

August-September 2009

Message From Administration

Greetings to all in the Holy Cross community and welcome to the 2009-10 school year. We are enthusiastically preparing for the start of the school year which, as a reminder is **Thursday, August 27**. Elementary students are asked to meet in the playground/tarmac area; junior high students are asked to gather on the tarmac adjacent to the double doors that lead directly into the large gym (teachers will be outside to assist). All students are asked to arrive by **8:20am**.

A new means of welcoming students and parents will take place this year. Elementary students and parents will enter the small gym where we will begin with a prayer, an introduction of teaching staff and some words of welcome. Students will then be called forward by grade and exit the gym where they will be taken to their respective homerooms. Parents will exit the school once their child begins so that the school day may begin. Junior high students and parents will follow a similar format in the large gym.

There are many exciting activities planned this year and we have a staff of talented teachers who bring a wealth of experience and some new dynamics to the school. We also have a tremendous group of support personnel who help students attend to their learning and who help manage an energetic learning environment. Several teachers have moved on to other schools, or are on a one-year leave to support their families or continue their path in learning.

Teaching Staff

Kindergarten-Mrs. L. Vindevoghel
Kindergarten-Ms. A. McNeil
Grade 1-Ms. K. Barnowsky
Grade 1-Miss J. Dang
Grade 2-Ms. A. Robertson
Grade 2-Ms. R. Roxas
Grade 3 –Ms. S. Kenney
Grade 4-Miss D. Smyth
Grade 5/6-Mrs. J. Procter

Grade 6-Mrs. S. Blais
Grade 7-Ms. M. Borromeo
Grade 7-Mrs. R. Russell
Grade 7-Mr. F. Tymchuk
Grade 8-Ms. B. Boechler
Grade 8- Mr. J. Antenucci
Grade 8-Ms. E. Tomaszewski
Grade 9-Mr. B. Britten
Grade 9-Mrs. S. Gerritsen
Grade 9-Mr. R. Bothwell
ESL-Mrs. A. Orizzonte, Ms. E. Pashniak
Learning Support/AISI-Mr. R. Paquette;
Mr. D. Tetrault
Counselor-Mrs. S. Hudson
Mr. D. Silva-Music/Band
CTS-Mrs. V. Perl; Mr. L. Trakalo
SET (Support) Teacher-Mrs. A. Wild

Support Staff

Mrs. R. Giesbrecht-Secretary
Mrs. S. Culley-Clerk Typist
Mrs. S. Snowden-Pre-K Educator
Mrs. S. Roussy-Librarian
Mrs. M. Karius-Pre-K Assistant
Mrs. C. Langley-Teacher Assistant
Mrs. T. Teodorescu-Teacher Assistant
Mrs. J. Oakley-Teacher Assistant
Mrs. S. Martens-Teacher Assistant
Mrs. S. Sorsdahl-Teacher Assistant
Mr. G. Arok-Student Support
Ms. L. Faul-Student Support
Mr. F. Cianflone-Head Caretaker
Mr. J. Benjamin-Caretaker
Mr. L. Funfer-Caretaker
Ms. J. Wojcik-Caretaker

We look forward to meeting you throughout the year and encourage you to play an active role in your child's learning by asking about what they learned in school each day (do not accept, "Nothing!" ☺), helping with and checking their homework, signing their agenda indicating that homework is completed and was discussed, contacting teachers if you have a concern and coming to the school to see the learning that is occurring, or to volunteer your time.

Welcome Back!,
Mr. N. O'Flaherty-Principal
Mrs. A. Corah-Vice Principal

Student Safety

We will provide many opportunities throughout the year for parents to join us in the school in order to experience and celebrate the learning that is occurring. During the school day, parents are asked to not enter the school with their children without first signing in at the main office and retrieve a **yellow visitor's tag**. Parents of elementary students are asked to bid farewell to their children at the entrance doors and allow their children to learn independence in preparing themselves for class. Put simply, your child may know you and the teacher may recognize you, but there are many children who do not. You are most welcome if accompanied by a teacher, otherwise please sign-in and pick up a tag at the office. Your child's safety is our first priority.



WORLD SKILLS COMING TO CALGARY- EARLY FALL RETURN TO SCHOOL

As you know from our spring correspondence, the 2009 World Skills Competition is coming to Calgary this fall. This major event will see delegates from over 50 countries go head-to-head in competitions designed to celebrate the many talents of young trades-people from around the world, in a variety of categories. Because this competition will run from September 1 to 6, and because the District would like to make this a meaningful learning experience for as many of our students as possible, the school year will start earlier than usual. As noted previously in this newsletter, **the first day of classes will be Thursday, August 27, and it will be a full day of classes.** Please mark this date on your calendars. All of our grade 7-9 students will be travelling to the Stampede Grounds to enjoy the competition, on Thursday, September 3. We will need 12-14 parent supervisors that day, so if you will have a child in junior high or would like to attend this tremendous learning opportunity, then please consider joining us that day. We will send home forms for this on the first day of school. Thank you for your consideration.



BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ, PARENT-TEACHER MEET AND GREET & SCHOOL (PARENT) COUNCIL ELECTIONS September 17

NO CLASSES FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 FOR PARENT-TEACHER (ORAL) INTERVIEWS

The first school council meeting (AGM) will be held on Thursday, September 17, 2009 @ 6:30 p.m. in the school library. Join us for our welcome back BBQ and Meet the Teacher Night from 5:00pm-7:00pm. The following positions comprise the School Council Executive. Please contact Mr. O'Flaherty or Mrs. Corah for more information.

CHAIRPERSON

This is an elected position, with a current term on School Council of one year. This person is responsible for the overall functioning of the School Council, chairs the meetings, liaises with the Board of Trustees and represents the School Council at external functions.

Time Commitment: Monthly meetings 1-2 hrs, Other functions and preparation 1-2 hrs per month.

VICE CHAIRPERSON

This is an elected position, with a current term on School Council of one year. This person works closely with and assists the Chairperson of the School Council. He or she also fills in for the Chairperson at meetings or other functions when the Chairperson is unable to attend.

Time Commitment: 6 to 7 meetings per year, 1-2 hrs per meeting. Other functions as needed.

SECRETARY

This is an elected position, with a current term on School Council of one year. The Secretary takes written minutes of all School Council meetings and maintains school council files.

Time Commitment: 6 to 7 meetings per year, 1-2 hrs per meeting. Minutes preparation 1-2 hrs per meeting.

TREASURER

This is an elected position, with a current term on School Council of one year. The Treasurer manages all financial transactions of the Council. The Treasurer maintains the School Council's bank account.

New! VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

This volunteer Council position works with the Administration, council and class volunteers to ensure that proper parent volunteer coverage is available at all school and council organized events and activities.

MEET THE TEACHER

Getting to know the individuals who will be helping and supporting your child is an important part of the learning process. A form will be sent home during the first week of school that we ask you to complete so that the teachers can better understand how your child learns best and prepare you for these meetings.

**Thursday, September 17-
5:00pm-7:00pm (informal meet and greet; no appointment necessary)**

**Friday, September 18-
(appointments only for parents who want to present their child in a private setting). More information to follow in September on how to book an appointment.**

9:00am-11:30am & 1:00pm-2:30pm

ATHLETIC TEAMS, CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

“Going to school” is more than the learning that occurs in the classroom. While at Holy Cross, students are encouraged to pursue other interests sponsored by the school including athletic teams, patrols, environmental initiatives, band and other leadership activities. These are great ways for students to expand their learning, improve their social skills, become part of a team and contribute in a positive way to the school community. Some activities have already begun, others will begin shortly. Information about how to get involved is announced daily or students can ask any member of the staff.

**August 27-Please refer to your
child's agenda for the school's
Code of Conduct and
progressive discipline plan**

SCHOOL LOCKERS & LOCKS

We strongly encourage all Grade 5, 6 & Junior High students to purchase locks from the office as they are of better quality than most commercial locks. We are also able to change locks or replace locks for students if the lock is defective or if other students learn the child's combination. Locks will be on sale at cost beginning August 27 for \$7.00.

FROM THE OFFICE

Please call in any absences or lates to the main office @ 403-272-8732. This ensures student safety and facilitates attendance on a daily basis as staff members are required to contact parents of children who do not arrive at school without a parent phone call. It is important that you call

PLEASE!

the school. Thank you in advance for your support.

The office requests that students and parents please make arrangements in the morning (before school) in regards to students being picked up or if they are to walk home.

We also request that parents make every effort to not phone the office to leave messages for their child(ren). The office is a very busy place and messages may be misplaced. Arrangements should be made the night before or before school starts when possible.

The office staff greatly appreciates your cooperation.

SCHOOL HOURS

	Kindergarten	Elementary	JH
Am Entry Bell	8:25	8:25	8:25
Recess	As determined by the teacher	10:00-10:15	XXXXX
Lunch	As determined by the teacher	11:24	11:24
Pm Entry Bell	As determined by the teacher	12:02	12:02
Pm Dismissal	2:44	2:44	2:44



Want to help us save paper and perhaps a tree? Please provide us with your e-mail address and we will send you the monthly newsletter through cyberspace! Any inserts that can not be captured electronically will go home in hard copy.

PICTURE DAY

Thursday, October 8

**Wednesday, December 2
(Class/Group Photos and Re-takes)**



**ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER
(tear off this portion and return it to the homeroom teacher)**

Child's Name _____

Homeroom _____

Parent's Name _____

Email Address _____

