



Shark Tales



November 1, 2014

St. Agatha Catholic School
49 Cathedral Bluffs Drive
Scarborough, ON M1M 2T6
416-393-5302
twitter.com/StAgathaSchool

G. Grant
Superintendent

N. Crawford
Trustee - Ward 12

B. Matyas
Principal

N. Chahine
Vice-Principal

S. Robinson
Secretary

S. Fernandes
Clerk Typist

B. Icaro/L.Deal
Custodians

November Virtue of the
Month
Peace



Peace I leave you, my
peace I give you.
JOHN 14:27

Father Bernard Lee
St. Boniface Church
21 Markanna Dr.
Scarborough, ON M1M 2H9
(416) 261-5983

Hello St. Agatha Community!

Well that was a bit of a shock. November arrives and with it the cold weather and even - dare we say it - snow. Not even a bit of a lead in to let us prepare. Please remember that students will be going outside for recesses three times a day. As the cold weather arrives it is very important that students be dressed appropriately for the day including hats, scarves, gloves or mitts.

Speaking of hats and gloves and coats you would not believe the amount of clothing that shows up in our lost and found. Parents are strongly urged to label their child's clothing in order to help identify items if they become lost. Parent/Teacher interviews are coming in the next couple of weeks. If your child has lost anything please make it a point to visit the lost and found which will be displayed on tables in the Atrium.

With interviews coming up let us all remember the Golden Rule - treat others as we wish to be treated. Regrettably in the past few weeks we have had instances where parents have entered the school and have acted in an inappropriate way towards staff. This also occurs in our parking lot when parents are being directed by the staff member who is supervising the safe arrival and departure of our students. This type of behaviour will not be tolerated. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

St. Agatha is a community that is very fortunate to have a large number of parents who give of their time to help at the school on many occasions. One such parent is Mrs. Jennifer McPherson. She has been here every morning for the past three weeks counting the funds raised by our students for the Dance - a - Thon. Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,
Béla Matyas

DANCE -A -THON

Last Friday St. Agatha held its annual Halloween Dance -A -Thon. During the course of the day every class was given the opportunity to come to the gym and dance. Parent volunteers, organized by CSAC and the Fundraising committee, decorated the gym the night before. The music was provided by Mr. Cianfarani. The yearly Dance A Thon is the major fundraising initiative of our parent council. Thank you to Karen Campbell, the chair of our fundraising committee, and Tanya Baksh and Giorgia Katounas, our CSAC co - chairs. They were ably assisted by Angie Meighlal, Ivana Markovic and others too numerous to mention. It was wonderful to see the many parents and grandparents who came to take advantage of the Kodak moments. To date the total raised by the students and the community stands at just over \$10,500.00.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Once again this year St. Agatha will be holding two days of Christmas concerts. The primary grades, JK - 3 , will perform on Wednesday, December 10th. Grades 4 - 8 will be performing on Thursday, December 11th. There will be a morning and afternoon show. Details, including ticket information, will be made available as they become finalized and we come closer to the date of the performance. We look forward to seeing everyone and celebrating as a community.

BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to St. Agatha! The yearly Book Fair will take place in the school's library from Friday, November 28th - Thursday, December 4th from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm daily. Look for the flyers that will be sent home with students in November.

SHARKS HOCKEY

St. Agatha's hockey team will be selling popcorn on Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning recesses to raise funds for the upcoming season beginning in the new year. The cost will be \$1.00/ bag. Please note that the popcorn meets the nutritional guidelines specified by the Ministry of Education. Sales begin the week of November 10th and will take place during the months of November and December.

SCHOOL SAFETY

All TCDSB schools are mandated that as a part of their safety plan, staff and students practice what to do in the event of an emergency. These include fire drills, a hold and secure drill as well as what to do in case of a lockdown. We begin by asking teachers to review the procedures with the students and give the staff fair warning as to when the drill will occur. Eventually we move to unannounced drills as this most closely resembles the actual conditions that would exist in the case of an emergency. Some of the drills may be a bit unnerving for children, especially the younger students. Every effort is made to help students understand both the purpose of the drills and the necessity to be prepared for an emergency. However, from time to time some children may come home a bit unnerved by the exercise. Your help in helping students understand the need to be prepared should an emergency occurred is greatly appreciated.

CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to our cross country team and the coaches for a successful season. St. Agatha's runners finished 6th at the divisional meet and 2nd at the regional's the following week. Eighteen of our runners went on to the City finals at Earl Bales Park. Thank you to the coaches - Ms. Modica, Mrs. McCowan and Madame Flynn for all their dedication and hard work coaching our runners. Thank you also to the many parents who came and helped supervise every morning bright and early.

PARENT FAIR

Once again this year the TCDSB's Special Services Department and the Special Education Advisory Committee will be hosting the "Education and Community Resources Fair." This event will take place this Saturday, November 8th from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at the catholic Education Center, 80 Sheppard Ave. East. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

Free the Children Me to We October Food Drive

Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions for our food drive. "Whats so ever you do for the least of my people....."

November Shark Tales CSAC Info

Dance-a-thon:

A special thank you goes to Karen Campbell and her dance-a-thon team for executing another successful dance-a-thon this year. Fun was had by all! We have raised over \$10,000, but are still short our \$16,000 goal. We will continue to accept dance-a-thon donations, but they will not be eligible for prizes.

Budget Committee:

St. Agatha CSAC is establishing a budget committee again this year for our CSAC fund allocation. The purpose of the committee is to review allocation requests and make recommendations for budget allocation, which will be voted on during the next CSAC meeting. Any parents interested in participating in the budget committee, please contact us at csac.stagatha@tcdsb.org, as we will be holding a meeting soon. All are welcome.

IMPORTANT DATES!

November 6 - Photo Retakes - pm

November 7 - Dance - a - Thon prize assembly

November 8 - Education and Community Resources Fair

November 11 - Remembrance Day Celebration @ 10:30, Progress Reports go home.

November 13 - Parent/Teacher Interviews - 5:00 - 8:00 pm

November 14 - Parent/Teacher Interviews - 9:00 am - 12: 00 pm/ PA day.

November 15 - French Immersion Conference for Parents @ the CEC - 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

November 19 - Jim Chappel Animal Presentations

November 20 - CSCA Empathy Presentation @ 6:30 pm

November 21 - Pizza Lunch

November 25 - CSAC meeting @ 6:30.

November 28 - Civies Day!

*Monthly Update from the
Toronto Catholic District School Board*

November 2014

Share Your Stories of Charity

TCDSB Wave of Charity will be showcased through monthly videos throughout the school year. Submit your stories and photos to Robert.gallo@tcdsb.org. Visit our website for more information, or to view the video for October. <http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/YearOfCharity/Pages/Heart-of-Charity.aspx>

Lift Up Your Hearts and Keep the Wave of Charity Moving Across the Board!

Share your stories via twitter @TCDSB #waveofcharity

Reminder: Education and Community Resource Fair

Helping parents of children with special needs link with resources within the TCDSB and the community
November 8th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

<http://www.tcdsb.org/pages/education-and-community-resources-fair-2014.aspx>

It's Flu Season

Toronto Public Health Tips for Avoiding the Spread of Flu and Other Viruses:

- Get your flu shot
- Wash your hands often
- Cover your cough/sneeze
- Do the knuckle bump instead of shaking hands
- Stay home if you are sick

Health Update—Ebola

In response to Ebola concerns, staff from the Board's Occupational Health and Safety Department and Facilities Department have been reviewing and auditing school cleaning, disinfection and infection control measures since September 2014. Staff and students are reminded to wash their hands frequently and cough into your sleeve. Staff are also working closely with Toronto Public Health on monitoring school absenteeism. The Board has posted resource material from the medical authorities on Ebola.

<http://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/HealthandSafety/Pages/Default.aspx>

Parents are reminded to contact the school office if your child is returning from West Africa or any other location affected by the Ebola crisis."

November Events/Observances

November 1 All Saints Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2014/pages/all-saints-day.aspx>

November 2 All Souls Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2014/pages/all-souls'-day.aspx>

National Down Syndrome Awareness Week November 1-7, 2014

<http://www.cdss.ca/>

November 5, 2014—Take Our Kids to Work Day

November 11, 2014—Remembrance Day

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Angel Foundation Gala Royale November 14, 2014. Mark Your Calendars! <http://www.tcdsb.org/news/newsreleases/pages/evening-to-feed-the-soul-gala-royale.aspx>

French Immersion Workshop for Parents Saturday, November 15th

8:30 am—3:30 pm at the Catholic Education Centre, 80 Sheppard Avenue East

Visit our website for more information www.tcdsb.org

November 16-23—Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

November 27—Caucus Meeting (Swearing in of new Board of Trustees; election of Chair and Vice-Chair)

Remember to follow @TCDSB on Twitter for all the latest news and important information throughout the year.