

Mother Cabrini Catholic School

720 Renforth Drive
Toronto, ON M9C 2N9
416-393-5340
416-393-5074

Principal: Sherrynn Ambrose

Superintendent: Flora Cifelli
416-222-8282 Ext. 2732

Trustee: Ann Andrachuk
416-222-8282 Ext. 3402

Parish: Nativity of Our Lord Church
480 Rathburn Road
Toronto, M9C 3S8
416-621-2732
Pastor: Fr. Michael Machacek

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2018-2019

Wards

1. Joseph Martino	416-512-3401
2. Ann Andrachuk	416-512-3402
3. Sai Piccininni	416-512-3403
4. Patrizia Bottoni	416-512-3404
5. Maria Rizzo, Vice-Chair	416-512-3405
6. Frank D'Amico	416-512-3406
7. Michael Del Grande	416-512-3407
8. Garry Tanuan	416-512-3408
9. Jo-Ann Davis	416-512-3409
10. Barbara Poplawski, Chair	416-512-3410
11. Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411
12. Nancy Crawford	416-512-3412
Taylor Dallin	
Student Trustees	416-512-3413
Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee	416-512-3417



The greatest of these is love!



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2018

Dear Parents/Guardian:

We welcome the month of October with its unseasonable warm weather! The Virtue for the month of October is *GRATITUDE*. We give thanks for the numerous ways in which God has richly blessed us. Whenever we gather as a faith community, we offer thanks to our God. We are thankful for our families, our friends and the blessing of good health. The blessings of food, friends, family and freedom are all gifts from our Creator God. As we celebrated Thanksgiving, it was important to take some time to remember those among us who are less fortunate. Over the course of the past several weeks, hurricanes, tropical storms and violent earthquakes have devastated a number of countries. Let us keep all those affected by these natural disasters in our thoughts and prayers.

Thank you to all parents and guardians who attended our Curriculum Night on September 27th. We had a tremendous turnout! We are especially thankful to Father Michael for joining us to giving his Blessings as well as share information on the youth ministry, activities and programs offered by the Church. As well, we express our gratitude to our Superintendent of Education, Mrs. Cifelli for also joining us on Curriculum Night. CSPC BBQ was hugely SUCCESSFUL! Thank you to the Parent community for your consistent support to the CSPC in all of their endeavors to continue to strengthen the home school relationship!

CSPC elections was held on September 19th. Please join me in extending warm congratulations to the new Co-Chairs team Mrs. L. Cannone and Mrs. C. Stadler. Executive members: Mrs. C. Forsyth- Secretary, Mrs. G. Ricci- Treasurer, Members at Large: Mr. M. Gentile, Mrs. K. Parik, Mrs. L. Stefanutti, Mrs. J. Biase, Mrs. C. Lapadula, Mrs. L. Fernandes and Mr. B. Miller. A heart felt thank you to our previous 2017/2018 CSPC members, Mr. C. Stadler, Mrs. N. Arsenault, Mrs. V. Klaric and Mr. C. Forgues for their hard work and dedication to CSPC! We look forward to working very closely with the new team to continue to foster a safe, welcoming, and caring school community at Mother Cabrini. CSPC meetings takes place the first Wednesday in every month and starting at 6:00 p.m. sharp. All meetings take place in the staff room. We extend a warm invitation to all parents/guardians to please attend meetings. Your support and input is always needed and greatly appreciated!

We are looking forward to our upcoming CSPC Halloween Dance on October 31st. CSPC members are very excited with putting on this fundraising event and have already began planning!

Also, we are very thankful that our school was successful in our application for the Lexia Reading Program! Participating students have to meet Criteria that are put in place by the Board. The Lexia reading program will support students to overcome challenges they experience in reading mainly in the primary grades. The program will be implemented by Mrs. DaSilva, Grade 2/3 Teacher and Mrs. Santelli the Special Education Teacher.

If the only prayer we say in life is *THANK YOU*-it is enough!

Sincerely,
Sherrynn Ambrose
Principal

TCDSB Celebrating October as Autism Awareness Month



Up-coming School Events

We will be having our annual Terry Fox walk on October 9th. Thank you to Mrs. Moretto for once again organizing the day's event! Students will dress in red and white, our national colors. Many thanks to all parents for sending in your toonie donation in support our National hero Terry Fox and the Terry Fox foundation for cancer research.



TCDSB Bus Safety Presentation

To date we held two school level Bus Safety presentations. Students who use the bus were reminded of the following: How to get on the school bus safely, ride safely, appropriate and safe behavior while on the bus and how to leave the bus safely. Each student is assigned a seat on the bus. Please remind your child/children to please seat in there assigned seat on the bus.



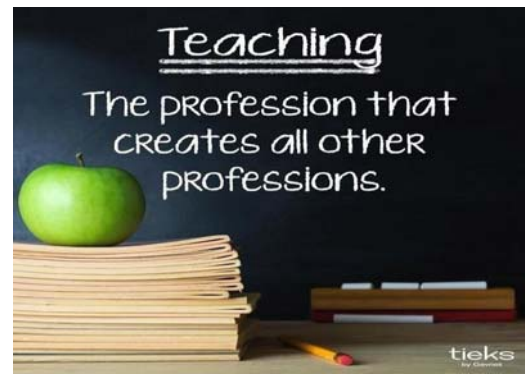
Leadership Clubs at Mother Cabrini

We are very proud of our student leaders at Mother Cabrini. In the month of September, students from grades 5 to grade 8 have demonstrated a great sense of leadership by offering and giving their time to help out around the school. Throughout this school year, students will be volunteering their time in the office as office monitors during recesses and lunch, distributing milk to every class, morning announcers over the PA, in the primary classes as lunch monitors, as safety patrollers assisting teachers to ensure everyone's safety at the end of the day, participating in various sports teams, taking leadership roles with various charity and fundraising initiative, singing in the choir, year book committee and as social justice leaders in the Me 2 We team. We look forward to seeing them around the school giving their time and service to the school. Thank you to all teachers who have taken on the leadership roles to support students in these extracurricular initiatives!

Celebrating World Teachers' Day!

TCDSB celebrated World Teacher Day on Friday October 5th. Please join me in thanking all of our Teachers for their dedication and commitment in their role as Educators. We are very fortunate at Mother Cabrini to have Teachers who are dedicated, caring, and supportive to the overall school community and continuously strive to ensure that all students work to their fullest potential to achieve academic excellence! I take this opportunity to extend heartfelt thanks to all our committed and very experienced teachers not only for their excellence in implementing the curriculum, but also for caring very deeply for the well-being of each and every student. I thank them for their leadership in providing students with opportunities to participate in various extracurricular activities that enriches the curriculum as well as nourishes students mind, body and soul.

Happy World Teachers' Day!



Early Childhood Education Day

The TCDSB will be celebrating Early Childhood Education Day on Tuesday October 16th! We extend our gratitude to our ECE Mrs. Zawistowski for all of her hard work in supporting teachers in the Full Day Kindergarten Program to keep students very engage at school. We thank Mrs. Zawistowski for her support in keeping our little ones safe at school and for her flexibility in the many roles that she plays or many 'hats that she wears' on any given day. Most of all we thank her for the consistent care, compassion and thoughtful manner in which she treats all of the children entrusted in her care. Happy Childhood Educational Day!

Athletics Corner

Students from the primary to intermediate grades are busy practicing for cross country. They come in very early in the morning to practice as well as practice during the lunch hour. Divisional Cross Country meet will be on October 12th, our Regional Cross Country meet on October 18th both at Centennial Park. City Championship will be on October 23rd at Earls Bales Park. We wish our students best of luck! Thank you to Mrs. Madeira, Mrs. Goslin and Mrs. Pacheco for all of your hard work in preparing students for all of the upcoming cross country events!

October is Autism Awareness Month

In Canada, October is Autism Month. Autism is characterized by difficulties in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication and repetitive behaviors. Autism statistics from the US identify around 1 in 68 children as on the autism spectrum—a ten-fold increase over 40 years. The increase in the number of students with autism has also been observed in the TCDSB. There are over 1,400 students with Autism in our schools, making this the third largest exceptionality in the Board (TCDSB). Please visit tcdsb.org for more information on Autism. In celebration of Autism month, at Mother Cabrini among our activities, we will be celebrating Autism Month by making morning announcements and sharing important facts on Autism.

Orange Shirt Day-Every Child Matters!

Mother Cabrini celebrated Orange Shirt Day on September 28th. Orange Shirt Day is meant to shed light on the challenges that Aboriginal children experienced in residential schools, promotes Indigenous education and highlight that fact that Every Child Matters. Thank you to Mrs. Adamo and her students for leading in Orange Shirt Day activities by reciting the Poem 'I Lost My Talk' over the PA and sharing the significance of Orange shirt day with the school through morning announcements!

I Lost My Talk

I lost my talk
The talk you took away.
When I was a little girl
At Shubenacadie school

You snatched it away:
I speak like you
I think like you
I create like you
The scrambled ballad, about my world.

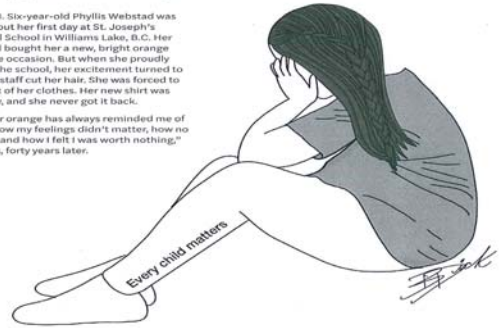
Two ways I Talk
Both ways I say,
Your way is more powerful.

So gently I offer my hand and ask,
Let me find my talk
So I can teach you about me

Orange Shirt Day

It was 1973. Six-year-old Phyllis Webstad was excited about her first day at St. Joseph's Residential School in Williams Lake, B.C. Her granny had bought her a new, bright orange shirt for the occasion. But when she proudly arrived at the school, her excitement turned to terror. The staff cut her hair. She was forced to change out of her clothes. Her new shirt was taken away, and she never got it back.

"The colour orange has always reminded me of that, and how my feelings didn't matter, how no one cared, and how I felt I was worth nothing," said Phyllis, forty years later.



Phyllis' Story

I went to the Mission for one school year in 1973/1974. I had just turned 6 years old. I lived with my grandmother on the Dog Creek reserve. We never had very much money, but somehow my granny managed to buy me a new outfit to go to the Mission school. I remember going to Robinson's store and picking out a shiny orange shirt. It had string laced up in front, and was so bright and exciting – just like I felt to be going to school!

When I got to the Mission, they stripped me, and took away my clothes, including the orange shirt! I never wore it again. I didn't understand why they wouldn't give it back to me, it was mine! The colour orange has always reminded me of that and how my feelings didn't matter, how no one cared and how I felt like I was worth nothing. All of us little children were crying and no one cared.



Building Bridges 2018/2019, Level 1, Issue 1

AAA, LastPlan

National Custodial Workers' Day 2018-2019!

On Monday, October 2nd we recognize National Custodial Workers' Day. We are so grateful to our custodial and maintenance staff for their dedication to maintaining our buildings throughout the school year, but also for their hard work during the summer months to ensure that our schools, classrooms and playgrounds are ready for September. Sincere gratitude to our very own Custodial staff Mr. Daponte and Mr. De Sousa for all of your hard work in always keep clean and welcoming to those who enter our doors!

Toronto Public Health

Parents are encouraged to update your child/children vaccinations online at www.toronto.ca/immunization or call the Immunization information line at 416-392-1250 to avoid students receiving a suspension order or being suspended from school.

Curriculum Corner/EQAO Results 2017-2018

Reading and writing results are very strong in both Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO 2017-2018 results.

Grade 3: 80 % of students in Grade 3 scored Level 3 or Level 4 in Reading, which is above Board and Provincial level. 84% of students in Grade 3 scored Level 3 or Level 4 in Writing, which is above Board and Provincial level. 52 % of students in Grade 3 scored Level 3 or Level 4.

Grade 6: 94 % of students in Grade 6 scored Level 3 or Level 4 in Reading, which is above Board and Provincial level. 94% of students in Grade 6 scored Level 3 or Level 4 in Writing, which is above Board and Provincial level. 61% of students in Grade 6 scored Level 3 or Level 4 which is above Board and Provincial level.

Thank you to all Teachers who have worked very hard with students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 as well as thank you to all parents for setting high expectations for your child/children and working with the school to ensure students consistently work to their fullest potential to achieve academic success!



TCDSB Monthly Update October 2018

Municipal Election October 22, 2018

New ward boundaries will be in effect

Existing Trustee Wards, including the local Catholic schools they represent, remain unchanged and the new boundaries DO NOT come into effect until December 1, 2018.

These changes do not affect the current number of Toronto Catholic District School Board Trustees which will remain at 12. However, it impacts the distribution areas of Trustee Wards and the local schools they represent.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/trusteesoftheboard/pages/new-trustee-ward-boundaries.aspx>

PLEASE NOTE: Although these changes do not come into effect until December 1, 2018, registered Catholic ratepayers will be voting for candidates based on these 12 new Trustee Wards for the Municipal Election on October 22, 2018. For more information regarding elections: <https://myvote.toronto.ca/home>

OAPCE-Toronto hosts a Catholic School Trustee Meet and Greet October 1, 2018 at the Catholic Education Centre <https://www.tcdsb.org/forparents/oapce-toronto/pages/default.aspx>

TCDSB Seeks Parent/Community Representatives

Representatives are needed for:

Safe Schools Advisory Committee (October 5, 2018)

Indigenous Advisory Committee (application deadline October 12, 2018)

Details online: <https://www.tcdsb.org/forparents/pages/current-openings--parent-membership-on-commmittees.aspx>

Night School Begins October 1st and 2nd

Details here: <https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/continuingeducation/pages/default.aspx>

CPIC Elections October 2, 3 and 15

Become a Voice for Catholic Parents

Representatives sought for Wards 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12. Election October 2, 2018.

Elections October 3, 2018 for vacancies in Wards 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9

Election of Parent Members at Large, October 15, 2018 at the Inaugural Meeting.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/forparents/parentinvolvement/cpicelections/pages/default.aspx>

High School Open Houses

Open houses are happening this fall in all TCDSB secondary schools. For a complete list of dates, times and locations visit <https://www.tcdsb.org/school/openhouses/pages/default.aspx>

TCDSB School Donations

Donations to schools are used to enhance local fundraising efforts, which support school initiatives that are not funded through Provincial Ministry of Education grants. School Cash Online makes donating to schools easier than ever, and all donations of receive a tax receipt. Click here to learn more or donate today:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/Pages/TCDSB-School-Donations.aspx>

Newcomer Conference we Belong--October 12, 2018

<https://www.tcdsb.org/forcommunity/newcomers/pages/newcomer-conference-registration.aspx>

Interim Trustee Coverage for Ward 4 Schools

Ward 4 Trustee Patrizia Bottoni has tendered her resignation from the Board of Trustees effective September 20, 2018.

The Board thanks Ms. Bottoni for her years of service to the Board and to the Catholic school communities in Ward 4, and wish her well in her future endeavours. Her departure leaves a vacancy in Ward 4, but given that we are just four weeks away from the election of Catholic School Board Trustees on October 22nd, the Board has decided not to fill the seat in the short term. Schools in Ward 4 will be represented by Trustees Sal Piccininni and Maria Rizzo, who have volunteered to support the Ward 4 area until the new Board of Trustees takes office on December 1, 2018.

The breakdown of Trustee representation is outlined below:

Trustee Sal Piccininni (sal.piccininni@tcdsb.org 416-512-3403)

- Blessed Margherita of Citta di Castello
- James Cardinal McGuigan
- St. Augustine of Canterbury
- St. Charles Garnier
- St. Jane Frances
- St. Wilfrid

Trustee Maria Rizzo (maria.rizzo@tcdsb.org 416-512-3405)

- Madonna
- St. Conrad
- St. Jerome
- St. Martha
- St. Norbert
- St. Raphael
- St. Robert

TCDSB thanks Trustee Piccininni and Rizzo for their willingness to be a voice for Ward 4 schools.

Angel Foundation For Learning

By attending The Angel Foundation for Learning's, **An Evening to Feed the Soul Gala on November 9th**, wondrous things are made possible!

- Funds are made available to schools through the **School Allocation Fund** to help reduce the costs associated with school trips or leadership activities so that all students share these invaluable experiences.
- TCDSB students will be assisted with some of life's basic needs such as warm clothing or food through the **Social Work Emergency Fund**.

Important School Links

To Access our School Calendar:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/schools/mothercabrini/SchoolCalendar/Pages/default.aspx>

School Cash Online:

School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers a safe, fast and convenient way to pay for school activity fees. The portal is customized to meet your school's needs and allows you as a parent, to add your students, make payments, check current balance/account history, print or view receipts, and receive notifications about upcoming events.

<https://tcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

To follow our School Twitter Account:

@Sambrose340

To Access our School Newsletter:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/schools/mothercabrini>

RE: VISION HEALTH FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Did you know that 1 in 4 school-age children may have a vision problem that could affect their ability to learn? An eye exam is the best way to help detect a vision problem and it is covered by OHIP every year for children and youth age 19 and under. Some signs that your child may be having difficulty seeing include:

- Squinting or holding objects close up
- Turns or tilts the head when viewing objects or covers one eye
- Excessive blinking, rubbing or itching eyes
- Complains of blurry or double vision

Source: Canadian Association of Optometrists

[To find an optometrist near you visit www.optom.on.ca](http://www.optom.on.ca)

[For more information, visit Toronto Public Health website or call Toronto Health Connection at 416-338-7600 and speak with a Public Health Nurse.](#)

[Was an eye exam on your child's back to school checklist?](#)

- Eye exam done
- Immunization up-to-date
- School supplies purchased

Make your child's eye exam a part of the back to school routine. An eye exam is the best way to help detect a vision problem and is covered by OHIP every year for children and youth age 19 and under. [To find an optometrist near you visit www.optom.on.ca](#)

[For junior kindergarten students, the Eye See Eye Learn program provides an eye exam as well as a free pair of eye glasses if required.](#)

Is your child ready for learning this school year? Help prepare your child for success by booking an eye exam with an optometrist. It's covered by OHIP for all children and youth age 19 and under.

Did you know?

- 1 in 4 school-age children may have a vision problem that if undetected could affect their ability to learn
- Some vision problems are much more easily treated when detected at a young age

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2018-2019

TCDSB SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2018-2019

Number of school days	194
Number of Professional Activity Days	7
Labour Day	September 3, 2018
First Instructional Day	September 4, 2018
Thanksgiving Day	October 8, 2018
Christmas Break schools February 4, 2019	December 24, 2018–January 4, 2019 Start of second semester secondary
Family Day	February 18, 2019
Mid-Winter Break	March 11–15, 2019
Good Friday	April 19, 2019
Easter Monday	April 22, 2019
Victoria Day	May 20, 2019
Last day of classes for elementary students	June 27, 2019

Seven (7) Professional Activity (PA) Days for ELEMENTARY schools:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| • October 5, 2018 | Provincial Education Priorities/Faith Development |
| • November 16, 2018 | Parent-Teacher Conferences |
| • December 7, 2018 | Provincial Education Priorities |
| • January 18, 2019 | Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting |
| • February 15, 2019 | Parent-Teacher Conferences |
| • June 7, 2019 | Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting |
| • June 28, 2019 | Provincial Education Priorities |

***Seven (7) Professional Activity (PA) Days for SECONDARY schools:**

- October 5, 2018
- November 16, 2018
- December 7, 2018
- February 15, 2019
- June 26, 27, 28, 2019
- Three PA days devoted to Provincial Education Priorities and supporting Article 19 of the Collective Agreement.
- One PA day devoted to Faith Development.
- One PA day devoted to numeracy across the curriculum.
- The remaining two PA days will be devoted to system priorities, annual learning plans and local goals articulated in the School Learning Improvement Plans.

* Secondary schools, in consultation with their Local School Staffing Advisory Committee, may schedule a Professional Activity Day to align with the day following one of the Parent-Teacher Interview nights.

Kids and Flu

The flu germs spread when people cough, sneeze or talk. The flu germs can also live on surfaces like toys, countertops, and door handles for up to eight hours.

Students can pass the flu germs to each other, to school staff and to family members before they show symptoms. Children under five, seniors and people in poor health are at greater risk of complications from flu.

Vaccination is the best protection against flu. It takes 2 weeks for the vaccine to be fully effective so get it early.

Tips on staying healthy this flu Season:

1. Get your flu shot early
2. [Wash your hands](#) often
3. Avoid touching face and eyes
4. [Cover your cough](#) or sneeze
5. Do not share drinking cups and utensils
6. Disinfect common surfaces like door handles, hand railings, keyboards, cell phones and tablets.

For more information, visit toronto.ca/health/flu



International Languages (Elementary) Program Update: October, 2018

International Languages Parent Survey

On July 12th, the Board of Trustees of the TCDSB approved a motion to survey parents **in all TCDSB elementary schools** to determine whether parents wish to continue or initiate an International Languages (Elementary) program at their child's school.

Surveys will be sent home with the progress report the week of November 12th, with the only or oldest child in each family. Families are asked to complete **one survey per family** and **submit it to the school principal by November 27, 2018.**

Should parents wish to have a translated version to assist with the completion of the English survey, they are asked to request a copy from the school principal or a special web page will be set up with translated versions of the survey. Translations will be available in the following languages: Spanish, Portuguese, Ukrainian, Arabic, Filipino, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional) Tamil, and Italian.

To ensure that results reflect the school community, surveys will be coded to ensure reliability, as well as, surveys from 67% of all families in the school must be completed and returned in order for the results to be considered viable. In the current schools that offer International Languages within the five hour school day, in order to determine if the program is to be continued using the Board approved model, or to move the IL program to an alternative model, the majority of 51% should be attained for the preferred selection.

For updated information regarding the International Languages Program please visit:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprograms/k12/internationallanguages/pages/change-to-international-languages-program.aspx>



Much appreciation to Mrs. DaSilva and her Grade 2/3 students for leading the school in our New Year School Year Mass! Thank you to all Parents,Guardians, Grandparents and friends who joined us in celebrating September's Mass!



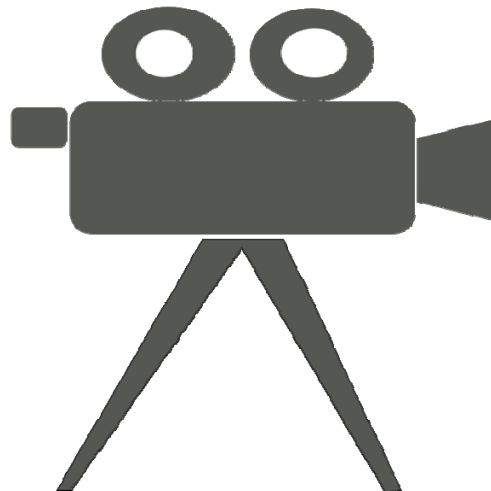
Mrs. Adamo and her students dressed in their orange shirt and leading the school in Orange Shirt Day celebrations, celebrating Every Child Matters!



Students in Mrs. John and Mrs. Zawistowski's students participating in praying the Rosary with the Rosary Apostolates!



Students joyfully leaving school after having a fantastic first day of school in September!





Nicole Welch
Director, Healthy Communities

Dr. Eileen de Villa
Medical Officer of Health
Public Health
277 Victoria Street
5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M5B 1W2
September 2018

Dear Principal,

Re: Vision Health for School-Age Children

We hope the new school year is going well and your students are off to a healthy start. The beginning of a new school year is an optimal time to raise awareness among your school community about the importance of vision health.

Vision is one of the most important senses for child development. However, as many as 1 in 4 students may have a vision problem that if left undetected can result in learning and behaviour challenges. Therefore, the Ontario Association of Optometrists recommends that all school age children receive an annual comprehensive eye exam, which is covered by OHIP for children and youth 19 years and under.

Toronto Public Health has developed sample messages to include in your school newsletters to help promote the importance of vision health and to provide information on how to access the services – see attached. Please consider using these messages throughout the year to remind parents/caregivers about the importance of taking their children for an annual eye exam. We will be posting a number of vision health messages on our social media platforms this fall.

Please follow us on Twitter [@TOPublicHealth](#) and Facebook to retweet and share our messages. For more information on vision health and school-age children, please visit [Toronto Public Health Website](#)

Sincerely,

Nicole Welch
Director, Healthy Communities
Toronto Public Health