



**How Might We Reconsider Our School's
Namesake Of "Crusaders" And Replace
It With Something That Reflects
Inclusivity?**



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

School Background



Our Origins

Sacred Heart Catholic High School was founded in 1979. Our namesake of “Crusaders” and our mascot Corky have been with us since the very beginning. St. Robert Catholic High School in Thornhill was the catalyst that began the support of catholic values in the York Region. It was built to accommodate for the growing Christian community across the region and once the student population began to thrive and expand immensely, a second school was born; that being our beloved Sacred Heart here in Newmarket. Our school is a symbol of a strong, thriving, and ever-growing community of Catholics in York Region.



Achievements and History

Sacred Heart CHS is the only Catholic High School in Newmarket as of 2022. There are 15 sports teams and 30 clubs with over 1188 students. We are considered to be a very active contributor to the community. Since 2009 to 2022, \$550,000 and counting has been raised for cancer research by Sacred Heart. Back in 2012, our school raised over \$150,000, the highest amount ever raised by any high school in Canada as of 2020.



Students of Sacred Heart come from a variety of backgrounds and life experiences, bringing a new perspective and vibrance to the community. With new programs and experiences for students such as AP and IRAP, there is something for everyone here. Our mascot, 'Corky', is known as an energetic and playful knight during sports games (pre pandemic) taking place on site. Many tens of thousands of students have passed through these doors, and by doing so, established this school as a household name in Newmarket.





SACRED HEART CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Advanced Placement
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Project Objective

The Big 3



The Violence and History



What Values are being Represented



Residential Schools and the Naming History

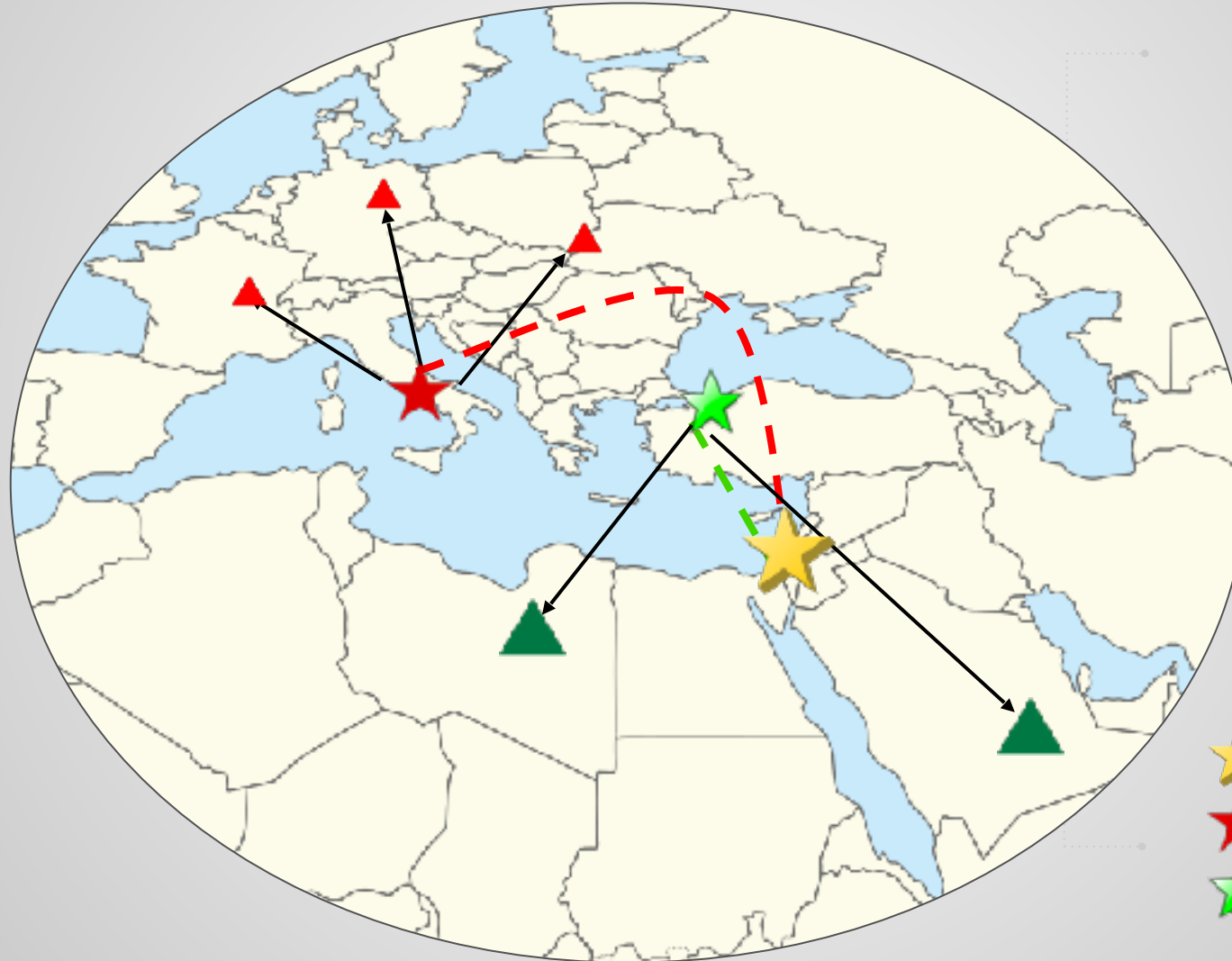
Purpose

Both Christian and Muslim powers wanted to secure control of the Holy Land (Jerusalem), a place considered sacred to both religions.

The 8 Major Crusades

Thousands of men, women and children were slaughtered in an attempt to control Jerusalem. The enemy was the Islamic State (Seljuks, Byzantines) in Constantinople, but other groups that were hit were Jews in the Rhineland, and people of various religions in Jerusalem.

History



State of the Affected Area

Jerusalem was a major trading powerhouse, and a centre for religious expression (Muslims, Jews, and Christians got along despite starting out under Muslim rule (1096-1291).

Effects

The Crusades greatly expanded the popularity and influence of Catholicism throughout Europe and the Middle East. Christians view it as a great battle for the faith, but many Muslims today view it as a bloodbath and a massacre.



A Grim Mark on Catholic History

Crusades do NOT demonstrate the Christian values that our school strives to achieve. They represent hate, violence and prejudice. Our school strives to reflect love and inclusivity, which is why “Crusaders” is not a fitting name for our school.





A long forgotten fact:

Sacred Heart was the name of multiple residential schools throughout the years, here are two.



The **First** Residential School in the Canadian North was named **Sacred Heart**, and was located in **Fort Providence NT** in **1867**.

Life was hard in the school. **One year** there was no meat, or flour, or potatoes, or butter, or grease. The residential school eventually closed in **1960**.

In **1909** a Boarding school called **Peigan**, or in other words, **Sacred Heart**, was opened. Overcrowding and lack of a steady water supply closed the school in **1961**.

1830's -1996

We want to separate our school from racism and hatred (of which crusades were a part).

228 STUDENTS
Died in those schools
(that we know)

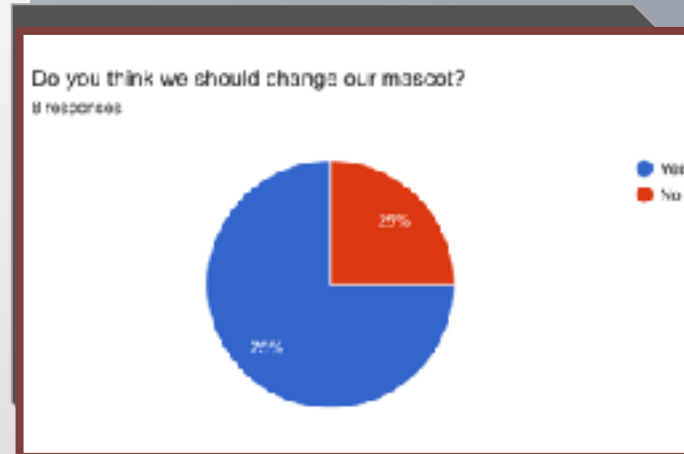
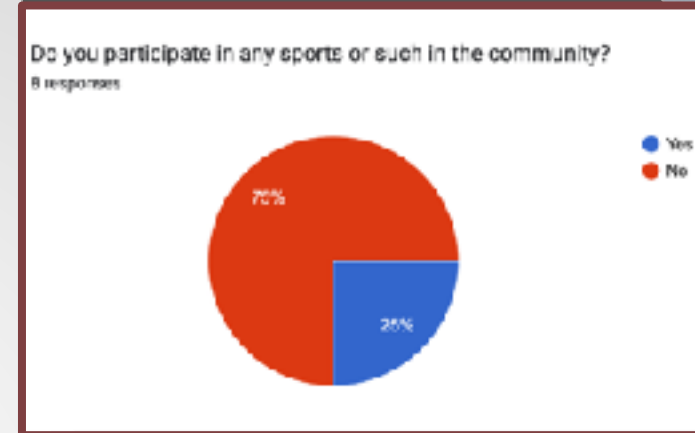
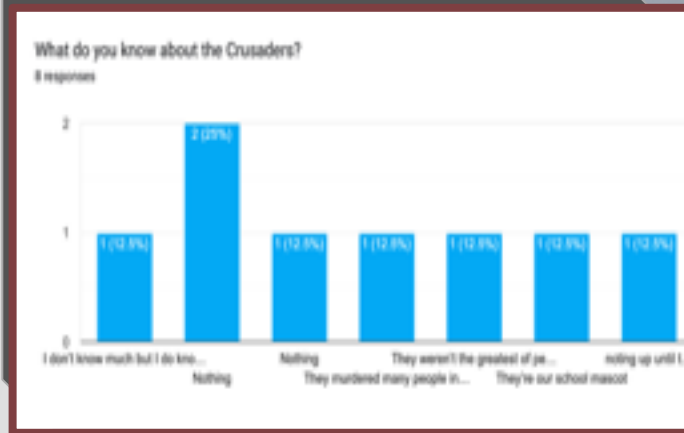


SACRED HEART CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Target Audience

Survey Results



Student Body

As seen by the results, most students have little to no background knowledge on the Crusades and where our mascot originates from. The Crusades are practically never mentioned in any history or religion classes at Sacred Heart, and judging by the survey results, it practically wasn't mentioned in elementary school or at home either. Most students have fairly neutral views on the Catholic Church in general. It is important to note that a large portion of students at Sacred Heart CHS are not catholic or fall under another religious affiliation, so this may have affected their views of this subject and provided a different perspective. From the surface, it seems as though many students view the crusades as a violent and bad action from the Catholic Church. These results show how important it is to be educated and informed about historical events, especially when it comes to a figure that infamously represents our school.





SACRED HEART CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Advanced Placement
College Preparatory

Key Message

A New Beginning

The Sacred Heart Eagles

ABOUT EAGLES

Eagles are a big representation in our culture as well as Native culture. As we learned earlier this year, an eagle feather is very important to Native Culture. They believe that Eagles are the most sacred creature because it flies the closest to the creator.

Additionally, its feathers are given to their warriors as a sign of strength. Furthermore Eagles represent resurrection which ties into our cause. We are going to take down the Crusaders nickname and rise from the fall even stronger than before.

The Sacred Heart Eagles

This namesake honours both our school's catholic roots, as well as the Indigenous cultures on which Canada is built. We can not proclaim our land acknowledgement while sporting a crusader mascot, a symbol of hate and colonization. With an eagle as our school mascot, Sacred Heart will have a symbol that everyone can get behind and feel proud of.



Summary

The key message that we are conveying with our solution is that our school's current image and namesake is fundamentally flawed and by implementing new, fresh, and inclusive ideas we can improve and grow as a school community. We need to learn about all of catholic history, even the bad, and recognize that events like the Crusades happened and we are actively attempting to heal the damage done to not only our religion, but muslim culture as well.

Our crusader moniker and logo is harmful to the catholic community as a whole and should not only be removed, but should be labeled as an opportunity to educate and resolve.





SACRED HEART CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Advanced Learning
Catholic Education

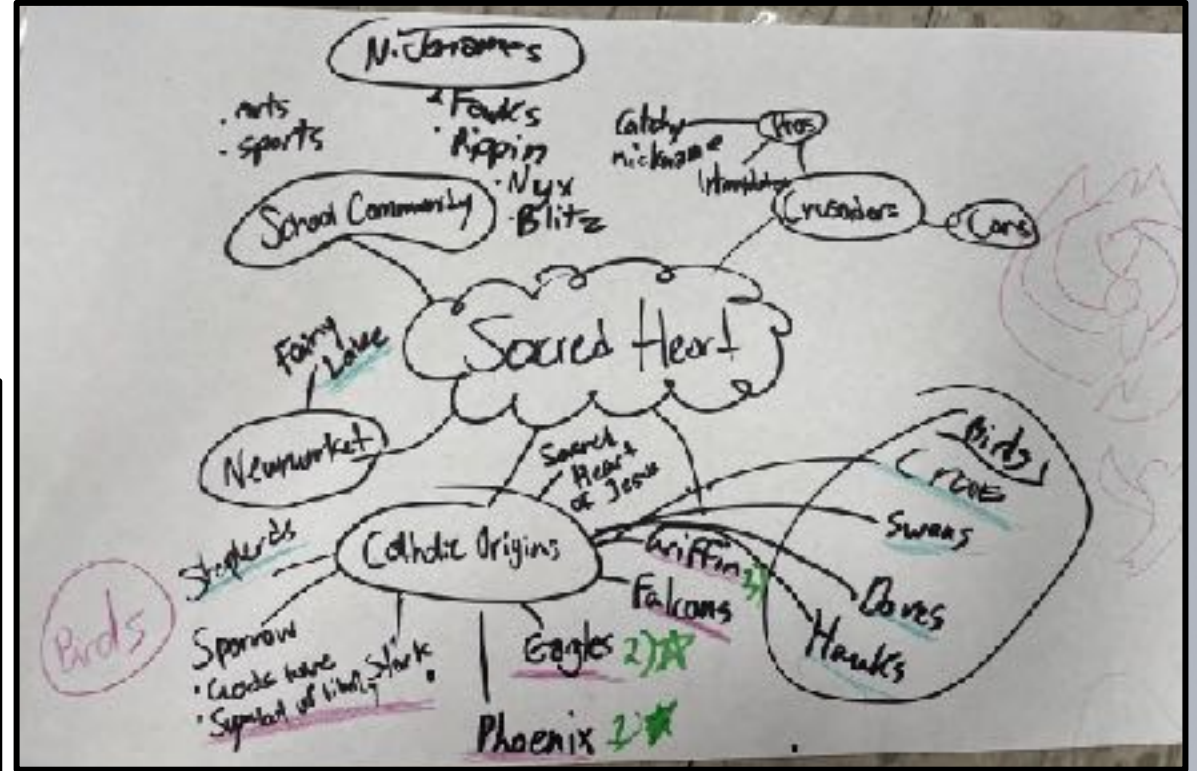
The image shows the exterior of Sacred Heart Catholic High School. The building features a prominent red brick facade with a large, light-colored cross mounted on the left side. The school's name is displayed in large, white, sans-serif capital letters across the brickwork. Below the name, there is a smaller logo and the text 'Advanced Learning Catholic Education'. The building has multiple windows, some with dark frames, and a blue double door at the entrance on the right. A white crosshair graphic is overlaid on the top right corner of the image.

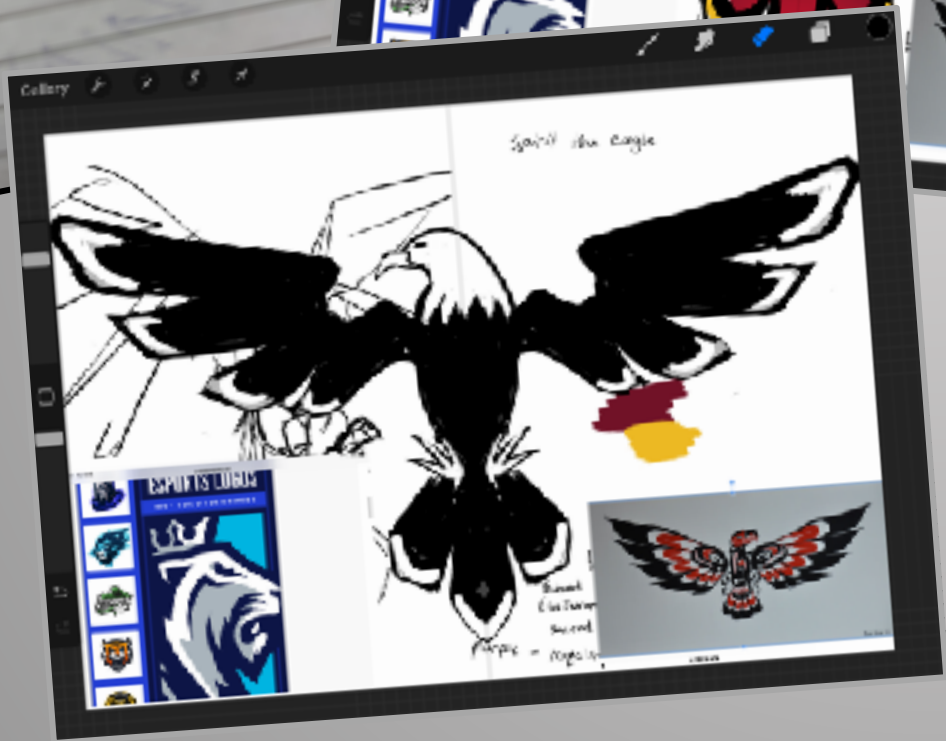
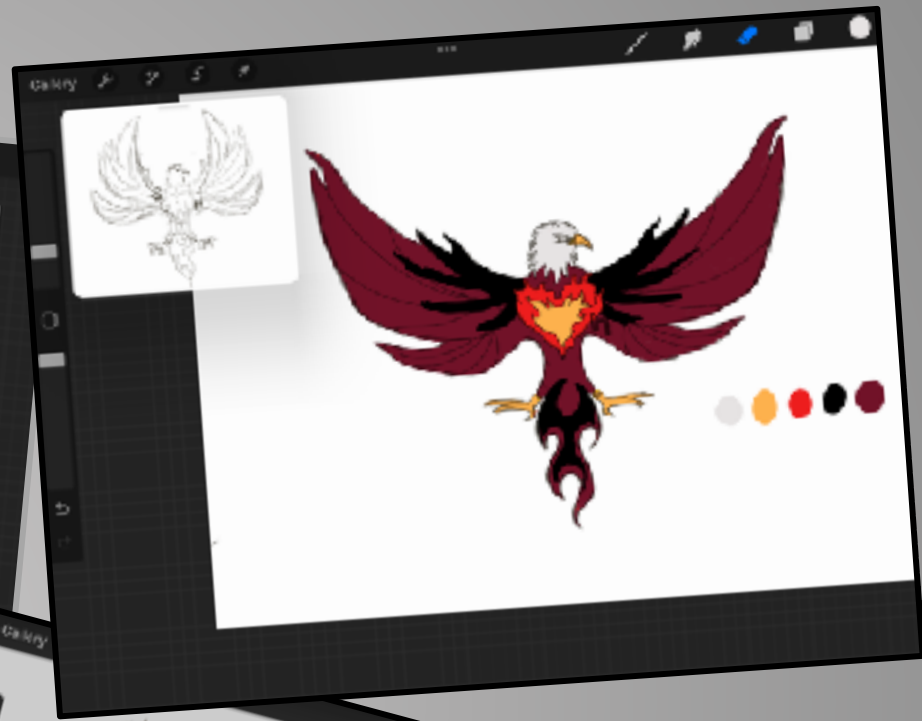
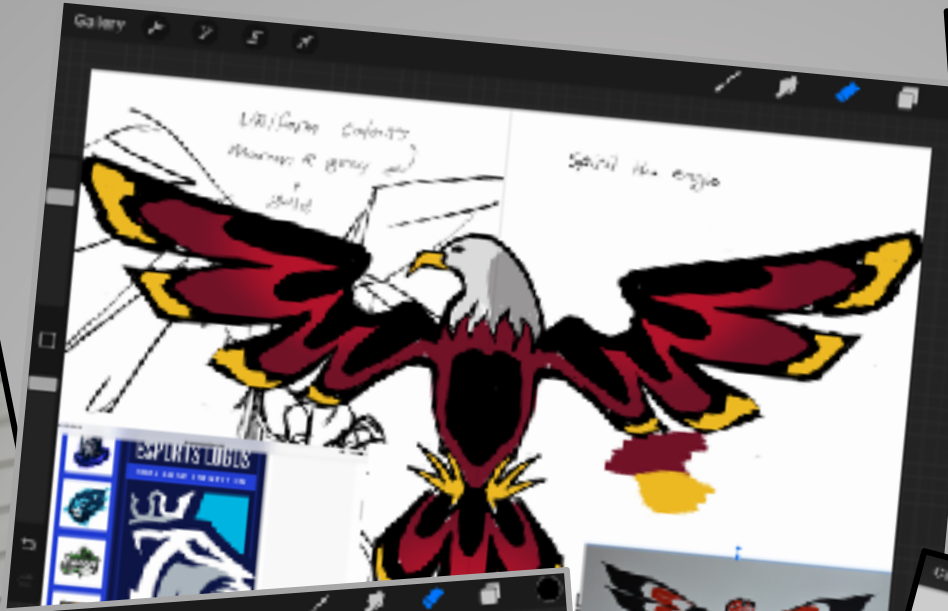
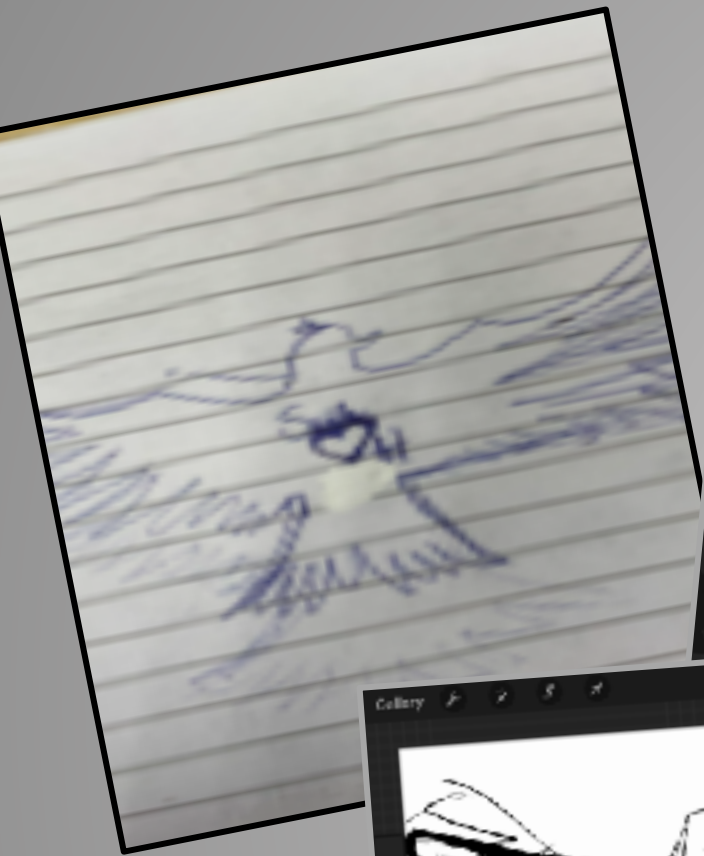
Sketches

The word 'Sketches' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, centered over the brick facade of the school building. A white crosshair graphic is overlaid on the bottom right corner of the image.

Mindmap Concepts

1. phoenixes
 2. Eagles
 3. Gryffins
- Back-up
4. Crows/
Ravens





Indigenous Inspiration From Our School Library



Our own school library already features many Indigenous artworks. A very significant part of our school history is the Sacred Canoe project, a huge art piece honouring Canada's Indigenous people. The Indigenous significance of the eagle keeps true to our school's involvement and integration with Indigenous arts and culture.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

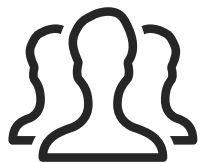


Mockups



Final Design





Help us create a new future for our school

By wiping the slate clean of the Crusaders nickname, we can make way for a nickname and mascot to lead us on new adventures!



Emma

Lead Organiser



Keira and Ella

Presentation Specialists



Joseph and Molly

Digital Scribes



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