



Holy Cross School

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Reverend Peter Pilon
Pastor
Mrs. Anita M. Kobilek
Principal

January 28, 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you for joining us Friday night for the Art Fair, History Fair, Science Fair and Book Fair. Your kids are amazing!

Thank you to all of the faculty and staff who made this work. Thank you!!

Peace,
Mrs. Kobilek

February Lunch Menu

Attached to your optionc email this week, is the February menu. You can also find it in the File Library on the front page of www.optionc.com.

REPEAT - Lenten Friday Night Fish Fry at the Elks

Holy Cross School and the Knights of Columbus 2090 will be teaming up once again for our Friday night Fish Fries at the Mendota Elks Club. 4:00-8:30pm or until everything is cleaned up. Our school provides help and then the Knights of Columbus make a donation to our school.

Please help us by signing up and returning the sign-up sheet. We appreciate your help.

There is a sign-up sheet in www.optionc.com in the file library. Our school number is 5943.

Empower Illinois

<https://empowerillinois.org> is the website to get more information regarding the tax credit scholarship program. The application opened up January 15, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year. This website contains the explanation for applying for the scholarship as a student.

The website also contains information to be a donor. If you specify, Holy Cross School, Mendota, you will receive a 75% tax credit on next year's taxes.

Catholic Schools Week

Thanks for joining in our Catholic Schools Week activities. For our non-uniform days, please make sure there are no rips and tears, leggings as pants, sweat pants or exercise clothes.

- Monday – Celebrate our nation – non-uniform – wear a patriotic accessory and or attire
- Tuesday – Families and Students – non-uniform – Jungle Day
- Wednesday – Community – non-uniform
- Thursday – Clergy – non-uniform – wear a red shirt
- Friday – Staff – non-uniform – Holy Cross Spirit Wear – K to 5 need to take their gym shoes to the Elks to bowl

REPEAT - Grade 8 Raffle and Information

Our raffle will take place January 27-30. One ticket costs \$0.25 or you can buy 5 for \$1. The prizes will be an assortment of fun that will please all ages! Raffle tickets will be on sale during the lunch hour during the week of January 27th. All of the prizes will be in the trophy case in the main downstairs hallway.

Thank you for the many cash donations and for the many items that were donated. The 8th Grade class is very grateful!

**REPEAT - Scholastic Book Fair
Elephants, Tigers, and Books, OH MY! The 2020 Book Fair is here!**

Hours as Follows:

Wednesday, January 29th 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m

Thursday, January 30st 1:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

Friday, January 31st 8:00a.m.-9:00a.m.

The All for Books program is a great way to raise money to purchase books for our classrooms and libraries.

Our teachers at Holy Cross School are **WILD for BOOKS!** Another great way to help the teachers build and refresh their classroom libraries is to purchase a book from their wish list. The volunteers of the Book Fair have made this process very simple. We have classroom baskets filled with books the teachers have picked out. Simply grab a book out of the basket to purchase. We will deliver the book directly to the teacher/library for you. Gift certificates are also available.

Online Book Fair at <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/holycrossschool>.

Available Jan. 18th-31st.

St. Jude Run

This message is from one of our staff members, Mrs. Emily Cassidy. Please take a moment to read this message and consider making a donation to St. Jude for her "Peru to Peoria" run.

"I am part of this year's relay team for the St. Jude Peoria Run. My team and I will be running July 18 from Peru to Peoria!! Please help me reach my fundraising goal for the kids of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, who are battling cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

Thanks to generous donors:

* Families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing or food -- because all a family should worry about is helping their child live.

* Treatments invented at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20% to more than 80% since it opened more than 50 years ago.

St. Jude won't stop until no child dies from cancer, and neither will I. Will you support me by making a donation?

Here is a link you can make donations to:

https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/PeoriaRuns/PeoriaRuns?px=6465643&pg=personal&fr_id=120649

Thank you so much!!!

- Emily Cassidy

Rosati's Athletic Fundraiser

We will be participating in the Rosati's Athletic Fundraisers on a monthly basis. Rosati's will donate 20% of all food items for the day (before taxes). The class with the highest sales will earn a class pizza party. The preschool classes earned their class snack last week.

Our next fundraiser is Tuesday, February 4, 2020. Rosati's is open from 11:00am to 10:00pm. Carry out, get it delivered, or dine in. Please mention Holy Cross School when you order. Thanks for helping us out.

The preschool classes won the highest sales for November. They were treated last week during their snack time in their preschool classes. Thanks for supporting Holy Cross School!

REPEAT - Thursday, February 6, 2020 – K-8 dismiss at 11:30am

On Thursday, February 6, 2020, Kindergarten through Grade 8 will dismiss at 11:30am. There are no 11:30am buses. Preschool will be in session in the morning and the afternoon.

The Kindergarten through Grade 8 teachers have a teacher in-service.

REPEAT - HCS Fundraiser – Murder Mystery Dinner and Auction

Don't forget to register for the Holy Cross School fundraiser. It is a Murder Mystery Dinner and auction.

Please notice that the caterer is the Right Spice from Peru, IL. The ticket includes wine and beer in the price of the ticket.

We appreciate the work of the students and staff in the creations for the auction items. They are always a big hit and appreciated by our school community.

It will take place on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at the Mendota Civic Center. Doors will open at 5:00pm. The registration form was attached to last week's Tuesday Information email.

REPEAT - Parent Night Out – Free for HCS K-8

We hope your Kindergarten through Grade 8 students can join us for our Parent Night Out. The Holy Cross School Teachers and Staff will be the hosts. It will be Thursday, February 13, 2020 from 5:00-7:00pm. The registration form is in the File Library on www.optionc.com . **It is due back on February 5, 2020.** We will have hot dogs and chips. Then we will have different activities going on. We know there is the MHS Trojan Welcome beginning at 4:45pm. If 8th Grade students want to participate at HCS, fill out the form, so we know how to plan.

It is FREE to our participants. If we have more than 75 participants, Mrs. Kobilsek will get a "pie in the face." Again, it's free to the Holy Cross School families.

February 7 – Spirit Wear Day

February 7 is the first Friday of the month. Students and staff may wear a spirit wear shirt with school pants or a school skirt.

Acts of Love Food Collection

We are collecting boxes of cereal, macaroni and cheese, rice, and PopTarts for the Acts of Love Campaign for Catholic Charities and Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry. Each grade is asked to collect 5 items each month. Students can bring the items into their classrooms and give them to their teacher. The next collection is Monday, February 10. Thank you for helping our kids in our Diocese and community. If the class goals are met, the non-uniform day will be Friday, February 14, 2020. No rips or tears. No leggings as pants. No exercise clothes, sweat pants, etc.

REPEAT - 8th Grade Fundraiser - Color Day Friday, February 21, 2020

The 8th Grade fundraiser "Color Day" will be Friday, February 21, 2020. The 8th Grade class is asking for \$1.00 or more to participate on February 21. No rips or tears. No leggings, sweat pants or exercise clothes. Jeans may be worn. The following grades are asked to wear the following colors:

Class Color Day- Friday, February 21st

8- black

7-white

6-blue

5-orange

4-green

3-red
2-pink
1-yellow
K-purple
Pre-k - rainbow
Teachers will match their class's colors.

Shamrock 5K RUN/WALK

Please join us March 14, 2020 for the 4th Annual Shamrock 5K. Race start time is 10:00a.m.
Lots of race details included.

Registration forms are available at several locations:

- *Holy Cross School Office
- *Holy Cross Church Vestibule
- *Mendota City Clerk's Office
- *Sports-N-Stuff
- *Mendota YMCA
- *Illinois Valley YMCA
- *Graves-Hume Public Library
- *Forms may also be printed from Facebook at Holy Cross Church & School-Mendota

Or register online with a credit card: www.runrace.net. Minimal fee applies for online registration.

Green Day is March 13th!

If you want to purchase additional HCS Shamrock 5K T-Shirts or gear, you must order online through 4M Graphix: <https://shamrock5k20.itemorder.com/>

(If you registered for the race, you get a T-Shirt, but if you have a fan coming to watch or if you just want to support HCS, you must order online.

If you sign up in January, you are automatically entered into a drawing to receive a full refund of your race fee! We will pick one LUCKY winner February 1st.

See you on March 14th! Think Green! Wear Green!

You still have time to be a sponsor. The sponsor sheet is attached to this parent alert email.

REPEAT - Magazine Sale and Cookie Dough Sale

We have moved the Magazine Sale and Cookie Dough Sale to begin on Monday, March 16, 2020. It will run through March 27. Great American Fundraisers has been bought out. There are some things that will remain the same and some things that are different.

Some differences that I know of are: we will have collectables, there are no college vouchers, magazine orders are only online for paper copies and electronic copies, cookie dough sales will be on a paper order form, there is no Chicago Bulls game incentive.

We know that change is difficult for some. Please be patient as we navigate through our Magazine/Cookie Dough Sale.

REPEAT - Kindergarten to Grade 8 Field Trip to Morton Arboretum

We are planning a Kindergarten to Grade 8 field trip to the Morton Arboretum. We are planning on taking Mendota High School buses. Students will have to pay an entry fee. We will be going on Monday, April 20, 2020. We are limited on the number of chaperones we can take. When the permission slips come out and parents respond, we will draw names for the chaperones that will go.

We are looking for donors to cover the cost of the buses, which is around \$800.00. If you feel inspired to help us out with a bus donation please contact Mrs. Kobilsek so we know how to make further plans. This will be a pretty special day with guided tours after lunch, on specific topics for different grade levels. We will go rain or shine.

REPEAT - Collect Your Pop-Tabs

Send your pop-tabs to the Holy Cross School office. We will have a classroom competition. The classroom with the most weight of pop-tops by the end of March will win. The Huffaker family plans to attend the Pop-Tab-Palooza, at St. Jude Research Hospital in Memphis Tennessee on April 24, 2020. Let's help the families who receive the great gift of being able to stay at Ronald McDonald House of Memphis.

Box Tops for Education

Our school will continue to collect Box Tops for Education this school year. By clipping Box Tops and turning them in, you are helping Holy Cross School earn cash. If you have been saving them all summer, now is the time to turn them in.

A good rule to have is to check the boxes and bags before they go in the garbage. If you see a Box Top, clip it and send it to Holy Cross School. The expiration dates matter, so don't let them sit too long.

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.

Shoparoo

Help us with an EASY way to raise funds for Holy Cross School. It is called Shoparoo. Download the app called Shoparoo. Select Holy Cross Elementary School Mendota. Take pictures or your receipts through the app. Our school receives a check when we have a minimum of 25,000 points.

Scrip

Enclosed is the Scrip order form. 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 Loomis 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:

January 26-31 – Catholic Schools Week

January 27-30 - 8th Grade Raffle

Book Fair theme is "Jungle"

Tuesday, February 4 – Rosati's fundraiser 11:00am-10:00pm

Wednesday, February 5 – 8th Grade Cap and Gown order due to Mrs. Kobilsek

Thursday, February 6 – Preschool in session AM and PM – K-8 11:30 dismissal with no 11:30 buses

Saturday, February 8, 2020 – School Fundraiser – Murder Mystery Dinner and Auction held at the Mendota Civic Center – Doors open at 5:00pm.

Thursday, February 13 – Parent Night Out for students in Grades K-8
Thursday, February 13 – 8th Grade MHS Trojan Welcome for students attending MHS in 2020
Monday, February 17 – HCS has no school for Presidents’ Day
Wednesday, February 19 – 1:30pm First Confession for Catholic Grade 2 HCS students
Wednesday, February 19 – 2:55 dismissal with no 2:55 buses
Friday, February 21 - Class Color Day – Pay \$1.00 or more to participate – No rips or tears. No leggings as pants. No exercise clothes, sweat pants, etc.
Tuesday, February 25 – Spring Picture Day
Wednesday, February 26 – Ash Wednesday
Thursday, February 27 – 2:10pm Stations of the Cross for Grades K-4
Friday, February 28 – Penitential Meal during our Holy Cross School lunch
Thursday, March 5 – 10:00am Grades 5-8 Stations of the Cross
Thursday, March 5 – 8th Grade pictures due to Mrs. Kobilsek
Thursday March 5 – Preschool in session in AM and PM – K-8 dismissal at 11:30 – No 11:30 buses –
Optional Parent/Teacher Conferences from 12:30-3:30pm
Friday, March 6 – No School for Prek-8
Sunday, March 8 – Daylight Savings Time – Spring ahead
Tuesday, March 10 – Quarter #3 ends
Thursday, March 12 – 2:10pm Grades K-8 Stations of the Cross
Friday, March 13 – Wear Green – It’s “Green Day”
Saturday, March 14, 2020 – 4th Annual 5K Shamrock Run/Walk
Monday, March 16 – Magazine and Cookie Dough Sale Kick-off
Wednesday, March 18 – 2:55 dismissal with no 2:55 buses
Thursday, March 19 – 2:10 Grades K-4 Stations of the Cross
Saturday, March 21 – Regional Science Fair for qualifying students in DeKalb at NIU
Thursday, March 26 – 2:10 Grades 5-8 Stations of the Cross
Friday, March 27 - Sports Jersey Day - Pay \$1.00 or more to participate – No rips or tears. No leggings as pants. No exercise clothes, sweat pants, etc.
Tuesday, March 31 – First Communion banners are due to Mrs. Knapp and Mrs. Weber
Thursday, April 2 – 2:10 Grades K-8 Stations of the Cross
April 4-12, 2020 – Easter Break – Students return on Monday, April 13, 2020
Wednesday, April 15 – 5:15-6:00pm First Communion practice for Grade 2 in the church
Friday, April 17 - Future Career Day - Pay \$1.00 or more to participate - No rips or tears. No leggings as pants. No exercise clothes, sweat pants, etc.
Sunday, April 19 – 2:00pm First Communion in English
Monday, April 20 – K-8 field trip 7:45am-2:30pm
Sunday, April 26 – 2:00pm First Communion in Spanish
Friday, May 1 – 9:00am Kindergarten Graduation in the school gym - they have no class that afternoon but need to return to school on May 4, 2020
Sunday, May 3 – 5:00pm 8th Grade Graduation Banquet for 8th Graders and their Parents
7th Grade Parents help with the evening
Wednesday, May 13 – Last day for 4-year-old preschool
Thursday, May 14 – Last day for 3-year-old preschool
Friday, May 15 – Preschool conferences all day by appointment
Monday, May 18 – Preschool conferences all day by appointment
Wednesday, May 20, 2020 – 6:00pm Graduation and Mass