Principal’s Message

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE DEC. 2, 2016

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel!" We enter into this Advent season with renewed hope and a reminder of God’s eternal and endless mercy. May we all experience His forgiving grace and saving power!

Special congratulations to director, Ms. Murray, and all staff and students for the fantastic presentation of our Fall Production, Twelfth Night. A big thank you to everyone involved for all the time and effort that went into putting together such an outstanding show. It was a pleasure to see such talented performances! You can catch the last show tonight at 7pm.

December will be a busy month for Holy Cross. We will enjoy the musical talents of our students at the Band and Choir Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 11th. The Choirs will begin our concerts with their performance at 12:30 pm, the Senior Bands will perform at 1:15 pm, and the Junior Bands perform at 3:30 pm. Hope to see you there!

On Thursday, December 1st, we celebrated our Advent Mass. On December 12th there will be a special opportunity to experience Reconciliation. Father Mike is available throughout Advent for students who wish to receive reconciliation at a different time. Mr. Saretsky is organizing our Christmas service project. This year classes will collect school supplies and winter clothing to assist schools in our community. On Thursday, December 15th, we will be introducing many of our winter teams and clubs at our third Pep Rally of the year.

We are planning our next Box Lunch Auction. It has been a phenomenal event with overwhelming support; however, there are some challenges we’d like to address. We are formulating a committee of students, staff, and parents. If you would like to sit on this committee, please contact Mr. Saretsky tsaretsky@gscs.sk.ca or (306) 659-7613.

Our next Holy Cross Catholic School Community Council meeting will be on Wednesday January 11th at 7:00 p.m. in conference room. All are welcome.

Plans for Graduation 2017 are underway. Representatives will be selected from Grade 12 homerooms in the second semester. With their input, final arrangements will be made for the school sponsored graduation activities. Parents are making plans for the Winter Formal, Fashion Show, and After Grad. Please stay tuned for synervoice and newsletter messages for important information. Lifetouch studios will be at the school to take Graduation photos from January 18 to January 26. Information regarding sign up for Graduation photos will be available to students in January.

Thank you, and may you have a blessed Advent and Christmas season!

Lisa Hodson
Principal
Did you Know?

Homework During Extended Absences

♦ Extended absence means and absence of 3 or more days.
♦ Students are responsible for completing all work missed during any absence for any reason.
♦ Students should give teachers at least 24 hours notice of an upcoming extended absence, request homework, class notes, and assignments, and make arrangements to write exams missed during the absence.
♦ Students who will be absent for an extended period of time are asked to report to the main office a minimum of one week prior to their absence to pick up and complete the appropriate extended absence form. Forms must be returned to the main office once all required information has been completed and the form has been signed by a parent/guardian. For absences extending longer than one week (more than 5 consecutive school days) contact with the principal must be made by the parent/guardian.
♦ In the case of sudden illness or an unexpected serious event requiring an extended absence, requests for homework may be made through the Attendance Secretaries. Upon their return to school, students should contact their teachers for clarification about material missed during their absence.
♦ In cases of extended absence from school, extenuating circumstances or hospitalization of students, homework should be requested through the Student Services office.

Student Fees

Student fees are now past due. If you did not receive the invoice for your child’s student fees please contact the school to receive a new copy. To make payment arrangements please contact Mrs. Bloski at 306-659-7605.

A reminder to students who will be applying for graduation, your student fees must be paid in full before February 1st.

Graduation Photos

Lifetouch photography will be at Holy Cross from January 18th-26th to photograph those students who will be applying for Graduation.

Students will receive information on how to book their appointments for their Graduation photos on-line in early January and are reminded that they are not to book photos during their scheduled exam periods. The photos taken during this time are the photo for the yearbook as well as the graduation composite. Students who miss having their photo taken during this time will be required to go to the Lifetouch studio prior to April 1st in order to appear on the composite and in the yearbook.

Christmas Break

The last day of classes before the Christmas break is Wednesday, December 21st. Students will be dismissed at 12:30 pm on this day and are expected to leave the school by 12:45 pm.

The school will be closed from 12:45 pm on Wednesday, December 21st until Wednesday, January 4th when classes resume. Students are reminded to take all items they will require over the break home with them as there will be no access to the school during these two weeks.

Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 4th with a regular school day for all students.

Christian Ethics

Each student enrolled in Grade 10, 11 and 12 Christian Ethics at Holy Cross is required to complete 10 hours of volunteer work as part of the Christian Service Project. The documents associated with the project, (Rationale, Guidelines, Works of Mercy locations, Church Service Guidelines, and particularly the Service Record sheet), are available on the Holy Cross LibGuides page. This can be found via Google search Saskatoon Holy Cross LibGuides and look under the Christian Ethics tab.

Another option is to copy the following link into your browser to find the documents.

http://scs.sk.ca.libguides.com/content.php?pid=627764&sid=5315813
As November comes to a close, the SRC is so excited for the things to come in December! It’s going to be a busy month filled with lots of fun activities. This month the SRC is running our 12 Days of Christmas. Beginning on December 6th we will be having a fun activity or spirit day going on for the 12 days leading up to Christmas break, with “Name That Christmas Tune”, pictures with Santa, and a milk and cookies sale being among them! So much to look forward to! Also, we are doing something a little different this year, we are having our Multicultural Day in December on the 9th. Multicultural Day is our opportunity as a school to express our diversity through the sharing of ethnic foods, music, and art. Make sure to mark the day on your calendar as it’s sure to be an awesome event!

With the virtues of joy and hope being our themes for the month of December, we are looking forward to spreading as much joy as we can this month through all of the fun and engaging things planned! This month we will find our hope in the reflection of what the meaning of Christmas is to us, and looking forward to this new season of Advent. We are so excited to get started on the month of December!

Outdoor Education Club
We are planning a ski/snowboard trip to Fernie, BC. The dates are February 20th to 23rd, 2017. Sign up information is available from the Moan office or Mr. Blais.

We need a minimum of 30 students to make this happen but we have room for 40 to 45. All forms must be handed in by December 2nd, 2016.

Gingerbread Lane and Cake Show
All are invited to attend the viewing of the gingerbread houses made by Baking and Food Prep 30 students, as well as the buttercream character cakes made by Baking and Food Prep 20 students. The display will be on Tuesday, December 20th over the noon hour and on Wednesday, December 21st from 8:45 - 11:45 a.m. in the Sewing Lab (room 312).

Questions about the displays can be directed to Mrs. Zurevinski or Mrs. Rodych. Hope to see you there.

Multi-Cultural Day
Multi-Cultural Day is back! Friday, December 9th! Be part of the celebration of our ethnic diversity!

Everyone is invited to get involved by bringing an ethnic dish, providing entertainment, dressing in ethnic attire, assisting with a second or third language or any other way to showcase their ethnic background. Food & entertainment forms are available in student services. With receipts, students can apply for reimbursement of costs up to $75.

Staff and students are asked to help make this year’s event another huge success!

SRC News
As November comes to a close, the SRC is so excited for the things to come in December! It’s going to be a busy month filled with lots of fun activities. This month the SRC is running our 12 Days of Christmas. Beginning on December 6th we will be having a fun activity or spirit day going on for the 12 days leading up to Christmas break, with “Name That Christmas Tune”, pictures with Santa, and a milk and cookies sale being among them! So much to look forward to! Also, we are doing something a little different this year, we are having our Multicultural Day in December on the 9th. Multicultural Day is our opportunity as a school to express our diversity through the sharing of ethnic foods, music, and art. Make sure to mark the day on your calendar as it’s sure to be an awesome event!

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Loran Scholars Foundation
Congratulations to Caid Brossart and Jonah Murray on being selected as semi-finalists by the Loran Scholars Foundation! Caid and Jonah attended regional interviews in Saskatoon on November 26th as part of the selection process for the Loran Awards. Only the top 10% of applicants are invited to regional interviews. Good luck Caid and Jonah!

In recent years, Holy Cross had semi-finalists in 2015 (Stephanie Lipoth), 2014 (Erik Florizone) and 2010 (Lena Xiao).

Many years ago, we selected two Loran Scholars from Holy Cross:

1995 - Suzanne Pozak (née Shepel)
1993 - Marianne Hawkins (née Schmid)

Marianne was actually the first-ever Loran Scholar from the Prairies! Today, she is an entrepreneur and management consultant in Swift Current, SK.
Music Department News

New York Music Tour Important Dates
❖ Student Meetings will be happening on the following dates during the noon hours. These are mandatory meetings as important travel information, rooming lists, museum tours, and meal selections will be made at various times throughout: October 27th, November 17th, March 2nd, May 4th
❖ Next payment of $1000.00 is due on December 1st. Please address cheques to HCMPA and have them in clearly labeled envelopes to the main office.
❖ A mandatory meeting for parents and students will occur January 31st, 7pm at Holy Cross. If students do not have copies of their passports already, they will be required to have them by that evening.

Music Department Concerts:
❖ Christmas Concert is on December 11th. These concerts are required performance for all students enrolled in the program.
❖ Failure to attend will result in a loss of marks as they are part of our curriculum.
❖ Please note the time changes:
  ♦ 12:30 Jr and Sr Choir
  ♦ 1:15 Sr Band Concert (Grade 11 and 12)
  ♦ 3:30 Jr Band Concert (Grade 9 and 10)

Bingo Dates
The new list of bingo dates is now available.
January 1, 2017 - matinee
February 26, 2017 - evening
February 26, 2017 - late night
If interested in working bingos towards your child’s travel credit account please email hcmpabingo@gmail.com

Travel Credits
If you have any questions regarding your child’s travel credit account please email hcmpatravelcredits@gmail.com

Wall of Honour

The Holy Cross “Wall of Honour” was instituted in the year 2000 to celebrate the new millennium. This ongoing project is intended to recognize Holy Cross graduates who have achieved excellence in a particular field of interest or career and have been recognized for their achievements at the national and/or international level. The inductees serve as role models to all Holy Cross students.

We are currently in the planning stages for our next Wall of Honour ceremonies. At this time we are asking for nominations of Holy Cross Alumni who meet the criteria. To nominate someone please email holy.cross@gscs.sk.ca with the subject line “Wall of Honour nominee.” Please be sure to include the name of the nominee, year they graduated and the reason/criteria for nomination.

There are several general areas from which people could be recognized including but not limited to: Athletics, Art, Music, Drama, Religious Life, Education, Science, Business, Politics (Civil, Provincial, Federal), Humanitarian Services, Recognized Community Service and Outstanding Awards

Criteria for Recognition is as follows:
❖ To be recognized, a person must have attended Holy Cross for at least two years, and a graduate of Holy Cross.
❖ The Wall of Honour is intended to recognize individuals who have excelled and gained recognition in a particular discipline or area of expertise. The contribution of those recognized should be at the national/international level.
❖ Some examples include: professional athlete, Olympian, professional actor, Rhodes Scholar, Mayor/Premier/Prime Minister, published author, etc.
❖ The list of possibilities is extensive. The criterion that is most relevant is that the individuals should be recognized for their noteworthy accomplishments in their chosen fields.
**Student Services**

**EFS- Economics for Success**
All Grade 10 students will be involved in the *Economics for Success* program on the morning of December 7th. *Economics for Success* features a series of classroom activities designed to help students understand the importance, & value of staying in school. **Volunteer Business Consultants** assist students as they:

- Describe the value of an education, high school and beyond
- Identify elements of personal success
- Prepare a personal budget based on typical wages paid to unskilled workers
- Identify personal and economic consequences of dropping out of school and identify alternatives to leaving school
- Learn about resumes and interviews

The presentation by Junior Achievement will start at the beginning of period 1 (8:35 am) and will continue for the duration of the morning.

**U of S Important Deadline Dates**
December 1st is the deadline for Early Admission to the following competitive colleges:
- Edwards School of Business
- Engineering
- Kinesiology

December 1st is also the deadline to apply for admission to the U of S, (any college) for students who plan to apply for the Best & the Brightest Scholarships. The $90 application fee, Grade 11 transcript of marks, and Grade 12 timetable must have been received by Dec. 1st. **Application Deadline for the Best & the Brightest scholarships is December 15th.**

Regular Application for Admission deadlines:
- College of Agriculture and Bio Resources- February 15th
- College of Arts & Science- May 1st

- College of Education- Feb. 15th
- Edwards School of Business-Feb. 15th
- College of Engineering-Feb. 15th
- College of Kinesiology-Feb. 15th
- Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education- May 1st

**Guaranteed Entrance Scholarships**
Students will receive an automatic scholarship if their admission average is 85% or higher. The U of S will calculate this average at two separate times- They will calculate the award average at The Time of Application, and then again at the end of June finals. **(the highest average with the highest award will be given.)**

**Competitive Scholarships**
Application for Admission must be completed by Feb. 15. Application for Competitive Scholarships must be submitted by March 1st.

**Best & Brightest Scholarships**
Application for Admission must be completed by Dec. 1. Application for Best & Brightest Scholarships must be completed by Dec. 15th

For more U of S information, visit [www.explore.usask.ca](http://www.explore.usask.ca)

**SaskPolyTech Admission Information**
FQFA- get those applications in! First Qualified First Admitted!
High Demand Programs- Oct. 1-Feb. 15th is Application Window
Competitive Programs- Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing- Deadline to apply is Feb. 15th
For more SaskPolyTech information visit [www.saskpolytech.ca](http://www.saskpolytech.ca)
Holy Cross Catholic School Community Council

The next meeting for the Holy Cross Catholic School Community Council will be held on Wednesday, January 11th at 7:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.

All members of the Holy Cross community are invited to attend.

Schools Win Twice Raffle Winners

Thank you to all those who purchased tickets for the Schools Win Twice Raffle. Congratulations to all those who won prizes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prize #</th>
<th>Prize Description</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>Disneyland California Vacation</td>
<td>Ursula LeBlanc</td>
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<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>Cuba Vacation</td>
<td>Eliot Smithen</td>
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<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>Victoria B.C. Vacation - Yazz</td>
<td>Anthony Robulak</td>
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<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>Ariens Snow Blower</td>
<td>Judy Ford</td>
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<tr>
<td>#5</td>
<td>Traeger PRO22 Grill - Roxanne Foster</td>
<td>Allyson Dunn</td>
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<tr>
<td>#6</td>
<td>Mini Max Big Green Egg BBQ</td>
<td>Jody Ford</td>
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<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>Specialized Hardrock Bike - Ron Ochitwa</td>
<td>Melissa Yarotsky</td>
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<tr>
<td>#8</td>
<td>Specialized Hardrock Bike - Melora Willms</td>
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<tr>
<td>#9</td>
<td>Samsung 40&quot; LED TV - Tom Duazzo</td>
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<tr>
<td>#10</td>
<td>BOSE Solo 15 Sound System - Rob Reber</td>
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<td>#11</td>
<td>Apple iPad Mini 4 WiFi - Deb Ironbow</td>
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<tr>
<td>#12</td>
<td>Samsung 32&quot; LED TV - Mike Chorney</td>
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<tr>
<td>#13</td>
<td>Bose QC25 Headphones - Nixxi Cardinal</td>
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<td>#14</td>
<td>Bang &amp; Olufsen H2 Headphones</td>
<td>Curtis Cherneske</td>
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<tr>
<td>#15</td>
<td>Bose Solo 5 Sound System - Lorie Willms</td>
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<tr>
<td>#16</td>
<td>Pizza, Pasta or Wings for a year</td>
<td>Jamie McLeod</td>
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<tr>
<td>#17</td>
<td>Pizza, Pasta or Wings for a year</td>
<td>Maryann Derksen</td>
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<td>#18</td>
<td>Apple TV 4th Generation</td>
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<tr>
<td>#19</td>
<td>Cineplex Entertainment Card - Laureen Mund</td>
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<tr>
<td>#20</td>
<td>Cineplex Entertainment Card - Donna Edmison</td>
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<tr>
<td>#21</td>
<td>GoPro Hero Camera - Munie Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>#22</td>
<td>Braven BRV1 Bluetooth Speakers - Linda Engh</td>
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<tr>
<td>#23</td>
<td>Braven BRV1 Bluetooth Speakers - Wendy Lepage</td>
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<td>#24</td>
<td>Apple TV 3rd Generation</td>
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<td>#25</td>
<td>Apple TV 3rd Generation</td>
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<tr>
<td>#26</td>
<td>Midtown Plaza Gift Card - Bonita Werezak</td>
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59th Annual Knights of Columbus Carol Festival

“Journey to Bethlehem”

Join us for an evening of choral music as choirs from our schools sing us on our “Journey to Bethlehem”. Monday, Dec. 5th and Tuesday, Dec. 6th - 7:00 p.m. nightly at TCU Place, 35-22nd St. East. Prelude by “the Local Group” from 6:30 to 6:50 p.m.

Tickets are available at participating Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools and at TCU Place (www.tcutickets.ca)

Adults $12 / Children 5-14 years $3 / Under 5 years Free. Rush seating only!

Grade 12 After Grad Trips

Grade 12 after grad travel trips, also known as “S-trips” are not school or school board sanctioned educational activities. There are no school staff planning or attending “S-trips”. Please be aware that there are inherent risks involved with all excursions. Parents are recommended to diligently research this trip.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2017

In Saskatoon, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be observed from Sunday, Jan. 22nd to Sunday, Jan. 29, 2017. The theme is Reconciliation. The Love of Christ compels us (2 Corinthians 5:14-20). Resources are available at http://weekofprayer.ca.

The 2017 De Margerie Series on Christian Reconciliation and Unity speaker is Dr. Dirk G. Lange, addressing the theme Reformation Today: From Conflict to Communion, Together in Hope. The lecture will be held at 7:00 pm Thursday, January 26th at St.Thomas More College, Saskatoon.