

December, 2019

Our Lady of Peace Catholic School Newsletter



OUR LADY OF PEACE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Parish
Our Lady Of Peace
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CSPC Chair:
J. Celio

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

Lunch Hour:
11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The month of December begins our liturgical year with Advent, a word derived from Latin that means "coming". The season of Advent is that time when we celebrate and anticipate the birth of Jesus Christ our Saviour. We are waiting for His birth and we are preparing for His arrival with a great deal of excitement and energy. During the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, and we reflect on God's greatest gift to us—the Saviour of the world, His Son, Jesus Christ. During this Season of Advent, our virtue of the month is Charity and our quote of the month is **"Where charity and love are, God is there."** This month at Our Lady of Peace we will be demonstrating Charity by collecting \$1 donations with our dress down day to donate those in need within our community.

Thank you to all parents and guardians who attended Parent-Teacher Conferences last month. It was not only a chance to meet your child's teacher, visit their classroom and gain information about their academic success, it also strengthens the working relationship between families and school.

Last month we had to say goodbye to Mme. Altobelli and Mme. LeMoyné who returned to enjoy retirement. We are fortunate to welcome back Mme. Chiappetta, Mr. Covelli and Mr. Walters.

On Tuesday, December 10th, our Grade 2 students will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation at Our Lady of Peace Church. On Wednesday, December 11th at 10:00 a.m. we will be having our school Advent Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church. Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend. It is always wonderful when we have opportunities to come together as a school community in prayer as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

To celebrate the festive season, our primary classes will be hosting a Christmas concert at Michael Power/St. Joseph on Thursday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m. The ELP classes will be having a Christmas concert in the school gym on Tuesday, December 17th and Wednesday, December 18th.

On behalf of the Our Lady of Peace staff and students, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to you and your family for a Blessed and Holy Christmas. May each of your families continue to be blessed with the Lord's bountiful goodness and abundant love in the New Year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Joyeux Noël and Bonne Année.



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

OLP is now on Twitter!!



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

DECEMBER VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: CHARITY

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Where there is charity and love, God is there.”

UBI CARITAS ET AMOR,
DEUS IBI EST
– WHERE THERE IS
CHARITY AND LOVE,
GOD IS THERE.

~ LATIN HYMN ~

- REMEMBER THROUGHOUT ADVENT THAT CHARITY STARTS FROM THE HOME AND MOVES FORWARD IN ALL YOU DO.
- LET THE CHRISTMAS SEASON CREATE CHARITY IN YOUR ACTIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.
- IF WE EXPECT OTHER PEOPLE TO DO CHARITABLE ACTS TOWARDS US, WE MUST FIRST REMEMBER TO SHOW GENEROSITY TOWARDS OTHERS.
- WE SHOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER THOSE LESS FORTUNATE THAN US, ESPECIALLY IN A SEASON FILLED WITH GIVING.



As we enter the season of Advent to prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus, it is rather suitable that this month's virtue is **CHARITY**. Many of us already engage in the mad rush to purchase gifts to put under the tree for Christmas Day. Let us be mindful of the fact that charity is not always about giving material things. As St. Thomas Aquinas described it "*Charity is friendship first with God and secondly with all who belong to God.*" (25:4). How can we practice charity and generosity in our community without necessarily giving material things?

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.

REMEMBRANCE DAY:

On Monday November 11th, OLP had 2 assemblies to commemorate and honour the men and women who have served and continue to serve our country during times of conflict. OLP was honoured to welcome Captain Gidlow who shared with our students the importance of Remembrance Day. Thank you to all who donated to help support our veterans. We raised approximately \$475.00 during our Poppy Campaign. We would also like to extend our gratitude to Mlle. Morassutti and Mme. Perri for organizing our Remembrance Day celebration that also included a choral reading of the poem *In Flanders Fields*.



ME TO WE TEAM:

The Me to We Team will be having our annual Christmas Tree Ornament Sale. We will be selling a variety of creative ornaments for \$1 to \$3. You may purchase ornaments starting Monday, December 9th to Thursday, December 19th. Purchase one or more of these beautiful ornaments before they sell out!! All proceeds raised will go directly to Me to We worldwide initiatives!

The We Team would like to thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts who donated to Christmas in the Philippines. These items and various gifts will be going directly into the hands of children and teens in the poorest areas of Manila. Thank you!!!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us from the We Team!!

INTERMEDIATE GIRLS VOLLEYBALL:

Our intermediate girls' volleyball team had a very successful and memorable season. The team demonstrated strong skills, motivation, perseverance, sportsmanship and team spirit. We participated in 4 tournaments this season. We remained undefeated and came first at the 9-team Invitational Tournament at Our Lady of Victory on October 24th. We also

remained undefeated and came first at our 5-team Divisional Tournament at All Saints Catholic Elementary School on November 14th. We repeated exactly the same feat one week later on November 21st at Saint Oscar Romero Catholic Secondary School in the Toronto West Regional Tournament where our team was crowned the champion of the West after years of total domination by the strong All Saints team at the intermediate level.

It was an honour to participate on November 27th at the City Quarter and Semi Finals at the Pan Am Centre in Scarborough along with the 7 best teams of our board. Unfortunately, we failed to qualify among the 4 best teams in the city which was the team goal and ambition. However, our 6th placement overall among 164 schools is still a great achievement. We have a young and promising team with good foundations for next year. We have to say goodbye and a big thank-you to 4 of our amazing Grade 8 players (Eva, Jasmine, Sabrina and Sosa) who will graduate this year.

A special heartfelt thank-you goes to our dedicated OLP parents who were our supporters, drivers and biggest fans in all our 4 tournaments: Mrs. Cruz, Mr. and Mrs. Allison, Mr. and Mrs. Antoniw, Mrs. Obodu, Mr. Wright, Mr. Fallows, Mrs. Sordi and Mrs. DeMedeiros. A very big thank you to our dedicated and hard working coaches: Coach Prifti and Coach Govaert for their leadership and collaboration in working with our students.



INTERMEDIATE BOYS VOLLEYBALL:

The Intermediate Boys Volleyball Team competed in the annual TCDSB Divisional Tournament at All Saints. The boys battled hard throughout the day to make it into the finals against St. Marcellus. Eventually, the boys ran out of steam and fell to St. Marcellus both sets, sending them home after a hard-fought season, full of trials and tribulations. Mr. Zacchilli and Mr. Steriovski would like to send out a special thanks to Assistant Coach Andy N. for his words of wisdom,

Interim Captain Colin B. for his astute leadership and tournament MVP Michael G. for exemplifying never ending work ethic. The coaching staff is extremely proud of the professionalism, sportsmanship and tenacity displayed by the entire team through the season. We also extend a big THANK YOU and MERCI to our dedicated coaches: Coach Steriovski and Coach Zacchilli for all their hard work this season. We will come back stronger next season Phoenix...Just remember #riseup

DIFFERENCE MAKERS:

During Anti-Bullying Week in November, students were entertained and learned about the different types of bullying with a special presentation of "Benched" and "My Secret Bully". Presenters acted out the story about the impact of bullying on the victim and on the perpetrator. We would like to thank the CSPC for sponsoring these important presentations.

The Difference Makers are a group of enthusiastic intermediate students who have chosen to make a difference at school by promoting mental health initiatives in various ways. They have learned that without mental health we will not have our health. Recently, they collaborated, wrote, and performed an anti-bullying plays for our primary students. Their play demonstrated various ways students can regain their self-worth, assist targeted students, and stop bullying at school. The Difference Makers will be attending the TCDSB Stop the Stigma Symposium on December 2nd. They will collaborate with mental health professionals, teachers, child and youth workers, and students from other schools to bring back ideas for promoting good mental health at Our Lady of Peace. We thank Ms. Molella and Mr. Zacchilli for their collaboration and leadership with the Difference Makers.

PRIMARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

The primary classes have been working very hard and are excited to be performing their Christmas concert for parents on Thursday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m. at Michael Power/St. Joseph high school. We look forward to seeing you at the concert.

KINDERGARTEN CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

The Kindergarten children are very excited to be performing their Christmas concert for their parents on December 17th or December 18th. We would like to invite the parents of the students in Ms. Govaert, Ms. Ngasa, Mr. Zacchilli, Ms. Harry and Mlle. Morassutti classes to join us in the gymnasium on Tuesday, December 17th. The parents of the students in Mrs. Della Mora, Ms. Hance and Mme. Venditti, and Ms. Longphee, classes will be invited to join us on Wednesday, December 18th. The concerts will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the gymnasium. We are asking the children to wear their Christmas best. Following the

concert, the children will receive a gingerbread cookie and will engage in decorating it before it is eaten! We look forward to seeing you at our celebration!

FRENCH IMMERSION:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board offers French Immersion and Extended French programs at several TCDSB sites. The French Immersion program is offered to students beginning in Junior Kindergarten. Our Lady of Peace will be hosting a French Immersion Parent Information Evening on Thursday, January 9th at 5:30 p.m. in the library.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION: JANUARY 2020

The Toronto Catholic District School Board invites families with children born in 2016 to register for Kindergarten beginning **Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 10 a.m. EST.**

Registration options:

- Online: Parents will be able to complete their application online at: <https://soar.tcdsb.org/Login.aspx>. A follow up with visit to the school to present the required documents will be scheduled following the online application.

Information: 416-222-8282 ext. 5320 or 5314, www.tcdsb.org/kindergartenregistration

As part of the registration process, school staff will meet with parents. During the meeting, school staff will verify the original documentation required for registration. This consists of a Baptismal Certificate, Birth Certificate and/or Passport, Immunization record, proof of residence and Application for Direction of School support.

Applications to register children in grades other than Kindergarten can also be done on the online S.O.A.R. application. For further information, please contact our school office at 416-393-5253.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL (CSPC)

Our next CSPC meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15TH at 6:30 p.m. in the library. New members are welcome.

CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE:

Parent Council's biggest fundraiser, Curriculum Enhancement, is officially over. We raised \$13,000 just shy of our \$15,000 goal. Students will be able to enjoy extra DPA, crazy hat day and pajama day. Stay tuned we will decide on our special themed days very soon. A BIG thank you to all the families that supported this important fundraising effort! We had our early bird giveaways of Indigo and Cineplex gift cards, congratulations to all the winners: Ava C., Calissa C., Sinead D., Caelan M, Abigail M., Adam N., Morris T., Nathan T., Charlotte W., Amanda Y.

CSPC wishes you all a very Merry Christmas and many blessings in the New Year!

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 time to assist with Pizza, Pita Pit, and Subway Lunches: Un grand merci à: J. Armstrong, K. Bogdanovski, A. Brankovic, T. Brenner, T. de Maria, L. Giannini, I. Hanna, N. Kokai, T. Otchere, C. Black, R. Wiltshire, L. Landry, A. Lopes, E. Maldini, R. Mazza, C. Swan, C. Borowski, M. Young, A. DeLuca, V. James-Locke, A. D'Urzo

STUDENT ABSENCES and EXTENDED ABSENCES:

A reminder that if your child is going to be absent from school due to illness please call the school at 416-393-5253 and leave a message on the machine.

Please advise the school in writing if your child will be absent from school for any reason other than illness.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2019– 2020

Wards

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
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