



Holy Cross School

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

Reverend Peter Pilon
Pastor
Mrs. Anita M. Kobilsek
Principal

Edited September 22, 2020

Dear Parents,

Our teachers are doing a great job of juggling many things amidst their teaching responsibilities. I am grateful! I continue to pray for them and for all of you, as we work our way through the year.

Peace,
Mrs. Kobilsek

Hot Lunch

Hot lunch begins on Monday, September 28. Please send in your money for hot lunch in advance. There are 12 lunch days in Quarter 1. $\$2.50 \times 12 = \30.00 . Quarter 2 has about 41 hot lunch days. $41 \times \$2.50 = \102.50 . You can send a check or we can run your debit card. You can send in any amount that you wish. We keep track of when hot lunch is eaten and we deduct the lunch amount from your credit. You will receive a reminder through OptionC when your credit is getting low. Student lunch is \$2.50. Milk is \$0.50. White milk will be the only option this year. No chocolate milk.

Please send in your money for hot lunch in advance.

School Masses

Our school Masses are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are sorry that you are not able to join us for those Masses in person. The Masses will continue to be live streamed via the Zoom connection Fr. Pilon has been using. It may be best to leave the sound off, but if you would like to watch, this option may make your Mass experience a better one.

Here is the link for the Zoom site:

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

Meeting ID: 913 805 0856

Password: 811195

The Sunday Masses, including the Saturday Vigil Mass will continue to be broadcast to the parking lot via the loud-speaker system. The school Masses will not be broadcast in the parking lot. The link, ID, and Password are the same for all of the Masses. If there are any questions, Fr. Pilon may be reached by email at: frppilon@holycrossmendota.com

Thursday, September 24, 2020

The Kindergarten to Grade 8 students and staff will participate in the parish World Day of Prayer event. We will be praying the luminous mysteries at 1:15pm. This is a special day of prayer for our country.

Theme for the 2020-2021 School Year

Our theme this year is the 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.

Map (Measure of Academic Progress) for Kindergarten to Grade 8

Kindergarten to Grade 8 students will be taking the MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) assessment three times a year. It will measure student growth. Please see that your child has a good breakfast all this week and next week. Please see that they eat a good breakfast. Although they take three tests, we have to spread out the tests so not everyone is using their chromebook at the same time. We ask that the students do their best. The students will be taking these beginning this week, in January and in April.

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 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

Congratulations to the Elks Patriotic Essay Contest Winners

Congratulations to the Elks Patriotic Essay Contest Winners. The 5th and 6th Graders wrote essays in the spring of 2020. The following winners were announced last week.

Local Elks winners: 1st place - Maren Atherton \$50.00; 2nd place - Nolan Hagenbuch \$50.00; 3rd place - Emily Diaz \$50.00; Congratulations!!!

District Elks winners: 1st place - Maren Atherton \$100.00; 2nd place - Nolan Hagenbuch; 3rd place - Emily Diaz; Congratulations!!! We are proud of you!!!

Students May Wear Shorts Through October

Students may wear shorts through the month of October.

We Have Paperless Tuesday Information

We have paperless Tuesday Information. I am attaching the Tuesday Information to your email in OptionC. I will also post it in the File Library in OptionC. Some of the items will be in the File Library in OptionC. If you ever have any questions, please contact us in the school office and we will help you out. 539-7003.

You will need to print out the Scrip order form from the File Library, complete it and send it back to school so Lorraine can place your order. You can find the Scrip order form in the File Library at www.optionc.com.

Please let us know how we can help you.

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.

No School the Afternoon of Thursday, October 8, Friday, October 9 and 12, 2019

There is no school on the afternoon of Thursday, October 8, Friday, October 9. The teachers have an institute Thursday afternoon and all day Friday. There is no school on October 12 for Columbus Day. Enjoy your long weekend.

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 3rd 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.

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 16th, students who were absent, and for students who need a retake.

Lifetouch will not provide class pictures this year.

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.

 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. 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.

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 and scan the 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.

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

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.