



# St. Agatha News

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



## Virtue of the Month: Compassion

May 2019

May promises to be an active month and is a precursor to what will unfold in June. The penultimate month of the school calendar year is packed with all sorts of academic, sporting, spiritual and fun events.

During the week of May 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, we join the TCDSB in celebrating the gift of Catholic Education. The theme for this year's Catholic Education Week is

The theme for CEW 2019, Living as Joyful Disciples, draws upon previous documents on Ontario Catholic education, namely, "Renewing the Promise" (2018) "This Moment of Promise" (1989), "Fulfilling the Promise" (1993) and "Our Catholic Schools" (2006-2007). These three documents, while several years apart from each other, all speak of the unique mission of Ontario Catholic education, the importance of its shared leadership by all those involved in Catholic education and the critical role of Catholic education in contemporary society.

Using resources developed by the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA), the TCDSB engages in a week-long celebration of the unique identity and distinctive contributions of Catholic education. We look forward to celebrating the important role Catholic Education plays in Ontario.

The month of May is also dedicated to Mary. We ask that Mary, Mother of our Church, guides us, cares for us and gives comfort in times of struggle.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support.

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 Picozzini	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 Diel 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 we are going to move from a monthly newsletter to 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.

### **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.

### **Shrine to Mary and Living Rosary**

The Stewards of the Earth led by Mrs. McCowan and Ms. Tillander, have been raising money through milk sales and a bake sale at the Scarborough Green Fair over several years in the hopes to build a shrine to Mary in a Grotto with a living rosary surrounding the shrine so that students, staff, parents and community members can further connect with their faith.

The CSPC is in discussions on how to support this project and there some great ideas on how to ensure that this important project is completed. Please look for further information in later newsletters to see how you can support this project.

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

Our next CSPC meeting will be on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. All are welcome.

During the month of May, CSPC is supporting Scientists in the School for a number of different classes and are paying for the school buses for Track and Medieval Times. Thank you for supporting the CSPC.

Also, CSPC is finalizing making some final purchases on items that will highlight the important contributions that CSPC makes for the students and staff at St. Agatha.

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

Are you having difficulty understanding French verbs, vocabulary and sentence structure? Mr. Naoum supporting 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, May 2. This session will focus on concepts that are for Gr. 3-8 but parents from all grades are welcome.

### **Crayola Colour Cycle**

Our school has been registered to recycle markers through the Crayola ColorCycle Program. Parents, students, and the community are encouraged to drop off used markers of any brand.

<https://www.crayola.com/colorcycle.aspx>

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

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

Thursday, May 30 – Parent Engagement Evening focusing on Screen Time by Aisling Discoveries. Child care is provided. Thank you to CSPC through the use of a PRO Grant.

Wednesday, June 5 – Art Show and Volunteer Appreciation Tea

### **Sports Update**

Currently we have 1 sports on the go and one coming up.

Track and Field is for students in Gr. 3 to 8 and the training is taking place during the day. Please discuss with your child if you think they should try out. Events are: 100m, 200m, relay, shot put, and long jump. Long jump and shot put do not start until Gr. 5. Students are responsible for listening to the announcements daily to hear when their training will be taking place.

Also, Mrs. McCowan offers early morning training for any interested students. Students are asked to meet in the gym at 8:00am.

Soccer tryouts will start soon. Generally, soccer is for Gr. 7-8. A permission form will be going home before tryouts start.

### **Civvies Day Donation**

Thank you to all the students for their donation of \$445 to support Sharelife on our April Civvies Day which is our best day yet! Please consider making a donation of any denomination to support our monthly charities. In May, Civvies Day will be used to support Sick Kids Hospital. Although it is not mandatory to give to a charity on Civvies Day, please see this as an opportunity to teach our children the value of giving back to those in need and that wearing civvies is a reward for that donation.

### **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**

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.

### **Curriculum Corner**

The learning potential is a website from Australia that has an incredible amount of resources.

<https://www.learningpotential.edu.au/>

### **Knights of Columbus Donation**

Knights of Columbus Council 1388 has graciously donated leather chairs that currently sit in our atrium and staffroom and microphones and chords. We appreciate the donation and would like to thank the Tilander Family for arranging the donation.

### **Tree Donation**

Thank you to the Lombardi Family and Dr. Landscape for the donation of the trees that were planted in the fall on the north path leading to the school yard. It is a wonderful donation that provides greening for our property.

### **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

### **Possible Bus Strike - Stock Transportation**

The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) has just learned that Stock Transportation's North and East Divisions have been unable to reach an agreement with the union representing its school bus drivers. While talks are continuing, the drivers will be in a legal strike position as of **Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

**Your child(ren) currently travels to and/or from school on a Stock school bus, which would be impacted by any job action.**

Because no other bus carrier has the capacity to provide school bus transportation for the children who could be impacted by a strike, you are encouraged to make alternate arrangements to get your child(ren) safely to and from school.

We are hopeful that an agreement will be reached, however parents are asked to monitor media reports and the TCDSB website for any updates: follow @TCDSB on Twitter or visit the Board website <https://www.tcdsb.org/BusServiceAlert>.

If you have any questions please call the Toronto Student Transportation Group at [416-394-4287](tel:416-394-4287).

Please check the bus that your child rides on is affected. Affected parents have already received a letter.

### **Stewards of the Earth**

The Stewards of the Earth will be holding a number of activities throughout the month of May including litterless lunches and yard cleanups. Please watch for notices regarding these activities and encourage your child to participate.

### **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.

### **Science Rendezvous**

**Science Rendezvous** is happening **Saturday, May 11 from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at 100 St. George Street, Toronto. This is a free event.**

Science Rendezvous at the University of Toronto (St. George Campus) has always been a student-run, **free**, science outreach festival with the aim to bring youth and their families into the world of science in a fun and engaging way. The ultimate goal is improving student enrolment as well as public involvement in the science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics fields.

Over 60 U of T departments and local organizations in the community are involved in exhibiting engaging and hands-on experiments to inspire youth and adults alike.

For more information please click the link: <http://www.sciencerendezvousuoft.ca/>

### **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/2019/04/stboniface-bulletin-april-21-2019.pdf>

### **Kindergarten Registration**

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.

### **Overnight Trips**

There are amazing overnight experiences happening at St. Agatha. 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.

### **Standardized Testing:**

During May & June, a number of our students will be participating in standardized testing. These tests provide us with data to support our efforts to identify both individual and school-wide strengths and areas of need. The grade 2, 5 & 7 students will be completing the CAT 4 tests and the grade 3 & 6 students will be participating in the EQAO



testing. Parents are asked to ensure promptness and regular attendance during this time frame. Students will also benefit from ample sleep and nutritious snacks during the testing period.

**Welcome to Junior Kindergarten:**

On **Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**, children who will be attending Junior Kindergarten in September 2018 are invited to bring their parents to our *Welcome to Kindergarten* session. The children will have a chance to meet the JK educators and visit the kindergarten classrooms. There will be opportunities for the children to engage in hands-on activities and for parents to learn about school expectations and some resources available in our community.



**Volunteer Tea and Art Show**

Our volunteer tea and annual art show will be held on Wednesday, June 5. Please save the date. In the evening, there will be a BBQ and some silent and live auctions.

**May is Speech, Language & Hearing Awareness Month:**

Did you know that speech and language delays are the most frequently reported problem in children?

Early speech and language development has a **major impact** on future academic success. For example, research shows that a child's vocabulary when starting school is a prime predictor of school success or failure. We also know that early language skills are directly related to later reading skills, and that children with poor language development have difficulty using language to learn math and science.

If you have a concern about your child's speech or language, your school Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) can help! Speak to your child's teacher or school principal to find out more, or contact the Speech and Language Department at 416-222-8282, extension 2261.

**Lunchtime Supervisors Needed**

We are still in need of lunchtime supervisors. If you are interested in the position, please contact the office for the proper paperwork.