



## St. Elizabeth Catholic School

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Etobicoke, Ontario  
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Principal: Ms. S. Ambrose

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(416) 222-8282 ext. 2732

Trustee: Teresa Lubinski  
(416) 512-3404

Parish: Our Lady of Peace  
3914 Bloor St. W.  
(416) 239-1259

CSPC Chair: S. Medina

CPIC (Parent Engagement--TCDSB)  
[www.tcdsb.org/cpic](http://www.tcdsb.org/cpic)  
OAPCE Toronto (Provincial Voice for  
Parents)  
[www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto](http://www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto)

Enrollment: 234

Hours of Operation: 8:30 – 3:00

Lunch Hour: 11:15 – 12:15



November/December 2019

# St. Elizabeth Newsletter



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Throughout the month of November, TCDSB schools we will be celebrating the Virtue of **PEACE**. The prayer that guides us through this month is, "Lord make me an instrument of your Peace (St. Francis of Assisi). Let us continue to be thankful for the Peace that we celebrate in our community and always keep in mind that Peace begins with us, in our homes, at school and in the wider community. During this month, students will be reminded that showing respect for each other is one of the greatest sign of Peace. In our Parish Church, we connect the Virtue of Peace of Peace by offering the **Sign of Peace** at Mass. Each time we gather for Eucharist we are invited to extend a sign of peace to those around us. Students will be reminded throughout the month that we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers. Loving our neighbor as ourselves is key to a peaceful world. Take a moment to discuss with your child/children what they can do to be a Peacemaker at home, school and in their community at large!

Remembrance Day was on Monday November 11<sup>th</sup>. The school was able to acknowledge Remembrance Day on Monday November 11<sup>th</sup>. A short ceremony took place in our school gym just before 11 am to mark this important date. We remembered all those who have sacrificed for our freedoms. We also had time to reflect on our personal dedication towards achieving peace for all people throughout the world and recall that we must all work together to achieve world peace.

**CSPC News:** November CSPC meeting will be on Wednesday November 27<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. on the second floor in room 206. All Parents/Guardian are welcome to attend to learn or contribute in the ongoing improvement of the school!

Sincere GRATITUDE to all of the wonderful Parents and Guardian who make up the St. Elizabeth school community for all of your thoughtfulness and support that you gave to staff through 2019! We look forward with much anticipation for your continued support throughout 2020!

Wishing everyone in our community the Joy and Peace of Christ!

Yours in Christ,  
S. Ambrose  
Principal

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>-Monday January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020



School resumes on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## **THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS of Assisi**

**Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace;  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
And where there is sadness, joy.**

**O Divine Master,  
Grant that I may not so much seek  
To be consoled as to console;  
To be understood, as to understand;  
To be loved, as to love;  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.  
Amen.**

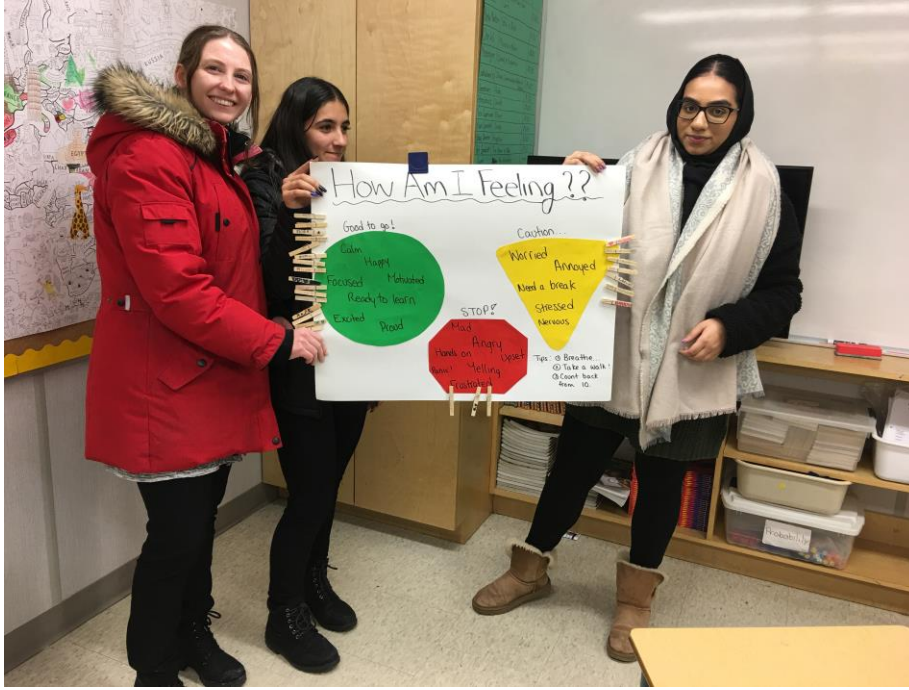


## **ANTI-BULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS WEEK**

During the week of November 18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> all schools in the TCDSB celebrated Anti-Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week. We began by having an Anti-Bullying assembly for all students from FDK-Grade 8, as well as holding Anti-Bullying assemblies by division so that the messages are age appropriate. I thank our Child and Youth Care Workers for conducting presentations in each class on the topics of Self-Regulation and Conflict Resolution. Students in FDK- Grade 8 worked on their Anti-Bullying posters for the poster contest. Posters will be displayed in the gym for class visits. CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs. Menezes students for taking 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Mrs. Camilleri's class for taking 2<sup>nd</sup> Place and Mrs. Brisettes class for taking 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. Mrs. Menezes class gets a free civvies day! Special thanks to all students for working with your respective Teachers and doing a fantastic job on your posters! Also, during the week of October 25<sup>th</sup>- 30<sup>th</sup> students from FDK-Gr. 8 had presentations from our Community Liaison Officer, Officer Nevills. Here are 10 lessons for Officer Nevills's presentations to review at home:

- ✓ Police Officers keep people safe and teach people how to keep themselves safe
- ✓ Be a Buddy not a Bully
- ✓ Get permission first when using the internet and if you get that 'ahah' feeling when communicating with someone on the internet, stop the communication and tell a trusted adult
- ✓ There is never an ok reason to bully someone
- ✓ If you see bullying at school, do something about it. Feeling defenseless is not acceptable
- ✓ The tongue is like hammer; words are like nails
- ✓ Cyber bullying is wrong; be nice to people on the computer as you would on the playground
- ✓ Don't laugh or join if you see someone being bullied; tell a Teacher or trusted adult
- ✓ Students can be suspended for bullying
- ✓ The world would be a very boring place if everyone look, dress the same and eat the same food

Our Child and Youth Care candidates: Ms. Meek, Ms. Hayawi and Ms. Ahmad presenting to Ms. Swanek Gr. 5 class!



## DECEMBER NEWS /LITURGICAL NEWS: ADVENT MASS



**On Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, will be our school Advent Mass. Advent Mass will be held in the school gym. We thank Mrs. Menezes and her Gr. 4 students for hosting our Advent Mass. We are preparing and looking forward to this wonderful yearly event. We hope to see everyone there!

**On Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>** will be a Professional Development Day (PA Day). There will be no school for students. Students return to school on Monday December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Our Christmas Pageant which will be held on **Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup>** at Michael Power Saint Joseph High School Staff. Students from FDK-Grade 8 will be celebrating the birth of Christ and performing at the pageant! Staff are busy preparing students for this joyous celebration! The pageant will run from approximately 6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m. All adults are asked to pay \$2.00 at the door. Funds raised from the Pageant will go towards covering cost for the event as well as for paying for the sound system. Further information will be sent home through School Broadcast.

**On Tuesday December 17<sup>th</sup>**, Mrs. Tulino and Mr. Doyle will be taking their students to the Ross Petty Musical. We thank Mrs. Tulino and Mr. Doyle for organizing this fantastic excursion and for supervising students on the trip.

**On Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup>**, students from Gr. 1-Gr. 8 will be on their skating trip to Centennial Arena. The cost of the trip is \$20 for each student. All students are encouraged to participate. Students who will not be participating will remain at school under the supervision of staff members. All students in Grades 1 and 2 must

wear a CSA approved helmet. However, we encourage all students to wear a helmet. Parents are asked to please see the letter sent home from Mrs. Tulino for further details. Parents/Guardian are strongly encouraged to pay for the skating trip as well as all school trips and pizza day using the SchoolCashOnline.

**SchoolCashOnline:** School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers a safe, fast and convenient way to pay for school activity fees. The portal is customized to meet your school's needs and allows you as a parent, to add your students, make payments, check current balance/account history, print or view receipts, and receive notifications about upcoming events.

<https://tcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

**During the week of December 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>** staff and students will be celebrating Christmas Spirit week! Throughout the week, students will be invited to wear a different Christmas accessories. Further communication will sent home closer to the mentioned dates through School Broadcast.

Please note that in addition to this current newsletter, any new information that the school need to share with the Parent community during the month of December will be sent out through School Broadcast titled: **St. Elizabeth School Update.**

### **SAFE SCHOOLS**

A safe school is our priority. We continue to remind the school community to please remember that all visitors must use the front door to the school when entering the premises and that **ALL VISITS MUST BEGIN AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE.** We encourage you to use the office as the main venue for communicating with your child or your child's teacher. You can call the school at 416-393-5278 between the hours of 8:00 am-4:00 pm or leave a message on our school voicemail after hours. Impromptu visits are discouraged as teachers have their classes to attend to. We would like to thank those parents who call in student absences/lates and would like to see this practice continued. We do ask that after school plans are made ahead of time when possible. If plans change, please call the school by 1:30 pm so that the office can safely inform the student(s) and teacher(s) during last recess, which is in plenty of time before dismissal at 3:00 pm.

### **ATHLETICS CORNER**

On Thursday, November 14 the St. Elizabeth intermediate girls' volleyball team played in the divisional tournament at St. Josaphat C.S. The girls played very well during round robin play and won 5 out of 6 sets, placing the Lady Hawks in first place after round robin play and advancing to the finals in the process. In the finals the girls battled a talented St. Louis team and lost a heartbreaking final match 25-21 and 27-26. A special mention goes to the team captain Tea whose hits from the back row were easily our biggest weapon all season long. With so many grade 7 students on this year's team the future looks bright. Onto next year. Team members are: Stephanie (6), Sophia B. (7), Lucia (7), Sammy (7), Chelsea (7), Lin (7), Alexia (7), Zeiah (7), Michaella (7), Alliana (8), Krispa (8) and Tea (captain, 8).

Thank you Mr.Pedra for coaching the Intermediate Girls Volleyball Team!

**Intermediate Boys Volleyball Team**

The boys played well and kept every game close. They split sets against two teams and fell short by a very narrow margin against two very tough opponents. They represented St. Elizabeth very well on and off the volleyball court. The players stayed to watch the championship game as a show of great sportsmanship. I am very proud of the St. Elizabeth boys!

Thank you Mr. Baird for coaching the Intermediate Boys Volleyball Team!

### **APPROPRIATE WINTER ATTIRE**

Winter is here! We remind all Parents/Guardians to send one pair of indoor shoes to school with your child/children from Kindergarten to Grade. 8. The playground and fields are wet, students need to have their indoor shoes to prevent the hallways and classrooms from getting wet which then becomes a trip/safety hazard and for students and staff. To keep the hallways and classrooms dry, please give your child an extra pair of indoor shoes. Also, we ask you to ensure that your child/children are appropriately dressed for the cold weather, wearing the following clothing items: winter jackets, sweaters, hats, scarves, waterproof gloves, socks and winter boots. Everyone should have snow pants and boots for snow days and extra socks are always a good idea as well. This will allow students to stay warm and enjoy all of the outside recesses. Thank you to Parents/Guardian who already do!



### **NEW CELL PHONE BAN**

As of November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 students are not permitted to use cell phone in schools unless students are under the direct supervision of a Teacher. Under the ban, students can only use personal mobile devices during instructional time if it is for educational purposes. The new rule applies to all personal electronic devices, which include laptops, cellphones, and any device that can be used to access the internet. "We want to ensure students remain focused on learning and attentive to the subject matter ahead," Ontario Education Minister Stephen Lecce told CBC News. Parents are reminded that if you need to contact your child/children at school, please call the office and refrain from calling or texting students on their cell phones. Students were reminder of the above ban in our Bullying Prevention Week assembly. They were also reminded that they must refrain from calling or texting anyone from their cell phone and all communications with Parents/Guardian during school hours must be done using the school phone in the office. Students who continue to use their personal cell privately in school as well as for accessing social media in the absence of a Teacher, will have the phone confiscated. Parents will be asked to please pick up the phone(s) from school. Please refer to the front pages of the school agenda for further information on the Acceptable Use Policy.





## **ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS**

As November comes to an end, we wrap up our focus on An Effective Communicator. The New OCSGE for December will be A reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker. This is demonstrated in someone who solves problems and makes responsible decisions with an informed moral conscience for the common good. In an age which seems more fearful of the future, we are directed to give an account of the hope that is within us. (1 Peter 3.15). A reminder to refer to the last page of the students agenda for the OCSGE for review with your children at home.

## **PHOTO GALLERYRY**



**Students participating in the Dance Workshop held in October!**



**Students being reverent and respectful during Remembrance Day Liturgy, November 11<sup>th</sup> .**



**Students and Parents representing St. Elizabeth at the TCDSB Safe School Student Ambassador Symposium on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019!**

## 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 2015 are eligible for junior kindergarten in September 2019.
  - Children born in 2014 are eligible for senior kindergarten in September 2019.
- **Is JK mandatory?**
  - Although it is not mandatory, if a parent chooses not to send their child to junior kindergarten, the child will still be placed in senior kindergarten the following September in order to keep children with their same aged peers.

**Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

### Ongoing Safety Concerns at St. Elizabeth Catholic School

Dear Parents/Guardians,

First, I take this opportunity to thank Parents and Guardians for your support in following the safety protocols of the TCDSB and of St. Elizabeth school.

However, we continue to have challenges in maintaining a safe school and is therefore asking Parents/Guardians to please adhere to the following TCDSB and St. Elizabeth safety policies and protocols:

1. All Parents, Guardians and visitors to the school must first report to the office on your arrival to the school.
2. All visitors must begin their visit to the school by reporting to the main office and signing in your name and time of visit in the visitors' binder.
3. All students who arrive at school after 8:30 a.m. must report to the office to get their late slip.
4. All students in the Full Day Kindergarten program who arrive to school after 8:30 a.m. must report directly to the office to get their late slip.
5. Parents are not permitted to go to a Teacher's class during instructional time or during school hours unless you have an appointment with the Teacher and have first reported to the office on your arrival to the school.
6. Parents are not permitted to walk the hallways of the school during instructional time.
7. The Kiss and Ride is a very small area designated for use only by our school busses. Parents/Guardians are asked to park at the front of the school when dropping off and picking up your child/children. As well, for the Parents who drop off and pick up students in the staff parking lot are once again asked to please stop this unsafe practice.
8. For Parents who have a child/children whose classes are in the portables, please take your students to the office if they are late for school and refrain from taking them directly to the portable.



9. For Parents who have a child/children in the portables and need to speak to the Teacher(s), please call the school to set up an appointment with the Teacher. Please refrain from going to the portables during instruction time and knocking on the classroom door.
10. Finally, for Parents/Guardians who need to see their child/children during recess, please wait in the office, we will take the student to you. Please refrain from going out in the school yard.

Thank you for your support and co-operation in adhering to the above reminders to maintain a safe and caring school while keeping our school, students and staff safe.

Sincerely,  
S. Ambrose  
Principal

### ***Guidance Corner: November 2018***

*Now that the time for Progress Reports gets closer, help your child focus on their Learning Skills and Work Habits.*

***Responsibility, Collaboration, Initiative, Self-Regulation. Organization and Independent Work*** are key skills that help students take ownership for their learning and allow them to be more successful in all areas of the curriculum. More information on the Learning Skills and Work Habits and how to help your child develop them, can be found at the following links:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/growSuccess.pdf> (pgs. 10-14)

[http://www.fslhomeworktoolbox.ca/homework\\_tips/learning\\_skills\\_and\\_work\\_habits.php](http://www.fslhomeworktoolbox.ca/homework_tips/learning_skills_and_work_habits.php)

*November is also **Bullying Prevention** month across Canada. Helping your child understand how to responsibly resolve minor conflicts before a problem escalates is an essential life skill. In this age of accessible technology, problems can happen electronically, as well as face-to-face. Be aware of your child's activities online. You have a right to ask them to show you what they are doing and always ensure that they are using their devices in a prominent area of the home. Building empathy and compassion for other people's feelings are key to stopping bullying before it starts. Here are some helpful websites you may wish to visit:*

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/teachers/safeschools.html>, <http://edu.gov.on.ca/eng/safeschools/bullying.html>

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SafeSchools/BullyingAwarenessAndPrevention/Pages/default.aspx>

*It's a busy time for Grade 8 students and the transition to High School. Open house nights took place last month, and the online application process through SOAR was initiated. As indicated on the application form, the closer the high school is to your child's elementary school, the greater the chance of acceptance. If your child is redirected, there are **no guarantees of placement** at the alternate choice school. The redirection will be to the closest high school that has space. Also, the TCDSB does not have access to information for high schools outside of our own board. You will be receiving a **Transition Guide for Parents** which contains important information regarding the transition to high school. There are translated guides in a number of languages available upon request.*