



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, 2015

A Word from The Word

"I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh." John 6:51

Protecting God's Children Workshops

The Archdiocese of Detroit's "Protecting God's Children" workshop is held periodically throughout the Archdiocese. To find a session 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. (Please call DRE Mr. K at 810.765.8300 if you need help registering.)

Please note that Our Lady on the River parish is hosting a session on September 12. This could be the most convenient class for you to attend this year (and will probably not be held at OLR again this year). Register at www.virtus.org.

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

Summer Office Hours

The school office is open again—you can count on someone being there from at least 8am-1pm every day. If you can't make it in during those hours, please call and we'll figure something out.

got SCRIP?

SCRIP summer office hours
Mondays and Fridays, 8-10 am;
Mondays; 5-7pm; and
Wednesdays 1-3pm

"Peddlers:"

Patty Smith (St Clair)
Kelly Glowski (Algonac)

Congratulations again to the 33 Holy Cross School families sharing **nearly \$10,000** in SCRIP credit last month!

Thank you to our dedicated SCRIP workers for keeping the program running through the summer!

Please note that the SCRIP office hours will revert to an hour earlier (7-9am) on Mondays and Fridays once school starts.

Thank You!!

...to our awesome SCRIP ladies!
...to our bingo chairpersons **Marge Nicaise, Sherrie DuVall and Bob Thompson**, who work hard keeping the bingos running and staffed all year (even in the summer!!).
...to our buildings and grounds crew, who have been busy readying school for August 26th!
...to Mrs. Isrow for working all summer updating our library and Accelerated Reader systems!

BACK TO SCHOOL!

The first day of school for students in grades K-8 will be **Wednesday, August 26**. It will be a regular school day: full day, uniforms, with the bell welcoming you at **7:30am**. We will have classes on Thursday & Friday (Aug. 27 & 28) and Monday through Thursday (Aug. 31 and Sep. 1-3) as well.

On Monday, August 31, preschool starts (8:30am). Preschool remains scheduled at Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30-11am. Preschoolers do not need to wear a school uniform, and there are no supplies to purchase for them. We're looking forward to getting to know you all!!

A heads-up for the 2015-16 school year: our school day will begin at **7:30am and finish at 2:50pm**. This will mesh better with both East China busing and CMC's schedule, and allow for a few more minutes of classes and lunch.

Chartwell's will be serving lunch beginning on our first day. Lunches will cost \$2.35 this year (milk is still 50¢).

Good news for East China bus riders: no more leaving school at 2:05!! (As always, please contact the bus garage to find out details concerning your stops and times.) Good news, also, for families with CMC siblings: since we'll be getting out at about the same time CMC dismisses, there will be no "study hall" this year.

A reminder to East China bus riders: East China schools will not be in session until after Labor Day, so there will be **NO East China buses until Tuesday, September 8**.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

- Monday, August 24: "Crusader Day:" school photos & more—drop in 9am to 3pm, Activity Center
- Wed., Aug. 26: first day of school K-8 (**7:30am-2:50pm**). **NO East China buses until Tuesday, Sep. 8.**
- Fri.-Mon. Sep. 4-7: Labor Day weekend (no school)

Crusader Day

Monday, August 24 is the second-ever "Crusader Day." (Last year was the first and it was such a success we plan to continue the new tradition!) Beginning at 9am on "Crusader Day," you can come to the Activity Center to get your school picture taken. You'll also be able to sign up for service credits, talk to PTO or School Committee members, pick up forms, *and check out your classroom!*

When you get your school picture taken on the 24th, please be advised that proofs won't be available. They should, however, be ready to go home with students by the 31st.

Medications

If your child 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 signature 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.

"How Am I Getting Home Today?"

Younger students and their teachers will appreciate it if you send a note 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.

Free and Reduced Cost Lunches

Returning students who were qualified to receive free or reduced cost lunches on the last day of school last year will remain eligible for the first few weeks of school, but will need to reapply for benefits for this year. Forms are available now in the school office, and will be available at "Crusader Day." (The application is also available at East China School District's offices and website.)

If you are transferring into Holy Cross and received free or reduced price 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.

Congratulations!!

...to Kindergarten teacher Mrs. McNamee and her husband on the birth of their first child! Rory arrived on August 5 at just over 7 pounds. Mom and baby are doing well.

Welcome Mrs. Guimaeres!

While Mrs. McNamee is recuperating, Mrs. Therese Guimaeres will be our Kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Guimaeres has been a substitute in the Blue Water Catholic schools for the past few years. We're eager to get to know you!

Re-registration for 2015-16

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Steinmetz in the office. Families must be current in their tuition to complete enrollment for the upcoming year. Please send in your completed re-registration papers (with the \$50/student registration fee) ASAP so we know to expect you—thank you!

Also, the 2015-16 service credit sign up book is available—stop in at the school office to select your credits.

Doing Our Part

Enclosed is your August tuition statement. If there are no charges on the statement, your student is NOT yet registered! (If that's the case, please get that paperwork in ASAP!!)

Fees for the 2015-16 school year should have been paid at registration; you should have just made your third 10% tuition payment at the end of July, and your fourth payment is due at the end of August. (Please call Mrs. Steinmetz in the school office if you have any questions.)

LATE FEES

Just as it's crucial to your household's operation to have your paycheck on time, it's crucial to the school that its tuition "paychecks" are received in a timely manner.

The school handbook and tuition contract prescribe late fees and other sanctions. Please keep your monthly payments timely so you won't feel those unpleasant consequences. Thanks!

Financial Aid

Congratulations to the 16 students (and their families) who are receiving the Archdiocese of Detroit's tuition grant for this school year! You should have received a letter notifying you of your award. (The grant itself won't arrive until this fall: usually by the first part of November.)

Families who are receiving help from the Fr. Bartone fund will find a letter enclosed. Those grants will appear as credits on their tuition statements after the second semester of the school year begins.

Raffle Calendar Winners

...for July were Bill Westrick of Washington, Michigan, Carol Beauchamp of Marine City and Jeff Scott of Algonac. August's winners are Ron Willmewitz, Jim Chopp and Shirley Steinmetz, all of Marine City. Each won \$100—congratulations, and thank you for supporting Holy Cross!

EMAILED NEWSLETTERS

Are you concerned about the amount of paper waste in the world? Would you prefer receiving your weekly newsletter in your email in box, rather than on paper (if it even makes it out of your child's backpack!)? Sent Mrs. Steinmetz your email address and she'll be happy to make that happen for you!

Attention New Students and Soon-To-Be Seventh Graders:

The Health Department re-assesses the immunization records of all new students and students entering 7th grade. Summer is a great time to check with your health care provider to see if your children's shots are up to date.

Beginning this year, **parents who opt not to immunize are required to contact the Health Department for a new certified waiver.** (They are no longer available at schools.) The St. Clair County Health Department's phone number is 810.987.5300.

Meningococcal Vaccine

We are required to notify you of the availability of the meningococcal vaccine. Please contact the Health Department or your doctor's office for more information.

Girls Interested in Playing Basketball this fall--

Please contact the school office! (Oops: we forgot to put out a signup sheet before school got out for summer!) Practices should be beginning NEXT WEEK—get that physical taken care of before the season starts!

Student Athletes

All students planning to participate in any school sports this year will need a sports physical before practices begin. (Blank forms were included in your "summer study packet" for eligible students, and are also available on the school website or in the school office.) Summer is a great time to get that taken care of—and you could take this opportunity to double-check your immunization status, too!

If your doctor doesn't do sports physicals, try such places as "Minute Clinics" or "Prompt Care"s. Also, St Clair County Health Department's Teen Health Center also offers them: call 810.987.1311 for more info.

People call school (810.765.3591) or email school@holycrossonline.net to let us know if you're a 6-8th grade girl interested in playing basketball this fall. (Remember: you need to have already had the physical--and sent the completed form to school--before practice for your sport begins.)

LUNCH SUPERVISORS

We are looking for lunch aides for next year. Lunch supervision is one of the ways you may earn your service credits: you earn two credits if you work any one week day all year (e.g. all Wednesdays). We had a number of moms who volunteered for "lunch duty" last year simply out of the goodness of their hearts, too! Please contact Dawn Davey (810.278.6749) if you might be interested in helping.

School Clothes for 2015-16

We have a roomful of school-appropriate clothes, **FREE** to school families. Call if you'd like to take a look, or just drop in during school office hours. (To order plaid, go to www.shopconnies.com.)

Family Directory

We will be publishing a directory of all of our school and preschool families, including parents' and children's names and the family's address and phone number. The directory will be distributed to all families with entries. If you'd like us to include your email address with your family's entry, please send that information to the school office by next Monday, Aug. 17. If you do NOT want your family's information in the directory, please contact the school office by August 17. Thank you!

A Few Clarifications...

As you begin getting ready to return to school (!), please remember a few things:

1. Water bottles: students are permitted to keep them at their desks **but they must be clear and no larger than 18 ounces.**
2. Shorts: on dress down days, gym shorts are NOT acceptable.
3. "Yoga pants" are NOT approved under either the regular school dress code or the dress down day dress code.

Info Packets First Day of School

We're preparing a packet of important papers for your family to go home on the first day of school (or pick it up at "Crusader Day"). It will contain this year's student handbook as well as information about internet use, school lunches and the school directory. Your oldest child will take it home on the 26th if you don't pick it up during "Crusader Day." Please read everything carefully and respond appropriately. Thank you!

CAR POOLING

A family from St. Clair called wondering if anyone would be interested in car pooling....please call the school office (810.765.3591) if you'd like to be put in touch with that family.

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 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 Judy Beauvais at 810.765.3568 extension 15.

If you wish to be notified before a scheduled pest treatment, please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return to the school office.

Asbestos

Federal law requires schools to inspect, test and identify known or suspected asbestos containing building materials. Holy Cross School's last 6-month inspection took place in 2012. Since then, all asbestos containing materials were safely removed from the school building by a professional abatement company.

Thank You

from Marine City Garden Club

"Thank you to 'gardening angels' Chris Winne and Sophia Goulette (and their parents)! Sophia and Chris answered our call last spring, and they have worked diligently all summer keeping the flower beds in front of our Water Works building beautiful and free of weeds. It makes the whole city look better when its plantings look nice. Thank you, Chris and Sophia, for your concern for our town!"

--Dianne Lovett and Marine City Garden Club

"Labels for Education" and "Box Tops for Education"

We save both of those snippets from packaging! Labels and Box tops may be sent in to school, or dropped in the black collection box at the river entrance of Holy Cross church.

"Box Tops" are usually on the top of the boxes of General Mills brand items. "Labels for Education" are generally the UPC codes of participating products.

**Have a wonderful August!
We're looking forward to seeing you all, rested and refreshed, at Crusader Day August 24 and in class August 26!**

2015 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(s) _____

Parent / guardian's signature _____ date _____