

# ROOTED IN CHRIST

*"Live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith...abounding in thanksgiving." – Colossians 2:6b-7*

*The fall of 2018 brought teachers, pastors, parents and administrators together from every area of the TCDSB. These are some of the best practices of how our schools demonstrate belonging in the first year of our new three-year pastoral plan. Please use this resource with your school community.*

- Mass Buddies/Reading Buddies
- Newcomer Night/Luncheon
  - Staff Treat Days
  - Welcome BBQ
  - Workshops for Parents
- Look for opportunities to integrate all students into the classroom
- Building community with Extended French/English classes
  - Including whole school at Masses
  - Community Building among Staff
    - Social Committee
    - Welcome & Mentor New Staff
      - Student Ambassadors
  - Clubs/Activities/Divisional gatherings
    - More social gatherings
    - Partnership with Toronto Police
- Meet and Greet “Welcoming New Parents”
  - Greater involvement with Parish
- Partners in Faith - “Mentors on Staff”
  - Tea Party for Kids
  - Set up lunch “Meet and Support”

- Create a Welcoming Entry to the School
  - Represent students in Literacy/School Activities
  - Multicultural activities culminating on Canada's National Flag Day.
  - Staff theatre nights, sports activities, and scavenger hunts.
  - Connect with our parishes and offer opportunities to collaborate;
- <https://bit.ly/2O2ju3Y>
- “No Child Left Behind” - all kids attend excursions
  - PPP - Positive/Post It/ Students pick a class and create post-it’s with positive messages and blanket the room, desks, boards, chairs etc.
  - Orange Shirt Day - “Every Child Matters” Indigenous Equity Inclusion Pedagogy
    - Pink-T-Shirt Day
    - Appreciation Tea for school volunteers
    - Buddy Benches: student meditation/Support
  - Inclusion/Leadership of MEDD students with support
    - Thematic Bulletin Boards
    - Quilt Making - each class represented
      - Celebration of Cultural Diversity
      - Celebrating Student Strengths
    - Designing a Garden where all are included
    - Pottery Art Idea - Each student paints a tile



- Santa Shop (collect used items/donations from the community which are then sold to students to buy for friends and family at Christmas,
  - Tree lighting and Christmas Caroling
  - PAL (Peer Assistance Leadership)
- PALS Playground Activity Leaders in schools
  - Teacher vs Student Volleyball
  - School Wide Living Rosary
- Parent involvement, Interfaith Grade 8 project with Leo Baeck, Jewish and Muslim.
  - Sports equipment bag for community/class use
- Operation Kindness- students make the effort to be kind towards one another
- School community building for staff (e.g., seasonal luncheons, monthly prayers/novenas, monthly birthday celebrations, etc.)
  - Welcoming of new families
    - Faith day
- “Caught you Caring” initiative (Announcements made when an act of kindness is witnessed by a teacher/student.
- “Family of Schools” Masses, joining in community held masses
  - Staff Garden Party

