

# February 2020

J A M E S C U L N A N C A T H O L I C S C H O O L

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416 393 5325

## Principal's Message

Gianna Helling  
Principal

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James Culnan Website:  
[www.jamesculnan.tcdsb.org](http://www.jamesculnan.tcdsb.org)

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As you will see in February's school calendar, February is indeed an eventful month filled with many important activities and celebrations. We extend our sincerest appreciation to all staff members, parents, volunteers and student leaders who continue to work diligently for the betterment of our school community and all its members.

During the Month of February, we recognize and celebrate the virtue of Love, and we remember that love not only inspires the practice of all other virtues, but it is also the form and completion of all the other virtues. No other virtue can be genuinely manifested without love.

Student success continues to be a priority for staff. We are completing Report Cards for Term 1 and look forward to sharing them with you on Tuesday, February 11th. Parent/Teacher Interviews are scheduled for Tuesday, February 11th and Thursday, February 13th. Information regarding on-line interview booking for parents will be sent home shortly.

We appreciate the ongoing support of the James Culnan community! Together we foster a love for learning and collectively, we develop a strong and caring connection between home, school and church for the benefit of all our learners. On behalf of the entire staff at James Culnan School, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a love-filled Valentine's Day, and a very safe and enjoyable Family Day weekend!

Regards,  
Gianna Helling                      Ida Mandarino  
Principal                              Vice Principal

**JAMES CULNAN  
CATHOLIC  
SCHOOL PARENT  
COUNCIL**

**NEXT MEETING:**

**WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 5TH  
AT 7:00 P.M.**

**ALL ARE  
WELCOME TO  
ATTEND!**



CSPC has launched a new hot lunch program, The Lunch Lady! Please visit [thelunchlady.ca](http://thelunchlady.ca) to register and order!

### Conditions Warranting Indoor Recess

Children need daily opportunities for exercise and free play outdoors. However, extreme weather conditions sometimes warrant indoor recesses, lunch periods and pre-entry periods.



**TCDSB Guidelines for Weather Conditions state:**

“Students will remain indoors when the temperature, or the temperature in conjunction with the wind speed, creates a wind chill factor that could possibly lead to frostbite.”

**The following table from Environment Canada is used to calculate Minutes to Frostbite:**

Windchill - Minutes to Frostbite

Temperature	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40
Wind (km/h)						
10	*	*	22	15	10	7
20	*	30	14	10	5	3
30	*	18	11	8	5	2
40	42	14	9	5	5	2
50	27	12	8	5	2	2
60	22	10	7	5	2	2

\*Frostbite unlikely

Red indicates approximate number of minutes

As an example, if the temperature is –20 and wind is blowing at 10 km/h, frostbite is unlikely. If the temperature is –20 and wind is blowing at 30 km/h, frostbite is possible in 18 minutes. In this second case, outdoor recesses may be shortened, or students may remain indoors.

**Always come to school dressed in appropriate winter attire (i.e., hats, mitts, scarves, boots, winter jackets, and snow pants!!)**

#### VISITING THE SCHOOL

We value the importance of making James Culnan a welcoming place for our parent community. This, of course, has to be balanced with the school’s obligation to ensure a safe environment for all students. When visiting the school, **always report immediately to the office.** Never travel the halls or go to classrooms without first getting permission from the office.

**NOTICE**

**ALL VISITORS  
MUST REGISTER  
AT OFFICE**

### Kindergarten Registration

Since kindergarten registration for the 2020-2021 school year began on Wednesday, January 15th, James Culnan has received a high volume of applications. If you have a child who will be enrolling in Kindergarten and have not already done so, be sure to apply on-line using the “Student On-line Admission and Registration” platform known as S.O.A.R. (found at the following link: <http://soar.tcdsb.org>).

## RESPECTFUL PARKING

James Culnan is blessed to have patient and tolerant neighbours, who kindly accept high volumes of traffic during peak times in the morning and afternoon. Unfortunately, we have been receiving calls from local residents, upset that their driveways are being blocked.



**Help keep our relationships strong by not blocking neighbours' driveways.**

## NEWS FROM PARENT COUNCIL

Happy February James Culnan!

As we enter in the month of the virtue Love, CSPC would like to share some of our playground love to the Intermediate students! On Friday, February 21, James Culnan will have a Dress Down Day in order to raise funds for two new benches for the Grade 7&8s. We are requesting that each student please donate \$2 towards the purchase of these benches; CSPC will also contribute funds to this initiative. Thank you in advance for showing our Grade 7 & 8s some love!

CSPC has launched a new hot lunch program, The Lunch Lady! The program has been running since the first week in January, and we have received positive feedback from our students about the food served. The Lunch Lady delivers on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**, and lunches are brought directly to your child's classroom. The school receives a small kickback from each lunch ordered. Visit [thelunchlady.ca](http://thelunchlady.ca) to register and order!

Our next CSPC meeting will be held in the school Library on Wednesday, February 5 at 7:00pm. We will be discussing Spring Fundraising options, and the Multi-Cultural Potluck. We hope to see you there!

Ana Ledo & Garth Mercer  
CPSC Co-Chairs

## CARNAVAL! CARNAVAL! CARNAVAL!



### Schedule:

Tuesday Feb 18	Red & White Day
Wednesday Feb 19	Dress like Bonhomme day
Thursday Feb 20	Crazy hair & Hat Day
Friday Feb 21	Jersey Day – school BINGO -PM

## Coronavirus

Stay up to date on the information shared by the Province of Ontario and Toronto Public Health <https://www.tcdsb.org/forstudents/healthandsafety/pages/coronavirusinformation.aspx>

## Reminder: Registration for Kindergarten, French Immersion and Extended French for September 2020 is OPEN

Visit the Board's website for information at <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/AdmissionsandRegistration/Pages/Default.aspx>

## Winter Weather Has Arrived

Don't miss out on information relating to cancellations or delays in school bus service. Sign up to receive alerts through the TSTG parent portal <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org> or follow @TCDSB on Twitter for the latest updates.

## Supporting Students at Home

Listed on the next few pages are a number of web-based tools that students and families can access from home to help support learning. This information is also available on the school Web site (<https://www.tcdsb.org/schools/jamesculnan/forparents/Pages/default.aspx>):

### MATH

- **Prodigy Game** (an interactive online math program that builds basic math skills and student confidence)
- **Homework Help** (free online math help resource for students in Grades 7-10 - provides live one-on-one tutoring from Ontario teachers; funded by the Ontario government and administered by TVO's Independent Learning Centre)
- **Nelson Math** (Online website support for parents for Nelson Mathematics from JK to grade 8)
- **AAA Math** (math website that features a comprehensive set of interactive arithmetic lessons for JK to grade 8 students. Unlimited practice is available on each topic which allows a thorough mastery of the concept)
- **Coolmath** (cool math games and puzzles, clear math lessons, fractals, geometry, tessellations and more for JK to grade 8 students)
- **Math Goodies** (a free math help portal for grade 1 to 8 students that features interactive lessons, worksheets and homework help (as endorsed by the TCDSB))
- **Math Playground** (Action packed math site featuring math games, math word problems, math worksheet, logic puzzles and math videos for JK to grade 8 students)
- **Math Stories** (math website for elementary school students (grade 1 through 6) to boost their math problem solving and critical-thinking skills)
- **Number Nut** (math website that offers an introduction to mathematics and its variety of topics for students of all ages)
- **Purple Math** (math website for grade 4 to 8 students that contains practical algebra lessons demonstrating useful techniques and pointing out common errors. Lessons are written with the struggling student in mind)
- **S.O.S. Math** (contains tutorials for grade 4 to 8 students that covers algebra, geometry, calculus, differential equations, matrices and complex variables. Reviews the most important results, techniques and formulas)
- **Web Math** (a math-help website for grade 4 to 8 students that generates answers to specific math questions and problems as entered by student at any particular moment)
- **Got Kids Games** (online math games by grade levels)
- **Khan Academy** – free website for learning and practicing math at all levels. [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

## LANGUAGE

- **RazKids** (an online guided reading program with interactive ebooks, downloadable books, and reading quizzes)
- **Progressive Phonics** (an all-one-reading program that is easy, fun and totally free to teach SK to 3 students to read and write in just a few minutes a day with worksheets and activity sheets for each book)
- **Read Write Think** (a website with a variety of resources for out-of-school use for students of all ages. Visit the Parent and Afterschool Resources section to learn more)
- **Reading A-Z** (offers thousands of printable teacher materials to levelled reading, phonemic awareness, reading comprehension, reading fluency, alphabet and vocabulary - includes professionally developed downloadable levelled books, lesson plans, worksheets and reading assessments for SK to grade 5 students) Books available in many different languages that can be printed or read on line.
- **Starfall's Learn to Read** (a website that uses a systematic phonics approach, in conjunction with phonemic awareness practice, to teach preschool, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, special education, home-school, and English language development (ELD, ELL, ESL) students to read. Starfall is an educational alternative to other entertainment choices for children)
- **Toronto Public Library KidSpace** (provides online help for homework assignments and studying (information is arranged by the Ontario curriculum courses and strands and includes extensive list of resources) and has links for tell-a-story, ready-a-story, hear-a-story, tumblebooks, ask a question, do a word puzzle or find a great book)
- **Vocabulary Spelling City!** (teaches spelling and vocabulary for students of all ages; students can study and learn their word list using vocabulary and spelling learning through games and printable worksheets)
- **Teach Your Child to read in 100 easy Lessons** (a program to bridge the gap between letter sounds and reading in English) <http://www.amazon.ca/Teach-Your-Child-Lessons/dp/0671631985>

## FRENCH

- **Voila Learning** (a French Homework Helper Online Support open to all French students with live tutors available online every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evening between 4pm and 8pm to help with reading comprehension or oral communication in French)
- **FSL Homework Toolbox** (a French online resource for students and parents to support French homework completion; launched in September 2011 by Rainbow DSB)

## INFORMATION

- [Canadian Geographic](#) (an online mapping tool)
- [FactMonster.com](#) (popular one-stop information resource for kids including timelines, almanacs, a colourful atlas and over 57,000 short articles from the Columbia Encyclopaedia)
- [FactMonster/homework](#) (breaks information down into subjects (geography, math, social studies) and skills (writing, speaking and listening, studying))
- [Grolier Online](#) (six research databases including encyclopedias and magazines)  
User name is toroncdsb  
Password is toro5988
- [National Geographic for Kids](#) (a site for animals and places)
- [Library and Archives Canada](#) (online resource where you can have your questions on Canadiana answered)
- [Natural Resources Canada Atlas](#) (online resource that allows you to download maps and find details on Canada's geography)
- Toronto Public Programs classes & exhibits: <http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/programs-and-classes/>  
(Programs, classes & exhibits coordinated by the Toronto Public Library)
- [Learn 360](#) (media resources for teachers & students for grades K to 12)