



A Tradition of Excellence

HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

2115 McEown Ave
Saskatoon, SK S7J 3K8

Principal - Lisa Hodson
Vice Principal - Jason Benson Assistant Principal - Nadine Cannell
Director of Education - Greg Chatlain
Superintendent of Education - Scott Gay
Board Trustees - Tim Jelinski & Alice Risling

Newsletter May 5, 2017

Greater Saskatoon Catholic
Schools
www.gscs.sk.ca

We're on the Web!
<http://www.gscs.sk.ca/studentsandfamilies/schools/hch/>

Principal's Message

The sun has come out and we are in full spring mode at Holy Cross! Badminton is wrapping up and the Track and Field season has begun. The Senior Music concert was held on May 7th, and the Junior Music concert is set for May 28th. Thank you to all the staff and out-of-school volunteers for giving their time and energy to the programming at HC!

Catholic Education Week is May 23rd-26th, and World Catholic Education Day on May 25th. Our school division's theme this year is *Celebrating Sabbath Moments*. We are so blessed and grateful for the privilege to celebrate our Catholic faith every day in our school community! Please visit our GSCS division website to see how you can support Catholic Education in Saskatchewan.

The grade 10 band students travelled to Edmonton for the Cantando Music Festival. What a wonderful opportunity to perform at Windspear and work with high caliber adjudicators at the University of Alberta. A huge thank you to our fantastic band teachers; Mrs. McGonigal, and Ms. Reynolds. A huge thank you also goes out to all the parent volunteers. Your dedication to our music program is very much appreciated!

Over the next couple of weeks a large number of our students will be writing their Advanced Placement Exams in Calculus, Chemistry, English, French and Music. Some have also submitted their Art Portfolio's for consideration. The Advanced Placement Program provides our honours students the opportunity to receive university credits. Good luck to all that are involved.

The Box Lunch Auction is scheduled for May 10th. We continue with our commitment to raise money for Development and Peace, and celebrate 50 years of supporting this Catholic organization. A special thank you to Mr. Saretsky, Mrs. Dinter-Lipinski, and the students and staff who are busy preparing lunches to auction off. The extensive fundraising effort and generous contributions from the students, staff members, parents and community are greatly appreciated!

We are also busy preparing for our first ever *Student Wellness Conference* on May 25th. All students will attend sessions to learn about the different areas of wellness: Spiritual, Intellectual, Physical, and Mental. We are excited to have many people in the community coming to present and share their expertise. This should be a great day!

Graduation preparation is well underway. Congratulations to Caid Brossart, who was elected Valedictorian, and to Roha Shahzad, who was elected Salutatorian. Grade 12 students and parents/guardians received information by email about the graduation day and purchasing banquet tickets. The memos can be found on our school website. Click on *About Our School* and *Graduation* in the menu on the left. **Graduation is Thursday, June 29th, 2017**, with the Mass and Ceremony beginning at 9:00 am at the TCU Place, and the banquet at 5:45 pm at Prairieland Park. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at the school.

All students have a Maplewood Online Portal where they can log in and acquire information about the courses they selected for next year. They can view their current attendance, timetable, and demographic information as well. Parents/guardians can access attendance and course information through their child's account.

We will have one more newsletter at the beginning of June. God Bless!

Lisa Hodson
Principal

Upcoming Events

Friday, May 5

- AP Studio Art Portfolios Due
- Deadline for Grade 12's to qualify for Graduation 2017
- Newsletter On-Line

Sunday, May 7

- Senior Music Concert - 12:30 pm

Monday, May 8

- AP Music Theory Exam (am)

Tuesday, May 9

- AP Calculus Exam (am)
- AP French Language & Culture Exam (pm)

Wednesday, May 10

- Box Lunch Auction - 10:00 am

Thursday, May 11

- Final Day to purchase Grad Banquet tickets
- AP Statistics Exam (am)
- Shortened Day - 12:30 Dismissal
- HCMPA New York Chaperone Meeting - 7:00 pm

Saturday, May 13

- Badminton Provincial Championship

Wednesday, May 17-Sunday, May 21

- Senior Music Tour to NYC

Friday, May 19

- School Vacation - School Closed

Monday, May 22

- Victoria Day - School Closed

Wednesday, May 24

- Track & Field City Championship

Thursday, May 25

- Student Wellness Conference
- Shortened Day - 12:30 Dismissal
- Track & Field City Championship
- HCMPA Meeting - 7:00 pm

Sunday, May 28

- Junior Music Concert - 1:00 pm

Thursday, June 1

- Grade 12 Retreat - MANDATORY for all students on the Graduation List

Thursday, June 1-Sunday, June 4

- Spring Canoe Trip

Friday, June 2

- Newsletter Online

Friday, June 2-Saturday, June 3

- Track & Field Provincial Championship

Tuesday, June 6

- Golf City Championship



Did you Know?

Mobile Device Acceptable Use Policy

- Mobile devices must be on “**silent**” mode while students are at school.
- Mobile devices **may not be used** during class time, unless directed by a staff member. Students who inappropriately use their mobile device during class time will have it taken to the Main Office and have to retrieve it after Period 5. For a second infraction, students will only retrieve their mobile devices when their parent or guardian has come to the school to obtain it. The office is open until 4:00 pm for mobile device pick-up.
- Mobile devices **shall not be used** to bully. **This is a criminal offence.** In these instances, the school’s processes for dealing with incidents of bullying may be put into effect. Other consequences will be considered as necessary.
- Video & audio recording are not allowed in the classrooms unless approved by the teacher.
- Mobile devices may not be used in washrooms, change rooms or the gymnasium.

Internet Acceptable Use Policy (Greater Saskatoon Catholic Board of Education and Holy Cross High School)

The Internet can be a valuable resource to students needing to access, evaluate, use, and produce information. Usage of the Internet should follow the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools mission statement. Internet access is a privilege, not a right.

- E-mail accounts will not be given to individual students.
- Student access to Hotmail or other free web based accounts on school computers is not permitted.
- Use of chat lines or news groups is not allowed except under the direct supervision of a teacher for a specific purpose.
- School rules for proper behaviour and communication apply.
- Articles may be printed from the Internet for school-based research at the cost of 10 cents per page if such printing is in accordance with copyright regulations.
- Inappropriate use of the Internet will be cause for disciplinary action that could include but not be limited to:
 - Internet/computer privileges being revoked for a period of time;
 - Student’s right to attend a class being revoked;
 - Possible suspension or relocation from school.

Student Fees

School fees for the 2016-2017 school year are now past due. The yearbook is no longer available to be ordered as the order has been placed based on the number of yearbooks paid for. Families with outstanding invoices that have a yearbook fee on them can deduct \$30. Students with outstanding course fees from the 2016-2017 school year may be ineligible to register for courses that fees are assigned to for the next school year while they have an outstanding balance with the school.

Students in Grade 12 who have applied for Graduation are reminded that they must have all their fees paid prior to banquet ticket orders being accepted.

Families needing to make payment arrangements are asked to please contact Mrs. Bloski at 306-659-7605.

Graduation 2017

Graduation Banquet tickets are on sale until Thursday, May 11th. There is a limit of eight tickets per graduate. After May 11th, a voice message & email will be sent out to inform families if there are extra banquet tickets available and what day they will be sold.

Grade 12 students are reminded that the Grade 12 retreat is being held on Thursday, June 1st. This retreat is mandatory for all students who wish to participate in the Graduation ceremonies on June 29th.



Music Department News

This year we will be doing our Spring Music Concerts in a different format. The Senior Music concert will occur this Sunday, May 7th beginning at 12:30 p.m. with Senior Choir followed by the Grade 11 & 12 bands.

Grade 12 students who will not be travelling to New York are reminded to bring a change of clothes as you will need to return your uniform immediately following the concert.

The Junior music concert will take place on Sunday, May 28th with the choir performing at 12:30 p.m. and the grade 9 & 10 bands beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Grade 10 students must bring a change of clothing as their uniforms must be returned immediately following the performance.

A reminder that your mark in these classes includes your attendance at all performances.

The Senior Music tour to New York City, will depart on Wednesday, May 17th. All participants are reminded to check their itinerary carefully for times and details regarding this trip.

Holy Cross Music Department apparel orders should be returned to the main office no later than Friday, May 5th.

Jazz groups from Holy Cross, St. Joe's and BJM are having our annual Jazz Night at The Bassment (202 4th Avenue North) on Tuesday, May 9. The evening begins at 7:00p.m., students are asked to be there by 6:00p.m. Silver Collection at the door.

Outdoor Education

The Spring Grade 12 Hiking trip to the mountains will be on June 8th through June 11th, 2017. This year's destination is the beautiful Lake Louise area of Banff National Park. Grade 12 students have begun preparing for this trip with meetings and practice hikes. For more information please contact Mr. Blais or Mrs. Walker.

The Spring Canoe trip to the Churchill River region of Saskatchewan, is on June 1st through 4th, 2017. The month of May will be busy with preparation meetings and canoe practices. For more information please contact Mr. Deptuch or Madame Vermette.

Student Wellness Conference

On May 25th, Holy Cross will host its first ever Student Wellness Conference. The goal of the conference is to respond to the needs identified through surveys, promote life wellness, and provide students with information and simple tools that will inspire them to seek and maintain a balanced, successful, and fulfilling lifestyle of wellness and well-being. We are excited to have our keynote speaker, Steve Kushman, to talk about how to deal with obstacles in life and learn how to control our human states including Mental, Physical, Emotional and increase our Spirit. If you have any questions or would like to donate prizes or make a donation, please contact Michelle Remizowski at (306) 659-7610.

Student responses from...

- ◆ Saskatchewan Tell-Them-From-Me Survey,
- ◆ Saskatchewan Alliance for Youth and Community Well-Being Youth Health Survey,
- ◆ Holy Cross Survey



...tell us there is a **need** for more opportunities for students to be **better informed** and **feel empowered** to make **positive choices concerning their wellness**.

The goal of the conference is to:

- ◆ **Respond** to the needs identified through the surveys,
- ◆ **Promote life-wellness**,
- ◆ Provide students with **information & simple tools** that will **inspire** them to seek and maintain a **balanced, successful and fulfilling lifestyle** of **wellness** and **well-being**.



SRC News

The SRC is planning some events for the month of May based around the virtues for the month of creativity and generosity.

Please participate and show your school spirit!

May 11 Hat Day Half Day - Wear your favorite hat for half a day

May 16 Candy bag sales and music in the cafeteria

May 30 Socks and Sandals Day

Student Services

Grade 12's - Exciting opportunities from St. Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan

1. Scholarship opportunities for those of you coming to the U of S. Over \$88,000 additional scholarships and bursaries are available through STM for first year students! Our application for Entering Student Scholarships and Bursaries is now open. Remember, our scholarships and bursaries are stackable on any awards you receive from the U of S. It's a good idea to check these scholarships out ahead of time to make sure that you are eligible for as many as you possibly can be. For example, entering students must take 6 STM credit units (2 classes or 1 year-long class) in their first year in order to apply for our awards. Keep this requirement in mind when you begin selecting your courses in June. Find out what you need to know by following this link:

<http://stmcollege.ca/study-here/scholarships-bursaries/entering-students/index.php>

2. Attention Artists! STM is hosting a Student Art Exhibition and Reception for talented grade 12 students in the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School division. Submit your work to your art teacher by May 17th to be considered for the gallery. Artists featured in the show will be recognized at our Gallery Reception on June 13th and will receive a gift from the college. Please see your art teacher for more information!

3. You're invited! STM's annual Open House is taking place on May 29th and 31st from 7:00-8:30 pm and we'd love to see you there. Meet other U of S students, familiarize yourself with the college with a tour, ask our academic advisors questions or sign up for an appointment, and mingle with members of the STM community. All students will also be eligible to enter for draws being made that evening! Please RSVP no later than May 23rd to Linda Huard, lhuard@stmcollege.ca, to let her know which day you'd like to attend.

For more information about the college, our programs, and our additional 230 Arts and Science course options, go to stmcollege.ca

U of S: U-START:

U-START is designed to equip new students for life at the U of S!! Learn how to pick your classes, create a timetable, pay tuition, PAWS, and so much more! These sessions are held on campus (Four Saturdays) from April 29th – June 10th. Prospective first year students report these sessions to be very helpful!!! Register online at usask.ca/ustart

Holy Cross Courtyard

The school renovation presented Holy Cross with an opportunity to create an enclosed, open air court yard between the languages and social science wings of the school. The vision is for a student and staff gathering space that includes a deck, patio and grassy area. The project centres on a student art project in the shape of a medicine wheel, out of which project the arms of a cross. After several years of development, we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel in this project. We hope to complete the pathways and landscaping this spring.

We are looking for donations of perennial plants, specifically hostas and daylilies. We can use approximately 20 of each plant.

If you can help, either by splitting plants from your garden (slug-free, please) or by purchasing a plant or two, please contact Norman Lipinski at Holy Cross (nlipinski@gscs.ca)



After Grad 2017

After Grad 2017 is planned for June 29th, 2017 immediately following the Graduation Banquet & Dance until 5:00 a.m. Friday, June 30th. The parent committee will be holding a final information night on Monday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the Holy Cross Library.

After Grad information packages and contracts will be available to students on the Graduation list the week of May 22nd.

Tickets are \$90 per person and will be sold on the following dates in the commons area - May 29, 30 & 31 as well as June 2, 5, 6, 8, 12 and 13. Students must purchase their tickets on one of these dates.

Holy Cross Catholic School Community Council

The final meeting for the 2016-2017 school year of the Holy Cross Catholic School Community Council will be held on Wednesday, June 7th at 7:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.

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

After School Youth Study Group

Free tutoring and help is available with school work, projects, essays, research, assignments, etc., Wednesday's from 3:30-5:30 pm in room 334.

University students working as volunteers for the Open Door Society come every week to support your academics on a 1:1 basis. Hope to see you every week. Everyone is welcome to join. You do not need to stay for the full two hours. You can leave whenever you've received the help needed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Classen, Mrs. Musey Johnson or Miss Thalheimer.



International Student Program

The International Student Program is in need of homestay families for September 2017 as well as those who may be available to offer temporary respite for this second term up until June 30th 2017. We are currently looking for families in all of the catchment areas (especially the BJM area) and Jodi, our homestay coordinator, would be happy to meet with you to answer any questions you may have.

Hosting an International Student is an exciting, rewarding and enriching experience. The homestay experience is an integral part of the program because of the sharing of culture, family and language. **Host families are reimbursed \$750.00 a month.**

Please consider being part of our wonderful program and opening your home to an International Student. If you are unable to host, then please consider speaking to a relative, friend, or neighbor about our program.

Please contact **Jodi Swaby**, at **306-667-3825 Ext 2082**, or email to gscs@canadahomestaynetwork.ca for more information.

Next Newsletter

June 2, 2017

Dear GSCS parents/guardians, staff and community members;

Once again, I write to you with significant news.

On April 28, the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association (SCSBA) announced that an appeal of the recent decision in the Theodore court case will be filed on behalf of Christ the Teacher School Division. The decision to appeal has been unanimously endorsed by all eight Catholic school boards in the province.

“The legal team representing Christ the Teacher School Division in this case has carefully reviewed the trial judge’s lengthy decision, and we believe that there are several strong grounds for appeal,” said SCSBA spokesperson Tom Fortosky.

On May 1, Premier Brad Wall announced the Government of Saskatchewan will protect school choice in Saskatchewan by invoking the notwithstanding clause of *The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

In a news release, Premier Wall said. “We wanted to announce this now to provide clarity and provide parents with the assurance that they will be able to continue to choose the kind of school they want their children to attend.”

The government’s decision does not lessen the need for an appeal. A successful appeal would overturn the decision.

This is very good news for you as parents as it removes the uncertainty some of you were feeling after the April 20 ruling in the Theodore case. Know that things will continue as usual within our division for the foreseeable future. We will continue to provide the highest quality Catholic education in partnership with our families, church and community for anyone who chooses that for their children. We are proud of the education our Catholic schools provide, and we believe Catholic education matters!

I remind you to let your elected officials (the Minister of Education Don Morgan, Premier Brad Wall, and Leader of the NDP Trent Wotherspoon) know you endorse the government's actions to support parental choice in education and encourage them to also appeal the ruling.

You can email a prepared letter at http://www.catholicedspirit.ca/?page_id=30

[Read the Government of Saskatchewan’s news release](#)
[Read the SCSBA news release announcing the appeal.](#)

Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

In Christ, Diane
Boyko
Chair, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools’ Board of Education