



## Annunciation Catholic School

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

**Principal**  
Vernon Sweeney

**Superintendent**  
Peter Aguiar  
416-222-8282, ext. 2267

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

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

**Enrollment:** 343

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

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



December 2018

# School News

## The Season of Advent

*The season of Advent begins Sunday, December 2. It is a period of preparation, extending over four Sundays, in advance of Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin advenio, "to come to," and refers to the coming of Christ. This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; but second, to the coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and finally, to His second coming at the end of time.*

*Our preparations, therefore, should have all three comings in mind. We should prepare our souls to receive Christ worthily.* (Scott P. Richert)

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.**

## 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 12** 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 Events at Annunciation Catholic School

1. Staff have reviewed parent requests for an evening concert for ELP – Gr 2. An evening option is not available this year. The daytime Christmas Concert for ELP- Gr 2 classes, the Choir, and the Intermediate Grade Band will take place starting at **1 p.m. Thursday, December 20** in our school gym. All available family members are welcome to enjoy the daytime concert.

2. The Dance Gala for Gr 4 – 6 takes place Wednesday, December 5 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the gym.

3. The Family of Schools' Advent Mass takes place Wednesday, December 12 at our Church. The school children's choir begin the evening in the Church at **6:30 pm**, and Mass is celebrated starting at **7:00 pm**.

Please join us for our Christmas celebrations!

## PA Day Friday, December 7

Please be aware that Friday, December 7 is a Professional Activity Day (PA Day). There will not be classes for students on this day.

## **School Parking Lot Closed at Entry and Exit Times**

For safety reasons, the school parking lot is closed at entry(8:15-8:45) and dismissal (2:45-3:15) times

### **Pedestrian Safety**

Please be sure to use street crosswalks to cross local streets. Please be safe.

### **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.

## **Lunch Time Supervisor**

Our school requires additional lunch time supervisors to assist with lunch supervision. We have need for **one full-time** (five days a week) supervisor. Please contact Mrs. Andrade for more information, 416-393-5299.

### **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/families who contributed their time and funds to help our school raise \$4,466.85.

Here are the top student fundraisers and prize winners of \$25.00 gift cards:

Angela E.

Jordan Z.

Sarah Z.

George Z.

Damien Z.

Matthew P.

### **Mr. Lee's class raised the most funds!**

Their class enjoyed a pizza lunch on Monday, November 19!!

**Thank you, all!!!**

## **Before and After School Program in Annunciation Catholic School**

Do you need Before and After school care for the 2018-2019 school year?

### **Register Now! (Space is limited)**

Our Before and After School Program is now accepting applications for both, Subsidy and Full-Fee based Family.

We offer program on PA days, Holiday, March Break and Summer camps.

We also offer Homework Assistance, Literacy, Fitness, Project based learning, Arts & Culture, and a Daily Nutritious Breakfast and Snack.

For more information please contact Cherrie Li at 647-289-8728 or [annunciation@networkchildcare.com](mailto:annunciation@networkchildcare.com)

## 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 16, 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.

## 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/>

## Date Reminders

**Friday, December 21** is the last day of school for 2018.

School Resumes on

**Monday, January 7, 2019**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
and  
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

### **Kindergarten Registration Begins January 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.**

In the new year, Annunciation Catholic School parents can register Junior Kindergarten children beginning at **10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 16, 2019.**

Additionally, Annunciation Catholic School will have extended Junior Kindergarten Registration hours on **Tuesday, February 26, 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.

## **International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program: December Update**

On July 12<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Trustees of the TCDSB approved a motion to survey parents, in all TCDSB Elementary Schools, from November 13<sup>th</sup> to November 27<sup>th</sup>, to determine whether parents wish to continue or initiate an International Languages program at their child's school.

We would like to thank everyone that was involved with the delivery, distribution and collection of the completed ILE survey. We would like to especially thank all families for providing your voice to the process by completing and returning the survey.

Results of the survey will be compiled and reported to the Board of Trustees in January 2019. This report will include a list of results by school, including the response rates for each school. However, only schools with the required threshold of 67% response rate will receive a detailed summary of parent responses.

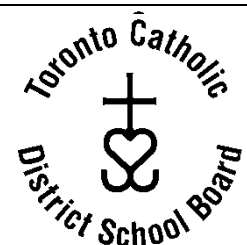
For updated information regarding the International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program please visit:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/internationallanguages/pages/change-to-international-languages-program.aspx>

### **Trustees 2018 - 2019**

#### *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           |
- Taylor Dallin, 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 2018

### Latest Updates on Weather Related Cancellations or Closures

To get the latest information about school bus transportation, see <https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Cancellations.aspx>

Parents are encouraged to subscribe to the transportation portal to get real time information about any transportation issues:

<https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>

Information is also shared via Twitter. Follow @TCDSB.

For more information: <https://www.tcdsb.org/forstudents/healthandsafety/pages/weather-related-safety-concerns.aspx>

### French Immersion and Extended French Info Nights:

#### Dec. 5, 2018 – Feb. 20, 2019

Elementary Schools with French Immersion and Extended French programs invite their communities to attend Information Nights as we approach Kindergarten Registration, which begins Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. The following schools will host French Immersion Information Nights in December:

- St. Cecilia – December 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
- St. Benedict – December 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
- St. Cyril – December 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Click here for all French Immersion Info Night dates:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/FrenchImmersion/Pages/default.aspx>

Click here for all Extended French Info Night dates:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/Extended%20French/Pages/default.aspx>

### 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/>

### PA Day

Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> is a system-wide PA Day (Check with your local school to confirm)

### Christmas Holidays

The last day of classes before the Christmas break will be Friday, December 21, 2018. Schools will reopen on Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Administrative offices will also be closed starting Saturday December 22<sup>rd</sup> and reopening on Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

### SAVE THE DATE!

#### Kindergarten Registration Begins January 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.

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

Apply online starting January 16<sup>th</sup> at <https://soar.tcdsb.org>

### The Catholic Register's popular children's drawing contest is back!

The Catholic Register is conducting its eight annual children's Christmas drawing contest. The top entry in each of 3 categories will receive a \$75 gift certificate for a day at the movies. The winning drawings will appear in *The Register's* Christmas edition, Dec. 24.

The contest is open to children in Grades 1 to 8. Entries must be original, in colour, drawn or painted on a page 8.5" x 11" or larger and illustrate some aspect of the birth of Jesus as recorded in the Gospels. We want paintings or drawings that depict the true meaning of Christmas so, please, no Santas or reindeer.

<https://www.catholicregister.org/ChristmasContest>

## **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—Advent Begins December 1st**

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>

## **PRESTO Cards for TCDSB Students**

Over the past few weeks the Toronto Catholic District School Board and the Toronto Student Transportation Group have been working closely with the TTC on the logistics for providing complimentary PRESTO cards to all students ages 6 to 12 (child cards) and 13 to 19 (youth cards). The purpose of this initiative is to help students smoothly make the transition away from TTC passes, and tickets, to the PRESTO electronic fare card.

**Please note that the TTC will stop selling tickets and tokens on August 3, 2019.**

The TTC is providing the PRESTO cards to school boards free of charge.

Watch for more information to come from your school soon.

## **We Belong**

As we journey through the first year of our pastoral plan, "Rooted in Christ, we Belong, we Believe, we Become", the Nurturing our Catholic Community Team invites you to share your ideas of belonging. We want to hear from our students and staff about how they are nurturing the concept of belonging and inclusion in their schools, in their families, in their parishes and their community.

We invite you to submit student artwork, written work, videos/slideshows, songs or any other creative expressions of belonging to [ncc.team@tcdsb.org](mailto:ncc.team@tcdsb.org) by no later than **Friday, March 22, 2019.**

When sharing your initiatives on social media, tweet or post @TCDSB with the hashtag #TCDSBelongs so we can follow your progress. For ideas and resources linked to our pastoral plan, [click here](#).

All submissions will be featured on the TCDSB website, as well as at our year-end celebration to be held May 21<sup>st</sup>. All schools will be invited to send two representatives (*any combination of student, parent, teaching or non-teaching staff, school administrator*).

A poster is attached as a reminder. Please feel free to share with your staff and your CPSC members, and parishes!