



SANTA MARIA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

October 2018

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

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 4th, we celebrate **World Teacher Day!** Join us in thanking all of our teachers. We will also celebrate Rosary Day on October 4th. Friday, October 5th, is a professional learning day for staff. We will be analyzing our EQAO and CAT4 data and developing our learning goals for the school year.

Parents, if your telephone number changes or living conditions change, kindly update your child's school record. School staff can only verify what is on file when parents ask for letters stating that a student attends our school.

Catholic School Advisory Council News

Thank you to all who nominated themselves for our Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC). It is my pleasure to introduce this year's parent council:

Chair – Susana Garcia

Treasurer – Marta Pleitez

Secretary – Alesandra Guido

Parent at Large – Carmen Irene Perez, Eva Salinas, and Catia Sousa

Please take note of the following parent council meeting date: October 4th, we will decide on all dates for the year. All are welcome! Parent council will be consulted about our learning goals for the year.

Halloween Fun

On Wednesday, 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 purchasing movie tickets and we will select 1 winner from each class for the best costume.** Just a reminder that replicas of weapons are not allowed as part of costumes (swords, knives, guns). Let's have some fun on Halloween.



Ana Carreiro-Neto

PRINCIPAL ⓘ

Patrick Keyes 416-222-8282 Ext. 2732

SUPERINTENDENT ⓘ

Frank D'Amico, 416-512-3406

TRUSTEE ⓘ

Our Lady of Guadalupe, 416-767-8658

694 Weston Road

PARISH ⓘ

Susana Garcia

CSPC CHAIR ⓘ

www.tcdsb.org/cpic

CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB) ⓘ

www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto

OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS) ⓘ

225	8:30 – 4:30	11:45
		12:45

ENROLLMENT HOURS OF OPERATION LUNCH HOUR



NEW REGISTRANTS WELCOME

Apply online: soar.tcdsb.org

Call 416-393-5368 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.

World's Finest Chocolate



Thank you for supporting our fundraiser. All profits help fund scientist in the schools, buses for school trips, and other school events.

Office Hours

The school office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. An automated answering system is available for messages 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please leave messages on voice mail if you call outside of school hours. Do your best to call when the secretary is available. **Do not leave important messages with student office helpers.**

Regular School Hours

8:45 a.m.	Outdoor Supervision Begins
9:00 a.m.	Entrance
10:42- 10:57 a.m.	Morning Recess
11:45a.m.	Lunch Begins
12:45 p.m.	Afternoon Classes Begin
2:10-2:25 p.m.	Afternoon Recess
3:30 p.m.	Dismissal
3:45 p.m.	All Students must be picked up!

When dropping off lunches

Parents, if you are dropping off lunches, kindly label your child's lunch and leave it on the table outside the main office. Communicate with your child in the morning before school if a lunch is going to be dropped off. We want to foster independence in our students; therefore, we will not be interrupting classes to inform students that their lunch has been dropped off. Instructional time is sacred. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Safe Arrival Programme

Please contact the school by phone, written note or e-mail if your child is going to be late or absent. Leave messages with the office, NOT on the teachers' voice mail boxes. We are required to contact any parents who do not contact us and this saves us time and worry when we cannot get a hold of parents. We will call home if the school has not been notified.

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular school attendance and punctuality are important for student progress. Children should be kept home only when they are ill. Appointments, whenever possible, should be arranged outside of school hours. Being on time for the start of class is important. The bell rings promptly at 9:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Your child (ren) should be in the school yard by this time so that they can assemble with their peers and be involved in all activities from the beginning of class. Students who arrive late disrupt the class and must come to the office

for a late slip. On extremely cold/rainy days, children should not arrive in the morning or at noon hour until five minutes before the bell, at which time they will be allowed to go directly to their classes.

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 demin (jean) of any type. lycra, yoga pants, jeggings, tights/leggings (unless under a skirt).



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 a 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.

Visitors

It is Board policy that ALL visitors must report to the office upon entering the school to sign in and receive a visitor's badge. We welcome parents, but we have an obligation to know who is in the school and the reason for the visit. Parents, unless it is an emergency, please make arrangements to speak with staff before or after school. Parents are asked not to escort their children to the classroom. Students are to line up in the schoolyard and enter the building in an orderly fashion with their peers. We are trying to foster independence in our students.



Personal Belongings

To avoid losses and disputes over ownership of lunch boxes, running shoes, and/or other belongings we ask that you write your child's name on all belongings. We have a new acceptable user policy when it comes to electronics. Teachers may ask students to use their cell phones or other devices for instructional purposes. **Please note that the school is not responsible for lost items. If students bring their electronics to school, they are responsible for them.** Parental support in this area is required and greatly appreciated. Please monitor your child's activity on the internet and the various social media sites. If students bully their classmates on any site, they will face consequences. Activity that occurs outside of school impacts the school climate and consequences will be imposed.

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 14th. Students who advance will attend the regional meet on October 20th, also at Centennial Park. The city meet will take place on October 25th at Earl Bales Park for those who advance from regionals. We would like to thank our coaches: Ms. Pastore and Ms. Thornton.

The We Team 2018 – 2019

The WE Team would like to welcome you to another exciting year! On September 20th, nine of our grade eight student leaders attended WE Day at the Scotiabank Arena. After a day of inspirational speakers and presenters, our leaders came back inspired to GET DOING! These are the words being used to inspire youth to make a change this year.

Here is some information about our upcoming initiatives:

Orange Shirt Day

This will be celebrated on Monday October 1st. On this day, staff and students are invited to wear orange shirts and/or orange accessories. By doing this, we are showing our support and honouring the children who survived the Indian Residential Schools, and remembering those that didn't. The message being emphasized to our school community, is that EVERY CHILD MATTERS!



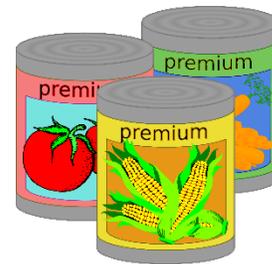
We Are Silent

This campaign recognizes that there are millions of children around the world that do not have a voice. By using our voices for social change, we will raise awareness for all those who go unheard. The WE Team will be selling freshly baked,

chocolate chip cookies (cookies are peanut free, and ordered from Terra Cotta Cookies). Cookies will be sold at the cost of \$1. Students will have an opportunity to pre-order their cookies during the week of Monday October 15th to Friday October 19th. Cookies will then be delivered on Wednesday October 31st. All money raised will go towards our We Are Silent campaign, which will be used to help given children a voice around the world.

We Scare Hunger

This is one of our favourite campaigns, because it benefits our local community. All students are asked to donate non-perishable food items by bringing them to school during the week of Monday October 22nd, to Friday October 26th. All food donations will be delivered to our local North York Harvest Food Bank.



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.



Walking to School! 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!



Important Dates

First Communion Dates: **Sunday, June 2, 2019 at 5 pm**
Sacrament of Confirmation: **Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 5 pm**

Parent Meeting on Wednesday, October 10th at 7:30 pm at Santa Maria C. School.



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

TEACHER	HOSPITALITY CERTIFICATE
Ms. Pascale/Ms. Dang	Winnie C.
Ms. Carneiro/Ms. Figueiredo	Chloe D L.
Ms. Festa	Guilherme B. E.
Mr. Ferrinho	Samantha P.
Ms. Ferrinho	Xyrielle M.
Mr. Tucci	Akierah B.
Ms. Azavedo	Vivienne N.
Ms. Thornton	Gloria S.
Ms. Pastore	Wilson B.
Ms. Eugenio	Veronica C.
Ms. Giovinazzo	Nodin Joe W. F.

A Message from our Public Health Nurse

Did you know that 1 in 4 school-age children may have a vision problem that could affect their ability to learn? An eye exam is the best way to help detect a vision problem and it is covered by OHIP every year for children and youth age 19 and under. Some signs that your child may be having difficulty seeing include:

- Squinting or holding objects close up
- Turns or tilts the head when viewing objects or covers one eye
- Excessive blinking, rubbing or itching eyes
- Complains of blurry or double vision

Source: Canadian Association of Optometrists

[To find an optometrist near you visit www.optom.on.ca](http://www.optom.on.ca)

[For more information, visit Toronto Public Health website or call Toronto Health Connection at 416-338-7600 and speak with a Public Health Nurse.](#)

[Was an eye exam on your child's back to school checklist?](#)

- Eye exam done
- Immunization up-to-date
- School supplies purchased

Make your child's eye exam a part of the back to school routine. An eye exam is the best way to help detect a vision problem and is covered by OHIP every year for children and youth age 19 and under.

[To find an optometrist near you visit www.optom.on.ca](http://www.optom.on.ca)

[For junior kindergarten students, the Eye See Eye Learn program provides an eye exam as well as a free pair of eye glasses if required.](#)

Is your child ready for learning this school year? Help prepare your child for success by booking an eye exam with an optometrist. It's covered by OHIP for all children and youth age 19 and under.

Did you know?

- 1 in 4 school-age children may have a vision problem that if undetected could affect their ability to learn
- Some vision problems are much more easily treated when detected at a young age
- For optimal health and learning, a comprehensive yearly eye exam is recommended for all students
- OHIP covers an annual eye exam by an optometrist for children and youth up to 19 years old
- [You can locate an optometrist near you at www.optom.on.ca](#)

[For more information, visit Toronto Public Health website or call Toronto Health Connection at 416-338-7600 and speak with a Public Health Nurse.](#)

[Parents, don't wait for your children to tell you that they are having problems with their vision before booking an appointment for an eye exam. Here are some reasons why:](#)

- Young children may not know that they have a vision problem and assume everyone sees the way they do
- [Some vision problems are more successfully treated when detected at a young age](#)
- [Annual eye exams for children and youth up to age 19 are covered by OHIP](#)

[Locate an Optometrist near you.](#)

[For more information, visit Toronto Public Health website or call Toronto Health Connection at 416-338-7600 and speak with a Public Health Nurse.](#)

International Languages (Elementary) Program Update: October, 2018

International Languages Parent Survey

On July 12th, the Board of Trustees of the TCDSB approved a motion to survey parents **in all TCDSB elementary schools** to determine whether parents wish to continue or initiate an International Languages (Elementary) program at their child's school.

Surveys will be sent home with the progress report the week of November 12th, with the only or oldest child in each family. Families are asked to complete **one survey per family** and **submit it to the school principal by November 27, 2018.**

Should parents wish to have a translated version to assist with the completion of the English survey, they are asked to request a copy from the school principal or a special web page will be set up with translated versions of the survey. Translations will be available in the following languages: Spanish, Portuguese, Ukrainian, Arabic, Filipino, And Chinese (Simplified and Traditional) Tamil, and Italian.

To ensure that results reflect the school community, surveys will be coded to ensure reliability, as well as, surveys from 67% of all families in the school must be completed and returned in order for the results to be considered viable. In the current schools that offer International Languages within the five hour school day, in order to determine if the program is to be continued using the Board approved model, or to move the IL program to an alternative model, the majority of 51% should be attained for the preferred selection.

For updated information regarding the International Languages Program please visit:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/internationallanguages/pages/change-to-international-languages-program.aspx>

Ballroom Dancing!

Join us on October 16th for the grand performance! 7 PM at Santa Maria - Gym

Some photos of the fun.



TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2018-2019

Wards

1. Joseph Martino	416-512-3401	8. Garry Tanuan	416-512-3408
2. Ann Andrachuk	416-512-3402	9. Jo-Ann Davis	416-512-3409
3. Sal Piccininni	416-512-3403	10. Barbara Poplawski, Chair	416-512-3410
4. Patrizia Bottoni	416-512-3404	11. Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411
5. Maria Rizzo, Vice-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	416-512-3407	Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee	416-512-3417

