



OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

125 Glenmount Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M6B 3C2

Telephone: (416)-393-5265 Fax: (416)-393-5754

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

September 2018

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians:

With great joy we welcome our returning students. Also, a warm welcome to our new students to Our Lady of the Assumption School community. We hope your summer holidays was relaxing with many fun family moments.

In partnership with Fr. Ben Ebcas, our school Pastor, we will continue to inspire our students to aspire to grow in Christian virtues. In September, we will focus on the Gospel Virtue of Hospitality: ***“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares”*** (Hebrews 13:2). No one is a stranger in our school.

The Pastoral Plan of the Toronto Catholic District School Board 2018-2021 is: ***“Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become”***. Inspired by St. Paul’s Letter to the Colossians *“Live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith...abounding in thanksgiving”*, our new pastoral plan strengthens our sense of belonging to God and one another, expresses our belief in God through our vision and mission, and works to achieve our goals as people on a common mission.

During 2018-2019, we focus in depth on the concept of belonging. Students and staff are invited to explore how “we Belong” to our school community, to our family, to our parish and to our world.

Your child will bring home several important forms this week. Please complete and return the forms to your child’s teacher. The school office must have the most current health, complete home and email address and phone numbers on file. Please discuss the School’s Code of Conduct policy with your child and sign page 8 of the student agenda.

MEET THE TEACHER evening will take place on **Wednesday, September 19th** at **6:45 p.m.** in the school gym. This is a great opportunity for parents to meet their child’s classroom teacher and be informed about the grade expectations.

I look forward to meeting you at school events and parent evenings or drop by my office to discuss matters relating to your child’s welfare. Your support and partnership is appreciated as we journey this school year.

May Our Lady of the Assumption bless our school community and pray for us.

Sharon Garlow

Sharon Garlow

PRINCIPAL ↗

Michael Caccamo
(416) 222-8282 ext. 2267

SUPERINTENDENT ↗

Maria Rizzo
(416) 222-8282 ext. 3405

TRUSTEE ↗

Our Lady of the Assumption Church
2565 Bathurst Street
Rev. Fr. Ben Ebcas (416) 787-4547

PARISH ↗

Fernando Belleza & Cary Auwaerter

CSPC CHAIR ↗

www.tcdsb.org/cpic

CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB) ↗

www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto

OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS) ↗

372	9:00 – 3:30	11:45 – 12:45
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ENROLLMENT	HOURS OF OPERATION	LUNCH HOUR
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NEW REGISTRANTS WELCOME

Apply online: soar.tcdsb.org

Call 416-393-5265 or the TCDSB Admissions Department at 416-222-8282, ext. 5320.

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

Stay in touch with the latest news throughout the school year: Follow @TCDSB on Twitter or Toronto Catholic DSB on Instagram.

SCHOOL RE-ORGANIZATION 2018-2019

The goal of administration, teachers and other staff members is to establish balanced classes to provide cohesive working groups which will benefit all children in each class. Teachers from both the receiving and sending grades have met to carefully consider the following criteria:

- Learning styles
- Academic abilities
- Social groupings
- Special education needs
- Behavioural needs
- Balance of males/females
- Previous placement in combined classes
- Siblings (not placed in the same class if possible)

Teachers who worked with your child all year know them well and made a determination of placement in your child's best interest.

Accepting parental requests for specific teachers or grade combinations would not be in the best interest of all the children as it would restrict school staff in forming what is considered the most ideal classroom groupings. Classroom organization has been finalized. We ask you to please respect this.

Please be advised that ALL CLASS PLACEMENTS MUST BE CONSIDERED TENTATIVE AT THIS TIME! We may need to re-organize prior to September 30th to meet Ministry of Education and contractual obligations. Your understanding is appreciated.

COMBINED GRADES

A class of combined grades is composed of students from two adjacent grades who are grouped with one teacher for instruction. In all classrooms, no matter how they are organized, teachers use a variety of methods on a daily basis to assess the needs of each student. They then adjust the focus of instruction for skill development accordingly to meet the needs of all learners regardless of the classroom organization. Within a class of combined grades, students work towards the achievement of their grade-specific curriculum expectations. Assessment, evaluation, and reporting are grade-specific.

Reviews of research that were conducted in Canada show that instruction in classes of combined grades can provide students with increased opportunities for social and emotional growth. **Students have been shown to:**

- do better in the area of socio-emotional development;
- develop more positive peer interactions;
- have greater development of social skills;
- do more collaborative and independent learning;
- display greater feelings of comfort and security, and a positive self-concept;
- show higher satisfaction with achievements;
- have more opportunities for student leadership within a community of learners.

IMPORTANT SCHOOL FORMS

With this newsletter you will receive the following important forms that will require your signature:

- permission form
- insurance information
- health form
- dismissal form
- internet form

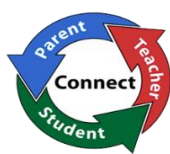
Please return these forms to your child's classroom teacher. The Toronto Catholic District School Board does **not** provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school premises or during school activities. Accidents can and do happen. Some injuries incur medical, dental or other expenses that are not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans. As a parent or guardian, you become responsible for these expenses.

For your convenience, the Board has arranged a **Student Accident Insurance Policy** exclusively through Reliable Life Insurance Company. Participation in such a program is voluntary and the costs are to be paid by the parent or guardian. This program offers a variety of plans and benefits at affordable prices. Benefits and more information are included in the Insurance package being sent home with this newsletter. **The insurance agreement is between you and Reliable Life Insurance Com Company.** You may directly apply at: www.insuremykids.com

STUDENT AGENDA



The School Agenda is an excellent communication tool for parents, students and teachers. It is an essential tool to help our students develop good organizational and time management skills, set goals and meet homework deadlines. It is your responsibility to read and discuss with your child the School Code of Conduct, dress code, transportation and other important information. **Parents and Students please sign Page 8 of the Agenda.**



You are invited to meet and greet your child's teacher. This is a Curriculum Information Night and NOT a parent-teacher interview night.

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2019

6:45 p.m. - Assemble in the gym

7:15-8:00 - Meet the teachers

SCHOOL MASS



Parents are invited to join the staff and students at our first School Mass.

Date: Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018

Time: 1:45 p.m.

Location: Our Lady of the Assumption Church
2565 Bathurst Street
M6B 2Z3

PEANUT ALLERGIES



Our Lady of the Assumption School strives to maintain a peanut free school. We have many students who suffer from life-threatening allergies when they come in contact with peanuts or peanut products. Please inform the school as soon as possible if your child has an allergy or medical condition. Health forms will be sent home with your child. Please complete the form and return it to the school right away.

We have a number of children with severe food allergies. We do NOT allow sharing of snacks and food among students. Birthday treats like cake, cookies, food, etc. will not be allowed in your child's classroom. Please make alternate arrangements to celebrate your child's birthday other than the classroom.

SCHOOL BUS POLICY



Students must take their assigned bus routes to go home. Requests from parents for their child to switch bus routes for one or more days for whatever reason cannot be accommodated for safety reasons.

Students who ride the bus MUST follow the **School Code of Conduct** (see Student Agenda – page 6) on the school bus. Failing to do so will result in consequences including being suspended from riding the bus for a brief period.

SAFE SCHOOL ARRIVAL

The safety of our students is of paramount importance to us. Staff supervision of students begins at 8:40 in the school yard. In the interest of your child's safe arrival at school please do not drop off your child before 8:40. Your co-operation is much appreciated.

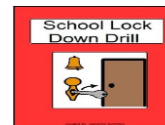


For the safety of our students, parents and visitors to the school are reminded to stop at the front office after entering the building. The office staff will greet you and attend to your needs.

CELL PHONES



Students must follow the Code of Conduct to ensure that cell phones are **powered off between 9:00 and 3:30** (unless it is approved by the teacher for program use). Misuse of the cell phone would result in confiscation by the Principal and returned directly to the student at the end of the day. Subsequent violations would result in a parent- student meeting with the Principal.



During the school year, we will practice 6 Fire Drills and 4 Lock Down/Hold and Secure practice Drills. If you have any questions, please talk to the Principal.

**PRESCRIPTION
MEDICATION** 

School Staff are ***not permitted*** to administer any medication without written instructions from both a legal guardian and prescribing doctor. All prescribed medication will be kept in the office. The forms to dispense any medication must be updated on a regular basis and are available from the main office. Please be advised that staff will not dispense non-prescription medications to students.

LUNCH TIME POLICY

Students will not be allowed to leave the school premises to purchase lunch from the local restaurants or cafes unless accompanied to and from the school by a parent or legal guardian over the age of 18 years.

OLA SCHOOL DRESS CODE



The Dress Code for all OLA students are: white and navy blue garments (plain white/navy blue shirt or blouse with collar, plain navy blue pant/skirt/shorts).

Denim, hoodies, logos, navy blue jeans, ripped jeans, sweat pants with or without stripes, yoga pants, skinny jeans ARE NOT school approved garments.

Dress Code clothing can be purchased at any clothing store.

Failure to adhere to the Dress Code after 3 warnings would result in the parent being notified by the school Principal thereafter which the student would not be allowed into the classroom until the parent/guardian brings the appropriate clothing for their child. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

**SEPTEMBER GOSPEL VIRTUE
AWARD - HOSPITALITY**

Criteria:

- Students who welcome everyone as Christ does
- students who focus on positive behaviour and conversation
- students who accept everyone equally and celebrate diversity

**THANK YOU
OLA PARENT COUNCIL**

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic School staff and students would like to thank the parent volunteers of OLA **CSPC (Catholic School Parent Council)** for their time, dedication and commitment in organizing very successful fundraising activities for our students during 2017-2018:

Mr. Fernando Belleza – Co - Chair
Mr. Auwaerter - Co-Chair
Mr. Nilo Ang

Members at Large:

Mrs. Bragado, Mrs. Ellarde, Mrs. Veras, Mrs. Amy Rabanal

Parent Event Volunteers:

Ms. Jones, Mr. Bragado

**CSPC
ELECTIONS**



We need parents to volunteer 1-1/2 hours of their time every two months to plan fun activities for our students and school community (example: School BBQ, Family Pajama Movie Night, Math Night, etc.).

Information about Nomination and Elections will be sent home shortly. If you are interested in being nominated to be on the Council, please complete the **Nomination Forms** and return it with your child or drop it off at the school office.

Disclaimer:

The school will send home information from non-profit organizations from time to time. Please exercise caution any time your child participates in or enrolls in an outside organization's event after school hours. The school and the TCDSB are not liable for the quality of service these organizations provide or for the safety of the participants. We forward this information to keep our parent community informed of the wide variety of opportunities available with our local community.



September 2018 News

Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC) Elections

Be a voice for Catholic parents. Support parent engagement in TCDSB Schools. Election of two parent representatives in each of Wards 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 is scheduled for October 3, 2018. Election of parent representatives for vacant seats in Wards 6 and 10 will be held October 2nd. Election of Members at Large takes place Monday, October 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

For detailed information including election locations, see <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/ParentInvolvement/CPICElections/Pages/default.aspx>

CPIC is a provincially mandated and funded committee that supports student academic achievement through increased parent involvement. CPIC is a parent-led committee of volunteers who work locally and centrally to engage parents more fully in Catholic education. CPIC members provide information and advice on parent engagement to the school board, create initiatives that promote and facilitate parent engagement, and educate parents to support them in their children's learning at home and/or at school. Consider running, or nominating someone you think would be a strong voice for parents.

Municipal Elections – NOTE BEFORE YOU VOTE

All are reminded before the next Municipal Election on **October 22, 2018**, including the election of Catholic school trustees, to check your school support on your latest property tax bill to ensure that you are registered as a Catholic school support. TCDSB's assessment department can assist with any questions:

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

For more information about the election, see:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/trusteesoftheboard/pages/municipal-elections.aspx>

Important Reminder About Liability Insurance

All parents are reminded to consider checking the adequacy of their liability insurance through their homeowners'/ tenants' insurance policy to cover claims arising out of injuries caused by their child at school. Student Accident Insurance application forms are forwarded to schools for distribution, and can also be purchased on-line at www.insuremykids.com. TCDSB's Risk Management continues to strongly promote this product as an inexpensive form of dental, disability and life insurance.

Register Now: School Cash Online

Parents/guardians are reminded to create their School Cash Online

profile, in order to receive updates and information on upcoming school activities, including pizza lunches, civvies days, field trips, and much more. Paying through School Cash Online offers a safe and convenient payment option that eliminates the need to send cash or cheques to school. For more information and to create your account visit

www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/schoolcashonline

Bus Transportation Information and Updates

Communications with parents regarding bus transportation for students is a priority. In order to stay informed, parents are encouraged to register on the Toronto Student Transportation Group (TSTG) portal today by visiting www.torontoschoolbus.org. This portal provides TCDSB parents with online access to their children's transportation information and up to the minute email notifications regarding school bus cancellations or delays. If you have any issues signing up on the portal, please contact support@torontoschoolbus.org and staff will assist you with the registration of your account.

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year as we launch our new pastoral plan: "Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become"

Inspired by St. Paul's letter to the Colossians: "Live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and

established in the faith abounding in thanksgiving.”

Learn more about our new pastoral plan:

[Watch the Launch of the Pastoral Plan May 9, 2018](#)

[Pastoral Plan Prayer](#)

[We Belong to God—Pastoral Plan Song](#)

[An Overview of the Plan](#)

[Discussion Topics focusing on the first year of our plan--“we Belong”](#)

[View the artwork for our new pastoral plan](#)

[See photo highlights from the launch of our new Pastoral Plan](#)

During the first year of the plan, we focus in depth on the concept of belonging. Students and staff are invited to explore how “we Belong” to our school community (or place of work), to our family, to our parish and to our world. We are also invited to consider what we can do to ensure that everyone around us feels a sense of belonging—our students, our parent communities, our staff, our pastors and other members of our local parishes.

Throughout the year, share your stories on Instagram and twitter using the hashtag

#TCDSBweBelong

Open Houses

Students in grade 8 and their families are reminded that TCDSB secondary schools are hosting open houses this fall—a great way to meet staff and students, check out the school facilities and learn about the programs and services

being offered. Complete schedule is online:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses/Pages/default.aspx>

Important Dates to Note for September:

September is Ukrainian Heritage Month

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/Ukrainian-Canadian-Heritage-Month/Pages/default.aspx>

September 1—Day of Prayer for Care of God’s Creation

September 8--International Literacy Day

September 9--Grandparent’s Day

September 20--WE Day Family

September 20th

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2017-2018/pages/we-day-family.aspx>



Guidance Corner September

Hello! My name is Ms. Greco. I am theElementary Guidance Teacher/Counsellor at your child's school. I will be visiting the school on a regular basis to deliver classroom programming on a wide-variety of topics (particularly in the intermediate grades), as well as providing counselling services on an individual or small group basis for those students who are referred by the principal, teacher, parent or student themselves. I have been a teacher with the TCDSB for 10 years, and I am

currently in my second year as a Guidance Counsellor in the North York area. I will be providing regular updates to my **Guidance Corner** in the school newsletter each month. During the month of September, I plan on getting acquainted with as many classes in the school as possible so that they are aware of how I can support them during the school year. I encourage students, teachers, administrators and parents to follow me on Twitter @msgreco7 to see all of my Guidance related tweets. Please do not hesitate to contact me through the school if I can be of any assistance to you or your child.

The application process for the transition to high school has changed for 2018/19 and the time-lines have been moved up significantly. Parents of TCDSB Grade 8 students will now receive access on October 15th via email, to their child’s online secondary school application form. You will have 2 weeks to complete the application with your child, and submit online. Dates for the 2018 open house nights at your local high school are available on the Board website at <https://www.tcdsb.org/school/openhouses>. Grade 7 parents are also encouraged to attend. Please make time to visit the high schools of interest to see what they have to offer.

Ms. C. Greco
Elementary Teacher/Counsellor
Areas 3 & 4

**Professional Activity (PA) Days
for ELEMENTARY Schools –
NO CLASSES FOR STUDENTS**

Oct. 5, 2018 Provincial Education Priorities & Faith Day

Nov. 16, 2018 Parent-Teacher Conference

Dec. 7, 2018 Provincial Education Priorities

Jan. 18, 2019 Assessment, Evaluation & Reporting (AER)

Feb. 15, 2019 Parent-Teacher Conference

June 7, 2019 Assessment, Evaluation & Reporting (AER)

June 28, 2019 Provincial Education Priorities

Never Miss Out on the Latest News and Information:

Follow @TCDSB on Twitter, Toronto Catholic DSB on Instagram, and/or subscribe to ENews, to receive a weekly update via email: <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>

TRUSTEES 2016 – 2017

Wards

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

Rory McGuckin, Director of Education

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