



# St. Agatha News

49 Cathedral Bluffs Drive  
Scarborough, ON M1M 2T6  
416-393-5302  
twitter.com/StAgathaSchool  
tcdsb.org/schools/stagatha  
School Calendar: goo.gl/Khb6QU



## Virtue of the Month: Justice

April 2019

St. Agatha is blessed to have amazing staff, students and parents that support incredible activities and events that make this school truly special. A highlight of the past month was the Seedy Saturday and Green Fair held at Blessed Cardinal Newman. This was the culmination of the work of students, staff and parents and brought together agencies, vendors and intergenerational community members in support of environmental causes. Walking through the halls, it was a pleasure to be connected to such a supportive and vibrant community.

With April upon us, there are a lot of great activities planned for your children. Scientists in the School, Dance Workshops and trips to Queen's Park and Medieval Times are all planned. Our Gr. 7s are planning for Camp Olympia and doing everything to prepare for it. Junior Volleyball takes place and our track and field team will begin their training. No where in South Scarborough will you find a place that provides so many amazing opportunities for students while providing a Bilingual Educational Experience.

We invite our entire school community to our math night on April 24<sup>th</sup> which is being organized by the staff.

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. Thank you to all staff and parents who volunteer their time to co-ordinate activities for our students. There will be a volunteer appreciation tea scheduled on Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> on the same day as the Art Show.

During Holy Week, our students will be participating in Stations of the Cross on Holy Thursday and we encourage all families to join Father Robson at St. Boniface for the Paschal Triduum services.

On behalf of the staff, we would like to wish everyone a blessed and joyous Easter season and a wonderful start to the spring!

R. Aunger  
Principal

Anthony Naoum  
Vice-Principal

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2018-2019		
<b>Wards</b>		
1.	Joseph Martino	416-512-3401
2.	Ann Andrachuk	416-512-3402
3.	Sal Piccininni	416-512-3403
4.	Patrizia Bottoni	416-512-3404
5.	Maria Rizzo, Vice-Chair	416-512-3405
6.	Frank D'Amico	416-512-3406
7.	Michael Del Grande	416-512-3407
8.	Garry Tanuan	416-512-3408
9.	Jo-Ann Davis	416-512-3409
10.	Barbara Poplawski, Chair	416-512-3410
11.	Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411
12.	Nancy Crawford	416-512-3412
	Taylor Dallin	
	Student Trustee	416-512-3413
	Joel Ndongmi	
	Student Trustee	416-512-3417

### CONTACTS:

**Principal:** Ryan Aunger  
**Vice-Principal:** Anthony Naoum  
**Secretary:** Denise Poirier  
**CSAC Chair:** Gina Katounas  
**Superintendent:** Shawna Campbell (416)222-8282 (x2263)  
**Ward 12 Trustee:** Nancy Crawford (416) 512-3412

**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)

### BELL TIMES:

**9:00** ARRIVAL  
**10:42** A.M. RECESS  
**11:45** LUNCH HOUR BEGINS  
**12:45** LUNCH HOUR ENDS  
**2:10** P.M. RECESS  
**3:30** DISMISSAL

## 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Number of School Days **194**  
Number of Professional Activity Days **7**  
Oct 5, Nov 16, Dec 7, Jan 18, Feb 15, Jun 7, Jun 28  
**Labour Day** Monday, September 3, 2018  
**First Day** Tuesday, September 4, 2017  
**Thanksgiving Day** Monday, October 8, 2018  
**Christmas Break** December 24, 2018- January 4, 2019  
**Family Day** February 18, 2019  
**Mid-Winter Break** March 11-15, 2019 (inclusive)  
**Good Friday** April 19, 2019  
**Easter Monday** April 22, 2019  
**Victoria Day** Monday, May 18, 2019  
**School Year Ends** Thursday, June 27, 2019

**St. Boniface Catholic Church**  
Father Robson  
21 Markanna Dr. Scarborough  
(416) 261-5983

### **Newsletter**

The community has been receiving weekly updates through the School Messenger system on a weekly basis to keep the community up to date with upcoming events and notices. Please make sure your email is up to date on our system as our newsletter will be potentially replaced by these weekly updates. Monthly Calendars will still be sent home as a hard copy.

### **School Messenger – Reporting Absences and Receiving School Messages**

Please make sure that when reporting an absence or late arrival please use the Safe Arrival/School Messenger system. Thank you to everyone for using the system.

### **Late Arrival**

Thank you to those families for making an effort to arrive on time. We have noticed a decline in the late arrivals in the past month.

### **Early Arrival and Late Pick Up**

A reminder that the bell rings at 9:00am and **supervision begins at 8:45am**. Parents are asked not to drop off their child earlier. Also, **supervision ends at 3:45pm**. Parents are asked to pick their children by that time.

### **Talent Show**

We are excited to have our talent show taking place this on **Wednesday, April 10 and Thursday, April 11**. There will be 2 evening performances and both will begin at 6:30pm. Seating will be on a first come/first served basis and doors will open at 6:00pm. It should be a great evening of talent being showcased. There will be performances during the day for the school as well. Thank you to Mlle. Goguen and Mlle Metwally for organizing this event for our Junior and Intermediate students. Forms will go home in the first week to families to gage numbers for each night.

### **CSPC Meeting and Thank You:**

Our next CSPC meeting will take place on **Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m.** All are welcome! Please see attached minutes from last meeting and a CSPC update.

Save the Date! – The Annual CSPC Pub Night will be taking place on Friday June 7<sup>th</sup>.

This year, every school trip has been provided a free bus. This saves \$4-\$8 per student. Also, our Junior and Intermediate and some Primary classes have used their free scientists in the school which saves families \$8-\$10! Thank you CSPC!

### **Bilingual Math Games Night**

On Wednesday, April 24, at 6:00pm, the staff will be hosting a family math games night to provide ideas for parents on how they can reinforce math concepts and skills through games at home.

There will be games in French and English and ones that are geared towards primary and junior students. A letter will be going on next week to gage interested. Please join us.

### **French 101 with Mr. Naoum**

Are you having difficulty understanding French verbs, vocabulary and sentence structure? Mr. Naoum is offering 2 evenings – one in April and one in May to support any parent who wants to learn a little more about the French language so that parents can better support their children at home.

Please join us on Thursday, April 4 at 6:30 in the library. The 2<sup>nd</sup> evening will take place on Thursday, May 2.

### **Curriculum Corner**

For parents looking for online math games and activities, please visit: <https://illuminations.nctm.org/>

Getting your child to talk about their day at school can be a difficult one to have especially when the answer to 'What did you do at school today?' is 'Nothing'. Please see the link below to help with this conversation.

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/school-learning/school-homework-tips/talking-about-school#tips-for-talking-about-school-with-primary-school-children-nav-title>

Although it is an Australian website, there are a lot of great resources at this site.

### **Save the Date – Family Engagement Events**

There are a number of events planned over the next few months for families and parents

Wednesday, April 24 – Math Night starting at 6:00pm – The Focus will be on Math Games

Wednesday, June 5 – Art Show and Volunteer Appreciation Tea

### **Sports Update**

Currently we have 3 sports on the go.

We have our swim team for Gr. 4-8 which will have their swim meet in May. Thank you to Mrs. Fortin Mrs. Sciberras and Mme. Moreau for coaching and supervising.

Junior Volleyball practises have been taking place and the tournaments will be at the end of the month. Thank you to Mr. Cianfarani and Mrs. Raso for coaching.

Finally, our track team will start training soon. Track and Field is for students in Gr. 3 to 8.

### **Student Council News**

Our Student Council has started intramurals at last recess for Gr. 4-6. They will be playing basketball. April will be for our Primaries and May will be the intermediates.

### **World Autism Day**

On Tuesday, April 2, the TCDSB is recognizing World Autism Day. There will be an assembly for Gr. 3-8 in the gym in the AM with a presentation from a speaker from Elpida Autism Foundation. Thank you to Mme. Robino for organizing the speaker.

On World Autism Day, the symbol is a puzzle piece. With students already wearing blue, we encourage all staff and students to wear a puzzle piece to show their support.

### **Civvies Day Donation**

Thank you to all the students for their donation of \$45 to support the Canadian Cancer Society on our March Civvies Day. Please consider making a donation of any denomination to support our monthly charities. Currently, there are 436 students at St. Agatha and it would be great to have a donation that matched our student population.

In April, Civvies Day will be used to support Sharelife. May will be used for a charity that focuses on student mental health. This organization will be chosen by the Student Council.

### **Spirit Assembly**

The virtue for the month of April is Justice. Our assembly is on **Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm**. All are welcome. Thank you to Mrs. Bell for organizing our assemblies.

### **Leaving St. Agatha Next Year?**

A more formal letter will be heading home in April regarding any plans to move in September however, if you know you will not be at St. Agatha in the fall, if you could tell the school sooner than later, it would be much appreciated. Our student numbers are very important when staffing the school next year.

### **Graduation – Save the Date**

Graduation will be taking place on Tuesday, June 25 starting at 5:30pm. The ceremony will be taking place at St. Boniface and the reception will be at QSIS. More information to follow.

### **Remind**

If you are interested in receiving reminders about school events via text message, send a text to **(647)931-1274** with the message **@stagathacs**. Reminders are still sent by text message to Bell and Freedom Customers. For Rogers customers, Parents can still receive notifications in the app.

### **Photos of St. Agatha in Action – St. Agatha is now on Instagram!**

The St. Agatha twitter feed actively posts photos of our students in action. Please follow **@StAgathaSchool** to see the kids and all the wonderful opportunities and activities at the school.

Also, the student council has started posting pictures on Instagram. The Instagram account will be administered by Mr. Aunger and followers of the account will not be allowed to comment about pictures. The Instagram account will follow the same procedures as the twitter account. Please follow @StAgathaCS

### **Lunchtime Supervisor Positions**

We are always looking for supply lunchtime supervisors who can work when other supervisors are absent. If you are interested, or you know someone who might be, please contact the school for the necessary paperwork.

### **St. Boniface Support**

If your child is Grade 6, a reminder that next year they will have the opportunity to be confirmed. If you have any questions about the process, please contact the parish. If your child is in Gr. 7 and missed the chance, you can always participate in confirmation next year.

Save the Date – Our next Family of Schools Mass will be on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. All are welcome.

Please follow the link to the most recent bulletin from mass that has important upcoming dates.  
<https://stbonifacechurchtoronto.files.wordpress.com/2019/03/stboniface-bulletin-march-17-2019.pdf>

### **Kindergarten Registration and Welcome to Kindergarten**

Registration for our French Immersion Program has been amazing and new registrations are now being put on a waitlist or being redirected to other French Immersion programs. Spots are still available in our English Program. Please direct any new families to <http://soar.tcdsb.org> to begin the registration process.

Our Welcome to Kindergarten Evening will be taking place on **Tuesday, May 28 at 6:30.**

### **Overnight Trips**

There are amazing overnight experiences happening at St. Agatha over the next 3 months. In May Gr. 7 leaders have the opportunity to attend the Camp O Leadership Camp and in June, the Gr. 8s will be attending Teen Ranch.

Thank you to all the staff members who will be taking these students over night. These staff members voluntarily choose to be away from their families for roughly 5 days and it is very much appreciated.

### **Seedy Saturday and Green Fair**

The Stewards of the Earth just celebrated the 8th year of co-hosting Seedy Saturday and Green Fair on Saturday, March 30th.

The 40 plus students and graduates of St Agatha served and supported over 700 attendees.

We are so very proud of this incredible accomplishment. Thank you to Ms. McCowan, Ms. Raso and Ms. Tilander for organizing the event.

### **Guidance Corner**

During this season of Lent, I encourage you to help your children to live out their faith by finding ways to serve others. It is in recognizing the needs of others that we build empathy and strong relationships with those around us.  
<https://www.allprodad.com/10-ways-to-serve-others-as-a-family/>  
<http://www.mamaplusone.com/being-the-hands-and-feet-seven-ways-kids-can-serve-others/>

Primary and Junior students have access to an electronic portfolio on <http://www.myblueprint.ca> called All About Me, and can record and reflect on aspects of self-awareness, goal-setting, experiential learning and classroom learning. Introducing students early in their school career to the process of developing a personal portfolio helps them reflect on their strengths and interests as learners as they prepare for transitions from grade to grade. Intermediate students also have accounts on My Blueprint and can complete their Individual Pathways Plans.

Creating Pathways to Success: An Education and Career/Life Planning Program for Ontario Schools, Policy and Program Requirements, Kindergarten to Grade 12, 2013 describes a comprehensive education and career/life planning program for Kindergarten to Grade 12 designed to help students achieve their personal goals and become competent, successful, and contributing members of society. The foundation of this policy seeks to have schools and school boards provide opportunities for students to explore 4 foundation questions:

Who Am I?  
What Are My Opportunities?,  
Who Do I Want to Become?,  
What Is My Plan for Achieving My Goals?

This policy also seeks to ensure that students develop the knowledge and skills they need to make informed education and career/life choices through the effective application of a four-step inquiry process; provide opportunities for this learning both in and outside the classroom; and engage parents and the broader community in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the program, to support students in their learning. I have included a link to the MOE policy document: Creating Pathways to Success: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/policy/cps/CreatingPathwaysSuccess.pdf> for your interest.

Julie Fantinato  
Guidance Teacher-Counsellor  
Area 7&8