

Holy Cross Catholic School

+ Teaching as Jesus did, since 1868 +

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September 7, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians:

A brand new school year; a fresh start for your child(ren) and for you as a parent! How can you and your child make the most of this new year? One way to focus your child's energies is to work together to set a goal. Working toward a goal energizes your child and, if the goal is a good one, creates a sense of accomplishment. Here are a few important points to remember when setting a goal with your child:

- Ask your child to think about one thing he or she would like to accomplish this year. A goal must be something your child believes in and wants. Then, write it down!
- The goal must say exactly what the child wants to accomplish.
- Describe the steps that will lead your child to achieve the goal. Using the image of a ladder can help a child think through the steps that will lead to the goal.
- Decide when your child should achieve the goal. Be sensitive to the age of your child when setting time frames—the younger the child, the shorter the timeline. You may want to consider monthly goals rather than one long-term goal for the year.
- Be sure the goal will stretch your child while at the same time being attainable.
- Settle on one or two good goals—keep them manageable.

Be sure the goal really is your child's goal. Allow your child to experience the effort and satisfaction, and sometimes even the disappointment and frustration, that accompany the process of reaching for a goal. As the year progresses, coach your child in working toward the goal. Your encouragement and counsel will serve as important support for your child. Setting realistic and attainable goals with your child teaches many important lessons, including patience and persistence. Finally, you may want to consider being an example by writing down a goal of your own and letting your child know that you too, work toward goals.

Perhaps some of the goal setting could reflect the MAP Assessment. All students in Grades K-8 will begin fall MAP testing *this week*. It is vitally important that your child gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast during MAP Assessment time. A MAP testing schedule is included in today's parent folders for your reference (white). Encourage your child to do their very best and to "MAP Their Course for Success"! Each student should set a goal to "Beat My Score" from last spring! We are most grateful to FAST for helping us to offset the cost of providing our students with some healthy snacks to help them focus on their MAP testing. We will provide each student with a snack before testing, to "Pack a Snack for MAP"!

LITURGY:

This week's school Liturgy will be held on Friday, September 9, 2011 at 8:00AM. Our Mass will be led by Mr. Johnson and the Grade 8 students. Please plan to join us if you are available!



www.gracesystem.org
Find us on Facebook!

1087 Kellogg St.
Green Bay, WI, 54303
920.499.7330

LUNCH AND PLAYGROUND DUTIES:

The Morning Nutrition (Breakfast) program began yesterday, September 6, 2011. I encourage you to give this program a try. The kids love it! Have you signed up for your lunch/playground duties? There are open slots beginning in November! Please be sure to sign-up this week, so that we can complete the calendar! **Please be advised that parents should arrive at 10:50AM for lunch/playground duties. Please note this important report time!** Please note that deposits into lunch accounts are in process; this is a work in progress that the nutrition staff hopes to complete very soon!

PICTURE DAY!

REMINDER: Picture Day is next week Wednesday, September 14, 2011! Dress code should be worn for Picture Day. Please be sure to return your picture order envelopes to choose your sitting options and to order pictures on or before Picture Day! These choice/order forms were sent home in the Parent Folders last week. Parents may choose what their child wears for their photo; however this is a normal dress code day at HCCS. If you choose to have your child photographed in an outfit other than dress code, they will then need to change into dress code after their picture is taken. Visit www.Lifetouch.com for clothing suggestions, online payment details and more. Be advised that if you do not return your order form, your child will be photographed and the photographer will choose the background, etc., as they deem appropriate. Picture Re-Take Day and Picture Day for the 4K-T/R students will be on Tuesday, October 18, 2011.

ENROLLMENT:

Our enrollment has fluctuated slightly since my letter in the Parent Packet. Our enrollment today is at 193 students in 4K through Grade 8.

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, WEBSITE AND E-MAIL CHANGES!

REMINDER: School Management System:

We will no longer be utilizing the OptionC school management system. All GRACE schools are transitioning to the use of "PowerSchool". This is where you will now access your students' grades and assignments. PowerSchool will be different from Option C, however it will continue to be a very convenient and useful tool for our school families. Information on how to access your students' PowerSchool account was enclosed in your Parent Packets last week (salmon colored letter). Please create your username and password to access the accounts. If you need assistance, please contact the school office. Thank you in advance for your patience, as we work diligently to get the new system operational.

REMINDER: New HCCS School Website (www.holycrossfamily.org):

We will also be launching a new school website, hopefully on or before September 9th. Our website will still be accessed by directing your browser to www.holycrossfamily.org. Until we are able to formally launch our new website, you will be able to access a limited amount of information through a temporary webpage. We appreciate your patience as we work as quickly as possible to bring our new website to full functionality. Please be advised that the "parent folder" system will continue and will be used to send home "hard copy" documents each Wednesday. **My weekly Parent/Guardian newsletter will be e-mailed to the googlegroup and will also be posted on the school website each Wednesday. Paper copies will NOT be sent home, unless you make that request or unless you have notified us that you do not have Internet access.** Be sure to log on to: www.holycrossfamily.org to view the weekly newsletter each Wednesday evening. **It is vitally important that you read the newsletter each week.** *Please*

note that this week's letter will only be e-mailed, as the website will not be activated until late this week.

REMINDER: E-Mail Changes:

All Faculty/Staff e-mail addresses have been changed to "gracesystem.org" e-mail addresses. Holycrossfamily.org e-mail addresses have been suspended, effective immediately. My new e-mail address is rjensen@gracesystem.org and Mrs. Lardinois, our school secretary's e-mail address is vlardinois@gracesystem.org. Use the first initial and last name @gracesystem.org for all faculty/staff team members. The only exceptions to this are: Mr. Jason Johnson: jajohnson@gracesystem.org and Sr. Carolyn Zahringer: sczahringer@gracesystem.org. All of the faculty and staff new e-mail addresses have been posted on the school website. As always, please contact me or the school office with any questions.

REMINDER: GoogleGroup:

Please also be aware that if you have submitted an e-mail address with your child's registration, your e-mail address has automatically been added to the Holy Cross "googlegroup" (an unofficial list-serve for bulk mailings to friends and families of Holy Cross Catholic School). These e-mails are distributed to Holy Cross families only and are used solely for communication that is school related to benefit our families. New families or families that submitted new e-mail addresses should have received an e-mail invitation from Googlegroups in your in-box. **YOU WILL NEED TO CLICK ON THE LINK IN THE E-MAIL INVITATION IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE SIGN-UP PROCESS.** If you have not yet received that initial e-mail with a link, have lost it, or, if you are not yet receiving the "googlegroup" messages, please contact Cathy Zehms at czehms@gracesystem.org. She will send you an invitation. **Please note that there are still 21 families who have not activated this link. Please do so as soon as possible, as very important school information is shared through this venue daily.**

MANDATORY FUNDRAISING:

Please be reminded that **Mandatory Fundraising Participation** is a requirement for HCCS families for the 2011-12 school year. Existing families received information on this program last spring. Each family **must participate in three mandatory fundraisers:**

- Sell or Purchase 10 Football Mania Tickets;
- Sell or Purchase 2 Fall Fest/Chili Cook-off reservations;
- Sell or Purchase 2 Auction Tickets.

If you do not wish to participate in these fundraisers, there is a buy-out option of \$400.00.

Football Mania Tickets: Remember, to be eligible for all 17 weeks of the NFL season, ticket stubs and payments must be returned to school by the end of the school day on September 8th-TOMORROW! Keep in mind that tickets can be sold/purchased throughout the season; however, they are only eligible to win after being activated!

Fall Fest is this Saturday, September 10th! If you have not done so, it is critically important that you return the Fall Fest sheet with payment and your response regarding attendance immediately! Please be sure to include your payment of \$30.00 for the required purchase of two tickets. Please also be CERTAIN to indicate if you are attending. Mrs. Jacques and Mrs. Nennig, who are generously coordinating this FUNdraiser, must know how many people to plan for! IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT ANY OF THE DETAILS WITH REGARD TO THE FALL FEST MANDATORY FUNDRAISING, PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT MRS. JACQUES OR MRS. NENNIG. They are generously volunteering their time to

coordinate this awesome FUNdraiser, they have NOTHING to do with the Mandatory Fundraising details. Fall Fest is a great way to connect and reconnect with other parish and school community adults! Live music, a chili cook-off contest and great food for only \$15.00 per person! This event is one of our three mandatory fundraisers. Every school family is required to purchase two tickets (unless you have chosen the buy-out option). Invite your friends, invite your family members and invite your neighbors! Please help to kick-off our new school year by supporting and attending this important AND FUN community event! **Please be certain to return the Fall Fest reservation form (orange) that was in the Parent Packet, with payment, immediately!**

ATHLETICS – NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Athletics has a new e-mail address: hcathletics@gracesystem.org
Please begin using this new e-mail address for all athletic communications, effective immediate. Please suspend use of the athletics@holycrossfamily.org e-mail address as of today. If you have any questions or wish to have your child participate in our Holy Cross Parish Athletic Program, please contact Ms. Susan Aerts, Athletic Director.

\$CRIP:

\$crip sales for the week of August 29-September 4 were: \$23,770.00; Tuition Credits earned were: \$637.18; Parish Profit was \$512.38. Please note our Parish recommends that each family purchase at least \$3,000.00 in \$crip during the calendar year. **Your \$crip purchases directly benefit your family by reducing your tuition!** There is *no limit* to the dollar amount of \$crip credit that can be applied to your tuition each year. This is a great way to reduce your tuition and to support the parish and the school! Also keep in mind that our Parish supports a significant amount of the cost to educate your child. Purchase \$crip for gas, groceries and all of your shopping needs! It costs you nothing more than you would spend normally for these items, but significantly benefits you, the Parish and the school. All it takes is a little planning on your part. Thank you for your support of the Holy Cross \$crip program!

MILK CAPS AND BOX TOPS, ETC:

Please continue to save Kemp's, Kwik Trip and Morning Glory Milk Caps, as well as Box Tops for Education, empty printer ink and toner cartridges, and Campbell's Labels for our school! Every LITTLE bit helps our school a LOT! We recently received a check from Target for \$753.91, earned by those who use their Target REDcard and credit their purchases to HCCS! Thank you!

PACKER DRESS DAY:

In honor of our Super Bowl Champion Green Bay Packer's Regular NFL Season Opener, **Thursday, September 8, 2011 will be a "Packer Dress Day"**! Students who choose to wear Packer attire may also wear non-dress code bottoms (jeans, shorts, etc.) on Packer Dress Days. If your child does not wish to wear Packer attire, they are required to wear regular dress code.

PARENT FOLDER ENCLOSURES:

There are many *very important* enclosures in your Parent Folders. Please address each of these items by reading them carefully and *returning the folders*, all necessary *documents* and *payments* to school. Remember, folders need to be returned each week, to be prepared for the following week! Please note the *required due dates on forms and paperwork*.

VIRTUS TRAINING:

Do you wish to help out at school this year? Chaperone a field trip or two? Help in your child's classroom? Work on extra-curricular projects and events with our students? If so, you must be VIRTUS trained and must complete an eApps Background Check application. All parents who wish to be trained should visit www.virtus.org to pre-register for the one time training. If you plan to complete the training and the background check, please send me an e-mail and I will send the necessary paperwork and instructions home to you. Thank you!

THANK YOU!

We are most grateful to The BayCare Foundation for donating the funds that have allowed us to purchase a new SmartBoard and projector for our 3rd Grade classroom! We are very grateful for this generous and thoughtful support to enhance instruction for our students!

CATHOLIC VIRTUE AND VALUE PROGRAM:

Peace and blessings to each of you as we begin our new school year together! While all of the virtues, works, gifts, fruits and prayers are intricately intertwined into our Catholic Faith, we will single out and focus on certain aspects, in order to enhance learning for all students, of all abilities, in all grades of our school. During the **2011-2012 School Year**, our focus will be the GRACE System's Patron Saint, "**OUR LADY OF GRACE**", our Blessed Mother, The Virgin Mary. We will complete an in depth study of "The Rosary" as our main focus.

September/October-The Rosary

Culmination: October 6, 2011 - All-School Field Trip to the Shrine of Lady of Good Help in Champion

Planned and Led by Grades **K, 7 and 8**

Service Project: **Can Tabs-Local and Trick or Treat for Troops-National**

November/December-The Joyful Mysteries

Culmination: Assembly or Event – December Date

Planned and Led by Grades **K and 6**

Service Project: **Nursing Home Outreach-Local**

January/February-Sorrowful Mysteries

Culmination: Assembly or Event – February Date

Planned and Led by Grades **2 and 3**

Service Project: **Africa - Global**

March/April-Glorious Mysteries

Culmination: Assembly or Event – April Date

Planned and Led by Grades **4 and 1**

Service Project: **Creation of HCCS Mary Garden-Local HCCS Community**

May/June-Light (Luminous) Mysteries

Culmination: Assembly or Event – Late May or Early June Date

Planned and Led by Grades **4K and 5**

Service Project: **St. Baldrick's Event-National – June 6, 2012 – 10AM**

Wishing your students and your family a bright new school year, full of many blessings!

Robin Jo Jensen

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Principal

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.”
Romans 12:12