



St. Louis Catholic School

<http://www.tcdsb.org/schools/stlouis.asp>

11 Morgan Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M8Y 2Z7

Principal:
Ms. R. Morris
416 393 5331

Superintendent:
Mrs. C. Tovey-Shackleton
416 222 8282

Trustee:
Mrs. A. Andrachuk
416 512 3402
ann.andrachuk@tcdsb.org

Parish:
Father Giuliano
Pastor
St. Leo Catholic Church
416 251 1100

Current Enrolment:
260

School Hours:
Morning Session 8:45-11:45 a.m.
Recess 10:05-10:20 a.m.
Lunch 11:45-12:45 p.m.
Afternoon Session 12:45-3:15 p.m.
Recess 1:55-2:10 p.m.
Dismissal 3:15 p.m.

Catch the spirit!

Director of Education:
Mr. K. Kobus

Parent Newsletter

Principal's Message

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.
You shall love your neighbour as yourself.*

There is no greater commandment than these.

-- Gospel of St. Mark 12:28

This month we remember those who have gone before us: those who have given their lives in times of war; those who served overseas during the second world war; those Canadian soldiers who serve to protect our interests in Afghanistan today; those family members, and friends, who have died in the recent past. This Friday, November 10th at 10:45 a.m., our school community will gather in Remembrance of these people. We will celebrate together as a school community dedicated to peace and justice. All students who are members of uniformed community groups-- Girl Guides, Brownies, Air Cadets—are invited to wear their uniforms on Friday to honour those who have gone before us in times of war.

At Mass this past Sunday, November 5th, we are reminded that to love God, to love ourselves, and to love our neighbour, are the greatest commandments of all. I can tell you as the Principal of St. Louis Catholic School, that these clear values are practised and promoted by our dedicated teachers and staff, by our interdisciplinary team members at the school board, and by the students themselves. In solving difficulties on the yard at recess, our teachers practise and teach the spirit of reconciliation as a way of promoting peace when problems arise, so that our children will move forward in their lives with a dedication to peace, while respecting the rights of others and themselves.

This month there is great news to report. Activities abound at St. Louis, and our teachers and staff work tirelessly to serve the needs of your children. Read on!

The Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC)—See attached Newsletter!

Regular parent council meetings are held throughout the school year. Our next CSAC meeting will take place on November 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the school. All parents are welcome. I would like to thank all members of the Parent Council who continue to work very hard to support our school enrichment activities and curricular and co-curricular activities through active fundraising. See the CSAC Newsletter for more details.

We appreciate the support of our parents tremendously.

Ministry of Education Provincial Priorities and St. Louis Catholic School

St. Louis Catholic School is participating in a system wide initiative to promote student achievement in Literacy and Numeracy called **Leading Student Achievement**. Through the active examination of data from EQAO grade 3 and grade 6 results, our teachers are developing a common language and common understanding of "next steps" in improving instructional practice, so that individual student results in Literacy and Numeracy can increase. Also, St. Louis has been invited to benefit from additional resources in the area of Mathematics instruction through the Ministry of Education project called the **Ontario Focused Intervention Project**. Teachers will engage in professional conversations to gain more information about these two projects on **Nov. 27th—A Professional Development Day**. (No School)

School News—Keeping our School Safe

Entrance and Exit Times—A Review of Practices at St. Louis Catholic School

On the front page of this newsletter you will find daily instructional times for St. Louis Catholic School. Parents are requested to help the school in developing good *punctuality and preparation skills* in the students by ensuring that the students arrive at school on time and that they are prepared for the school day, homework completed.

At assembly times, all students from Grades 1 to 8 are expected to line up in their designated areas in the school yard. Upon entry into the building, students are expected to proceed to their classes in a quiet, orderly manner. Kindergarten students assemble in their own play area on the west side (Morgan Ave.) of the building.

Note: All students are expected to enter and exit the building through their designated doors. Students should not use the front doors of the school for assembly purposes.

After morning assembly times, the custom of the school is to begin the day with the playing of the national Anthem, a reading of prayers (on Mondays), and announcements for the day. *Once the students are invited to stand for the anthem, it is expected that there is no movement at all in the school. Parents/visitors who may be arriving during that time will be expected to honour this custom as well as the students.* This rule is to honour the importance of communication within our school community!

Supervision of Students

Yard duty supervision by staff members occurs every day. Supervision is in place in the mornings from 8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., during all recesses, at lunch hours, and after school from 3:15 to 3:30 p.m. for students who take the bus. Parents are reminded that students should not be dropped off at the school before 8:15 a.m. in the mornings. The school cannot assume responsibility for the safety of the children before that time. Equally, after school each day, students should be picked up by 3:30 p.m. After that time, there is no teacher supervision in the school yard.



Safe Arrival Policy/Verification

Parents are asked to contact the school (416-393-5331) if your child will be absent from school. Your assistance and thoughtfulness in this regard can save significant time each day by reducing the number of telephone calls which must be made to check on attendance. It is both school and school board policy to ensure the safe arrival of students by checking on any student who may be absent.

Visitor Tags

At St. Louis, we welcome visitors to our school. As you enter the school, you will notice signs that ask all visitors to report to the main office before proceeding anywhere in the school.

All visitors, including parents, are asked to sign in our visitor book in the main office, and to wear a tag for the duration of the appointment. This request is to ensure the safety of our children. Co-operation and respect for this policy is greatly appreciated.

Parents in the School Yard

During the times indicated above when teachers are on supervision duty in the school yard, parents are asked to refrain from being in the school yard. Teachers will deal with any issues that occur. The intention of this request is not to suggest that parents are not welcome in the school. Rather, this request is to protect all parents and students. Any correction of inappropriate behaviour should come from a teacher, not from a parent. If, of course, a parent observes inappropriate behaviour, please discuss your concern with a teacher on supervision duty, or with the principal in the office.

Emergency Telephone Numbers

All students are required to have an accurate up-to-date telephone number on the student data card for someone other than the parent. These numbers are extremely important in the event the parent cannot be reached. All data cards will be checked carefully at the end of September and any child without an accurate emergency number will be required to provide one.

Safe Schools Policy—Lock Down Practice

On November 17th, our school community will engage in a "Lock Down" practice that will teach students and staff to create a spirit of deliberate calm in the event of a real emergency. The practice occurs twice annually in an effort to encourage a sense of predictability for all should a real need arise. More information will follow prior to the practice by way of letter to parents.

TRUSTEES 2006-2007

Wards

1. Joseph Martino	5. Maria Rizzo	9. Catherine LeBlanc-Miller, Vice-Chair
2. Ann Andrachuk	6. Christine Nunziata	10. Barbara Poplawski
3. Sal Piccininni	7. John Del Grande-Honourary Treasurer	11. Angela Kennedy
4. Mary Cicogna	8. Oliver Carroll, Chair	12. Paul John Crawford Ashley Pereira, Student Trustee

Toronto Catholic District School Board

www.tcdsb.org

Lunch Hour Procedures—A Review of Our Practices at St. Louis Catholic School

Parents are asked to support school policy regarding lunch procedures. There are basically two options for lunch.

a) Staying for Lunch

All students who indicate that they will be staying for lunch are expected to be in their classroom every day for lunch. Any student who stays for lunch must follow the basic expectations in the classroom. Any student who cannot follow those expectations will forfeit the privilege of staying for lunch. **Note:** Students who stay for lunch do not have permission to leave school grounds to purchase lunch and then return to the school to eat.

b) Going Home for Lunch

Students who go home for lunch are expected to do so all year. Students who go home for lunch should not return to school before 12:05 because there is no yard supervision until that time.

Parents are asked to make a decision regarding lunch (staying or going home) and to adhere to that decision for the year. It is virtually impossible to monitor students who stay occasionally and go home occasionally. Parents are encouraged to select one of the two options. If there are extenuating circumstances, it is the responsibility of the parent to speak to me directly. Your co-operation in this regard is appreciated greatly.

c) Grade 7 and 8 Privileges

Students in grade 7 and 8 continue to have the privilege of leaving school property at lunch hour, with written permission from a parent. For safety reasons, students must sign out in the sign-out book in the main office and leave the note in the envelope in the main office. Any student who leaves school property with out permission will be asked to meet with parents with the principal to review the loss of privilege.

Students Coming To School When Ill/Staying in at Recess

As a general guideline, if a child is not well enough to go outside at recess, she/he is not well enough to be at school. Although it may be an inconvenience, a child in this condition should be kept home. Children should not be put in the position of seeking permission to remain indoors during recesses. Such permission will not normally be granted.

Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are always welcome at St. Louis Catholic School. If any parent is interested in becoming a parent volunteer, please contact either your child's teacher, or speak to me personally. Frequently, the greatest area of parental volunteer involvement occurs when classes go on excursions outside the school. These are definitely situations which require additional supervision. When volunteering at the school *in classroom situations in an ongoing situation*, it is recommended that a parent will not work in the classroom of her/his own child. Such direct involvement places unnecessary pressure on both the parent and the child. For out of classroom excursions the same policy does not apply. Parents are most welcome to assist on excursions with the class of their own child. If there are any questions about volunteering at St. Louis, please feel free to contact the school.

St. Louis Catholic School

2006 – 2007

Updated November 6, 2006

School Year Calendar— Important Dates to Note!

November 7 th	The Alphabet Show at 9:15 a.m. with Tom Vanderberg JK- Gr. 2—sponsored by CSAC
November 7 th	Too Much Garbage at 1:00 p.m with Tom Vanderberg Gr. 3 – 8—sponsored by CSAC
November 10 th	Remembrance Day Ceremony in the gym at 10:45 a.m.
November 16 th	CSAC Meeting—All parents are welcome!
November 8, 22	Pizza Days
November 13 th	St. Louis Gym: Polling Station for <u>Municipal Elections</u> 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
November 17 th	Lockdown Practice at St. Louis
November 22 nd	The Great Canadian Songbook with Mike Ford Gr. 4 – 6 at 1:30 p.m.—sponsored by CSAC
November 24 th	Go Team Go! Sports Day at St. Louis—all students are asked to bring a canned food item
November 27 th	<u>PD Day: Provincial Priorities for Leading Student Achievement—No School for Students!</u>
November 30 th	Scholastic Book Fair in the St. Louis Library
<u>December 5th</u>	<u>Report Cards Go Home to Parents Today</u>
December 7	Advent Mass at 9:45 a.m.
December 7	Parent – Teacher Interviews 5 – 8 p.m.
December 8 th	<u>PD Day: Parent-Teacher Interviews 8:45 – 11:00 a.m.—No School for Students!</u>
December 11 th	Term 2 Begins
<u>December 25</u>	<u>Christmas Day—Joyeux Noel!</u>
<u>Dec. 25-Jan. 8</u>	<u>Christmas Holidays</u>
January 8	School Re-opens
January 11 th	CSAC Parent Council Meeting
January 15 th	Mass in the Gym: Father Giuliano's Birthday: Lunch in the Staffroom
January 17, 31	Pizza Days
February 8 th	CSAC Parent Council Meeting
February 7 and 28	Pizza Days
February 16 th	<u>PD Day: Provincial Priorities for Leading Student Achievement—No School for Students!</u>
February 14 th	Valentine's Day
February 20 th	Pancake Tuesday
February 21 st	Ash Wednesday—The First Day of Lent
February 23 rd	Beach Day
March 7 th	Term 2 Reports Go Home Today
March 8 th	Parent Teacher Interviews, 5-8 pm
	Kindergarten Registration Night
March 9 th	PD Day: Parent Teacher Interviews, 8:45 to 11 a.m.
March 12 th – 16 th	March Break
March 19 th	Term 3 Begins
March 21 st	Pizza Day
March 22 nd	CSAC Parent Council Meeting
April 5 th	Holy Thursday
April 6 th	Good Friday—no school
<u>April 8th</u>	<u>Easter Sunday—Christ is Risen, Allelulia!</u>
<u>April 9th</u>	<u>Easter Monday—no school</u>
April 18 th	Pizza Day
April 19 th	Sacrament of First Reconciliation—Gr. 2 at 9:45 a.m.
April 19 th	CSAC Parent Council Meeting
April 25 th	Celebration of the Feast of St. Louis (for August 25th)
April 27 th	Confirmation Retreat—to be confirmed
April 28 th	Grade 2 First Holy Communion, 5 pm at St. Leo Catholic Church
April 30 – May 4 th	Catholic Education Week
May 2, 16, 30	Pizza Days
May 7 th 8 th	Annual Review IPRCs
May 10 th	CSAC Parent Council Meeting
May 11 th	Grade 8 Sacrament of Confirmation, 7 pm at St. Leo Catholic Church
May 13 th	Mother's Day
May 18 th	Dance-a-thon
<u>May 21st</u>	<u>Victoria Day, no school</u>
May 22 nd	EQAO testing begins for students in grades 3 and 6 to June 8 th
June 6	Volunteer Appreciation Tea
June 17 th	Father's Day
June 22 nd	Grade 8 Graduation—Mass at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Noon—Lunch and Dance at <i>The Canadiana</i> 7:00 p.m.—Graduation Ceremony in the Gymnasium
June 25 th	Year End Mass, 9:45 am. At St. Leo
June 26 th	Play Day
<u>June 27th</u>	<u>Third Term Reports Go Home</u>
June 28 th	Last Day of School Year End Assembly – We are Family!
<u>June 29th</u>	<u>Board designated Holiday</u>

Terry Fox Fundraiser at St. Louis Catholic School

It is my pleasure to report that once again the families in the St. Louis Catholic School community have generously sponsored the Terry Fox Run in support of Cancer Research On Thursday, October 19th, a cheque in the amount of **\$3725.77** was sent by courier to the Terry Fox Foundation from St. Louis Catholic School. A great thank you goes to each and every child who took part in the Terry Fox Run and collected funds, to each family that contributed so generously, and to the staff members who took such care and time to organize the event. A special note of thanks goes to Mrs. Cousineau and Mrs. Smith, for their organizational efforts to promote and realize the success of our school project!

Upcoming Enrichment Activities at St. Louis Catholic School

Vision Television at St. Louis—“Letters to God” Television Program

On November 14th, members of the Vision Television team from “Letters to God”—a new television show, will visit students in Mrs. Varey’s grade 5 class. “Letters to God” is a new series of 13 half-hour programs that will air on Vision TV all across Canada. In each episode, students whose letter has been selected will read a short letter that they have written to God on any topic of their choice. After they have read their letter, a friendly interviewer will ask a few questions. The interviews, with parent permission, will take place in a child-friendly studio, and the schedule will depend on the child’s availability. We look forward to seeing our children on-air in the future! Congratulations, Grade 5’s—and Mrs. Varey!

Our Parent Council Supports the Arts at St. Louis

Thanks to the generous support of our Parent Council at St. Louis, our children will benefit from the following professional arts productions in our school gymnasium:

October 20th—The Rag and Bone Puppet Theatre presented **The Tempest**

November 7th – Tom Vandenberg presents **The Alphabet Show** at 9:15 (gr. Jk – 2) and a show dedicated to ecology and recycling called **Too Much Garbage** at 1:00 p.m (gr. 3 – 8).

October 22nd – Mike Ford presents **The Great Canadian Songbook** at 1:30 p.m. (gr. 4 – 6).

Student Leadership Activities at St. Louis

Congratulations to the following students for their leadership in the following activities:

The **St. Louis Lightning** Student Newspaper: Thanks goes to Brenna Robins, Michelle Zochniak, Amanda Barthel and Carolyn Lizak and the editorial support of Ms. Pacheco for a well written student newspaper. We now know Mlle. Mondano a little better too. Thank you!

Students in our grade 3 class, Matthew McDonald and Jacob Nobre, invite all students at St. Louis to bring in a picture of your pet. Matthew and Jacob will, with Miss Micucci’s support, create a **Pet Day Bulletin Board** on the main floor—to celebrate pets at St. Louis. Celebrate your Pet Day is scheduled for November 15th. Well done, boys!

November 24th is **Go Team. Go! Sports Day** at St. Louis. Thanks to the leadership of Emma Czernuszka in Mrs. McIntyre’s class, all students at St. Louis are invited to wear sports Shirts of teams of their choice and bring a canned food item in support of the Daily Bread Food Bank. The students in Mrs. DiCarlo’s class, who are preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation, will collect the food items, and arrange for pick up as part of their community service project for Grade 8. Well done Emma, and well done grade 8s!

Also, a special note of congratulations goes to Christina and Stephanie Campese who completed A 5 km **Walk for Leukemia** through the forest of the Kortright Centre on September 24th. Together **Christina and Stephanie raised \$840.00** for research in memory of their Aunt Bridget, and their cousin Daniel who is a survivor. Well done, girls!

Monday November 13th is Election Day

for the City of Toronto Municipal Elections,
including the Election of School Trustees.

St. Louis Gym is a voting station from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.