



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.

August 10, 2009

Verse of the Week

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.
I Thessalonians 5:21

Protecting God's Children Workshops for All Volunteers

The Archdiocese of Detroit requires that all persons who work with children in any capacity (including volunteer) pass a background check and participate in its (one-class, one-time) "Protecting God's Children" workshop. The class is held periodically throughout the Archdiocese—to find one that fits your schedule: go to 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

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

Peddlers:

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

Our dedicated SCRIP workers have been hard at it all summer, keeping SCRIP available to help with your tuition. They've added Visa Rewards cards--\$25/50/100, 2% discount (some restrictions apply—see the "peddlers") to their vendors--an updated list is attached. Don't forget your SCRIP this summer!!

Summer Office Hours

The school office is officially open again! You can count on someone being here from at least 9am-noon, then, until school begins. If you miss us, please leave a phone message (810.765.3591) email us (school@holycrossonline.net), or contact the church office (810.765.3568): they'll find us!

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, August 23rd, will be our fall Back-to-School Open House.

(This is a correction from the calendar sent out at the end of the year.) The teachers and Mrs. Lund will be here from 10am-2pm to welcome our families back to school. This will take the place of our "back-to-school night." If you know someone who is thinking about Holy Cross, this is a great time to bring them to our school to see what we are all about!

Information Packets

At the open house on Aug. 23, you will be given a packet of important papers. It will contain such items as your copy of this year's Student-Parent Handbook, information about internet use, free and reduced cost school lunches, insurance, and the "e-rate" discount for schools. Please look for the packet, and read everything carefully and respond appropriately. Thank you!

First Day of School!

Our first day (a full day) is Tuesday, September 1—the bell will ring at 7:25 to welcome you to the new school year! Students are expected to be in uniform on the first day (call if you need a copy of the dress code).

Chartwell's will be serving lunch on the first day of school. Lunch has gone up 10¢ this year, to \$1.70; milk is 40¢.

As East China schools will not open 'til the 8th, **there will be no East China buses running until September 8.** Please make alternate transportation arrangements if you plan to use district busing. (Contact them at 810.676.1100 for more information.)

Latchkey will be available on Tuesday, September 1 after school—please contact us if you'll need it. Being a state-licensed facility, we also need to be sure your paperwork is complete before your student can attend.

Welcome Preschoolers!

Preschool begins the week of September 8th. Ms. Carolyn will be contacting you with more information as we get closer to the start of school.

New Families!

Welcome to our new families! If you have completed registration, you will be contacted this month by a "mentor" family to help with any questions you may come up with.

You may hear, during the summer, that someone you know or meet is thinking about a Catholic education for their children. Please encourage them to call Mrs. Lund for a personal appointment. *Remember, YOU are THE BEST marketing tool Holy Cross has!*

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Last year, as many of you are aware, the police department began ticketing cars that were wrapped around Bridge Street. To help with this situation, we have made two changes. The afternoon busses will now be picking up the students from the back parking lot. Students who walk or have parents pick them up will be dismissed at 2:15PM from the front of school. Cars should begin lining up, no sooner than 2:12PM, in front of the school, at the first CMC sidewalk (just past the Fine Arts Building).

"How am I Getting Home Today?"

Young students and their teachers will appreciate it if you send a note in to school by the first day to let us know how they'll be getting home those first few days, as well as letting us know what their typical "go-home" routine will be.

Medications

If your student will need to take medication of any sort at school, please call for a *Medication Release form*, have it completed and return to school with the medication.

The Archdiocese of Detroit requires that a doctor's note accompany your request for the school to administer ANY type of medication: including over-the-counter medicines and cough drops—please contact your doctor now, before the need arises, if you want your student to have access to those things at school.

Free & Reduced Cost Lunches

Returning students who were qualified to receive free or reduced lunch services on the last day of school last year will remain eligible for the first few days of school, but will need to re-apply for benefits for this year. Forms will go home with your student on the first day of school. If you are transferring into Holy Cross and received free or reduced cost lunches elsewhere, please contact Mrs. Steinmetz in the office ASAP so we can try to get your lunch tickets in before the first day of school.

Picture Day

Picture Day is Wednesday, September 9. This will be a "dress up" day. Picture order forms will go home with each student on the first day of school. All students must get their pictures taken, whether or not they choose to buy prints, in order to be on our class composites and in our yearbook! (As it will be their first day of school, preschoolers will be able to have their pictures taken on our "picture retake day"—we'll let you know when retake day is scheduled.)

Thank You!

...to our dedicated SCRIP staff who have been available all summer.
...to Mrs. Knotts for keeping our flower gardens looking so nice, and to Mrs. Steinmetz and her grandchildren, Dylan and Katrina, for helping.
...to Mrs. Judy Krutsch and helper, Mrs. Dianne Lovett, Mrs. Lund and Mrs. Steinmetz for operating the "Snack Shoppe" during Marine City's Arts and Music Festival in early July.

Free School Clothes!

The school clothing department in the FAB basement will be open Tuesday and Thursday mornings this month. Stop in to check out the great selection of uniform wear—there's a huge assortment, and a lot of never-been-worn items. All uniform wear is free to Holy Cross students.

Do We Have Your Paperwork?

We are still waiting for a few families' registration papers. We need to have these papers on file in order for your children to attend classes on the first day. Please contact the office if you need new paperwork or have any questions.

Sports Physicals

Athletes are reminded that they must have complete sports physicals on file in the school office before their first day of practice. A copy of the sports physical is available on the school website—go to www.holycrossonline.net, enter the school's page, go to "parent and community center" and select "forms" to print yours. (Or you can pick one up at the school office!)

A tip from a seasoned parent: check out "Prompt Care" centers or St. John Hospitals (for locations, look at www.stjohn.org)—she saw a sign at the St. John Medical Center at 23 Mile and Fairchild that advertised sports physicals for \$20. St. Clair County's Teen Health Center also offers sports physicals—call 810.987.1311 for an appointment or more info. (The center is located at 2215 Court Street in Port Huron—enter off 20th street, behind Port Huron High School between the tennis courts and pool.)

Exercise Balls: The Sequel

Remember how much fun we had at Field Day with the two huge balls? They never made it back to school from the park, despite several pleas. Thank you to Mrs. Lisa Bryer, who replaced them for their happy owners. Thanks, Lisa!

Congratulations!!

...to first grade teacher Miss Morelli who recently became engaged! The soon-to-be Mr. and Mrs. Michael Liston will be wed at Holy Cross church on Saturday, December 12 (1pm mass) and they hope to see a sea of Holy Cross faces in the pews!

Supplies Lists, Lunch Menus and 2009-10 Calendar

...are all available online:

www.holycrossonline.net; select the "PreK-8" tab.

For the supplies list, select "School Support"—"supplies list."

For menus and calendars, select "Parent and Community Center" then "calendars." (Please note that monthly calendars and menus are posted as they become available.)

Lunch Supervisors

Are you interested in joining our lunch parent crew? Please contact the school office if you are interested. This is a paid position. A training session will be held on Monday, August 31st.

That Unpleasant Topic: Tuition

Enclosed are your tuition statement and a copy of your service credit record. Your service credits worked through the end of last month are recorded on this paper—please check to be sure we get all your worked credits recorded.

If your statement does not show charges for 2009-10, that means we have not yet received your re-registration paperwork—please send in ASAP! (SCRIP credits show up after you register.)

Families on the monthly payment plan should have just made their second and third 10% payments at the end of June and July, with the next due at the end of August. Families on the quarterly plan have until the end of August to make their first 25% payment, with their next 25% payment due near the end of October.

...and Service Credits

Help is needed in many areas! The (nonsmoking) Marine City K of C bingo needs a concessions chair; thank you to Karen Sobczak and all the workers who've signed up to keep the snack stand open Wednesday nights. The bingo itself is also a little short, especially on the fourth week of the month.

We're also in need of a chairperson or two for the Holiday Expo (held in early November in the Activity Center)—if you're interested, please sign up in the black book in the office (or contact Mrs. Smith—810.765.8300). If no chair is found by September 15, we'll have to cancel the Expo.

Our first "Subsidy Committee" meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on September 24, 2009 on the porch of the Fine Arts building. We would like each person chairing an event this year to attend this first meeting.

A reminder that if you chose Plan B for your credits, you need to sign up for all your credits (in the black book in the school office) by September 15: after that date, families who haven't completed their signups will be placed on "Plan A" (payment plan). Thanks for your cooperation!

If you'd like more information about any of these functions (or if you have any other questions about your service credits for 2009-10) please call Mrs. Smith—810.765.8300.

Calendar Raffle Winners

...for July were: Rosemary Schmidt and Alfred Jankowski of Algonac and Mary Beth Weisend of China Township. August's winners were: Kenneth Dupre of China Township, Donald Horn of East China, and Chuck Goodrich of Maryland. Congratulations—and thanks for your support!

Asbestos

Federal law requires schools to inspect, test and identify known or suspected asbestos containing building materials.) Holy Cross School's last 3-year inspection was conducted in September of 2007, and a 6-month inspection was performed in June. Accredited inspectors check the condition of asbestos and reassess operations and maintenance procedures that will assist in keeping this material in good condition.

A detailed listing of the locations of the identified materials is available for review. Mr. Kevin J. Kocher is our asbestos site contact person who monitors and inspects the premises. He can be contacted at 810.765.3568 to review the report and discuss it.

High School Placement Test

Information for the High School Placement Test for students attending a Catholic high school will be coming out soon. A test practice book, titled Master the Catholic High School Entrance Exams, published by Peterson Publishing is available at many major bookstores for \$18.95 plus tax. The test that the students take is the HSPT. Thank you to Mr. Chaltron for locating this book.

Science Expo

A reminder that the 6-8th grade students will be attending the Michigan Tech Math/Science YES Expo on Thursday, Nov. 5 at Ford Field. Parents: if you want to join them, mark your calendar now! More information will be going home in September.

Scholarships

Congratulations to the 21 Holy Cross students who received notice that they qualified for this year's Archdiocesan grant. The award payments will be sent to the school after the first quarter of school—your award will show up on your tuition statement as soon as we receive it.

Families who applied for Bartone scholarships: award letters should be in your mailbox within the week.

ANNUAL PEST CONTROL ADVISORY NOTIFICATION FOR PARENTS

In keeping with the State of Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act 451 of 1994 and Regulation 637, Holy Cross School has adopted a plan of action for controlling insects, rodents and other pests in and around our facilities.

The school's plan of action for controlling pests incorporates integrated pest management (IPM). IPM utilizes various means of pest control including, but not limited to, habitat modification and sanitation, mechanical control, biological control and chemical control.

Holy Cross School realizes that the use of chemicals can be very harmful to the health and safety of humans and the environment; therefore, we will apply chemicals only as a last resort.

Any questions regarding Holy Cross's IPM program should be directed to Fizz Fajardo at 810.765.3568 extension 17.

If you wish to be notified before a scheduled pest treatment, please complete the form below and return this notification request to the school office.

2009 PRIOR NOTIFICATION REQUEST FOR PESTICIDE APPLICATION

In the event of an emergency you will be notified of the application after it occurs.

_____ I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment inside the school building.

_____ I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment outside the school building.

Parent / guardian/s name _____

Address _____

Phone: Daytime _____ Evening _____

Student's name _____

Signature _____ Date _____