

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

March, 2005 Newsletter... visit our web site at www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hcss

The Holy Cross newsletter is issued on the first full school day of each month.

TO OUR READERS

We would like to thank all those who supported our **Share Lent** Pancake Breakfast on February 15th, especially the **Golden Griddle Restaurant** which donated the pancake mix and supplies and **M & M Meat Shops** on Gardiner's Road which donated the juice. The breakfast raised over \$1100.00 for our **Share Lent** collection which this year will help support three charities: **Kingston Habitat for Humanity**, the **Kingston Birthright Association**, and the **Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace**.

Theatre Parminou from Quebec will present the production "**Lost in Traffic**" on **Monday, March 7th at 7:30pm** at McArthur Auditorium at the Queen's Faculty of Education. The play is a dramatic look at the global trade in women and children. Tickets are \$10 (\$5 for students). See **Mr. Forster** for tickets.

We encourage students and staff to join us for this year's Think**Fast** which will take place on **April 1st**. We also welcome volunteers to help us cook breakfast on Saturday.

During Lent, we will have **Morning Prayer** for students and staff in the **Chapel on Friday mornings at 8:00 a.m.** Throughout the Lenten journey that lies ahead of us, may we all prayerfully examine where God is calling us to change and to grow. Let us encourage each other on this journey.

MARCH DATES TO REMEMBER

March 1-4	Spring Uniform Sales in room 124
March 3	Celebration of Reconciliation
March 7	Special Education Parent Consultation Forum
March 8	International Women's Day
March 9-20	Senior Visual Arts Italy Trip
March 10	Early Report Card distribution
March 10	D & P Student Leadership Day in Napanee
March 12-20	March Break
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 20	Passion Sunday
March 21	1 st Instructional Day after the March Break
March 21	Mass of Chrism, St. Mary's Cathedral, 7:30pm
March 21	Tryouts for Spring Sport Teams begin
March 22	Ottawa H.S. Figure Skating Invitational
March 22	UN International Water Day
March 23	Holy Week Liturgy (Way of the Cross)
March 23	2006 European Trip Info Night
March 24	Holy Thursday Share Lent Campaign Ends
March 25	Good Friday
March 26	Easter Vigil
March 27	Easter Sunday
March 28	Easter Monday
March 29	Catholic School Council Meeting at 7:00
March 30	Parent teacher interviews (3-5:30 and 7-9pm)
March 31	Meningococcal-Meningitis Vaccination for grade 10 to 12 students at Holy Cross

SEMESTER 2 EARLY REPORT CARDS AND INTERVIEWS

On **March 10th**, the early Report Cards for Grades 9 - 12 students will be completed in all classes. All students will receive a complete report. There will be one night for **Parent Teacher Interviews** on **Wednesday, March 30th from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. and from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Each parent/teacher conference is scheduled for 10 minutes, and may be booked by appointment, in advance, in the days prior to the interview. Parents and guardians should feel free to contact their son's or daughter's teacher at any time in order to learn more about their performance, but in particular at this time.

SPRING UNIFORM SALES

Orders for spring uniforms will be taken until Friday March 4th at lunch in room 124. Cost of **Golf shirts: \$20.00**; cost of

shorts: \$30.00 (all taxes included). Cash or cheques (payable to Holy Cross Secondary School) must accompany the order. This is the only opportunity to purchase the optional spring uniform.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next Meeting of the Council is on **Tuesday, March 29th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Library. All parents are welcome to attend.

MENINGOCOCCUS VACCINATION

The **Ontario Ministry of Health** and Long-Term Care is now providing publicly-funded immunization to protect the most vulnerable groups against the dreaded disease of **Meningitis**. One of the most vulnerable groups is our **15 to 19 year old teenagers**. To help with this important Public Health initiative, Holy Cross is hosting a clinic for our grade 10 to 12 students on **Thursday March 31, 2005**, in Gym # 3. The staff of Public Health will be here to administer the vaccine. Eligible students will be receiving a package from the school that will include a consent form that must be completed and brought to the clinic.

Meningococcal Disease (meningitis) is a serious life-threatening disease caused by a bacterium that infects the blood and the coverings of the brain and spinal cord. Although there are several strains of this bacterium, the C strain is most common in outbreaks in our region and therefore is the target of our immunization campaign. Previously healthy people of all ages can become extremely ill rapidly with devastating results. The mortality rate from this disease is very high. The new Meningococcal C-Conjugate vaccine appears to provide strong immunity. The United Kingdom's experience in 1999 demonstrated a higher than 96% decline in the disease in this age group after providing the vaccine.

Adolescents who live in residence or participate on teams are at even higher risk of exposure to this disease. **Students going on to university or college may require this vaccine to maintain an optimal level of health in residences.** For these reasons **Holy Cross supports this initiative** to maintain the highest level of physical health along with the intellectual and spiritual development of our students. Further information regarding this initiative will be distributed in the near future.

ALGONQUIN AND LAKESHORE C D S B NEWS

Parents are invited to attend the **Special Education Parent Consultation Forum** at the Board Office on **Monday, March 7, from 7 - 9 p.m.** to receive information and to provide feedback about the Special Education board plan and the service delivery model. Parents who are not able to attend may submit their feedback by email to dodwell@alcdsb.on.ca.

The **Secondary Student Volunteer of the Year** awards will be presented at the **Catholic Education Week system Mass**. Nominations are to be submitted by **April 15th, 2005** using a nomination form available from the principal.

The **Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board** is seeking nominations for the **Archbishop Francis J. Spence Catholic Teacher of the Year Award** for year 2005. Submissions must be received by 4:00 p.m. on **March 22, 2005**. For more information, please contact **Nadia Luciuk** at **St. Paul Catholic School, Kingston, (613) 542-6101**.

Transportation Issues: Hockey sticks and other large items are not allowed on buses while students are being transported to and from school. These items can cause safety concerns when they are improperly stored in aisles/seats. These items are prohibited under Ministry of Transportation regulations.

Anti-Bullying Hotline: The Anti-Bullying Hotline (call **1-866-444-6996** or email at bully@alcdsb.on.ca) was launched

in February, 2005. Students have received an info package including a fridge magnet with contact numbers. The package defines bullying and gives students strategies to stop bullying.

ONTARIO YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) offers high school students the opportunity to enroll in subjects that could lead to apprenticeships in skilled trades areas. Many students in the Board are expressing interest in these occupations and are choosing to investigate these as viable career options. For example, in first semester 106 OYAP students from across the board were enrolled in cooperative education programs, with 92 employers providing placements for them. In addition, 15 students in second semester are in attendance at either St. Lawrence College, Loyalist College, or the Life Long Learning Centre in Cobourg. These students are receiving advanced training in their respective Level 1 Apprenticeship Programs. Level 1 is the first stage of their 2 or 3 part formal in-school Apprenticeship Program. The MTCU pays tuition costs for students registered in the program, and the Board provides support where possible for transportation.

The **OYAP program** is available to any full time high school student interested in the skilled trades. They must be a minimum of 16 years of age, and have completed at least 16 credits toward their OSSD.

The **Kingston "Skilled Trades Fair"** is being held on **April 9** at the Cataroqui Town Centre. An OYAP booth will be in the display area.

Over 60 OYAP presentations have been made thus far in high schools, elementary schools, at committee meetings, and parent and community information evenings.

High school/College Level 1 Apprenticeship Programs for 2005 – 2006 include **Cook/Chef, Automotive Service Technician, Carpentry, Construction Craft Worker, Hairstylist, and Early Child Educator.**

Information about OYAP may be obtained from the guidance department or cooperative education teacher in any of the Board's high schools.

Additional support or information is available from Alice DiGenova or Jim Johnston, OYAP Coordinators with the Board. Alice may be reached at 849 – 8550; Jim may be reached at 532-3985.

KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL RESULTS

All of the Holy Cross Ensembles participated in this year's festival, with results as follows:

- The Senior Wind Ensemble- 1st in competitive "A" class
- Grade 10 Band- 1st in competitive "B" class.
- Grade 9 Band- 2nd in Junior Competitive class.
- Jazz Ensemble- Highest rating in Stage Band class.

We are very proud of our student musicians.

Next Month at Holy Cross

April 1....**ThinkFast:** 25-hour overnight fast at Holy Cross See Mr. Forster for application forms and pledge sheets
April 5-12 Mid Semester Examination Period
April 6 Spring season team photos (lunch hour)
April 7 Easter Season school mass
April 12 Student Reflection and Discernment Day
April 13-16 School Play, "**The Greater Tuna**"
April 15 Half courses end
April 19 .. Waterloo Math Contest (Grade 12 students)
April 20-24 NYC Band Trip
April 22 Mid-Semester Report Cards Issued
April 22 . 4th Annual Pitch-In Day (Crusader Clean-up)
April 26 ... Dr. Wendy Craig "How to Communicate with your Teens" presentation in the library.
April 26 - May 1 Students' Council Elections
April 27 Secretary's Day

Crusader Athletics

Our winter sports season concludes with our Figure Skating team composed of Sarah Brockman, Rebecca Cunningham, Jessica Doucett, Grant Haggerty, Jamie Forsythe, Jarrett McKinnon, Shelby Owen, Brittnee Revell, and Sarah Splinter. The team will compete at the HS Figure Skating Invitational in Ottawa on March 22nd. The team is coached by Lloyd Eisler, Mike O'Brien and Ben Russenholt.

The spring sport season **begins this March** and Holy Cross is again expected to field extremely competitive teams in Rugby: Senior boys, Junior boys and Girls; Soccer: Senior Girls, Senior Boys, Junior Girls, Junior Boys; Track and Field

Holy Cross teams participate as members of KASSAA, a teacher run organization which includes all the high schools in Kingston and the surrounding area. Any school in KASSAA becomes a member of EOSSAA (Eastern Ontario) and OFSAA (Ontario) which are also teacher run organizations. Provincial championships are held for all OFSAA sanctioned sports. This spring, over 200 student athletes from Holy Cross will attempt to compete in these championships. Both the KASSAA website - www.kassaa.ca and the OFSAA website www.offsaa.on.ca are an excellent resource for schedules, league rules and any general information regarding high school sports.

Students, in particular new students entering **grade 9**, are strongly encouraged to get involved in the athletic program at Holy Cross. Athletics offers students an opportunity to enrich their educational development, while promoting an overall feeling of camaraderie and school spirit. Due to the sheer size of our school, most teams require try-outs. However there are teams each season, such as Track and Field, which provide students the opportunity to participate in a High School sport. Many students also get involved by becoming a team manager or a minor official. It is important that any student who wants to become involved has the opportunity. Please discuss any questions regarding athletics with homeroom teachers. Information regarding teams can be obtained through a number of mediums including school announcements, posters, our school's athletic web site - www.alcidsb.on.ca/~hcssa.

SOCCER

The **Senior Boys' Soccer** team will play under the leadership of teacher coach **Mr. Fil Scarpaza**. Mr. Scarpaza is looking forward to another competitive season. The team

will travel to two tournaments. Tryouts will begin after March break with practices after school. The user fee will be \$110.

The **Junior Boys' Soccer** team will be looking to improve upon their strong showing last year. Teacher Coaches **Mr. Bob Bouvier, Mr. Pat Murphy** and **Mr. Scott McCann** will be taking the junior Crusaders to one tournament at LaSalle. Practices occur daily Monday through Friday after school. Tryouts will begin after Easter and the user fee will be \$35.

The **Senior Girls'** team is lead by teacher coaches **Mr. Richard Coleman** and **Mr. Brendan Shane**. The team practices after school at Woodbine. The user fee will be \$75.

The **Junior Girls'** team is lead by teacher coaches **Mrs. Patsy Hawkins-Hogan** and **Mrs. Marie Hulse**. The team will have morning and after school practices. The team plans to attend two tournaments and the user fee will be \$45.

ROWING

Students interested in rowing should contact Mrs. Margaret Bell in Student Services.

RUGBY

All three Rugby teams are coached by the same coaching staff led by **Mr. Mike Chambers, Mr. Dave Jarrell** and **Mr. Rob Manion**. Official team tryouts begin after the March break. The teams practice daily after school and each new player is required to purchase a team kit. The **Senior Boys** team will attend three tournaments: in Toronto, Kingston, and Hamilton. The **Junior Boys'** team looks to build on the success of the junior football team as they vie for the **KASSAA** championship. The Girls' team again looks to be strong. They and the juniors will attend two tournaments. All three teams have a \$30 user fee separate from tournament and kit costs.

TRACK AND FIELD

The **Track and field** team, under the leadership of teacher coaches **Mrs. Ann Marie Macrow, Mr. Mike Lazure, Mr. Tim Hunter**, and **Mrs. Joanne Van Nest** will try and send a record number of Crusaders to the **OFSAA** championships. The team plans to attend a number of meets leading up to the OFSAA Championships the first week of June. The season kicks off with the Queen's Alumni meet on April 30th. The KASSAA Championship will be held at Richardson Stadium on May 11 and 12. Any interested student, who attends practices regularly will be given an opportunity to join this highly competitive team. Try-outs occur in late March. The team's user fee is approximately \$85.