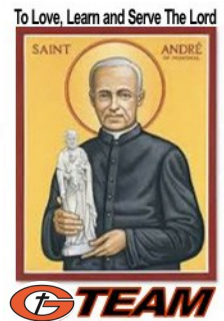




NEWSLETTER

St. André Catholic School

@ St. Philip Neri
20 Beverly Hills Drive
Toronto, Ontario
M3L 1A1
Tel: 416-393-5245
Fax: 416-393-5254



September

2014

WHATSOEVER YOU DO
TO THE LEAST OF MY
PEOPLE, THAT YOU DO
UNTO ME.

~ MATTHEW 25:40 ~

- REMEMBER THAT GOD WELCOMES US ALL TO HIS TABLE; WE SHOULD DO THE SAME.
- BE GUIDED BY THE MESSAGE OF "WHATSOEVER YOU DO TO THE LEAST OF MY PEOPLE, THAT YOU DO UNTO ME."
- IF YOU WANT TO FEEL WELCOMED, MAKE SURE YOU ARE WELCOMING OTHERS.
- HOSPITALITY SHOULD BE EVIDENT IN YOUR HOME, SCHOOL AND THE CHURCH.

HOSPITALITY



Dear St. Andre Community:

On behalf of the staff here at St. Andre Catholic School, we want to welcome you to what will be an exciting year of change here at St. Andre.

We are a few short months away from merging the former St. Philip Neri and St. Gerard Majella communities into our new home on 36 Yvonne Avenue just northwest of our current location. As news becomes available we will be sharing it with the community via our new Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/StAndreTCDSB>) as well as our new website (<http://www.tcdsb.org/schools/standre>). Our new school will be a state of the art facility providing your child with the opportunity to learn in a 21st century learning environment.

Even though we will have a new patron saint and a new building, we will not change how we work with your children here at St. Andre and that is to provide an education that focuses on teaching the whole child: spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and physically. By educating the whole child we will be able to achieve our goal of ensuring that our children are discerning believers in God, reflective and creative thinkers, self-directed life long learners, collaborative contributors, caring family members and responsible citizens.

As we transition from our old home of St. Philip Neri to our new home of St. Andre, we will continue to build upon the tradition of working as a TEAM:

Together Everyone Achieves More

We all know the African Proverb that "it takes a village to raise a child" and the same can be said of our new school, it takes a TEAM working for the "common good" to build a great Catholic School. We know that you will join us in working for the common good to create a place where God lives in our thoughts, actions and words.

The staff of ST. ANDRÉ, look forward to working with you and your children to build our own City of God.

God Bless,

Adalgisio Joe Bria & Al Ricci

Principal: A.J. Bria
Vice Principal: A. Ricci

Superintendent: A. Della Mora
Of Education 416-222-8282

Trustee: S. Piccininni
 416-512-3403

Parish Priest: Father Paul
Parish: St. Philip Neri
 Catholic Church
 2100 Jane Street
 416-241-3101

School Hours:
Office: 8:00 to 4:00
Students: 8:30 to 3:30
Lunch: 11:15 to 12:15



(<https://twitter.com/StAndreTCDSB>)

WELCOME

We would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome back our returning families and staff and to greet all of our new arrivals on staff: Ms. Trasolini Paoletta - JK/SK, Ms. Valentini- Gr. 1; Ms. Donaghey - ECE; Mr. Agati - Instrumental Music; and Mr. Figliano - Health and Physical Education. We wish them, and our returning staff a successful year at St. Andre.

DRESS CODE

As per TCDSB and school policy we have a dress code here at St. Andre. All students are required to adhere to our dress code which consists of:

- Blue Bottoms Includes: dress pants, casual pants, cargo pants, capris, jogging pants (no stripes), tunic, skort
- Blue/White Shirt Includes: polo shirt, collared shirt, turtle neck, blouse,
- Students will be in complete uniform upon their arrival at school. No additional sweaters/jackets are permitted in the classrooms, unless it has the school crest or logo or the logo is no larger than the size of a loonie.
- Shirts must be worn tucked in to pants.
- Pants must be worn at the waist and pant legs may not be tucked in to socks.
- Hats are not to be worn in the building unless we are having a special event or day.
- Jewellery, bandanas, hair styles, inappropriate body piercing, body art, tattoos or clothing that do not reflect the school's Belief Statements and Gospel Values are discouraged.
- Students are asked not to wear makeup to school.
- For physical education, teachers may request students to wear a T-shirt, shorts and running shoes.
- For safety reasons, "open-toed" shoes are discouraged.
- Students are encouraged to keep another pair of shoes at school especially during the winter months to change into.

If you are unsure, please feel free to call us before buying any uniform items.

TENTATIVE CLASSES

During June, staff and administration established tentative class lists using the information provided in letters received from families indicating they would be returning in September. Projections for the number of new students who would arrive were also put in place. At the same time, if we have either an increase or a decrease of students in our school, we may have to reorganize our classrooms and your child may be affected. Please remember that all classes are tentative until September 30, 2013.

FOOD ALLERGIES

As in the past, please note that **we have a growing number of students in our school that have severe, life threatening, allergies to peanuts, nuts, eggs and seafood.** This is a medical condition that causes a severe anaphylactic reaction to specific foods that can be fatal. Although this may not affect a student in

your child's class directly, we ask that you **DO NOT SEND ANY PRODUCTS THAT MAY CONTAIN PEANUT OR NUT PRODUCTS TO SCHOOL**, as children can come into contact with one another elsewhere in the school. As well, it is for this reason students are not allowed to share food at school. This includes treats that you may wish to send for celebrations such as birthdays. **If you wish to treat the children for a special occasion please purchase non-food items, such as pencils, stickers etc. that can be shared without risk.** We thank you in advance for your support in helping to keep all the students in our care safe.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please do not allow your children to bring electronic devices to school. We have no way of ensuring that they will not be stolen, damaged or lost. The school cannot be responsible for student's electronic equipment. If you need to contact your child because of an Emergency, please call the office and we will ensure that they receive any messages you may need to forward. If these devices are brought to school, they are subject to the TCDSBs Acceptable Use Policy—A.29. If a personal electronic device (PED) is being used without a teacher(s) permission and/or it is being used inappropriately or at an inappropriate time (e.g. recess, on the school bus), the teacher(s) will send the student(s) to the office where the principal will confiscate and securely store the device until the matter is appropriately addressed with parents.

CURRICULUM NIGHT

Curriculum Night will take place on the evening of **Wednesday, September 24, 2014**, additional information on this event will follow. Please mark your calendars, and come out to meet our staff and learn about what the year holds in store for your child.

ADDRESS AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION UP-DATE

Please ensure that all information regarding your child is up-to-date by completely filling out the attached **form** for each child that you have attending the school and return it to the school as soon as possible. This will ensure that we have correct information for your child regarding home address, home, work and cell telephone numbers, babysitter's, emergency contact numbers and medical information which may have changed. If changes occur to this information during the year, please notify us in writing so that we can keep our files current. All information will be kept in the strictest confidence.

GENERAL PERMISSION FORM

General Permission Form allow the staff to take students to nearby locations and on community walks as the need arises. Please complete these forms and return them to the school.

STUDENT INTERNET AGREEMENT

Please review the TCDSB Acceptable Use Policy attached to this newsletter carefully with your child, sign it and return it promptly. Students will not be allowed to access the internet at school without your prior written consent being on file.

STUDENT MEDICAL INFORMATION

Kindly provide the school with any information regarding medical conditions that your child may have, or conditions they may be affected by, to enable us to assist your child if a medical emergency arises.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

From time to time students may need to take prescription medication at school. In order for this to take place, parents/guardians and physicians will need to complete and sign the appropriate Special Services Medical Forms which can be requested through the school secretary. The aim of these forms is to ensure that any medication that is being administered at school is carried out as prescribed by the attending physician. Non-prescription medication **WILL NOT** be administered to students, nor should they be sent to school.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Should the school ever need to evacuate the premises, the students will be relocated to the Parish Hall or St. Simon.

CLASSROOM INTERRUPTIONS

We strive to keep our school a safe place and to keep classroom interruptions to a minimum in order to maximize the time our students spend learning.

Please assist us by:

- Reporting to the office whenever entering the school as per TCDSB policy.
- If it is essential to speak to your child during school-hours, he/she will be called down to the office.
- Making arrangements for picking up students for appointments etc., do so before the school day begins and notifying the teacher in writing.
- Not calling the school to speak to your child on the phone, since we do not have any way of ensuring that the person on the phone is indeed who they say they are or if they are entitled access to the student.
- Not speaking to your child's teacher during class time. This may result in the teacher being distracted from his/her primary roles of safety and education. If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please call and make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

In the interest of safety for all of our students please follow the guidelines below during school hours. Visitors must enter the building through the front doors located by the office and report directly to the office. Please drop off your children at the entrance to the school yard and allow them to proceed into the school yard where they will be supervised by staff. Only staff may move beyond office

area, all other adults must be accompanied by a staff member. Student safety is our main concern.

LATE/ABSENT STUDENTS

The safety of our students is of the utmost concern to us. In the event that your child may be late or absent, please contact the school at (416) 393-5254 (*press 1 to report an absence/late*) to provide the particulars regarding times and/or dates. If students arrive after their class has come into the school, they are to go by the office to pick up a late slip. Please assist us by making sure that students arrive on time. **Note: Classes begin at 8:30 a.m.**

BUSSING

From time to time the bus may be late arriving at your stop in the morning. If this occurs, we ask that you contact the bus company directly to inquire about the bus as they will have information on all their routes. The numbers for each route has been provided on the attached Bus Schedule.

DPA

Daily Physical Activity, will occur throughout the day in your **child's classroom, teacher and /or intermediate students will lead the session.**

PARKING AT SCHOOL

When dropping off or picking up your child/ren at school please **DO NOT PARK IN THE SCHOOL BUS LOADING ZONES OR IN THE STAFF PARKING LOT.** We must keep the School Bus Loading zone free in order to ensure the safety of all students boarding the busses.

DROPPING OFF LUNCHES FOR STUDENTS

Please drop off all lunches for students on the table located in our front entrance. Be sure to label the lunch with your child's name and his/her teacher's name, and to inform your child before school that you will be bringing in a lunch. Students will come by the office to pick up their lunch at 11:15 a.m. **Please note, students are NOT to leave the school/school property during the lunch hour.**

LUNCHTIME PROCEDURES

In the interest of safety for all of our students: If you are picking up your child for lunch, please continue to sign him/her out at the office. **Students will not be allowed to leave school property during the day unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.**

SUPERVISION

Our school yard is supervised by staff from 8:10 a.m. each school day. Leaving students at school, or in the yard, puts them at risk. **PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CHILD UNATTENDED IN THE SCHOOL YARD, OR IN THE SCHOOL, PRIOR TO 8:10 AM SINCE NO ONE WILL BE ON DUTY AND WE CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR SAFETY.**

Simple Strategies To Improve Student Success

Here are a few very important things that you can do to help your child experience success at school:

- ⇒ **Let your child know that you have high but reasonable expectations about their school work and performance**
- ⇒ **Talk with your child about school every day**
- ⇒ **Focus on attitude rather than grades, keeping things positive**
- ⇒ **Read to, or with, your child daily**
- ⇒ **Support them with their homework as best you can**

This way we can work together to ensure that your child achieves his/her potential.

STUDENT AGENDAS

Student agendas will once again be sold at a cost recovery basis of \$5.00/agenda book.

HOME SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Please read all newsletters and other information sent home. We are expecting the students to be responsible in ensuring all school correspondence arrives home. It is a student's duty to deliver any material that is given to them by the school to their parents.

BUS SAFETY

- Be at the bus stop at least 10 minutes ahead of pick-up
- Follow all directions from the driver, especially when getting on and off the bus
- Go directly to a seat and stay seated until the driver lets you off the bus
- Keep all belongings inside the bus
- Sit quietly at all times and speak only in conversation tones
- No eating or drinking on the bus!
- Do not speak with the bus driver when operating the bus unless absolutely necessary

Parents please review these safety expectations with your children. As well, parents of junior/senior kindergarten students and grade 1 students traveling by bus need to be aware that in the interest of safety, please label your child's backpack with his or her name on the inside, along with their bus stop. This will help ensure that your child arrives home safely. A copy of the bus transportation schedule has been sent home with the newsletter.

TCDSB School Year calendar 2014-2015

Number of school days	194
Number of Professional Activity Days	6
Labour Day	Sept. 1
First Instructional Day	Sept. 2
Thanksgiving Day	Oct. 13
Christmas Break	Dec. 22 to Jan. 2
Family Day	Feb. 16
Mid-Winter Break	Mar. 16 to 20
Good Friday	Apr. 3
Easter Monday	Apr. 6
Victoria Day	May 18
Last day of classes	Jun. 25

Six (6) Professional Development Days for ELEMENTARY schools:

November 14	Parent-Teacher Conferences
December 5	Faith Development
January 23	Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting
February 13	Parent-Teacher Conferences
June 5	Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting
June 26	Provincial Education Priorities

St. Andre Pride Song

*Here's to the school we love
We are GIANTS one and all
We will always cheer for victory
And you'll never let us fall
GO GO GO
Cheers to St. Andre
We are with you all the way
So get out there TEAM
And do your BEST
Make US proud today*

