



## We Thank Thee Lord

With hearts filled with gratitude,  
we thank You, Lord our God,  
for gifting us with good companions.

We are grateful for all those persons in our lives  
who have chosen us to be their friends  
for truly this is a rich and sacred trust.

Be the sacrament of companionship,  
we share our mutual journeys to you.  
Lord of All Love and Life.

In sharing, we find our happiness expanded  
and our sorrow lightened,  
and for this blessing, we are grateful.

We prayerfully rejoice  
that Your Son, Jesus, has called each of us  
from the position of servants  
of being His friends.

Blessed are You, God of Unity,  
for entering our lives through friendship.  
Make us, we pray, worthy of such a gift  
by being faithful but non-possessive,  
by being loyal and honest  
and by being ever grateful  
for the gift of good friends.

Blessed are You, Lord  
our God, who gifts us with  
the joys of friendship.  
Amen



October 2016

## Santa Maria Catholic School News

Parents are encouraged to sign up for an electronic copy of the newsletter. Email Mrs. Carreiro-Neto at [ana.carreiro-neto@tcdsb.org](mailto:ana.carreiro-neto@tcdsb.org) to subscribe or unsubscribe. Newsletters will be sent out at the beginning of each month and posted on the school's website – <http://santamaria.tcdsb.org>

The month of October is synonymous with the theme of Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is celebrated in the autumn to give thanks for the harvest and for the many blessings we have received throughout the year: the gifts of food and shelter, family and friends, health and happiness and our faith and commitment to the Lord. In our bounty, we are reminded to pause and reflect on these blessings and remember to share our time, talents, and treasures with those who are less fortunate. This Thanksgiving let us take the time to pause and celebrate with our loved ones by giving thanks to God. The virtue for October is GRATITUDE. On October 5th, we celebrate *World Teacher Day!* Join us in thanking all of our teachers and support staff for all that they do for our students.

Our students in Grades 3 to 8 will be participating in ballroom dancing. Dance is part of the curriculum, so this activity is mandatory. We will have an evening show for families and friends on Thursday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm. All are welcome.



### Catholic School Advisory Council News

The first Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC) meeting of this school year was held on September 28th. It is my pleasure to introduce this year's parent council:

Chair – Mr. Nelson Goncalves  
Treasurer – Mrs. Susana Garcia  
Secretary – Mrs. Guida Fortini  
Parent at Large – Ms. Irene Perez

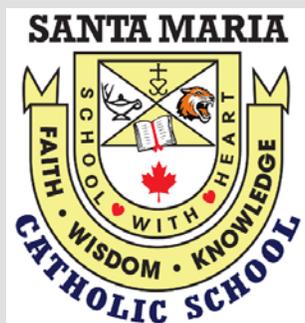
I will be sending out the dates of our meetings and all are welcome to join us.

Respectfully, *Ana Carreiro-Neto*

**REGISTRATION is underway.**

**For more information, call 416-393- 5253 or the TCDSB Admissions Department at 416-222-8282, ext. 5320.**

**For general information about the Toronto Catholic District School Board, please visit the website at [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org). Stay in touch with the latest news throughout the school year: Follow @TCDSB on Twitter**



Santa Maria  
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Telephone 416-393-5368  
Fax 416-393-5083

Principal: Ana Carreiro-Neto

Secretary: Emilia Spizzirri

CSPC Chair :

Superintendent: Doug Yack  
(416-222-8282 Ext. 2732)

Trustee : Frank D'Amico  
416-512-3406

Parish: Our Lady of Guadalupe

CPIC (Parent Engagement--TCDSB)  
[www.tcdsb.org/cpic](http://www.tcdsb.org/cpic)  
OAPCE Toronto (Provincial Voice for Parents)  
[www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto](http://www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto)

Enrollment:230

Hours of Operation 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m.



### Appointments with Staff

Any parent who comes to school during school hours must report to the school office. Under normal circumstances, parents should not expect to visit classrooms during the school day. If you would like to discuss an issue with your child's teacher, it is expected that an appointment be made at a mutually agreeable time. Impromptu meetings before or after school can interrupt lessons and programming or compromise student safety. Your cooperation is appreciated. Please make appointments to meet with administration as well. I am often supervising students during recess times, before and after school. Impromptu meetings are not possible. To set up an appointment, kindly email me at: [ana.carreiro-neto@tcdsb.org](mailto:ana.carreiro-neto@tcdsb.org)

### Halloween Fun

On Monday, October 31st, students and staff are invited to dress up for Halloween. In partnership with our parent council, we will be having a dance and a parade for all students. **Parent council will be selling items at the dance to raise funds for our school. A more detailed letter will be coming home.** Just a reminder that replicas of weapons are not allowed as part of costumes (swords, knives, guns). Let's have some fun on Halloween.



### Chocolate Fundraiser

As in previous years, we will be engaging in our annual chocolate fundraiser. We will have a kick off assembly on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> and chocolates will be distributed on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you in advance for your support in this fundraiser. All funds will assist students with trips, activities and school agendas.



### Food Allergies – NO FISH or NUTS

As we continue to update our medical files, it is apparent that we have many students in our school who suffer from various food allergies. While some allergies are more familiar than others (e.g. the peanut allergy group), anyone who suffers from allergies is at risk and we attempt to minimize the risks for our students. For this reason, we ask parents to refrain from sending food with known allergens in them to school

(Peanut/Nut/Seafood Products). **Parents are also asked to remind their children not to exchange snacks and share lunches.**

By working as cooperatively as possible as a community, we will make every effort to reduce the risks and the stress for anaphylactic students.

**In the primary grades, students like to bring treats to school to celebrate their birthday in their classroom. We are encouraging parents to send pencils, stickers, other small tokens instead of food. We understand the importance of birthdays for all students.**



### Epi-Pen

We have students and staff with life-threatening allergies to nuts and fish. Therefore, please do not send any nut product or fish to school. **Students must have their epi-pen on them at all times.** Epi-pen pouches can be purchased at various locations.

We will be updating our records and ensuring that all epi-pens are valid.



## TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2016-2017

1. Joseph Martino
3. Sal Piccininni
5. Maria Rizzo
7. Michael Del Grande
9. Jo-Ann Davis
11. Angela Kennedy, Chair

2. Ann Andrachuk
4. Patrizia Bottoni
6. Frank D'Amico, Vice Chair
8. Garry Tanuan
10. Barbara Poplawski
12. Nancy Crawford



Karina Dubrovskaya and Rhea Carlisle, Student Trustees

### Dress Code

Please be reminded that all students must adhere to the dress code - a combination of plain white and navy blue clothing (no denim) and no LOGOS please.

#### White or Navy Tops:

Includes: long or short sleeved, collared shirts or blouses; long or short sleeved collarless t-shirts; turtleneck, sweaters, cardigans, vests, hoodies and fleeces.

#### No sleeveless shirts.

#### Navy Bottoms:

Includes: pants (cotton, fleece, nylon, corduroy); shorts, skirts, skorts, tunics. Length must be to mid-thigh for all shorts and skirts.

#### No denim (jean) of any type, lycra, yoga pants, jeggings, tights/leggings (unless under a skirt).



### Proper Foot Wear

Students should be wearing appropriate foot wear for running and jumping. Flip flops are not appropriate foot wear. Running shoes provide support. Students should also come prepared to go outside; jackets and sweaters are needed in during the fall season. Please label your child's clothing.



### Medication / Student Illness

Staff of the TCDSB is not permitted to administer any type of prescription medication during the school day unless we have written authorization signed by the parent and the physician. The forms to dispense any medication must be updated yearly and on a regular basis; these are available from the office. Also, please be advised that staff cannot dispense non-prescription medications to students, and students are not to keep medication in their desks or knapsacks. When your children are ill, please keep them at home. Sick children do not learn well; they can spread germs to others and cannot be supervised indoors during outdoor activities. If children are well enough to come to school, they should be outside getting exercise and fresh air during recesses and other outdoor activities. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

### Cross Country

Our students have been training hard during the day for our cross country team. They show great conviction and determination and are eager to have the chance to represent our school at the meets. Our divisional meet is at Centennial Park on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Students who advance will attend the regional meet on October 20<sup>th</sup>, also at Centennial Park. The city meet will take place on October 25<sup>th</sup> at Earl Bales Park for those who advance from regionals. We would like to thank our coaches: Ms. Pastore, Ms. Pascale, Ms. Thornton, and Mlle. Cantarella.



### The We Team 2016 – 2017

In the spirit of Hospitality, the We Team welcomes everyone to the new school year! We are a social justice team known as the "We Team" run by the grade 6, 7 and 8 students. The "We Team" focuses on helping people in need and addressing issues of social inequality. We also bring awareness to the many issues in our world that need our help at the local, national and international levels. Our team will be participating in We Day on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. I am sure it will be a fun day.



### Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are always welcome at Santa Maria C. School. If any parent is interested in becoming a parent volunteer, please contact the office. Approval of all volunteers must be obtained through the principal. When volunteering at the school, it is expected that a parent will not work in the classroom of his/her own child. Such direct involvement places unnecessary pressure on both the parent and the child. Exceptions to this rule apply only to out of classroom excursions. All parents who serve as volunteers are expected to recognize the importance of confidentiality with respect to events and incidents which occur in the school. Events and incidents should not be discussed by volunteers in the community at large. Any parent who is serving as a volunteer in the school must complete a volunteer form and is also required to sign in at the office and wear appropriate identification. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school. **We need parent volunteers for our nutrition program.**



### Walking to School! October is Walk to School Month

It is imperative that we work together to ensure the safety of our students. Parents dropping off their children kindly adhere to signs and please give yourself enough time to deal with traffic. We are promoting walking to school. Walking or cycling can add to our daily physical activity. When you walk or cycle to school, you will feel energized and ready to learn. You will also be doing your part to protect the environment!



### Nutrition Program

Our snack program will begin after the Thanksgiving weekend. We have had to delay the start of the program as we are training a new coordinator, Mrs. Garcia. We will need parent volunteers to assist with the program. Please contact the office if you can help us out.



### SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are welcome to attend one of the scheduled open houses at TCDSB secondary schools this fall. Learn more about the various programs, services and activities as you prepare for Catholic secondary school education. The following is the information received from our secondary schools regarding open houses this fall. Please note that the information is also posted on the board's website at <https://www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses/Pages/default.aspx> and the website will be updated if any of the information should change over the next few months.

Oct. 26, 2016 – St. Mary C.S.S.

Oct. 27, 2016 – Bishop Marrocco/Thomas Merton

Nov. 3, 2016 – Blessed Archbishop Romero

### Important Dates

First Communion Dates: **Tues., May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7 pm**

Sacrament of Confirmation: **Sun., June 4, 2017 at 5 pm**



Congratulations to the following recipients for September's Hospitality certificate.

TEACHER	HOSPITALITY CERTIFICATE
Ms. Tenuta	Samantha P.
Ms. Carneiro/Ms. Formosa	Riley Elizabeth M.
Ms. Festa	Esmeralda D.
Ms. Di-Martella-Orsi	Nashayah W-L.
Ms. De Bonis	Victor J.
Ms. Azevedo	Leonor R.
Ms. Pascale	Selina G.
Ms. Thornton	John V. L.
Ms. Pastore	Janessa K.
Mr. Kubath	Lucas N.
Ms. Pyskir	Kerryanne S.