



October 2011

A Word from the Principal

We are continuing to work on fostering a peaceful school yard for all students. All staff are reminding Holy Cross students of the importance of practising their Gospel values when dealing with each other. We have clear expectations of 'no body contact' and 'hands off' for all students, i.e. helping hands only. All students are strongly encouraged to seek help from adults on the yard rather than taking matters into their own hands.

All parents are reminded to keep the lines of communication open with your child's teacher. Clear, consistent communication between home and school is the key to a successful learning partnership.

Holy Cross received great news with the announcement of our EQAO results. As you can see in the following charts, Holy Cross achieved outstanding results. We exceeded the provincial and board averages in all areas. We are very proud of our achievement and we want to congratulate our students, families and teachers for their fantastic work.

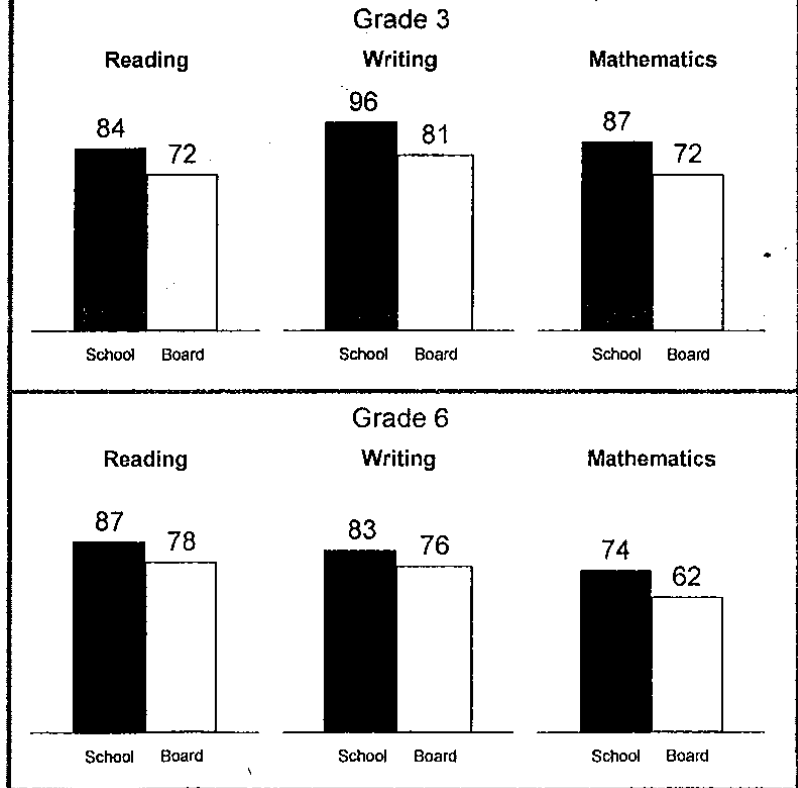
Best wishes for a safe, family centered and Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. C. Empey,
Principal

shalom
Acting justly...
Living peacefully...
Celebrating joyfully!

PERCENTAGE OF ALL STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE THE PROVINCIAL STANDARD (LEVELS 3 AND 4), 2010-2011



Fun Fair 2011



Thank you all for making our Fun Fair such a memorable night for our students. What an incredible group of people, working away with smiles on their faces. Thank you to Debbie Allingham and her team of volunteers!

Important Dates this month:

- > 10th—Thanksgiving
- > 16th—Candidate Sacrament Preparation begins
- > 25th—50th Anniversary Mass

Casual Day

Each Friday, the staff of Holy Cross have the opportunity to "dress down". To do so, they must make a financial contribution to our **casual day** fund. The money raised is then donated to charity. Last year, almost \$1200 was raised by staff.

Milk, Pizza & Breakfast Program

Our **milk and pizza** program began the week of September 26th. If you can spare a few hours a month to assist with these Parent Council run programs, please contact Marci Hudson (milk) at 258-3267 and Sara Maloney (pizza) at 258-4525.

We are still looking for one more parent who would be interested in sharing the role of program coordinator for our **Breakfast Club**. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Empey at the school. This program can only be run if people are willing to assist.

New School Council

Elections were held at the October 3rd School Council meeting. Congratulations to:

Trina Glofcheskie—Chair,
Jennifer Mitchell—Treasurer and
Kathryn Ferguson—Secretary.

We look forward to working closely with our new council.



Parental Reminders

Peanut-Safe Policy

This is a reminder that Holy Cross School is a **peanut-safe environment**. Please do not pack peanuts or peanut products (including products with traces of nuts). We sincerely appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

No Scents Makes Sense

This is a reminder that Holy Cross School is trying to maintain a **scent-free environment**. All staff, students and visitors are requested to please refrain from wearing scented products.



Medical Information

A reminder to parents to inform the office of all your child's medical conditions or medications, whether taken at home or school. Should your child require hospitalization during the school day, we provide the hospital with a form stating any known conditions, medications or allergies—especially drug allergies.

Also, **all medications** to be used at school, prescription and non-prescription, **must** be accompanied by a **physician's signature** on forms.

If your child requires an EpiPen, the expectation of the School Board is, **"one is to be kept on the child's person"**.

Should your child require a temporary antibiotic, we ask that you either (1) schedule doses outside of school hours, or (2) come to the school with the antibiotic and administer the medication to your child.



Chickenpox is extremely contagious, spread through coughs and sneezes. Giving two doses of chickenpox vaccine will improve your child's immune response to chickenpox. The vaccine is safe and effective. Most children have no side effects. It is recommended that children at 15 months of age receive their first dose of vaccine. The second dose is offered between 4 to 6 years. However if your child is between 1-11 years of age and has only received one dose of chickenpox vaccine a second dose of chickenpox vaccine is recommended and can be received free of charge as a catch up dose to provide optimal protection . It is important that you have your child's immunization record updated each time a vaccine is received. For more information go to: Ontario.ca/vaccines or www.healthunit.org

Halloween candy is on its' way. Are you ready? Here is a fact sheet on how to manage those big bags of candy that your kids collect on their trek around the neighbourhood. It is also important to balance these treats with the other foods your kids need to grow, learn and feel good.
<http://www.healthunit.org/school/resources/2070n%20Halloween%20Candy%202007.pdf>

- Please continue to **call the school** when your child is going to be **absent or late**. Phoning the school ahead of time saves us valuable secretarial time.
- If your child is **ill**, the best place to be is at home. The school does not have accommodations for students who are too ill to be in class, and they should not stay at school and spread germs!
- During school hours, all **visitors must** report to the office.
- **Toys and electronic devices**, such as cell phones, walkmans, mp3 players, etc., are not allowed at school. These items can get lost, broken, traded (and unfortunately even) stolen at school. More often than not, toys lead to tears and anxiety.
- The **lost and found** items are already piling up. Please remind your child(ren) to check these articles regularly and please **label all belongings**. Unclaimed and unlabeled items will be **donated to charity at the end of each month**.
- Please continue to check for, treat and inform us if head **lice** is found on your child.
- If you plan on **picking up your child(ren)** from school, please write a note in each child's agenda, or send a note with them to give to their teacher.
- If your child(ren) is to be **picked up by someone other than the parent/guardian**, we **must** receive a note or a phone call.
- If you chose to **pickup your child(ren) and have not sent a note**, please call the school **before 2:30 p.m.**
- When **picking up your child(ren) at dismissal** time, you are to wait outside the front entrance for your child(ren).
- **If we do not receive a note, and have not received a phone call, your child(ren) will be sent home/daycare as per their usual schedule.**

Ontario Early Years Centre Leeds & Grenville

The **Ontario Early Years Centre Leeds & Grenville** October programming is now available. Please visit the following hyperlink to access the programming calendars for each location (Brockville, Kemptville, Prescott, Gananoque, Elgin, Lyndhurst, Cardinal, Athens, Mallorytown):
http://www.uclg.ca/en/services/ChildrensServices_OEYC_Programming.asp

In addition to Play & Learn programs, the Ontario Early Years Centre also offers a variety of both early learning programs and parenting workshops. For more information about these programs or to register please call us at **1-866-433-8933 x 2374**.