



Remembrance Day 2017
Lest We Forget
On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month
Remembrance Day Ceremony
Friday, November 9

PROGRESS REPORT CARDS

coming home **Tuesday, November 13**



St. Benedict Banner

2202 Kipling Ave, Toronto ON M9W 4K9, Phone: (416) 393-5267 Fax: (416) 393-5045 November 2018

Principal: M. Gagliardi; Vice Principal: V. Ogiorumua; Secretary: G. Da Silva, Clerk Typist: A. Bon

Superintendent: Flora Cifelli (416) 222-8282 ext. 2732, Trustee: Joseph Martino (416) 512-3401

CSPC Chair: S. Orellana; CSPC Co-Chair: G. Grutta; Sunny Faces Daycare (416)744-0778

St. Benedict Catholic Church- 2194 Kipling Ave. Toronto ON M9W 4K9; Phone: (416) 743-3830; Pastor: Fr. Dave Sadjak

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

Dear Parents/Guardians,



As November begins I am reminded that we are fast approaching the mid-point of the first term. It is with gratitude that I express the sincere appreciation of the great things and people we

have at St. Benedict Catholic School. It is wonderful to see the many activities that teachers have incorporated in the classrooms as well as the number of parent volunteers who have contributed to our school.

We hope to continue to look at more ways to engage parent/guardians in the education of their children. Research tells us that when parent/guardians get involved, students do better at school. Our parent-teacher interviews will be taking place this month. This is an opportunity to continue the communication with your child's teacher about your child's progress to date. We hope to see you on November 14 or 15.

We had a successful Halloween Dance fundraiser. Thanks to all for their financial support to our school. The virtue for the month of November is Peace. How fitting that during this month we celebrate this virtue and specifically on November 11, we remember those who fought for our freedom and continue to strive for peace in our country and abroad. As we all continue to work for peace, let us take the time to reflect on the words of Blessed Mother Teresa; ***"If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other."***



For complete and updated information about events happening at St. Benedict parish visit:

<http://www.stbenedicts.ca/default.aspx>



Children's Adoration

Let the Children Come to Me

Children, ages 4-teen are invited to a holy hour of prayers in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Saturdays beginning September 8

10:00am-11:00am

Chapel, St. Benedict Church

Except long weekends

Contact: Cathy 416-244-4610

M Gagliardi (Principal)



Look out for a fun math activity in each monthly newsletter that parents/guardians can do with their children at home. Enjoy!



Parent-teacher conferences will take place on the evenings of **Wednesday, November 14** and **Thursday November 15** from 5:00pm-7:30pm. Forms will be sent home for appointments and will need to be returned to your child's classroom teacher by **Wednesday November 7**. Confirmation of your interview date and time will accompany your child's report card on **Tuesday, November 13**.

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Cold and Flu Season

At this time of the year, we begin to see an increase in cold and flu-like symptoms among our students and staff. We will continue keeping our parent community informed with updates from our health care professionals.

The health and well-being of our students is always a priority at St. Benedict Catholic School. This is a good time for us to review some basic measures to prevent the spread of viruses with our students, and for you to review these practices at home with your children as well. These include some common sense tips such as refraining from sharing food and drink, washing hands frequently with soap and water and coughing into one's sleeve.

As always, if your child is unwell, we would ask for you to keep your child at home and inform the school office, and to contact your doctor as needed.

By following these basic practices we can help to protect some of the more vulnerable members of our school community. Your co-operation is appreciated.



Helpful tips to avoid the flu:

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

Visit toronto.ca/health to find a free flu clinic near you



Remembrance Day

"We honour those who have given their lives serving Canadians and helping people of other nations."

Photos courtesy of the Dept. of National Defence

CSPC MEETING

The next CSPC meeting will be taking place on **Wednesday November 21 at 7:00 pm** in the library. Everyone is welcome.

Thank you to the many parents who have signed up to be a part of our St. Benedict online community! Our CSPC is now also using emails to share important updates regarding school events and activities. If you signed up to receive messages but have not been receiving emails please let us know. It is also not too late to register!

Hope to see you online!

Contact us at StBenedictCSPC@outlook.com

Reminders:

- **November 1-All Saints Day**
- **November 2-All Souls Day**
- **November 14-Take Our Kids to Work Day (Gr.9 students)**
- **November 11—Remembrance Day**
- **November 19-23—Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week**

EQAO Results

The Provincial assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics was administered to Grades 3 and 6 in May of 2018. The school scores are shown below alongside the scores of other grade 3 and 6 students in the Board and province. Our school will be using these results along with other important information to guide improvement strategies this year.

% Achieving Level 3 and above (provincial standard)

Reading %			
2017-18	School	Board	Province
Grade 3	87	75	75
Grade 6	85	79	82

Writing %			
2017-18	School	Board	Province
Grade 3	87	75	72
Grade 6	82	81	80

Math %			
2017-18	School	Board	Province
Grade 3	81	58	61
Grade 6	46	47	49



School Bus Policy

The Student Agenda (page 5) outlines our school bus policy. The expectation is that students should ride the bus consistently.

Please review, to keep informed. We receive many phone calls to the office with changes to the bus routine or after school pick up. It is not feasible for our office staff to respond to the numerous requests. The policy states: **“If at any time, your child is not taking the bus, please inform your child’s teacher in writing. If we do not have a note from you, your child must board the bus”**. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in keeping our students safe policy. The expectation is that students should ride the bus consistently.



Math News

St. Benedict’s School continues to focus on acknowledging and helping students to develop a growth mindset. A growth mindset is research-based; it goes beyond praise and accolades, it touches all aspects of the curriculum, student well-being and overall achievement. To learn more about growth mindset research and find parent resources, please visit: <https://www.mindsetkit.org/growth-mindset-parents>.

Mathematics Game

Here is a card game that can be played at home to practice addition or subtraction number facts in a fun way. It can also be played to practice multiplication number facts. This can be a competitive game or a non-competitive game. The non-competitive version would have each player taking turns calling out the sum or product of the two cards.

Addition Snap (Gr. 1-3)

1. Divide a deck of cards evenly between 2 players.
2. At the same time, turn over a card.
3. The first player to call the **sum** of the 2 cards keeps the cards.
4. In case of a tie, each player gets one card.
5. The player with the most cards wins.

Multiplication Snap (Gr. 3-8)

Use the same rules as above, but call out the **product** of the cards.

Scholastic Book Fair

Attention St. Benedict's community. It's almost that time of year again. Christmas time? Nope! Something better! Book Fair time! Make sure to mark November 12th – 15th in your calendars. Parents and students will have the opportunity to purchase hundreds of quality children's books from a wide assortment of titles and reading levels. Students will be given the opportunity to comb through our selection and generate a "Wish List" for themselves. Information and volunteer forms will be going home soon, so keep a look out for them in your child's backpack. Book Fairs are fundamental to our school in terms of promoting literacy and obtaining new resources so please make sure to visit. See you soon! Mr. Pereira (Library Technician)

SAFETY REMINDERS-Thank you to those who have been cooperating!

To ensure the safety of **all** students we are requesting that all students arriving by car be dropped off and picked up from the Church parking lot or meet their parents at a designated spot on a side street. The Church has requested that parents abide by the directional arrows in the parking lot so other vehicles are not blocked.

The staff parking lot is out of bounds to parents dropping off/picking up their children.

Please do not park or wait for your children in the bus-loading zone. Watch for students at all times and please report unsafe behaviour to the office.

Always choose safety over convenience!

Balls in School Yard

In the interest of everyone's safety, all balls in the school yard used by students must be **nerf, foam or sponge**. Intermediate students may use rubber or leather basketballs in their basketball area only. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping students and staff safe.

"We Share the Air"

The chemicals used in scented products can make students sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies, and other ailments. Please **do not** wear perfumes, cologne, lotion, after shave and other fragrances. Use unscented personal care products. Thank you for your cooperation.

Terry Fox Walk Update

The school community raised an amazing \$5700.00 last month at our annual Terry Fox Walk. Congratulations to all for your generosity and kindness! We look forward to next year's event.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2018-2019

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, Vice Chair	416-512-3405
6.	Frank D'Amico	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, 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

International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program: November Update

IL Survey to Be Conducted in All TCDSB Elementary Schools

On July 12th, the Board of Trustees of the TCDSB approved a motion to survey parents in all TCDSB Elementary Schools to determine whether parents wish to continue or initiate an International Languages program at their child's school.

Process and Timelines:

- **One survey will be sent to each family with the Progress Report card with the oldest or only child in each family.**
- All surveys must be completed and returned in the sealed envelope provided, **to the school principal** no later than **November 27, 2018.**
- No survey will be accepted after November 27th.

Should parents wish to have a translated version to assist with the completion of the English survey, they can request a translated copy from the school principal or download a copy of the target language from:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/InternationalLanguages/International-Language-Survey/Pages/Default.aspx>. Translations are available in Spanish, Portuguese, Ukrainian, Arabic, Filipino, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional) Tamil, and Italian.

All parents are encouraged to participate to ensure that results reflect the individual and collective voice of the school community. Surveys from **67% of all families in the school must be completed and returned in order for the results to be considered viable**. In order to determine if the program is to be continued, using the Board approved model or to move the IL program to an alternative model, **the majority of 51%** should be attained for the preferred selection.

In January, a report will be submitted to the Board of Trustees. This report will include a list of results by school, including the response rates for each school. However, only schools with the required 67% response rate will receive a detailed summary of parent responses.

For updated information regarding the International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program please visit:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/internationallanguages/pages/change-to-international-languages-program.aspx>