



Holy Cross School

1008 Jefferson Street
Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-7003
fax: 539-9082

Reverend Peter Pilon
Pastor
Mrs. Anita M. Kobilsek
Principal

February 2, 2021

Dear Parents,

Thursday, February 4, everyone needs to bring a cold lunch. We are sorry for this inconvenience, but it is the best solution for that day.

Thursday, February 18 and Friday, February 19 will be remote learning days for Preschool to Grade 8. The homeroom teachers will communicate with you or your children to inform you of how they will plan their days. Ready, Set, Grow Extended Care will be available. Please arrange your care needs in advance. Most of our staff will be receiving their second covid vaccination on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday that week. Since we are not sure how they will be affected, we are erring on the side of caution. We also have no extra substitutes in case any staff members have residual effects. Thank you for helping us with this adjustment. The practices for sports can still occur.

The drop-off/pick-up will be Wednesday, February 17 from 2:00-2:30pm for the usual remote learners.

Peace,
Mrs. Kobilsek

REPEAT - Donations for Essential Workers

We are working on a school wide project for essential workers. We are gathering packaged snacks, packaged food treats, etc. for a gift from our students and staff. We will also accept monetary donations so we can fill in with what we need. Please send your donations to the school office. Make sure envelopes are marked with "Essential Worker."

We are collecting these items this week and through February 3rd. We are in our initial stage of the planning process. So we have some details to work out. Thank you for your help!

8th Grade Fundraiser

The Class of 2021 would like to thank all of you who participated in their Athletic Day fundraiser. They raised \$163.00.

Their next non-uniform fundraiser day has been moved from February 19 to Thursday, February 25. The theme is called "Fancy Pants." The 8th Graders will have more details to come. Pay \$1.00 or more to participate.

REPEAT - Catholic Schools Week

Yes, you can be out of uniform all week February 1-5, 2021

Yes, you can wear loose fitting sweat pants

No leggings as pants

No rips or tears

Monday, February 1: Crazy Sock Day there were some good ones! Thanks!

Tuesday, February 2: Crazy Hat Day

Wednesday, February 3: Western Wednesday

Thursday, February 4: Red Day for the Holy Spirit

Wear a red shirt to remember the Holy Spirit's call for our vocation

Friday, February 5: Class Color Day

8 – Black

7- White

6 – Blue

5 – Orange

4 – Green

3 – Gray

2 – Pink

1 – Yellow

Kindergarten – Purple

Preschool – Rainbow

Teachers will match their class's colors

Yes, you can be out of uniform all week

Yes, you can wear loose fitting sweat pants

No leggings as pants

No rips or tears

REPEAT - 8th Grade Raffle

A raffle is being held this week during Catholic Schools Week from February 1st to the 5th. Tickets may be purchased from their homeroom teacher first thing in the morning. Students will be able to place their tickets on the numbered containers during the day. You can buy one ticket for \$0.25 or 5 tickets for \$1.

Students can bring money in a marked envelope for the raffle. Again, we have our covid protocol to adhere to so some procedures will be different than past years.

The 8th Graders have the raffle items in the trophy case for all to view. The items are numbered. There are cans that have a number that correlates to the raffle items. Students can place their ticket in the can of the raffle items of their choice. If you have questions, please ask the homeroom teacher.

The 8th grade class appreciates the donations that were made.

Valentine Supplies

Thank you for the many supplies that were brought in in order to make the Valentine cards for our friends in the nursing homes and assisted living locations nearby. You people are awesome.

Virtual Scholastic Book Fair

On February 4, the 2021 Virtual Book Fair will come to an end! We are hoping the 2022 HCS Book Fair can be back to normal! We really missed seeing and reading to all of the kids! Thank you to all the families who purchased books! And a huge THANKS to all the families who donated to the Teacher's eWallets. Over \$1000 was donated for them. **WOW!** The kids will have some new books to read for sure!

Jamie Beetz, Book Fair Coordinator

The 2022 Book Fair will be the last Book Fair of which Mrs. Jamie Beetz and Mrs. Jean Sheridan will be the chairpeople. We are looking for a new pair of volunteers. Please step up so you can be trained in 2022. Please let Mrs. Kobilsek or Mrs. Beetz or Mrs. Sheridan know if you are willing to help. We would greatly appreciate it.

We thank Jamie and Jean for the many years that you have chaired this fun fundraiser.

Visit our Book Fair Homepage and click "Shop Now" to get started:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/holycrossschool>

Miss DeLong - Preschool

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2160355

Mrs. Williams - Kindergarten

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2159522

Mrs. Connelly - Grade 1

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2160200

Mrs Weber - Grade 2

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2160208

Mrs. Knapp - Grade 3

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2160204

Mrs. Chapman/Mrs. Holland - Grade 4

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2160356

Mrs. Doyle - Grade 5

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2160201

Mr. Patrick - Grade 6

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2159444

Mrs. Hornung - Grade 7

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2160048

Mrs. Motter - Grade 8

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2159404

Mrs. Happ - Library (it may say 8th grade but will be K-8)

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=2160206

REPEAT - Penitential Meal

For the past thirteen years, as part of our Lenten practice, we have had a Penitential Meal. The Penitential Meal is planned for Wednesday, February 17, 2021. We ask that all students and staff participate in this meal. Students who normally eat a cold lunch are asked to join us for \$2.50 for hot lunch that day. We realize there are some food allergies so you can contact Mrs. Christman if you need to check the ingredients.

Penitential Meal: Remembering the suffering and death of our Lord and the suffering of those, in other parts of the world, who are so less fortunate than us, we will all participate in a Penitential Meal. We will partake of a meal similar to what a child in need would eat. The meal will consist of a bowl of broth with little rice or barley, a piece of bread with no butter, and usually the children would drink water (if they had it). The Holy Cross School children will be offered one white milk with no options for a second milk. Seconds will not be offered. All students and staff are asked to participate. The money that is saved from the lunch will be donated to the Holy Childhood Association.

How wonderful it is to hear the young students ask when we will do this because they look forward to it. If you have questions or comments, please contact Mrs. Kobilsek at 539-7003.

REPEAT - Spring Pictures – Friday, February 26th

We will have Spring Picture day on Friday, February 26th in the morning. You do not send money at this time. After the pictures come in, you can select the photos that you would like to purchase.

Since this picture day is on a Friday, the 3-year-olds may come in any time between 8:30am and 11:30am or 12:30-1:00pm to get their picture taken if they would like. Pictures will be in the gym balcony. Group sibling pictures are not an option any more.

Uniforms do not have to be worn. Shirts must have sleeves and cover the stomach. Words or pictures must be appropriate. Skirts must be knee length. No legging-kind of pants may be worn without a knee length skirt or knee length sweater. No shorts. No capris. No exercise clothes or sweat pants. Khakis or corduroy pants may be worn. A belt must be worn if the pants have a belt loop. Jeans may be worn. No rips or tears.

Once the pictures come back, parents are able to purchase only the pictures that they want from the actual package. All pictures not purchased must be returned. If you have any questions, please call the school office.

**REPEAT - Optional Parent Teacher Conferences for K-8
Thursday, March 4 in the Afternoon**

K-8 11:30 Dismissal on Thursday, March 4, 2021

Kindergarten through Grade 8 have optional parent/teacher conferences in the afternoon of Thursday, March 4. You can sign up through www.OptionC.com. You will have to log in as the parent and not the student. They will be held from 12:30-3:30pm with 10 minute conference times.

The conferences will be in zoom or google meet. The teachers will communicate with you on which platform they will use if you sign up.

Let us know if you have questions. 815-539-7003. It is all set up and ready for you to register.

There will be an 11:30am dismissal for Kindergarten to Grade 8. Preschool is in session in the AM and PM.

REPEAT - Preschool is in session for a Full Day on Thursday, March 4, 2021

On Thursday, March 4th, the K-8 families have optional parent/teacher conferences in the afternoon. Preschool will be in session in the morning **and** the afternoon.

REPEAT - No School Friday, March 5, 2021

There is no school for preschool to grade 8 on Friday, March 5, 2021.

REPEAT - Picture Retake Day

We are working out a solution to picture retake day. That was supposed to happen on December 3rd. We will get back to you on that. The Spring picture date has been set for Friday, February 26, 2021.

REPEAT - Holy Cross School Spirit Day

Holy Cross School Spirit Day will be every Friday. Let's keep up our much needed school spirit. This means spirit wear shirts with school pants or school skirt or jumper.

REPEAT - Box Tops for Education has a New System

Our school will continue to collect Box Tops for Education this school year. You download the Box Tops for Education app on your phone. You scan your receipt. By scanning

and choosing Holy Cross School, you are helping Holy Cross School earn cash. If you have any paper Box Tops, please send them into school.

A good rule to have is to check the boxes and bags before they go in the garbage. With the new system, the box top icon is not a coupon but an image to remind you to scan your receipt. If you see a Box Top icon, scan your receipt and choose Holy Cross School, Mendota.

Collect Your Empty Cartridges

One of our fundraisers is to collect your empty ink cartridges. We send them in and receive cash in return. Please help us.

Scrip

The Scrip order form is in the File Library in OptionC. The businesses listed are only a few of the choices. If there is something you would like that is not listed, please write it on the order form and write the amount that you want. You can always direct your questions to Lorraine Walter in the business office at 538-6151.

This is an easy fundraiser for the school and it helps reduce your tuition for next year, as well.

Coming Up:

Theme for the 2020-2021 School Year - Fruit of the Spirit. Here is the link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCU0IP5ioa8&t=16s>

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control

Zoom link for Masses - this link never changes

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9138050856?pwd=RzZtRi8xNjJtNHg4dnhNb2MzNzBEUT09>

Meeting ID: 913 805 0856

Password: 811195

We have several items ready for 2021-2022.

In the OptionC File Library optionc.com, you will find:

- Preschool registration form
- Kindergarten to Grade 8 registration form
- Ready, Set, Grow Extended Care Fees Sheet
- Learning Lambs Preschool Tuition Amounts
- Kindergarten to Grade 8 Tuition Amounts
- Spalding Scholarship Application Protocol
 - must complete this before the HCS Monsignor Wissing Scholarship Application
- FACT Financial Application - must be complete for the Spalding Scholarship - If you already have an account, you can just update how you want to pay
- Empower Illinois Application - <https://empowerillinois.org/apply/how-do-i-apply/>
- HCS Monsignor Wissing Scholarship Application - complete the Spalding Scholarship first

Wednesday, February 3 - Remote learner drop-off/pick-up 2:00-2:30pm

Thursday, February 4 - NO HOT LUNCH will be served - everyone needs to bring a cold lunch

Friday, February 12 - No School for Lincoln's Birthday

Wednesday, February 17 - Penitential Meal for lunch

Thursday, February 18 and Friday, February 19 - Remote Learning days for Prek-Grade 8

Ready, Set, Grow Extended Care will be available. Call 538-7604

Thursday, February 25 - 8th Grade Fundraiser - "Fancy Pants" non-uniform day - \$1.00 or more

More descriptors to come from Grade 8

Friday, February 26 - Spring picture day - Lifetouch does not take family pictures anymore

Thursday, March 4 - 11:30am dismissal for Kindergarten to Grade 8 for optional parent/teacher conferences from 12:30-3:30pm.

Thursday, March 4 - Preschool in session in the morning and afternoon

Friday, March 5 - No school for Preschool to Grade 8 - Extended Care is available

Friday, March 26 - 8th Grade Fundraiser - "tie-dye/neon day" - \$1.00 or more

April 2-11 - Easter Break - Happy Easter! - No school - Extended Care is available

Friday, April 30 - 8th Grade Fundraiser -

"Decade Day" K-2=70's; 3-6=60's; 7-8=80's - \$1.00 or more

Monday, May 17 - Last day for 4-year-old preschool class

Tuesday, May 18 - Last day for 3-year-old preschool class

Wednesday, May 19, Thursday, May 20, Friday, May 21 - Preschool Parent/Teacher Conferences

Monday, May 24 - Tentative Picnic in Purple Park

Tuesday, May 25 - Tentative last day - 11:30am dismissal