

CRUSADER NEWS AND VIEWS

The mission of Holy Cross Catholic School is to educate tomorrow's Christian leaders by fostering academic excellence in a Catholic community.

November 3, 2016

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.)

All volunteers working with children must have attended a "PGC" workshop.

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

got SCRIP?

SCRIP office hours
Mondays and Fridays 7-9am
Mondays; 5-7pm; and
Wednesdays 1-3pm
Patty Smith (St Clair)

Mark Your Calendar...

- **F. Nov. 4: NO classes—parent/teacher conferences (parents can pick up report cards there)**
- **F. Nov. 11: Veterans' memorials; no East China buses home**
- **Th. Nov. 17: no preschool**
- **F. Nov. 18: "Thanksgiving Feast"**
- **Tu-F Nov. 22-25: Thanksgiving recess: no school**
- **M. Nov. 28: back to class**
- **W. Nov. 30: Auction donations are due!**

Honoring Those Who Served

On November 11 we will be honoring veterans. We will begin by offering special intentions for them at our Friday morning mass. Later in the day we will be walking to the Veterans' Memorial (on Water Street) for their 11am memorial service. Parents, veterans and anyone who would like to pray for those who have served our country are all welcome to join us at either event--or both.

Boys' Basketball and Girls' Cheer

All athletes are reminded to get their physicals taken care of ASAP: practices will begin soon, and physical results must be on file at school before students may practice.

HALLOWE'EN HAPPENINGS



Mrs. Wade's students drew Jack-o-lantern faces while blindfolded—

...and the younger students enjoyed their goodies:



...while the fourth graders counted their loot:



Tuesday-Thursday Preschool Families:

Please note that there will be NO preschool on Thursday, Nov. 17 (as Ms. Cindy and Ms. Anna will be gone to a conference). However, they hope you'll come for the Thanksgiving feast! (Ms. Cindy will give you more information.)

Eighth Graders Planning to go to a Catholic High School:

CMC will offer the High School Placement Test (which is required to enroll in AoD high schools) on Saturday, November 19 the cost for the test is \$40.

They are also planning a test workshop on the 12th (9-11am); the cost for the workshop is \$25.

Contact CMC (810.765.8825) for more info or to register for the test and/or workshop.

Thanksgiving Feast

A school-wide Thanksgiving feast is a long-standing tradition at Holy Cross: we all help prepare the meal, then we all (students and teachers, and a few parent helpers) enjoy the meal together. This year the feast is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 18.

There is no cost to students for the meal, but everyone is asked to bring something to share. This year, the items assigned by class are:

- Preschoolers: gallon white milk each
- K-1: two cans of corn
- 2-3: large box of orange Jello
- 4: 2 packages of frozen dinner rolls
- 5-6: deviled eggs:—Mrs. Wade will divide the ingredient list among you
- 7: two pounds of butter or margarine
- 8: stuffing—Ms. Johnson will let you know

We count on everyone to bring their assigned items, so that there will be enough food for everyone; but if it is a hardship please contact the office. Please bring your item by Wednesday, Nov. 16 (unless your teacher has given you a different date).

Iowa Test Results

Students in grades 1-8 took the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and/or Cognitive Abilities Test in October. Our scores are back, and a copy of your child's results are in the mail to you (along with your November statement). If you need help with score interpretation, please contact your child's teacher.

Remember this is a "snapshot" of your child's work on the day of the test, in comparison with that of students nationwide at the same level nationwide. It is a useful tool for following your child's progress, and our cumulative class scores help us focus on strengths and weaknesses in our curriculum.

Attached to this newsletter is more information about standardized tests and interpreting their results.

Thank You!!

...to Ms. **Sarah Kreiter** for answering the call for Auction help!! Ms. Sarah has also started work (along with her sister, **Mrs. Betsy Davenport**) as classroom aide in our K-1 classroom. Ms. Sarah: we are delighted to welcome you to our "family"!

Student Highlights

...for October:

Gwenyth Franks is new to our 3-4 year old program. Gwenyth enjoys working puzzles and drawing/coloring. She has an infectious laugh and brings many smiles to our preschool classroom. **Victor Bryant** is one of our returning preschoolers. Victor enjoys telling jokes, building and knocking down towers, and interacting with his peers. He also enjoys sharing his knowledge of Pokémon.

Kindergartner **Vance Finn's** favorite food is cookies. His favorite color is green. He enjoys playing tiny Legos. Something special about Vance is that he plays with his brother a lot. Vance is kind, helpful, respectful, and a hard worker!

Alex Ogden's favorite food is pizza. His favorite color is blue. He loves to play soccer. When Alex grows up, he wants to work on machines like his dad. Alex is a smart, funny, athletic boy, and he is always willing to help out.

Second grader **Micah Arlow** is a hard worker and an all around "good boy." He loves a challenge and is always ready to help his classmates. When Micah is not in school, he likes to play with his cat, Ziggy, and when he grows up he wants to race NASCARs. Keep up the great work, Micah!

Renton Gadzinski is a wonderful addition to our Holy Cross family. He is a hard worker with much to add to class discussions. Renton's positive attitude

has a profound effect on everyone in his group. When he is not in school, you might find Renton outside playing with his dog. When he gets older he hopes to become an arcade owner. Keep up the excellent work.

Fourth grader **Ava DeVeney** has stepped it up this year! She has been working especially hard in the area of math, specifically multiplication and division. I'm especially proud of her recent achievements. Ava is a very talented artist as well, and loves to showcase her drawings of animals. She is very friendly, and loves to help out within the classroom. In her spare time, Ava enjoys playing with her 3 younger siblings, and many cousins! Ava is a great role model for her peers!!

Fifth grader **Evan Isrow** is a wonderful young man with lots of potential! He has the ability to achieve his goals if he sets his mind to it. I have seen great growth in Evan since the beginning of the year.

Jimmy Downey is one of the wonderful additions to our Holy Cross family this year! He has a great sense of humor, work ethic, and a true Christian nature, all of which have helped Jimmy make friends easily.

Seventh grader **Ava Isrow** is an avid outdoors girl who enjoys hunting and riding ATVs and dirt bikes. She has a love for animals and enjoys learning about them in science class. In her spare time, Ava's favorite thing to do is ride her

horse, Lance. When she grows up she wants to be a veterinarian or photographer. Ava works with dedication on her schoolwork, and she is a good friend to other students.

Charlotte Fajardo is a wise young lady who takes responsibility for her learning and challenges herself on a daily basis. Charlotte enjoys playing tennis listening and singing to music, spending time with her pets, hanging out with her friends and class time with Ms. Johnson. Charlotte enjoys and appreciates the simple things in life and is a dedicated friend to those in her life. I am very proud of Charlotte, and I appreciate her willingness to speak up in class and share insight regarding specific topics.

"Flashback Friday"

Are you, or do you know, a Holy Cross alum who would be interested in having your/his bio featured on "Flashback Friday" on our Facebook page? Please contact Mrs. Leslie DeMeulenaere (mrsd.leslie@gmail.com) for more info or to submit a bio.

PTO Pie Sale:

Pies will be in on Nov. 15: please plan to pick yours up if your order is too much for your "Crusaders" to carry.

Holy Cross on Facebook

find us at

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/holycrosscatholicmc/)

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Need Service Credits?

Wednesday night bingo is a fun and easy way to earn your credits! It gives us a chance to interact with other Holy Cross parents: without kids. There are currently 22 service credits available for the floor worker position which will be filled on a first come, first served basis. You haven't played bingo since 4th grade?—no problem! It really is just as easy as you remember: and we'll train you! Last year bingo raised just under \$20,000 for our school! Interested? Questions? Contact HC bingo chairperson Tracy Wilson (email her at tracycarnahan@comcast.net)

Shifts are from approximately 6-10pm and are available on the following . Shifts are available on the following Wednesday evenings: Nov. 16; Dec. 14, 21 (2 shifts available this date); Jan 11, 18; Feb. 1, 8, 15(2 shifts), 22; March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29(2 shifts); April 5, 12, 19, 26(2 shifts).



2016 Spelling Bee



November 10, 2016

St. Catherine's Activity Center - 1103 Washington, Algonac
4th, 5th and 6th grade contest (Level 1) - 5:30 pm

We are excited to announce our second annual Knights of Columbus spelling Bee.

We invite all students to take part in the competition.

ACS and ECSD students will have copies of a spelling list available by their teachers, and each teacher will be able to select up to 5 students from each class to represent their class in the council's championship. Home school and students not part of ACS or ECSD please email rgoulette2@yahoo.com for registration details.

Prizes:

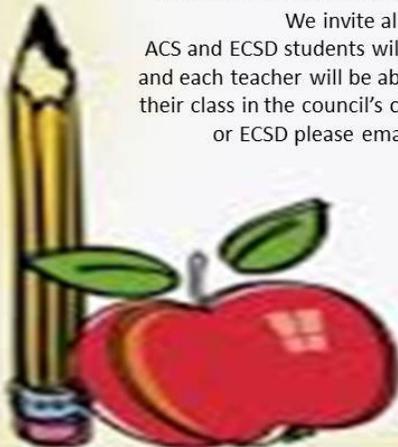
- Grade winners at each grade level 4th, 5th and 6th will receive a pizza party for their homeroom class!!!
- Overall Council Champion and 4 runner ups will win gift certificates.

Sponsored By:

Knights of Columbus

Councils #7227 Algonac and #856 Marine City

In service to one. In service to all.



**Auction 2017:
'A Celebration of Camp'--
January 21, 2017**

Our Holy Cross School Auction is just three short months away!

Have you purchased your tickets for this evening featuring **live entertainment**, food and fun (and open bar)? Join us for "A Celebration of Camp:" experience the Holy Cross tradition. Mr. Mike Govier has graciously agreed to serve as the evening's host and auctioneer. It is our understanding there will be guest appearances by "Clyde" and "Sammy"—with lots of good camp fun! You can reserve your table today—contact the school office (810.765.3591).

Auction 2017 "Fund a Need"

The "Fund-a-Need" goal of this year's Auction will be to support more STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) hands-on experiences for our younger students. We hope to purchase a SmartLab Cart with several SmartLab Kits for young learners in grades K-4 especially. This can give our younger children more personalized and engaged learning in science and related STEM areas. We also hope to be able to purchase some of the courses produced by LUV ('Leveling Up the Village') which links young students online with one-on-one learning partners doing the same lessons in collaboration but from very different countries. LUV links students in America one-on-one with students in up to 20 other nations who are working on the same lessons. We would probably need to find about \$15,000 to enable us to implement both the SmartLab Cart and SmartLab Kits as well as LUV Courses for Global Learning.

NO SCHOOL TOMORROW—Conferences (Grades K-8)

Your oldest "Crusader" took home your conference appointment confirmation yesterday. If you didn't get it, please call school today for your time(s).



**10 FEET UP GIVES BACK!!
JOIN US MONDAY DECEMBER 26TH FOR A
COED BASKETBALL SKILLS CLINIC
100% PROCEEDS TO BE DONATED**

ST. MARY'S ALUMNI RACHELLE "ROCKO" MATTHYS RETURNS TO HER ALMA MATER TO HOST A COED BASKETBALL CLINIC!

WHEN Monday December 26, 2016
WHERE St. Mary's
(800 Orchard Street St. Clair, MI 48079)
TIME 9am-10:30am - Grades 1-4
11:00am - 12:30pm - Grades 5-8
COST Donations Only!

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE www.10feetup.com/skills-clinic.html

**50% PROCEEDS TO ST.MARYS
50% PROCEEDS TO SIITA'S NEST**

SIITA'S NEST
Orphanage in Jinja, Uganda
for children who have lost
their parents to AIDS

More information can be found here:
<http://www.10feetup.com/charity-stripe.html>

**COME TRAIN WITH
RACHELLE MATTHYS**

- St. Clair State Championship Runner Up
- Division I Athlete at University at Buffalo
- 4 Years of Professional Basketball in Germany, Australia and England
- Team USA U-19 Coach for the United World Games Klagenfurt, Austria 2015 & 2016
- USA Gold License Coach

Standardized Testing

A standardized test is a tool used to assess students on what they have learned. They are standard because each student takes the test under the same conditions. The method is the same, as well as the way the test is scored and administered. Every student has the same opportunity to demonstrate his or her achievement of the content presented by the test.

How is the test graded?

At each grade level, Riverside Publishing uses a nationwide norm-referenced group of approximately 300,000 students. Norm-referenced is simply a comparison test. When your child earns a score at the 76th percentile, this indicates that he or she tested better than 76% of those 300,000 students in the same grade.

Why does Holy Cross use the Iowa test of Basic Skills (ITBS)?

The ITBS is designed to fulfill three main purposes:

to obtain information that can drive instructional decisions made by staff

to provide information to students and their parents for monitoring the student's growth from grade to grade

to examine the yearly progress of grade groups as they pass through Holy Cross' curriculum

All elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Detroit are required to administer the ITBS during the fall testing cycle (approximately the first two weeks of October, each year).

What do the tests/ scores mean?

GE: (Grade Equivalent) is a number that gives the student's location on an achievement continuum and describes performance in terms of grade level and month. For example, if a third grader scores 4.6 on a test, his/her score is like the one a student at the end of the 6th month of 4th grade would likely score. These scores are particularly useful for measuring individual growth from one year to the next.

NPR: (National Percentile Rank) these percentiles show a student's standing within the group of students in the same grade who were tested at the same time of year during the national standardization. These are especially useful for profile analysis and determining the areas of relative strength and weakness for an individual student. A percentile rank of 72 means the student scored better than 72 percent of the other children in the same grade in the norm-referenced sample. Percentile ranks range from 1 to 99 and are less useful than grade equivalents for estimating or monitoring growth.

Campers' Equipment Guide

Here is our list of equipment suggested for camp. With the holiday season just around the corner, perhaps you'll find gift hints here for your favorite camper!

Wolverine Outdoor Education Center Suggested Equipment Guide

Use this list as a guide when packing for camp. Make sure you have clothes to dress warmly and be able to change if you get wet. Also, pack in a SMALL space—NO large or hard-sided suitcases or huge duffel totes. We have to go up STEEP flights of stairs and the large pieces are difficult to move (let alone store) in the dorms. We recommend you pack in something watertight—30 gallon "Steel-Sack" bags (with your name taped on them) or soft-sided luggage with your name in a prominent place work great. Bedding must be in one bag and clothing and essentials in another. Girls—no makeup needed! WE MUST CONSERVE SPACE as everything has to be packed under the buses. **Please label all items clearly with your name.**

WINTER CLOTHING

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 4 pairs pants | 1 pair snow pants |
| 4 warm shirts | 1 pair long thermal underwear |
| 1 sweatshirt or sweater | 1 scarf or other face covering |
| 1 pair waterproof tennis shoes or hard soled slippers | 1 warm winter coat |
| 1 pair high, warm snow boots ESSENTIAL | 1 pair pajamas |
| 2 pairs gloves/mittens | 1 warm hat (no headbands) |
| 5 sets underwear | 5-6 pairs socks |

PERSONAL ARTICLES

| | | | |
|------------|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| comb/brush | toothbrush/toothpaste | wash cloth | bath towel |
| soap | shampoo | deodorant | chap stick |
| tissues | | | |

BEDDING

2 sheets 1 pillow 1 comforter
We prefer no sleeping bags. However, if you bring one, use it as a comforter and bring one fitted sheet.

MISCELLANEOUS

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| pencils | laundry bag | sunglasses | writing paper |
| reading books | disposable camera | hand lotion | flashlight |
| playing cards | magnetic compass | crossword or search-a-word books | |
| envelopes (stamped and addressed) | hand warmers | | |

1 small carry-on is allowed to take on the bus ("Crusaders" duffel bag is OK).

ITEMS NOT ALLOWED

Candy or food of any kind in the dorms (anything left over from the bus ride is disposed of). The snack bags for the way home will be stored in sealed containers.

Knives, weapons, drugs, tobacco, etc. are not allowed.

For bus use only: iPods or other music devices--these items will be collected as we get off the bus and stores in an air-tight container, and will be returned as we get back on the bus on Friday. No cell phones are allowed.

No use of cameras in dorm areas unless an adult is present and gives approval.

FORGET YOUR FEARS AND TRY SOMETHING NEW!