



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 2020

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 11th and 13th.

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. On the Feast of St. Agatha, we will have a mass in the morning starting at 1:00 pm for Gr. 3-8 and a liturgy for K-2 following mass. In the morning, the entire school will be completing activities devoted to our patron Saint. St. Agatha was a courageous and devoted woman and we all strive to follow her example.

On February 18th, we will have our parish mass at 6:00pm at St. Boniface Church. This gives all families connected to the parish the opportunity to come together and celebrate mass. All are welcome.

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!

God bless!
R. Aunger
Principal

Ann De Agazio
Vice-Principal

| TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2018-2019 | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| 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. | 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 | Ann De Agazio |
| Secretary: | Denise Poirer |
| CSAC Chair | Gina Katounas |
| Superintendent: | Kevin Malcolm (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 |

2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Number of School Days | 194 |
| Number of Professional Activity Days | 7 |
| | Oct 11, Nov 15, Dec 6, Jan 17, Feb 14, Jun 5, Jun 28 |
| Labour Day | <u>Monday, September 2, 2019</u> |
| First Day | <u>Tuesday, September 3, 2019</u> |
| Thanksgiving Day | <u>Monday, October 14, 2019</u> |
| Christmas Break | <u>December 23, 2019- January 3, 2020</u> |
| Family Day | <u>February 17, 2020</u> |
| Mid-Winter Break (inclusive) | <u>March 16-20, 2020</u> |
| Good Friday | <u>April 10, 2020</u> |
| Easter Monday | <u>April 13, 2020</u> |
| Victoria Day | <u>Monday, May 18, 2020</u> |
| School Year Ends | <u>Thursday, June 25, 2020</u> |

St. Boniface Catholic Church

Father Robson
21 Markanna Dr. Scarborough
(416) 261-5983

Strike Action – First Week in February

Strike action continues into February and we would like to make parents aware of the following:

Tuesday, February 4 – OECTA Strike (All teachers) – School Closed but before and after care is open

Thursday, February 6 – ETFO Strike (All Early Childhood Educators (ECEs)) – School open

Friday, February 7 – ETFO Strike (All ECEs) – School open

We continue to pray for a resolution between the education unions and the province. On Thursday and Friday, the kindergarten classes will have their teachers however it will be without the ECEs. Steps are being taken to ensure a safe environment for all students.

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.

Early and Late Arrival

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, 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. It is amazing how quiet the parking lot is at 8:50.

At the end of the day, parents are reminded that they cannot double park while waiting for the bell to ring. Double parked cars block others from leaving, create a tight round about and could make it more difficult to see students. Also, when a bus arrives, if you are parked in the kiss n ride, buses do have priority because they have to follow a drop off schedule so will have to move your vehicle.

School Rules Refresher

This month, there will be divisional assemblies with the students to review the rules of the school and to discuss the expectation of all students. Parents are asked to review with their children these rules as well, especially strategies when they are upset or frustrated. We continue to encourage all students to seek the support of adults and when speaking to adults to be respectful and listen to the instructions.

Report Cards

Report Cards will be sent home on Monday, February 10th. This report will reflect the student's achievement of curriculum expectations introduced and developed from September to January/February. Interview Request Forms went home on January 31st and need to be returned to the school by **Wednesday, February 5th**.

Due to work to rule action, the report cards will only have marks, one comment for religion and the learning skills letters. Please set up an interview with your child's teacher to get more clarification.

Parent Interviews

Interviews will take place on Tuesday, February 11 from 6:00 to 8:30 and Thursday February 13th from 6:00-8:30. Interview times are in 10 minute blocks. If you require a longer interview, please contact your child's teacher.

PA Day: February 14th:

Please note that Friday, February 14th 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 6 at 6:30 p.m.** All are welcome!

Movie Night

Thank you to everyone for coming to Movie Night. Over 80 people attended and it was a great evening. Thank you to the CSPC for providing the free goodies for the kids and adults!

Save the Date – Family Engagement Events

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

Thursday, February 27 – 6:30pm – Lego Night

Tuesday, March 24 – 6:30pm – Parent Evening – Positive Parenting (Babysitting will be provided)

Wednesday, April 15 – Parent Engagement Evening – Internet Safety (Flyer attached)
Wednesday, June 3 – Art Show and Volunteer Appreciation Tea

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 1 sport on the go. Our Intermediate Boys and Girls Basketballs teams are practising at lunch in preparation for their divisional tournaments in February.

Thank you to Mr. Murphy for his work with the basketball team.

We will also be having intramural soccer starting up this month for primary students

Curriculum Corner

The Council for Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) have some great resources to engage your child at home and support the learning that is going on at school. Please follow the link below

http://www.ontariodirectors.ca/parent_engagement.html

We continue to work on understanding mathematical language and problem solving across all grades and all languages. It is always valuable to ask your child how they know their answer is correct when discussing any solution to the problem. This will help them when they are answering questions at school.

Our problem of the week continues as well. See attached.

Carnival

The main Carnival event taking place on **Monday, February 24th**. It will be an amazing time to celebrate French culture and come together as a school community in games and activities.

Spirit Assembly

The virtue for the month of February is 'love'. Our assembly is on **Monday, February 10th @ 1:00pm**. All are welcome.

Skating

The students will be heading out to the rink on February 7. The schedule is as follows:

AM1st – Fossi, Goguen, Katu Gr. 1s
2nd – Balkovec, Clarisse, Attila
3rd – Watson, Gingras
PM - McCowan, Fernandes

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 and Cold 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.

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**. Make sure to have the notifications turned on.

Photos of St. Agatha in Action

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.

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.

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.