

February, 2018

Our Lady of Peace Catholic School Newsletter



OUR LADY OF PEACE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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S. Figliomeni

Vice Principal
D. Whicher

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D. Yack
416-222-8282 Ext: 2732

Trustee
A. Andrachuk
416-512-3408

Parish
Our Lady of Peace
Fr. Yaw
416-239-1259

CSPC Chair:
J. Celio

Hours of Operation:
9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Lunch Hour:
1145 a.m.-12:45 p.m.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We begin the month of February and look to the virtue of Love to guide our actions. The quote of the month is "For God so loved the world, he gave it his only Son." John 3:16. As we focus on the virtue of love at Our Lady of Peace this month, let us remember that love not only inspires the practice of all other virtues, it is the form and completion of all the other virtues.

This month Lent begins on February 14th. In Latin, Lent is referred to by the term Quadragesima (meaning "fortieth"), in reference to the fortieth day before Easter. Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive (cf. Homily, 8 January 2016). Lent is the favourable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbour. The Lord, who overcame the deceptions of the Tempter during the forty days in the desert, shows us the path we must take. May the Holy Spirit lead us on a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God's word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need. (*His Holiness Pope Francis*)

OLP will mark the start of the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church on Wednesday, February 14th at 1:15 p.m. Students will also be participating in Lenten Confessions with Fr. Yaw during the Lenten season. Students will also be receiving a Pancake breakfast on Shrove Tuesday, courtesy of our CSPC Committee and parent volunteers.

Monday, February 5th, 2018 marks the official start of Term Two. Term One report cards will be going home with students on Monday, February 12th. We invite all parents/guardians to attend our Parent Teacher Interviews on Tuesday, February 13th, from 5:30 -8:00 p.m. and on Thursday, February 15th from 5:30- 8:00 p.m. Please ensure to book an appointment through our online request platform, which was sent home with students last week.

We look forward to a productive and successful second term.



Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.--1 John 4:7

Please check the school website regularly for Our Lady of Peace news and information. <http://ourladyofpeace.tcdsb.org>

Our Lady of Peace is now on Twitter!!

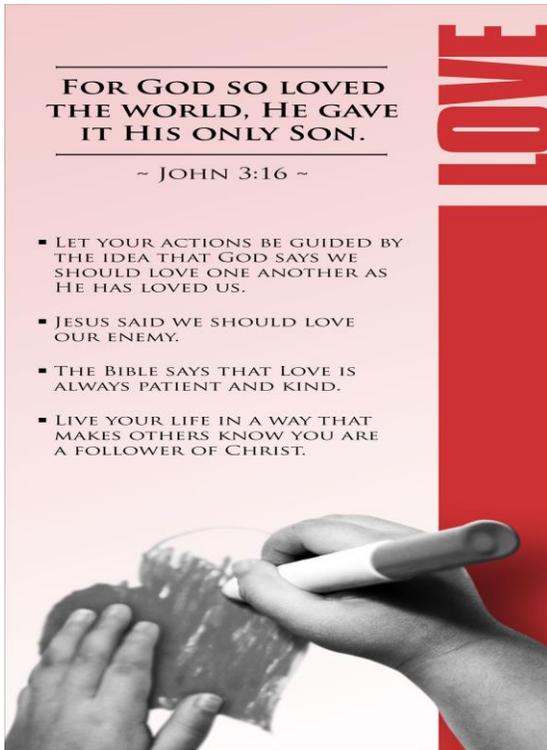


Follow us at **@OLP_TCDSB**
for news, reminders, information and fun!

FEBRUARY VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: LOVE

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

For God so loved the world, he gave it his only Son."
John 3:16



Chocolates, flowers, valentines and red hearts, what would the month of February be without the celebration of Valentine's Day? While the rest of the world may choose to celebrate the ideal of romantic love on February 14th, TCDSB schools will be focusing on the virtue of LOVE as expressed in the gospel.

WINTER DRESS CODE:

All students are expected to come to school appropriately dressed; that is, neat and clean, and in a manner that suits the aims and atmosphere of a Catholic elementary school environment. To be succinct, any combination of white and navy is acceptable. Absolutely no denim is permitted. The Dress Code is now mandated for all TCDSB schools. Adherence to the code is not optional.

Students are reminded that that they should dress appropriately for the winter weather conditions. This includes, hats, gloves, scarves and waterproof boots. On extremely cold days, students will have indoor recess however, we check the temperature daily. If a student is too sick to go outside, they should be kept at home until they are well.

FEBRUARY MESSAGE FROM TRUSTEE ANN ANDRACHUK.



There are many great activities in our schools and around the City this month, especially with Family Day on Monday the 19th. It's a great opportunity for all of us to take a short break and spend some time with our loved ones.

Just a reminder that junior kindergarten registration began on January 17. If you have a child, or know someone else who does, that is entering kindergarten in September, please visit tcdsb.org to register.

As we near the midway point in our school year, it is a good time to remember the critical importance of safety when we pick up and drop off our children at school. A moment's inattention is all it takes for a tragedy to happen. Please be extra vigilant in and around school zones and, if possible, walk with your children to school to help reduce congestion in our drop off areas and help make our school communities safer for all.

As always, remember to express your love and gratitude to those you cherish everyday but especially this Valentine's Day.

OUR LADY OF PEACE SCHOOL LEARNING IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SLIP):

Throughout this term, Our Lady of Peace staff has analyzed school data and compared various assessments in order to identify our urgent critical need. Student surveys indicated that Grade 3 and 6 students enjoy Math more than Reading. Based on various assessments and teacher observations, our current grade 3 and grade 6 cohorts will need focused support in the application of solving real life problems.

Where am I going?

1. Provide a clear statement of the learning target-learning goals and success criteria

How am I doing?

2. Teacher and student engage in regular descriptive feedback
3. Teach students to self-assess and set goals

Where to next?

- 4.. Teach students focused revision- allow opportunities for application of the feedback
5. . Engage students in self-reflection: let them keep track of and share their learning

AFRICAN CANADIAN HERITAGE MONTH:

February is dedicated to African Canadian Heritage Month. Canadians take this time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much to make

Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation it is today.

To celebrate the launch of African Canadian Heritage Month, students from Grades 4-8 participated in a special presentation entitled Black Canadian Heroes on Wednesday, January 31st. Students enjoyed a one hour presentation that chronicles the contributions of Black Canadians in the development of our nation.



Later in the month, students from ELP to Grades 3 will be participating in Tales by Moonlight an interactive presentation using African Storytelling, Dance and Hand Drumming. Thank you to our CSPC Committee for sponsoring the two presentations this month.

FRENCH CARNAVAL WEEK:

As part of the French as a Second Language and French Immersion Curriculum, students at Our Lady of Peace will be celebrating the famous Quebecois winter festival known as Le Carnaval D'Hiver. From Monday, February 5th to Friday February 9th, students will be participating in various classroom activities and events to commemorate and highlight this traditional Canadian event. Events include Vocab Bingo, themed dress days, une visite from Bonhomme, outdoor Winter Play, ice skating, Tire sur la neige and a Poutine Lunch (optional). Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the outdoor sports day. The week will also include a Masquerade Dance-a-thon with all proceeds going to Playground initiative. Mille merci to our French teachers Mme. Alaimo, Mlle. Perri, Mme. Martinez, Mme. Carek, M. Zacchilli, Mrs. Warren, Ms. Ryan et Mme. Mirija for organizing this traditional French-Canadian event for our students.

Themed Dress Carnival Days:

Monday, February 5th – Tacky Tuque Day
Tuesday, February 6th - Sports Jersey Day
Wednesday, February 7th - Red, Blue and White Day
Thursday, February 8th – Masquerade Mask Day
Friday, February 9th – Ceinture Fléchée Day

JUNIOR SOCCER TEAM:

The boys and girls of the junior soccer teams demonstrated great school spirit and enthusiasm at the junior soccer tournaments on the days of January 30 and 31st. Each and every player on the girl's team played with such grace and respect. As their determination and confidence grew throughout the

day, the girls' increasing dynamic style of play lead to a first place finish! The boy's team also displayed determination and commitment throughout the tournament. A special mention to our student Alex S. who was the first grade 4 to score in a junior tournament for Our Lady of Peace. They played their way to the semi-finals. Their commitment to respectful fair play was inspiring and is a testament to the values appreciated and expected of Our Lady of Peace athletes. We are so proud of all of you. Many thanks to our dedicated coach Mme. Giordano for her efforts and leadership and to her junior coaches, Joshua A., Julian B. and Raphael C.



SCIENCE FAIR 2018:

This year, Our Lady of Peace will be hosting a Science Fair which will take place on February 27th in the school gymnasium. Students in grades 4 to 8 who are participating in the Fair will be formulating a question and will be using the Scientific Method to investigate their topic of interest. Once students have had an opportunity to put together their findings, they will showcase their experiments to the school and the parent community. We believe that this opportunity will promote the importance of Science and Technology in our school. Successful students will have an opportunity to move on to the Toronto Science Fair in March.

WE TEAM:

The ME to WE team will be selling candy canes for Valentine's Day. We will be selling from February 6th to February 13th. All students from grades 4-8 must come to Mme. Mayer's room to order during lunch recess. We will send some representatives to all primary classes so they can make their purchase. All proceeds will go to the WE charity. Each candy cane will cost \$0.75.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES:

This term, you will be able to schedule your Parent-Teacher Interviews online. If you wish to schedule a meeting with any of your child's teachers, please follow the instructions printed further down this page. You will be able to schedule appointments from February 4th at 8:00 am until February 11th at 11:00 pm.

Instructions

1. Go to the Our Lady of Peace scheduling webpage at <https://olpeace.parentinterview.com>
2. Enter the Parent Code (please see prior communication that was sent home) and click "Sign In"
Please make a note of your Confirmation #
3. Fill in your contact information and click "Continue to Make Appointments"
4. Click on the name of a teacher with whom you wish to schedule an appointment
5. Click on "Available" for a time at which you wish to meet to have your meeting
6. Repeat Steps 4 and 5 until you have scheduled all the teachers you wish to meet
7. Click on "My Schedule" (top left of the page)
8. Print out, email or copy down your schedule and bring it with you
9. If you are unable to secure an appointment time, please contact the teacher at 416-393-5253 to make alternative arrangements

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL (CSPC):

Parent Council's next meeting will be held on February 21st at 6:30pm in the school library. There is a request to allocate \$8,000+ towards the playground and a request to allocate \$8,000+ towards technology for the school. As per the CSPC bylaws, we are notifying the community of the request and if you would like to voice your opinion about either allocations, please join us.

Parent Council will also be providing delicious pancakes to all student for Shrove Tuesday on February 13th. If you are interested in volunteering your time from 9am-1pm please email us at volunteerolp@gmail.com

THANK YOU and MERCI:

The staff and students of Our Lady of Peace would like to thank the many parent volunteers that donated their time to assist with Subway, Pita Pit, Booster Juice and Pizza Lunch in January. Many thanks to S. Baker, J.

Boyes, J. Celio, A. D'Urzo, T. DeMaria, P. Fedrigo, N. Hamaoui-Benedet, I. Hanna, S. Hingley, Al Henderson, E. Malindi, S. Massis-Delakouras, R. Mazza, D. Melo, M. Oppedisano, E. Pablacio, E. Quinn, S. Reis, M. Rojas, C. Trachuk, S. Venditti, R. Vinci., E. Zaffino, K. Zuk-Borawski

TOGETHER WE CAN BUILD IT:

OLP students are ready to "dance their way to a new playground" on February 8th at the Carnival Dance-a-thon. Students are asked to bring their pledge forms and money to school on Monday February 5th. Students will get one ballot to use towards amazing prizes for every \$5 raised, and donations of \$25 or more will receive a tax receipt. This is the last of our large fundraising events for the playground this year, and we will communicate both the amount raised through this initiative, and our grand total, via email from the school a few days after the dance.

As previously communicated, we have a total project target of **\$100,000**. With a deadline of the end of February, we are rapidly approaching the end of our fundraising drive.

Dance-a-thon's have been extremely successful in the past, and we are optimistic that ours will bring us significantly closer to this target, but it is likely we will remain short of our goal. It is our hope is that through corporate and community donations, we can close any gap we have between the target and the funds we have raised in our Board account for the project. If any members of our community are aware of corporate or government grants or donation opportunities, the PPC has a donation letter available and is prepared to support grant applications over the next few weeks; and if any members of our community are not sure how to donate please contact Andy Wright at wright.andrew@bell.ca with specific requirements and questions.

Please stay tuned for an update about project next steps in the March newsletter.

Thank you again for your continued support.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2017-2018

Wards

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino | 5. Maria Rizzo-Vice Chair | 9. Jo-Ann Davis |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 6. Frank D'Amico | 10. Barbara Poplawski-Chair |
| 3. Sal Piccininni | 7. Michael Del Grande | 11. Angela Kennedy |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 8. Garry Tanuan | 12. Nancy Crawford |
| | | Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee |
| | | Rhea Carlisle, Student Trustee |

