



Shark Tales



October 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

October Virtue of the
Month
Gratitude



Give thanks to the Lord,
for he is good.
Psalm 107:1

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

Hello St. Agatha Community!

We certainly can't complain about the weather the last few days. It seems the summer that never was finally decided to pay us a visit. With the warm weather we have lots of students taking off their jackets and sweaters at recess and then leaving them in the yard. Our lost and found is already full and we are only into our fifth week of school. If you notice that your child is missing a piece of clothing please check our lost and found located by the main office.

It was wonderful to see so many families join us for our annual family BBQ and curriculum night. The weather was great, the food was delicious and many of you got a chance to meet with your child's teacher. All in all a great example of a community celebrating together. Thanks to our CSAC chair Tanya Baksh and her helpers for their help with the evening.

Staff supervision for students begins in the school yard at 8:30 and ends at 3:45. We regularly have students who are here before and after those times. Please note that in addition to the students being unsupervised there is no access to the school. While we understand that things do happen every effort should be made to have all students picked up promptly at 3:30.

A reminder that in an effort to keep all of our students safe, St. Agatha tries at all times to be a peanut and nut free environment. To help us with this we do not allow food into individual classrooms for birthday celebrations. Your cooperation in keeping all of our students safe is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Béla Matyas

PARKING LOT

As Scarborough's French immersion school St. Agatha has a large number of students who are driven to school by a parent or caregiver. In addition the school has four large busses and three small busses dropping off and picking up students before and after school. Needless to say there is a great deal of traffic around the school just before 9:00 am as well as at dismissal. This makes it very important that all drivers follow the rules when using the parking lot, including obeying the instructions of the teacher on duty. Please use the parking lot as a "kiss and ride" drop off. If you feel that you need to accompany your child please park at the plaza and walk them over. Under no circumstances should you park in the loading zones either in the parking lot or in front of the school. Please be considerate and respectful of other drivers at all times. Also please note that pets, bicycles, skateboards, scooters, etc. are not allowed in the yard at any time.

PICKING UP STUDENTS

When picking up students outside of regular school hours please send a note to the child's teacher. When you arrive for the pickup report to the office and the secretary will summon the student to the office. Under no circumstances is it acceptable to proceed directly to the classroom to pick up the child or to enter the schoolyard to look for the student. Bus students who do not provide written notice of a change in arrangements will be sent on the bus. While every effort is made to accommodate phone calls alerting the school to a change in the pickup routine this can lead to unnecessary confusion, stress and delay for all involved. Please help us to make the arrival and pickup of all our students as safe and efficient as possible.

CROSSCOUNTRY

Beginning the second week of school a number of our students, accompanied by both staff and parents have been training in preparation for the cross country meets coming up later this month. Madame Flynn, Mrs. McCowan and Ms. Modica are the coaches. The first meet is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15th followed by the regionals on the 22nd and the city finals on the 28th. Good luck to all of our runners and thank you to the coaches for their time and efforts on behalf of our athletes

CSAC 2014/2015

On Thursday, September 25th St. Agatha held our annual CSAC AGM and our first meeting of the year. The following parents were elected or acclaimed to the CSAC executive. Tanya Baksh - Chair, Giorgia Katounas - Co - Chair, Angelina Meighlal - Treasurer, Juliet Ajambo - Doherty - Secretary, Karen Campbell - Fundraising Coordinator, Ivana Markovic - TAPCE representative and Mary Rafter - Community Representative. It was wonderful to see many parents new to our school come out and get involved. Special thanks to Mrs. Kelly Austen who has been our CSAC secretary for the last four years. On behalf of the community I would like to thank her for all her hard work and dedication in serving our students and our parents.

APPLE PIE BEE

Interested in being part of a community bee?

*Please join us at:
St. Theresa Church for an*

Saturday, October 25, 9 AM - 4 PM in the Parish Hall

**St. Theresa's Shrine of the Little
Flower Church 2559 Kingston
Rd.
(SE corner of Midland and Kingston)**

Bring an apron, paring knife, vegetable peeler and rolling pin.

Lunch will be provided for volunteers. The pies will be sold at our annual Christmas Bazaar.

Contact parish office: 416-261 – 7498 (st-theresa@rogers.com)

MEA CULPA!

During the staff introductions on Curriculum night Mrs. Christine Lorenz, was introduced as one of our grade 6 teachers. She is of course also our school librarian who spends countless hours of her time teaching our students to love reading and making sure that our school library is filled with reading materials suitable for all of our students. Please excuse the oversight.

St. Agatha School "Leaf" a Legacy Project

Last year, St. Agatha School Community celebrated 50 Years since our school first opened its doors in 1964. In honour of this incredible milestone, we decided to mark the occasion with a community family tree. Finally, after months of many inquiries by those who did not get the chance to add their name to our tree, here's your chance!

Thank you to those who have purchased your legacy leaf already. We have raised almost \$1600 so far! There were several purposes for doing this project. One way, it was a method of raising funds to beautify our schools grounds, and more importantly, it was a nice way of recognizing and remembering those in and around our local school community. Our tree has been permanently placed in the front of the south stairway leading up to the library for all to see. Have a peek at our "Leaf" a Legacy Tree on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Stagathaturning50/>.

We have set the price at \$10 per leaf in order to make it affordable for everyone! Each donated leaf will be hand painted and personalized for individuals, families, in memory of loved ones, or church members along with businesses in the local community who would like to participate in our "Leaf" a Legacy Project. Please detach and return the bottom portion of this order form to your child's teacher or school office by **October 25, 2014.**

St. Agatha School "Leaf" a Legacy Project

(Please detach and return this portion of the form)

Please choose one or more of the following texts: (if you purchase more than one leaf please add \$10 per addition)

The _____ Family (eg: The Smith Family) \$10 _____
In memory of _____ \$10 _____
In Appreciation of _____ \$10 _____
Total \$10 _____

Please provide us with your contact information:

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Thank you for your continuous support!!!!

Sincerely, St. Agatha 50th Anniversary committee

Free the Children Me to We October Food Drive

The *Me to We Committee* (Free the Children) will be holding a Thanksgiving food drive. The drive will start **on October 6th** and continue until **October 10th**. Donations can be dropped off in the Atrium or sent in with you child. The canned goods will be brought over to the local fire hall on October 10th. Thank you for your support of this initiative in this year of charity in the TCDSB's pastoral plan.

IMPORTANT DATES!

October 1 - Picture day/Girl's Flag Football

October 3 - Mrs. Balkovec's class to the library

October 6 - Blessed Cardinal Newman visits the grade 8's

October 6th - 10th - Thanksgiving Food Drive

October 9 - Jean Vanier visits the grade 8's

October 10 - Mass @ 9:30/Spirit Assembly

October 13 - Thanksgiving Monday!

October 14 - Grade 7's to Lake St. George

October 15 - Divisional Cross Country/Mlle Sicotte's Class to the library

October 17 - Neil/Notre Dame visit the grade 8's/Grade 7's home.

October 22 - Regional Cross Country

October 23 - CSAC meeting @ 6:30 pm

October 24 - Pizza lunch

October 27 - Municipal Election Polling Station in the gym.

October 28 - City Cross Country

October 30 - Rosary Apostolate visits.

October 31 - Halloween Dance a Thon/Civies Day.

FROM THE BOARD

Open Houses in High Schools

Grade 8 students and their families are invited to check out their high school options. TCDSB secondary schools host open houses in October and November. <http://www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses/Pages/default.aspx>

TCDSB's Project Reach to be Featured

At the 2014 Scotiabank Nuit Blanche Event Celebrating TCDSB's Year of Charity

All are invited to check out the artistic representations of the Year of Charity, as seen through the eyes of students and staff from all across the Toronto Catholic District School Board. The Project Reach art installation will make its debut at this year's Scotiabank Nuit Blanche, an international celebration of the Arts, beginning at dusk on Saturday October 4th and continuing until dawn on Sunday October 5th. The Project Reach installation will be presented at St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, 81 St. Mary's Street.

<http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/YearOfCharity/ProjectReach/Pages/default.aspx>

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. <http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/YearOfCharity/Pages/Heart-of-Charity.aspx>

Life Up Your Hearts! And share your stories via twitter @TCDSB #waveofcharity

Municipal Election Reminder

Don't forget to vote on October 27th. For information, check out the board website at <http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/Assessment/Pages/default.aspx>

Meet the Trustee Candidates in Your Ward

OAPCE Toronto hosts an evening with Trustee Candidates

October 20th, 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

<http://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/OAPCE-Toronto/Pages/All-Candidates-Meeting.aspx>

CPIC Elections

The Catholic Parent Involvement Elections will take place on October 6 and 8. CPIC is the advisory body to the TCDSB on matters relating to parent engagement. Learn more <http://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/ParentInvolvement/Pages/default.aspx>

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>

Special Events

October 7th—Mass to End Women Abuse—St. Rose of Lima Parish, 7 p.m. <http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/News/2014-2015/Pages/End-Woman-Abuse-2014.aspx>

October 18th: 50th Anniversary, St. Ursula Catholic School Details: St. Ursula link is: <http://www.tcdsb.org/schools/stursula/News/NewsArchives/2013-2014/Pages/St.-Ursula-50th-Anniversary.aspx>

October 24th : 25th Anniversary, Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School Details: <http://www.tcdsb.org/schools/jeanvanier/alumni/pages/25th-anniversary-dinner-dance.aspx>

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>

Other Dates to Note:

October is...

Women's History Month

Autism Awareness Month

Child Abuse Prevention Month <http://www.tcdsb.org/Pages/Child-Abuse-Prevention-Month.aspx>

Walk to School Month <http://www.tcdsb.org/pages/walk-to-school-month.aspx>

World Teachers' Day October 5

Rosary Day October 7 <http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Pages/Rosary-Day.aspx>

Feed Tomorrow Week October 6-10

World Mental Health Day October 10 <http://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SpecialEducation/NewsEvents/Pages/World-Mental-Health-Day.aspx>

International Day of the Girl October 11

English as a Second Language Week October 12-18

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty October 17 <http://www.tcdsb.org/pages/international-day-for-eradication-of-poverty.aspx>

School Bus Safety Week October 20-24 (Bus Driver Appreciation Day October 22)

Take Me Outside Day October 29

Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Day October 29

Check out the board's website for details about these special days throughout the year