



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.

July 9, 2010

Summer Prayer

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer!

Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.

Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.

Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this summer.

Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing.

Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You. Amen

<http://dilexiprior.blogspot.com/2006/06/summer-prayer.html>

Protecting God's Children Workshops for All Volunteers

The Archdiocese of Detroit's "Protecting God's Children" workshop 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 (810.765.8300) 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.

School's Summer Office Hours

The school office will be open through June and August from 8am-noon. We are closed for the month of July, but we check messages regularly (by email: school@holycrossonline.net or phone: 810.765.3591). Also, the church office (810.765.3568) knows where to find us, if you need us more immediately.

got scrip?

**SCRIP office summer hours:
Mondays and Fridays 8-10am;**

Mondays 5-7pm; and

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and
Thursdays 1-3pm

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

Peddlers:

Kelly Glowski (Algonac)

Sue Sharpe (Marine City)

Kelly Zichi (East China)

Melanie Heitz (St. Clair)

There have been a few changes to the use of the Riviera gift cards:

- Gift cards are available in \$1 and \$5 increments, making it easy for you to always have just the right amount with you
- NO change will be given with gift card purchases
- The gift card MAY be used as a tip
- Gift cards MAY NOT be used for parties
- The profit percentage is now 5%

Welcome to The Marwood Inn: they offer \$10 and \$25 cards at 10% discount. New owners Gary and Jennifer hope you'll give the new and improved Marwood a try!

This month, 48 families are sharing over \$3500 in SCRIP credits!

Welcome, New Teacher!!

Ms. Heather Evans will be joining our family as our new Kindergarten teacher this fall! Ms. Evans is a graduate of Alma College. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education with an Early Childhood Endorsement. She was a student teacher at Breckenridge Elementary in Breckenridge, Michigan where she taught kindergarten. Ms. Evans is a Rochester Hills native and has attended Catholic schools for kindergarten through twelfth grade at Holy Family Regional School and Notre Dame Preparatory. For fun, she enjoys reading, kayaking, and traveling. Welcome Ms. Evans!

Good-bye Fr. Jim

As you may have heard this past weekend at Mass that our pastor, Fr. Jim Lopez, will be leaving us at the end of this month. He has been named as pastor of St. Isaac Jogues Parish in St. Clair Shores. We will miss Fr. Jim and keep him in our prayers. Once a new pastor is announced for Our Lady on the River, we will publish it in the newsletter. Please keep an eye on your church bulletins for more information.

For Next Year....

Enclosed with this newsletter is your July statement. If you don't see this year's charges, it may be because you haven't yet returned your "Blue Water Vicariate Active Parishioner Verification Form." (Families who opt not to send those forms in will be presumed to be out of vicariate.) Remember: the form needs to be completed on both sides.

The regular July school tuition payment is the third of ten, and is due at the end of July. After the July payment, your school tuition should be 30% paid.

Please help us manage our tuition accounts by informing us, in writing, if you will not be following the standard payment plan. We are happy to work with you to tailor a plan that meets your needs, but we need YOUR help. Late fees will be added to those accounts that do not have plans in place.

Thank You--

--to everyone who sent in their paperwork and has been keeping up with their payments during the summer! (Fees for 2010-11 were due at the end of April and the first two regular tuition payments were due at the end of May and June.)

Financial Aid Information

We are still waiting to hear from the Archdiocese on grants. According to Angela Naylor, who handles this information for the diocese, families can expect letters between July 15 and July 30.

Welcome New Families!

A number of new families are joining our Holy Cross "family" this school year—we welcome each of you! If you haven't already received a call, you will be hearing from a "mentor" family. These people will be valuable resources to answer questions as you "learn the ropes." (Of course, you're always welcome to call the school office, too!)

New families: a sheet from the Health Department is enclosed. It details school entry immunization requirements.

Ready For a Challenge?

This year, we will be starting the Crusaders' Cranium Club! This club is for students who are interested in achieving "above and beyond" the normal classroom expectations as well as keeping up with what you already know. All you have to do is learn all about the topic and see Mrs. Lund to give your answers. The entire list will be up on the big board across from Mrs. Lund's classroom after August 1...but to get you started, here are a few challenges! Can you name:

- The 50 states
- 10 major world rivers
- 8 explorers
- Presidents 1-10 in order
- 15 adverbs
- 2 examples each of alliteration, personification, simile, metaphor, and onomatopoeia
- 5 famous mathematicians
- 20 different modes of transportation
- A career for every letter of the alphabet

Mrs. Lund will have 'club hours' announced in the next newsletter for you to come in and test your craniums!

Preschool Families:

Please let us know ASAP if you are hoping to have after-class daycare for your preschooler: your interest will determine whether or not such daycare is offered.

Vacation Bible School

...will take place at Holy Cross the week of July 26-30. Looking for adult helpers as well as students to participate—contact Stacy or Cathy c/o the church office (810.765.3568) for more info.

TEXAS HOLD 'EM!

Thank you to all who worked at the June 26-28 tournament; special thanks go to **Randy Bryer** for chairing our first-time participation in this event!

Thank you to our many workers: **Dave Heitz, Mary Terhune, Judy Beauvais, Amanda Lund, Julie Wolf, Julie Schultz, Sue Sharpe, Richie Sharpe, Kim Chaltron, Tom Rickel, Kevin Frank, Sue Tomlanovich, Ralph Knotts, Mark Butros, and Roy and Wendy Miodonski.** This event raised \$5,406 to help the parish support our school! Thank you again to all who helped! We look forward to doing this again in the future.

Holy Cross 200² Club

Thank you to everyone who has already stepped forward in support of Holy Cross! The Club has received \$6950 to date. Thank you to the following donors / pledges:

- Dianne Lovett
- HC Class of 1962
- Joseph & Joyce (Endres) Figa
- Mary Perrin
- In memory of James Rose (Holy Cross Class of 1981)
- In memory of Richard Rose (Holy Cross Class of 1978)
- Daughters of Isabella
- Dan & Kari Steinmetz
- Aileen Rogus
- Dennis Wend in honor of James Wend
- Milt and Jerilyn Hintz
- Holy Cross PTO
- Gayle Spinazze
- Ralph & Madonna Knotts
- Class of 2010
- Elaine Schwehofer in honor of L. Jim Schwehofer
- Traci & Matt Whetstone
- In honor of Edmund & Helen Schindler by their children
- Meghan Stephenson
- Joan & Tom Francis in honor of Matt & Traci Whetstone family
- Mr. George Diehl
- Men's Club of St. Mark
- Brian Chadra
- H. Neal Stoneback
- Fr. Leo Broderick
- Andrew M. Kalson, Jr.
- Jim Steinmetz in memory of Catherine Steinmetz
- 6 donors who prefer to remain anonymous

Athletes' Families:

Don't forget to sign up for your shift at the Booster Club's chicken dinner on Sunday, August 15 (during Marine City Maritime Days festival). **Every athlete's family will be required to work at least one shift at this event**—however, you'll earn one of your school service credits at the same time. Sign up for your shift(s) in the black service credit book in the school office.

Uniforms for Next Year

The Thrift Sale "uniform room" will be available during school office hours in August—stop in to check out "new-to-you" clothes for 2010-11!

Sports Physicals for Next Year

As you probably know, student athletes (grades 5-8) must have both a parent's and doctor's OK to participate in school sports. Your doctor may do a low-cost sports physical; call his office to ask. Also, St. Clair County Health Department's "Teen Health Center" offers sports physicals on a sliding fee scale (from \$35-45), depending on family income, if it is not covered by your insurance. Call first for an appointment: 810.987.1311. The Center is located at 2215 Court Street, Port Huron (enter off 20th Street, behind Port Huron High School between the tennis courts and pool). We understand that sports physicals are also performed at Prompt Care Center (16700 21 Mile Road, Macomb Township—586.228.3880) and at Mt. Clemens Regional Medical Center (1000 Harrington Boulevard, Mt. Clemens—586.493.8000). The charge listed in their flyer is \$20 and "no appointment is ever necessary" (M-F, 8am-8pm; Saturdays & Sundays 10am-2pm).

(You can download a blank sports physical form from the school website, holycrossonline.net; click on "school," "grades PK-8," then—on the right hand side of the page—"athletics.")

Speaking of Doctors....

Do your children have health insurance? The St. Clair County Health Department reminds you of the state's MICHild and Healthy Kids health insurance program for children.

You may apply online at www.healthcare4mi.com. For more information (or a paper application) contact Brenda Smarch at the Health Department: 810.987.5300 ext.1469.

“Being a Writer” at Holy Cross

The 2010-2011 school year brings the “Being a Writer” writing program to Holy Cross. The teachers would like to thank the Holy Cross PTO and all of our families and friends who have supported the PTO’s fundraising efforts which made this purchase possible.

The “Being a Writer” program has two goals: supporting student’s writing and developing social skills. Academic rigor and collaborative learning are consistently integrated.

The writing process is the key component in the “Being a Writer” program. Students informally begin by drafting, revising, and publishing their writing in grades K-2. In grades 3-8, students are consistently engaged in the writing process through prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading and publishing. The program focuses on inspiring good ideas and getting those ideas onto paper. Grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and some spelling skills are directly taught and the students have ample time to draft their ideas. Much of the skill instruction occurs during the revision and proofreading phases of the writing processes, with different conventions being taught in each genre unit.

“Being a Writer” helps students develop a sense of responsibility for their own learning and behavior, empathy and motivation to help others, and a desire to understand and respect differences among people. In the classroom writing community, students work in pairs, in groups, and as a class to listen to and discuss writing, brainstorm ideas for writing, and share their writing with one another. Lessons

at every grade level include structured partner work, using prompts to enhance discussion, problem solving, and pair conferences.

Additionally, students develop the values of respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, helpfulness, the inclusion of everyone in work and discussions, and the development of social skills.

Students will also utilize the “author’s chair.” This experience in sharing their own work allows students to celebrate their accomplishments and take pride in their work. Students also learn to speak in a loud clear voice and be good listeners. Additionally, they express interest and appreciation for one another’s writing and discuss writing in a caring and respectful way.

By utilizing the writer’s workshop, students are surrounded by with examples of good writing. They take responsibility for their writing by learning ways to get new ideas and choosing their own topics. Students participate in teacher-student conferences. They also write original drafts utilizing the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading, and publishing.

The “Being a Writer” series is designed for students in grades K-6. We will be utilizing the program as an integral part of our language arts instruction for grades K-8, adapting the program to meet the challenges required in our upper grades. We thank you in advance for your support as we familiarize ourselves with this program and implement it in our classrooms. We look forward to having your children in the author’s chair!

SCRIP NOTES

Here are a few SCRIP fun facts for the 2009-2010 school year. . .

- **We have 361 active SCRIP family participants!**
- **We sold \$870,267.23 in SCRIP!**
- **The SCRIP profit from the sale of gift cards was \$46,574.38! That’s free money from our retailers!**
- **The SCRIP program earned \$16,300.08!**
- **The SCRIP program donated \$15,000.00 toward the school budget!**
- **SCRIP family participants shared \$30,274.30!**
- **The average SCRIP profit earned is now 5.3518%!**
- **The average family used \$2,410.71 of SCRIP for their everyday purchases! If you used more than that...you are above average!**
- **There are 23 families that used over \$10,000.00 in SCRIP! Now that’s commitment!**
- **The Top 10 SCRIP earners averaged \$854.96!**
- **We had 15 families that earned over \$500! It’s just like getting a bonus at the end of the year! (Except that SCRIP pays out quarterly!)**

The possibilities are endless with SCRIP! Thank you to everyone who continues to show their support for this program! (DISCLAIMER: These are just a few fun facts. These numbers may not be exact.)

Enjoy the rest of your summer--we look forward to seeing you in the fall!