

# THE HOLY CROSS STAR

February, 2012

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Dear Families,

In our ongoing effort to help create positive peer relationships among our students, we have invited Officer Jonathon Westfield from the Champaign Police Department to speak to parents about bullying and cyber-bullying on Monday, February 6 at 7 p.m. in the gym. This would be a great opportunity for parents to learn ways to help their children as they move through adolescence with the ever-present availability of technology. Officer Westfield spoke about these topics with our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders and our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in December. Additionally, the Sullivan Little Theatre group will perform two plays in February, "The Boy Who Cried Bully" for K-4 students, and "The Bully Game Show" for 5-8 students. Also, in early March, Topper Steinmen, a highly regarded, knowledgeable, longtime counselor and educator in our community, will provide leadership training for the students in grades 5-8. All of these events tie in with the lessons presented in our daily religion classes, our monthly virtue emphasis, and our ongoing House program. If you have concerns or questions about how we handle these issues, I am happy to meet with you. Please call me to set up an appointment.

It's that time again when we look forward to all the exciting events of Catholic Schools Week. A schedule is enclosed, and we hope you will join us for as many events as your schedule allows.

With this packet, we are sending home a form for next year's registration. We need to begin planning now for next year's enrollment. Please read the note on the top

of the form dealing with parental requests. We have always taken great care in the placing of students for the next school year. Many factors are considered. Parental requests for specific teachers add to the difficulty of this task. Our goal is to place children in a balanced environment which will benefit all students.

If you know of any other families that are interested in having their children attend Holy Cross School, please have them contact our office as soon as possible, or invite them to visit us at our Open House on Feb. 1. Our most valuable form of advertising is parents spreading the word about the good things happening here at Holy Cross.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Rosemary Costello  
Principal

## Good News!

- \* Rachel Brewer (8W) was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place (private schools) in this year's Rotary Club Essay Contest. The essay topic for this competition was "Service Above Self." Congratulations, Rachel!
- \* Congratulations to Sam Watts (5P), the winner of the 2011-2012 HCS National Geographic Geography Bee competition on January 18.
- \* Our 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade students recently participated in the nationwide Quiz Bowl Challenge. Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade team of Cam Longfellow, Sam Keck and Van Gundersen placed 17<sup>th</sup> out of 61 teams. Out of the 26 teams of only 6<sup>th</sup> graders, our team placed 11<sup>th</sup>! The students will compete again in the spring with the top two teams (1 boy/1 girl). Contestants will be Cam, Sam, Van, and Kayley Schacht, Sophia Sobeski, and Jessie Ille.

## Important Financial Aid Info

- \* The FACTS financial aid applications and the John Lancaster Spalding scholarship applications for the 2012-2013 school year need to be completed and mailed **no later than February 15**. Leave the space blank where they ask for "Tuition Charged Yearly Per Student." The parish will supply that

information to the company when it is available. Please fill out and submit the forms for both the FACTS funds and the Spalding scholarship funds. It is extremely important that all current school families that want to be considered for financial aid meet the February 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. We cannot guarantee that there will be any funds available for current school families that apply after this date.

### **Notes from the Office**

\* Part of the charm of being in the heart of the city is our brick streets. But this time of year they pose a special safety challenge. The brick streets are the first to freeze when conditions are bad, so we ask that you use extreme caution when driving around the school property, and when crossing on foot.

\* The 2011 Tuition Summary Statement, which you will need when you prepare your income taxes, is enclosed in this monthly envelope. Please look for it and keep it in a safe place until you need it.

\* The Uniform Exchange Room will be closed from the beginning of March through the second week of April, due to it being used for Spring Musical costume storage.

### **PTC News**

\* Fundraising Update  
We've recently received profit checks as follows:  
UI Program Sales: \$396.45  
Box Tops for Education: \$1,711.90  
Thank you for your ongoing support of these great programs.

### **Thank You!**

\* Once again, we offer extra special THANKS to our playground helpers for

January: Mark Friedman, Denise Hood, Tara Beckett, Dorothy David, Stan Burton, Jill Vardon, Gina Clapper, Kelly Helenthal, John Caughlin, Jean Ann Hausladen, Stephanie Carver, Katie Schroeder, Jody Quiram, Lesley Schacht, Nick Ramey, Jennifer LaMontagne, Deb Feinen, Tina Brunson, and Julie Robinson. We are so very grateful that you continue to help out in this important way, even when the weather is so unpredictable, and sometimes uncomfortable!