

Father Serra Catholic School

111 Sun Row Drive, Toronto, Ontario M9P 3J3
Tel: 416-393-5391 Fax: 416-397-6095

Father Serra Times

Principal: Mr. J. Panno
Admin. Assistant: Mrs. E. Barbaro
Superintendent: Mr. P. Crawford

Vice Principal: Mrs. J. Leo-DelDuca
Clerk Typist: Mrs. E. Simone
Trustee: Mr. J. Martino

Tuesday, September 8, 2009



Ann Perron

Director of Education

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2009-2010

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Principal's Message

We welcome our families back to another school year and extend a warm welcome to students and parents who are new to Father Serra Catholic School. We look forward to various learning activities and events that will take place and we ask God's blessing for a successful year. As your new Principal, I will faithfully serve you to the best of my ability.

I have already been warmly welcomed by the staff and CSAC members along with a number of parents and I look forward to a wonderful school year.

Please welcome Mrs. Leo-DelDuca as our new Vice-Principal. She has been working very hard throughout the summer months to prepare for opening day.

Outlined in this newsletter is some important information that will promote a smooth start to the school year. Please ensure that the permission form is returned to the classroom teacher by Monday, September 14, 2009.

I'm looking forward to working with the entire Father Serra Catholic community in making this year a success as the church, parent community and school continue to work together to provide an excellent Catholic education for our children.

Please feel free to stop by the office and introduce yourself to Mrs. Leo-DelDuca or myself.

God Bless,

J. Panno



Prayer for New School Year

Loving God,

You give us this new school year
and new friends with whom to
share it.

Bless all who pray and work and
learn together.

And grant a happy year to all the
world.

We ask this through Christ the
Lord.

Amen



School Hours 2009-2010

JK/ SK School Hours:

AM Classes 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

PM Classes 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Grades 1 to 8 School Hours:

School Day Begins	9:00 a.m.
Morning Recess	10:30-10:45 a.m.
Lunch : Supervised Eating in classrooms	12:00 p.m. to 12:20 p.m.
Supervised— School Yard	12:20-1:00 p.m.
Afternoon Classes Begin	1:00 p.m.
Afternoon Recess	2:15-2:30 p.m.
School Day Ends	3:30 p.m.

Staff Changes



The majority of the staff have returned to work with your children at Father Serra with some staff taking on new assignments.

We welcome the following new staff members:

- Mrs. Leo-DelDuca and Mr.Pannozzo as our new Administrative team.

Other Changes:

- We welcome back Mrs. Pesegi from a maternity leave.
- We wish Mr.Venditti, Ms. O'Dowd, Mrs. Holzapfel, Mrs. Vecchio, Mrs. Karma, Mr. Merenda, Mr. Cianfrini, Mr. Palmino, Ms. Arbuthnot the very best for the future.

For your reference, a detailed staff list has been included in this newsletter.

School Newsletter

In an effort to keep you better informed about happenings at the school, the Father Serra Times, our school newsletter, will be published on a monthly basis.

Beginning in October, each family will receive only one newsletter. This newsletter will be distributed to the youngest child in the family. At the beginning of each month, please check your youngest child's backpack for the newsletter.

In addition to helping the environment, this change will reduce the cost of publication.



Father Serra Catholic School Dress Code

School Uniforms are important components of the safety of our children and we ask that parents ensure that their child is wearing the official school uniform before leaving for school unless it is a School Spirit Day.

More detailed information regarding the dress code can be found in the student agendas.

McCarthy's is our official Uniform Supplier. You can check on-line at www.rjmccarthy.com.

Construction Update

A great deal of work has been done throughout the summer months to prepare for the new addition.

Below is a brief summary of the work that has been completed or is in progress.

- ⇒ Eight portables have been moved to create space for the building of the new addition. Also, all portables have been refurbished.
- ⇒ Two portables have been removed from the school yard.
- ⇒ A temporary exit from the school has been created.
- ⇒ A new boiler is being installed and should be completed by early October.
- ⇒ New asphalt and sod have been put in areas where the portables were removed. A temporary fence has been installed around the new sod. This fence will remain for the month of September.

Thank you to Mr. Hennessey and Mr. Murphy, our Custodial staff, for their hard work this summer in ensuring that our school is clean and ready for our students to begin school.



Supervision

Out of concern for your children's safety, parents are reminded that supervision of the schoolyard begins at 8:45 a.m., 15 minutes before school begins, and ends at 3:45 p.m., 15 minutes after the end of the school day.

For their safety, your children should not be in the schoolyard before or after these times.

Class Assignments



A reminder that all class placements/teacher assignments are considered tentative—especially during the month of September as enrolment fluctuates. We may also need to make adjustments to some individual classrooms and these are examined on a case by case basis—for example to adhere to the class caps as outlined by the Ministry of Education and TCDSB contractual obligations. Your understanding and support in this matter, as always, is greatly appreciated.

Student Absences and Lates

Your children’s safety is our concern. Please help us with our **Safe Arrival Program** by calling the school when one of your children is going to be absent or late. There is a 24 hour message service allowing you to call at any time and leave a message on the answering machine. Please clearly state and spell your child’s name, grade or teacher and reason for absence.

416-393-5391



If a child is absent or late and we have not heard from the parent, we will attempt to contact you either at home or at work. We are very appreciative of calls ahead of time.

If you are taking your child home early, due to illness or appointments, please make sure to sign him/ her out in the student sign in/ sign out book located in the main office.

Student Telephone Use



Student telephone use will be limited to **emergency situations only**. Students will be required to make necessary arrangements prior to coming to school.

Visitor/ Volunteer Policy

Parents, visitors and volunteers are requested to come to the office and sign in upon arrival. A member of the office staff will provide each visitor with a pass which you are expected to wear while you are in the building and return it to the office when you sign out and leave.

Insurance Forms

Every child will receive an insurance form - it is the responsibility of each family to ensure that your child is adequately covered by insurance. Some families are covered through various work plans and the information sent home is optional - please return all forms directly to the insurance company. Although we do not like to think of accidents happening, they do, especially as children experiment and play with other children.



Student Medicine



RE: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE

Principals, teachers and support staff of the TCDSB are not permitted to administer any type of prescription medication during the school day, unless we have written authorization signed by you, the parent, and the **prescribing physician (doctor)**. The forms to dispense any medication must be updated on a regular basis (every September) and are available from the school principal.

Also, please be advised that staff in TCDSB schools will not dispense non-prescription medications (aspirin, Tylenol, cough syrup, etc.) to students.

Should you require additional information or have any questions about the TCDSB protocol please contact the school principal at 416-393-5391 or the Special Services Department at 416-222-8282 ext. 2358.

School Agendas

This year we have ordered school agendas for all students in Grades 1 - 8.

Not only are agendas useful and helpful organizing/ planning tools, they are an excellent means of home-school communication. At the bottom of each page there is a section entitled Parent/ Teacher Communication.

This agenda was published by Premier Agendas. Please take some time to go through the agenda with your child.

The cost of the agenda will be \$6.00.

A separate order form will be sent home.



Information Sheet and Permission Form

At the back of this newsletter is a very important form that we request you read, sign and return to your child's teacher by ***Monday, September 14th, 2009.***

The **Information Sheet (white sheet)** provides us with important information about your child(ren):

- Updates about address changes and emergency phone numbers.
- Information about your child's health.
- Lunch permission and permission to go on local excursions.
- Permission for your child to be filmed or photographed by the media.
- Permission to have access to the internet at school.
- Bus transportation.



CSAC NEWS

Father Serra Catholic School has an active CSAC (Catholic School Advisory Committee) composed of parents and staff members. Elections for this year's CSAC will take place on Wednesday, September 30, 2009. We encourage all parents to attend this meeting and learn more about CSAC's mandate and responsibilities. We look forward to the participation of new and returning parents on this year's council and committees.

All parents are invited to come out to the monthly CSAC meetings. All meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month. They begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held in the Staffroom on the first floor.

Listed below are the dates of the meetings for this school year:

September 30, 2009	February 17, 2010
October 21, 2009	March 24, 2010
November 18, 2009	
December 16, 2009	April 21, 2010
January 20, 2010	May 19, 2010
	June 16, 2010

The Annual Community BBQ and Curriculum Night will take place on Wednesday, September 23rd from 4:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. More details to follow.

Sincerely,

PEDICULOSIS (Head Lice)

A new school year has begun. Once again we want to let you know about the common problem of head lice. Head lice can affect anyone, but most often it affects younger school-age children.

Head lice are parasites. They are considered by health officials to be a nuisance when they are difficult to eliminate. They are not a health hazard and are not connected in any way with long hair, dirt, neglect, or not being clean. Head lice can spread quickly from head to head when a group of children have close contact (e.g. school, camp, daycare, etc.). They can be spread by sharing hats, brushes, combs, bedding, etc.

Prevention of head lice is everyone's responsibility. Cooperation and prompt action will reduce the inconvenience to children.

We encourage parents to look at their children's hair on a regular basis. When checking for nits (eggs), the hair should be dry. A convenient time for a visual check is just before washing your child's hair.

If you find any head lice or nits (eggs), obtain and use a medicated head lice shampoo or medicated cream rinse from your pharmacist, and contact the school to inform them that your child has been treated. The school needs to be informed so that other parents and school officials can be advised to check the heads of others. Finding and treating head lice early will stop your child from getting a severe case and stop the spread of head lice to other children.

When a child is identified as having head lice the parent/guardian will be contacted and the child will be picked up so that the necessary treatment can be administered. The child will be re-admitted to class upon presentation of a signed letter from the parent/guardian that treatment has been administered.

Allergen Safe School

We would like to inform you that there are children in our school with severe life threatening food allergies to peanuts/nuts. This is a medical condition (anaphylaxis) that causes a *severe reaction* to specific foods and can result in death within minutes. As this affects the entire school community, please remember:

- **Do not send snacks or lunches with your child that contain peanut or nut products.** Also, please do not send baked goods containing nut or peanut ingredients to school for celebrations.
- Speak with your child about not sharing their snacks or lunches with allergic students. Washing hands after every meal is also a safe practice to help prevent spreading of peanut residue.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or the school staff.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Please see attached list of safe snack ideas.



ITEMS NOT ALLOWED AT SCHOOL

The school will not be responsible for lost, stolen items or damaged items.

Please keep these items at home:

- Cell phones (if necessary, powered off at school at all times)
- Walkmans, personal CD players, C.D.'s, radios, iPods
- Trading Cards
- Electronic toys (e.g. Game Boy, Nintendo DS)
- Hard balls such as baseballs. Nerf balls are appropriate.
- Lighters/Matches
- Knives
- Weapons/Replicas



Your child should only bring to school items necessary for the school day or items that the teacher has requested they bring for instructional purposes. Parents, please help to enforce these rules.

Mark Your Calendars.....2009/2010



Tues. Sept. 8	9:00 a.m. First Day of Classes
Wed. Sept. 23	Community BBQ/Curriculum Night (4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)
Wed.. Sept. 30	CSAC, AGM & Elections (7:00 p.m.)
Thurs. Oct. 8	Picture Day
Mon. Oct. 12	Thanksgiving Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Wed. Oct. 28	CSAC Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Fri. Nov. 13	P.A. Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Wed. Nov. 25	CSAC Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Thurs. Dec. 3	Parent Interviews (Evening)
Fri. Dec. 4	P.A. Day - Parent Interviews (Morning) (No School for Students)
Fri. Dec. 18	Dismissal for Christmas Holidays
Dec. 21 - Jan. 1	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Mon. Jan. 4	School Re-opens
Wed. Jan. 27	CSAC Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Mon. Feb. 15	Family Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Wed. Feb. 17	Ash Wednesday
Wed. Feb. 24	CSAC Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Thurs. Mar. 4	Parent Interviews (Evening)
Fri. Mar. 5	P.A. Day - Parent Interviews (Morning) (No School for Students)
March 15 - 19	MARCH BREAK - SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon. Mar. 22	School Re-opens
Wed. Mar. 31	CSAC Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Fri. Apr. 2	Good Friday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon. Apr. 5	Easter Monday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Wed. Apr. 28	CSAC Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
May 3 - 7	Catholic Education Week
Mon. May 24	Victoria Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Wed. May 26	CSAC Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Wed. June 23	CSAC Meeting- 7:00 p.m.
Thurs. June 29	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Staff List - St. Nicholas Of Bari

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Room</u>
Mrs. D. Cabral	JK/JK	102
Mrs. M. Ricci	JK/SK	101
Ms. D. Fantini	SK /SK	101
Mrs. A. Morgan	1	105
Mrs. D. Tadman	2	106
Mrs. I. McHugh	1	112
Ms. D. Hargreaves	1	113-A
Mrs. M. Lippa	2	114
Ms. J. Koljanin	2	204
Mrs. A. Ferraro	2	206
Mrs. J. Giannini	3	104
Ms. L. Gomes	3	205
Mrs. T. Vitale	3	103
Ms. E. Janicas	4	213
Mrs. R. DiPede	4	212
Mrs. S. Pereira	5	217
Mrs. J. Cimpric	5	308
Mrs. N. Pimental	6	306
Ms. R. Slapsys	6	215
Mr. R. Pedrosa	7/8	218
Mrs. V. DaCosta-Michaud	7	219
Ms. N. Gimblette	7	312
Mrs. A. Pereira	8	310
Mrs. S. Oliveira	8	311
<u>SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPPORT STAFF</u>		
Mr. R. Perlin	ESL Prim/Junior	113-B P.M.
Ms. M. Bartlett	Sp.Ed.Junior/Int.	201
Mrs. V. Sternak	Sp.Ed./Inter.	316
Mrs. N. Petrei	5 th Block	216
Mrs. N. Cwihun	CYW	
Ms. N. Morrison	CYW	
Mrs. A. Boscarino	EA	
Ms. Z. Kettlewell	EA	
Mr. S. Calouro	EA	
Mrs. C. Pinho	EA	
Mrs. C. Dell'Aera	EA	

<u>FRENCH—SECOND LANGUAGE</u>	
	<u>Room</u>
Mr. J. Zanini	118
Ms. L. Miranda	118
Mrs. V. Karma - A.M.	118
<u>MUSIC TEACHERS</u>	
Ms. N. Moscone -Instrumental	315
Ms. D. Orsini - Vocal	315
<u>RESOURCE CENTRE</u>	
Mrs. M. Burke - Guidance	Conference Room
Ms. J. Rice - Library	111
<u>LUNCH SUPERVISORS</u>	
Mrs. R. Canaran	
Mrs. N. Bianchi	
<u>CARETAKING STAFF</u>	
Mr. T. Miele	
Mr. J. Mete	
Mr. A. Sist	
<u>OFFICE STAFF</u>	
Ms. M. Arruda	Admin. Assistant
Ms. J. Griffio	Secretary
Mrs. Borromeo-Bruce	Vice Principal
Mr. J. Pannoizzo	Principal

