



Mother Cabrini Catholic School

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Superintendent: Doug Yack
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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 2014-2015

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Catch the spirit!



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2014

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

The continued warmer summer/Autumn weather for October provided students great opportunities for outdoor play and exercise. October 5th was International Walk to School Day, which coincidentally corresponded with our walking to Nativity of Our Lord Parish for our Thanksgiving mass. As well, students enjoyed the outdoors as they trained in the mornings for the Cross Country season. Students participated in the Divisional and Regional Cross Country meets held at Centennial Park. Students competed well and had fun in the process. The outdoors was also enjoyed by excursions to Kortright Conservation Area by the grade twos and threes as well as Round The Bend Farm by the Kindergartens and grade ones. Special thanks to CSAC for subsidizing the buses for student excursions. Our social justice leadership group once again attended the Me to We Rally at the Air Canada Centre on October 2. They came back with lots of ideas and inspiration to continue our work in helping others in need. The highlight for the month of October was our CSAC Halloween Dance. Students, staff and friends enjoyed the spirit of Halloween while dancing!

Upcoming for the month of November

-We are providing an opportunity for families to purchase toys from Samko and stationary from Funscrip. Proceeds from these purchases are contributed back to the school to benefit students. Details will be sent out on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

-Through a Ministry of Education grant, CSAC is organizing a presentation on November 6th. During the day, students will have presentations on Financial Literacy, the topic is "Cent\$ible Students". Parents are invited to join their child's classroom to participate in their learning (included is the schedule for presentations).

-Me to We student leaders are facilitating the Dr. Simone Shoe Box Drive (November 10-21) and the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas hampers from December 1-10.

-November 17 is Bullying Awareness and Prevention week. Our school's team will be attending a Symposium on November 19 to help inform our anti Bullying Awareness and Prevention plan.

-Our annual Scholastic Book Fair runs from November 12-19. Students always enjoy purchasing scholastic books. Proceeds from sales are contributed back to the school to benefit students.

-Officer Rich programs-November 28-Grade 4-Internet Safety, Gr. 8 Bullying and Cyber Bullying.

For the month of November, teachers will appropriately assessing in all areas of their respective classroom programs for the upcoming progress report. Progress reports will be sent home on November 11th and Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place on the evening of November 13 and during the morning of November 14. November is also the month in which our grade 8 students begin the process of investigating their secondary school options and applying for admission the secondary school of their choice. Our school guidance counselor, Mr. Comella will be working with students to assist in this process. Visit the TCDSB website (www.tcdsb.org) for secondary school open house information.

We look forward to having you join us at our CSAC meeting on November 3, our Remembrance Day mass on November 5, our Financial Literacy presentation on November 6, our Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 11 and Parent/Teacher Conferences on November 13 and 14.

Mark on your calendars December 17 for our school's Christmas Concert at Michael Power/St Joseph.

In the Peace of Christ,

J. Di Vittorio
Principal

Peace Prayer

Lord, Make me an instrument of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light, and
Where there is sadness, joy.
O, Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.



Kiss and Ride Updates

Thank you to everyone for your continued support in our second month of the updated Kiss and Ride Program. With your support our before and after school program is working well. A reminder to have students exit their vehicle on curb side in the morning (minimizing risk of students exiting with moving vehicles). As well, please come after 3:10pm if you plan on parking after school, this helps to avoid overlap with student dismissal.

Parking near the school can be found at Elmbrook Cres and Hellenfield Cres (only one side of the street).

Parent/Teacher Conferences

We have two formal parent/teacher conferences scheduled for this school year. Our first set is scheduled to take place on the evening of November 13th and the morning of November 14th. The second set of parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for Feb. 12/13. The four remaining PD days include: December 5, 2014 (Provincial Education Priorities/Faith Development), January 23, 2014 (Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting Day), June 5, 2015 (Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting Day), and June 26, 2015 (Provincial Education Priorities).

Blue and White Sales

Blue and White sales will be available on the evening of November 13 for parent/teacher conferences. You will have the opportunity to purchase clothing items as well as donate items you no longer use. Check front entrance for sales.

School Greening

Ontario EcoSchools (www.ontarioecoschools.org) is an environmental education program for grades K-12 that helps students develop both ecological literacy and environmental practices to become environmentally responsible citizens. Developed and run by school boards, Ontario EcoSchools also

helps improve school building operations to reduce environmental impacts. Last year, thanks to our Principal we pursued our certification to become a certified Ontario EcoSchool that goes out of our way to do everything we possibly can to be good stewards of our little piece of God's planet. Thanks to all of us, including our staff and students and families, our efforts to beautify our school property and our conscientious habits at school to conserve electricity and resources, we were noticed by Karen Dobrucki of Evergreen School Grounds (www.evergreen.ca) as being a community who cared about the stewardship of our building and environment. So on October 17th we were given the gift of being the proud recipients of 10 new trees! They were paid for, delivered and professionally installed for us, and Karen made sure they would be located in strategic areas with a view to providing shade and beauty and health to our property for generations to come. Please take the time to enjoy the look of them before all the leaves fall off! Also please remind our students to give them the utmost respect through the winter and spring and summer - no climbing or other potentially damaging behavior...at least until they root strongly and find their form in the future.

Thanks to all for being awesome!
The Mother Cabrini Eco Schools Committee

Catholic Tradition

For the month of November, our Catholic tradition celebrates two very important feast days. All Saints' Day (November 1st) and All Souls' Day (November 2nd). Let us take the time to reflect on the the exemplary faithfulness of our saints whose lives and deeds continue to inspire us and may the souls of the faithfully departed in our families and community rest in peace. Amen.

Mother Cabrini is having a Scholastic Book Fair in November 2014.

We look forward to the Bookfair during Parent Teacher Night. The book fair will be open on November 13 and 14 during parent teacher interviews. Students will also have a chance to purchase during library time on November 12. If you purchase \$25 or more your name will be entered in a draw for many prizes!

This year we will have another **Loonie Book Sale**. Only this time the table will have books that have been discarded during our library automation process. Come and choose a book for yourself for only \$1. Many 2 for a dollar.

With every purchase made at the Bookfair a percentage will be donated back to the school. The profit will go to purchase more books for the school library.

Thank you again for all your support.

J. Di Michele
Library Technician





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 Swim Program

The Cabrini Cougars will be participating in the TCDSB Swim Meet once again this year on March 7th and 8th, 2015. Practices begin November 15 at Elmwood Pool (4:00-5:00pm). If your child (ren) in grades 2-8 are interested in participating please contact Stephanie Goddard stephanie.goddard1@gmail.com or Karen Crooks ktrauz@hotmail.com for more information.

Colder Weather

The colder weather has arrived. Please remember to have students dress appropriately this weather. Hats, gloves, layered clothing with warmer jackets are essential. It is easier to remove layers of clothes if the afternoon warms up, but the warmer winter clothing is needed now. Students require indoor shoes to change into (field muddy until frozen) when they enter the classroom.



It's Flu Season

Toronto Public Health Tips for Avoiding the Spread of Flu and Other Viruses:

- Get your flu shot
- Wash your hands often
- Cover your cough/sneeze
- Do the knuckle bump instead of shaking hands
- Stay home if you are sick



Health Update—Ebola

In response to Ebola concerns, staff from the Board's Occupational Health and Safety Department and Facilities Department have been reviewing and auditing school cleaning, disinfection and infection control measures since September 2014. Staff and students are reminded to wash their hands frequently and cough into your sleeve. Staff are also working closely with Toronto Public Health on monitoring school absenteeism. The Board has posted resource material from the medical authorities on Ebola.

<http://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/HealthandSafety/Pages/Default.aspx>

Parents are reminded to contact the school office if your child is returning from West Africa or any other location affected by the Ebola crisis."

Education and Community Resource Fair

Helping parents of children with special needs link with resources within the TCDSB and the community **November 8th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the Catholic Education Centre

<http://www.tcdsb.org/pages/education-and-community-resources-fair-2014.aspx>

Mother Cabrini Portal

Curriculum Updates by grade are posted at school's portal at the beginning of each month. This gives parents an opportunity to connect with their child's curriculum and become involved in their child's learning.

To visit our school's portal, click here

<http://www.tcdsb.org/schools/mothercabrini/academics/Pages/default.aspx>



Me 2 We

On October 2nd, Mrs. De Braga and Mrs. Di Vittorio accompanied the 2014-2015 Me 2 We team to Free the Children's annual rally, We Day, at the ACC in Toronto. The team had the opportunity to learn how empowerment can break down barriers to change and create a world of difference. The students learned from presenters such as Katie Couric, Queen Noor of Jordan, and Chris Hadfield just to name a few. They also had the opportunity to enjoy the performances of many artists including Hedley and Joe Jonas. Back at school, the team has begun to work on their plan for 2014-2015. They have had two dress down days to support their long term project of building a well in Africa. Over the

past three years, the team has collected over \$3000.00 and in two years they expect to collect the necessary \$5000.00 to finalize their project. Stay tuned for the many initiatives the Me 2 We team is organizing to help others both in our community and the world. Be sure to visit the Me 2 We bulletin board for more information. The whole team thanks the Mother Cabrini community in advance the support.

Team Members: Sara D., Amy M., Sanja B., Shannon F., Shreyas A., Christopher E., Jessie M., Laura B., Hannah B., Kayla A., Katie P., Stephanie P., Sara P.

Cross Country

Athletics at Mother Cabrini kicked off with cross-country training in early September. Running practice started at 7:45 AM, before the sun was even up. After about a month of training, the divisional meet arrived on October 14, 2014. All thirty runners gave their best effort and achieved success! Nine of us placed in the top twenty-two and progressed to the Regionals. When we got to the regionals we were met with muddy conditions and for those who ran later in the day, RAIN! Even in the bad weather conditions, every runner put their best foot forward. Divisional and Regional runners had fun! Next year we hope you come out to cross country to see our big races. **"GREAT JOB MOTHER CABRINI!"**

Jake M. and Ilija P.

Thanksgiving Mass

On Wednesday, October 8th, our school community made the walk to Nativity of Our Lord Parish to celebrate mass. The focus of the mass was gratitude. We celebrated our gratitude for the beginning of a new school year and for all of the many blessings that come to us from God. Father Michael reminded us that if we stop and take the time thank God for all that He has done for us, we wouldn't have any time left for complaints. May this message resound in our minds and hearts throughout the year.

Grade 7/8 Class

CSAC Halloween Dance

A "Spooktacular" Day!

On Friday, October 31st, the JK/SK class, dressed in their Halloween best, danced up a storm at the Halloween dance-a-thon! We enjoyed dancing to the "Chicken Dance", the Hokey Pokey and many more songs. The best part of the day was lunch. Our class raised the most money and we were rewarded with a free pizza lunch and dance. Thank you CSAC for treating us so royally! All in all we had a "howling" great day. We can't wait for next year!!

The kindergarten Class



PEACE I LEAVE YOU,
MY PEACE
I GIVE TO YOU.

~ JOHN 14:27 ~

- BY OPENING OURSELVES TO GOD, WE FEEL PEACE WITHIN US.
- EVERY PERSON CAN WORK FOR PEACE BY CAREFULLY CONSIDERING HOW THEIR WORDS AND ACTIONS MAKE OTHERS FEEL.
- EVERYONE WANTS TO BE TREATED FAIRLY; WE NEED TO REMEMBER TO TREAT OTHERS FAIRLY.
- BE GUIDED BY THE WORDS OF PAUL TO THE COLOSSIANS - "THE PEACE THAT CHRIST GIVES IS TO GUIDE YOU IN THE DECISIONS YOU MAKE."
- PEACE AMONG NATIONS STARTS WITH PEACE AMONG US.

PEACE



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