



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School

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Scarborough, Ontario
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School Telephone 416 393 5272
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Principal:
Maureen Murphy

Secretary:
Sue Noonan

Superintendent:
Geoff Grant 416 222 8282 Ext # 2392

Trustee:
Nancy Crawford
Phone 416 222 8282 ext 3412

Parish:
Immaculate Heart of Mary
131 Birchmount Road Toronto ON
416 691 6968
Pastor: Fr Peter Tammearu

CSAC Chair: Jenn Radonicich

CPIC (Parent Engagement--TCDSB)
www.tcdsb.org/cpic
OAPCE Toronto (Provincial Voice for
Parents)
www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto

Enrollment: 180

Hours of Operation:
9 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Lunch Hour:
11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Catholic School News

Message from the Principal

Chocolates, flowers, valentines and red hearts - what would the month of February be without the celebration of Valentine's Day? At Immaculate Heart of Mary (and the TCDSB) we will be focusing on the virtue of Love as expressed in the Gospels, not only on February 14, but throughout the month. My apologies for getting this newsletter out so late, but somehow or other, time just got away from me. I am not sure if any of you can understand how this can happen? ☺ In February, we have been happy to welcome Mrs. Noonan and Ms. Maragna back. Sadly, Ms. Grechi leaves our community to head to another one. They are indeed fortunate as we were to have her with us for the short period of time she was able to be. Ms. Evanson, who was with us for the month of January, will also be moving on, but we hope to see her back with us as a supply teacher. It has been a busy time for us here at school and no doubt there is more to come before we are done with winter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your involvement in your child's education be it through volunteering at the school, on trips, on special lunch days, sharing in your child's excitement over the Book Fair, sharing in your child's Sacramental preparation or reading their agenda at the end of the day. We at the school value your interest and look forward to having more opportunities for participation as the year continues!

*Maureen Murphy
Principal*

Virtue of the Month

The Virtue for the Month of February is **Love**.

The proof of love is in the works. Where love exists, it works great things. But when it ceases to act, it ceases to exist.

Pope St. Gregory the Great

Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation

Preparations have begun for Sacramental Preparation for students in Grades 2, 7 and 8. If you have any questions, please call the church at 416 691 6968.

February is also African Canadian Heritage Month

www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/AfricanCanadianHeritage/Pages/default.aspx

Newsletter

In an effort to reduce our paper usage at the school, we would prefer to send our monthly newsletters by email. If you are interested in this, **please send in your email information in your child's agenda** or call it into the office at 416 393 5272. Thanks in advance for this! We look forward to having communication sent out online as soon as possible.

Kindergarten Registration Starts January 2015

Registration for Kindergarten students starting in September 2015 has started. Please visit the board's website at www.tcdsb.org to fill out the application forms online, and find out more about the registration process. Please share this information with anyone you know who may be interested in sending their Kindergarten-aged children here next year!

Students being dropped off at school in the morning

Supervision for students begins at 8.30 a.m. Please ensure that you are dropping your children at the school after this time in order to ensure their safety.

Ash Wednesday – Wednesday, February 18

Fr. Peter will be celebrating a liturgy with us on Wednesday morning at 9.15 a.m. at the church. Ashes will be distributed at this time. You are more than welcome to join us. We would love to share this liturgical celebration with all who are able!

CSAC Meeting

Our next meeting is on Monday, February 23 at 7.00 p.m. in the staffroom. We will be discussing future fundraising and other activities for families for the rest of the year. All are welcome! If you are interested but this time is not good for you, please let us know at the office and we will be sure to send you the minutes.

Hot Dog Lunch

Our next hot dog lunch will be February 27. Forms will go home sometime this week.

Book Fair

From February 9 – 13, Immaculate Heart of Mary and Mrs. Van Stekelenburg hosted a Scholastic Book Fair in our library. Our goal was to sell \$1500 worth of books and materials in order to benefit our school library. Instead, approximately \$2500 worth of books and materials were sold resulting in a whopping \$800 worth of materials being brought back into our library. On February 13, all of the new material was catalogued and is ready for circulation. Way to go Immaculate Heart of Mary! You sure know how to overachieve!

Winter Weather and Outdoor Recess

Now that we are truly experiencing winter weather with the snow and the cold, I would like to let you know that here at the school, -20C is the marker we use for whether or not to call an indoor recess. That is, -20C factoring in the wind chill. Please ensure that your child is prepared for winter when they come to school. It is also important to have an indoor pair of shoes at school so that when boots are worn to school, there is footwear available to walk around the halls. This ensures safety for our children when they are walking inside the building.

Chess Club

Due to an overwhelming interest in playing chess, Immaculate Heart of Mary has initiated a chess club on Mondays and Wednesdays at lunch. Currently we have approximately 30 students who come out regularly to develop their skills in the game. Mrs. Murphy and Mrs. Juchniewicz are supervising this activity - however our chess knowledge is limited! If there is anyone in the community who would be available to come out and support with your knowledge and love of the game, we would be thrilled to have you join us!

Information for Grade 8 Students

Our grade 8 students recently received their high school acceptance forms and soon will be selecting their courses for next year. If you are interested in checking out what is available, the Course Calendar for 2015 – 2016 is available at:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/GuidanceCoopEd/Documents/TCDSB%20Course%20Calendar%202015-2016.pdf>

School Skating at Scarborough Gardens

On Tuesday, February 10, we had our fourth and final day of skating for the year. The students really enjoyed the opportunity to practise and develop their skills over the 4 sessions. A big thank you goes to Mr. Bianchi for arranging this for our students.

Swim to Survive

The grade 4s began participating in the TCDSB's Swim to Survive program at Birchmount Pool. The students have the opportunity to practise and develop their swimming and survival skills over 3 sessions. We are fortunate to have this program due to the sponsorship from the TCDSB.

Overnight trip for Grades 6 – 8

On Thursday, January 29, parents were invited to the school to learn more about the overnight trip for the Grades 6, 7 and 8 students planned for April 15 – 17. Ms. Williams and Ms. Abate facilitated the meeting and provided information regarding the planned program for these days. It sounds like an exciting time! The first deposit for the trip is due February 17.

International Participation with school in Jamaica

On Wednesday, February 11 at 10.00 a.m., students in Ms. Williams' class had the opportunity to participate in the Skype Meets Social Studies project from the Board. This program involves a cultural exchange with students from the Franklin School in Jamaica. The students in Jamaica SKYPED with our students and shared about their lives and our students in turn shared with them about theirs. What a great opportunity for using technology to learn from students about another culture.

Reporting of cancellations or closures due to inclement weather

Winter weather has arrived for the year. Please note that any cancellations or closures due to inclement weather will be reported before 7 a.m. The best place to get information quickly is through **Twitter @TCDSB** (please follow us), the board's website www.tcdsb.org and the 24-hour telephone information line 416-222-8282 ext. 2873.

Professional Focus for the Year

As you may know, our focus for the school year is on Math instruction. I like to include suggestions in our newsletter that you can do with your child in order to allow us to work together on strengthening our student's abilities and confidence with their Math skills.

For students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 (taken from abc123)

8. **Predict and compare** – start to measure and estimate things like how far it is from the driveway or how long a trip will take and then measure and compare the actual time it takes.

For students in Grades 4-6 (taken from abc123)

8. **Sports and math.** There is a lot of math used in sports: batting averages, points per game, save percentages. These are math terms that a sports enthusiast will love. If you watch a game with your child, read the newspaper report together sometime the next day and talk about the math concepts.

For students in Grades 7&8

Initiative

Help your teen to be curious about mathematics by being curious yourself. Talk with your teen to find out what your teen finds interesting and challenging in Mathematics.

Your teen may need to take initiative in:

- Working on mathematics assignments without being prompted to do so
- Exploring mathematics beyond the classroom

TRUSTEES 2014 – 2015

Wards

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Joe Martino | 5. Maria Rizzo | 9. Jo-Ann Davis |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 6. Frank D'Amico | 10. Barbara Poplawski |
| 3. Sal Piccininni | 7. John Del Grande, Chair | 11. Angela Kennedy |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 8. Garry Tanuan | 12. Nancy Crawford, Vice-Chair |
| Hannah McGroarty, Student Trustee | | Chris MacDonald, Student Trustee |

