



Holy Cross  
SCHOOL

50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY



Crazy Hat Day—February 17<sup>th</sup>

Holy Cross School will be having a school-wide Hat Day to support our CDSBEO Student Senate in achieving their goal of raising money to fund the salaries of two teachers in a school operated by the brothers of “La Salle” in the Dominican Republic. We are asking that students and staff who participate in this even donate \$2 for the privilege of wearing a hat on this day. Your support of this initiative is greatly appreciated.

# February 2012

## A Word from the Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

This year the Liturgical Season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> with Ash Wednesday. The students and staff will be attending Mass at Holy Cross Church on this day beginning at 9:30 a.m. Mass will be also celebrated at Holy Cross Church at 7 p.m.

Lent is a time of preparation, reflection and spiritual renewal. The Church sets aside the forty days of Lent as a special time for us to prepare for the celebration of Easter. During Lent, the readings we listen to encourage us to say “yes” to God and “no” to our own selfishness. The cross of ashes we will be receiving on our foreheads will remind us to **“Turn Away from Sin and Follow Jesus”**. Let us all use this time of Lent for personal reflection and prayer.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. C. Empey,  
Principal

**Shalom**  
Acting justly...  
Living peacefully...  
Celebrating joyfully!

### Important Dates This Month:

- 13<sup>th</sup> School Council Meeting
- 14<sup>th</sup> Report Cards go home
- 15<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Teacher-Parent Interviews
- 17<sup>th</sup> EARLY DISMISSAL at 12:15 p.m.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Family Day—no classes
- 29<sup>th</sup> SEAC Meeting



### Literacy-a-Thon

Due to the inclement weather day on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, our Literacy-a-thon, we will be rescheduled to Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students are reminded to wear their pyjamas on Thursday and be ready to participate in a number of special activities. Pledge sheets are to be returned to the office no later than **Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**.

## First Term Provincial Report Cards

First Term Provincial Report Cards will be sent home on Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Interviews will take place on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 8 p.m. and on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 3:30 p.m. As this is the first Provincial Report Card for the year, we are encouraging all parents to attend these interviews. Please complete the attached interview sheet and return to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Interviews are opportunities for parents and teachers to talk together about how to help students succeed in school. They are very short—usually 10 or 15 minutes. It's important to prepare before the interview to make the best use of the time. If you need more time, you are encouraged to schedule another appointment.

#### 1. Prepare

- Read your child's report card
- Make notes about your questions and concerns
- Talk to you child about the report
- What do you want to ask the teacher?

#### 2. Ask Questions

- What does my child do well?
- What skills does she or he still need to develop?
- How does my child get along with the other students?
- How can I help my child at home?

#### 3. Follow Up

- Talk to your child. Stress the positive things the teacher said. Talk about how you and the teacher are going to help with the things that need to be improved.

### Coming in March:

CEC Symposium	8 <sup>th</sup>
March Break	12 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup>
Mass	23 <sup>rd</sup>

**February 17<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal Day**  
**12:15 p.m.**

## Fall Registration



If you have not yet registered your child for Junior Kindergarten in September, please call us as soon as possible. You will need to provide your child's: Catholic Baptismal Certificate (or Catholic parent's Baptismal Certificate), child's Birth Certificate/Birth Registration, Immunization records and Health Card. Early registration assists us with planning and optimal staffing allocation for the 2012-2013 school year.

If your child is already enrolled in our Junior Kindergarten program, there is no need to register for Senior Kindergarten.

## Ready to Learn Program

If your Junior Kindergarten child is presently enrolled in our Ready to Learn Program, we will assume that you are interested in this program for the 2012-2013 school year. If this is not the case, please let us know. If your child is **not** enrolled in this program and you are interested in this program for your child in September 2012, please call Mrs. Dawe at the school.

## Early Learning Program

Holy Cross School will be offering the Early Learning Program (everyday, all day kindergarten) for all Junior and Senior Kindergarten students in September 2013. This will replace the Ready to Learn Program. Each classroom will have approximately 26 students staffed by an Early Childhood Educator and qualified classroom teacher. All kindergarten classrooms will be renovated to accommodate this new and exciting early learning program.

## Friends of Ryan's Well Club



The Friends of Ryan's Well Club would like to thank everyone for their generous support. \$208.69 was raised selling our students' hand painted note cards, which will be available to purchase during teacher-parent interviews on February 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book Fair was another success this year. Final figures are still being calculated. Thank you for your support.

## Valentine's Day—Red and Pink Tasting Day



Our school is committed to be part of a Healthy School Challenge in 2012. Healthy eating and daily exercise will continue to be a focus for the remainder of the school year.

As a reminder, we ask families to refrain from sending in candies, chocolates, birthday cupcakes and other sweet treats for students.

All classrooms on Valentine's Day, will have a Red Tasting Day and experience the taste of healthy red and pink fruits and vegetables such as: strawberries, raspberries, red peppers, etc.

## EQAO Testing

EQAO testing will take place from May 23<sup>rd</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup> for all Grade 3 and 6 students. Please do your best to schedule any appointments outside of this two week timeframe.

# SCHOOL COUNCIL

## Parents Reaching Out Evening—May 9<sup>th</sup>

Holy Cross Parent Council is pleased to announce that Dr. Maggie Mamen - Psychologist with the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario and author of books on parenting, family management and more - will be presenting to our parent community. The presentation, focusing on Raising Resilient Children, will be from 7 to 9 p.m. Mark this important date on your calendar.

## Catholic Education Coalition Symposium

We are also looking for parents to join our regional Catholic Education Symposium. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this evening meeting is to engage the wider Catholic education community in meaningful dialogue about the legacy and future of Catholic Education. If you are able to join us for this evening, please contact the school.