



HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

November 2021

Principal's Message

Welcome all to the month of November. I am so pleased with the herculean efforts of students and staff thus far this fall. We have adjusted time and again and continue to keep well-being of our community at the forefront. It is so nice to hear giggles and laughter. The **Students' Council** and selected **Grade Reps** did a wonderful job with their recent Spirit Week. Please read their segment further on in this newsletter. There is a lot going on even given the pandemic restrictions.

As the weather cools, students will be spending more break time indoors at school. Just a reminder to all to continue to be diligent in safety precautions: you may sit in the Main Foyer, hallways or Cafeteria to eat lunch, four to a table. When students arrive in the morning, they may sit (physically distanced) in the Cafeteria or the Learning Commons if buses arrive early. I know this is awkward but it is our best chance to remain safe while masks are removed for eating. Masks are to be worn at all other times (other than eating or drinking) while indoors, on the bus and outside if physical distancing is not possible. Students are doing a great job but do need some reminders during unstructured times.

We will hold a virtual **Remembrance Day Ceremony** this year on November 11th because of the exam/culminating activity schedule. This Wednesday marks a return to the **PH Classic**, with students having prepaid a non-uniform day where all are encouraged to wear pink. Funds from this day go to support breast cancer awareness and/or research. The basketball games on this day will be livestreamed, with another opportunity for all to support this cause financially.

As the fall season wraps up, just a note of thanks to the many volunteer coaches whose time and expertise allows our student athletes to broaden their school experience. Congratulations to all student athletes and good luck to any heading in to playoffs or OFSAA experiences.

This Month

- November 1– All Saints Day**
- November 1– P A Day**
- November 2– All Souls Day**
- November 3– PH Classic Basketball**
- November 3– Take Our Kids to Work Day**
- November 8-9 EQAO Gr 9 Math Assessment**
- November 10– Last day of**
Quadmester 1
- November 11-Remembrance Day**
- November 11-Exam Day**
- November 12-Exam Day**
- November 15-Quadmester 2 begins**
- November 19-Last day for Timetable**
Changes
- November 19– marks due to OUAC**
And OCAS
- November 22-30– OSSLT Gr 11**

Congratulations to all student athletes and good luck to any heading in to playoffs or OF-SAA experiences.

Terri Daniel

Principal



Quadmester One – Final Exams/Culminating Activities

Please note that final exams/culminating activities for Quadmester One courses will be scheduled as follows:

Thursday, November 11th – AM courses will complete their exams in their classroom with their MORNING teacher. Students will be expected to be in their classroom no later than 8:30 am, and in proper uniform. Please make alternative transportation arrangements for your child(ren) following their morning exam. There are NO afternoon classes on this date. For those students who cannot secure transportation home and are in attendance for the afternoon, the Learning Commons will be available for students who need to wait until 2:30 pm for their regular transportation home.

Friday, November 12th – PM courses will complete their exams in their classroom with their AFTER-NOON teacher. Students will be expected to be in their classroom no later than 8:30 am, and in proper uniform. Please make alternative transportation arrangements for your child(ren) following their morning exam. There are NO afternoon classes on this date. For those students who cannot secure transportation home and are in attendance for the afternoon, the Learning Commons will be available for students who need to wait until 2:30 pm for their regular transportation home.

Please note: Exam absences are to be for medical reasons only. Students must provide written requests to be absent along with medical documentation to the Main Office in order to obtain approval from Administration to be absent for an exam; exceptions will only be made in extenuating circumstances.

Quadmester 1 final marks will be made available for student/family viewing on Friday November 19th. Copies of complete report cards (Quad 1 + Quad 2) will be printed at the end of Quadmester 2 (equivalent to semester 1) and sent home with students.

Anna Coe

Vice-Principal



In Flanders' fields



By Lt. Col. John Mc Crae
(of Guelph, Canada.)
Died January 28th, 1918, while on
active service in France.

In Flanders' fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place, and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing fly,
Scarce heard amidst the guns below.
We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders' fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe,
To you from falling hands we throw
The Torch—be yours to hold it high;
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep though poppies grow
In Flanders' fields.

Quadmester Calendar

Quadmester 1 : Sept 7—November 10

Exam Days : Nov 11— Nov 12

Quadmester 2 : Nov 15 - Jan 27

Exam Days : Jan 28— Jan 31

Quadmester 3: Feb 3— April 12

Exam Days: April 13— April 14

Quadmester 4: April 19— June 23

Exam Days: June 24 - June 28

Counsellor's Corner

Post-Secondary Information

Students interested in applying to Ontario Universities can now pick up their OUAC access codes. Students require these codes to create an application on the Ontario University Application Center (www.ouac.on.ca). Students interested in applying to Ontario Colleges do not need these access codes. The college application is found on the ontariocolleges.ca website, and students require their OEN (Ontario education number) which is found on the student's report card.

Students are encouraged to attend open houses and information sessions to learn more about individual post-secondary institutions. University event information can be found on www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca and colleges are offering college Mondays throughout November www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/colleges/college-recruitment

Students are encouraged to view the post-secondary information power-point on the Guidance Page, which is found on the students' Virtual Commons. It outlines the post-secondary application process.

Graduation Information

Students are reminded to check their timetables to make sure they have all necessary requirements for graduation purposes, as well as for post-secondary pre-requisites. This year the Ministry of Education has reduced the mandatory community service requirement for graduation to 20 hours. This recognizes that graduating students have had barriers to earning their community involvement hours. Also, graduating students this year are exempted from the literacy completion requirement.

Quadmester Timetable Changes

Quadmester 4 will begin on Monday, November 15. Students have until Friday, November 19, to make timetable changes for quadmester 4.

Take Our Kids to Work Day - Wednesday, November 3

Take Our Kids to Work Day for Grade Nine students in Ontario is back, albeit with some alterations. Though in-person TOKTWD experiences are possible this year, it is imperative that COVID 19 protocols and student safety can be assured. If your child is interested in participating, they will need to pick up a permission form from Student Services. It is important to note that the school day for grade nines will involve some virtual workplace experiences but will not include new curriculum learning so that any students off-campus on this day will not be "behind" in their courses.

Students can also participate from home by attending a virtual workplace experience by using the following link: [The Learning Partnership - Take Our Kids to Work 2021](#). Also, students can participate in virtual workplace experiences at school during the morning session. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your teen's guidance counselor.

The 20th Annual Paul Halligan Classic



On Wednesday, November 3, 2021, our Girls Basketball teams will be playing against Regiopolis-Notre Dame in the 20th Annual Paul Halligan Classic. The games will be played at Holy Cross and live streamed via our Holy Cross YouTube channel. As part of our fundraising efforts, we will be charging \$20 for a link to the live stream (the link will be emailed out the day of the PH Classic). Payment can be made at <https://alcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/25189/187/False/True>

The Junior Girls' basketball games begin at 4:00 pm, with the Seniors following at 6:00 pm. Students have prepaid for a non-uniform day through their Student Activity fees. All are encourage to wear pink on this non-uniform day.

On July 21, 1997, Regiopolis Notre-Dame lost one of its greatest supporters. Paul Halligan died of cancer after a two-year battle with the disease. Paul was a graduate of RND, a basketball and football coach, an organizer of the Alumni Association, founder of the Irish Ontario Basketball Club, and the driving force behind the Peter Carty Memorial. More than anything else, Paul was a devoted member of the school community, continually demonstrating his Christian call to service.

The basketball games on November 3rd celebrate the memory of Paul and raise awareness about Breast Cancer and monies for the Patient Relief fund with the Breast Assessment Program. The PH classic recognizes Paul's personal commitment to raise awareness and funds for cancer research.

Considering that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we direct our fundraising efforts to this cause. Over the last 19 years we have raised over \$100,000.00. Our school communities are blessed to have known him and have been touched by his life.

Tony's Pizza will kindly donate a minimum 10% of their food sales from Monday November 1st to Thursday November 4th. Only valid for in store, telephone and online orders through their website; customers must mention the PH Classic Basketball Game at the time of ordering.





PASTORAL NEWS



Beloved
Children of God
2021/2022

The month of October got off to a busy start with the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Students and staff generously brought in donations for the Partners In Mission Food Bank. A special thank you and congratulations to Mr. Healey's class who brought in the most items per student!

We are glad to report that outdoor visits to Rosewood Retirement Home have resumed, with Ms. Whitley's class adorning the courtyard and residents' windows with Thanksgiving decorations. In the days before Halloween, CICS students carved pumpkins which were delivered to Rosewood for the residents to enjoy.

On the faith development side of things, Fr. Hibbard and Fr. Shea have resumed weekly visits, leading class liturgies in the chapel. Both Fr. Hibbard and Fr. Shea are also available for the sacrament of reconciliation by request. Furthermore, students are invited to come to the chapel on Mondays at lunch to watch *The Chosen*, a television based on the Gospels.

November begins with All Saints Day, commemorating both the known and unknown saints of the Church. We are invited to invoke their intercession in areas of our live where we could use some extra support! We then move to All Souls' Day on November 2nd, calling to mind and keeping in our hearts all who have died. During the entire month of November, we are called to remember and pray for deceased family and friends. In the back of the chapel there is a Book of Remembrance in which staff and students are invited to write down the names of any loved ones who have died and who they would like to have remembered in prayer. We will being have a pre-recorded schoolwide liturgy dedicated to All Souls' Month on November 18th, which will be broadcast to classrooms.

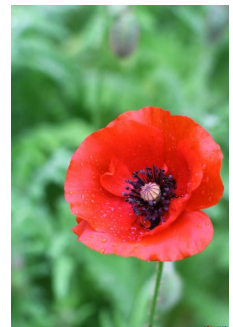
May God continue to bless the Holy Cross community over the month ahead, helping us to grow in faith and in love for one another.

With prayers,

Nick Cotman, Chaplaincy Leader

This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life. John 6:40

Beloved Children of God



Contact Us

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

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

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Looking Forward to December

Dec 14– Quadmester 2 mid-term

Dec 20-31 Christmas Break

Dec 24– Christmas Eve

Dec 25– Christmas Day

Dec 26– Boxing Day

January 3, 2022 classes resume

International Student Experience

We are looking for families who would like to host an international student from Germany or Spain who will be attending Holy Cross this year. This opportunity will provide a great cultural experience for your family and allow these students to fully experience life in Canada. Generous compensation is provided to families that host students and we will support to you as needed. Students must follow strict health guidelines before attending and all will be vaccinated before arrival.

If you are interested or would like more information please call 613-544-2116 or email: international@alcdsb.on.ca .

We look forward to you sharing Canada with our students.



HOLY CROSS GOLF TEAM

The HC golf season has officially come to a close! Since early September, our golfers have been practicing their drives, chips and putts at The Landings, Camden Braes and Amherstview golf courses. These past few months have been dedicated to preparing for the KASSAA Championship, where our golfers competed for a spot at OFSAA. Both our competitive and farm teams played very well, and three of our golfers made it to compete at the provincial level. Paige Douglas, Paige Gazeley and Abby Fox qualified to compete at Sawmill Golf Course in Fenwick, ON, to play against top golfers from across the province. It was an exciting two-day tournament in which our players played their hearts out in the very hilly terrain. Way to go girls!

If you have any questions about signing up for next year's golf team, please see Jenn Johnston, Ryley Kehoe or Rob Watts.





EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics

Starting in the 2021–2022 school year, students enrolled in the MTH1W Grade 9 de-streamed mathematics course 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 One will complete Session A of the assessment on November 8th and then Session B on November 9th.** 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.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

The OSSLT measures whether students are meeting the minimum standard for literacy across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. Successful completion of the literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. All students across the province write this test.

This school year, EQAO will be offering the OSSLT online. The assessment will be available to students participating in **in-person learning and working toward their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)**. This will allow the opportunity for students in Grades 10 and 11, and non-graduating Grade 12 students, to attempt the test and, if successful, have it counted on their transcript.

Because the Ministry of Education has waived the literacy graduation requirement for all students graduating during the 2021–2022 school year, graduating students do not need to complete the OSSLT test this year.

During the last school year (2020-21) students in Grade 10 had the opportunity to become familiar with the online test and its platform through EQAO's online practice test. The online practice test comprises two sessions, which include content from previous tests. The practice test is equivalent to the two sessions students will be completing during the live test in

November. In addition, the practice test includes an introductory session that allows students to become familiar with the new online platform's tools and functions. Students in Grade 10 THIS YEAR will be provided the opportunity to familiarize themselves with this new online platform throughout this school year. Grade 10 students will then complete the OSSLT later this year (Spring 2022).

Our school is planning to have students in **GRADE 11** complete the on-line OSSLT in their assigned morning classes during the week of November 22 – 30th, 2021. The school Literacy Committee is working diligently to provide support, materials and information to both students and teachers in order to best prepare students for the upcoming assessment. A D2L course has been created for students that contains numerous practice tips and materials to help prepare for the assessment. We encourage students and parents to visit the course by clicking this link: [Homepage - "OSSLT" Literacy Test- Prep Materials \(elearningontario.ca\)](#) **As students are required to be in-class learners at the time the online test will be administered at the school, any Grade 11 students that are currently studying remotely will be contacted to determine arrangements to write the assessment.**

For more information about the OSSLT and to access the practice test available to students, you are encouraged to visit <https://www.eqao.com/the-assessments/osslt/> . If parents/guardians have specific questions regarding the OSSLT on-line test to be completed by Grade 11 students in November, please direct your queries to Mr. Dan Finn or Mrs. Anna Coe.



HC Curling Corner

The Holy Cross Curling Club has started up and we are looking for more curlers (boys and girls). The last time we were curling, we had two teams advance to EOSSAA, with one taking silver. We would love to continue this success.

The curling club meets every Wednesday from 3:15 - 5:00 at the Royal Kingston Curling Club. Students can make their way on their own, or check with the staff advisor, Mr. Holmes, for a ride from school.

Students can try the sport for two weeks before making any financial commitment. After that, a \$120 fee pays for membership in the HS Curling League. This covers two parties (Christmas and end of season), and a Junior Curling Membership at the Royal Kingston Curling Club. The season runs to April and as a junior member of the RK Curling Club you are also eligible to participate in the junior curling program on Sundays, and you can even 'rent' out the ice for your own personal events.

Members of the HC Curling Club are chosen to represent Holy Cross at KASSA. We encourage as many students as possible to participate.

For more details contact Mr. Holmes at holmjohn@alcdsb.on.ca or stop by room 217 in the mornings or the Learning Commons in the afternoons.



Arts Update for November

TALENT SHOW

The senior dance class will be hosting Back to the Stage, a show for Holy Cross's talented performers to show what they've got! Back to the Stage will be filled with vibrant, student-run performances in the form of dance, song, and instrumental music. As well, the Senior dance class will be bringing their self-choreographed pieces to the stage for the very first time! After over a year of silence on the Holy Cross stage, we are so excited to get back to performing, and we know you are too!

Due to current Public Health COVID protocols, there can be no "live audience" at this time. However, the show will be filmed on Thursday, November 4th and then streamed on Tuesday November 9th at 7:00PM through our Holy Cross channel on YouTube. We hope you will tune in!

SCHOOL MUSICAL

The secret is finally out! The Holy Cross Arts Department is excited to announce that the musical this spring will be **The Wizard of Oz!** We can't wait to take you over the rainbow! Show dates are April 6, 7, 8 and 9th, 2022.

Anyone who is interested in auditioning or being a part of the production should attend a brief information meeting on Friday, November 5th at lunch in the lecture theatre.

Auditions will begin Monday, November 29th. Sign-up times will be posted on the drama board after November 5th.

DRAMA CLUB & IMPROV CLUB

Two new clubs are running this year. Improv Club runs every Tuesday after school in the drama room and Drama Club runs every Thursday at lunch in the drama room. All are welcome!

Follow us on instagram or Twitter: @hcarts_ for all updates



Grad Photos

Holy Cross Graduation portraits this year will be taken in the studio at Holy Cross, beginning the week of November 15th during Quadmester Two, between 830 am and 230 pm by appointment only. Each sitting will be approximately 20 minutes in length. We will release more details in the coming weeks on the Holy Cross web-page and the Holy Cross social media accounts.





Student Council

The HC Student Council have been working hard this month planning events for the school community! We have selected our grade reps for this school year! Congratulations to Elizabeth Scriver (grade 9 rep), Olivia McLellan (grade 10 rep), and Katie Murphy (grade 11 rep). We had a very successful Halloweek, consisting of Halloween accessories, black and orange day, and HC spirit!

The Spirit Shop

Spirit Wear sales continue every Tuesday at lunch just outside of the Student Council room! The HC spirit shop will also be available online! HC Spirit Wear can be paid for using the same payment method as the student fees. (schoolcashonline.com). Pickup for online orders will be Tuesdays at lunch outside of the council room along with our in-school shop! Receipts must be shown. *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.*

Lanyards	\$3
Drawstring Bags	\$12
HC Pajama Pants	\$40 *limited sizes- new inventory in Nov
HCSS Grey Hoodie	\$45 *only in XL
Grey or Green Crewneck Sweatshirt	\$38 *limited sizes
Grey Sweatpants with Pockets	\$35 *limited sizes- new inventory by January
Vintage (Embroidered) Long Sleeve.	\$15 or 2 for \$25
Green or Dark Heather Grey T-Shirt	\$15
Pom Pom Toque	\$20
White Holy Cross Hoodie 	\$50
Green/Grey Holy Cross Hoodie 	\$50
Holy Cross Jacket	\$45

NEW HOODIES HAVE ARRIVED!



Student Council has organized a **Woman's Hygiene Drive** for the week of November 22nd. Homeroom classes will receive a box and students and staff are encouraged to bring in any products that they can. Boxes will be collected on Friday and be donated to Woman's Shelters in Kingston. Any new hygiene items are much appreciated!

**DONATE FEMININE HYGIENE
PRODUCTS TO HELP THOSE IN
NEED**

Feminine Hygiene Drive

**All donations will be given to the Dawn
House, a women's shelter in Kingston!**



Bring in donations by November 26th



Canadian
Blood
Services

BLOOD
PLASMA
STEM CELLS
ORGANS
& TISSUES

NextGen
Lifeline

STUDENT RECRUITING
SCHEDULE TO SAVE LIVES

Try something new and donate blood for the first time.

Join Canada's Lifeline.
Book your appointment at

<https://myaccount.blood.ca/en/join-team/HOLY011675>



Open the camera app
on your mobile device
to scan QR code.



Kaitlyn,
blood donor and NextGen volunteer

Blood
for Life

The **Holy Cross Blood Team** is back! If you are 17 years old and fit the criteria to donate, we encourage you to sign up to donate with the Holy Cross Team! Student Council will be visiting grade 12 home-rooms in mid-November to talk more about the HC team and how you can donate! Posters with QR codes have also been put around the school for easy booking! Anyone can donate with the HC Team, parents, teachers, students, and community members! Help save a life by donating blood!

If you are interested in singing and playing an instrument, sign-up to play at our lunchtime Caf Concerts. New to this school year, Student Council will be hosting Caf Concerts approximately every 2 weeks. They allow anyone with a talent and interest to sing or play an instrument to share their talent with the school! Sign-ups are outside of the Student Council room! Students are encouraged to message April Przontka (ahprzont71@alcdsb.on.ca) if you have any questions about the Caf Concerts!

We wish all students good luck with the remainder of their classes and exams and all the best in the upcoming quadmester!

