



CRUSADER NEWS AND VIEWS

The Mission Statement of Holy Cross Catholic School is to educate tomorrow's Christian Leaders by fostering Academic Excellence in a Christian Community.

March 5, 2009

Spring Prayer

As we pray for warmer weather and an end to the cold, dark days of winter, may the love of Christ fill our hearts. May that light shine through us and into the hearts of others. Amen

Protecting God's Children Workshops

Visit www.virtus.org and select "Registration." You will be directed to a prompt to search for locations. You will need this to do ANY classroom volunteering! Contact Mrs. Smith or the "virtus" website for more information.

Remember, you need this workshop completed in order to volunteer for field day or camp or chaperone field trips.

got scrip?

SCRIP office hours:

Mondays and Fridays, 7-9am;
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and
Thursdays 1-3pm; and
5-7pm Mondays & Tuesdays during
RE classes

"Peddler" hours: almost 24/7/365!

Kelly Glowski (Algonac)
Sue Sharpe (Marine City)
Kelly Zichi (East China)

"PSAS" Application Forms for the Archdiocesan Grant

The application deadline will be upon us before you know it: don't forget to file yours! Contact the school office to have an application sent home with your child, or stop in to pick one up. You may also download the form from the Archdiocese's website: go to www.aodonline.org; "Catholic Schools" from the left, then "Tuition Assistance" under "Parents and Students," "Archdiocesan Endowment Tuition Assistance Programs," then select the form and instruction letter.

What Are YOUR Plans?

If you haven't already replied to our letter about 2009-10, please take a moment tonight to write down your plans for next year, and send your response to the school office tomorrow. Thank you!

Registration!

We are currently working on finalizing tuition figures for next year: we're waiting to hear from as many families as possible so our numbers are right...so registration paperwork WILL be coming out soon! Thank you for your patience and support. Do you know anyone who is thinking about a Holy Cross education for their children? Encourage them to call Mrs. Lund for a personal appointment, or to visit the school open house on March 8!

Open House/Learning Fair

....are scheduled for Sunday, March 8, from 1-3pm. The students have put a great deal of time and effort into demonstrating their knowledge for our Learning Fair! **Please be sure to check with your children if you have any questions about their projects.** If you know of someone who is looking for a change for their children, please bring them with you to our open house, or give us a call with their names and addresses, and we will send them an invitation.

Come Shop at "OBO!"

During the Open House, the Kindergarten will have a grand opening of their store/market, called "OBO." They have been busy making jewelry and crafts to sell in their market! Please bring some extra cash/change to the Open House and buy a gift for someone special! All proceeds will be given to Ashleigh Tranchemontagne.

First Friday Food Drive

Our local St. Vincent de Paul food pantry needs us—the bad economy hits the needy especially hard. Tomorrow is the first Friday of the month: time for our monthly nonperishable food drive to restock the pantry.

Can you help? The pantry needs breakfast foods (like cereal, pancake mix & syrup, breakfast bars), and can always use canned protein foods like tuna, peanut butter, hash, or canned ham or chicken, and fruits. Our hungry neighbors thank you!

Auction Alert!

This week's "Auction Alert": get away for seven relaxing days at this wonderful cottage located on Lake Huron between Port Austin and Caseville. Amenities include front deck with full view of Lake Huron, deck on Lake Huron with sandy beach area and NO ROCKS! Sleeps 8: queen bed, full bed, twin bunk beds, aero bed, full kitchen and bath. Linens and BBQ grill available for use. Beach chairs & toys available. The week must be scheduled ASAP and NO later than March 30, 2009.

If this auction alert item interests you, our Holy Cross Catholic School 20th Annual Irish-Night dinner auction is arriving quickly on March 14, 2009, 5:30 pm at the Marine City Knights of Columbus Banquet Hall. There will be several raffles-50/50, dessert raffle, bead raffle (gives you to win numerous gift certificates including an overnight stay), Irish Eyes raffle (tickets give you the chance to win sports tickets or other wonderful items), Money Train raffle (a train filled with many instant lottery tickets) and, last but not least, our "Tree O'SCRIP:" a tree filled with over \$300 worth of SCRIP gift certificates from a variety of businesses.

Please enjoy us for a wonderful night supporting our children in an atmosphere of good food, friends and lots of laughs. Tickets are available for \$35 which includes dinner, open bar, live & silent auction and numerous raffles. If you are interested in tickets please contact Jennifer Laster, Gretchen Rogus, or the school office at 810.765.3591.

Pizza Lunch

Next Friday, March 13, we're having Hungry Howie's cheese pizza for lunch. Order slips were distributed to all students today. (As it is Lent, there will be no bake sale either the 13th or the 20th.)

Thank You!

...to Mrs. Shepherd for her donation of classroom learning supplies!

THE SPORTS SECTION: VOLLEYBALL

Saturday brought a loss at home as we hosted Trinity—**Kylie Schuh** was our high scorer. Monday we traveled to Richmond to take on St. Peter's. We won one game, and lost two of the other games by just two points. High scorer was **Natalie Sykes**. In both games the team played well. They are greatly improved and have a bye this Saturday.

Tonight we go to Trinity; there's no game this Saturday, but we're on the road again Monday to visit St. Augustine's. (We go to IC on Thursday, then host St. Peter on Saturday, the 14th.) HC fans: come out to cheer us on!

Preschool Vision Screening

The St. Clair County Health Department is coming on Friday, March 20 to do school-entry vision screenings for any of our preschoolers whose parents so wish. A form is being sent home with all preschoolers this week; parents' portion (top half of the form) must be completed and returned for the technicians to do the testing. (Preschoolers in the Tuesday / Thursday class wishing to have the screening may come at 9:00 that morning.) Other 3- to 5- year-old siblings are welcome—call school for a form.

We Still Need Pictures

We are in need of your pictures from our various sporting events, performances, and every day school life for our yearbook and website. We can accept digital files or we can scan your originals and return them to you. Please help us share the joy of Holy Cross with others!

Allie Ward Invites You for Karaoke

Ms Ward's niece is the beneficiary of a karaoke contest Saturday, March 7, from 11am-5pm at Anita's in Marine City. There is a \$5 entry fee, and all students grades K-12 are eligible to enter. There will be prizes, raffles, and food specials. Help Allie get to Europe this summer!

Jump for Heart

"I want to thank everyone who participated in and donated to the American Heart Association this year. Everyone seemed to have fun on "Jump for Heart" day. We raised \$151 this year. Caitlin Downey raised the highest amount for our school. She will receive a certificate from the American Heart Association. Thank you again—Mr. Oberski"

Statements

...are in the mail. School families: all tuition should be paid in full by the end of March; preschool families have until April 10. Thank you for your honoring your commitment!

Spring is in the Air!

Hopefully, spring is around the corner. However, it is still chilly in the morning. Please remind your child to come to school prepared.

Mark Your Calendar:

Monday, March 16, will be an "early dismissal" day. Students will be dismissed at 12:30 pm that day, when the East China buses will be here for their riders. There will be NO study hall that day.

It's Delicious!

The 3rd and 4th graders are selling popcorn every Friday to help pay for their trip to Lansing in March. The popcorn costs 25¢ for each bag.

Eighth Graders' Parents (or other people who want to help):

...a few workers are still needed for the March 28, 29, 30 & 31 Texas Hold 'Em evenings. Please call the school office if you can work a 2-9pm or 9pm-2am shift.

Illness

A case of viral meningitis has been identified in a Cardinal Mooney student (who is doing well). According to the information given us by the Health Department, symptoms are fever, chills, malaise, rash, headache and stiff neck, and the illness is spread person-to-person. Persons with viral meningitis are to be excluded from school for at least 7 days after the onset of the illness.

As always, proper and frequent hand washing will help minimize the spread of disease.

Book Fair

In conjunction with our Open House and Learning Fair we are having a Book Fair. It will be open during school hours today and tomorrow, then open to the public on Saturday, March 7, from 5-7 pm, and again on Sunday the 8th during the open house, from 12:30-4pm. Volunteers are needed for each of these time slots—if you are available to help, please contact chairperson Sharon Rivard c/o school (810.765.3591).

FISH FRY

We are sponsoring fish fries all the Fridays of March--please join us at St. Catherine's in Algonac from 4-8 pm tomorrow.

Scheduled to work at this first fish fry: Setup (right after school today): Paula Carnaghi, Monika Rittner & friend, Vicki Fisher & friend, and Rob Wassenberg; Working tomorrow are:

12-4 pm shift	2-6pm shift
G Petit (12-2)	Wassenberg
D Sikorski (12-2)	Hadistod (4-6)
C Sikorski (12-2)	Abraam (4-6)
Fidler (12-2)	Nizza (4-6)
Guyette (2-4)	
Abraam (2-4)	
Tuttle (2-4)	

4-8 pm shift	Cleanup 8pm-end
Tripi	MacKenzie
Tripi	MacKenzie
Tripi	Keais
T Ankowiak (6-8)	Whetstone
J Ankowiak (6-8)	Whetstone
Roguses (4-6)	
Sykeses (6-8)	
Schafers (4-6)	
Fisher	
Keais	
Rittner	
Oliphant (4-6)	
A Kazal (4-6)	
A McGillis (6-8)	

Request from the Library:

If you're considering donating books to the library (in honor of your child's birthday, perhaps?)—we're hoping for:

Twilight series;

Percy Jackson & The Olympians;

Guardians of Ga-Hoole books #12,

13, 14 & 15; and

Tales of Beedle the Bard.

We already have Accelerated Readers tests--any help with acquiring these books would be greatly appreciated! Thank you!! —Mrs. P. Smith

Mom-to-Mom Sale

The sale will be Saturday, March 21, from 9am-1pm. Table rental requests are available in the school office; table rental fee of \$20 each includes a lunch for the renter. Please call if you'd like a rental form sent home (or stop in and pick one up).

You don't have to rent a table to support the sale, of course; just open the "yard sale" season that day, and come and shop!

MARKET DAY

Remember to pick up your order Monday, March 9.

"Hunger Meal"

Every year Holy Cross, in conjunction with Cardinal Mooney High School, puts on a Lenten lunch we call the "Hunger Meal." It consists of a hearty chicken soup, Jello, crackers and raw vegetables: a simple but nourishing meal. Holy Cross students provide the ingredients for the meal, and Cardinal Mooney students (with their teacher, Mrs. Jean Downey) prepare the meal. The cost for the meal is the same as for a Chartwell's lunch, and the proceeds are divided between the two schools, each of which donates its share to its favorite hunger relief charity. (Holy Cross typically donates its half to the Marine City St. Vincent de Paul conference.)

This year's "Hunger Meal" is scheduled for March 19. We ask that students each bring the item requested for their class:

Kindergarten-2 heads of garlic

1st grade: 3 pounds of onions

2nd grade: 2 pounds of rice

3rd grade: 1 jar of chicken bouillon or chicken soup base

4th grade: large box of strawberry or raspberry Jello

5th grade: large box of strawberry or raspberry Jello

6th grade: 1 bunch celery

7th grade: 2 or 3 pounds of carrots

8th grade: 1 box crackers

Please bring your item in on Monday, March 16 or Tuesday, March 17 so we know we have enough on the day the food is prepared. Thank you!!

Congratulations, Rick!

Eighth grader **Rick Berschbach** is spending today and tomorrow (as well as the weekend) in Ypsilanti at the National Young Leaders' Conference. Chosen because of his leadership ability, Rick will be learning and sharing skills with other young leaders from around the country. We're all proud of you, Rick!

...and Zack and Beth!

Former Crusaders **Zack Ostin** and **Beth Anderson** (HC Class of 2005) are participating this weekend in MCHS's Mariner Drama production of "Leaving Iowa." Showings will be at 7pm tonight and Saturday night at the East China PAC. Break a leg, guys!

Animal Encounters

Happy March is Reading Month. We have many exciting things happening at Holy Cross this month. We would like you to join us for the March is Reading Month kickoff. Mike Roberts from Animal Encounters will be here on Monday and we would like all our wonderful parents to join us for this awesome show. The first show is at 9:20 until 10:05am for the 6th-8th graders. The second show is for the early elementary students (grades PreK-2) at 11:15am-12noon. The last show is at 12:15-1pm for the 3rd-5th graders. Please meet us in the gym if you can come.
--Mrs. Rock

Notes from Booster Club February 19, 2009 meeting

1. Koeze sale: profit was almost \$2500 and everything is sold; thank you to Julie Schultz and Sarah Polio for a great job!
2. President's report: Fr. Jim would like to see a team mass for all sports; coaches to arrange.
3. AD report: volleyball tournament will be at Holy Cross on April 3&4; track concession dates to follow.
4. Coaches' report: volleyball season underway-Coach Rickel working on new uniforms; track coach TBA soon; Coach Sykes purchased supplies needed for baseball season except balls Coach May will purchase later; baseball will do two concessions during season (dates TBA).
5. New football uniforms will be ordered this summer.
6. Sports banquet: date to be determined and announced soon.
7. Nominations for officers 2009-10 being accepted; N. Rickel heading nomination committee.
8. Next meeting: Thursday, March 19 2009, 6:30 pm at Riviera Restaurant.
--respectfully submitted,
Kim Chaltron, Secretary

Booster Club Wants YOU!

The Booster Club is now accepting nominations for officers for the 2009-2010 school year. If you're interested in learning more about what each job entails, please contact Nancy Rickel c/o school.

Notes from PTO Meeting February 25, 2009

1. Mrs. Lund is checking on options and prices for "Edline" program.
2. Motion made and seconded to pay tech support bill for library computer program less scanner tech support.
3. Discussed offering a family skate fundraiser/fun night.
4. Teachers' report: working on open house.
5. March is reading month activities: collecting used books for library as well as "stop, drop and read."
6. Science Alive presentation (March 9 2009): approved \$375 towards bill.
7. Daddy/daughter dance and mom/son bowling: both went well.
8. Catholic Schools Week: PTO provided ice cream social.
9. Book Fair: teachers will provide classroom wish lists for interested parents. Teachers grateful for what they receive and don't believe it necessary for PTO to fill entire wish list.
10. Officers for 2009-10 year: nominations being accepted through April 28 (contact any current officer).
11. Attendance award: won by 1st grade.
--respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Rogus, Secretary

"Fifth Sunday at Five" at Holy Cross

"2 Protestants and a Catholic," a unique cornucopia of musical talent with random humor, consisting of Elizabeth Anderson, vocals, Katrina Dunker, clarinet, and Grace Haskin, violin, is the featured guest ensemble as part of the FIFTH SUNDAY AT FIVE Vespers and Concert Series at Holy Cross Church, 610 S. Water St., Marine City, Michigan, Sunday, March 30, 5 pm. The concert follows Vespers, a short service of Psalms and prayers. Free and open to the public. Poster on the parish website, www.holycrossonline.net/music or call the church office at 810.765.3568 for more info.



It must be spring! Those look like rain clouds and umbrellas gathering above the PK-3 hallway!