



Welcome to the 2021-22 School Year!

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

On behalf of the teachers and staff of HCCS, welcome to a new school year. We are busy planning for a fantastic 2021-22 school year and I can't wait to have your student(s) here! I wanted to share some important information with you:

TUITION BILLS

Tuition invoices were mailed the first of July. Thank you for your prompt attention to paying your invoice. For those who wish to receive the 2% discount for paying tuition in full, the deadline is August 31, 2021.

If you have any questions about tuition payments, please contact Mrs. Shrader at kshrader@defianceholycross.org.

ORIENTATION FOR K-5 GRADE

Each teacher has created a video for their class orientation. This video will help you as a parent become oriented to the class procedures and rules. Thank you for making it a priority to view and participate in your child's class orientation. This time is very important for you to get to know your child's teacher and their expectations. All orientations will be posted on the class website by 8am August 17, 2021.

PreK 3, PreK 4 and Young 5's will not view an orientation video as they have a separate orientation date. Those dates and times have been mailed.

KINDERGARTEN SKILLS CHECK (for all incoming Kindergartners) are taking place at individually scheduled times August 18th-19th. Kindergarten families will be individually contacted by their teacher regarding their scheduled time.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Grades 1-5, Wednesday August 18th

Kindergarten and Young 5's, Monday August 23rd

PreK 4's, Wednesday August 25th

PreK 3's, Thursday August 26th

DROP OFF & PICK UP PROCEDURES

The pick up and drop off procedures will remain the same as last year. Parents may not enter the building to drop off or pick up their children. All Pick-Ups will be at the main entrance of the school at 3:20pm.

BUS RIDERS

Students riding the bus are required to wear a mask while on the bus. Please check with your school district to verify updated bus policies, pick up and drop off times and locations. Any student using Defiance City bussing has an additional form that needs to be completed. That form may be picked up at the office during summer office hours.

UNIFORMS

Young 5's – 5th grade students participate in our uniform dress code. Uniforms may be purchased from a store of your choice. Uniform jackets and shirts can be purchased locally at Custom Tees & Apparel and online at <https://wearecustomtees.com/>. Many parents have also found a good selection at COSTCO, Walmart, Old Navy, and Children's Place. There is also a uniform closet at the school. This is a place where parents can find used uniforms that other students have outgrown. The uniform closet will be set up in the entryway of the school. You can check out available uniforms during summer office hours.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

All students are required to provide a backpack and water bottle with an attached lid. All other school supplies are provided by HCCS.

- PLEASE SEE OTHER SIDE -

CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19

Please know that as we begin the school year, the number one priority continues to be keeping our students and staff healthy and safe, while providing in person learning. We ask that you please keep in mind that much can change in a very short amount of time. After consulting with the health department and other education leaders, at this time HCCS is NOT implementing a mask requirement. Students may wear a mask, if the families wish. We will continue the mitigation efforts such as frequent hand washing, cleaning, and sanitizing. If changes to this policy occur, we will keep you up to date via text messages, email and school newsletters. It is very important that we have your mobile phone number and email on file in the school office so that you can receive timely information.

SEPTEMBER 1 HCCS FAMILY RETREAT

By now, I hope you have heard that we are hosting a retreat Wednesday September 1 for students and parents. I have already heard from many families about how they are looking forward to this day! PLEASE, if you can arrange to attend this retreat with your child(ren), I HIGHLY encourage it. See the attached letter with more information and visit www.saintsinthemaking.com/dragon-slayers. (This site references first communion preparation in the retreat overview. Our retreat will be appropriate for all ages).

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Our office will be open beginning August 9 from 9am - 12pm.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS: 8am - 4pm **SCHOOL HOURS:** 8:30 am - 3:20pm. Students are considered tardy after 9:00am. We encourage you to have your child arrive at school early so that they have time to complete their morning work, visit with friends and prepare for the day.

Starting a new school year is exciting and can also come with many questions, especially with the ever changing guidelines on COVID-19. Please don't hesitate to call when you have a question or concern. The office phone is 419-784-2021 and my email is principal@defianceholycross.org. I encourage you to visit www.defianceholycross.org for school info. Enjoy the rest of your summer and see you soon!

Yours in Catholic Education,

+JMS


Mrs. Rose A. Reinhart
Principal

enclosure: September 1 Retreat Information

DRAGON SLAYER'S RETREAT SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

We have an exciting school retreat scheduled to kickoff our school year for STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND GRANDPARENTS! The retreat will take place on **Wednesday, September 1st from 9:00am-11:30am** and then conclude with Mass and lunch (optional). The retreat is titled, "DRAGON SLAYERS" and it will be led by author/speaker John Wood and his wife Kristin. John and Kristin have presented this fun presentation all over the country, and we are confident you and your child will love this experience! Dragon Slayers is currently in the running for best new Catholic Innovative idea in America!

In the second hour of the retreat, while the students are having their own session, John Wood will host a **presentation specifically for parents and grandparents**. John has spoken at hundreds of parishes and schools across the country, and his book, "Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Mission," has sold over 240,000 copies. New York Times Bestselling author Matthew Kelly has said, "I believe John is one of the great emerging Catholic voices of our time. John Wood has a passion that is contagious...make an effort to hear him speak!" This is NOT an informational meeting, this is an inspiring talk that you DON'T WANT TO MISS! We promise it will be worth your time, and John will be giving the parents/caregivers in attendance a gift bag worth over \$200, including a large, beautiful wooden crucifix! There is no cost to attend the retreat.

We hope you are able to take this day off to visit Holy Cross, celebrate Mass with your child, and BE INSPIRED! While we hope that at least one parent/caregiver can be present, we would love for both parents to attend. It would mean the world to your child. (Grandparents are welcome too!) **If at least one parent/grandparent is unable to make it that day, please let me know.**

Thanks and I look forward to seeing you on September 1st!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Rose A. Reinhart
Principal