



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: Love

February 2018

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe but we have reached the mid-point of the school year! We have had a great five months together, and are looking forward to sharing our progress and next steps for further growth at our Parent-Teacher Conferences on February 13th and 15th. As a Catholic school, we are also looking forward to beginning our journey through Lent starting on Ash Wednesday (February 14th). This will be a time of fasting, almsgiving and prayer at St. Agatha.

In January, we welcomed Ms. Poirier as our permanent secretary and we are very excited to have her join the St. Agatha Family. Unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to Ms. Perri who worked extremely hard in the office. We wish her luck in the future. We also had to say good bye to Ms. Betty, our lunchtime supervisor and we thank her for her years of service to the St. Agatha Community.

On February 5, we celebrate our Patron Saint's feast day. St. Agatha is the patron saint of many causes especially breast cancer, nurses and fire prevention. Attached to the newsletter is a Fire Prevention pamphlet.

Great memories are being made here at St. Agatha each day and each month, and we are excited to celebrate this month's Virtue of Love, for where there is Love, there is God!

Yours,

R. Aunger
Principal

Anthony Naoum
Vice- Principal

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2017-2018

Wards		
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.	Franck D'Amico	416-512-3406
7.	Michael Del Grande,	416-512-3407
16.	Garry Tanuan	416-512-3408
17.	Jo-Ann Davis	416-512-3409
18.	Barbara Poplawski, Chair	416-512-3410
19.	Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411
20.	Nancy Crawford	416-512-3412
	Rhea Carlisle	
	Student Trustee	416-512-3413

CONTACTS:

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

CPIC (Parent Engagement--TCDSB)

www.tcdsb.org/cpic

OAPCE Toronto

(Provincial Voice for Parents)

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

2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Number of School Days **194**

Number of Professional Activity Days **7**

Oct 6, Nov 17, Dec 1, Jan 19, Feb 16, Jun 8, Jun 29

Labour Day Monday, September 4,

2017

First Day Tuesday, September 5,

2017

Thanksgiving Day Monday, October 9, 2017

Christmas Break December 25, 2017-

January 7, 2018

Family Day February 19, 2018

Mid-Winter Break March 12-16, 2018

(inclusive)

Good Friday March 30, 2018

Easter Monday April 2, 2018

Victoria Day Monday, May 21, 2018

School Year Ends Thursday, June 28, 2018

St. Boniface Catholic Church

Father Robson

21 Markanna Dr. Scarborough

(416) 261-5983

Online Newsletter and Calendar

The newsletter will be sent out electronically only and paper copies of the calendar will be sent home. Please make sure that your email is up to date on your child's information form. If not, please contact the office. There will always be hard copies available.

Safe and Caring Schools

Once the school day has started, only staff and volunteers should be in instructional zones. If your child is leaving early or coming late, please start your visit at the office. We understand that it is sometimes quicker to go to the classroom however, it is important that parents stay in the main office area. Thank you for your co-operation in keeping our students safe.

Late Arrival

A reminder that the bell rings at 9:00am and it is important that all students arrive on time to start the day. Please take into consideration that our parking lot is busy at 9:00am if you are dropping off and parking is at a premium. If your child walks to school please have a conversation over departure time from home to ensure they arrive on time.

Report Cards:

Report Cards will be sent home on Monday, February 12th. This report will reflect the student's achievement of curriculum expectations introduced and developed from September to January/February. An interview request form will be sent home during the first week of February for parents to request an interview; please return this form by Monday, February 5th.

Parent Interviews

Interviews will take place on Tuesday, February 13 from 5:30 to 8:00 and Thursday February 15th from 5:30-8:00. Interview times are in 10 minute blocks. If you require a longer interview, please contact your child's teacher.

Lunchtime Supervisor Positions

We are currently looking for daily lunchtime supervisors and supply lunchtime supervisors. If you are interested, or you know someone who might be, please contact the school for the necessary paperwork. Applicants will need to fill out or present the following forms:

- Lunchtime supervisor application form
- TB test results (Tuberculosis test) (within 1 year)
- Pastoral reference (within 1 year – must be practicing Roman Catholic)
- Voided cheque or direct deposit form
- New hire banking form

- Copy of SIN card
- Proof of birth date with photo id (ie driver's licence, new health card, passport)
- Police criminal reference form
- certified cheque or money order for \$65.00 payable to Toronto Police Services (this only applies to Toronto residents, postal code beginning with M)
- Offence declaration

Lunch is from 11:45-12:45. Expectations of a lunchtime supervisors are to supervise the students eating and ensuring they are sitting and not moving around the classroom. Supervising the exit of students to the yard at the bell and being outside for the remainder of the lunch period to ensure student safety.

Supply lunchtime supervisors are positions to cover when a daily lunchtime supervisor is absent.

Lunchtime supervisors are paid \$14.00 per hour, this includes statutory holiday pay and vacation pay. Unfortunately, benefits are not available for lunchtime supervisors.

Please contact the school if interested.

Canadian Parents for French

CPF –is a reputable non-profit organization that works in collaboration with local communities, schools, and educational agencies. Its mission is to advocate for Canadian bilingualism and make French accessible to non-French speaking families. Currently, the chapter *CPF Toronto East* is in the process of renewing its executive members and is seeking individuals who have a genuine interest in promoting the French language. In alignment with St-Agatha's well established French Immersion program, if you are interested in joining CPF or if you require more information, please visit on.cpf.ca or call 905-366-1012 or contact Mr. Naoum.

PA Day: February 16th:

Please note that Friday, February 16th will be a Professional Activity Day. There will be no school for students.

CSPC Meeting:

Our next CSPC meeting will take place on **Thursday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m.** All are welcome!

African Heritage Month

February is African Heritage Month, which will be recognized through classroom activities and

announcements on the PA that will highlight the important contributions of African Canadians to Canadian History and Culture.

Sports Update

Currently we have 3 sports on the go. Our Intermediate Boys and Girls Basketballs teams are practising at lunch in preparation for their divisional tournaments in February. Our Junior Girls Volleyball team has started tryouts after school on Tuesday and Thursdays. Our School Hockey Team will begin practises this month leading to their tournament in March.

Thank you to Mr. Murphy for his work with the basketball team, Ms. Sciberras for her work with the hockey team and Mr. Cianfarani, Mlle Gingras and Mdm. Lazizzera for their work with the Volleyball team.

Carnival

Carnival activities will be taking place on February 7, 8 and 9 at St. Agatha. It will be an amazing time to celebrate French culture and come together as a school community in games and activities.

February 1 – Parent Evening – Building Your Child’s Self Esteem

At 6:30, parents are welcome to come to a workshop that identifies the 5 building blocks that develop self-esteem and explore various methods of increasing a child’s feeling of self-worth. An awareness of how self-esteem affects a child’s academic achievement and behaviour is also addressed

Also, this session will look to aid in student awareness of stress and healthy ways in which to manage life’s stressors.

All are welcome

Winter Weather and Appropriate Attire:

As winter arrives, we are bound to encounter some very frigid temperatures. Of course, living in Canada, we expect to endure some cold days and recognize that, when dressed appropriately, we can enjoy fun-filled, outdoor activities.

Students are expected to come to school with all that they need to participate in outdoor recesses.

Appropriate winter clothing includes: winter boots, a winter coat, snow pants, a hat, a scarf and warm mittens or gloves. All students are expected to have a pair of **indoor shoes** that may be left at school for the duration of the snowy/wet season. It is highly recommended that each student have an extra pair of dry socks in their backpack.

Please be assured that on exceptionally frigid days, outdoor recess will be shortened or cancelled. However, it is our intention to ensure that the

students receive opportunities for fresh air and exercise on a regular basis throughout the winter season.

Flu Prevention:

Please continue to follow and review with your child the Public Health tips to prevent the spread of the flu:

- Get your flu shot.
- Wash hands frequently.
- Cover your cough/sneeze.
- Don’t share things that go in your mouth (i.e. cups, straws, water bottles, utensils, etc.)
- Do the knuckle bump instead of shaking hands.
- Stay home if you are sick.

Please do not send students back to school until they are feeling well and they have had no fever for at least 24 hours.

Bus Cancellation/ School Closure:

Inclement weather occasionally makes it necessary to cancel school bus services and/or close the school. These decisions are made at the school board level and are published as early as possible. Your best source of information is via Twitter @TCDSB. For those who are not on Twitter, please tune in to local television and radio networks for updates. (Note: Listen for Toronto Catholic District School Board.)

Other good sources of information are:

- TCDSB’s website www.tcdsb.org
- Toronto Student Transportation Group website <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org>
- TCDSB 24-hour Telephone Information Line: 416-222-8282 ext. 2873

Or if you wish to receive updates right to your email, subscribe to enews:

<https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>

Please note that on some occasions transportation is cancelled but the school remains open. If this is the case, we do take attendance to ensure that those students who are coming have arrived safely. If you decide to keep your child home on one of these days, please call the school and report the absence. Please note also that, if transportation is cancelled, this is in effect for the whole day; there will be no school bus transportation home for those who come to school via another means.

Cash Online for Gr. 8 Students Entering High School

Parents on Gr. 8 students are invited to register to pay for items on line at the Secondary School their child is preregistered for. Please visit <https://tcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

Grade 8 students should now be pre-registered and uploaded into their grade 9 Secondary school. Many of the Secondary schools are using KEV (School Cash Online) to communicate and



collect fees from your students. In order to participate parents must register their children online first.

To find their child in the database parents must select the school where they are currently enrolled, **NOT** the secondary school for which they are pre-registering.

Please visit <https://tcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

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

Grade 5s to Queen's Park

Despite a rainy day, the grades 5 had fun going by TTC to the Legislative Assembly to learn more about the 3 levels of government in Canada, how this institution works and who works there. They had a mock debate (including the accessories) on the necessity of wearing a uniform in school. After a debate with great arguments on both sides, the law to maintain the uniform in school was passed with a majority of 19 votes... It was a great day!

