



# HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

April 2024

## Principal's Message

My hope is that all people were able to find some joy and rest over the Easter weekend. In this Easter season, let us rejoice and be glad for our blessings and hopeful for better days to come in our community and our world.

Spring means an increase of foot traffic in our neighbourhood, with students travelling to the Metro Plaza as well as to the shops along Woodbine and Bayridge Road. Please be careful along the roads, but also be conscious of our neighbours. It is disrespectful to leave any items on the ground, whether on sidewalks or front lawns. Please make an effort to be good neighbourhood members.

Congratulations to **Samara DeJonge**, recipient of a Queen's Chancellor's Award.

Good luck to all those students who are awaiting responses from their college, university and apprenticeship applications. Be sure to follow all steps of the process carefully. We are starting the transition process for our incoming grade eight students, always a time of excitement.

Many thanks to those who submitted school nickname suggestions – a smaller group will go through the names to consider their ramifications, and then a vote will be put out to the whole school, in later April of May.

The optional **spring uniform** will begin on Monday, April 29th. Information about obtaining a new spring uniform can be found on our school website.

Early plans are in the works for a June graduation celebration, on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. More to come.

There are so many activities coming up in the next few weeks: a **school dance** this Friday, **Crusaders' Rockfest**

## This Month

**Earth Month (see attached calendar)**

**April 1– Easter Monday**

**April 3– World Autism Day**

**April 5– HC Dance**

**April 6– Crusaders' Rockfest**

**April 8– P A Day (no classes)**

**April 11–Kiwanis Music Festival**

**April 18–Cabaret Talent Show**

**7-10 pm Café**

**April 19– Report Cards home**

**April 24-28– NYC Music Trip**

**April 25– Midterm Marks Due**

**April 28– Pitch in Kingston Day**

**April 29– Spring Uniform Begins**

**Graduation Thursday June 27th**

open to all) this Saturday, and a night of parent engagement (**Screenagers** – teens' mental health and social media) on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. See more information about each of these exciting events further along in the newsletter.

Congratulations to all of the winter sports teams, good luck to the spring sports just starting up, and all the best to those participating in Kiwanis and Cabaret. We are a busy school, blessed with so many opportunities for people to shine in all different aspects of extracurricular school life.

Terri Daniel

# SOLAR ECLIPSE

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE

### **Solar eclipse:**

The upcoming solar eclipse on April 8 will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The eclipse process is expected to start at approximately 2:09 p.m., peaking at 3:22, and end with the full re-emergence of the sun at 4:34 p.m. The ALCDSB is facilitating the distribution of viewing glasses as a courtesy provided by Queens University Department of Physics, Engineering Physics and Astronomy. We are not mandating participation in this event, however if you do choose to participate in active viewing, please consider the following tips provided by the local Health Units:

### Here are some tips to help your family enjoy the event safely:

- Looking at the sun without proper eye protection can cause permanent vision damage. Solar eclipse glasses that meet international standard ISO 12312-2 are needed to safely view the eclipse.
- Regular sunglasses, no matter how dark, will not protect your eyes.
- When using eclipse glasses, ensure they are not scratched or damaged.
- Don't use a regular camera or phone lens to view the eclipse. It can hurt your eyes and your device.

It is important to supervise children during solar viewing activities to ensure they don't look at the sun without proper protection.

**If you or your child experience any vision changes after the eclipse, contact your optometrist promptly. You can also contact 811 to get health advice from a registered nurse.**

For more information, visit [kflaph.ca/SolarEclipse](http://kflaph.ca/SolarEclipse) or [Solar Eclipse Safety - Hastings Prince Edward Public Health \(hpepublichealth.ca\)](http://SolarEclipseSafety-HastingsPrinceEdwardPublicHealth(hpepublichealth.ca))

**Darcey French** BFA, B.ED, M.ED, OCT  
Superintendent of Education

## Contact Us

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

**Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School**

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(613) 384-1919

Instagram: @holycrosskingston

Twitter: @HolyCrossCSS



### Coming up in May

**May 1– Response to OCAS offers due**

**May 2– Catholic Education Week Mass**

**May 6-10– Catholic Education Week**

**May 10– Montreal Grad Trip**

**May 20– Victoria Day**

**May 22-25– Dance Trip**

**May 29– Genesis Awards 7-10pm**

**Graduation Thursday June 27th**

Our semester 2, **Grade 9 Math EQAO Dates :**

Wednesday June 12<sup>th</sup> and

Thursday June 13<sup>th</sup>

**After School Numeracy Gr 9 and Gr 10**

**Room 108**

**Starting Feb 14**

**Wednesdays 2:45-3:45pm**

**See Ms Costa Silva for more info**



# PASTORAL NEWS

Happy Easter! We hope everyone had a time of spiritual growth during Lent, and that Holy Week and Easter brought the opportunity to contemplate the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. We are overjoyed to be in the Easter Season, a time of light and joy!

A big thank you to Ms. Check-Drumm and her grade 10 drama class for leading this year's Stations of the Cross services. Their tableaux of each station were powerfully depicted Jesus's sacrifice on the cross, helping us to appreciate the depth of God's love. I would also like to thank the entire Holy Cross community for the generous contributions to our Lenten fundraiser supporting Martha's Table.

In April, we look forward to various faith development opportunities for staff and students. On Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, staff will have a faith day focusing on God's gift of creation and Pope Francis' writings on environmental stewardship. We will also continue to provide reconciliation liturgies to religion classes. I would ask you to please pray for a fruitful faith day for staff, and for students as they continue to encounter God's mercy in the Sacrament of Confession!

Looking forward to May, we have our next school Mass on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, followed by Catholic Education Week from May 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. Also of note is the Graduation Retreat Trip to Montreal on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. There is limited availability and spaces are filling up! If you are in grade 12 and interested in attending, be sure to contact Mr. Cotman! It promises to be a highlight of the year and your time at Holy Cross.

My prayers go out to all staff, students, and families for a blessed Easter Season. Along with warmer weather, may this time of joy bring renewed faith and hope!

*So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.*

Colossians 3:1

## Holy Cross Beacons of Hope



### **Parker Gaulton and Brett Pruefer are Holy Cross Beacons of Hope**

We believe there are many students whose contributions to our Catholic schools and the wider community reflect our Catholic virtues. Not likely to be recognized in other venues, these unsung heroes contribute to the betterment of the community with dedication, integrity and gentle spirit.



## Holy Cross Swims at OFSAA



Holy Cross is proud of **Drew Crampton, Chester Lam, Wesley Pearce, and Petronella Summers** for their strong showing at OFSAA Swim in Toronto on March 5-6<sup>th</sup>. Special mention to Petronella who placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the province for her 50m freestyle event”



# Counsellor's Corner

## 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 postsecondary institution. The transmission of mid-term marks to OCAS and to OUAC will be on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Full Disclosure Date

The full disclosure date is on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Grade 12 students who wish to withdraw from a course that is not required for graduation or post-secondary purposes should discuss their request with their guidance counsellor before that date. If a student withdraws from a course after the full disclosure date, the mark for the withdrawn course will appear on the student's transcript.

## Graduation Date

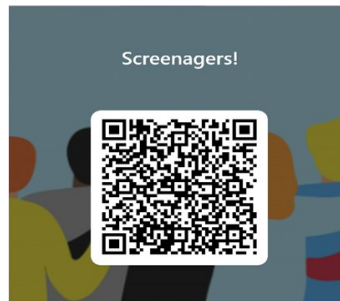
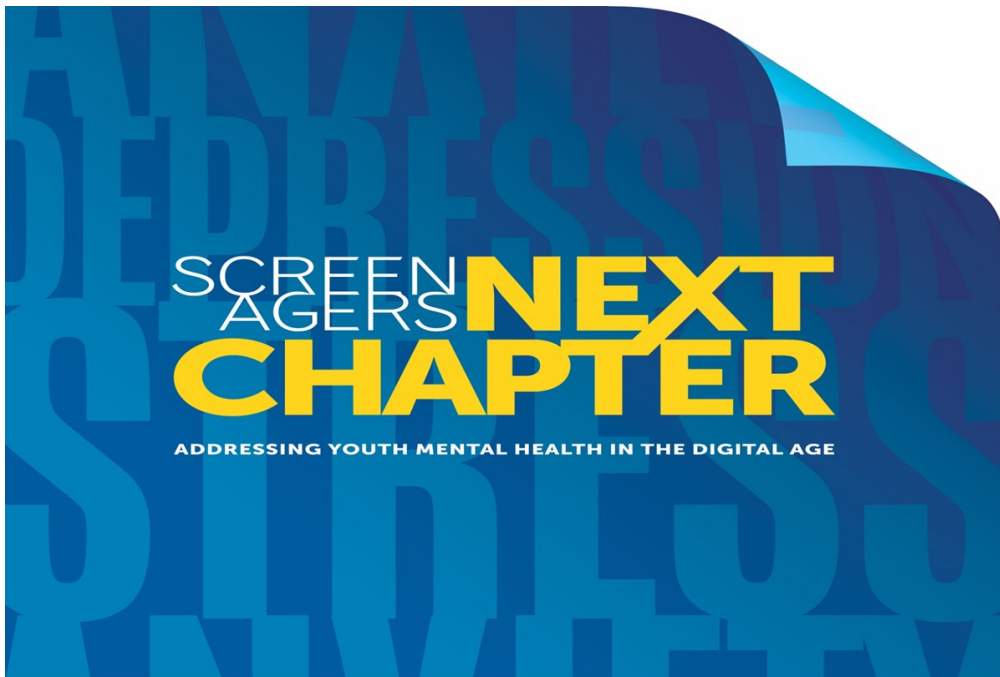
This year's graduation date will be on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. More details will be made available in May.

## Community Service Hours

Graduating grade 12 students are reminded that they require 40 hours of community involvement activities. Grade 12s should submit their community service hours form to Student Services by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## ALCDSB Summer School – e-Learning

E-Learning courses will be offered by ALCDSB in July over 4 weeks. Courses are delivered on-line and are asynchronous. More information will become available once the course offerings are finalized.



**BY:** Holy Cross & Regiopolis -Notre Dame Catholic High Schools

**WHEN:** Thursday April 11, 7:00 PM

**WHERE:** The Screening Room, 120 Princess St. Kingston

**TICKETS:** All are welcome, please register ahead of time using the QR code as seats are limited. There is **no cost** to this event.

*There will be a panel of mental health experts to answer questions after the movie*



Thanks to Community Spirit  
Gaming Centre for supporting  
Holy Cross Students



**Current**

**Gr 11s**

Want to be on next year's  
Student Council?

# **STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION INFO MEETING**

**WED. APR 3RD**  
**AT LUNCH IN RM 218**

## ARTS NEWS - APRIL 2024

**CABARET:** Do you juggle? Play an instrument? Write slam poetry? Sing? The senior drama class will be hosting a variety show on **April 18th, 2024 @ 7PM** showcasing HC's brightest talent! AUDITIONS are April 9th and 10th after school in the drama room. The show will also feature numbers from our dance team, NYC vocal ensemble, HC Pentatonix and much more!



**IMPROV:** Come play with us! The Improv Team will be hosting some after school/lunch "open house" improv games in the drama room. Check the announcements and drama board for dates coming up.

### **MUSIC TRIP FUNDRAISER:**

Rockfest 2024 is fast approaching! On **April 6th**, come out for some great live music as well as food and an incredible silent auction. Tickets are only \$20 each and are available now! (see poster attached) All proceeds support the students going to compete at World Strides Festival in New York City at the end of April! See poster attached for information. A huge thank you to all who are volunteering to make this a success, and to the local business who supported this huge endeavour! A special shout-out to Leann Benoit for spearheading all of the parent fundraising activities!

### **DANCE TEAM UPDATE:**

The HC Dance Team wants to thank everyone for their support with the Krispy Kreme fundraiser! Your donations have helped us raise \$3200 towards our 4 day competition in Waterloo. We will be departing on Wed. May 22nd to attend the Ontario Secondary School Dancefest at Waterloo University until Saturday May 25th! Our team of 23 students will compete against 36 other secondary schools in the categories of contemporary, hip hop, musical theatre, and jazz. Good luck to the dancers and teachers involved, we know you will make Holy Cross proud!

### **GENESIS: AN ARTS CELEBRATION**

The Genesis Awards are coming soon! The Arts Department, along with our friends in photography & videography, will be celebrating our student artists and performing our artistic highlights from this past school year, and our Genesis certificates and awards will be given out to our shining stars! This is also the debut of our grade 9 music students as they showcase their repertoire in preparation for playing at Canada's Wonderland Music Festival in June. There will also be a special visual arts/comm tech display in the Learning Commons. The date is **Wednesday, May 29th, 2024 @7PM**. Tickets are \$7 in advance (sold at lunch in the foyer the week of the show or at the door). Purchase yours early to avoid disappointment!

HOLY CROSS MUSIC DEPARTMENT HOSTING



IT'S TIME TO  
**ROCK N'  
ROLL!**

PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT SYMPHONIC BAND  
& VOCAL ENSEMBLE NEW YORK CITY TRIP

2024

**CRUSADERS ROCKFEST**

**Saturday, April 6th**

1085 Woodbine Rd Doors open 5:30pm

Barbecue Beverages Silent Auction

[crusadersrockfest.ca](http://crusadersrockfest.ca) | [2024crusadersrockfest@gmail.com](mailto:2024crusadersrockfest@gmail.com)

**OPENING LINEUPS**

Euphoria | Interrobang  
The Garvin Brothers  
Good Foot | The Petras  
Road Apples

**\$20**

Per ticket

Includes Dinner

[Scan for ticket ->](#)



Thank you to our event sponsors





# Student Council Faith Life Rep.

## How To Apply:

- Get two teacher references
- Write a short reflection on why you are interested in this council position
- Email application to Mrs. McDonald ([mcdojenn@alcdsb.on.ca](mailto:mcdojenn@alcdsb.on.ca)) by Thursday, April 11th
- Must be in grade 12 next school year!



Work with Student Council  
on school wide initiatives  
and activities



Lead CICS by organizing  
volunteer opportunities and  
school fundraisers



Collaborate with  
Mr. Cotman to enrich the  
spiritual life of the school



**GLOW-IN-THE-DARK**

# SEMI FORMAL

*Dance*

**GRADES 9-13**

**HOLY CROSS CAFETERIA**

FRIDAY APRIL 5TH | DOORS OPEN AT 7PM

**1 PLUS ONE ALLOWED PER PERSON**

**MUST BE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT (KNOW THEIR NAME AND SCHOOL)**

Tickets on sale starting Wed. March 27th

\$10 for HC students and \$10 for Guest

(HC student must show Student ID to purchase and get into the dance)

**Ticket  
\$10**



## Student Council News

March was a month of rest and relaxation, and it also gave us lots to look forward to.

The 21<sup>st</sup> of March was World Down Syndrome Day. To celebrate this, students wore fun, colourful socks. It was great to see people around the school show their support for this meaningful day.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, students were surprised with an easter egg hunt in their first period class. Each class had 40 eggs hidden for students to find. Everyone had lots of fun finding the eggs, and this activity helped get students get in the Easter spirit.

We are super excited to announce our glow in the dark themed semi formal dance on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, in the Holy Cross Cafetorium. This event will be open to all grades, and students are allowed to bring a friend from another school. If a student chooses to bring a friend, they must include their friend's school and grade when buying a ticket. The doors will open at 7pm and close at 8pm, with the dance ending at 10pm. Tickets started going on sale Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, and they're going fast. Get one before they're gone!

The election process for next year's student council is soon! Stay tuned for more information. If you are a grade 11 student and plan on running for next year's council, feel free to talk to a current council member. We are more than happy to answer any of your questions!

With another month in the books, we're excited to see what April has in store for our school community.

Come feel the power of  
small for yourself!

**LOYALIST  
COLLEGE**

**APRIL 6, 9 AM – 12 PM**

# OPEN HOUSE

At Open House, you'll be able to:

- Get the inside scoop from faculty, staff and students
- Explore more than 70 full-time programs
- Tour campus, including Residence
- Check out labs, workshops and learning spaces
- Find out about our full range of student services
- Discover university and college pathways
- Explore funding options and financial assistance
- Apply for free and save the \$125 application fee!

Pre-register for Open House:

**[LoyalistCollege.com/OpenHouse](https://LoyalistCollege.com/OpenHouse)**

\*Conditions apply.



Pre-register  
for a chance  
to win a  
**\$500**  
bookstore  
gift card!\*

# SPRING OPEN HOUSE

**BROCKVILLE & CORNWALL APRIL 6**  
**KINGSTON APRIL 13**



St. Lawrence  
College



Hello,

You are receiving this message to clarify the information you received yesterday regarding school bus transportation for the 2024-25 school year.

If your student currently has school bus transportation and there is no change to their school or address in September, you do not need to take any action or reapply. Current school bus transportation will remain in place unless you are contacted directly by Tri-Board Student Transportation.

However, if you have a student for the 2024-2025 school year that:

- Is attending school for the first time (including Kindergarten students)
- Is changing schools (including elementary students transitioning to a secondary school)
- Needs to change school bus pick-up/drop-off locations (including changing childcare providers or if you are moving).

Then you need to apply for transportation with Tri-Board transportation by August 11, 2024 to ensure that you have transportation in place for the first day of school in September. Applications received after August 11 will not be processed before the first day of school. You can apply at: [triboard.ca/apply/](https://triboard.ca/apply/)

If you require assistance with your application, please contact Tri-Board at [info@triboard.ca](mailto:info@triboard.ca) or by phone at: 613-354-1981.

# April Earth Month

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1 Easter Monday	2 Queen's Biodiversity Presentation in room 222 at lunch 	3	4 	5 Take Me Outside Day take a photo of your class outside 
8 PA Day Watch the solar eclipse (with glasses!) 	10	11	12 Fast Fashion Swap in the foyer at lunch 	15
16	17	18 19 Sewing Workshop in room 207 at lunch 	22 	23 Born Wild The Next Generation Screening in the Caf at lunch 
	24 WWF Sweater Day Half Non Uni 	25 Vegan Bake Sale in the foyer at lunch 	26 Pitch In Day! with participating period 3 classes 	

For more updates follow @holycross\_ecoteam 