



OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

125 Glenmount Ave Toronto, Ontario

Telephone: 416-393-5265

Fax: 416-393-5754



PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

January 2020

Happy New Year to the Our Lady of Assumption Community! As we begin this new year and new decade we pray for health, joy, contentment and love.

"Do not be afraid; I am with You" (Isaiah 41:10) Courage is the gospel virtue for January. It encourages us to face the long, hard winter ahead of us with courage. At the beginning of 2020, we are uncertain what this year will bring us and perhaps feel apprehensive, but the common theme in holy scripture is "Be not afraid." The angel said this to Mary at the Annunciation, the Resurrection and at the tomb of Christ. Jesus himself uses these words to strengthen his apostles, (John 6:20). It takes a lot of courage to practice and be true to our faith. As the three wise men had the courage to go against King Herod by not following his directive to reveal the location of Baby Jesus, here at Our Lady of Assumption we demonstrate our courage to live our faith by speaking up truthfully when we see something wrong that is being done to others and our world community.

In the next couple of weeks, I will be recovering from a surgery. Ms. Sienna Da Costa will be here in my place as principal. Please contact Ms. Da Costa should you need any assistance. I look forward to seeing all of you in the coming weeks.

Sincerely
Teresa Silva

Teresa Silva
PRINCIPAL
Shawna Campbell 416-222-82828, ex2267
SUPERINTENDENT
Maria Rizzo-416-512-3405
TRUSTEE
Our Lady of Assumption Parish
2565 Bathurst Street
PARISH
Cary Auwater and Omari Belot
CSPC CHAIR
www.tcdsb.org/cpic
CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB)
www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto
OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS)
375
ENROLLMENT
HOURS OF OPERATION
11:45am-12:45am
LUNCH HOUR

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2019 - 2020

Wards

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino, Chair | 416-512-3401 |
| 2. Markus de Domenico | 416-512-3402 |
| 3. Ida Li Preti | 416-512-3403 |
| 4. Teresa Lubinski | 416-512-3404 |
| 5. Maria Rizzo | 416-512-3405 |
| 6. Frank D'Amico | 416-512-3406 |
| 7. Michael Del Grande | 416-512-3407 |
| 8. Garry Tanuan | 416-512-3408 |
| 9. Norm Di Pasquale | 416-512-3409 |
| 10. Daniel Di Giorgio | 416-512-3410 |
| 11. Angela Kennedy, Vice-Chair | 416-512-3411 |
| 12. Nancy Crawford | 416-512-3412 |
| Taylor Dallin, Student Trustee | 416-512-3413 |
| Kathy Nguyen, Student Trustee | 416-512-3417 |

NEW REGISTRANTS WELCOME

Apply online: soar.tcdsb.org
Call **416-393-Phone#** or the **TCDSB Admissions Department** at 416-222-8282, ext. 2383.

For general information about the Toronto Catholic District School Board, please visit the website at www.tcdsb.org

Stay in touch with the latest news throughout the school year: Follow **@TCDSB** on Twitter.

Terracotta Fundraiser

Our Terracotta fundraiser was a huge success. In total we raised over \$3500. It was one of our best years in terms of sales and we thank you for your enthusiasm, support and generosity. We had some lucky winners: Gabriel Cruz in grade 1 won 4th prize which was a giant pizza sized cookie, The Montes brothers won 3rd prize which were passes to Sky Zone, the Bent brothers won 2nd prize which was a PS4 Game system and first prize went to Daniel Auwaeter in grade 8 won 1st prize, Raptors tickets. Again thank you tremendously for your generosity in this most successful fundraising endeavor. Thank you also to our CSPC council for facilitating this event in organization and distribution of cookies.

Christmas Bazaar

Thank you to Ms. LeBlanc, her students and Ms. Rebelo for putting on the annual Christmas Bazaar. Students had the opportunity to purchase various items to give to their families and friends. In total the school raised well over \$1300. Thank you tremendously for your generosity. All funds will go towards various activities within the school such as presentations, trips, activities, and guest speakers.

Christmas Concert

On Thursday, December 19th, we enjoyed a wonderful Christmas concert that highlighted the talents of all students and conveyed the wonder of this special time of year. Thank you to all the parents who attended and all the staff who worked so diligently in preparing our students for this event.

Welcome

We welcome a new staff member this January. We are excited to have Ms. Sinead Mayer join us at Our Lady of the Assumption all the way from Australia. Ms. Mayer is participating in an exchange with Ms. Pilato. Ms. Mayer will be teaching grade 1 from January to June 2020. We pray for Ms. Pilato as she travels to Australia to have a safe and successful year teaching abroad. We anticipate that this exchange will share and highlight various

Kindergarten Registration

TCDSB looks forward to welcoming new students for September 2020. Registration for kindergarten begins **Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 10 a.m.** Please apply online at **SOAR.tcdsb.org**. Please share this information with your family and friends who are looking to enroll their children born 2016.

Charity Virtue Winners

Congratulations to the following students who demonstrated the December virtue of Charity.

Raso JK/SK – Isabella Rivera Tenger - SK

Szakola JK/SK – Sky Songahid - SK

Cardone– SK/1 - Alexandra Bercelona – SK

Pilato – Milani Chloe Sutherland gr. 1

Pignataro – Grade 1/2 – Micah Santos - gr. 1

Pena Vital – Grade 2 – Bella Austin - gr 2.

Askin Costa – Grade 3 – Dario Phillip - gr. 3

Alvarado-Diaz - Grade 3/4 – Gina Maccarone - gr. 3

Rozowski – Grade 4 – Vailee Raymundo - gr. 4

De Gouvía – Grade 5 – Alyssa Casayuran - gr. 5

Furiato – Grade 5/6 – Mary Grace Valencia - gr. 6

Rizzo – Grade 6 – Jacob Speziale - gr. 6

Ciraco — Grade 7 – Alyssa Pablorina - gr. 7

Sergnese Grade 7 – Aida Shanazaryan – gr. 7

LeBlanc Carr – Grade 8 – Rey Petilos - gr. 8

Nicholson – Grade 8 – Aliyat Adeyemi - gr. 8

In January we acknowledge and celebrate the virtue of **Courage**.

Safe Arrival Reminders

The safety of our students is of paramount importance to us. Staff supervision of students begins at 8:40AM in the school yard. In the interest of our child's safe arrival at school please do not drop off your child before 8:40 AM as there will be no one to supervise them.

In an effort to increase safety for students, parents and staff, there will be no parking in the bus zone. There is presently parking between the 2 bus loading signs. We have numerous buses that deliver students and students must get off buses and go into the school yard in a safe and calm setting.

We also ask that adults refrain from entering the school yard. Many teachers and students do not recognize the parents in the yard. As such this poses a safety issue. Please say goodbye your children at the gates and they will be safely supervised by staff.

In addition we ask that parents and guardians not block the gate to the kindergarten yard. As there is a stair level on this landing, it is essential that students be able to travel safely and enter the yard with ease.

Lunches

If your child stays at school for lunch, we strongly encourage you to pack a healthy lunch for them to help reinforce the healthy living curriculum that is taught at the school. We appreciate that there are exceptional circumstances that may require you to drop off a lunch at school. Lunches should be dropped off on the lunch table just outside the office before 11:45am. **Please ensure you sign your child's name to the sheet on the table so that we can call your child down at lunch time.** Students eat their lunch from 11:45-12:05. Students will not be called out of class early to minimize disruptions. If lunches are dropped off late, students will pick them up on their reentry to the school at 12:45pm. In circumstances where lunches are dropped off, we strongly encourage home packed lunches rather than fast food items.

***PLEASE NOTE: Under no circumstances will students who normally stay at school for lunch be allowed to sign out to go pick up lunch *unless* they are signed out and accompanied by an adult that is authorized to pick them up. Notes *will not* be accepted under any circumstances. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this regard so as to ensure the safety of your children while they are in our care.

I also wish to stress that **NO UBER EATS** orders are permitted at the school. We do not allow unidentified strangers into the building as this poses a threat to student safety.

Birthdays and Celebrations

Birthdays and other special occasions are announced over the PA system on a regular basis. **Under no circumstances should food be brought to the school to distribute to a class (cake, candy, pizza, etc...).** As we are an allergen sensitive school, we cannot verify the contents of food that parents may send to school for distribution. If food is sent to the school, parents will be called and asked to come pick up the food as it **will not be distributed.** Although we appreciate that the thought is well intentioned, we must work together to ensure the safety of each student. Instead of food, feel free to send grab bag items such as pencils, erasers, stickers, etc...



*** Please note: We do not allow parents to purchase items sold through the school for the entire class for birthdays.

Improving Access to School Bus Information for Toronto Parents

Toronto District School Board and Toronto Catholic District School Board parents are now able to access their children's transportation information online and receive email notifications if there are any school bus cancellations or delays, thanks to the launch of a new online transportation portal. www.torontoschoolbus.org. There continues to be a delay with two of our Bus Routes. A driver shortage is the cause of these delays which will hopefully be remedied in the near future. **In addition our School is presently in the habit of sending afternoon voice and mail alerts to notify parents in the event of significant bus delays.**

Follow @TCDSB on Twitter, Toronto Catholic DSB on Instagram, subscribe to E-News, visit our website www.tcdsb.org to receive a weekly update via email: <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>

- School Messenger (please ensure that your school has current and up to date telephone numbers and email addresses on file for your family)
- Twitter (follow @TCDSB)
- TCDSB website www.tcdsb.org
- 24-hour telephone information line 416-222-8282 ext. 2873

The Board wishes to assure parents and students that every effort will be made to ensure that all elementary and secondary schools, day care centres, before- and after-school programs and nutrition programs will continue to remain open as long as it is safe to do so.

School bus transportation for eligible students will continue.

Parents are encouraged to contact their local school principal with any questions or issues of local concern.

Guidance Update

Guidance Corner - January 2020

Maria D'Alfonso HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I hope you and your families have had a peaceful Christmas season! The virtue of Courage is a focus for this month, and students are encouraged to step outside of their comfort zones to try something new or to develop their physical and moral courage. I have included a couple of articles here for your information:

<https://centerforparentingeducation.org/library-of-articles/self-esteem/kids-and-courage/>

<https://www.heysigmund.com/building-courage-in-kids/>

January is also a good time for students to reflect on goal-setting; looking at what they have already done well, and planning for what they would still like to accomplish by the end of the school year. In anticipation of the Term 1 report card, a focus on the Learning <https://myblueprint.ca>, which has excellent resources for students to create and reflect on goals for both academic and personal purposes.

<https://myblueprint.ca/support/resources/education-planner/LSeAJ1TjmEG6yMQkMqY2m/>

I have included a couple of resources here that can help students with the development of self-regulation skills:

<http://www.gonoodle.com>

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/selfRegulate.html>

Monthly Update from the Board

January 2020

Important Information for Parents

Labour Update

Throughout the days and weeks ahead, we encourage everyone to watch for regular updates on our website at <https://www.tcdsb.org/News/othernews/2020/Pages/LabourUpdate.aspx>, and to follow @TCDSB on Twitter, check the 24-information line at 416-222-8282, extension 2873 or sign up for E-News (for email notifications) at <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>.

Kindergarten Registration Starts January 15, 2020

TCDSB looks forward to welcoming new students for September 2020. Registration for kindergarten begins **Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 10 a.m. EST.**

Apply online: **SOAR.tcdsb.org**. Details: <https://www.tcdsb.org/kindergartenregistration>

Registration for Extended French: www.tcdsb.org/extendedfrench

Registration for French Immersion: www.tcdsb.org/frenchimmersion

Registration for Night School Credit Classes

Registration begins January 8th. Classes begin February 24th and 25th. For detailed information, see <https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/ContinuingEducation/Pages/Default.aspx>

Parent & Community Reps Needed:

TCDSB Advisory Committee for Spanish-Speaking Communities

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is pleased to invite members of the community to consider serving on the Advisory Committee for Spanish-Speaking Communities. Interested applicants are invited to indicate their interest by completing the online [application form](#) and submitting it by **January 15th, 2020** to the attention of David Letra by email at: david.letra@tcdsb.org or regular mail: David Letra, Community Relations Department, 80 Sheppard Ave. E., Toronto, ON, M2N 6E8. More info: [click here](#).

Special Education Advisory Committee

The Special Education Advisory Committee is seeking representatives from the community and from local associations dedicated to supporting students with special needs. Details:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/Pages/SEACSeeksCommunityRepresentatives.aspx>

Automated Speed Enforcement Systems to be Installed in School Zones

The City of Toronto has announced the installation of Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) systems across the City of Toronto. ASE is intended to enhance road safety in Community Safety Zones near schools. The system captures any vehicle travelling in excess of the posted speed limit. This includes emergency vehicles and municipal fleet vehicles.

Transportation services is installing 50 portable ASE systems near schools, and it is anticipated that they will rotate every three to six months within city wards.

An educational campaign will be launched to inform drivers of the presence of an ASE system. During the initial period, the plate owner will simply be issued a warning letter to confirm that the vehicle was moving faster than the posted speed limit. No response to these warning letters is required.

The City expects to move to issuing tickets in spring 2020. No demerit points will be issued nor will the registered owner's driving record be impacted. For more information, please visit toronto.ca/ASE or contact the ASE team at ASE@toronto.ca.

Updates on Weather Related Cancellations or Closures

Traffic congestion and varying road conditions can impact the flow of traffic in Toronto, and this is particularly true during the winter months when snow and ice can be a major factor. The Toronto Student Transportation Group provides information about school bus delays digitally through [their website](#). Update on delays: <https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Cancellations.aspx>. Parents are encouraged to subscribe to the

transportation portal to get real time information about any transportation issues:

<https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Subscriptions/Login.aspx> and to follow @TCDSB and @TOSchoolBus on Twitter.

General Information

Caucus Results

- Ward 1 Trustee Joseph Martino was elected Chair
- Angela Kennedy, Trustee for Ward 11 was elected Vice-Chair.

More: <https://www.tcdsb.org/News/NewsReleases/newsrelease20182019/NewsRelease-Nov29-2019.pdf>

Financial Statements

The Audited Financial Statements for 2019 have been posted to the board's website:

https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/BudgetandFinance/Documents/Toronto_Catholic_District_School_Board_08312019_FINAL_F S.pdf

Director's Annual Report

Check out some of the many highlights from the past school year in the 2019-2020 Annual Report:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/BoardAdministration/DirectorofEducation/Pages/AnnualReport-2018-2019.aspx>

Rooted in Christ: we Believe

You are invited to explore the resources and information relating to our pastoral plan at

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/rooted-in-christ/webelieve/Pages/weBelieveResources.aspx>

Suggested Activity for the Year: Consider who inspires you, who nurtures your faith, who acts as a mentor and role model of Catholic living. Is it your school chaplain? A parent or other family member? Your pastor or other member of your parish? A teacher or other staff at your school? A colleague or friend? Share your stories through a STEAM project, written work (poem, story, article), a short video, art, music or technology. Celebrate those who have guided you on your own journey of faith. Share your ideas and initiatives on social media (@TCDSB #TCDSBelieves). Send your submissions to ncc.team@tcdsb.org.

TCDSB Working Towards Net Zero Status

The Toronto Catholic District School Board believes in the critical role that our Catholic schools and facilities play in promoting environmental responsibility and providing leadership and direction for the protection and conservation of the environment. The TCDSB's Environment Committee is committed to working with all TCDSB stakeholders in their continued efforts to create a culture of conservation at TCDSB, consistent with the ideas expressed in Pope Francis' 2015 *Laudato Si*. More:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/environment/NetZero/Pages/default.aspx>

Nominations are Invited for the 2020 TCDSB Awards

Awards Night is our traditional celebration to launch Catholic Education Week and an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of our alumni, students, staff and friends of Catholic education. Nominations are invited for the following awards:

- [Download the TCDSB Alumni Award Nomination Form here.](#)
- [Download the TCDSB Award of Merit Nomination Form here.](#)
- [Download the TCDSB Friends of Catholic Education Award Nomination Form here.](#)

The deadline for all nominations is January 31.

Calendar of Meetings for 2020

Click here <https://www.tcdsb.org/Calendar/Documents/AnnualCalendarOfMeetings2020.pdf> for the draft calendar of board and committee meetings. Please note that dates and times of meetings are subject to change.

Events/Meetings:

- January's Virtue is Courage
<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/VirtueoftheMonth/Pages/Default.aspx#January>
- January is Tamil Heritage Month

- January 1, 2020 World Day of Peace
- January 6, 2020 Epiphany
- January 7, 2020 Eastern Rite Christmas
- January 7, 2020 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting
- January 7, 2020 Portuguese Advisory Committee Meeting
- January 9, 2020 Student Achievement Committee Meeting
- January 13-24, 2020 EQAO-Grade 9 Assessment
- January 14, 2020 Eastern Rite New Year
- January 15, 2020 Filipino Advisory Committee Meeting
- January 16, 2020 Corporate Services Committee Meeting
- January 17, 2020 System-wide PA Day (elementary schools only)
- January 20, 2020 Dr. Martin Luther King Day
- January 20, 2020 Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting
- January 22, 2020 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting
- January 23, 2020 Regular Board Meeting
- January 27, 2020 Family Literacy Day
- January 27, 2020 International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- January 27, 2020 Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education Meeting
- January 30, 2020 Bell Let's Talk Day

For more information, visit www.tcdsb.org.