



Sept. 28– Terry Fox Walk



October 4



CSPC AGM and Election

September 19

St. Benedict Banner

2202 Kipling Ave, Toronto ON M9W 4K9, Phone: (416) 393-5267 Fax: (416) 393-5045 September 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: M.Keane;

CSPC Co-Chair: C. Carnovale Papon; St. Benedict Catholic Church- 2194 Kipling Ave. Toronto ON M9W 4K9; Phone: (416) 743-3830

Pastor: Fr. Dave Sajdak ;Sunny Faces Daycare(416)744-0778

God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him" 1 John 4:16

Dear Parents/Guardians,

"Only those who have opened their hearts to Christ can offer a hospitality that is never formal or superficial but identified by gentleness and reverence" Pope John Paul II

It is most fitting that we begin the new school year with the virtue of Hospitality as we welcome everyone to a new school year at St. Benedict. We also extend a warm welcome to all the new families who are attending our school for the first time.

The staff has been working hard to prepare classes, finalize timetables and establish schedules with students. The enthusiasm and positive energy of our staff and students is always rewarding. We are looking forward to working with you and your children over the course of this school year. Please join me in welcoming the new school staff: Ms. Ogioruma (Vice Principal), Ms. Chimenti, Ms. Fallico, Ms. Babiarz, Ms. Guarino and Ms. Bayog-Tesoro. We welcome back Ms. Morano, Ms. Rizzo, Ms. Ellis, and Mr. Amadei.

Be sure to visit our website (<http://www.tcdsb.org>) for news and information about what is happening at our school. For daily updates on events happening, you can follow us on Twitter: [@StBenedictTCDSB](https://twitter.com/StBenedictTCDSB)

This is the first year of TCDSB's new 3-Year Pastoral Plan: "Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become" 2018-2021. For more information please visit the Board website. We wish all our students, staff and families a successful and enjoyable year.

M. Gagliardi (Principal)



Mark Your Calendar 2018-2019

First day of School	September 4
Thanksgiving Day	October 8
Christmas Break	Dec. 24 – Jan 4
Family Day	February 18
March Break	March 11-15
Easter Break	Good Friday – April 19 Easter Monday – April 22
Victoria Day	May 20
Last Day of school	June 27
Provincial Education Priorities - Faith Development Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting	Oct. 5, Dec. 7, Jan. 18, June 7, June 28
Parent-Teacher Conferences	Nov. 16, Feb. 15

	School Start Time
SCHOOL HOURS 8:30 – Morning Assembly 10:12-10:27 – Morning Recess 11:15-12:15 – Lunch 1:40-1:55 – Afternoon Recess 3:00 – Dismissal	



**Nutrition Program begins
October 1**



CSPC: Catholic School Parent Council

Our first School Council (CSPC) meeting (AGM) will be held on

September 19 at 7:00 p.m. All parents are welcome to attend.

Agenda for Annual General Meeting

- Welcome and prayer
- Review of CSPC roles
- CSPC wrap up from previous year
- Constitution and By-Laws
- Financial Report
- Nominations for CSPC positions
- CSPC election
- Council Executive established

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor on election evening. Further information about CSPC along with nomination forms will be distributed next week.

CPIC (Parent Engagement--TCDSB)

www.tcdsb.org/cpic

OAPCE Toronto (Provincial Voice for Parents)

www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto



Parents are asked to call the school **before 8:30 a.m.** if your child will not be attending school that day. You may also leave a message outside of regular school office hours (prior to 8:00 am and after 4 pm).

Because of safety concerns it is policy that if your child does not arrive at school we must contact a parent at home or at work. We will also call all emergency contacts.

Please assist us by:

- Calling the school **before 8:30 a.m.** to tell us that your child will be absent – **(416) 393-5267**
- Sending a note with another student.
- Having a brother or sister or another student drop by the office to explain why the student is absent.
- **Making sure your home, emergency, sitter, cell and work numbers are up-to-date.**

It is the parent/guardians responsibility to ensure that their child attends school on a regular basis and on time.



Label Clothing Items

It is a good practice to label items of clothing to avoid losing them to the Lost and Found box.



Meet the Staff!

Parents will have an opportunity to meet all of our staff members at our annual **Curriculum Night**

on Thursday, October 4 at 7:00 pm. This evening is not for parent conferences regarding individual students. However, it is a time for parents to learn about the curriculum and teacher expectations. We encourage all parents to attend this special evening. It is an important occasion for teachers and parents to begin to work together.



10 Tips to Get Your Child

Ready for School; from:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/abc123/eng/tips/>

Starting school is an important step in your son's or daughter's life and yours.

It's a big change. It's exciting. It's even a little scary. Here are 10 tips that will help you get your child ready for that first day of school.

1. **Get familiar with the school.** Before the first day of school, visit the school with your child so that the route, the building, and school surroundings become familiar.
2. **Start the routine early.** About a week or so before the start of school, begin putting your child to bed at a normal time for a school night. For a week before school starts, be sure your child then gets up, dressed, and fed like a regular school morning.
3. **Practise sharing.** Give your child all kinds of opportunities to be with other kids, to learn to share, wait, and take turns. That's what school is all about.
4. **Children should dress themselves.** You won't be at school to help your child get ready for the outdoors. Encourage children to practise at home putting on and taking off their own jacket, snowpants, boots, etc.
5. **Dress your child accordingly.** Your child is going to be active at school. Choose clothes and shoes that are comfortable and durable. Give your child outdoor clothing for all types of weather.
6. **Teach the importance of listening.** School means being able to listen. Kids need to understand and practise listening, things like: look at who is talking, don't interrupt, and think about what is being said.
7. **Learn at home.** Include learning in your child's everyday life. For example, a child can practise by reading package labels or weighing produce while shopping. Read to your child. Play word or counting games.
8. **Develop young muscles.** Give your child every opportunity to exercise and develop larger muscles by running, climbing, playing with a ball, etc. Smaller hand muscles can be strengthened with *Play-Dough®*, pencils, and crayons.
9. **Set "at home" ground rules.** Figure out priorities for after-school activities, homework, chores, TV time, and video games before the first day of school. This will allow you to agree on a schedule and avoid confrontation later on.
10. **Encourage questions.** Give your child the confidence to ask questions in all situations. Let your child know that it's OK to tell the teacher if something is hard to understand.

Homework

Parents/Guardians don't need to know how to do homework in order to help their children.

Parents often say:

"One of the hardest things I have found when helping my child is that I don't understand the homework myself?"

Frequently, parents are under the impression that they should be able to do the homework. They believe that they should be reading the textbook and trying to teach their child how to solve a problem or complete the homework. Although understandable and well intentioned, using this approach can create confusion and frustration for both parents and children.

What many people do not know is that one of the key things parents can do to help their children succeed is to help them take responsibility for their own learning. All students, can benefit from learning how to become a self-directed learner. Continue to praise successes, give your child confidence to seek help from their teacher and help them track their progress.

Here are some other **Tips for Parents**

Make sure your child has an appropriate place and sufficient time for homework

*Be a positive role model about the homework your child receives

*Be a monitor and mentor in your child's learning at home;

*Communicate promptly with the school when homework concerns arise (when teachers and parents are on the same page, students do better in school)



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

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



Sacraments

In June, St. Benedict Church sent home information home to all grade 2 students regarding First Communion and First Reconciliation and to all grade 7 students regarding Confirmation. Please **NOTE** the Parent Meeting times below.

Confirmation Parent Meeting

Wednesday September 12, 2018

7:30 pm parish hall

First Communion Parent Meeting

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

7:30pm parish hall



TCDSB values the involvement of parents in the education of their children, and welcomes their participation in the lives of our school communities. Find out how you can get involved as a member of the **Toronto OAPCE** (Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education), or as a member of **Toronto CPIC** (Catholic Parent Involvement Committee). At the local level, check out the next meeting of your CSPC (Catholic School Parent Council).

Visit the Parent Portal to get all the latest news and information

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/Pages/default.aspx>

CPIC elections

Interested in serving as a representative on CPIC? Elections are taking place in October. Get all the details here:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/ParentInvolvement/CPICElections/Pages/Default.aspx>

Prodigy Game – Learn at Home!

There is an exciting educational game called Prodigy. The game is a fun way for your child to practice their math skills in class and at home.

It takes less than 2 minutes to get started:

1. Visit www.prodigygame.com, and click on the orange 'Start for Free' button.
2. Enter your information to create a free Parent account.
3. Click on the orange "+Add Child" button and select 'My child has an account from school'.
4. Enter your child's username and password (ask your child for this)

5. Click on the orange "Play Now" button in the top right to access the game.

What Can Parents/Guardians Do At Home to Support Mathematics Learning

Parents/guardians, school and the local community have the shared task of nurturing our students' confidence in learning mathematics and in applying their mathematical knowledge to solve real-life problems. The disposition of appreciating and enjoying mathematics is necessary for our students to persevere in learning mathematics with depth and precision and to continuously improve the clarity of their mathematical communication. It is common knowledge that parent's and/or guardian's attitudes toward mathematics has an impact on children's attitudes towards mathematics. In fact, students whose parents/guardians show an interest in and enthusiasm for mathematics around the home will be more likely to develop that enthusiasm themselves and persevere to learn and succeed in mathematics.

Ways to participate in your child's mathematics learning are as follows

- show a positive attitude towards learning mathematics by talking positively about it
- expect your child to complete mathematical activities and solve problems
- encourage your child to persevere when the mathematical work becomes challenging
- appreciate different ways to make calculations and solve math problems
- listen carefully to your child's explanation of a solution to a lesson problem
- estimate and count anything in different ways (forwards, backwards, by 2s, 5s, 10s, 100s)
- play board and card games
- solve jigsaw, number and logic puzzles
- build models with different materials (e.g., Lego TM, stacking blocks, rolled newspaper tubes)
- involve your child in household activities that involve math. (e.g. measuring in the kitchen, setting the table, pairing socks)
- look for and describe mathematics in the books you read with your child. (e.g., find patterns, count objects, find shapes, identify probability)
- support homework completion by being a co-learner and encourage perseverance to think while working on mathematics

Elementary International Languages Registration

Enrich your child's education through International Languages Instruction, Cultural Awareness and a Celebration of Traditions. The program is offered for Elementary-aged children and runs on Saturdays from September to June

Register online or in-person at all locations.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/IntLang>

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Follow us on Twitter @TCDSB

Or subscribe to our free digital Newsletter delivered straight to your email 1-3 times per week.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ENews>

You are also encouraged to visit our website often: www.tcdsb.org to get more information.



School Bus Issues

If parents/guardians have any school bus questions or issues related to ONLY the morning, they are

asked to contact the bus company directly. You will be asked to identify the school name and bus route.

Parents/Guardians/Caregivers in the School Yard(Please see attachment)

Parent and caregivers are reminded that you are **not permitted to remain in the school yard after dropping off your children in the morning.** This is for the safety and well-being of all the children, as staff members must be able to see and supervise the children with minimal distraction from other adults. It is also essential for the children to continue to develop independently and socially. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping the students safe.

Dropping Off and Picking Up Students By Car

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!

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

Student Trustee	416-512-3413
Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee	416-512-3417