



# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

80 Clinton Street Toronto, ON M6G 2Y3

Telephone: 416 393-5206 Fax: 416 393-5782

# CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2019

## WELCOME BACK!

Welcome to the 2019 - 2020 School Year!

I hope you had a wonderful, restful and memorable summer. Please join us in welcoming back to our school Ms. Prsa (Gifted), Ms. Keane (LD) and Ms. Pimentel (Grade 1)!

Looking forward to another great year!

A. Cianchetti  
Principal

## PRAYER TO BEGIN THE SCHOOL YEAR

Almighty and ever-loving God,  
we give you thanks for the blessings of our Families, where the seed of faith is planted;  
for the Body of Christ, the Church, where faith is celebrated;  
and for our Schools, where faith is nurtured.

Lord, we believe that Catholic Education is at its best  
when Families, Parishes and Schools play, pray and work together  
to spread the Good News to all.

Help us to imitate the unity of the Trinity  
as we continue to grow in our faith and love towards you,  
and to one another.

Through the guidance of the Holy Family,  
the model of all Christian families,  
and the intercession of all the Saints,  
may our Families, Parishes and Schools  
remain places where the Gospel is shared  
with joy, courage and love.

We pray through Christ our Lord, Amen

## YEAR TWO OF THE NEW PASTORAL PLAN

TCDSB introduced a new three-year pastoral plan entitled, "Rooted in Christ: We Belong, We Believe, We Become".

The 2018 – 2019 school year emphasis is "We Belong".

**The 2019 – 2020 school year emphasis will be "We Believe".**

The 2020 – 2021 school year emphasis will be "We Become".

A. Cianchetti

PRINCIPAL ↗

John Shanahan 416 222-8282 X5371

SUPERINTENDENT ↗

Norm Di Pasquale 416 512-3409

TRUSTEE ↗

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

72 Mansfield Avenue 416-536-8195

PARISH ↗

Penny Farinha

CSPC CHAIR ↗

[www.tcdsb.org/cpic](http://www.tcdsb.org/cpic)

CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB) ↗

[www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto](http://www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto)

OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS) ↗

150	8:30 – 3:00	11:15 - 12:15
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ENROLLMENT	HOURS OF OPERATION	LUNCH HOUR
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## NEW REGISTRANTS WELCOME

Apply online: [soar.tcdsb.org](http://soar.tcdsb.org)

Call 416-393-5206 or the TCDSB Admissions Department at 416-222-8282, ext. 5320.

For general information about the Toronto Catholic District School Board, visit [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org)

Stay in touch with the latest news throughout the school year: Follow @TCDSB on Twitter or Toronto Catholic DSB on Instagram

## SCHOOL STAFF

### Teaching Staff

Ms. Mazzuca	ELP (JK/SK)	Ms. Calautti	ISP MID
Ms. Jennings (on Leave)	Grade 1	Ms. O'Keefe	Special Ed. (AM)
Mr. Sorrentino	Grade 2/3	Ms. Bamber	Special Ed.
Ms. Nina	Grade 4/5	Ms. Pol-Bodetto	French
Mr. Pietramala	Grade 5/6	Ms. Chaves	Portuguese
Miss. Silva	Grade 7	Mr. Dos Santos	Phys. Ed.
Mrs. Rodrigues	Grade 8	Mrs. Sebastiao (on leave)	Phys. Ed.
Ms. Prsa	ISP Congregated Gifted	Mr. Colucci	Vocal Music
Ms. Keane	ISP LD	Mr. Carrillo	Instrumental Music

### Support Staff

Ms. Pereira	Secretary	Mr. Silva	Head Caretaker
Ms. Raposo	Early Childhood Educator	Mr. Batista	Evening Caretaker
Ms. Stanley	Library Technician	Mr. Reyes	Part time Caretaker
Ms. Rago	Education Assistant		
Ms. Ward	Education Assistant		

Please Note: Due to fluctuating enrolment, class assignments and teacher placements may change throughout the month of September. School re-organization may be a possibility.

## SAFE ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

If your child is unable to attend school, the parent/guardian is asked to report your child's absence using our Safe Arrival System. You can either download the Safe Arrival App, use the Safe Arrival website (<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>) or call the toll free number 1-(833)-251-3286.

In the event that your child needs to leave the school before the regular dismissal time, please provide a signed and dated note to the classroom teacher who will then send it to the office. We ask that you please not request to pick up your child after 2:30pm. The office is very busy during the last hour of school and cannot accommodate those requests.

All students are expected to leave the school yard upon dismissal at 3:00 and go directly home.

Please take a few minutes to review basic safety rules with your child. This will reinforce the lessons taught by teachers during the school year.

## SCHOOL HOURS



8:30	Morning bell
10:12 to 10:27	Morning recess
11:15 to 12:15	Lunch
1:40 to 1:55	Afternoon recess
3:00	Dismissal

## RESPECT

Parents, please remember to model respectful behaviour and language in the school yard/school property. If there is an issue/concern, please come to the office to address it.

## AGENDAS HAVE ARRIVED

Agenda books will be distributed to students within the next week. Thank you to our CSPC for paying for the cost of the agendas.

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## SCHOOL SAFETY

Our safety procedures remain the same. All pick up and drop off will happen in the appropriate school yards.

- Students in Grades 1 through 5 will enter and be dismissed through the atrium.
- Students in Grades 6 to 8 will enter and be dismissed through the north doors.
- ELP (JK/SK) will enter and be dismissed through the outside doors (in the School Yard) of Room 112.



**Students will be supervised in the morning from 8:15 am. Students who are left prior to 8:15 or after 3:00 will NOT be supervised and are their parents'/caregivers' responsibility. Parents are reminded to make arrangements for punctual drop off and pick up of their child(ren).**

During inclement weather, students can enter through the atrium no earlier than 8:15 am., and they will then proceed to the music room and/or atrium.

For the safety of all the students, parents are reminded to drop their children off in their respective lines outside and not follow them into the building.

## PARKING

**The parking lot is for school staff only.** Please do not use the parking lot to drop off or pick up children. It causes much congestion and is very unsafe for students. There is a drop off and pick up zone in front of the school on Clinton Street. Parking enforcement will be tagging vehicles in the school parking lot.

## SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

Grade 8 students will be asked to make a secondary school choice in early November. Please make arrangements to visit the open houses.

For a complete schedule, see: <https://www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses/Pages/default.aspx>

## APPROPRIATE DRESS CODE POLICY

St. Francis of Assisi continues to follow appropriate navy and white dress code. The Dress Code consists of any combination of navy blue and white garments:

Plain **white** or **navy** top – no Graphics, no stripes, no polka dots

Plain **navy** bottoms – no denim and **no white** bottoms

The responsibility for meeting the expectations of the Local Dress Code is primarily that of the parents/guardians of the students. The success of the dress code depends on full participation from all our student body. Should students continue to come to school in clothes other than appropriate dress code, progressive discipline will apply.

Please ensure that students leave a pair of indoor shoes at school as the weather gets cooler. Students' footwear should be appropriate for engaging in all school activities, as such, flip flops, crocs and open sandals are not recommended. In addition, only non-marking running shoes should be worn during gym time. Please also ensure that students have extra clothes/socks in case of emergency.


## BIRTHDAYS AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS



Due to increasing allergies to nuts, peanuts, and/or eggs, etc., we will not celebrate birthdays, Halloween and special occasions with **edible treats**. This includes Halloween candy. The risks associated with sharing food far outweigh the benefits. We cannot guarantee that the products are safe for all our students and do not wish to exclude any child from celebrations. Should you elect to send in treats, they will not be distributed and will be sent back home. In lieu of edible treats, you are welcome to donate a book to the school or classroom library.

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## NUT FREE LUNCHES

 SFA is an allergy aware school. Due to increasing allergies and anaphylaxis, we encourage nut free lunches and snacks. Though we cannot guarantee a nut-free environment, we will make every effort to create a safe place for all our students. Some of our students have severe peanut and nut allergies. Please do not pack your child's lunch or snack with any peanut or nut related items. (Nutella and peanut butter sandwiches are not permissible.)

In addition, we encourage parents to pack healthy lunches, inclusive of all the food groups in reusable containers.

## LUNCH DROP OFF

Should parents wish to deliver lunch for their child, please label and leave it on the table in the front foyer. Do not deliver to main office. Students are aware of the designated pick up spot. Please ensure your child knows to pick up their lunch if you are dropping it off.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

### A message from St. Francis of Assisi Church:

St. Francis of Assisi Church is asking families to “preregister” online BEFORE going to the registration meeting. You will need your child's baptism certificate before doing the preregistration. (Confirmation families whose children were baptized in other countries will need to provide a mailing address for the Church of Baptism as SFOA Church is required to follow up Confirmation with a formal note to that Church). Their registration fee covering expenses is \$50.

First Confession and First Communion children should be in Grade 2 or higher. Confirmation Candidates should be in Grade 7 or higher. Since parents often meet the parents of other classmates of your children – please pass the word on to them.

Did you know that last year many parents simply used their smartphones to preregistration? Go ahead and try. [www.stfrancis.ca](http://www.stfrancis.ca)

Please note that all parents have two options for meetings: **Tuesday, September 24 at 6:00 pm OR Tuesday, October 8 at 6:00 pm in the church.** The meeting will be held in the church.

St. Francis of Assisi Church staff will communicate with our First Communion and Confirmation families via the email address/es used for preregistration.

## FOSTERING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

As part of the TCDSB's goal of Fostering Student Achievement and Well Being, the Special Services department endeavours to support our special education students in achieving academic excellence and meeting the Ontario Catholic Graduate School Expectations. The department offers a variety of supports to students based on their need(s) and/or identification(s). For further information please visit the Special Services department link: <https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SpecialEducation/Pages/default.aspx> Parents/caregivers are reminded that if they require support in accessing the Special Services department link, they may ask for assistance. Alternately, for families who require access to a computer to visit the site, they may access an electronic device through the Toronto Public Library.

## IMPROVING ACCESS TO SCHOOL BUS INFORMATION FOR TORONTO PARENTS

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](http://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](mailto:support@torontoschoolbus.org) and staff will assist you with the registration of your account.

## 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](http://www.insuremykids.com). TCDSB's Risk Management continues to strongly promote this product as an inexpensive form of dental, disability and life insurance.

## SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Attached is a copy of the school year calendar, but you can also access the school year calendar for 2019-2020, including PA days and exam dates, at <https://www.tcdsb.org/school/SchoolYearCalendar/Pages/Default.aspx>

## UPDATE ON THE SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD PROGRAM FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

Please be advised that starting in September 2019, the City of Toronto will be assuming full responsibility of the School Crossing Guard Program. The locations of the school crossing guards have not changed. Each school can expect the same school crossing guard locations to be served. To view the citywide map and list of school crossing guard locations, please visit: [www.toronto.ca/schoolcrossingguard](http://www.toronto.ca/schoolcrossingguard).

## 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 at each location. The complete schedule will be available online: <https://www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses/Pages/default.aspx>

## NEVER MISS OUT ON THE LATEST NEWS AND INFORMATION:

Follow @TCDSB on Twitter, Toronto Catholic DSB on Instagram, and/or subscribe to ENews, to receive a weekly update via email: <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>

### TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2019 - 2020

#### Wards

1. Joseph Martino	416-512-3401	8. Garry Tanuan	416-512-3408
2. Markus de Domenico	416-512-3402	9. Norm Di Pasquale	416-512-3409
3. Ida Li Preti	416-512-3403	10. Daniel Di Giorgio	416-512-3410
4. Teresa Lubinski	416-512-3404	11. Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411
5. Maria Rizzo, Chair	416-512-3405	12. Nancy Crawford	416-512-3412
6. Frank D'Amico	416-512-3406	Taylor Dallin, Student Trustee	416-512-3413
7. Michael Del Grande, Vice-Chair	416-512-3407	Kathy Nguyen, Student Trustee	416-512-3417

