



## Holy Cross School

300 Dubuc Street, Winnipeg, MB, R2H 1E4  
Voice (204) 237-4936, Fax (204) 237-7433  
Principal email: [jtalaga@holycrossschool.mb.ca](mailto:jtalaga@holycrossschool.mb.ca)

### FEBRUARY 2012 – Newsletter

#### Important Dates to Remember:

- Feb 1 - **Read-a-Thon commences**
- Feb. 2 – **OPEN HOUSE 7:00 P.M.**
- Feb. 3 - **NO SCHOOL - STAFF IN-SERVICE**
- Feb. 3 - IA for Grade 7 is confirmed at Nelson Mc.
- Feb. 7 - **Early Dismissal 2pm**
- Feb. 7 - Staff meeting afternoon
- Feb. 10 - **COLOUR DAY**
- Feb. 13 – Pajama Day
- Feb. 14 – Valentine’s Day (Red or Pink)
- Feb. 15 – Celebrity Day
- Feb. 16 – Sports Day
- Feb. 16 - School Board Meeting 7pm
- Feb. 17 – **In-service Day for Staff - NO SCHOOL**
- Feb 20 - LOUIS RIEL DAY- **NO SCHOOL**
- Feb. 21 – **Shrove Tuesday – treat day**
- Feb. 24 - **COLOUR DAY**
- Feb. 29 - End of Read-a-Thon

**OPEN HOUSE**  
**HOLY CROSS SCHOOL**  
**FEB. 2nd, 7:00 P.M.**  
**Invite families and friends.**

### REGISTRATION PACKAGES 2012-2013

THESE ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED TO OUR STUDENTS March 19th  
PLEASE HAVE THEM FILLED OUT AND RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL BY MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>.  
Parents, if you have a balance outstanding from last year, this **MUST BE PAID** in full prior to registering for the fall program.

#### TABS FOR WHEELCHAIRS

This is a very special year for “Tabs for Wheelchairs”. In May, we will be presenting our 11<sup>th</sup> wheelchair. Our recipient this year is Tyson who is 15 years old. Please continue saving tabs and bring them in by May 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Thanks for your continued support!

### READ-A-THON

You should have already received a letter informing you about this year’s read-a-thon. The letter should have gone home on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Read-a-thon begins Wednesday, February 1st and goes to Wednesday, February 29<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully everyone has got a lot of sponsors! This year, our theme is “GET CAUGHT READING”. Our goal is to raise \$7500. If every student recruits a few sponsors, we shall have no trouble reaching our goal!

Please encourage your children to read as much as they can in the month of February and not to forget to mark down every night how many minutes they read on their “**Minutes Read**” sheet. This is important to find out the top readers at the end of the read a thon.

Half of the funds raised this year will go to the gym floor fund and the balance for new books in the library. **We never have enough books!**

An assembly will be held in April to present the prizes and awards to the students.



Every year, the Premier of Manitoba issues certificates to all Grade 2 and 3 students for reading during February, the “I Love to Read Month”.

## Scholastic book fair

The total sales were \$2,146.61. This money went to books and teacher resources for the library and classrooms.

# **BASKETBALL SEASON**

Our season has just started and our teams are off to a GREAT start.

Come out and support our teams.

Thank you to the coaches and volunteers who come out to every game and practice.

**You are appreciated!**

Thank you, parents, for coming to the games and supporting us.



***The Silver Collection at the Advent Concert was \$386.93. Thank you all for supporting the staff and students.***

## **Read a thon Kickoff**

***Thank you Mr. Brian Paul for the exciting kick-off music in the gym on January 27<sup>th</sup>. It is always a pleasure having you interact with the students and share your enthusiasm!***

### **HCS SCIENCE FAIR**

***Would you enjoy being part of a lively Science Fair Event where enthusiastic students are proudly exhibiting their hard work?***

***Are you looking for a one-time, half day volunteer opportunity, rather than a long term commitment? Then consider volunteering as an event or registration volunteer at the Holy Cross School Science Fair to be held March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012, from 8:30 to 3:00 pm.***

***You will be able to sign up for 30 minutes to an hour shift to help students to set up projects, direct visitors and monitor the event, assist in tabulating scores and perform other tasks to keep the fair moving. Please contact me at Holy Cross School if you are interested or if you have any questions. I will be sending a sign-up sheet to interested volunteers as a next step. Thank you. Dr. Anju Bajaj, Science Fair Organizer***

## **New Initiatives, Activities and Achievements in 2011-2012**

### **Partnership**

### **Overview**

**By: Dr. A. Bajaj**

The *Kids' New Horizons* partnership between the St. Boniface Hospital is designed to support health and science literacy for students and teachers in the middle years by connecting science learning in the classroom to the current research and daily work done at the St. Boniface Hospital and Research Centre. *Kids' New Horizons* program is about educating that health, science, research and medicine have meaning to each of us as individuals and as a community. We are organizing classroom "scientist-in-residence" sessions with staff from the St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre. These sessions include lab-based activities, dissections focussing on current research and disease, research presentations, scientific technology and much more, tailored on the needs of our students. Our goal is science for all: showing *all* students how the material they learn in class spans the curriculum and relates to them both as individuals and as a community.

Following our visit to St. Boniface Research Centre, our Grade 7 and 8 students worked with a scientist. Our Grade 7 students worked on "ecosystems within their body, diseases in the ecosystem, epidemics and spread of disease throughout system activities, beneficial and harmful microorganisms in the environment by investigating with bacterial swabbing and antibiotics".

Our Grade 8 students attended a half day workshop with a scientist from St. Boniface and they loved seeing the video clip of how cells and muscles work. They also enjoyed the hands-on experience with the pig hearts. Subsequent to their workshop, they explained their work to Grades 5, 6 and 7. They were able to explain heart attacks and heart failure from the whole organism to the cells of the heart, types of cells in the heart, cell specialization and current research and the future of heart therapy.

This approach appeared successful for classroom engagement and greatly influences the students in terms of their overall interest in sciences. These presentations show to the students how real science works and looks. It makes them feel that studies in science are more accessible.