



Sign Up for School Messenger

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school each and every day. We would like to inform you of some changes that will be coming early in the new school year.

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure TCDSB has introduced *a new, more efficient* student absence reporting system called **SafeArrival**. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, making it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unreported student absences.

With **SafeArrival**, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the **SchoolMessenger app** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>). The first time you use the app, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>. The first time you use the website, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
3. Call the toll-free number **1 (833) 251-3286** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time up to a maximum of 10 consecutive days. It is important to note that when setting up your account, you must register using the email address and phone number associated with your child's Trillium account.

In addition, schools will use the **SchoolMessenger Communicate** automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up.

If you report your child's absence in advance using the **SafeArrival** toll-free number, website or mobile app, you will **NOT** receive these notifications.

Opportunities for Parents

Reminder: OAPCE's 80th Annual Parent Conference

Friday April 5th, 2019

OECTA Reception at Montecassino Hotel & Venue, Toronto 6:00-9:00pm

Saturday April 6th, 2019

All Day Conference at Madonna Catholic Secondary School, Toronto 8:00am-4:30pm

Mass with Cardinal Collins; Keynote Speaker: Greg Rogers; Parent Learning Workshops; Vendor Mall

Gala Dinner

Montecassino Hotel & Venue 6:30pm; Awards Ceremony

REGISTER AT: www.OAPCE.org

SENG (Supporting the Emotional Needs of Gifted) Event

Saturday March 23, 2019 8:30 - 11:45

At the Ontario Science Center

Experts on the topics of neuro-diversity, twice-exceptional learners, diversity, advocacy, and educational strategies for exceptional learners will be speaking.

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/The-SENG-Toronto-Mini-Conference-is-5-Days-Away-.html?soid=1102289134078&aid=ZJaGd7HV5e0>

Please click here to download a [SENG flyer](#).

Free Boxing at MJKO Champion Centre

Mon-Thurs: 3pm - 7 pm; Friday: 3pm - 6 pm; Saturday: 9am - 12 Noon

For youth ages 8 - 18

Non-contact and full-contact classes available

186 Cowan Ave (Basement) Toronto Tel: 416-886-7390 Email: info@mjko.ca Website: <https://mjko.ca>

Opportunities for Students

Voices that Challenge 2019 Student Leadership Conference

Catholic Student Leadership Conference features Keynote Speakers, Workshops

April 10, 2019 8:30 am-3:00pm

Catholic Education Centre, 80 Sheppard Ave. E.

Register Today: www.catholicleadership.com

Historica Canada Me, Moi + Canada

To mark the 50th anniversary of the Official Languages Act, Historica Canada invites teachers and students to reflect on bilingualism and Canadian identity through the *Me, Moi + Canada* Contest. Enter individually or as a group by submitting a video that explains what Canada's two official languages mean to you.

- Tell us the role bilingualism plays in your everyday life.
 - Explore the relationship, past and present, of Canada's francophone and anglophone communities.
- Share your language story!

Deadline for submissions is November 1, 2019

More information can be found here: <https://historicanada.wishpondpages.com/memoicanada/en/>

University of Toronto Summer Mentorship Program Application

Final deadline: Friday March 22

The [online application](#) for the [Summer Mentorship Program](#) is now open.

This year we will be celebrating our 25th anniversary and we are excited about the opportunity to connect more students with education and careers in the health sciences. Take a look at what our SMP students had to say about [creating connections](#) on the Faculty of Medicine YouTube channel.

The final deadline for the 2019 Summer Mentorship Program is Friday, March 22. Students must be at least [16 by June 30, 2019](#) to be eligible and they need their transcript to apply. The credit counselling summary is also acceptable.

For information: visit the [website](#) to browse their [frequently asked questions](#).

Maple Leaf Foods Summer Student Jobs

Toronto Poultry Plant, 100 Ethel Ave.

Please send resumes to:

Sabrina.Izzi@mapleleaf.com

Nicole.johnpulle@mapleleaf.com

Please click here for a [Summer Student Jobs flyer](#).

Welcome to This Year's Breakthrough Junior Challenge

Explain a big scientific idea in fundamental physics, life sciences or mathematics with a short video.

The challenge opens on May 1st. All video entries must be in by **June 15, 2019 (3 mins max)**.

To take part in the Breakthrough Junior Challenge, create a short video (3 minutes max) to explain a big idea in one of these fields: Physics, Mathematics, Life Sciences

Your film can take any form you like: animation, talking head, documentary, dramatic reconstruction, whatever. It's worth keeping in mind that video is a dynamic visual medium – using diagrams, simulations, physical demonstrations etc. is a lot more effective than standing in front of a blackboard talking.

Get all the details online

<https://breakthroughjuniorchallenge.org/>

Meagan's Walk

2019 Volunteer Registration is Open

Saturday May 11, 2019

Raising hope, awareness, and funds for paediatric brain tumour research.

[Volunteer Registration](#) closes on April 30th

On **Saturday May 11th, 2019**, Meagan's Walk will be holding the 18th Annual Walk & Hug. We are looking for the support of over 200 volunteers. We need your help to ensure the event is a huge success. The event is a 5km walk from Fort York to SickKids where we finish with our "Hug" around the hospital.

The Walk & Hug wouldn't be possible without the support of amazing volunteers.

Young Entrepreneurs, Make Your Pitch

Reminder: the competition deadline is **March 22, 2019** – this year we would love to see more students make their pitch for a chance to pitch their business idea and win prizes.

[Young Entrepreneurs, Make Your Pitch](#) competition invites Ontario students in Grades 9-12 to pitch their best business ideas in a two-minute video.

Finalists will receive a trip to Toronto and expert training, and will present their pitch at [OCE's Discovery Conference](#) hosted at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, May 12-14, 2019. Six competition winners, selected by an expert panel, also receive reserved entry into Summer Company to develop their business idea (worth up to \$3,000 in start-up funding) in addition to an award suite.

For inquiries, please contact:

Febbie Shikongo, Make Your Pitch Coordinator t:416.861.1092 x 1121

febbie.shikongo@oce-ontario.org

CNTower Climb for World Wildlife Federation

April 13-14, 2019

Volunteers Needed

<https://www.tedsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/OpportunitiesForStudents/Pages/CNTowerClimb.aspx>

2019 Toronto Star Journalism Awards

Recognizing excellence in high school newspaper journalism

Deadline for applications is April 24, 2019

<https://www.thestar.com/hsja.html>

Reminders:

Student Trustee Elections Coming April 30th

Applications due March 24th

Meet the candidates March 26th

Details: <https://www.tcdsb.org/forstudents/pages/student-trustee-elections.aspx>

We Belong Celebration Coming May 21st

Get your submissions in by April 5th

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/rooted-in-christ/pages/we-belong-celebration.aspx>

Check out the submissions received so far here:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/rooted-in-christ/Pages/we-Belong-submissions.aspx>

FaithTalk

One student will be live on air during Catholic Education Week on Radio Maria.

To enter, get your submission in by April 5th.

Details here: <https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/rooted-in-christ/Pages/radio-maria.aspx>

March 21st is...

- **World Down Syndrome Day**
- Wear mismatched socks to show your support for our exceptional students, their families and the staff who care for them
- **International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination**
- TCDSB is committed to nurturing inclusive and equitable workplaces and places of learning where all are welcome; all belong

International Women's Day Event happening at the Catholic Education Centre

<https://www.tcdsb.org/forcommunity/communityrelations/pages/iwd-celebration-2019.aspx>

Power of a Girl Event at the Catholic Education Centre

March 22, 2019

<https://www.tcdsb.org/forcommunity/communityrelations/newsandevents/2018-2019/pages/powerofagirl.aspx>

World Water Day

March 22, 2019

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/environment/water/pages/worldwaterday.aspx>

Celtic Canadian Heritage Month Mass and Celebration

March 29, 2019

Precious Blood Parish Hall

<https://www.tcdsb.org/forcommunity/heritagecelebration/celticcanadianheritage/events/pages/2018-2019.aspx>

TCDSB schools participate in Earth Hour

March 29, 2019 10-11 a.m.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/environment/earthhour/pages/default.aspx>

Earth Hour March 30th 8:30-9:30 pm

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