

HOLY CROSS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter ---- November 2, 2009

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S SLIGHTLY DISORGANIZED DESK:

Walk-a-thon Total

RECORDS HAVE BEEN BROKEN!!! It gives me great pleasure to announce that through the hard work of students, parents, staff members, and our parish community, we have raised the highest Walk-a-thon total in school history. Our school total is \$18,372.92!!! Fantastic work Holy Cross Community!!! These funds will go towards school operating costs and because of our great success we are able to donate \$500.00 to Discovery House. Giving to those who are less fortunate than us is a vital part of our Catholic vocation. GREAT WORK!! The Walk-a-thon assembly is scheduled for November 18th at 12:30pm. All parents and family members are encouraged to attend. A special thanks is extended to Fr. George for raising \$1680.00 single handedly.



SHOPPING CARD PROGRAM

Now that the Walk-a-thon is over and we are still glowing from our success, let's turn our enthusiasm to the **Shopping Card Program**. As stated a number of times, **this program does not cost families any extra money**, but the school will benefit greatly from your support. In **October**, this program has generated **almost \$2400.00 for our school**. Of that \$2400.00, **\$840.00 is attributed to school families (35%) participating** and the remainder coming from parish support. That is a great improvement from previous months (12%), but judging from the huge success of our Walk-a-thon, this school has far greater potential if all families get on board. Please make it a priority to drop by the school office and purchase cards (cash or cheque) before you do your shopping. We have a great selection of cards on hand. Some of our most generous vendors include: **Skaha and Peoples Pharmacy at 10%, Whole Foods Market 10% and Safeway at 8% return to the school**. Updates of our progress will be sent out twice monthly. **Come on Holy Cross families; let's get this Shopping Card Program really rolling!!** If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.



PARKING LOT REMINDERS...

A reminder to all drivers that vehicles should **ONLY** enter the parking lot from the west (**Main or Bennett**) and exit east onto **Manitoba Street**. Please drop students off in the alley next to the playground gate **ONLY**. If you are parking, please walk with your children through the parking lot. **No children should be walking through the parking lot unaccompanied.** We appreciate the extreme care and caution you take within the parking lot. If you have any questions or concerns about traffic flow please see the map on our bulletin board in the foyer or speak to Mrs. d'Aoust or Mr. Brophy. Thank you.

H1N1 REMINDER...

In addition to the precautions taken at school, I urge all parents to speak to their children about infectious disease control. If your son or daughter is experiencing any flu like symptoms, please keep him or her home until the illness has passed. Your continued support in this matter is greatly appreciated.



For more updated information on H1N1 visit Interior Health website at www.interiorhealth.ca or by calling Healthlink BC, 8-1-1.

DRESS WARM FOR COLD WEATHER

Now that the temperature has dropped significantly, we ask parents to please ensure that your child(ren) is/are dressed appropriately for all weather conditions. Thank you for your continued support and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mr. J. Brophy
Holy Cross School
Principal

PHOTO DAY IS TOMORROW!!

Picture day is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 3rd.** Mtn West Studios will be taking our pictures and they have requested that none of our students wear the color green. They will be using a new 'green screen' technology that enables them to remove the background colors and replace them with a background of your choice. **Please no green shirts, green hair clips, green jewelry, no green patterns of any kind.**



HOT LUNCH ORDERS ARE DUE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

HOLY CHILDHOOD ASSEMBLY

You are invited to attend an assembly that the grade 3 and 6 classes are organizing on **Thursday, November 5th at 1:00pm**. This assembly is to welcome students to the Holy Childhood Association. The Holy Childhood Association is an organization that raises money for children all over the world.

Check out Holy Cross' Christmas tree at Cherry Lane Mall! The grade 6 class has been asked to decorate a tree to put on display starting **Sunday, November 22nd**.

Thank you,
Grade 3 and 6.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

The grade 5 class will be hosting a Remembrance Day Assembly on **Tuesday, November 10th at 10:30am**. We would like to extend an invitation to all parents to attend this special event. **School will be closed on Wednesday, November 11th**.



SCHOOL MASS (PEACE)

The grade 3/4 class has organized this months Mass on Peace. Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, November 12th at 9:15 am at St. Ann's. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT DATE CHANGE

The Christmas concert is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 9th at 7:00pm**. Dress rehearsal will be held on **Tuesday, December 8th at 9:00am**. Please make note of this important change on your long-range calendars. There will be more information sent home at a later date in regards to dress code and other particulars.

VEE'S READING PROGRAM

Players from the Penticton Vee's Junior Hockey team will be at Holy Cross School to promote their "Read to Succeed" program (gr. 4-6) on **Monday, November 9th from 11:20am until 1:00pm**. In addition to the reading program grades 4-6 will have to opportunity to play floor hockey with the players. It sounds like a fun event!!!

CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS

Parents are reminded to have your criminal record checks completed. This form enables you to volunteer for various classroom activities that require unsupervised chaperones, as well as participate in field trips. Thanks are extended to all those parents who have completed this requirement.

PURDY'S CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Our Parent Support Group has sent home Purdy's order forms for your Holiday Shopping Convenience. This is a win-win fundraiser for all. You can buy a variety of different assortments of chocolates for your friends, family and professional contacts, with many of them already beautifully gift-wrapped. ***We have set the deadline for all orders to be in for November 9th.*** This will ensure enough time for those of you who need to send your Holiday packages via Canada post. Be sure to share the order form with others who would like to take advantage of this "sweet opportunity". Extra order forms are available at the office.

SOUTH OKANAGAN EVENTS CENTER (SOEC)

In an effort to find creative and non-obtrusive ways to raise money for our school, a group of staff members and parents are working concession stands during various events at SOEC. In October, we have worked at 1 hockey game and 1 concert. Our November calendar is busy, with 3 concerts scheduled. This is a **FUN** activity that will benefit our school. If you are interested in working with us, please contact the school.



PAINTERS NEEDED

If anyone is interested in re-painting our Hopscotch lines on our playground, please contact the office. All paint and materials are provided.

CLASS FIELD TRIPS

The grade 3/4 class will participate in Project Reconnect at Ecommunity Place (Locatee Lands) We will be working to restore the natural habitat in that particular area in conjunction with the Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Alliance and the Penticton Indian Band. Well done grade 3/4, you are making a positive difference in our community!!

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011

World Youth 2011 will be held in Madrid, Spain.

Students/siblings that will be 15 years or older by August 2011 are eligible to attend WYD. There will be an information meeting & sign up at 4:00pm on Sunday, November 1st in Catholic Parishes of Penticton (CPOP) Youth Group Room at St. Ann's hall. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend this important gathering.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!?!



SHOPPING CARD PROGRAM---UPDATE

Dear Holy Cross Community:

November 17, 2009

This is a mid-month notice to keep you informed of our **WONDERFUL** progress, and an appeal to **EVEN** more families to get on board with this unique revenue-generating opportunity. Since **July 1st**, our shopping card program has generated \$ **7386.00**, with **\$1470.00** coming in thus far in November. Those are some nice numbers and as a school we are eternally grateful for all those who are participating. Still to date, the majority of the revenue generated is attributed to parish support. As a school, we only have **12-15 families** purchasing cards on a regular basis. **Our strength is in our numbers, with more participation from our school families, we will be able to generate more revenue for our school, which will in turn be used to benefit your children.** I urge you to come by the school and purchase shopping cards and support this program.

Just in time for Christmas gift giving, we are including a list of “specialty” cards from stores that are very popular during the holiday season. These are a pre-order item. You must return the form to the school by Wednesday November 25th and you will be contacted when your order has arrived. It usually takes 3-5 business days. These cards are great stocking stuffers or excellent gifts for the “hard to buy for” person on your list.

I look forward to announcing greater totals and higher participation rates in our December newsletter. Your commitment to our school and Catholic Education is most appreciated.

If you require additional information or would like to speak to me about the program, please contact me at the school.

Yours truly,

Mr. J. Brophy
Holy Cross School
Principal

REMINDERS

Picture Orders

The deadline for picture orders is Thursday, November 19th.

Picture Re-takes

The photographer will return on Tuesday, November 24th. If you would like re-takes the envelopes are available at the office. Please fill out the order, enclose payment and send it

to school with your child on retake day. All students will need to have the order with payment for retakes to be taken.

Book Fair Volunteers Needed

The Scholastic Book Fair will take place in our school library from November 30 - December 4th. Proceeds from the book fair come right back to Holy Cross School and are used to purchase new books for our library.

We are looking for parent volunteers to help out during lunchtime and after school throughout the week. Please see the attached schedule of times the book fair is open. If you can help out, please contact Jennifer Kapusty at jkapusty@shaw.ca Jennifer has generously offered to keep track of scheduling volunteers for this event.

Without volunteers we cannot have the book fair, so please come out and lend a hand.

Christmas Sale

Once again it's nearing the time for our annual Christmas Sale. Please drop off gently used items such as books, games, knick-knacks, jewelry, men's ties, etc. Please do not send cosmetics, perfume or clothing. Thank you for your anticipated support of this Holy Childhood fundraiser.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Report cards will be issued on Friday, November 27th. Parent/Teacher interviews will be on the following, Friday, December 4th. Please call or email Gail at the office to set up your appointment. If we don't hear from you, we'll assign an appointment time for you.

Primary Craft Day

The primary grades will be participating in a craft day on Tuesday, December 15th. Volunteers are needed for the morning. If you're available to help, please contact Ms. Bates or leave a message at the school office.