



HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

March 2023

Principal's Message

Winter arrived in full force during February, we hold some hope of spring days ahead. It is great to have extracurricular activities pick up steam once again. Congratulations to the Green Beans Improv Team, who won the Regional competition and head to Nationals in Ottawa in early April. Well done! At this time of year, we cheer on our winter season participants and thank all those involved whose seasons have wrapped up. How exciting to have the Junior Boys' Basketball team win KASSAA, the Wrestling Team win EOSSAA and both of our hockey teams make it to the city finals on the first day of March. We have teams heading to OFSAA including snowboarders, swimmers, wrestlers and hockey players – good luck to all of our student athletes and coaches! 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 Nick Sentjens, Stephanie Murphy and Justin Baronaitis to our teaching staff this semester. And we are so pleased to welcome back the teacher candidates from Queen's; as always, they add so much to our school community, inside the classroom and beyond.

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.

Congratulations to Katie Murphy, recipient of the prestigious Queen's Chancellor's Award and to our two Beacons of Hope, Elisabeth MacMillan and Jeremiah Beckwith.

Visit our website at www.hctoday.ca

This Month

- March 6-10– Social Work Week**
- March 8– Coffee House 7pm Cafe**
- March 8 - International Women's Day**
- March 13-17 - March Break**
- March 21– World Down Syndrome Day**
- March 22– World Water Day**
- March 23– Parent Teacher Interviews**
3:00-5:30 and 6:30-8:00 pm
- March 24– Epilepsy Awareness Day**
Toonie non-uniform
- March 25-Earth Hour at 8:30 pm**
- March 31– Transgender Day of Visibility**

Each of you, in your own way, work to make Holy Cross a kinder, more enjoyable school and we appreciate you.

We have now entered 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) Let us all prepare for Easter by becoming better Christians.

Terri Daniel

Counsellor's Corner

Course Selection for 2023-24

Students have received information regarding the course selection process during grade assemblies offered on Thursday, February 9 by guidance counsellors. It is critical that students select their courses by Wednesday, March 10th. All students must access myBlueprint, which is found on their virtual commons, to select courses. The power point presentations, course selection worksheets and the course calendar booklet are available on the Guidance Page. Student Services will be offering course selection workshops in the Learning Commons during period 2 for grades 9 and 10 and during period 3 for grades 11 and returning grade 12. Please contact your child's guidance counsellor if you have any questions.

Online Learning Graduation Requirement Opt-out Form

Students are required to earn two online learning credits to graduate from secondary school, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. The graduation requirement is intended to support students in developing familiarity and comfort with working and learning in a fully online environment, as well as developing digital literacy and other important transferable skills that will help prepare them for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

Parents/guardians may choose to opt their child out of the mandatory online courses required for graduation. The following link offers parents the opt-out form. Parents will be required to enter their email address as well as their child's school board email address. Once entered, parents will receive a verification email, and the Student Services department will receive the form that will be added to the student's school file <https://forms.office.com/r/KrFVRXKm9u>

Paper copies of the opt-out form are also available in Student Services.

College/University Information

First semester final marks have been sent to OUAC and OCAS. 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 and to OUAC is on April 27th .

Eastern Ontario College Panel

Holy Cross will be hosting an Eastern Region Panel Presentation for grade 11 students on Thursday, March 9 during period 4. Participating colleges will share a presentation about college programs, services, the application process, and program outcomes. Participating colleges include Algonquin College from Ottawa, Pembroke and Perth, Durham College from Oshawa and Whitby, Fleming College from Peterborough, Lindsay and Haliburton, Loyalist College from Belleville and St Lawrence College from Kingston, Brockville and Cornwall.

Full Disclosure Date

Grade 12 students have until April 28th to drop a semester 2 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! Apply early to have a chance to apply to the job types that interest you. You can learn more at:

ontario.ca/summerstudents

Township of South Frontenac – Lifeguards and swim instructors are needed for the summer. Check the postings at southfrontenac.net/careers for more information. Resumes are to be sent to hr@southfrontenac.net.

Summer Company - The Summer Company program, funded by the Ontario government, has been helping students, aged 15 to 29, start and run their own businesses since 2001. As a Summer Company entrepreneur, participants receive hands-on business mentoring from local business leaders and up to \$3,000 to make their dream job a reality. Contact Meg Hewitt, program coordinator for Summer Company at Kingston Economic Development, at 613-328-5613 for more information



Contact Us

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

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

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(613) 384-1919

Instagram: @holycrosskingston

Twitter: @HolyCrossCSS

Year 3 Multi-Year Strategic Plan:

We are pleased to announce the release of our MYSP Year 3. Visit our website to view a video message and to learn more about all the amazing progress and achievements being made in the ALCDSB. - [Algonquin & Lakeshore \(alcdsb.on.ca\)](#)

Coming up in April

Month of the Military Child

April 1– Music Concert

April 2– World Autism Day

April 2– Palm Sunday

April 7– Good Friday

April 10 - Easter Monday

April 12– International Pink Day

April 13– Kiwanis Music Festival

April 21– Semester 2 Midterm

April 22 - Earth Day

April 26– Administrative Professional Day

April 27– Marks due to OCAS and OUAC

April 28– WSIB Day of Mourning

April 28– Full disclosure date

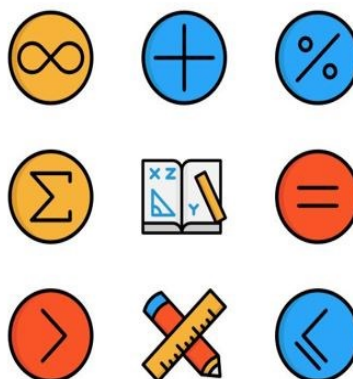
April 30– May 5– Catholic Education Week



After School Math Help!

Grade 9 and 10 students are welcome to come to room 207 from 2:45 – 4:00pm on Tuesdays for extra math help.

Email Ms. Hollands with any questions.
jhollands@alcdsb.on.ca



Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) measures whether students are meeting the minimum standard for literacy across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. This year, the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is offering the computer-based online OSSLT to students in Grades 10 and 11, 12 students who are retaking the test. Successful completion of this literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

Between March 27 and April 3, 2023, our eligible students currently in Grade 10 who are learning in person will be taking part in the OSSLT.

Students will complete the assessment in two sessions (Session A and Session B). Each session is designed to be completed in 60 minutes, and students will complete each session in one sitting. Additional time will be provided for any students who require it. After completing both sessions, students will be presented with a questionnaire that asks them about their experiences, attitudes and perceptions with respect to literacy.

Students have the opportunity to become familiar with the online test and its platform through EQAO's online practice test. Holy Cross is also offering *After School Literacy Sessions* once per week for the next several weeks to help prepare students in Grade 10 for this assessment. There are 2 sessions to choose from: **Tuesdays after school** (Feb. 14 to Mar. 21) or **Wednesdays after school** (Feb. 15 to Mar. 22). Each session runs from 2:45 – 4:00 pm in Room 256 (with Ms. Downey)

An Individual Student Report will be generated for each student after the scoring of the assessment.

For more information about EQAO and to view the full practice test, you are encouraged to visit EQAO's website at www.eqao.com.

HOLY CROSS CLUBS

Club	Day	TIME	Location	Supervisor	Start date
Dungeons & Dragons	Tuesday	After School	Learning Commons	S. Pacheco/E. Withers	Sept 13
ART Club	Wednesday	After School	Room 133	S. Pacheco/ J. Lobo	Sept 21
BOOK Club	Every other Friday	Lunch	Room 244	S. Pacheco	Sept 22
INTERNATIONAL Club	Thursday	Lunch	Lecture Theatre	V. Stabile/ G. Vella-Bowry	Sept 9
FISHING Club	Thursdays	Lunch	P307	T. Hunter/ M. Gervais/P. Corbin	SEPT 22nd
MATHLETES Club	TBA	Lunch	TBA	J. Johnston	After Oct 1ST
SMASH BROTHERS Club	Fridays	Lunch	Lecture Theatre	G. Vella-Bowry	Sept 16
DECA	Tuesdays	Lunch	Room 213	M. Clarke	
GSIC (SAFE SPACE)	Tuesdays	Lunch	Drama Room	A. Cancian/L. Amell	Sept. 27th
SHSM- Information & Communications Technology	1st Thursday each month	Lunch	Room 218	J. McDonald	

CHOIR	TBD	Lunch	Music rm (146)	S. Check-Drumm	
CHEER Club				D. Myers	TBD
CICS Club	TBD	Lunch	Chapel	J. Chapman	September
TALKING HEADS DEBATING & PUBLIC SPEAKING Club	Thursdays	After School	Learning Commons	V. Holmes	October 13th
DANCE Club	Mondays	After school	Caf/Stage	S. Peruginno	Feb 13
SHSM- Environment				T. Hunter	ongoing
Jack.org/ Wellness Team	Tuesdays	lunch	drama room	L. Amell/ A.Cancian	ongoing
BOARD GAMES Social					
CHESS CLUB	Tuesdays and Thursdays	Lunch	134	N. Brioux	Nov 17th
Symphonic Band	Thursdays	2:30-4:00	Music Room (146)	D. Orser	
Curling Club	Wednesdays	3:00-5:00	Royal Kingston Curling Club	J. Holmes / J. Thornburn	October on
Smash Club	Daily	Lunch	Rm 142B	Gr 12 students	All Year
ECOTEAM	Wednesdays	Lunch	Rm 207	J. Hollands	Sep 22 All Year
Anime Club	Tues/Thurs	Lunch	Rom 207	K. Waller	Sep 28 all year
Robotics Club	Thursdays	after school	Rm 142B	F. Akbari	All year
Coding Club	Mon/Wed	Lunch	217	J. Holmes	All year
RISE				Ms. Daniel	

Upcoming EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics

Our students in the Grade 9 mathematics course (MTH1W) in Semester 2 who are learning in person will be taking part in the online Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics administered by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). This assessment is administered province-wide and has been developed by Ontario teachers and assessment experts. It is designed to allow students to demonstrate their skills and knowledge relating to mathematics as described in [*The Ontario Curriculum, Grade 9: Mathematics \(2021\)*](#).

On Thursday June 14th and Friday June 15th students currently enrolled in Grade 9 Destreamed Math (MTH1W) who are learning in person will be taking part in the EQAO Math Assessment.

Students will complete the assessment in two sessions (Session A and Session B). Each session will be completed in one sitting and will take approximately 60 minutes to complete. The assessment uses a multi-stage computer adaptive testing model that adapts to the individual student's performance as the student progresses through each session. Students will also be presented with a questionnaire.

After the assessment sessions are complete, teachers will receive an Individual Student Report for each student. Results from this assessment may be included as part of a student's final course mark.

Students will have the opportunity to become familiar with the types of questions on the online assessment and its platform through EQAO's online sample test.

For more information about EQAO and to view a sample test, visit EQAO's website, www.eqao.com.

The After School Numeracy program will continue to run on **Tuesdays after school in room 207 from 2:45pm to 4:00 pm** with Ms. Hollands.



Holy Cross Swim Team



“Best of luck to the following swimmers as they represent HC at OFSAA in Windsor! Swimmers will compete over two days: February 28th – March 1st. Congratulations to:

James Lossing

Archer Brioux

Drew Crampton

Wesley Pearce

Rodrigo Zepeda Mandri

Abby Renaud

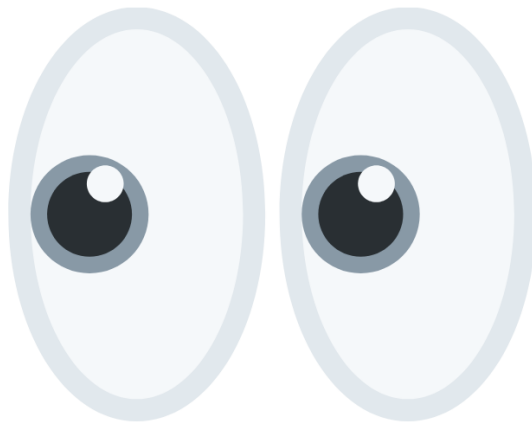
Petronella Summers





**DOUGHNUTS ARE
COMING ...**

**TUES. MAR 7TH
AT LUNCH
IN THE FOYER**



**\$12/DOZEN
OR
\$2 EACH**



ARTS NEWS - MARCH



IMPROV: The HC "Green Beans" Improv Team won **GOLD** at the Canadian Improv Games Regional Tournament here in Kingston last month. At the beginning of April, they will travel to the National Arts Centre in Ottawa to compete with teams from across the country. Good luck, Green Beans!



COFFEE HOUSE: Come out and enjoy some great live music on **Wednesday, March 8th @7PM**. Admission is only **\$5** and refreshments will be sold. Please support our budding performers!



MUSIC TRIP FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES:

Our wonderful parent fundraising committee has some fun events planned:



- **DOMINOS PIZZA NIGHT:** **March 7th** - "Family Fundraiser Night Package" at either West End location. Our February Dominos night raised almost \$1000! Thank you for your support!
- **CONCERT - Save the Date: April 1st!** This "music concert meets carnival" will feature student and staff musicians as well as **The Stares** headlining. It's sure to be a wonderful evening of food, and live music, and will include a silent auction. Tickets are only \$10!



DANCE TEAM FUNDRAISER:

The HC Dance Team will be selling KRISPY KREME donuts on **March 7th** at lunch! \$12/dozen while supplies last! (Pre-orders available through dance team members.)



ECOTEAM NEWS!

The HC EcoTeam works to encourage the HC community to make conscious and lifelong sustainable choices, feel connected to the outdoors, and reduce our impact on the Earth. We do this by holding the school accountable to sustainability goals, educating staff and students, making facility improvements, and providing ways to engage with and appreciate our Earth.



EcoTeam meetings are held in room 207 every Wednesday at lunch. New members are always welcome!

This month:

Meatless Friday



Avoid packing meat in your lunch on Fridays! Help the environment with us during Lent.

The meat industry is responsible for a lot of greenhouse gas emissions which causes environmental pollution and global warming.



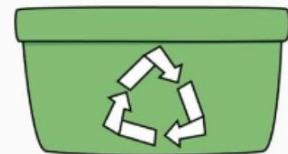
Keep your eye out for meatless recipes posted on the EcoTeam instagram every Friday during Lent. DM or email us a photo of your meatless meal!

The EcoTeam audited HC's waste and found our paper recycling contained 33% garbage! All contaminated recycling must go in the garbage!



Reminder

The recycling bins in your classrooms are for CLEAN paper and cardboard only!



@holycross_ecoteam



jhollands@alcdsb.on.ca

Student Council

Student council has had a busy 2023!

The week of semester 1 exams, exam stress kits containing a funky eraser, motivational wristbands, and chocolate were prepared and distributed in the front foyer. These were given out to help put students in a positive mental headspace heading into exams!

To start off semester 2, we held a second club showcase to promote the various clubs that HC has to offer!



Our frost week in mid-February was a success as well, with lots of fun theme days and activities in the caf such as a spelling bee, karaoke, and HC Family Feud!



Coming Soon.....

We have lots of great activities being organized for the rest of the school year, including “HC’s Got Talent”, an event that will be an opportunity for students to participate in a talent show for the student body.

Spirit Wear will continue to be sold every Tuesday at lunch in the foyer! At this time due to limited supply, it is **Cash only!**

Spiritwear Prices

Toque \$20

Drawstring Bags- \$12

HC Pyjama Pants- \$40

Grey Sweatpants with Pockets- \$45

Embroidered Vintage Long Sleeve- \$15 per or \$25 for 2

Grey or Green HCSS Embroidered Hoodie- \$55

White or Green/Grey Hoodie- \$45

HC Lightweight Jacket- \$40

Green or Dark Heather Grey T-Shirt- \$10

Water Bottle- \$10

Lanyard- \$5



Connect with us:

Instagram: @holycrossstudentcouncil

Twitter: @hcstudco

Email: holycrosscouncil1986@gmail.com

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARSHIP



**Katie
Murphy**





Is your child due for their **immunization?**



Appointments are available
evenings, weekends and
over the March break.



View locations and times
online, and make an
appointment today.

kflaph.ca/Appointments

kflaph.ca

2023-02-24

 **KFL&A**
Public Health

Parent/Guardian Teacher Interviews will be held on Thursday March 23, 2023, from 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM & 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM.

Holy Cross will be using the Microsoft Bookings System again this semester.

A link will be sent out with instructions on how to book via School Messenger.

