



Mother Cabrini Catholic School

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Pastor: Fr. Michael Machacek

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2014-2015

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Catch the spirit!



MAY NEWSLETTER 2015

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Catholic Education week runs from May 4-8. The theme this year is "Exploring Paths of Joy....walking together and sharing our story." In our learning journey this school year we hope that students have explored and enjoyed many paths of learning and joy on a daily basis. Our shared stories are of learning, faith, friendship and community. With the support of home, school and church we have pursued many opportunities to help those in need in our immediate and communities abroad. We are very blessed to be able to flourish and grow with a faith based education. Examples of our efforts include our upcoming Heart and Stroke event which helps to raise awareness about heart health as well as raising money to help advance research for the heart and stroke foundation. As well our dress down for charity this month helped to raise funds for our local charities through Share Life. Please plan to join us for the many scheduled events for education week, in particular our book fair on May 6 and 7, our French production on May 7 and our Community Fun Day on May 21!

Our prayers go out to the victims of the earthquake in Nepal. Our dress down day this month for this cause will be on May 22 to ensure each dollar of humanitarian relief is matched by the federal government. Thanking you in advance for your generosity.

Upcoming events for the month of May include;

- CSAC Meeting-May 4
- Heart and Stroke Event-May 5
- Welcome to Kindergarten Evening-May 6
- Track and Field Tournaments-May 6, 15, 26
- Career Day-May 20
- The Living Rosary and School Clean up/Beautification-May 27 (see newsletter for details)

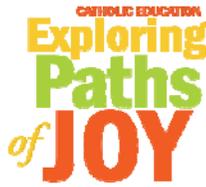
As a faith community we pray for God's continued blessings for our grade two students that are receiving the sacrament of First Holy Communion on May 23 and 30, as well as, the grade eight students receiving the sacrament of Confirmation on May 14. The virtue for the month of May is compassion. We continue to explore ways to demonstrate compassion at school and at home.

During the Month of May the administration of CAT/4 testing for grades 2,5 and 7 as well as the Ministry's EQAO testing for grade 3 and 6 will occur. The appropriate letters will be sent home with the information pertaining to these assessments.

As always, we look forward to seeing all parents and caregivers at the scheduled school events.

Yours in Partnership,

J. Di Vittorio
Principal



Catholic schools are Catholic communities. Catholic schools are faith communities. We – parents, students, teachers, administrative and support staff – walk and grow together in the faith which we received at our Baptism. And it is the ‘together’ that we grow. Our growth is primarily a relationship with God, who at our Baptism, called us by name. But the response of each of us to that growth is both personal and communal. We grow in our faith in the nurturing atmosphere of our Catholic community be that of our local parish, our home, or our Catholic school community.

Our school community will celebrate Catholic Education Week 2015 in ways that are appropriate to our students’ age. We invite you to participate in one or other of these activities as your personal time and work schedule may permit.

There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week:

- Monday – Walking Together and Sharing Our Stories
- Tuesday – Opening the Scriptures
- Wednesday – Welcoming Others to the Table
- Thursday – Recognizing Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread
- Friday – Proclaiming the Good News

Every year, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association (OCSTA) provides our Catholic schools with a resource kit to help schools prepare for Catholic Education Week. Using these resources as well as our own developed activities we have prepared a series of activities which will highlight how our school is ‘Exploring Paths of Joy’.

We hope to see many of you during our school celebrations.

Catholic Education Week Events

- May 4** -CSAC-Catholic School Advisory Committee Meeting-7:00pm-all are welcome
- RIM Park-Waterloo University-Grade 7 and 8s
- Black Creek Pioneer Village-grade 2, 3
- May 5** -Heart and Stroke Event-am-all are welcome
- grade 2 reconciliation-6:45pm

- May 6** -WTK-Welcome to Kindergarten Evening-6:00pm
- Divisional Track and Field
- Book Fair
- May 7** -French Presentation-Grades 1-3-songs, grade 7-skit-all welcome
- Scientist in the School-Grade 4

Prayer for Our Lady of Fatima

Month of May



O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.
Amen.

Pedestrian Safety

Thank you to everyone in our community for continuing to use our before and after school kiss and ride effectively. This has promoted safety when students are dropped off and picked up in the driveway in front of the school.

As you know, there is a walkway that runs through the driveway in front of the school where parents/grandparents/sitters walk into and out of the school. Please continue to be aware of pedestrians that walk through this crosswalk. Slowing down through this walkway will give vehicles enough time to stop for adults walking through with children. We are currently looking to place signage to heighten the awareness for vehicles that there is a pedestrian crossing.

As always, if students are not with an adult they are asked to enter the school yard from the walkway in front of the staff parking lot. Students have been doing a good job following this procedure.



Before and After School Programs

PLASP Child Care Services operates Before and After School Programs at this school.

The **Before School Program** operates from 7:30 a.m. until school start. A nutritious breakfast is served daily.

The **After School Program** runs from the end of the school day until 6:00 p.m. Children participate in recreational activities, are served a nutritious snack daily and have time for homework.

Fee assistance is available for those who qualify.

Visit www.plasp.com and register your child online today.



Mother Cabrini is pleased to announce that **The Angel Foundation for Learning**, the charitable organization devoted to assisting students within TCDSB schools, has approved our school's funding request in support of our excursion to Pioneer Camp.

Serving TCDSB students and making a positive difference, we congratulate The Angel Foundation for Learning for helping students since its inception in 1987.

Donations to the Foundation are welcome and can be sent to: The Angel Foundation for Learning, 80 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, ON M2N 6E8. Tax receipts for donations of \$10.00 or more will be issued. For more information about the Foundation visit www.angelfoundationforlearning.org

School Beautification/The Living Rosary

On May 27th, the whole school will gather together to pray the living rosary. Our school praying together is to honour our Mother Mary for the month of May. As well on this day we will have a beautification of the flower bed at the front of the school. If you choose to, we are asking for families to send 1 perennial plant per family. Perennials are preferable since they will continue to grow each year.



WTK-Welcome to Kindergarten-Parent Evening

On May 6th, there will be an orientation evening for Junior Kindergarten students of 2014/15 and their parents. The orientation evening is scheduled from 6:00-7:30pm in the school gymnasium. The evening will consist of students and parents participating in fun/learning activities which will help develop readiness skills to begin school. The Learning Partnership has developed the Welcome to Kindergarten bag that students will be introduced to and then take home with them. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

French Play

In the occasion of Catholic Week of Education, Mrs. DeBraga's students will be performing a French play entitled "Un cube chez les tout ronds", on May 7th. The play is about a small cube that was born in a family where everyone is round. After the cube is intimidated by his peers they suddenly discovered that the cube has a talent that would save their lives.

Grade 1, 2 and 3 will be singing a French song "C'est que du Bonheur" and dancing in the occasion of Mothers' Day.

STUDENT CORNER

Earth Day In The Kindergarten Classroom!

Do you know what special day arrived on Wednesday, April 22nd? Earth Day of course!

Through songs and stories, our class explored the idea of "Reuse, Reduce and Recycle". This year, we had the opportunity to recycle used crayons and created a new three coloured (blue, white and green) crayon that resembled Mother Earth! We also learned that we need to keep our planet healthy so that it will keep us healthy and safe. So remember, let's do our part to keep our community clean and green!

A Shared Writing Piece By Mrs. Swastek's Kindergarten Class

Public Library Visit

On Friday, April 24, Katherine, the librarian from Elmbrook Park Library came to visit us at our school.

She read us a story, and we sang some songs. Katherine told us about programs that are happening at the library. We were all able to get a new library card, if we did not already have one. The library cards are free!

Katherine brought us our new library cards. She then told us that we can take out anything from the library, such as books, magazines, CD's, and DVD's.

The library is a great place to find out information about many things. It is also a great place to play, laugh, and learn.

We can't wait to go to the Public Library and use our new library cards.

From the SK/Grade 1 class

Safety Patrol Extravaganza!

The Safety Patrol movie was a large success for the students and the supervisors. We had a blast watching the Monkey Kingdom- a documentary about monkey behaviour in Shri Lanka. The movie was great and so was the popcorn and the treats. We watched a movie as a reward for being committed to keeping the students safe at Mother Cabrini. Thank you Mrs. Abando and Mrs. Adamo for supervising.

By: Keti, Yuriy and Thomas

Scientists In School

As part of our math unit on 3D Geometry, we built 3D structures using different shapes. We built robots, a cat, a television, a radio, tall towers, cities, a tank, a miniature house, and Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory. Everyone had to present and describe their structure using math language such as prisms, pyramids, cylinders, cones and spheres. We had so much fun with this activity and each structure was awesome and very creative.

Mrs. Da Silva's Grade 3 Class

Track and Field Has Started!!!!

For the last month the track and field athletes have been training hard to prepare for the Regional Meet. We wake up early to practice on Monday and Wednesday morning ... before some students have even got out of bed and we continue to practice Tuesday and Thursday at lunch. Students from grade 3-8 have filled each category to help our school accumulate the most points and hopefully win each event we enter. The event will be held at Centennial Park on May 6th! Thank you to our coaches,

Mr. O'Neil, Mrs. Goslin and Mrs. Pacheco

Avery Crooks and Francesca Merante

ME 2 We Updates



Stations of The Cross:

On April 2, the students gathered in the gymnasium to reflect on the Passion of Jesus Christ during Holy Thursday. The Me 2 We led the students in prayer and reflection. Students

were reminded how they can live every day through the teachings and the constant presence of Jesus in our lives.

Bags for Mats:

From March 24th to April 2nd, the Me 2 We team collected milk bags to be turned into mats. In total 443 milk bags were collected which is just enough to make one mat. However, Mrs. Arsenault had previously already brought in 1333 milk bags, bringing the total to 1776 milk bags. These bags will be able to be turned into four mats.

Dress Down Update:

Thank you to all the students and their families who continue to support our monthly dress down days. In February, we collected \$175.50 for Angel Foundation, in March 169.55 was collected for the Wells in Africa and in April \$191.25 ShareLife was the charity supported.

Ontario Pioneer Camp Excursion

All our Intermediate students took advantage of the opportunity to experience the great outdoors in their overnight excursion to Ontario Pioneer Camp in Port Sydney, Ontario from April 15th to the 17th. The students were involved in numerous activities outdoors from learning archery to building fires and shelters. They experienced great team building in their involvement in various cooperative games. The students are to be commended for their commitment to attempting new tasks and representing Mother Cabrini well. Their memories of the trip will last for a lifetime.

Math is Fun

Mrs. Pacheco's grade 5 math class was a blast. We went to the staff room to do a lot of experiments with measuring cups and with other measuring tools. We were practicing measurements with water. The classmates learned a lot of comparing with capacity and estimating the amount of water to fill the cups. The class learned a lot in the math experiment.

Lauren and Gabriele

Heart & Stroke

On Tuesday April 21st, we had the Heart and Stroke kick off. We learned about the importance of physical activity and how to keep our hearts healthy on a daily basis by skipping, playing hockey and soccer, skating and participating in other fun activities.

Christine Armstrong from the Heart and Stroke Foundation encouraged us to raise funds to help people affected by heart disease and for future research.

On Tuesday May 5th, we will have the opportunity to skip, take care of our hearts and raise money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

By: Hayley Whetstone, Shannon Neita, Paige Cuddy and Kayla Barbosa (Mrs. Goslin's class)

Virtue for May-Compassion

Jesus saw her weeping...His heart was touched, and He was deeply moved. ~JOHN 11:33

- Show compassion by thinking about how your words make people feel
- Show compassion by thinking about how your actions make people feel
- Show compassion by understanding WHY someone is acting the way they do
- Show compassion by being considerate to other people



Monthly Update from the Board May 2015

TCDSB Launches New Three-Year Pastoral Plan: *Together with One Voice—Harmonizing Our Faith Through Family, Parish and School*

The celebration took place on April 22nd. Check out the photos as well as the video of the event, including the presentation by Cardinal Thomas Collins on the board's website:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2014-2015/pages/launch-of-new-pastoral-plan-2015-2018.aspx>

TCDSB Considering First Ever

Multi-Language Catholic Elementary School

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is exploring the feasibility of opening its first ever multi-language Catholic elementary school.

Based on a European-style international school model, the new French Immersion School would provide opportunities for daily instruction in two to three additional languages throughout the student's school week. In addition to French, the proposed languages would be German, Spanish and Mandarin. Other languages will be considered if there is sufficient interest from families.

In what is believed to be a first for any publicly funded school board in Ontario, the new school will offer a strong academic focus, and may also include an elementary International Baccalaureate program option. The school would be located at 100 Fundy Bay Boulevard (former site of St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic School) in north Scarborough. Although school bus transportation could not be provided to students from outside the area, the school would be open to families living anywhere in the City of Toronto.

The Board is currently surveying parents to determine the level of interest in such a specialty international school. Feedback is being requested from those parents whose children are eligible to enroll in a *Catholic Full-Day Kindergarten* in September 2015 or September 2016, with registration limited to the first 75 students.

The online survey will be available at www.tcdsb.org/LanguageSchoolSurvey until May 15, 2015.

Catholic Education Week May 3-8, 2015

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/CatholicEducationWeek/Pages/default.aspx>

- Woodbine Centre Festival of the Arts May 4-8
- Parent Mass and Celebration with Cardinal Thomas Collins, May 7th 7:00 p.m. at St. Conrad
- Student Mass for Catholic Education Week, May 7th 10:00 a.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week May 3-9, 2015

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SpecialEducation/mhs/News/mhw/Pages/Childrens-Mental-Health-Awareness-Week.aspx>

Engaging Spanish Speaking Parents

Conference and Celebration—May 2nd

At St. Jane Frances Catholic School

[https://www.tcdsb.org/schools/stjane frances/News/2014-](https://www.tcdsb.org/schools/stjane frances/News/2014-2015/Pages/Engaging-Spanish-Speaking-Parents-2015-Celebration.aspx)

[2015/Pages/Engaging-Spanish-Speaking-Parents-2015-Celebration.aspx](https://www.tcdsb.org/schools/stjane frances/News/2014-2015/Pages/Engaging-Spanish-Speaking-Parents-2015-Celebration.aspx)

Safe Kids Week – Spring Walk and Roll to School Day

May 4th to 10th, 2015 has been declared by the United Nations as Global Road Safety Week with a focus on children as vulnerable road users. Parachute Canada has an annual public awareness campaign called Safe Kids Week, also taking place May 4th to 10th, with a cycling and road safety theme in communities across Canada.

Spring Walk and Roll to School Day: On **May 6th**, families will be encouraged to leave the car at home to promote an active, healthy, environmentally-friendly, and safe trip to school. Schools are encouraged to celebrate the day with stickers, raffle prizes (e.g. bike lights, umbrellas, pedometers), a fun lap around the school (especially if there are many bus students), wearing the colour green, and potentially hosting a special assembly.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/pages/safe-kids-week-spring-walk-and-roll-to-school-day.aspx>

Bike to School Week 2015

From **May 25 to 29**, let's get rolling! This year, students and teachers across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area celebrate the first-ever joint Bike to School Week. Register your school's activities to support your EcoSchools and Healthy Schools programming, and to win prizes and incentives!

Incentives are available for events taking place between Monday May 11 and Saturday June 13, 2015.

<http://www.bikemonth.ca/biketoschool>

Respect for Life Week May 10-15, 2015

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Pages/Respect-for-Life-Week.aspx>

May is Asian Heritage Month

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/AsianCanadianHeritage/Pages/default.aspx>

May is also Speech, Language and Hearing Month

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SpecialEducation/Speech/Speech,%20Language%20and%20Hearing%20Awareness%20Month/Pages/default.aspx>

Italian Canadian Contemporary Film Festival Junior

May 15-23, 2015

<https://www.tcdsb.org/forstudents/opportunitiesforstudents/pages/italian-contemporary-film-festival-junior.aspx>

Catholic School Advisory Council Appreciation Night

Presentations, celebration and Mass

May 20th at 5:30 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre, 80 Sheppard Avenue East

May 14 is World Catholic Education Day

<http://www.ccsta.ca/en/events-en/wced>

The Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education

76th Annual Conference, AGM & Gala Dinner

A full day conference for parents and our partners in publicly funded Catholic Education in Ontario-- "Poor No More" Co-hosted by the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board

May 29, 30, 2015

Details and registration information:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eai66alxc0914526&llr=57qgf7bab>

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CSAC Newsletter-May

May will be an exciting month at Mother Cabrini. The 2nd annual Community Fun Day is Thursday May 21, 2015 – 5pm-8pm. Please join us for a fantastic evening of games, face painting, bouncy slide and bouncy castle, raffle, blue and white sale just to name a few. All events are complimentary to the young and young at heart!

There will also be a BBQ from 5:30 pm -7pm, like last year we will be charging for the food. CSAC will be sending home a BBQ order form for each family to pre-order their food, drinks and snacks as we will not be selling food the night of the event.

Our FunDay was a great success last year, largely in part to all our volunteers that helped with the festivities. We are again asking if anyone is available to help for about 45min-60min that evening, to please contact CSAC co-chair Cori Stadler mayvillec@hotmail.com (416-622-1472). Also, if you have any high school students that you know would like to volunteer, please contact Cori.

We have our next meeting at Monday May 4th@ 7pm, in the school staff room. Everyone is always welcome to join us. Unfortunately, we cannot offer babysitting at this time.

On behalf of CSAC, we thank you for all your continued support