



# Holy Cross Catholic Elementary School

## Home of the Cubs!

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# October 2017



Dear Parents, Guardians and Students;

During the month of October, our Catholic Schools will be celebrating the virtue of FAITH. Catholic schools have the unique educational purpose of presenting a Catholic world-view to our students. That means that in all we do, we share our faith, looking at the world through a Catholic Church lens.

Our faith also brings us together for we share a common belief in God and in the gospel of Christ. We are rooted in the Catholic faith and as a community, express our identity through living out gospel values. Our faith must be manifest in three interconnected directions: spiritual growth, community building, and outreach. As a caring school community, we encourage our students to make decisions that integrate faith with life. In your conversations with your child, you can refer to the teachings of Jesus. Take time to pray with your children for prayer brings us closer to God.

As a Leader in Me School, this month we are also focused on Habit #1 – Be Proactive. When one is proactive, you choose appropriate words and actions; you are in charge of your mood and attitude; and you do the right thing even when no one is looking. This is a great way for all of us to live! Thank you for being the example your child sees (even if you think they aren't looking).

Yours in Christ,

Ms. S. Van Druenen, Principal

### SCHOOL DAY

**The School Day at Holy Cross begins at 8:50 a.m. and dismissal is at 3:05 p.m.. We cannot stress enough, the importance of students being at school regularly and on time. Please ensure your child is at school prior to 8:50 a.m. Supervision begins at 8:35 a.m. each day. If your child is going to be absent or late, please call the school in advance. The phone number is (705) 586-3686. This will assist with our Safe Arrivals Program to ensure student safety.**



*Are you interested in Parent Council at Holy Cross?*

**Parent Council** will have the first meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.. This is a great way to get involved with your child's school. All are welcome! Please be sure to complete and return the School Council Nomination Form (purple) if you are interested in an elected position.

## International Students Visit a Success!

From September 24<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 16 students and their teachers from Hangzhou Foreign Language Experimental School, in Hangzhou China were at Holy Cross! Several of our Cub families hosted the children, and participated in many cultural and educational activities all week. While the Chinese students learned English and all about Canada, our students had the wonderful opportunity to learn about Chinese culture, education and make life-long friendships. Thank you very much to all of the families that hosted one of the students!! Check out our Facebook and Twitter feeds for pictures and videos!!

## Hallowe'en

Students are invited to come to school in costume on October 31<sup>st</sup>. For safety reasons, both at school and on the bus, **NO MASKS OR ACCESSORIES** will be permitted. Students must also bring a change of clothes. All students will be expected to change into regular clothes prior to lunch. Teachers will send home information regarding any individual class celebrations. Again, **NO FOOD TREATS** will be permitted. If you would like to send non-food treats, you can be creative – pencils, erasers, play-doh, etc.



**Cross Country Running Club:** In September our team of over 70 students ran at Laurentian Conservation Area in the first meet of the season. Overall, our school placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the city! Way to go CUBS! Best of luck on October 19<sup>th</sup>, when the Cubs will be back at it, competing at Adanac.

A Message from St. Patrick's Parish:  
**PARENTS and STUDENTS**  
**Symbolon: The Catholic faith explained**  
In 10 sessions, one a month, ~30 minutes each  
Free, informative, no sign up, free babysitting  
**St. Patrick's Church, 39 Walford Road**  
Lower Hall  
**Sunday October 22 - 11:15 am sharp**  
**#2 – Divine Revelation (33 minutes)**  
Jesus, Sacred Scripture & Tradition, Magisterium  
Details at: [stpatrickchurchsudbury.com](http://stpatrickchurchsudbury.com)

### Coffee Fundraiser

Forms will be coming home for our newest fundraiser, through Alliance Coffee and Water, to order K-Cups. For each box sold, the profits will go to the school.

Thank you in advance for your support!

### ONLINE BANKING

If you have not already registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page at <http://sudburycatholicschools.schoolcashonline.com>

And select the "Get Started Today" option. It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

### Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported our Book Fair! We raised over \$4000 in books for our school!

Also, it wouldn't be possible without our dedicated volunteers, as well as our Book Fair Chairperson, Poala Stefanuto, for making it happen!!

## Student Safety at Holy Cross

### HEALTH CONCERNS

We have students with severe allergies and food sensitivities. Holy Cross is a “Nut Controlled” environment. **Please refrain from sending food items to school that contain nuts. Please also refrain from sending “food treats” to school.** More information on this can be found in the Student Handbook.

Hallowe’en can be a challenging time for students with food allergies. Please remember not to send food treats to school!

**PLEASE**



**NO PEANUTS  
OR  
NUT PRODUCTS**

**IF YOUR CHILD HAS A NEW OR CHANGED MEDICAL CONDITION – It is important that you contact the school (phone or agenda) to request forms that need to be completed.**

**ALL medication must be in the original container with the prescription label attached and the appropriate forms completed.**

### DROP OFF AND PICK UP



If you are dropping your child off in the morning, please drive to the back of the St. Benedict parking lot and let your child off at the path. A teacher is on duty at the yellow posts (located at the far end of St. Benedict parking lot) on the Holy Cross property to greet your child and direct them to the playground.

If you are picking your child up at the end of the day, and this is a change from the regular routine, please send a note to the teacher, advising of this change. At 3:05 p.m., a teacher will escort your child to the yellow posts. If you are picking your child up before the end of the day, please come to the main office where you will be required to sign your child out of the school.

Children will not be allowed to leave with anyone other than a parent unless the school has been notified by a phone call or a note. Please provide us as much notice as possible as this limits the disruption of students’ learning. Verbal notice from the student will not be accepted. In the absence of a note or telephone call, your child will be sent home as usual.

To ensure student safety and minimize disruptions at dismissal time, please ensure you call the school **before 2:00 pm** to notify us of student pick up! Thank you for your support!



## **October is Attendance Awareness Month!**

Build the habit of good attendance early! Did you know:

- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Absenteeism is a stronger predictor of drop-out rates than suspensions or test scores.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two every few weeks.
- Arriving late to school is a disruption to the learning in class, and valuable skills are missed
- Complaints of stomach-ache or headaches can be a sign of anxiety or avoidance, and need to be shared with the school.

## School Communication



Communication between the school and home is important for both student safety and student success. There are several ways to get information from the school, and to share information with the school.



### **REMIND APP**

We will continue to relay information to parents using the “**REMIND**” app. You will be able to use this app to receive messages on your cell phone or your email. It is a great way to receive updates and notifications from the school. We will continue to send the monthly newsletters and calendar via the Remind app. You can subscribe in two ways:

#### Via text:

Enter this number: (705) 230-3040

Text this message: @mrspoli

#### Via email:

Email: [mrspoli@mail.remind.com](mailto:mrspoli@mail.remind.com)

You can leave the subject line and message space blank

After you have sent this text or email, you will be invited to join our Holy Cross group. We ask that when you are prompted, to please send your name so that we know who has subscribed. Please also include your child(ren)'s name(s) so that we are sure to know which families are on our list. We will not be able to see your contact information, nor will any other subscribers.

### **SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Please visit our school website at [www.holycross.sudburycatholicschools.ca](http://www.holycross.sudburycatholicschools.ca), where you will find the monthly calendar and newsletter, as well as news stories and forms. All newsletters will be posted electronically on our school website, as well as on Facebook and our Remind App.

### **FACEBOOK**

Please check our Facebook page regularly, and remember to ‘like’ and ‘follow’ us!

<https://www.facebook.com/holycrosscatholicschoolsudburyontario/>

### **STUDENT HANDBOOK**

The safety and well-being of students and staff are priorities at Holy Cross. For this reason, we have outlined the routines and rules in the Student Handbook. For students in Grades 1-6, this is found in the agenda. All Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) students have receive a copy of this handbook from their teacher.

### **AGENDA**

Communication is imperative in positive relationships. This is an effective tool for parents and teachers to maintain open communication, as well as teaching organizational skills to students. Please read and sign the agenda daily.