

January 2009

St. Gerald Catholic School News

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy New Year! I trust that the Christmas holidays were an opportunity to enjoy time with friends and family. Best wishes to everyone at St. Gerald School for many blessings in the coming year.

It was rewarding to see so many family members join us for our Advent Celebration on the evening of December 16, 2008. We were pleased by the many compliments extended to our students and staff members. Thank you to our CSAC members for coordinating refreshments in support of school initiatives. Our charitable projects for the season were very well supported. Candy cane sales supported a new school for children in Tanzania and our Gr. 7 and 8 students collected gifts and money in support of a needy family. Many thanks to our community's generosity and the dedicated efforts of our staff and students!

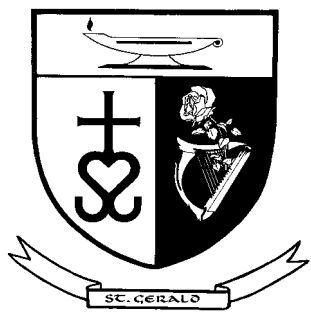
During the month of January, we look forward to seeing you at our monthly Mass on January 22 at 9:30 a.m. Please note that this month's CSAC meeting has been cancelled. Our next meeting is scheduled for February 5 at 7 p.m. and all are welcome.

Sincerely,
R. Leone

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2008-2009

Wards

| | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------|
| 1. | Joseph Martino | 416-512-3401 |
| 2. | Ann Andrachuk, Vice-Chair | 416-512-3402 |
| 3. | Sal Piccininni | 416-512-3403 |
| 4. | Mary Cicogna | 416-512-3404 |
| 5. | Maria Rizzo | 416-512-3405 |
| 6. | Rob Davis | 416-512-3406 |
| 7. | John Del Grande | 416-512-3407 |
| 8. | Oliver Carroll | 416-512-3408 |
| 9. | Catherine LeBlanc-Miller, Chair | 416-512-3409 |
| 10. | Barbara Poplawski Honorary Treasurer | 416-512-3410 |
| 11. | Angela Kennedy | 416-512-3411 |
| 12. | Paul John Crawford James Dempsey, Student Trustee | 416-512-3412 416-512-3413 |



St. Gerald Catholic School

200 Old Sheppard Avenue
Toronto M2J 3L9
Tel. (416) 393- 5319
Fax (416) 397-6330

Principal:
R. Leone

Superintendent:
M. McMorrow
(416) 222-8282 ext. 6312

Trustee:
J. Del Grande
(416) 512-3407

Parish:
Holy Spirit Catholic Church
3526 Sheppard Avenue East
(416) 293-7974

Enrollment:
240

Hours of Operation:
Office Hours 8:30 – 4:30
School Hours 9:00 – 3:30

Lunch Hour:
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.



Prayer for the New Year

Those who walked in the dark
Have seen a bright light.
And it shines upon everyone
Who lives in the land of darkest
shadows.

Our Lord, you have made
Your nation stronger.
Because of you, its people
Are glad and celebrate.
A child has been born for us.
We have been given a son
Who will be our ruler.
His names will be
Wonderful Advisor and Mighty God,
Eternal Father and Prince of Peace.
His power will never end;
Peace will last forever.
The word of the Lord

(Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7)

Loving God, you give us this new
year and good 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 our Lord.
Amen



School Mass

Please join us on Tuesday, January
13 at 9:30 a.m. in the school gym for
our next Mass.

St. Gerald School Catholic School Advisory Council News (CSAC)

Thanks to the generosity of our
community, our Halloween Dance-a-
thon raised a total of \$5510.71, after
expenses for the DJ and prizes for
winning students and classes. Many
thanks to our CSAC for organizing
this special event.

Our next CSAC meeting will be on
January 7 at 7 p.m. in the library. All
parents are welcome.

The schedule for the remainder of
our CSAC meetings is as follows:

- Wed., March 4, 2009
- Wed., May 6, 2009

Please plan to join us on these
evenings to discuss issues regarding
our school.

School Hours/Supervision during School Hours

A reminder to the community about
school hours and supervision:

School Hours

9:00 a.m. – Entrance bell
10: 30 a.m. – Morning recess
**12:00 noon – 12:20 p.m. – Indoor
lunch time**
**12:20 – 1:00 p.m. – Outdoor lunch
recess**
2:15 p.m. – Afternoon recess
3:30 p.m. – Dismissal bell

Supervision

Supervision at the school is provided from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., including during recesses (indoor and outdoor). No supervision is available before 8:30 a.m. or after 3:30 p.m., unless your child is attending a practice or other activity supervised by a staff member.

Please note that a before and after school program is available at St. Gerald School, operated by Kids Can Doodle. Kids Can Doodle can be reached at 416-491-7344 or 905-883-6164 for further details.



School Social Worker

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is committed to helping students reach their full potential. One of our services for students and families is School Social Work. School Social Workers are sometimes confused with child protection workers in a Children's Aid Society. School Social Workers, who are employed by The Toronto Catholic District School board, are members of an interdisciplinary team and help identify and work in resolving issues that might interfere with a student's adjustment and achievement in school. If you would like to hear more information about School Social work please call 416 – 222 – 8282 ext. 2569. If you wish to speak with the Social Worker in our school, please contact the school principal.

Monthly Themes

The following monthly themes for all schools in the Toronto Catholic District School Board:

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|----------|--------------|
| January | Courage |
| February | Love |
| March | Forgiveness |
| April | Justice |
| May | Compassion |
| June | Faithfulness |

Each month, we highlight a theme through prayers and classroom discussions. During our monthly assemblies, we recognize two students from each class that have made a special effort to exemplify the virtue.

School Uniforms

With the start of a new year, we would like to renew our efforts to have students wear their school uniforms and school colours.

Many of our students wear the uniform properly and with pride. A significant minority of students are continuing to come to school with clothing that does not fit with our school's uniform. In particular, children are coming to school with jeans and track pants. The track pants are appropriate for physical education classes but regular blue pants set a more appropriate tone for the rest of the day.

Thank you for your continued support of this school initiative.

