



## Holy Cross School

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

Reverend Peter Pilon  
Pastor  
Mrs. Anita M. Kobilsek  
Principal

October 13, 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those of you who were able to complete the school climate survey for the Office of Catholic Schools. We appreciate your time and effort. If you were not able to complete it yet, here is the link. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2WJQXX5>  
It is due by October 15, 2020.

IESA has given us the directives that we can begin to plan a shortened regular season throughout the winter and spring for the following sports. Depending on the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan, the seasons may be suspended or cancelled. At this moment, this is the information that I have for which we are planning. There will be more details to come.

- Boys' Basketball practices may begin on January 4 and games may begin on January 16, 2021.
- Girls' Volleyball practices may begin on January 11 and games may begin on January 23, 2021.
- Girls' Basketball practices may begin on March 8 and game may begin on March 20, 2021.

I will soon be working on Bowling, Scholastic Bowl and Track. With restrictions placed on schools and limits of 50 people in one space, makes our planning a challenge. Nevertheless, I wanted you to know that we all have to wait and see what happens as I continue to plan.

Peace,  
Mrs. Kobilsek

### **Halloween Costumes may be Worn on Thursday, October 29**

We celebrate Halloween because it is the eve of All Saints' Day, November 1st. We will celebrate All Saints' Day on October 29, We have an 11:30am dismissal. We welcome fun with the wearing of Halloween costumes on October 29th. Please keep the scary, gory and inappropriate costumes for your own use and not worn at school. No weapons. No face paint. Halloween costume masks may be worn as students arrive at school and then after dismissal. Halloween costume masks will not be worn during school. Have fun making your plans! If you don't want to wear a costume, you can wear jeans (no rips or tears), khaki's, knee length shorts or knee length skirt or dress and an appropriate shirt of your choice. No leggings as pants.

Students in Grades 1, 3, 4, 7 will be at the school Mass at 9:00. Teachers will use their best judgement of what needs to be left in the classroom during Mass. This is a directive from Fr. Pilon.

Things we won't be able to do on October 29th:

- Have class parties
- Have class treats

- Have trunk or treating

Things we will be able to do on October 29th:

- Wear a costume
- Have a costume parade with some other classes
- Do a class Saint study
- Have a class STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, Math) activity and design masks for the Pope image located in the school hallway
- The teachers will be working on recording and creating a virtual costume parade. After the day is over, we will be sharing it with you electronically.

### **REPEAT - Fall School Pictures**

School pictures will be taken on Friday, October 16, 2020. This will be for the 4-year-old preschoolers, Kindergarten through Eighth Grade students, and faculty and staff. Remote learners can come from 1:30-2:15pm. I ask that the remote learner families park in the front of school on Jefferson Street.

3-year old preschool students are welcome to come in that day on October 16 or wait until Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> on the retake day. 3 year olds can come in between 9:00-11:00am and 12:30-1:30pm on October 16th.

Again, all parents will be receiving an email from Lifetouch to purchase a package online. Students took home the paper order form last week.

ATTIRE for Picture Day:

Students may wear their school uniform. Students may wear nice clothes. Students may wear blue jeans. **No rips or tears. No jeggings.** Skirts must be knee length or longer. Shirts must have sleeves and stomachs must be covered. Appropriate words and pictures must be worn. No “Crocks”. No sandals. No flip-flops. No hair dye or glitter. No makeup. No shorter skirts with leggings. No leggings as pants. Non-uniform shorts must be knee length. If you have any questions in regard to certain items, please bring them in to Mrs. Kobilsek BY October 15th.

Picture retake day will be Thursday, December 3, 2020. This will be for the 3-year-old preschool students if they did not come in on October 16<sup>th</sup>, students who were absent, and for students who need a retake.

Lifetouch will not provide class pictures this year.

### **REPEAT - Illinois Department of Public Health Protocol**

The Illinois Department of Public Health exclusion guidance is the protocol we follow for symptomatic individuals. We do need to send home or deny entry if even one symptom is present. We need a release note from your doctor or healthcare provider in order to return to school. This note can be in paper form, you can take a picture of it and email it to [tthomas@holycrossmendota.com](mailto:tthomas@holycrossmendota.com) or you can fax it to Holy Cross School at 1-815-539-9082.

Next steps are guided by your doctor or health care provider and the Illinois Department of Public Health. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Thomas or Mrs. Kobilsek

### **REPEAT - Students May Wear Shorts Through October**

Students may wear shorts through the month of October.

### **REPEAT - Holy Cross School Spirit Day**

Holy Cross School Spirit Day will be every Friday. The shirts can be purchased through Sports and Stuff. Students may wear these spirit wear shirts or the Holy Cross School Warrior t-shirts and SCHOOL PANTS or SCHOOL SHORTS or SCHOOL SKIRTS or JUMPERS. We are happy to show our spirit!

***The hooded sweatshirts are not part of the regular school uniform that can be worn during class, throughout the school day.***

You can purchase from Sports-N-Stuff, the light weight and heavy weight heather grey HCS logo covering over our uniform shirt. The Sports and Stuff covering can be worn during the school day over a Holy Cross uniform shirt. Please contact Mrs. Thomas for more information.

### **REPEAT - Parent Teacher Conferences for Kindergarten to Grade 8**

There will be **Zoom** Parent Teacher Conferences or **phone call** Parent Teacher Conferences for Parents of Kindergarten to Grade 8 students in October. There will not be in-person conferences this year.

           You will sign up in the Parent Teacher portal in optionc.com. In the comments section, You must type the word “zoom” or “phone call” so the teachers know to set up the zoom ahead of time. If you need your parent log in, please call the school office at 539-7003.

The conference for which you are signing up, is with the homeroom teacher. If you would like to speak to any other of your child’s teachers, you will have to contact them separately. You can contact us in the office and we can help you. 539-7003.

### **Preschool will be in session in the morning and the afternoon on both of the days.**

Tuesday, October 27 there will be an 11:30am dismissal. Conferences will be scheduled for Tuesday, October 27 from 1:00-4:00pm. Preschool will be in session that afternoon. Thursday, October 29 there will be an 11:30am dismissal. Preschool will be in session that afternoon. K-8 Conferences will be scheduled for Thursday, October 29 from 3:00-7:00pm. There is no school on Friday, October 30 for any of the students. Ready, Set, Grow Extended Care will be available from 7:00am to 5:30pm that week, as usual. The October 27 & 29 conferences are for Grades K-8 and not preschool.

### **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 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:**

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

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

Meeting ID: 913 805 0856

Password: 811195

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Tuesday, October 27 - 11:30am dismissal for K-8 - Conferences 1:00-4:00pm. Choose zoom or phone call in advance - Preschool will be in session that afternoon.

Thursday, October 29 - 11:30am dismissal for K-8 - 3:00-7:00pm Choose zoom or phone call in advance - Preschool will be in session that afternoon.

Thursday, October 29 - Halloween costumes may be worn - see the specifics above

Friday, October 30 - No school for Preschool to Grade 8 - Extended Care is open

Thursday, December 3, 2020 - Picture retake day - also for the 3-year-old preschool students if they did not come in on October 16<sup>th</sup>, students who were absent, and for students who need a retake.