



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

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Principal:
A. Cianchetti

School Secretary
M. Melo

Superintendent:
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Trustee:
Jo-Ann Davis
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Parish:
St. Francis of Assisi Church
72 Mansfield Avenue
Toronto, ON
M6J 2B2
416 536-8195
Fr. J. Zammit

Hours of Operation:
8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Lunch Hour:
11:15 am to 12:15 pm



March 2017

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School News

VIRTUE FOR MARCH:



Principal's Message

The virtue for the month of March is Forgiveness. During this season of Lent, we must all strive to learn to forgive each other. Forgiveness should be part of our daily routine. It is always better to forgive and move forward. In doing so, it makes for a better, healthier, and happier life. Let us try to forgive our fellow brothers for any wrongdoings and do as Jesus did.

A. Cianchetti
Principal

At A Glance – Some Important Dates to Remember:

| | | |
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| Wednesday, March 1 st | 9:30 am | Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church |
| Friday, March 3 rd | | World Day of Prayer Grade 6 to 8 Skiing at Snow Valley |
| Monday, March 6 th | | Education Support Staff Appreciation Day |
| Wednesday, March 8 th | | Grade 3 to 8 Skating at City Hall CSPC World's Finest Chocolate Fundraiser Begins |
| Sunday, March 12 th | | Clocks Go Forward One Hour |
| Mon., March 13 th – Fri., March 17 th | | Mid-Winter Break |
| Wednesday, March 29 th | 1:00 pm | Confessions at St. Francis of Assisi Church |

Please see the monthly calendar for additional information and events.

February Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following students who were this month's ambassadors for the virtue of Love:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Ms. Mazzuca/Ms. Bellissimo | Carmelo S |
| Ms. Jennings | Elysée DS |
| Mr. Sorrentino | Sophia S |
| Mr. Pietramala | Mary R |
| Ms. Abate | Nina Z |
| Ms. Silva | Rita M |
| Ms. Rodrigues | Nathan A |
| Ms. Prsa | Spencer B |
| Ms. Sobol | Jenevieve M |
| Ms. Calautti | Tatiana P |

Student Safety and Reminders

- **To ensure the safety of everyone concerned, please be reminded that adults may not be in the school building without reporting to and signing in at the office. This includes, but is not limited to parents/caregivers, guests, board employees, contractors. We know that you share our concern for student safety and well-being at all times.**
- During inclement weather, students are brought into the building by school staff. They will wait in the music room, where they will be supervised until pick up from their respective classroom teachers. Parents are asked to leave children in the atrium. Congestion outside of the music room and in the main foyer pose safety concerns.
- There are still a number of students who are consistently late for school. The expectation is that students will be in the schoolyard between 8:15 and 8:30 am to reconnect with their friends and enter the building as a class with their teacher. Students who are consistently late miss out on morning routines, instructional time and disrupt programming. It can also cause some students difficulty in keeping up with their school work.
- **Cold Weather:** please ensure that students come to school prepared for the weather. All students should be dressed appropriately, so that they may participate in all aspects of the school program. Warm jackets, snow pants, hats, gloves, scarves and warm boots are absolutely necessary in the winter months. We recommend that you label all items. Please keep a labeled pair of **indoor shoes** in your child's classroom, so that we can keep our classrooms dry.
- Students who are well enough to attend school will go out for recess. In cases of extreme cold or weather conditions, recess will be held indoors.

Reporting Cancellations or Closures Due to Inclement Weather

Cancellation of school bus transportation or school closures due to inclement weather will be reported in the following way:

- News releases to all media outlets in Toronto. (Note: although the news release is provided to the media outlets, there is no guarantee that all television and radio stations will broadcast the information in a timely fashion.)
- Communications will also endeavor to send out the information electronically to E-News subscribers. (Note: If you do not already subscribe to E-News, but wish to do so, please visit our website at www.tcdsb.org and click on the E-News icon on the top right hand side of the homepage.)
- Twitter will also be used to provide updates throughout the day. Follow the Board on Twitter @TCDSB.
- Updates will also be posted on the Board's 24-hour information line, 416 222-8282, ext. 2873.
- The information will also be posted on the Board's website at www.tcdsb.org as an alert – this will

appear on the home page of the website as well as all school pages.

- The Transportation Department will post this information on its website at www.torontoschoolbus.org.

Please note that the information is provided to the Communications Department between 6:00 and 7:00 am through the Board's Transportation Department, who are consulting with TCDSB transportation staff and school bus operators on the viability and safety of delivering bus service.

Registration for September 2017 Continues

Parents are able to complete their application online at: <https://soar.tcdsb.org/Login.aspx>. You are also able to book an appointment with the school to present the required documents online. The online application is available 24 hours. Children born in 2013 are able to register for Kindergarten. Information is available by telephone at 416 222-8282, ext. 5320 or ext. 5314, or visit www.tcdsb.org/kindergartenregistration

Valentine Celebration

The WE group, together with Mrs. O'Keefe, had a great idea for all the students to write a compliment about each person in their class. The sheets were distributed and then collected once completed. The WE group collated all the information into one book per class. On Valentine's Day, the students received their book.



Needless to say, everyone enjoyed participating in this activity and in receiving their compliment books. Valentine's day was a fun-filled day! The dance was a huge success and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Thank you to Ms. Prsa and the team of teachers who worked together to make it so much fun!

Gifted Debating Competition

On February 3, the Congregated Gifted Class attended the 20th Annual Gifted Debating Competition at Cardinal Newman High School. The topic this year was: Be It Resolved That The Olympics Should Be Abolished and the Impromptu was: A Picture Can Tell a Story Better Than Words. Destiny C, Linh P, Matteo O and Theo J, were chosen to compete and boy, did they ever have strong speeches and fantastic questions during the cross examination. LINH P CAME IN SECOND PLACE OVERALL for the individual part of the competition. Congratulations Linh! The planning and practice sure paid off. The whole trip was a great experience!



Junior W5H

On February 23, the junior W5H team went to St. Anthony's for their annual tournament. We played our first game against St. Anthony for their annual tournament. We played our first game against St. Anthony, our second against Pope Francis and the third against Holy Family. Our first game was very close, but St. Anthony slipped by to win by 4 points. In the second match, we beat Pope Francis by an astounding 40 points. In our final game, Holy Family beat us by a meager 6 points. The W5H bronze medalists include: Spencer B, Hugh C, Maya F, Linh P, Emily P, and Roberto R.



By: Maya F, Emily P and Linh P

Boys' Basketball Tournament



On Monday, February 13, the Intermediate Boys' team participated in the Divisional Basketball Tournament at SFA. In round robin games, the boys worked together to play very defensive games and managed some really close final

scores including a win and two losses against Pope Francis, St. Helen and St. Sebastian. In the end, the boys rose to a third place finish.

The enthusiastic team members were Calen, Dan, Jackson, Jaime, Kyle, Harrison, Liam, Massimo, Matteo, Patrick, Pavel and Zachary.

A special thank you to the scorekeepers, Mia, Samantha and Nathan; to the parents who cheered on the team; and to the coaches, Ms. Sobol and Miss Silva.

Girls' Basketball Tournament

On February 15, the Intermediate Girls' team competed in the Divisional Basketball Tournament hosted by our school. The Girls played with vigour and sportsmanship, and demonstrated lots of teamwork. They played a really close game against Pope Francis and lost by only 3 points. Afterward, they beat St. Sebastian by an outstanding score of 24-2. This put them into second place overall. Between games, the girls competed against the other individuals in a skills competition where Laura and Mariana placed in the top three in shooting and dribbling competitions.



Congratulations to the fantastic team members: Angel, Erin, Isabella, Gabriela, Kayla, Laura, Mariana, Sydney and Victoria. A special thank you to the scorekeepers, Justine and Joanne; to parents who watched and cheered the girls on; and to the coaches, Ms. Pol-Bodetto, Ms. Sobol and Miss Silva.

Girls' Second Place Basketball Tournament

On Friday, February 24, the Intermediate Girls' Basketball team participated in the Second Place Regional Tournament at St. John's. Each game in this tournament is elimination, so the pressure was definitely on.

The girls played their first game against James Culnan and won 23-10. The second game was a much tougher match against St. John, where they lost by only 4 baskets.

Congratulations to the girls who placed sixth overall in the Regional Finals.

TCDSB Expands French Immersion Sites

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce the expansion of French Immersion sites, making it possible for more children and their families to take advantage of French Immersion programming. Parents and guardians can re-register their child for French Immersion using the SOAR-French Immersion application until March 10, 2017. Apply for French Immersion here:

<http://fisoar.tcdsb.org>

Let's Get Ready to Celebrate Canada 150



Everyone in the Toronto Catholic District School Board community is invited to join in Canada's 150th birthday celebration throughout 2017. The 150th anniversaries of our nation and our province, coincide with our ongoing focus on our Pastoral Plan:

"Together With One Voice: Family, Parish and School" which honours the three partners who have created the solid foundation on which Catholic education has been built. Catholic schools have been a rich and vibrant part of Canada's and Ontario's heritage since before confederation. JOIN US as we recognize our Boards unique place in Canadian history during this sesquicentennial year.

A website has been created for the many exciting events and initiatives that are already underway around the board:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Canada150>

2017 ShareLife Parish Campaign

During this, our Year of the Parish, we encourage all students, staff and their families to consider supporting the many local Catholic charities that are funded through ShareLife. These Catholic agencies help families, single parents, the elderly, individuals with special needs, immigrants and refugees, the homeless and the needy, as well as the education of clergy within our own City of Toronto. Learn more about these organizations here: <http://www.sharelife.org/Public/ShareLife-List-of-Agencies>.

During Lent, and throughout the coming months, we invite you to consider partnering with your parish and support the work of ShareLife as it continues to "work wonders" in our own community and around the world.

TRUSTEES 2016 – 2017

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|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino | 5. Maria Rizzo |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 6. Frank D'Amico, Vice-Chair |
| 3. Sal Piccininni | 7. Michael Del Grande |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 8. Gary Tanuan |

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|---------------------------|
| 9. Jo-Ann Davis |
| 10. Barbara Poplawski |
| 11. Angela Kennedy, Chair |
| 12. Nancy Crawford |

Student Trustees: Rhea Carlisle
Karina Dubrovskaya



Angela Gauthier, Director of Education

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