



SANTA MARIA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

February 2019

PRINCIPALS' MESSAGE

Being in the midst of winter has several advantages, half is behind us and we hope for an early spring. Please ensure that you send your children to school properly dressed to enjoy these winter days. Our students are encouraged to walk to and from school. Walking to and from school is an excellent way to be active.



February is African Heritage month. We will have a bulletin board and books high lighting African Heritage month throughout our school. On February 20th everyone is encouraged to dress in a colour or sports jersey that demonstrates their cultural background.

February is also Psychology month. We encourage all our parents to read with their children, especially if they are in the younger grades – Kindergarten to Grade 3. You can read in any language. Spend some quality time curled up with your child and a book. Card games are an excellent way to promote mathematical concepts. During the winter months, play a board game, read a book, go tobogganing and drink some hot chocolate!

We are in the mist of our cookie dough fundraiser. All monies raised go back to the students. A flyer is attached to this newsletter.



February's Virtue of the Month – Love

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 14, TCDSB schools will be focussing on the virtue of LOVE as expressed in the gospels. "For God so loved the world, He gave His only son." John 3:16. As we focus on the virtue of love at Santa Maria this February let us remember that love not only inspires the practice of all other virtues, it is the form and



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www.tcdsb.org/cpic
CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB)
www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto
OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS)
227 8:30-4:30 11:45-12:45
ENROLLMENT HOURS OF OPERATION LUNCH HOUR



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.

completion of all the other virtues. We will not limit our celebration of the virtue of love to February 14th, but demonstrate this virtue through the month. I encourage all students to “love” their peers. Love your neighbour!

International Language Classes

New students are welcome!

Did you know that the TCDSB International Languages Dept. is offering International Language classes for JK to Grade 8 students at your children’s school on Saturday mornings from 9:30am to 12:00 pm?

We are accepting new students so please call or visit the school on Saturday mornings at 9:30am for more information.

We are also able to offer new International Language classes if parents of at least 23 children are interested.

Please call us at 416-222-8282 ext. 2495 for more information.

Sabía usted que el Departamento de idiomas de Consejo Internacional está ofreciendo clases de idioma internacional para JK a estudiantes de grado 8 en la escuela de sus hijos el sábados por la mañana de 9:30 a 12:00? Estamos aceptando nuevos estudiantes así que por favor, llame o visite la escuela el sábados por la mañana a 9:30 para más información. También somos capaces de ofrecer nuevas clases de idioma internacional, si los padres de al menos 23 niños. Por favor llámenos al 416-222-8282 ext. 2495 para obtener más información.

Você sabia que o departamento de línguas do TCDSB internacional está oferecendo aulas de língua internacional por JK para grau 8 estudantes na escola de seus filhos nas manhãs de sábado de 09:30 ao 12:00? Estamos aceitando novos alunos, então, por favor ligue ou visite a escola nas manhãs de sábado, às 09:30 para obter mais informações. Também somos capazes de oferecer novas classes de língua internacional, se os pais pelo menos 23 crianças estão interessados. Por favor ligue para 416-222-8282 ext. 2495 para obter mais informações.

Reporting of cancellations or closures due to Inclement Weather

Cancellation of school bus transportation or school closures due to inclement weather will be reported through the following vehicles: News releases to all media outlets in Toronto (although the news release is provided to the media outlets, there is no guarantee that all television and radio stations will broadcast the information in a timely fashion). Communications will endeavour to send out the information electronically to ENews subscribers. Updates will also be posted on the Board’s 24-hour information line, 416-222-8282, extension 2873. The information will also be posted on the Board’s website at www.tcdsb.org or www.tcdsb.org/weather.htm. The Transportation Department will post this information on its website at http://www.schoolbus.to/c_home.asp

Growth Mindsets By Jo Boaler

Here are 7 messages to give to students in math class and at home:

1. Everyone can learn math to the highest levels
2. Mistakes are valuable
3. Questions are really important
4. Math is about creativity and making sense
5. Math is about connections and communicating
6. Math class is about learning not performing
7. Depth is more important than speed



Congratulations to the following recipients for January's Courage certificate.

TEACHER	COURAGE CERTIFICATE
Ms. Pastore/Ms. Dang	Princess O.
Ms. O'Neill/Ms. Figueiredo	Leonardo P.
Ms. Festa	Zayn P.
Mr. Ferrinho	Julia R.
Ms. Lombardo	Olivia Da S.
Mr. Tucci	Chelsea J. R.
Ms. Azavedo	Tatianna L.
Ms. Thornton	Jiovanni I.
Ms. Pastore	Alyssa F.
Ms. Ianni	Isabel P. de C.
Ms. Carneiro	



Parking Lot

Students are encouraged to walk to school. I have taken some information from our Board's transportation site.

Sometimes you just have to drive. Be it a 4 foot by 4 foot smoking volcano for science class that isn't allowed on the bus; or too much ice and snow to get there on the bike; or -35C and just a little too cold to walk to school there are times when families are going to drive their children to school. Some families may have no other options then to drive their children to school but we suggest a number of strategies to help alleviate the traffic congestion already choking traffic zones around schools. First and foremost please respect the traffic laws and signs that are designed to control traffic around the schools. Please see the signage page to familiarize yourself with these signs not only to help keep traffic moving around the schools but avoid those large tickets that police enforcement will provide you when you are not following the letter of the law. Stop a block programs encourage families to park legally a block or two away from the school and then proceed to walk to the school. Carpooling with neighbours will reduce the number of cars around the school minimizing congestions and reducing pollution levels

around the schools. At all times we need to be safe and responsible motorists. That means we need to understand the laws governing transportation and be aware of our surroundings; especially in school zones. Students are more likely to be in an accident around school sites while being transported in personal vehicles then when walking; cycling; or taking the school bus or transit.

If driving, slowdown in school zones and if possible park away from the school and let your child walk a block or two.

If the Parent Safety Program (kiss n ride) is offered at your school please follow the rules provided by the school and follow signage.

No U turns anywhere around the school!

Don't loiter around the school; your presence may contribute to the traffic congestion in the area.

If parking at the school, turn your car off. Vehicle emissions are harmful for our students and families.

Our gate will be closed as the safety of our students was at risk. Also, if dropping off your child on Avon Ave.

Do not let your child cross the student unattended.



GUIDANCE CORNER

Secondary School Offers of Acceptance

High school acceptance letters have been and will continue to be distributed early in February and most specialty program offers have already been sent out. Please go through the package carefully as there are several important dates listed and instructions to be followed. Please ensure that your child attends registration night as directed in the package. And please note that most registration forms need to be signed by their grade 8 teacher or an administrator at the elementary school prior to being submitted.

Redirection Notices

If your child was redirected, please return the forms back to your child's elementary school as soon as possible. Please refer to page 5 of the Transition Guide for Parents that you received in November for details outlining your choices. The guide is available online by following this link

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK>

[12/GuidanceCoopEd/Transition%20to%20High%20School/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/GuidanceCoopEd/Transition%20to%20High%20School/Pages/default.aspx)

TCDSB Secondary School Program and Course Calendar 2019-2020

The Program and Course Calendar for secondary school will be available online for Grade 8 students and parents. It includes a wide variety of important information related to high school, as well as highlighting the courses that each of our high schools will be offering for the coming school year. The link is posted here:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/GuidanceCoopEd/Pages/Default.aspx>

Learning Skills and Work Habit Development at Home

As the Term 1 Report Card is sent home and Parent/Teacher Conferences take place, it is a good reminder of the importance of strengthening the development of the 6 Learning Skills & Work Habits and the vital role that parents play in helping their child master them. Look for opportunities at home for your child to take responsibility, collaborate with others, work independently, self-regulate, show initiative and be organized. Follow this link for suggestions.

http://www.fslhomeworktoolbox.ca/homework_tips/learning_skills_and_work_habits.php



TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2018 - 2019

Wards

1. Joseph Martino	416-512-3401	8. Garry Tanuan	416-512-34081
2. Markus de Domenico	416-512-3402	9. Norm Di Pasquale	416-512-3409
3. Ida Li Preti	416-512-3403	10. Daniel Di Giorgio	416-512-3410
4. Teresa Lubinski	416-512-3404	11. Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411
5. Maria Rizzo, Chair	416-512-3405	12. Nancy Crawford	416-512-3412
6. Frank D'Amico	416-512-3406	Taylor Dallin, Student Trustee	416-512-3413
7. Michael Del Grande, Vice-Chair	416-512-3407	Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee	416-512-3417



Rory McGuckin, Director of Education

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