



## ***Mother Cabrini Catholic School***

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

**Principal: Julie Di Vittorio**

Superintendent: Doug Yack  
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 2014-2015**

Wards		
1.	Peter Jakovic	416-512-3401
2.	Ann Andrachuk	416-512-3402
3.	Sal Piccininni	416-512-3403
4.	Patrizia Bottoni	416-512-3404
5.	Maria Rizzo	416-512-3405
6.	Frank D'Amico	416-512-3406
7.	John Del Grande	416-512-3407
8.	Garry Tanuan	416-512-3408
9.	Jo-Ann Davis, Chair	416-512-3409
10.	Barbara Poplawski	416-512-3410
11.	Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411
12.	Nancy Crawford,	
	Vice-Chair	416-512-3412
	Christopher MacDonald,	
	Student Trustee	416-512-3413
	Hannah McGroarty,	
	Student Trustee	416-512-3417



***Catch the spirit!***



## **SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2014**

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Welcome back! We hope the summer break provided rest and quality time for you and your children to spend together. We are looking forward to journeying together for the 2014/15 school year!

The theme for the third year of the board's pastoral plan is charity. Within the school communities across the TCDSB we will be nurturing the ways we demonstrate charity within and abroad our schools. The hands of charity are the image used to focus our efforts.

A few updates for the community include;

- extension of our school driveway from two to three lanes
- the removal of the library portable
- merging of the library and computer lab into a learning commons
- implementation of Full Day Kindergarten

We welcome new families to our community. As well, we welcome Ms. Hoysak, an E.C.E (Early Child Educator) working in the FDK classroom, Ms. Messam, an E.A. (Educational Assistant) as well as Ms. Boothby in the special education position. We are happy to have them on board!

Mother Cabrini School Learning and Improvement Plan

- to focus learning around Math instruction as well as to continue to build 21st century fluencies across the curriculum
- to continue to focus on social justice activities through our Me to We leadership group (year 4 of our five year project to build wells in Africa)
- to continue our faith development with the support of Nativity of Our Lord Parish

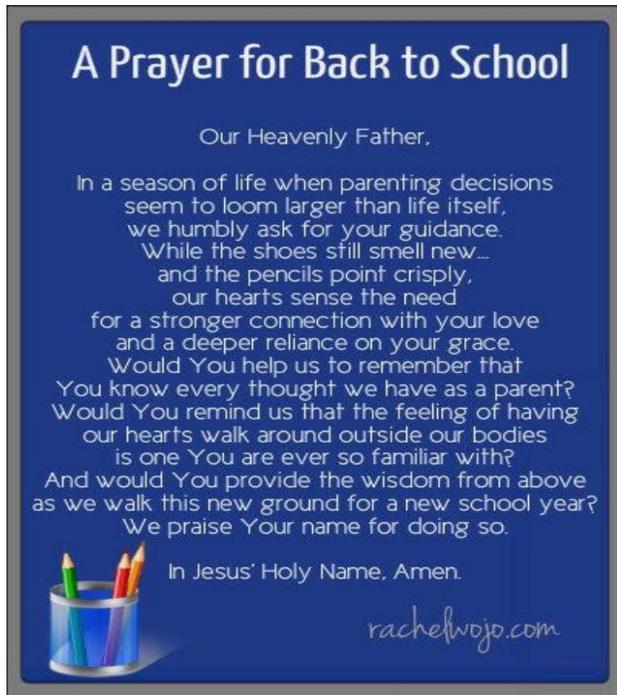
For the month of September our staffing model and class composition are tentative. All changes if any will be finalized by the end of September.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our Curriculum night on Tuesday, Sept.16. Everyone is encouraged to come out to our CSAC elections on September 10. Please review enclosed newsletter and calendar for important information for the school year.

With hope for a wonderful year of learning,

J. Di Vittorio  
Principal

## Prayer



## Virtues

The TCDSB will continue with the faith and character development program-virtue of the month. Every month a virtue is highlighted and promoted as a gospel value. The monthly virtue is launched by individual classes during morning announcements. As well, various activities and discussions will occur in class and throughout the life of the school promoting the virtue.

**September** - Hospitality

**October** - Gratitude

**November** - Peacemaking

**December** - Charity

**January** - Courage

**February** - Love

**March** - Forgiveness

**April** - Justice

**May** - Compassion

**June** - Faithfulness

## Appropriate Dress Code

A reminder that the appropriate dress code of **navy blue** and **white** colours was implemented effective September 2011. The Mother Cabrini dress code does not include tights and yoga pants (as per board policy). Acceptable shirts are with or without the collar. Logos from other retailer/brands, unless tone on tone (same colour) are not acceptable. Inquire at the office for the name of vendors.

## Curriculum Night

We welcome parents and families to our Curriculum Night on Tuesday, September 16. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to see the classroom/learning environment and to receive an overview of the curriculum for the year. Curriculum Night begins at 7:00pm in the gym followed by classroom visits.

## CSAC News

Our Catholic School Advisory Council encourages all parents and interested volunteers to participate in this year's Council. CSAC meets on a monthly basis. CSAC seeks to advise the school principal in a wide range of issues regarding our school community, academic programming and related activities. All parents are welcome to participate in the election process scheduled for Wednesday, September 10 at 7:00pm in the staffroom.

## Kiss and Ride Program-Student Drop off and Pick Up

The front driveway of the school has been extended from a two lane to a three lane driveway with an attached walkway for student access. This provides an extra lane for bus loading and emergency exit at the end of the day. We are asking for your co-operation in order to make our student drop off and pick up work.

The driveway is marked with lanes 1, 2 and 3. The Kiss and Ride program works as follows:

### Before School

All vehicles and buses enter one way through lane 1 only. Cars move up as close to exit as possible for student drop off. Cars stop and students exit on curb side. With our new Kiss and Ride program, no vehicles are to park for student drop off. Kindergarten children will be escorted from their vehicle to the kindergarten yard by a staff member. If you choose to park and walk your children in, there are adjacent streets near the school to do so.

### After School

Lanes 2 and 3 will be used for student pick up at 3:00pm. Parents wait for their children to be dismissed from school. They are asked not to leave their cars. After students are loaded cars exit to enable flow of traffic out. Lane 3 is left clear for bus loading and emergency exit (no student pick up).

**Any Parents choosing to park and get out of their vehicles are asked to do so after 3:10pm.** From 3:00-3:10pm cars are ready to pick up students and move

through the kiss and ride promptly without stopping the flow of traffic out.

**No drop off or pick up of students in the school parking lot. Traffic in this area puts students at risk that are walking in front of the parking lot entering and exiting the school yard. Our safety patrollers assist with the safety of students walking in front of the parking lot.**

**Parking in the school parking lot is used for parents and visitors to the main office/school and for staff parking.**

#### **We Need Your Help**

To minimize the traffic congestion after school, we are encouraging families that live close to the school to walk to the school for child pick-up. We also encourage older students to walk home with a buddy. This promotes independence and prepares them for high school.

#### **NEW SCHOOL HOURS AT MOTHER CABRINI**

ENTRY	8:30am
RECESS	10:12-10:27am
LUNCH	11:15-12:15am
RECESS	1:40-1:55pm
DISMISSAL	3:00pm

#### **Food Allergies**

Please note that **we have students in our school that have severe, life threatening allergies to peanuts and nuts.** This is a medical condition that causes a severe anaphylactic reaction to specific foods that can be fatal. Although this may not affect a student in your child's class directly, we ask that you **DO NOT SEND ANY PRODUCTS THAT MAY CONTAIN PEANUT OR NUT PRODUCTS TO SCHOOL**, as children can come into contact with one another elsewhere in the school.

#### **Written Notification**

Should you have to take your child out early or there is a change in school procedures (student not taking the bus, or a change in someone picking up your child), please send the notification with your child to school to give to the teacher. This ensures everyone at school is aware of the change.

#### **Doctor's/Dentist and other appointments**

Please try to schedule appointments for your child outside of the school day. This avoids interruptions to your child's school day and learning.

#### **Vacations/Extended leave from School**

We encourage families to take holidays at the designated times of the school year i.e., Christmas, March Break and Summer Holidays. Taking your child out of their instructional program during the school year is a disruption to their learning. Children benefit best from consistent uninterrupted instruction at school.

#### **Birthday Celebrations**

Due to the Ministry Health guidelines (School Food and Beverage Policy) effective Sept 2011 tied in with our school Health Action Team (HAT) school initiatives, we ask that no food products are brought to the school. Each morning, students celebrating a birthday are acknowledged on the announcements and receive a birthday treat (toy, stationary etc.).

#### **Invitations and Greeting Cards**

We realize it is not generally possible to send seasonal greetings and invitations to every child in a class. Children are, however, very sensitive and feelings can be easily hurt in these early years. Invitations and cards should not be brought to school for delivery, please distribute from home. [A parent e-mail distribution list will be created for each class for this purpose for those interested.](#)



#### **Milk Program**

Cold milk, chocolate and white are available daily. Our Milk Team will continue to run. ***New-Enclosed is a milk order form to order milk in advance.*** This helps us to purchase the right amount of milk in order to avoid spoilage. The cost for each item will continue to be \$1.25.

#### **We Need Your Help**

##### **Drop off and Pick Up of Students**

We are continuously working to provide the safest environment for your child. The Mother Cabrini Safe School Plan includes the safety of children inside as well as outside of the school. During the school day all doors are locked, visitors are monitored when they enter the school and report to the main office. All visitors are recognized by students with a visitor badge. This ensures that students are aware of anyone that isn't familiar to them in the school. In order to ensure the same identification outside, the school yard must be clear of non-staff so that students can easily find a

teacher on duty or recognize if a stranger is in the school yard. To this end we are asking for the following to maximize the safety of students in the school yard.

**-dropping off students at the top of the steps entering the school yard and allowing them to enter independently into the school yard.**

-dropping off times include 8:10-8:30am. No student should be left in the school yard prior to 8:10am nor should students remain on school property beyond 3:20pm. Students who remain unsupervised after school shall wait in the school office for pick up. No student will be allowed to play outdoors beyond 3:20pm without adult supervision.

**-we are asking that during the school day parents and caregivers not enter the school yard so as to promote our safety plan.**

Staff members on duty from 3:00-3:20pm help to supervise students during parent pick up.

All students not picked up by 3:20pm will be escorted to the office for continued supervision until they are picked up.

#### ***AN IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM***

Our ***Safe Arrival Program*** establishes a procedure for determining the safety of a child who is absent from school. It is of great importance that each family return the information forms to the school. This information enables the school to initiate a search for a missing child within one hour of his/her absence rather than when the child fails to return home at the end of the school day.

#### ***The Program works as follows:***

-Parents are to call the school to advise when a child will not be attending classes or will be late. This is of great importance. Please leave message on the school answering machine or with the secretary not with the teacher.

-When a child is reported absent by the classroom teacher by (8:45 a.m. and 12:35 p.m.) and the parent has not called or provided written notification, the office will contact those persons identified on the student's information sheet to establish the whereabouts of the child.

-It is imperative that each student in the school return information sheets completed promptly to the teacher. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

#### **Late Students**

The safety of our students is of the utmost concern to us. In the event that your child may be late or absent, please contact the school at 416 393-5340 (*press 1 to*

*report an absence/late, and press 0 to talk to the secretary*) to provide the particulars regarding times and/or dates. **DO NOT LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE TEACHER'S EXTENSION** – please call the office.

If students arrive after their class has proceeded into the school, they are to report to the office to pick up their admit pass. Due to automated register procedures it is important for students entering and exiting the school to report to the office for tracking. Please assist us by making sure that students arrive on time. Note: Classes begin at 8:30 am

#### **Classroom Interruptions**

We strive to keep our school a safe place and to keep classroom interruptions to a minimum in order to maximize the time our students spend learning.

Please assist us by:

- Not reporting to the office whenever entering the school as per TCDSB policy. With approval, all visitors will be required to sign in and wear visitor badges for identification; this enables staff and students to recognize adults in the school.
- If it is essential to speak to your child during school hours, he/she will be called down to the office.
- Making arrangements for picking up students for appointments etc. before the school day begins by notifying the teacher in writing.
- Not calling the school to speak to your child on the phone, since we do not have any way of ensuring that the person on the phone is indeed who they say they are or if they are entitled access to the student.
- Not speaking to your child's teacher during class time. This may result in the teacher being distracted from his/her primary roles of teaching and ensuring the students' safety. Communication with parents is important, therefore if you need to speak to your child's teacher, please call and make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

#### **Lunches**

The lunch period is scheduled from 11:15 to 12:15pm.

**As many pupils as possible are encouraged to go home for lunch especially if they live in the neighbourhood and one of their parents is at home during school hours.** Students who stay for lunch eat in the gymnasium from 11:15-11:35pm.

**Students eat at school with lunches brought from home only or purchased from Rainbow Lunches/The Lunch Lady. Nutritious lunches are encouraged to help develop good eating habits. On occasion parents may wish to take their child out for lunch for a store bought lunch. Please notify the classroom teacher in writing in advance if you plan to take your child out.**

### Proper Work Habits

Students are expected to use their agendas on a daily basis. **Agendas are available at a cost of \$8 each.** All work should be neat, dated and completed. Students who do not complete homework assignments may have to serve a detention at recess to complete their assignments. If in doubt about the expectations of your child's teacher please call to arrange an appointment.

### Home School Communication

Please read all newsletters and other information sent home. We are expecting the student to be responsible in ensuring all school correspondence arrives home. The oldest and only student will bring home all correspondence to their parents. All newsletters and calendars are posted on our school's website. Monthly curriculum updates for each classroom will be posted on our portal under Academics.

### Mother Cabrini Website

TCDSB homepage- [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org)

-schools-alphabetical school directory-Mother Cabrini Catholic School

-tabs with directories-CSAC, newsletters, calendars, curriculum updates, twitter, weekly updates and more!

Follow us on twitter

@Mother\_Cabrini

School website <http://mothercabrini.tcdsb.org>

### Invitation to subscribe to E-News@tcdsb.org

With the start of a new school year, the Toronto Catholic District School Board is pleased to remind all staff, parents and members of the community about E-News@tcdsb.org, a free electronic news subscription service for anyone interested in receiving regular news updates about our Catholic schools.

To activate your subscription to this free news service, please visit the board's website at [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) and click on the E-NEWS icon on the left-hand side of the page.

### Internet Safety

Continue internet safety with students at home. Closely monitor students using e-mail, Facebook, YouTube and other social media sites. The interface for communication is not anonymous. No photos of individual or groups of students taken at public school events should ever be posted on the internet. Please respect the privacy of all students. Your co-operation is appreciated.

### Staff Assignments 2014/15

FDK (Full Day Kindergarten)	P. Swastek
ECE (Early Childhood Educator)	M. Hoysak
EA (Educational Assistant)	M. Messam
CYW (Child and Youth Worker)	N. Bautista
SK/Grade 1	C. Prattinger
Gr. 2	R. Adamo
Gr. 3	L. Da Silva
Gr. 4/5	R. Pacheco
Gr. 5/6	J. Aucoin-Goslin
Gr. 6/7	C. DeBraga
Gr. 7/8	M. O'Neill
French	C. Al-Dhar
Vocal Music	G. Amadei
Instrumental Music	
Physical Education	
Special Education	C. Boothby
Physical Education	E. Moretto
Library Technician	J. Di Michele
Secretary	A. Arandia
Principal	J. Di Vittorio
Custodians	A. Jakubiak
	P. Spadafora

### PLASP Updates-Before and After School Programs

The before and after school program (school age children) will continue at Mother Cabrini for the 2014/15 school year. If you are interested please contact PLASP (905 890-1711) or the school for further information.

The PLASP program for FDK (full day kindergarten) for the 2014/15 school year will not run due to insufficient interest (survey run to all kindergarten families). Parents will have to make alternate arrangements for child care before and after school. If you require contacts for neighborhood babysitters please feel free to contact the school and we will provide them for you.

### Virtue

