



CRUSADER NEWS AND VIEWS

The Mission Statement of Holy Cross Catholic School is to partner with its families in the education of tomorrow's Christian leaders by fostering academic excellence in a Christian community.

December 13, 2012

A Word

"Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise."
Luke 3:11

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 or lunchroom volunteering. Contact Mrs. Smith at 810.765.8300 if you need help.

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

got scrip?

SCRIP office hours:

Mondays and Fridays 7-9am;
Mondays 5-7pm; and
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and
Thursdays 1-3pm.

"Peddlers:"

Patty Smith (St. Clair)
Kelly Glowski (Algonac)

Our SCRIP "elves" have been furiously filling your orders and replacing stock to help make your Christmas the best ever!

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASS

We are looking for about ten more children to help with the Children's mass, 5:30pm on Christmas Eve at St. Catherine's. Not only are we looking for singers but we are also looking for shepherds, sheep and other "actors/actresses" to act out the Christmas story at that Mass. Practices are on Fridays 4:30pm at St. Catherine's. For more information, contact Mrs. Wassenberg.

Vision & Hearing Screenings

...were rescheduled by the Health Department to Monday, January 7, 2013.

Christmas Program

The all school Christmas program Tuesday evening was a glowing reminder of the reason we prepare during Advent so as to celebrate during Christmas. Without Jesus, we would have nothing to celebrate. Thank you to Mrs. Rock and Mrs. Wassenberg along with the teachers for preparing the children and to the children for the wonderful performance:



Fr. Bob thought the program was so terrific, he gave us all an extra day of Christmas vacation! Therefore: **there will be NO SCHOOL next Friday, December 21.**

THANK YOU FROM MRS. PAVLOV

Mrs. Pavlov would like to thank the school community for the wonderful gifts they gave her at Tuesday night's concert. She received a whimsical snowman that lights up and changes colors and a heartwarming book "Chicken Soup for the Soul; Messages from Heaven". Those items, the card signed by all of the students and the very kind descriptors that the children gave me when they finished the sentence Mrs. Pavlov is.... served to warm her heart and increase her love for the people of Holy Cross. Thank you so very, very much! May God bless you abundantly for your goodness.

Need an Emergency Gift?

The Boosters have two 20-ounce decanters of Koeze "Colossal Cashews" available for purchase at the school office. They are elegantly packaged and make terrific business or personal gifts.

IOWA TEST NEWS

The Iowa test results from the October testing are being mailed to your home. Last year was the first year for Holy Cross to take the new version of the Iowa Assessment based on the Common Core Standards. With this being the second year, we are sending you copies of last year's and this year's results for ease of comparison. You will see a letter from Mrs. Pavlov and from Ms. Kimberly Young, interim superintendent of the Archdiocesan Catholic Schools in your envelope.

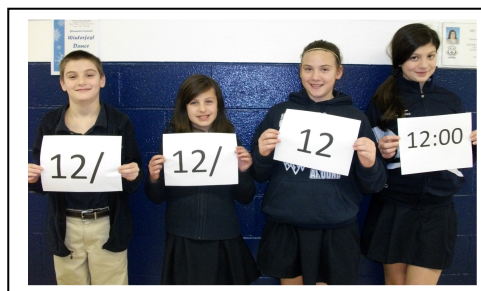
This year the students at Holy Cross are taking interim Iowa tests online as well. Students are taking the tests this week. One of the school goals this year is to raise the test scores on the Iowa Assessments. The interim assessments will give us more information sooner, so as to help us do a better job of teaching the children what they need to know.

Mark Your Calendar:

- **THURSDAY, Dec. 20:** last day before Christmas break
- **NO SCHOOL (per Fr. Bob) on Friday, Dec. 21**
- Jan. 3: back to class! (No East China buses Jan 3&4.)
- Jan. 7: vision & hearing screenings
- Jan. 22-24: no East China buses.
- Jan. 25: no school

"12.12.12"

The whole school celebrated that "magic" day for twelve minutes yesterday. We enjoyed festive music over the PA and special classroom activities from 12:00noon to 12:12—



Doing Our Part

You should have just received your December statement. Just a reminder: preschool tuition should have been 50% paid by Nov. 28 (with the next 10% payment due right around Christmas), and school families should be making their 8th (10%) payment at the end of the month. (Camp families: your camp bill should be 2/3 paid before January 1, with the final payment due no later than Friday, January 18.)

Camp 2013!

Families of 5th-8th graders: please remember that **camp bills must be paid in full by January 18.**

Check the Nov. 29 newsletter for a list of recommended camp supplies—with Christmas coming up, you may find some hints for your camper!

Boys' Basketball

On Monday our teams traveled to Lakeport to take on St. Mary McCormick and last night, to St. Mary St. Clair.

Next week brings our last game before Christmas, as we visit IC on Thursday, Dec. 20. The game will start at 6:30pm: all Crusader fans are welcome!

UNDERSTANDING HISTORY

The eighth graders have recently completed studying about the events that led up to the Revolutionary War. Their final project was to depict the sequence of events, not as a timeline but in a different manner. They were asked to summarize their experience. Below is printed one of the summaries.

Last week, Mrs. Sweet's eighth grade class learned all about the events leading up to the Revolutionary War. They covered the Cumberland Gap, "No taxation without representation", and the Boston Tea Party. At the end of their lesson, the class made timelines that showed each of the events leading up to the "shot heard around the world". However, let's just say these weren't your "ordinary" timelines. The students made timelines that depicted the last straw for the colonists such as a rocket launch, erupting volcano and even a horse race! The eighth graders had so much fun learning about the colonists fight for independence! By Abbey

Auction 2013

This year's Auction will be held **February 9, 2013.** The Auction is always a lot of fun—**mark your calendar** now so the day doesn't get away from you! (It would be a great Valentines' Day date!)

The service plan signed by **every school family** when they register includes their agreeing to **donate cash or an item of at least \$80 value** to the auction. If you haven't taken care of that yet, your \$80 is due now. The Auction committee will use those cash donations to round out the donations they've already received: the more items we get and the more varied they are, the more interesting and fun the night becomes!

The auction committee is still looking for vacation accommodations. Do you have (or have access to) a cottage or other vacation home? A week's stay would be a major donation. (Last year we were lucky enough to get an African safari!!) Contact school (810.765.3591) or Melissa Kleckner.

Food Pantry

Holy Cross families have the opportunity to help local needy people by participating in our monthly food drive. Students are invited to bring nonperishable food items to mass on the second Friday of each month; the food will be donated to the food pantry.

The pantry needs our ongoing help—the bad economy hits the needy especially hard. Tomorrow is the second Friday of the month: time for our monthly nonperishable food drive to restock the pantry.

Can you help? The pantry is in special need this month of breakfast foods (cereal, pancake mix and syrup, breakfast bars,...) and pasta/macaroni and cheese; they always need canned protein foods like tuna, peanut butter, hash, or canned ham or chicken, as well as canned or dried fruits. Our hungry neighbors thank you—and remember: "whatever you do to the least of My brothers, that you do to Me."

The Day After Christmas (or: Don't Let This Happen to YOU!!!)

by Mrs. Steinmetz

The day after Christmas, somewhere in some house,
a gift-buyer started to whimper and grouse,
"I spent so much money! Made so many trips!
Things would have gone better if I had used SCRIP!

"I bought extra food and made sure I had drinks—
two or three hun-der-ed dollars' worth, methinks;
But I SPENT CASH!! Had I used SCRIP instead, it
would have earned me some tuition credit!

"Johnny's eyes sparkled, imagining the elves;
mine misted--I'd emptied out Toys R Us' shelves!
Another small fortune; and at four percent,
I'd've saved a sum equalling half a month's rent.

"Susie was lovely in her new Christmas clothes.
Kohl's offered me 5% back, but: NO--
I'd forgotten to order pre-holiday SCRIP,
so deeper into my wallet I dip.

"I did think ahead—sent, to loved ones afar,
certificate gifts--but the toll on my car!
Drove to Applebee's, Best Buy, Old Navy, Lowe's--
and into a world of vehicular woes.

"To think: all I needed to do was to call—
the SCRIP office could have ordered them all!
My friends got their gifts, but I got no break.
(My mechanic, though, is pleased
with the fortune he'll make.)

"I finally get it!--next vacation fare,
I'll be calling for Hyatt and American Air;
I'm learning to plan: gonna take a long trip.
So happy holidays, all: don't forget to buy SCRIP!"

Volleyball!

We're still looking for a volleyball coach for the varsity girls' team. Practices will begin after boys' basketball is over (just after camp). We have two volunteers eager to help!—now we just need a head coach to plan practices. The coach wouldn't necessarily have to attend every practice, if that's a sticking point for him/her: our two helpers could begin the practice, or keep a practice going, with some prior instruction from the coach. If you're interested or know of someone who might be, please contact Mrs. Pavlov (810.765.3591). If we don't find a coach we can't have a team!

Thank You!

...to the moms who came to help watch classes during Mrs. Schreiner's funeral last week: **Mrs. Isrow, Mrs. Rowland Renaud, Mrs. Templeton and Mrs. Pfeiffer** and the moms/grandmas who helped in church: **Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Goulette, Mrs. Terhune and Mrs. Winne.**

Raffle Calendar Grand Prize Winner of \$1000:

...is **Helen Beauvais** (preschooler Micah Arlow's great-grandma) of Marine City! Congratulations to Mrs. Beauvais!!

Next year's calendars are already in the mail (more are available, too). They make nice gifts or stocking stuffers—and, who knows?: next year you might be the big winner!

POINSETTIA SALE

\$10.00

Help us decorate the churches for Christmas
and honor a special person or event.

A 6" poinsettia will be placed in front of the sanctuary
you select on Christmas Eve.

Your name and that of your honored person or event
will be published in the Parish Bulletin.

Proceeds to benefit our Parish School

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Orders may be placed in the collection basket, School Office,
Parish Office or with Kersten Goldenbogen at 810-650-0397

Number of Poinsettias _____ \$10.00 each. Total _____

Person placing order _____ Phone # _____

Please circle one: In Memory of / Honor of

Poinsettia to be placed at:
Holy Cross _____ St. Catherine _____ St. Mark _____

Make checks payable to Our Lady on the River Parish

**You May Purchase Additional Poinsettias
For Pickup On Friday, December 21st**

Name _____ #of Poinsettias _____ Total _____

Deadline to order is Monday, December 17th

DID YOU KNOW...there are 14 Nativity scenes around school?? We know, because our first graders counted them (as they learned, this week, how to spell the word "nativity", which was one of their weekly spelling words).