



St. Anselm Catholic School

182 Bessborough Dr.
Toronto, Ont. M4G 4H5
Tel.: 416-393-5243
Fax: 397-6320

 @stanselmcs
www.tcdsb.org/schools/stanselm

Principal: D. Di Paolo
Secretary: C. Bright

Superintendent: J. Shanahan
416-222-8282
Trustee: Angela Kennedy
416-512-3411

School Enrollment: 373
Hours of Operation: 8:30 – 3:00
Lunch Hour: 11:15 – 12:15

Catholic School Parent Council
Chair: A. O'Leary
CSAC.stanselm@tcdsb.org

Parish: St Anselm
Roman Catholic Church
1 Macnaughton Rd, Toronto, ON
M4G 3H3
Father T. Moore
(416) 485-1792
Leaside Child Care
416-487-5862
Frances or Janet



www.tcdsb.org

Year of the School!

St. Anselm C.S.

Principal's Message

Dear Parent(s) and or Legal Guardians,

We are entering one of the most beautiful times of the year in our liturgical calendar. The season of Advent is that time when we celebrate and anticipate the birth of Jesus Christ our Saviour. We are waiting for His birth and we are preparing for His arrival with a great deal of excitement and energy. During this season, we reflect on God's greatest gift to us—the Saviour of the world, His Son, Jesus Christ. Advent is a time of preparation, a period to get ourselves in a state of readiness to receive the Saviour of the world.

December is one of the most beautiful months of the year. The neighbourhood is beginning to sparkle with Christmas lights and decorations and students throughout the school have already begun many exciting and wonderful Christmas activities. Our classrooms and the hallways are becoming beautifully decorated for this special time of year. Children are nervously excited about our upcoming Christmas Concert and of course, pictures with Santa Claus.

As we enter the season of Advent to prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus, it is rather suitable that this month's virtue is CHARITY. Many of us are already engaging in the mad rush to purchase gifts to put under the tree on the 25th, but let us be mindful of the fact that charity is not always about giving material things. Our quote for the month is "Where charity and love are, God is there". As St. Thomas Aquinas described it, "Charity is friendship first with God and secondly with all who belong to God." (2a2ae, 25,4). How can we practice charity and generosity in our community without necessarily giving material things? This month at St. Anselm school we will be demonstrating charity in many different ways; through song as our choir visits the Sunnybrook seniors' centre, by participating in the Out of The Cold Clothing Drive and by supporting Plan International from the proceeds of the sale of Christmas Cookies.

On behalf of the staff, I wish all of the families of St. Anselm's school community, a very joyful and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

D. Di Paolo
Principal

Important December Dates:

- 1) Santa Pic—Monday December 11th
- 2) Christmas Concert—Wednesday December 13th at 6:00pm at St. Anselm Parish
- 3) School resumes Monday January 8th, 2018

Note from CSPC

Hello parents,

An update on the Family Fundraiser - Thank you again to the families who have contributed, as this is an important part of the council's operating budget and helps us to fund programs and school improvement projects. About half of families at the school have contributed to-date and we have raised approximately \$12,500 towards our goal of \$21,000. We also raised \$5,000 towards the playground. If you haven't made your donation and would like to, please email the CSPC Treasurer, rodolfoLucero@rogers.com.

With respect to events, please mark your calendars for Feb. 3rd for St. Anselm Curling night. This is an annual tradition at the school where parents can come out to mix, mingle and curl, regardless of skill level. A fun night!

Thanks to all of the parents who came out to Amsterdam Barrel House last week to support the Playground Fundraiser. As indicated in the communication sent out earlier this week, the event was a great success.

We'd like to wish all St. A's families a very Merry Christmas!

St. Anselm Parent Council

December Activities/Classroom Parties

There are a number of activities planned this month for your children to enjoy. We kindly ask that you do not send food items to school for your child's class. This includes any and all food items. There are a large number of students with allergies. Thank you for your consideration and for respecting our school rule.

Santa Pic

This year Santa is visiting St. Anselm and he will be posing for pictures on Monday December 11th from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. It will also be a dress down day.

Dress for the Weather



The cold weather season has arrived, and it is very important that your children dress appropriately.

Please make sure that they come to school with a warm coat, a hat that can protect their ears, and gloves or mittens.

As well, it is a good idea that your child also has an extra pair of shoes and socks at school. More often than not, inclement weather such as rain or snow can cause shoes and socks to become soaked through; and your child will need a dry pair of both to ensure that he/she does not become ill. Safety considerations also require that your child be wearing shoes: if they have to exit the school in an emergency, bare feet or wearing socks alone will make your child very uncomfortable.

Student Council News

Cookies

Starting in the first week of December Student Council will be organizing a Christmas Cookie Sale. They are festive and nut free. There are even gluten-free options as well. They will be sold by advance order and delivered on Friday December 22, the last day of Spirit Week. Cookies are \$1.00 each or 2 for \$1.75. Please look for order forms to arrive by e-mail the first week in December and will be due back to your child's teacher by Thursday December 14. All proceeds from the sale will continue to support Plan International.

Out of The Cold

The Student Council at St. Anselm is proud to be organizing a warm clothing drive for the following new items: hats, mitts, socks and adult underwear for both men and women. All donations will be given to the Out of the Cold program run through St. Brigid parish. Out of the Cold helps to provide shelter, clothing and food for the homeless all over the city. Our campaign

will run from December 3-15. All donations will be collected from your child's classroom. Please help us to help others come out of the cold this winter. Bring on the Socks!

Christmas Choir

December is upon us and we turn our attention to the season of Advent and the Virtue of Charity. On that note the Christmas Choir is once again preparing to spread some seasonal joy.

We will be performing on December 4th at the Sunnybrook Veteran's Centre, December 18th at 2:00 for the residents of 921 Millwood Ave, at the Advent Mass/Concert on December 13th, and on Friday December 22nd, 11:30-12:00 at Valu-Mart for some Caroling on Bayview. As always volunteers are needed. All are welcome to join us on Bayview, at mass and during our Advent celebration, as we share our gift of music as a sign of Christ's light in our lives.

Children's Book Bank

BOOK DRIVE UPDATE

Through all of your generous donations, the St. Anselm community managed to collect 1,020 books in support of The Children's Book Bank. This marks the third year running that the school has collected books to help build literacy in low-income communities. The Children's Book Bank is located at 350 Berkeley St. (Gerrard & Parliament) and accepts donations throughout the year.

Hour of Code

The students of the Learning Centre, Mrs. Whyte, Mrs. Edwards and Ms. Napoli's classes will be joining millions of other students in the world, who will be taking part in the Hour of Code, (#hour of code) during the week of December 4-10. According to the the web site www.hourofcode.com/ca, The Hour of Code is a one-hour event where students of all ages can choose from a variety of self-guided tutorials, from kindergarten up. Tutorials work on any modern browser, tablet, smartphone, or even with no computer at all. Code.org's own tutorial features Angry Birds, Design your own Google logo, Plants vs. Zombies, Frozen, Minecraft and

Star Wars and many more!. There are also video lectures from Mark Zuckerberg and Bill Gates. Their goal is to get 100 million students participating in the Hour of Code to spark an interest in Computer Science. We are very excited to be offering this opportunity to our students. If you are interested, please visit the above link and try one of the tutorials at home.

Our Parish: St Anselm Catholic Church

December's mass is **Wednesday December 13th 9:15 am**. Ms. Napoli's class will be organising the mass. All are welcome to attend!

Lunchtime Supervisor Positions

Opportunities for paid lunchtime supervisor positions are currently available in the TCDSB system for qualified applicants. Please contact the school if you are interested in applying for the lunchtime supervisor position.

Regular School Hours

Entrance Bell	8:30 a.m.
Morning Recess	10:15 – 10:30 a.m.
Lunch	11:15 – 11:35 a.m.
Lunch Recess	11:35 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Afternoon Recess	1:40 – 1:55 p.m.
Dismissal	3:00 p.m.

Visitors to Our School

Visitors, particularly parents/guardians are most welcome. In the interest of maintaining a secure, orderly school environment, please begin your visit to the school by informing the main office.

Early Dismissal From School And Late Arrival To School

If you are taking your child out of the school during the school day, please inform the Office. The Office will contact your child using the public address system and request him/her to come to the office. Please remember to sign your child in/out at the office, at all times.

If you are bringing your child to school after the

start of the day, please report first to the Office.

We thank you for your consideration and understanding. By adhering to the aforementioned steps, you will help to keep our—*indeed your*—school safe.

The Safe Arrival Programme

The *Safe Arrival Programme* is the means by which school staff, with your cooperation, is able to determine if a student who is absent from school is safe at home or elsewhere.

The **Programme** works as follows:

- Parents are to call the School before 8:30 a.m. or before 12:15 p.m. to inform the School that their child or children will be away.
- Please leave a message on the school voice mail for absences
- When a child is determined to be absent, and no information regarding the absence has been received from the child's parent/guardian, the office staff will attempt to determine the whereabouts of the child by phoning the child's home and emergency contact phone numbers.

It is important, therefore, that you provide the school with up-to-date phone numbers (home, business, and cell) and emergency contact information for your child or children. Throughout the year, please inform the Office of any change in phone numbers and contact information.

School Yard Supervision

Before School: 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch Period:

11:15 a.m. - 11:35 a.m. (In classrooms)

11:35 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. (In yard)

After School (Bus Students Only): 3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

There is no staff supervision in the school yard before 8:00 a.m. If parents send their children to school before staff are available for supervision, parents are responsible for their children's safety.

Anaphylactic Allergies

A conservative estimate is that one in fifty Canadians suffers from life-threatening allergies to certain foods, medications, or insect stings, or non-food materials such as latex. These allergies produce a hypersensitive (anaphylactic) tissue reaction to an allergen. For those susceptible, exposure to even a small amount of the substance to which they are allergic can cause an anaphylactic reaction. Peanuts and nut products are the most common foods that cause anaphylaxis, but shellfish, fish, eggs, sulphites, milk, sesame seeds, or any other food can cause this dangerous condition. Symptoms may include any of the following: flushing of face and body; swelling of eyes, face, lips, tongue and throat; hives; vomiting; diarrhea; wheezing; a feeling of foreboding, fear, and apprehension; weakness and dizziness; inability to breathe; loss of consciousness; and coma.

The recommended emergency treatment for a student suffering an anaphylactic reaction is the administration of epinephrine (adrenaline) by an auto-injector (e.g., EpiPen®). The person affected must then be rushed to hospital to receive further medical attention, even if the symptoms decrease with the administration of the epinephrine.

What we can all do to keep our children safe at school:

Please do not send any peanut or peanut products (e.g., peanut butter) or other nut or nut products (e.g., hazelnut chocolate spreads) or non-food products (e.g., latex bandages, balloons etc.) to school. Be on guard and read the labels on food and non-food products to ensure that they do not contain allergens that may cause an anaphylactic reaction.

Responsibilities of Parents with Anaphylactic students:

Parents of those students known to suffer from anaphylactic reactions are to inform the school. As well, they are to ensure that their child carries an EpiPen® at all times, and that another EpiPen® is stored at a central location at school. The requirement for two EpiPens® to be at school with your child is provincial law and Board policy.

Responsibilities of School Staff to Anaphylactic students:

School staff shall keep one EpiPen® stored in a central location. As well, staff members will be aware of which students may suffer an anaphylactic reaction, and some have been in-serviced in the proper response to an anaphylactic emergency. The in-servicing of staff will be conducted twice per school year.

Administration of Medication



The School's staff is not permitted to administer any type of prescription medication unless written, signed authorization from the parent(s) and the prescribing physician is on file. The forms granting staff permission to dispense prescription medication must be updated on a regular basis and they are available from the school office.

Please contact the school to discuss any specific conditions or circumstances that your child may have which would require the administration of medication.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR (FULL DAY) KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

**Please call the school for additional information:
416-393-5243.**

Frequently asked questions about registration—Catholic Elementary Schools

Who can register at TCDSB elementary school?

- Catholic children—custodial parent must have proof of Catholicity

What documents do I need?



- Child's birth certificate
- Catholic Baptismal certificate (or other proof of Catholicity)
- Record of immunization
- Proof of residency: such as a lease, utility bill etc.

If your status is other than Canadian citizen, landed immigrant or permanent resident, please contact the TCDSB Admissions Department at 416-222-8282, extension 5320.

Can I send photocopies of the documents?

Please provide original documents where possible to the school at the time of registration. School will make copies and return the originals to parents.

How old does a child have to be for kindergarten?

- Children born in 2013 are eligible for junior kindergarten in September 2017.
- Children born in 2012 are eligible for senior kindergarten in September 2017.

Is JK mandatory?

Although it is not mandatory, if a parent chooses not to send their child to junior kindergarten, they will still be placed in senior kindergarten the following September in order to keep children with their same aged peers.

**TORONTO CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
TRUSTEES 2017-2018**

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 | 416-512-3405 |
| 6. | Frank D'Amico,
Vice-Chair | 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 | 416-512-3410 |
| 11. | Angela Kennedy, Chair | 416-512-3411 |
| 12. | Nancy Crawford | 416-512-3412 |
| | Rhea Carlisle | |
| | Student Trustees | 416-512-3413 |
| | Joel Ndongmi,
Student Trustee | 416-512-3417 |



Monthly Update from the Board December 2017

Parents Urged to Check Their Liability Insurance Coverage

At the October 19, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Board resolved that all parents of the Board should be advised to consider contacting their home insurance providers to determine the adequacy of their home insurance coverage to cover claims arising out of injuries caused by their child at school.

The reason for the Board of Trustee direction is that there have been a few instances recently where legal action has been initiated for personal injury or other harm to a student allegedly caused by another child.

A brief consultation by parents with their insurance provider is advised so parents can assess the adequacy of their insurance coverage if they are sued for personal injury or other harm allegedly caused by their child at school.

Inclement Weather Protocol

With the approach of winter and the associated ice and snow, there is always a possibility of school bus cancellations or delays, as well as cancellation of programs and services such as evening classes or permits. 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. 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>

Angel Foundation for Learning

Through the Loretto Fund and the Social Work Emergency Fund the Angel Foundation supports TCDSB students who are new comers to Canada by helping to offset the costs for items such as school supplies, uniforms, field trips, groceries or other necessities to help them settle into school and life in Canada. You can help support families who have come to Canada in search of peace donations to The Angel Foundation for Learning. To learn more about the work of the Foundation, visit <http://www.angelfoundationforlearning.org/>

Christmas Holidays

The last day of classes before the Christmas break will be Friday, December 22, 2017. Schools will reopen on Monday, January 8th, 2018.

Administrative offices will be closed from Saturday December 23rd through to Monday, January 1, 2018.

SAVE THE DATE!

Kindergarten Registration Begins January 17th at 10 a.m.

Visit www.tcdsb.org for details.

New French Immersion Programs

Coming September 2018

We are pleased to share that following the successful community consultation, the Toronto Catholic District School Board is moving forward with the implementation of French Immersion Programming for September 2018 at the following schools:

- [St. Mary Catholic School](#)
- [St. Alphonsus Catholic School](#)

Registration will begin in January 2018.

The introduction of enhanced programming at TCDSB schools is one aspect of our Long Term Program Plan (LTPP). Increasing the number of French Immersion programs available in our schools is a part of the LTPP and the Board's ongoing responsibility to offer dynamic educational opportunities to its students across the City of Toronto. Visit www.tcdsb.org for information about further expansions of the French Immersion program.

TCDSB 2017-2018 Awards Season has begun!

Nominations are welcome for the annual TCDSB Alumni Award, Award of Merit and Friends of Catholic Education Award which will be presented at Awards Night on May 7, 2018.

Deadline: third Friday in January (January 20).

- **TCDSB Alumni Award:** Open to TCDSB alumni who are still active in the Catholic community and who have distinguished themselves in their career or accomplishments.
- **TCDSB Award of Merit:** Open to former staff, parents and trustees who have made outstanding contributions to the TCDSB and to Catholic education (can only be considered for award after a three-year period has passed since departure from the TCDSB)
- **Friends of Catholic Education Award:** Open to members of the general public (individuals or organizations) who have accomplished extraordinary service to Catholic Education but who may not be Catholic.

For nomination forms and information, visit: www.tcdsb.org/awardsnight

December's Virtue is Charity

Find all the resources related to the monthly virtue, as well as other resources to support faith development and Religion and Family Life on our website here:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Pages/Default.aspx>

TCDSB Celebrates Advent and Christmas

Visit the board's website for the latest news and information from TCDSB schools including food and clothing drives, Christmas baskets for needy families, Christmas concerts and other special events.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2018/pages/Advent-and-Christmas.aspx>

REMINDER: Spotlight On Your School

Submissions of short videos and original songs to celebrate your local school are due **February 23rd**. Details for this *Year of the School* activity can be found online

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Year-of-the-School/Spotlight-on-your-school/Pages/default.aspx>

Curriculum Highlights: December

Teacher Name	Curriculum Highlight
<p>ELP Team: Ms. Paiano & Ms. Lavelle</p>	<p>The season of winter is fast approaching, and the kinders will be learning about the signs of winter and how animals go into hibernation. With Christmas almost here, the Kinders will be writing their Santa letters. The will also be learning about the season of Advent. We look forward to our Christmas concert and the children will be performing Take a Walk to Christmas. The children will also be involved in many Christmas crafts. In language Arts, the students will be learning the sounds D, G, and O. We will focus on the family words _am, _ad, and _op. The Kinders will also learn the following sight words: that, ran, all, you, do, and here. In literacy, we will focus on the story Only One You, and we will discuss with the children how they are all unique and special in their own way. We will also continue our inquiry on bears.</p> <p>In mathematics, we continue with our unit in mathematics. Our focus will be on mass and capacity. The children will learn the following terms: lighter heavier, holds more and holds less. If time permits, we will begin our unit on Spatial Sense. The children will be investigating spatial relationships using positional terms such as top, bottom, above and below.</p> <p>Finally, we look forward to the Christmas season!</p>
<p>ELP Team: Ms. Okolowsky & Ms. Hope</p>	<p>In December, our class will learn about the season of Advent and complete many integrated Christmas activities. We will focus on the virtue of charity. We will prepare for our performance of “Go Tell It On The Mountain” at the Christmas concert. The students will work on expressing and accepting positive messages to show appreciation for the kindness of their peers. They will also learn about empathy for others, and acknowledge and respond to each other’s feelings. In literacy, the students will use language in various contexts to connect new experiences with what they already know. They will continue to learn new letters, letter sounds, word families, and sight (popcorn) words through: stories, songs, games, and inquiry centres. In mathematics, the students will investigate strategies and materials used when measuring with non-standard units of measure. They will also select an attribute to measure, determine an appropriate non-standard unit of measure, and measure and compare two or more objects. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!</p>
<p>Gr. 1; Ms. Marcone</p>	<p>For the month of December we are focusing on the virtue of Charity. We will be discussing the importance of giving and helping others during the Christmas season. In Mathematics the grade ones will be learning all about addition and subtraction. Students will be able to use ten frames and number lines as tools to help them develop their addition and subtraction skills. In Language, we are continuing to work on retelling a story and important elements of a text. We are also working on writing and identifying the elements of friendly letters. Finally, we are always working on our word families and continuing to build our vocabulary. Our class is working on “The Little Drummer Boy” as the song for our Christmas Concert. The students are very excited to perform!</p> <p>I wish you all a restful holiday. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!</p>
<p>Gr. 1 Ms. Messner</p>	<p>In December the virtue of the month we will be celebrating is charity. In Religion we will be learning about the Advent season and the coming of Jesus Christ and the Christmas story. We will be having a daily gathering with Ms. Marcone’s class to learn about the Jesse Tree, praying and singing songs. On Monday, December 11th Santa will be visiting St. Anselm and having photos taken with the students. On the evening of Wednesday, December 13th the Grade 1 students will be performing a song for the school Christmas concert. In Language Arts the students will continue to participate in shared and interactive reading and writing and our weekly word study. We will continue to be learning how to write a friendly letter (date, greeting, body, closing and signature). In Math we will continue to work on addition and subtraction strategies (ten frames, doubles, number lines, math cubes) and various activities. In Science we will continue to learn about daily and seasonal changes. Wishing all the families of St. Anselm a wonderful and joyous Christmas season!!!</p>
<p>Gr. 2 Ms. McMahan</p>	<p>In November Ms. McMahan's class marked All Saints and All Souls Day by looking at holy people of God, including St. Francis of Assisi and St. Anselm. As we delve into December we are anticipating getting to know the back story of a certain Saint Nicholas! We are looking forward to writing letters to the Big Guy in Red and we'll be eagerly awaiting his response before we break for Christmas.</p>

	<p>In Math, we continue with strategies of adding and subtracting before moving into Chapter 5: Linear Measurement. We will be honing our hands-on measuring skills using rulers, metre sticks, and non-standard units too. Hand spans or cubits, anyone? ;) A more pressing kind of measurement will be our keeping track of "How many sleeps until December 25th."</p> <p>We'll reinforce the month's virtue of Charity and Ms. McMahan is proud to report that the class has already shown support of the upcoming Me-to-We Santa Shop. Whether donating or buying items -- or both! -- we will consider the "Because I'm a Girl" fund and how making it fair for boys -- and girls -- around the world is indeed an act of charity and love.</p> <p>We wish all the St. Anselm boys and girls and families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!</p>
<p>Gr. 2; Ms. McLoughlin</p>	<p>Congratulations to the grade two students who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, December 2nd.</p> <p>Sunday, December 3rd marks the beginning of Advent and the start of the liturgical year of the Catholic Church. The students will be learning about the symbols and stories of Advent and Christmas. The virtue for the month of December is CHARITY. Students will realize the joy of giving to others by participating in the Me-to-We club's Santa Shop initiative. Donations of gently used items (no food or clothing) are gratefully accepted. The students will have the opportunity to make purchases and have their gifts wrapped at the Santa Shop before the Christmas Break. All of the money raised will be donated to charity.</p> <p>In Mathematics, we are wrapping up our unit on addition and subtraction strategies. Our next unit of study will be Linear Measurement. In Language Arts we will be generating lots of descriptive seasonal vocabulary for the students to use in their Christmas writing. Story elements will also be explored through the shared reading of several seasonal picture</p> <p>Our class will be performing the song , <i>It's Christmas Day</i> at the Christmas concert on the evening of Wednesday December 13th at St. Anselm Church.</p> <p>Thank you for your continued support. I wish you a joyous Christmas season with your family and friends.</p>
<p>Gr. 3; Ms. Napoli</p>	<p>This November, there were plenty of special events to go around! We traveled to the Loblaws Cooking School and had a wonderful experience that helped enrich our Health curriculum and enjoyed a performance from the Little Suitcase Theatre that took us on a journey across Canada. For Remembrance Day, we collaborated with our Grade 6 buddies & shared our "Postcards for Peace" with veterans Sunnybrook Hospital. This December, our class is looking forward to attending a performance of Beauty & the Beast at the Young People's Theatre and the upcoming Raptor's 905 game with the St. Anselm community!</p> <p>In Math, we wrapped up units in Data Management and Addition & Subtraction. We practiced important skills such as learning to read and create our own charts, graphs and diagrams when answering math problems. Looking forward to December, we will begin a new unit that will include estimating and measuring length, perimeter, time and temperature, using standard units and non-standard units.. For this unit of study, students will be collaborating on a special culminating activity together.</p> <p>In Science, we will we begin our Strong & Stable Structures unit and in Language Arts, we will be wrapping up our Narrative study, which we explored in detail through Social Studies diaries written by both First Nations & Settlers. This month we will begin looking at Persuasive and Procedural Reading & Writing. A big thank you to our Grade 6 buddies for their ongoing literacy support!</p> <p>This month in Religion, students will focus on December's virtue of the month (Charity). We will continue to practice modelling the virtues by participating in the many charitable initiatives around the school this month. A reminder to all families that our class will be leading the Advent Mass on December 13th - we hope to see you there! Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas season filled with joy, health & happiness!</p>
<p>Gr. 3/4 Mr. Wilson</p>	<p>Good Day All! We're as busy as ever here in Room 305. In Mathematics, we have just completed our study of Number Sense and are just beginning our exploration of Measurement. Our main focus in Language Arts continues to be proper sentence structure and applying the four types of sentences. Our new foci in Science are Pulleys and Gears in Grade 4 and Structures in Grade 3. Our Grade 3s continue to study Pioneer Life in Social Studies and our Grade 4s, Canada. Take Care! Mister W</p>
<p>Gr. 4 Ms. Angelone</p>	<p>December will be an exciting month in which we prepare for the Christmas season. Our class will be participating in many activities that centre on Advent. As well on December 5th our class will travel to the A.C.C to cheer on the Raptors 905 team.</p>

	<p>In Math, the students will begin learning about Measurement. Students will estimate, measure, and record length, perimeter, and elapsed time, using a variety of strategies. As well, in Social Studies, students continue their unit on Canada: Physical and Political Regions.</p> <p>I liked to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.</p>
<p>Gr. 5 Ms. Whyte</p>	<p>In November, the class reflected on the sacrifices made by Canadian soldiers, and celebrated <i>peace</i> by visiting the veterans at Sunnybrook Hospital, and sharing their <i>Postcards for Peace</i>, with them. A special connection was made, and the class plans to return to visit the veterans during the year. The Grade Fives also created peace posters, and wrote peace poems. Students listened to, read about, discussed, and role played, the kindness expressed in the multi-award winning book, <i>Have You Filled a Bucket Today?</i> They created posters with suggestions about how their peers can “fill” each other’s buckets, and they have begun reading the younger version of this book, <i>Bucketfilling A to Z</i>, to primary students. The class is also creating raps about how to “Choose Kind” when interacting with others. In language, students continue their study of <i>Wonder</i>, with an emphasis on the importance of showing empathy towards others. They have also reviewed the characteristics of a fictional text, learned about different reading strategies, and used them to understand a variety of texts. Students have enjoyed writing their stories on the StoryBird website this month, and they are beginning to extend their writing through the use of colourful words, and different types of sentences. In math, students have started investigating linear and temporal measurement (e.g. measuring length, perimeter, and elapsed time). They look forward to participating in the Hour of Code on Monday, December 4th, with many other students worldwide. The class is also very excited to be planning a Skype with Filipino children, and TCDSB high school students, who will be volunteering in the Philippines, at the beginning of January.</p> <p>In December, the Fives will endeavour to show <i>charity</i> as they prepare for Christmas, by donating items to the Me To We Christmas campaign, and by collecting new, and gently used summer clothes, shoes, and backpacks, for the children in the Philippines. On December 3rd, the class will honour International Day of Persons with Disabilities, as they work together to make TCDSB DPA activity plans accessible for all students. Posters created by the class will promote these games, and the Fives will take turns teaching these activities to the class. The Fives are making another collaborative slideshow about the virtue of the month, as part of the class Advent celebration. The students will enjoy the Cardinal Carter Christmas show on December 12th, and the Fives look forward to singing the song, ‘Angels We Have Heard on High’, at the Advent Celebration on Wednesday, December 13th. Students are returning to the Veteran’s Centre at Sunnybrook Hospital on December 18th, to share some cards with the veterans. In math, students will continue their inquiry into linear and temporal measurement, and begin their study of multiplication and division. In language, Grade Fives will again focus on nonfiction texts, including informational explanations, persuasive text, informational reports, as well as media texts.</p> <p>Merry Christmas everyone!</p>
<p>Gr. 5/6 Ms. Edwards</p>	<p>The grade 5&6 students are looking forward to starting the month of December by participating in the Hour of Code with many other students worldwide. We have some other exciting activities planned this month, such as visiting Sunnybrook Hospital Veterans Centre. Students will be taking the veterans Christmas ornaments, which we will be making in art class. We will be attending the Cardinal Carter Christmas show on December 12th. As well, the grade 5&6 class look forward to singing “Do You Hear What I Hear?” at the Advent celebration, on Wednesday, December 13th.</p> <p>In Language, the grade 5&6 class are continuing to work on our writing and reading strategies. We have been brainstorming on good ideas for paragraph writing with a focus on paragraph structure. We will be continuing to work on our reading strategies. In reading, students will be using the strategy of determining important ideas by finding supporting details. Students in grade 5&6 are focusing on Social Studies (Government & Interactions Within the Global Community) and are using the reading strategies to understand the text.</p> <p>In Math, both grade 5&6 students have just completed Chapter 5, Measuring Length. We will be starting Chapter 6, Multiplication and Division. Students in grade 5&6 will be using multiplication and division to solve problems.</p> <p>Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!</p>
<p>Gr. 6 Mr. Nespolo</p>	<p>T’was the month before Christmas, and all through the school, everyone is expecting for the weather to be cool. Excitement is mounting, as we are all filled with joy, anticipating the coming of Jesus, Mary’s baby boy. As we approach Christmas, reflecting we’ll be, on meaningful ways to show the virtue of Charity you’ll</p>

	<p>see. Participating students, all singing in glory, will be performing in this year's Christmas 'Story'. On the twenty-second of December, we will all have a ball, as Mr. Di Paolo will first wish us a Merry Christmas then dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"</p> <p>In Mathematics, the grade 6's will be finished Chapter 5, which focuses on Measuring Length. I wonder how far Santa has to travel to deliver the gifts to all children in the world? We will then be turning our attention to chapter 6, Multiplication and Division. In Media Literacy, students will be analyzing different media ads and determining purpose, audience and marketing techniques. In Reading, we will be completing our unit on main idea and moving on to extending our understanding of a variety of texts. The grade 6's will be continuing in Social Studies, as we focus on learning more about Canada's global agencies. Wishing you a very safe and Merry Christmas! "Maybe Christmas, the Grinch thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas...perhaps... means a little bit more!" - Dr. Seuss</p>
<p>Grade 7 Ms. Korczynski</p>	<p>It's hard to believe that we are almost into the Christmas holidays! With that said, December is going to be very busy. Here is what to expect for numeracy and literacy.</p> <p>In language, we are going to dive into the second half of our unit on persuasion in writing and advertising. During the first part of the unit, students analyzed persuasive essays to identify different techniques writers use to persuade their audiences. During the second half of the unit, they will analyze visual and aural techniques that the creators of TV commercials utilize to persuade their target audience. As their culminating activity, students will work in teams to create a commercial of their own using several of the techniques they learned. In math, we are going to complete our next chapter on 2D Measurement. Students will be developing formulas for the areas of parallelograms, triangles, and trapezoids; they will calculate the areas and perimeters of irregular shapes; and they will solve problems involving the perimeter and area of 2D shapes.</p> <p>In addition, there are a number fun activities planned for this upcoming month. On December 5, we will be attending a Raptors 905 game at the ACC. On December 11, our class will be attending the <i>History of Judaism and Monotheistic Connections Exhibit</i>, as part of our religious studies curriculum. Students will be examining the influence of Judaism on Western civilizations and on the development of traditions and beliefs of Christianity. To get us into the Christmas spirit, the intermediate division will be travelling to the Elgin Theatre to see Ross Petty's "A Christmas Carol" on December 14. We will also be visiting the Ontario Science Centre on Monday December 18; our class, along with the other 7's, will enjoy an IMAX film and partake in programs connected to our new unit of study, Heat in the Environment.</p> <p>I hope everyone has a restful and peaceful holiday. Wishing all the students, families, and staff at St. Anselm a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!</p>
<p>Grade 7/8 Ms. Di Trani</p>	<p>The Christmas season is quickly approaching and with it comes an extremely busy academic as well as extra-curricular schedule.</p> <p>In Language, the skills gained through our short story unit will be applied and extended in our inquiry based novel study unit, "Freak the Mighty" by Rodman Philbrick. All students have access to the novel and the inquiry based assignment on Google Classroom. In addition, students are going to learn and become familiar with writing a proper essay.</p> <p>In Math, the grade 7s and grade 8s are currently focusing on Measurement. The grade 7s are identifying the perimeter and area of parallelograms, triangles, trapezoids, and complex polygons. Whereas, the grade 8s are studying circles; finding the circumference and area. Once completed, the grade 7s will begin learning about 2-D Geometry and the grade 8s will begin working on Transformations.</p> <p>In our extra-curricular world, students recently participated and enjoyed a wonderful experience at Second City where they shared great laughs. To continue with the fun, we are attending a Raptors 905 game at the ACC on Tuesday, December 5th. The following week, on Thursday, December 14th, we will watch "A Christmas Carol" at the Elgin Theatre. The field-trips continue on Monday, December 18th, when we travel to the Ontario Science Centre. Both grades will partake in programs connected to their new unit of study and also enjoy an IMAX film. Lastly, grade 8s, along with Mrs. Gundy's class, will be curling at Leaside Curling Club on Wednesday, December 20th.</p> <p>May your Christmas and every day ahead sparkle with health and happiness!</p>
<p>Grade 8 Ms. Gundy</p>	<p>With the holiday season upon us, Mrs. Gundy's grade 8 class will be focusing on the virtue of charity. This year the Me to We Team is taking part in the "Santa Shop", collecting items to donate to a charity of their choice. More details to follow.</p> <p>In language, we will be wrapping up our novel study unit on "The Outsiders" with two culminating tasks, an independent essay and a larger group project focusing on various tasks. The grade 8s have begun working on</p>

	<p>our measurement unit in math, studying the circumference and area of circles. There is a strong possibility that we will begin our final unit for the first term before the start of the Christmas break, which looks at transformational geometry. Water systems was completed in science at the end of November with a large unit test and the case study on Grassy Narrows. The students have begun working on a new unit: cells. We continue to press on with history following Confederation and the development of the West as the students work on an essay arguing whether they believe Louis Riel was a hero or traitor. In drama, the students have chosen a Christmas classic book of their choice to recreate a character's feelings or behaviour to present to the class.</p> <p>It is not always work, work, and more work in Mrs. Gundy's room. There are a number of fun activities planned for the month of December. On December 5th we will be attending a Raptors 905 game at the ACC. To get us into the Christmas spirit, the intermediate division will be travelling to the Elgin Theatre to see Ross Petty's "A Christmas Carol" on December 14th. We will be visiting the Ontario Science Centre on Monday December 18th as part of our new unit on cells. Finally, on Wednesday the 20th, all of the grade 8s will be trying out their skills with an afternoon of curling at Leaside Curling Club. Just writing about all of those fun activities started to get me excited for the Christmas season and I am sure the students are as well. I also want to take this time to wish all the staff and students of St. Anselm a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See you in 2018.</p>
<p>Ms. Dalla Giustina Physical & Health Education</p>	<p>We are right on target! During our Target unit, which has focused on throwing, rolling, aim and force, students have been working on self assessing the critical elements to successfully perform each skill. They have been answering questions such as, "Did I step with the opposite foot to my throwing hand?" and "Should I change my force or my distance to reach the target?". We will continue with target activities until the end of December when we will begin working on Net and Wall games.</p>
<p>Mr. Era and Mme. Marrelli French Language</p>	<p>Lumière, Moteur, Action! The Grade 3-6 classes are all working on fabulous script and film projects. Using their specific grade level vocabulary sets and grammar structures learned this unit, each class will soon be using their dramatic flair and best French language skills to perform their movie scenes. Some movie script ideas already being pitched to Mme. Marrelli and Mr. Era include "Perdus dans le bois" (Lost in the Forest) and "Les Zombies de planète X" (The Zombies of Planet X). Keep an eye out for their colourful and informative movie posters hanging in our hallways.</p> <p>La saison de joie est là! On vous souhaite un très joyeux Noël et Nouvel An!</p>
<p>Mrs. Blanchet's TLC</p>	<p>Mrs. Blanchet's TLC</p> <p>In The Learning Centre we will be exploring the Virtue of Charity. We are developing our algebra, and measurement skills in grade 8 and data management and measurement skills in grade 5. In Language making connections and determining important ideas while reading as well as exploring the themes of kindness, empathy and acceptance for all through our read aloud novel <i>Wonder</i>. On Wednesday December 6, the students who visit the Learning Centre, will be participating in "The Hour of Code". Our math class that day will be dedicated to learning how to code using interactive tutorials. We will be joining millions of other students that week who will be learning to code. For more information, please visit: http://hourofcode.org/ca. As always in The Learning Centre, we will be learning how to be good friends, through coaching, problem solving and social skills programs. We will be developing our typing, writing and tech skills, and learning how to become better readers, one sound at a time through Lexia Reading. As always feel free to follow me on Twitter @stanselmtlc. Have a blessed, safe and magical Christmas!</p>
<p>Ms. Wilson's Resource Room</p>	<p><u>Math</u></p> <p>This month in Math, we continued to develop our mathematical thinking/strategies as applied to the strands of Numeracy and Measurement. In Numeracy, we explored different ways of looking at numbers and devising mental computation strategies. In Measurement, we looked at the "big ideas" around this strand and worked on solving problems using logical reasoning and real-life applications. A useful math resource to keep in mind: www.mathies.ca. This site is designed for Ontario K-12 students and parents. On the site you will find an array of resources from tutorial videos, concept reinforcing mathematics games, learning tools (everything from patterning blocks, fraction strips to graphic calculators) and homework assistance for Grades 7 and up. There is also a toolkit designed for parents looking to strengthen their own knowledge and understanding as to how best to support their child's learning in mathematics.</p> <p><u>Literacy</u></p> <p>This year St. Anselm will once again participate in the "The Forest of Reading" program. This initiative</p>

	<p>organized by the Ontario Library Association is Canada's largest recreational reading program and is designed to encourage a love of reading in people of all ages. The Forest of Reading helps celebrate Canadian books, publishers, authors and illustrators. More than 250,000 readers participate annually from their school and/or public library. Specifically our school will be running the Forest's "Silver Birch Fiction program" which will be offered to students in Grades 4-6. The culmination of the program will be a field trip to Harbourfront in May to attend a Festival whereby the students will have an opportunity to participate in fun and engaging activities including workshops put on by the authors/illustrators themselves.</p>
--	--