactive and multi-disciplinary approach to developing intervention plans that address threats of violence, threatening behaviour and instances where the emotional and/or physical safety of individuals may be at risk. Recognizing that violence prevention in our schools and neighbourhoods is a community responsibility, the risk/threat assessment process will be initiated by school administration and/or community partners when behaviours have been identified that pose a potential risk to an individual or to others.

Providing notice to parents/guardians of the risk/threat assessment process ensures that parents/guardians are aware that threatening or high-risk behaviours will be investigated. This also recognizes the important role that the parents/guardians have in supporting and participating in the process itself. For further information, the Community Threat Assessment Protocol (CTAP) document may be found on our website at <http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/Board/Policies/Lists/Documents/CTAP2016.pdf>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Smith-Dewey', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Carey Smith-Dewey  
Superintendent of Education

## Message to Parents, Guardians Re: Procedures for Threats to School Safety

### *Keeping Our Students and Staff Safe*

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The **Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board** has a primary responsibility to ensure the safety of students and staff inside Board buildings and on Board property. In partnership with emergency services in the area, a board-wide plan has been developed to address threats to school safety. This plan includes procedures known as

Evacuation, Shelter in Place, Hold and Secure, Bomb Threat/Explosive Incident, and Lockdown.

An **Evacuation** occurs when all students and staff are removed from the school (e.g. a fire or gas leak in the school). A **Shelter in Place** occurs when there is an environmental or weather related situation in the area (e.g. chemical spill). A **Hold and Secure** is initiated when there are circumstances in the vicinity of the school that could endanger the safety of students and/or staff (e.g. criminal event near the school but not on school property). A **Bomb Threat and Explosive Incident** procedures are initiated when a threat of a bomb or explosive device is received by a school either by phone or some other means (mail or social media for example). **Lockdown** procedures are initiated when there is a threat of violence within the school (e.g. student with a weapon).

In order for all students and staff to become familiar with expectations during a threat to school safety, our school will be practicing threat response procedures as we have normally done with fire drills. In a real emergency situation, signs will be posted on the entrance doors indicating that the school has activated a **Shelter in Place** or **Hold and Secure**. The doors will be locked and no one will be allowed into the school. In a real **Lockdown** situation, the school will not be able to post signs and lock doors because the imminent threat is in the school building and all staff and students will be actively responding to the threat. If an **Evacuation** should occur, emergency services will secure the school site.

I understand that a parent or guardian would be concerned for their child during a response to a potential threat to school safety. I want to assure you that the school is prepared for any of these risks. **However, if a real emergency is in effect, you will be unable to contact your child or school personnel while the situation is being resolved.** If this school should activate the Threats to School Safety Procedures because of an imminent threat, the Board's Communications Officer will use all media available to update families of the situation as it unfolds **and when it is safe to do so.**

For the safety of our students and staff, two lockdown practice drills and one Bomb Threat practice will be held during the school year. The practice drills are scheduled for:

**Friday, November 3rd @ 12:30 pm**

**December 7th in the Winter (proposed)**

**May 11th in the Spring (proposed).**

I invite you to attend our Catholic School Council meeting scheduled for **Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm in the Learning Commons** to receive full details on the procedures that address threats to school safety. This will also provide you with the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Please call me at the school if you should have questions.

Sincerely,

Terri Daniel

Principal

# HC Athletics

We are so pleased when students join extracurricular programs at Holy Cross. Parents are advised that permission forms must be signed and returned before students may participate in tryouts or practices. Permission may be found at the school (near the gymnasium or in the Main Office) or online, athletics page → general → forms.

Individual team fees will be shared by coaches. Student athletes must be students first, which means putting your best effort forth in your classes. If you are unwell and absent from school on game days, you must obviously also stay home from the game. Especially as we continue to navigate covid, it is important that each of us makes responsible health decisions.

If you have arrived at Holy Cross from another school, please see Mr. Dzierniejko to ensure correct application of the transfer process. Finally, should you experience a concussion (or concussion symptoms), please alert your coaches and Mrs. Anderson in the Main Office as soon as possible. We have a concussion protocol that helps student athletes and their families return to school and to play safely. A doctor's note is required for return to play.

**Terri Daniel**

Principal

