



St. Elizabeth Catholic School

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Etobicoke, Ontario
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Principal: Mrs. R. Tropea
Superintendent: P. Keyes
(416)222-8282 ext. 2732
Trustee: Ann Andrachuk
(416) 512-3402
Parish: Our Lady of Peace
3914 Bloor St. W.
(416) 239-1259
Pastor: Fr. Yaw
CSPC Chair: S. Medina
CPIC (Parent Engagement--TCDSB)
www.tcdsb.org/cpic
OAPCE Toronto (Provincial Voice for Parents)
www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto

Enrollment: 230
Hours of Operation: 8:30 – 3:00
Lunch Hour: 11:15 – 12:15



St. Elizabeth School News

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Another September and another new school year! For as many times as any of us may have experienced the arrival of the month of September in the academic setting, each and every September brings with it a wonderful atmosphere of excitement, exhilaration, and anticipation; and enthusiasm and energy associated with a new beginning; a resolution and an expectation that this academic year will be a year filled with opportunities, invitations, challenges and rewards. May all of us embark together on this academic year's journey, filled with the three key components of the gospel message: *faith, hope, and love*.

A genuine welcome is extended to each and every member of our St. Elizabeth Catholic School community as we begin this new year. Of course, we extend a welcome back to students, staff, and families who have been with us over the years. As well, we extend a special word of welcome to all those who are joining the St Elizabeth Catholic School family for the first time.

A very special word of welcome is extended to our new Superintendent of Education for Area Two, Mr. Patrick Keyes. We look forward to having Mr. Keyes visit our school as a valued member of our educational team and family. Each year, our larger Catholic education family, the Toronto Catholic District school Board, identifies a different virtue that is featured for each month of the year. The featured virtue for the month of September is **Hospitality**. In addition, the Archdiocese of Toronto, in union with the school board, identifies a theme for the year. That theme is then featured both in the schools and in the various parishes of the archdiocese. The archdiocesan theme for this entire year is '**We Belong**'

How appropriate it is then that we make every effort to combine the virtue of the month, **hospitality**, with the pastoral plan of '**We Belong**' into a school initiative that reflects our commitment to being a warm, welcoming community that is inclusive, supportive of each other; and a community that recognizes and celebrates the diversity among us.

R. Tropea

J. Cassidy



Virtue of the Month, SEPTEMBER:

HOSPITALITY



"There is no hospitality like understanding."

LITURGICAL NEWS

Our first school mass will be held at 10:00a.m. on Thursday, October 4th at St. Elizabeth School. We look forward to once again working with Fr. Yaw and the parish team from Our Lady of Peace Church. All parents/caregivers are welcome to join us for this first school mass.

CURRICULUM NIGHT CSPC BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ/ CSAC AGM & ELECTIONS

On ***Thursday, September 27***, we will have our annual Curriculum Night, community barbecue, Catholic School Parent Council AGM and council elections. Details for this upcoming evening, along with order forms for the barbecue will be sent home under separate cover from this newsletter. As advanced notice, we do urge all who are planning to participate in the barbecue (hopefully the great majority of all families), to plan to pre-order for the barbecue using the order forms. There will be only extremely limited amounts of food available for purchase on the actual evening of the barbecue.

Student Data Information

It is extremely important for the school to have very up-to-date records for each child in the school. Please contact the school office immediately of any information changes regarding student personal data or health information. As well, the school does require up-to-date contact numbers (including back up emergency contact numbers) so that parents or the emergency contact person can be notified quickly in the event of an emergency.

VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL

ST. Elizabeth Catholic School strives to be a warm and welcoming community. As such, parents and visitors are always welcome at the school. However, in order to maintain a safe, secure and effective learning environment within the school, it is imperative that all parents and visitors to the school observe and respect the following protocol:

All parents and visitors MUST report directly to the main office immediately upon entering the school.

Parents and visitors should never proceed beyond the main office area or venture into the schoolyard unless they are accompanied by school personnel. Even when accompanied by school personnel, all parents or visitors who may be proceeding into the school are required to sign the **Visitors' Book** at the main office and wear an identifying **Visitors' Badge** for the duration of the visit.

Please note as well that parents/caregivers/visitors should not be in the school yard at recesses or during school hours. Further, adults should not be near the fences during recess periods.

Teacher/Parent Communication

A key to success for every student is a commitment to teamwork between the school and the home. Embedded in that is the critical component of communication.

An effective communication tool for parents and teachers is the student agenda. We encourage parents to check the student's agenda on a daily basis. Notes can be written back and forth between the teacher and the parent using the agenda.

Of course, another effective communication tool is the telephone. Teachers are always prepared to engage the parent in telephone conversations.

Additionally, for some situations, it may be possible to utilize e-mail communication.

But, of course, the very best of communication occurs in face-to-face communication. Naturally, that is not always easy to accomplish, given the work schedules of different people. Appointments can always be arranged in an effort to arrange a mutually acceptable time for a parent and a teacher to meet in person. Please note that impromptu, chance meetings at pick-up or drop off time are not good occasions for any significant communication to occur.

Finally, regardless of the vehicle through which communication may be conducted, it is absolutely essential that all communication is conducted in an appropriate and respectful manner.

Student Agendas

Parents are encouraged to take the opportunity to read the first 18 pages of the student agendas. Those first 18 pages contain very useful information about such things as school appropriate dress code, the school code of conduct, and other valuable information about general operating procedures within the school. Parents of JK/SK students should have received those 18 pages in a separate package.

Early Sign Out For Students

Any student who has to leave the school early on any given day should follow two basic steps.

First: the parent should send a note in the student agenda to the student's classroom teacher. The note should indicate the time at which the student is leaving, along with the parent signature.

Second: When the time arrives for the student to leave, the student should be signed out in the appropriate book at the main office.

School Parking Lot

The school parking lot is reserved for staff use only. For the safety of all, parents are asked to park on Redcar Avenue directly in front of the school or on Rollins Place, across the street from the school front entrance.



School Bus Loop

The school bus loop is reserved for our school buses. With appropriate discretion, parents can circle into the bus loop to turn around or to drop off students before school in the mornings. However, buses must have priority.

Naturally, no one is allowed to park in the bus loop. Any drop off should be exactly that: drop off the student without the driver getting out of the car and then moving on immediately.

After School Student Pick Up

Parents who are picking up students after school at the front of the school are reminded that they must make the adult on supervision aware that the student is leaving. This process is in place to ensure the safety of all students.

School Bus Expectations

Parents are encouraged to take just a few moments to review with their child the basic expectations that are in place for every occasion when travelling on our school buses, either on regular daily pick-ups and drop-offs or on school excursions.

Students are expected to:

- Remain seated in an assigned seat at all times.
- Hands and feet should always be kept calm and never interfering with another student.
- Unnecessary loud noise, even loud talking, is unacceptable.
- Be courteous to the bus drivers.



Waste Free Lunch Programme

The Toronto Catholic District School Board has approved the introduction of a DAILY WASTE FREE LUNCH PROGRAMME in all elementary schools.

Lunches and snacks should be packed in re-usable containers, not in disposable plastic bags.

In order to avoid spills, all food items should be in sealable containers.

Any leftover food can be disposed of in green bins that are provided for every school.

We encourage ALL students to participate in this school board project. At this time, we thank Ms O'Leary, Mrs. Strong. And the Grrreen Machine Team for all of their work in and around the school to ensure that we are all being good stewards of our Earth.

Rainbow Lunches

Rainbow Lunch is a catering company that offers a hot lunch to students every Thursday. For parents who wish to have their child participate, please fill out the order form that is sent home and return it to the school office, along with the appropriate cash or cheque. There is an on-line ordering option as well for those who wish to follow that option. Please note that further information about the Rainbow Lunch option is included on the order form.

Cross Country News



Cross Country running season has begun! Students will practice daily during the lunch hour. The first inter-school competition will occur on October 10 at Centennial Park. Good luck to all competitors and thank you to our school coach, Ms Tulino.

Fundraisers



Our World's Finest Chocolates fundraiser will begin soon. Thank you to all those who will be participating. As well, thank you to those families who will choose to give a voluntary donation to the school in lieu of taking part in the sale of chocolates. Details regarding chocolate delivery and return will be provided shortly. Sincere thanks is extended in advance for supporting this fund raising initiative. Funds raised will be allocated to paying for such things as bus excursions and for enrichment activities in the school such as our 'Scientist in the Schools' programme.

Me To We Initiative

Over many years, the Toronto Catholic School Board has promoted a partnership with a world renowned organization known as the 'Me to We' organization. On Thursday, September 20th, the St. Elizabeth Catholic School Me to We Team, led by Ms. Brissette and Ms Gracic, will take part in the annual kick-off event which brings together teams from every school. This event will take place at ScotiaBank Place (formerly the ACC). Our school team will be treated to speakers and performances designed to inspire teams to serve as leaders in their school communities to generate positive changes in our world by helping those in our own schools and communities. As the organization title implies, the goal is to increase our awareness of the value of continually trying to move from 'me' (a selfish position) to 'we' (a more community-minded position).

Allergy Awareness

In every school, there are students who are faced with severe and sometimes life-threatening allergies to such things as peanuts, nuts, eggs, bee stings, etc. Parents are urged to ensure that the school is aware of any student who suffers from these severe allergies.



Such students are required, under 'Sabrina's Law' legislation, to have two epi-pens with them at school and on all school excursions. Parents are reminded to be sure that the epi-pens are valid for the current school year. Expired epi-pens will be returned to the parents for disposal.

To protect all students in the school, parents should be aware that St. Elizabeth Catholic School promotes a peanut and nut-free environment. All student lunches and snacks should reflect that awareness.



St. Elizabeth 'Toonie for Terry' Day: Thursday, September 27, 2018.

The Terry Fox National School Run Day invites students from across Canada to join together in an inspirational nation-wide day of fund-raising for cancer research.

In honour of this national fundraiser, St. Elizabeth Catholic School will be promoting a 'Toonie for Terry Walk/Run Day on Thursday, September 27. All students are asked to donate a minimum of \$2.00 to support this worthy cause. (More can be donated if students are able to do so!)

Students are reminded to dress in running shoes and comfortable athletic attire for this event. The event will take place outdoors, in our school yard. More precise information regarding the timing of the actual event will be provided as we draw closer to the actual day.

School Milk Programme

All students are able to purchase milk on a daily basis. Milk is available in both white and chocolate flavours. Cost per carton is \$1.00.

Secondary School Open Houses

During the fall season, all TCDSB secondary schools invite the Grade 7 and 8 students and their parents to attend local school open houses. These open houses provide both students and parents with information about the schools and insights into specific programme options in various schools. To obtain a complete list of the dates and locations of the secondary school open houses, please visit:

<http://www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses/Pages/default.aspx2>

Save The Date

The St. Elizabeth Catholic School Advent Mass and Concert will be held on the evening of Wednesday, December 12, 2018, at 6:00p.m. at Our Lady of Peace Church. Mass will be at 6:00p.m., followed immediately by a student concert.



St. Elizabeth Catholic School
Staff List
2018 – 2019

Mrs. Tropea.....	School Principal
Ms Huang.....	School Secretary
Ms Brissette.....	FDK (Full Day Kindergarten)
Mrs. Gjevori.....	FDK
Mrs. Strong.....	Gr. 1
Ms. O’Leary.....	Gr. 2
Ms. DaCosta.....	Gr. 3
Ms. Bosco.....	Gr. 4
Ms. Menezes.....	Gr. 5/6
Ms. Camilleri.....	Gr. 6
Mr. Doyle.....	Gr. 7
Mrs. Tulino.....	Gr. 8
Mr. Pedra.....	Special Education/ISP
Mr. MacSweeney.....	Special Education
Ms. Capstick.....	ESL/Vocal Music
Ms. Perlowski.....	Instrumental Music
Ms. Zoleta.....	Vocal Music
Ms. Austin.....	Phys. Ed. /Health
Ms. Nicholas.....	Phys. Ed./Health
Ms. Fiacco.....	French
Ms. Mastrantoni.....	EA
Ms. Wischer.....	EA
Ms. Gracic.....	ECE
Ms. Skladowski.....	ECE
TBA.....	Library Technician
Mr. Chyz.....	Guidance
Ms D’Ermo.....	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mr. Mendez.....	Day Caretaker
Mr. Carcasole.....	Night Caretaker



Toronto Catholic District School Board Monthly Update September 2018--REVISED

Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Elections

Be a voice for Catholic parents.

Support parent engagement in TCDSB Schools.

- **Election of two parent representatives in each of Wards 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 is scheduled for October 2, 2018.**
- **Election of parent representatives for vacant seats in Wards 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be held October 3, 2018.**
- **Election of Members at Large takes place Monday, October 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

For detailed information including election locations, see

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

CPIC is a provincially mandated and funded committee that supports student academic achievement through increased parent involvement. CPIC is a parent-led committee of volunteers who work locally and centrally to engage parents more fully in Catholic education. CPIC members provide information and advice on parent engagement to the school board, create initiatives that promote and facilitate parent engagement, and educate parents to support them in their children's learning at home and/or at school. Consider running, or nominating someone you think would be a strong voice for parents.

Nomination forms are available at all TCDSB school offices. Please forward completed nominations forms to the CEC: Manuela Sequeira, by September 22, 2018. Nomination forms are available at all TCDSB school offices.

Municipal Elections - NOTE BEFORE YOU VOTE

All are reminded before the next Municipal Election on **October 22, 2018**, including the election of Catholic school trustees, to check your school support on your latest property tax bill to ensure that you are registered as a Catholic school support. TCDSB's assessment department can assist with any questions:

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

For more information about the election, see:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/trusteesoftheboard/pages/municipal-elections.aspx>

New Trustee Ward Boundaries for 2018 Municipal Election

The Toronto Catholic District School Board at a Special Board Meeting on August 8, 2018 approved the establishment of new Trustee Ward boundaries for the upcoming Municipal Elections on **October 22, 2018**. This was done to comply with new legislation passed by the Government of Ontario to reduce the number of Toronto City Council seats from 47 to 25 by aligning ward boundaries with current provincial and federal ridings which included a directive to redistribute TCDSB Trustee Ward boundaries. Existing Trustee Wards, including the local Catholic schools they represent, remain unchanged and the new boundaries DO NOT come into effect until December 1, 2018. For a map of the new boundaries visit:

https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/TrusteesoftheBoard/Documents/180813_Board_Approved_Realignment_With_Streets.pdf

For more information about the new boundaries, including the Board report on the realignment of trustee wards to the new 25 City of Toronto ward boundaries, visit:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/trusteesoftheboard/pages/new-trustee-ward-boundaries.aspx>

Important Reminder About Liability Insurance

All parents are reminded to consider checking the adequacy of their liability insurance through their homeowners'/tenants' insurance policy to cover claims arising out of injuries caused by their child at school. Student Accident Insurance application forms are forwarded to schools for distribution, and can also be purchased on-line at www.insuremykids.com. TCDSB's Risk Management continues to strongly promote this product as an inexpensive form of dental, disability and life insurance.

Register Now: School Cash Online

Parents/guardians are reminded to create their School Cash Online profile, in order to receive updates and information on upcoming school activities, including pizza lunches, civvies days, field trips, and much more. Paying through School Cash Online offers a safe and convenient payment option that eliminates the need to send cash or cheques to school. For more information and to create your account visit

www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/schoolcashionline

Bus Transportation Information and Updates

Communications with parents regarding bus transportation for students is a priority. In order to stay informed, parents are encouraged to register on the Toronto Student Transportation Group (TSTG) portal today by visiting www.torontoschoolbus.org. This portal provides TCDSB parents with online access to their children's transportation information and up to the minute email notifications regarding school bus cancellations or delays. If you have any issues signing up on the portal, please contact support@torontoschoolbus.org and staff will assist you with the registration of your account.

September's Virtue is Hospitality

This is a perfect way to kick start our year focusing on "we Belong" as we open our classrooms, schools, offices and ourselves to making everyone feel welcome.

The virtue calendar for the month is attached for your reference, but please note that all resources for the month of September, and for the monthly virtues throughout the year can be found on our website at <https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/VirtueoftheMonth/Pages/Default.aspx>

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year as we launch our new pastoral plan: "Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become"

Inspired by St. Paul's letter to the Colossians: "Live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith..abounding in thanksgiving."

Learn more about our new pastoral plan:

- [Watch the Launch of the Pastoral Plan May 9, 2018](#)
- [Pastoral Plan Prayer](#)
- [We Belong to God—Pastoral Plan Song](#)
- [An Overview of the Plan](#)
- [Discussion Topics focusing on the first year of our plan--"we Belong"](#)
- [View the artwork for our new pastoral plan](#)
- [See photo highlights from the launch of our new Pastoral Plan](#)

During the first year of the plan, we focus in depth on the concept of belonging. Students and staff are invited to explore how “we Belong” to our school community (or place of work), to our family, to our parish and to our world. We are also invited to consider what we can do to ensure that everyone around us feels a sense of belonging—our students, our parent communities, our staff, our pastors and other members of our local parishes.

Throughout the year, share your stories on Instagram and twitter using the hashtag **#TCDSBweBelong**

Open Houses

Students in grade 8 and their families are reminded that TCDSB secondary schools are hosting open houses this fall—a great way to meet staff and students, check out the school facilities and learn about the programs and services being offered. Complete schedule is online:

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

Integrated International Language Program Surveys

In July 2018 the Board unanimously approved the preservation of the existing International Language Programs in 44 TCDSB schools. In accordance with the Board approved motion, all elementary schools will be surveyed to determine their interest in providing a new International Language program at their school in future years. Surveys will be conducted in all schools starting November 18 and completed by January 2019. More information to come.

Important Dates to Note for September:

- September is Ukrainian Heritage Month
<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/Ukrainian-Canadian-Heritage-Month/Pages/default.aspx>
- September 1—Day of Prayer for Care of God’s Creation
- September 8--International Literacy Day
- September 9--Grandparent’s Day
- September 20--WE Day Family September 20th
<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2017-2018/pages/we-day-family.aspx>
- **Coming Soon:** Rosary Day and World Teachers Day to be celebrated on Thursday, October 4th.
- National Custodial Workers Day scheduled for October 2nd

More information to come in the October issue

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Follow @TCDSB on twitter Or sign up for ENews

<https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx> and receive updates to your email on a regular basis.