



October 2007



Sts. Cosmas and Damian

111 Danesbury Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario, M6B 3L3

Phone: 416 393-5398
Fax: 416 393-5190

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Parents/Guardians

Once again we find ourselves in a new academic year. Many exciting things have been planned for our time together. It was a pleasure to see and talk to some of you during our school Curriculum night on September 18, 2007. However, to update those parents who were not able to make it that evening, I wanted to briefly mention some changes to our school this year.

Mr. Montanari has joined us permanently to be part of the Special Education department. Also, Ms. Morales is the Deaf/Blind Intervener on staff and Mr. Ramsay has joined the Deaf and Hard of Hearing department on a part time basis. Ms. Roy has returned as the part time Core French teacher. Finally, but not least, Ms. Falone is the new Junior/Senior kindergarten during the afternoon session.

It is our intention this year to focus getting our official Eco School certification. More information will follow as plans for our "green" activities to help our school and world are organized.

Thank you for your continued support.
Yours in Partnership,

Ms. M. Bernardi

Principal



STAFF LIST 2007-2008

Ms. Scorsolini Bernardo	JK
Ms. Costa	SK
Ms. Falone	JK/SK
Ms. Marino/Ms. Marchese	Grade 1
Ms. Giuga	Grade 1/2
Ms. Faranda	Grade 2
Ms. Dodaro	Grade 3
Ms. Di Nardo	Grade 3/4
Mr. Arrigo	Grade 4
Ms. Della Pia	Grade 5
Ms. Gagliardi	Grade 6
Ms. Jaramillo	Grade 7
Ms. Diaz	Grade 7/8
Ms. Dey-Brugnano	Grade 8
Ms. Salerno Scarcelli	E.S.L.
Ms. Gambardella	Resource
Mr. Montonari	Resource
Ms. Auciello	Pre-Primary D.H.H
Ms. Nelson	Primary D.H.H.
Ms. Manocchio	Primary /Jr. D.H.H.
Ms. Zuccon-Maudsley	Int. D.H.H.
Mrs. Di Nardo	Italian
Ms. DeFeo	Italian
Ms. Cauli	French
Ms. Roy	French
Ms. Marra	Vocal Music
Mr. Russo	Instrumental Music
Ms. Kramer	Librarian Technician
Ms. Amador	Educational Assistant
Ms. Bavosa	Educational Assistant
Ms. Botticelli	Educational Assistant
Ms. Commisso	Educational Assistant
Ms. Nocera	Educational Assistant
Ms. Cassidy	Educational Assistant
Ms. Federau/Ms. Spizzirri	Educational Assistant
Ms. Spada/Ms. D'Sousa	Educational Assistant
Ms. McGovern	Oral Interpreter
Ms. Morales	Deaf/Blind Intervener
Ms. Choc	Lunchtime Supervisor
Ms. Di Pede	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mr. Bertolacci	Head Caretaker
Ms. Cortese	Assistant Caretaker

SCHOOL HOURS



8:30 AM – Playground supervision begins
 8:45 AM – Entry Bell
 10:15 to 10:30 AM – Recess
 11:45 AM to 12:40 PM – Lunch
 12:50 PM—Afternoon Kindergarten class begins
 2:10 PM to 2:20 PM— Recess
 3:05 PM— DHH students dismissal
 3:35 PM— Dismissal for all other students
 3:45 PM - Playground supervision ends

Principal:
Ms. M. Bernardi

Secretary:
Ms. F. Lima

Clerk Typist:
Ms. C. Savino

Superintendent:
Ms. J. Nespolo

Trustee:
Ms. M. Rizzo

Parish:
Father Michael D'Cruz
St. Charles Borromeo Church
416 787-0369

Enrollment: 316



FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

MORNING



Safe Arrival Procedures

When a student is reported absent by the teacher, but not by the parent/guardian, the **Safe Arrival Program** (Secretary) phones the home and/or the emergency contact to determine the child's whereabouts.

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to inform the school that their child is going to be absent or late. The school will also call to determine why the child is absent.

In order for the Safe Arrival Program to operate properly, the parent/guardian must contact the school **BEFORE 9:00 a.m.** to report that their child will be absent or late that day. A message can be left on the answering machine before 8:15 a.m.

If there is no call from the parent/guardian, then we assume that the child will be present and on time on any particular day.

If there has been no phone call and the child is reported absent by the teacher, then we may believe that the child is in some kind of danger. It is, then that a phone call is made to the parent/guardian to inform them that their child is not in school. In most cases, we discover the parent/guardian is aware of the absence, but has neglected to inform the school.

For the sake of your children's safety, you **MUST INFORM** the school of your child's absence or lateness **BEFORE 9:00 a.m.**, otherwise unnecessary phone calls will be made and this defeats the real purpose of the Safe Arrival Program.

We would like to ask you for your continued support and cooperation.

Important New Information



Sentinel schools absenteeism pilot project



Letter to parents



Dear parents/caregivers,

As a new school year begins, we are launching some changes to the process for reporting your child absent from school due to illness.

The Toronto District Catholic School Board (TDCSB) and Toronto Public Health are partners in a pilot project to monitor absences due to illness in our school. Our school is one of twenty that will be a partner in this pilot project. The information collected will help us monitor illness in Toronto. The TDCSB will not send individual level data to TPH. The privacy of your child will be secure.

If your child is sick and will be absent from school please;

1. As always, phone the school to inform them of your child's absence.
2. When leaving a message or speaking directly to a school secretary, please describe your child's illness as:
 - a. Breathing-related (persistent cough, sneezing, and/or congestion)
 - b. Stomach-related (vomiting and/or diarrhea) or
3. An other type of illness

If you have any question, please call Toronto Public Health at 416-338-7890.

RECESS



It is a general rule that if a child is well enough to attend school, she/he is well enough to take outdoor recess and participate in all regular programs. However, if there are legitimate reasons why your child must be exempted from certain activities, please send a written request and appropriate **medical certificate** to your child's classroom teacher.

CSAC – Funding Formula

Dear parent or guardian,

The CSAC at Sts. Comas and Damian School funds numerous activities and events throughout the school year. These activities include but are not limited to the following:

- Agendas for the children
- Buses for school trips
- Classroom supplies
- Library books for the classrooms
- Recreational equipment/toys for use by the children
- First Communion gifts
- Confirmation Gifts
- Graduation Gifts/funding
- Needy Family funding

Annually, these items amount to between \$15,000 and \$17,000. This is not by any means a small amount of money. In the past, we have had a few fund-raisers annually to collect these funds. Last year, we held a Halloween Dance, as well as, a raffle to help us collect the required funds. The previous year, we held a Halloween Dance, a chocolate sale, and a raffle at the Summer BBQ to raise the funds.

As many of you know from experience, most of the fundraising that we do, is done so in our homes. To clarify, we mean that we, the parents and school community, contribute most if not all of the funds. We have been doing this for years, and with the exception of last years' Halloween Dance, we really have not been getting anything in return. At our last meeting, the subject of Mandatory CSAC Funding was discussed. Our recommendation is that each family contributes \$50 per child to CSAC. For many of us this is less than we donate annually to school fund-raisers. By implementing this, we will raise approximately \$16,000. This will give CSAC the funding required to support current activities and events for the 2007/2008 school year. CSAC will not be required to hold any other fund raising activities for the remainder of the school year if this program is implemented successfully.

Under the proposed plan, parents would write out cheques to "Sts. Cosmas and Damian CSAC". This will allow CSAC through the Toronto Catholic District School Board to issue tax receipts to all parents for donations received. Each family will be able to claim the \$50 donation per child on their income tax returns as a charitable donation. When this program is approved, the collection details will be shared with the school community. Donations can be made in installments if your current situation does not permit paying out the funds all at once.

CSAC feels that this is a great idea. We are presenting this idea to you for comment. If any parent has an objection to this, please let us know by October 25th, 2007. Please contact the CSAC committee by simply dropping us a note at the school. A CSAC mailbox is located in the school mail-room.

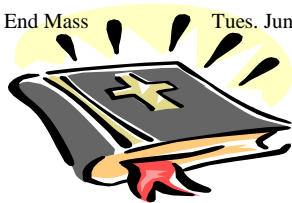
Thank you in advance for your support.

Sts. Cosmas and Damian CSAC



MASS DATES

September	Mass	Mon. Sept. 24th 10:45am
October	Mass	Tues. Oct. 9th 1:30 pm
November	Paraliturgy	Mon. Nov. 5th 9:15am
December	Community Mass	Tues. Dec.18th 7:00 pm
January	Mass	Mon. Jan. 21st 2:30 pm
February	Paraliturgy Ash Wednesday	Wed. Feb. 6th 9:00 am
March	Mass Stations of the Cross	Tues. Mar. 18th 9:30 am
April	Mass Easter First Communion	Fri. Apr. 4th 10:45 am Sun. Apr. 20th 2:30 pm
	Communion Rehearsal at Church (Parent Volunteers Needed)	Tues. Apr. 15th Fri. Apr. 18th 1:30 pm
	Reconciliation at school	Thurs. Apr. 17th 1:30 pm (Paraliturgy)
	Confirmation (with St. Charles students) Confirmation Rehearsal	Tues. Apr. 22nd 7:00pm Wed. Apr. 16th 7:00pm
May	Rosary Celebration	TBA
June	Graduation	Thurs. June 19th 6:00pm
	Graduation Practise at the Church	Wed. June 18th 1:30pm
	Year End Mass	Tues. June 24th 1:30pm



CSAC CORNER



NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

November, 13 7:00pm
December, 4 7:00pm

ELECTED MEMBERS FOR 2007-2008:

Mr. J. Pisani CSAC Chair
Mr. D. Fragale Co- Vice-chair
Ms. E. D'Andrea Co- Vice-chair
Ms. R. Ficara Treasurer
Mr. T. Dias Secretary
Ms. D. Bonanno Councillor
Ms. M. Perrella Councillor
Ms. M. Severino Councillor
Ms. L. Silva Councillor

A Message from CSAC

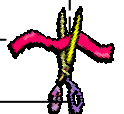
Dear Parents/Guardians,

If you have any suggestions or concerns please fill in this form and return to the CSAC mailbox located near the main office. This form **must** be received by CSAC at least **one week** before the regularly scheduled meetings.

Name _____

Student's Name/Grade _____

Suggestions/Comments _____



TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2007-2008

Wards

- Joseph Martino 416-512-3401
- Ann Andrachuk 416-512-3402
- Sal Piccininni 416-512-3403
- Mary Cicogna 416-512-3404
Vice-Chair
- Maria Rizzo 416-512-3405
- Christine Nunziata 416-512-3406
- John Del Grande 416-512-3407
- Oliver Carroll, Chair 416-512-3408
- Catherine LeBlanc-Miller 416-512-3409
- Barbara Poplawski 416-512-3410
- Angela Kennedy, 416-512-3411
Honorary Treasurer
- Paul John Crawford 416-512-3412
Diego Noronha,
Student Trustee 416-512-3413

Please Note

From time to time, the school will send home information from non-profit and for-profit organizations. We remind parents and guardians to exercise caution any time they participate in or enrol their child in an outside organization's event after school hours. The school and the TCDSB are not liable for the quality of service these organizations provide or for the safety of the participants. We forward this information to keep our parent community informed of the wide variety of opportunities available within our local community.