



## Annunciation Catholic School

65 Avonwick Gate,  
Don Mills, ON, M3A 2M8  
Tel.: 416-393-5299  
Fax: 416-397-6089

**Principal**  
Vernon Sweeney

**Superintendent**  
John Shanahan  
416-222-8282, ext. 5371

**Trustee**  
Angela Kennedy, 416-512-3411

**Parish**  
Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
**Pastor:** Fr. Jude Coyle  
416-445-1760

**Enrollment:** 346

**Hours of Operation**  
Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Lunch Hour**  
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.



December 2017

# School News

## The Season of Advent

The season of Advent begins Sunday, December 3. The Advent season is a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. It is also the start of the liturgical year in the Roman Catholic Church.

Advent is the period of four Sundays before Christmas. The word *Advent* comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to," and thus refers to the coming of Christ. This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. It also reminds us of the coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Finally, Advent reminds us of the promised Second Coming of Christ at the end of time. Therefore, our personal preparations should have all three comings of Christ in mind as we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth worthily.

May the season of Advent be a blessed time of preparation for all members of our community at Annunciation Catholic School.

**We, the staff at Annunciation Catholic School, wish you a Blessed and Merry Christmas.**

## PA Day Friday, December 1

Please be aware that Friday, December 1 is a Professional Activity Day (PA Day). There will not be classes for students on this day.

## Virtue of the Month

The virtue for December is **Charity**.  
"Where there is charity and love,  
God is there."

## Family of Schools Advent Mass

**Wednesday, December 6** is the Family of Schools Advent Mass for Annunciation Catholic School, St. Isaac Jogues Catholic School, and Our Lady of Wisdom Catholic School.

The student choirs begin the evening in the Church at **6:30 pm**, and Mass is celebrated starting at **7:00 pm**.

Please join us for this celebration!

## Christmas Concert at Annunciation Catholic School

The Christmas Concert will take place starting at **6:30 p.m.** on **Wednesday, December 20** in the Annunciation Catholic School gym.

More information will be forthcoming.

## Book Fair Success

Mrs. Foster, our librarian, organized a fantastic school book fair.

Thank you to everyone in our school community for supporting the book fair!

## **Reporting of Cancellations or Closures**

### **Due to Inclement Weather**

Cancellation of school bus transportation or school closures due to inclement weather will be reported through the following vehicles:

- Please note that any cancellations or closures due to inclement weather will be reported before 7 a.m. Best place to get the info quickly is through **Twitter @TCDSB** (please follow us), the board's website [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) and the 24-hour telephone information line 416-222-8282 ext. 2873. Typically, information is provided to the communications department between 6 and 7 a.m. through the Board's Transportation Department, who are consulting with TDSB transportation staff and school bus operators on the viability and safety of delivering bus service.
- News releases to all media outlets in Toronto (although the news release is provided to the media outlets, there is no guarantee that all television and radio stations will broadcast the information in a timely fashion.)
- Communications will endeavour to send an email to everyone on exchange to advise them of any cancellations or closures
- The main Board number 416-222-8282 will also post the status regarding school operations, which can be heard immediately upon dialing the main number.
- Updates will be posted on the Board's 24-hour information line, 416-222-8282, extension 2873.
- The information will be posted on the homepage of the Board's website at [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org). Other weather related information such as guidelines for cold weather can be found at [www.tcdsb.org/weather.htm](http://www.tcdsb.org/weather.htm).
- E-News subscribers will also receive a message about any cancellations/closures via email.

### **Driving Your Child to School?**

#### **Pedestrian safety begins with drivers.**

You're a role model for your children through your actions, so help make our school zones a safe experience for all of us.

Please remember that the staff parking lot is for staff parking. **Parents wishing to park during arrival and departure times should find a parking location on local streets.**

### **Junior Kindergarten Registration 2018**

In the new year, Annunciation Catholic School parents can register Junior Kindergarten children beginning at **10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2018.**

Additionally, Annunciation Catholic School will have extended Junior Kindergarten Registration hours on **Wednesday, February 7, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

**Please remember to use the website for TCDSB registration:**

**<https://soar.tcdsb.org/Login.aspx>**

After completing the online registration, parents will be required to visit the school to present the required registration documents. Please contact Mrs. Andrade (416-393-5299) to arrange a convenient time to share documents.

### **Halloween Dance Fundraiser**

Our parent council would like to thank everyone who participated in our Halloween fundraiser. It was a big success and we would like to extend a sincere thank you to the children, teachers, staff and all the parents who contributed their time and funds to help our school! Total funds raised was \$5215.55.

Here are the prize winners of \$25.00 gift cards:

#### **Primary winners:**

Angela E. (Ms. Caruso)  
Matthew P. (Ms. Fernando)  
Ethan O. (Ms. Fernando)  
Olivia O. (Mrs. Dunbar)

#### **Junior Winners:**

Jason R. (Mrs. Santamaria)  
Matthew M.-W. (Mrs. Castellano)

#### **Intermediate Winners:**

Zhaccery A. (Mrs. Reynolds)  
Nathaniel V. (Mrs. Van)

#### **Ms. Caruso's class raised the most funds!**

Their class will enjoy a pizza lunch and Dress Down on Friday, December 8!!

**Thank you, all!!!**

## **All School Visitors Are To Report To The School Office**

To help maintain the security of our building and the safety of our children, all visitors are to report to the school office upon arrival. Mrs. Andrade, our school secretary, can assist visitors with inquiries.

Parents wishing to meet with a teacher and/or the principal are welcome to arrange a mutually convenient meeting time.

## **Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC) Meeting**

Please note that our next CSPC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 7:00 p.m. in our school library. All parents are welcome to join us and share ideas for improving our children's learning experience at Annunciation Catholic School.

**If a parent requires child supervision, please contact the school 1-2 days prior to the meeting so supervision arrangements can be made.**

## **REMINDER Student Belongings**

Please be reminded that student personal belongings/valuables (including Pokémon cards) should be left at home.

This will help to reduce loss/damage of property and associated student disappointment.

Thank you.

## **Date Reminders**

**Friday, December 22** is the last day of school for 2017.

School Resumes on

**Monday, January 8, 2018**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
and  
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## **Parents Urged to Check Their Liability Insurance Coverage**

At the October 19, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Board resolved that all parents of the Board should be advised to consider contacting their home insurance providers to determine the adequacy of their home insurance coverage to cover claims arising out of injuries caused by their child at school.

The reason for the Board of Trustee direction is that there have been a few instances recently where legal action has been initiated for personal injury or other harm to a student allegedly caused by another child.

A brief consultation by parents with their insurance provider is advised so parents can assess the adequacy of their insurance coverage if they are sued for personal injury or other harm allegedly caused by their child at school.

## **Angel Foundation for Learning**

Through the Loretto Fund and the Social Work Emergency Fund the Angel Foundation supports TCDSB students who are new comers to Canada by helping to offset the costs for items such as school supplies, uniforms, field trips, groceries or other necessities to help them settle into school and life in Canada. You can help support families who have come to Canada in search of peace donations to The Angel Foundation for Learning. To learn more about the work of the Foundation, visit <http://www.angelfoundationforlearning.org/>

### **Trustees 2017 - 2018**

#### **Wards**

- |                     |                            |                              |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino   | 5. Maria Rizzo, Vice Chair | 9. Jo-Ann Davis              |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk    | 6. Frank D'Amico           | 10. Barbara Poplawski, Chair |
| 3. Sal Piccininni   | 7. Michael Del Grande      | 11. Angela Kennedy           |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 8. Garry Tanuan            | 12. Nancy Crawford           |
- Rhea Carlisle, Student Trustee      Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee





## **Annunciation Catholic School**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We want to let you know about the common problem of head lice. Head lice can affect anyone, but most often it affects younger school-age children.

Head lice are parasites. They are considered by health officials to be a nuisance when they are difficult to eliminate. They are not a health hazard and are not connected in any way with long hair, dirt, neglect, or not being clean. Head lice can spread quickly from head to head when a group of children have close contact (e.g. school, camp, day-care, etc.). Head lice can be spread by sharing hats, brushes, combs, bedding, etc.

Prevention of head lice is everyone's responsibility. Cooperation and prompt action on the part of parents, school staff, and the public health department will help to reduce the inconvenience to children.

We encourage parents to look at their children's hair on a regular basis. When checking for nits (eggs), the hair should be dry. A convenient time for a visual check may be just before washing your child's hair.

If you find any head lice or nits (eggs), obtain and use a medicated head lice shampoo or medicated cream rinse from your pharmacist, and contact the school to inform us that your child has been treated. The school needs to be informed so that other parents and school officials can be advised to check the heads of others. Finding and treating head lice early will stop your child from getting a severe case and stop the spread of head lice to other children.

Further information and reference about head lice can be obtained from the school or local office of the Toronto Public Health Department:

Tel: **416-338-7600**

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

V. Sweeney  
Principal



# Monthly Update from the Board

## December 2017

### Inclement Weather Protocol

With the approach of winter and the associated ice and snow, there is always a possibility of school bus cancellations or delays, as well as cancellation of programs and services such as evening classes or permits. Your best source of information is via Twitter @TCDSB. For those who are not on Twitter, please tune in to local television and radio networks for updates. Other good sources of information are:

- TCDSB's website [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org)
- Toronto Student Transportation Group website <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org>
- TCDSB 24-hour Telephone Information Line: 416-222-8282 ext. 2873
- Or if you wish to receive updates right to your email, subscribe to enews: <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>

### Christmas Holidays

The last day of classes before the Christmas break will be Friday, December 22, 2017. Schools will reopen on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Administrative offices will be closed from Saturday December 23<sup>rd</sup> through to Monday, January 1, 2018.

### SAVE THE DATE!

#### Kindergarten Registration Begins January 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.

Visit [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) for details.

#### New French Immersion Programs

#### Coming September 2018

We are pleased to share that following the successful community consultation, the Toronto Catholic District School Board is moving forward with the implementation of French Immersion Programming for September 2018 at the following schools:

- [St. Mary Catholic School](#)
- [St. Alphonsus Catholic School](#)

#### Registration will begin in January 2018.

The introduction of enhanced programming at TCDSB schools is one aspect of our Long Term Program Plan (LTPP). Increasing the number of French Immersion programs available in our schools is a part of the LTPP and the Board's ongoing responsibility to offer dynamic educational opportunities to its students across the City of Toronto.

Visit [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) for information about further expansions of the French Immersion program.

### TCDSB 2017-2018 Awards Season has begun!

Nominations are welcome for the annual TCDSB Alumni Award, Award of Merit and Friends of Catholic Education Award which will be presented at Awards Night on May 7, 2018.

**Deadline: third Friday in January** (January 20).

- **TCDSB Alumni Award:** Open to TCDSB alumni who are still active in the Catholic community and who have distinguished themselves in their career or accomplishments.
- **TCDSB Award of Merit:** Open to former staff, parents and trustees who have made outstanding contributions to the TCDSB and to Catholic education (can only be considered for award after a three-year period has passed since departure from the TCDSB)
- **Friends of Catholic Education Award:** Open to members of the general public (individuals or organizations) who have accomplished extraordinary service to Catholic Education but who may not be Catholic.

For nomination forms and information, visit: [www.tcdsb.org/awardsnight](http://www.tcdsb.org/awardsnight)

### December's Virtue is Charity

Find all the resources related to the monthly virtue, as well as other resources to support faith development and Religion and Family Life on our website here: <https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Pages/Default.aspx>

### TCDSB Celebrates Advent and Christmas

Visit the board's website for the latest news and information from TCDSB schools including food and clothing drives, Christmas baskets for needy families, Christmas concerts and other special events.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2018/pages/Advent-and-Christmas.aspx>