



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 Catholic community.

December 10, 2015

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.)

There is a workshop scheduled to be held at St. Mary St. Clair on January 11 from 6-9pm. For more info contact Mary Beth Blum at 810.329.7801.

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

got SCRIP?

SCRIP office hours
Mondays and Fridays, 7-9 am;
Mondays; 5-7pm; and
Wednesdays 1-3pm
"Peddlers:"

Patty Smith (St Clair)
Kelly Glowski (Algonac)

Do you like to give gift certificates at Christmas? Do you like driving from store to store to store to get them? Call Patty: many are probably available through our SCRIP program—and can help you earn tuition credit while saving miles on your car!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

- **Fri. Dec. 11: Toys for Tots collection ends**
- Fri. Dec. 11: mass day
- **Tue. Dec. 15: "Christmas Shoppe"**
- Fri. Dec. 18: "Buddy Day" and last day before Christmas break!

Thank You!!

...to **Ms. Pam Dezzi** and her awesome helpers for making Lego Club possible!

Koeze Sale

Orders are expected to go home with your oldest child tomorrow.

Mass Tomorrow

We will be attending mass tomorrow. As it will be the second week of the month, we hope you'll be able to help the parish's food pantry by bringing in some nonperishable food items. Thank you!

Congratulations!!

Fifth grader **Claire Campbell** made her First Communion last week during our weekly mass! It was an honor for us all to be present with her on such a special occasion:



Boys' Basketball

The boys' game took on St. Augustine school last Thursday. Their game Monday was canceled and will be rescheduled after Christmas break. Their next game (and their last game before Christmas) will be on Monday Dec. 14 at St. Augustine's.

Girls' Basketball Photographs

Still looking for a few "action" shots for the yearbook—contact Mrs. Steinmetz in the office if you have any to share. Thanks!

Christmas Prayer Tree

Mrs. Patty Smith and Mrs. Julie Wolf decorated one of our trees with students' Christmas prayers:



Doing Our Part

A reminder that all tuition should be 70% paid by now, with the 8th payment due at the end of December. Camp bills are due to be paid in full by January 18; tuition, by the end of February.

Christmas Program

Our annual Christmas program last night was wonderful—thanks to Mrs. Rock for directing the Drama Club members, to Mrs. Wassenberg for providing the accompaniment, to the teachers for helping their students learn their songs and parts, and to our wonderful, talented students!



"Toys for Tots"

Thank you to Michael Wilkinson for spearheading this collection to help needy children! All donations (new, unwrapped toys) should be delivered by **TOMORROW MORNING, Dec. 11, 2015**. Thanks for your help!

"Toys for Tots", part 2:

Family registration for help happened last week. Anyone who missed those times but is in need of help this Christmas can call Jenny at 810.990.5116.

LIBRARY / ACCELERATED READER

Students are reminded to bring library and accelerated reader books every Friday!



“Stuff-a Stocking” for Soldiers

Thank you for the overwhelming response to the NJHS “care package” collection for service members! Initially we had hoped to fill 20 stockings but, thanks to your generosity, we filled and delivered **38 stockings**! They will be sent to our troops who will be overseas for the holidays.



Knights of Columbus Children's Christmas Party

When: Sun., Dec. 13, 2015 1-4pm
Where: Marine City K of C
Banquet Center,
6385 King Road,
Marine City
Who: Students up to grade 6—
accompanied by parent

No cost! Games (with prizes),
activities, snacks, drinks--and
maybe even a visit from Santa!
Hope you can come!

Middle School Science Classes—

5th Grade: Dissecting Fish!

Mrs. Wade's fifth grade class dissected fish this week. Many thought it was very cool to see what was inside:



What's under this layer of tissue?

...and 6th Grade: Simple and Compound Machines

In their science classes this week, the sixth graders learned about machines, and built simple (and then compound) machines using Dacta Lego sets:



Poster Contest

Our two local KofC councils are sponsoring a poster contest around the theme “Keep Christ in Christmas.” They've provided 11”x17” paper--pick up a piece at the school office. Age groups will be 5-7, 8-10 and 11-14. Posters must include a slogan reflecting the topic and an original visual image. If pastels, chalk or charcoal are used, the poster must be laminated or covered with clear plastic. Posters will not be returned. Submit your poster and entry form on Dec. 20, 2015 from 1-2pm at the Marine City KofC Hall: judging will be at 2:30 at the hall (and you can wait, if you like!). For entry forms and rules contact Rick Goulette at rgoulette2@yahoo.com.



Penguin Pond

Our penguins joined a few of their friends at Port Huron Hospital's “Festival of Trees” this past weekend!

K OF C CHRISTMAS PARTY

....Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Marine City KofC Hall on King Road (see notice elsewhere in this newsletter). The party's planners are looking for a little help from 7th and 8th graders: parents—please call Paul Burger at 734.837.5807 if your child can give him a hand.

Congratulations!!

...to 7th grader **Christopher Winne** and 3rd grader **Evan Jacobs** (and their families) on winning the Algonac K of C scholarships! So many really good essays were submitted: the decision was not simple—thank you to all who took the time to write an essay and apply.

Christmas Shoppe

...next Tuesday (all day) with gifts for everyone, even pets! Prices range from \$0.25 to \$10 (only a few that high, and sales tax is included), and items will be much the same as last year's (we're using the same company).

The Shoppe will also be open Wednesday for preschoolers (and anyone else) who want to shop from 7:30-8:30am, and again from 2 pm to 3 pm. Feel free to stop by and take a look!

Helpers are needed for Tuesday from 7:30 to 10:45 and 11:15 to 2:30. If you have an hour or two to offer, please call Stacy c/o school.

Campers

Just a reminder that campers' bills are due to be paid in full **by January 18**. A list of recommended camp equipment was published in last week's newsletter (some might be good Christmas gifts...).

Holy Cross LEGO Club Corner

This week our Jr. FLL Teams came together to talk "trash". The challenge this year is Waste Wise and our students are thinking about things we can do with trash. During our snack, which consisted of Hungry Howie personal pizzas and juice, the children listened to a story about Favio Chavez from Paraguay who salvaged items from a landfill and turned them into musical instruments for a children's orchestra.

Our challenge for this week was to turn our pizza boxes and juice bottles into musical instruments! To successfully complete the task the teams had to Think, Design and Build! The teams celebrated their creations by singing and playing together Jingle Bell Rock and Rudolph. A special thanks to Marine City's Hungry Howie Pizza for their generous donation of 15 personal pizzas to support our project!

The link to Favio's story:

<http://www.team3098.com/uploads/2/9/6/2/2962475/jrfl-waste-wise-challenge.pdf>

Did you know this week is Computer Science Education Week? All week, across 150 countries, millions of students will try out computer programming for the first time as part of Computer Science Education Week. To support this event, Khan Academy has introduced an Hour of Code. The Hour of Code is an hour-long introduction to computer programming designed to demystify coding and show students (ages 8+) that everyone can learn the basics. Khan Academy has crafted several custom-made, fun tutorials for children that require no prior experience. Below is the link to get you started:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/hourofcode>

Date: December 7, 2015 at 7:55:25 PM EST

Subject: Student Design Contest: 2016 Michigan State of the State Program Cover (MI FLL Team Blast 2015.14)

"Monday, Dec. 7, 2015

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan high school, junior high, and elementary school students are encouraged to submit designs for the cover of the 2016 Michigan State of the State program contest, Gov. Rick Snyder announced today.

Snyder will deliver his sixth State of the State address to a joint session of the Michigan Legislature in the state House Chambers on Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. The winner of the student design contest will have the opportunity to meet Snyder and attend the address with one guest."

For more details on this unique opportunity for Michigan students, please go to:

<http://www.michigan.gov/snyder/0,4668,7-277-370707--,00.html>



HELP WANTED

The FTC Team is in need of a 5th through 8th grade student with creativity and good writing skills to maintain their engineering journal and Outreach Board. Please see Mrs. Steinmetz if you are interested in being a member of the FTC Team.

Three parents are needed to work with our Jr. FLL students as they enter into the "structured" phase of designing and building. They will need some assistance in putting together their design and presentation boards, one parent for each team.

A parent, grandparent or any other committed adult who is willing to help our teams secure grants and donations from various companies is needed. This can be done from home and some information and contacts are available. You will need a computer and internet access. Our YTD donations to support the above teams and activities have exceeded \$3,000. To sustain this activity into the 2016-17 academic year, we need to secure additional funds for registration and incidentals. Please contact the school office if interested.

Catholic Schools Week Fun!

The principals of the Blue Water Vicariate Schools are planning a day devoted to "It's Fun to be Catholic!" The festivities will take place here at the Holy Cross / CMC campus and will include arts and crafts, mass, mini-retreats, and other activities. All the schools in the Blue Water Vicariate will be coming here for the day! Cost will be \$10/student (max. \$20/family) (make checks out to "Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School" or "CMC"). Information and permission forms are going home with all K-8 students today and are needed back **by next Friday, Dec. 18.**





PRESENTS A FREE

Coed Basketball Skills Clinic for Siita's Nest

Hosted by Rachelle Matthys: SMS & SCHS Graduate, Division I College Basketball at The University at Buffalo, 4 Years of Professional Basketball in Germany, England & Australia & Team USA U-19 Coach for the United World Games Klagenfurt, Austria 2015

WHERE? ST. MARY'S SCHOOL GYM (800 Orchard St., Saint Clair, MI, 48079)
WHEN? SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26th (Bring your own ball!)
TIME? 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.
GRADES? K-8
COST? FREE!!! (DONATIONS ACCEPTED FOR SIITA'S NEST!)

Register Online: www.10feetup.com/skills-clinic.html
Info About Siita's Nest: www.10feetup.com/charity-stripe.html

COMMIT. EVOLVE. DEFY.