



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

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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



May 2017

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School News

Mary, Mother of God

Thank you, O God, for you have given us Your Son. We praise you for choosing Mary to be His Mother. Her courage in believing your message and her faith in accepting your will inspires us. Help us to be like Mary; to follow your word and feel it in our hearts. May we love your Son and live out His message, overcoming all obstacles so we may live a faith-filled life.

Amen

On behalf of the entire school staff, we would like to wish all the mothers and caregivers of our school community **Happy Mother's Day!!**

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH:



“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.” (Colossians 3:12)

Compassion is:

- a feeling deep within ourselves – a “quivering of the heart” – and it is also a way of acting – being affected by the suffering of others and moving on their behalf
- made up of two words: ‘co’ meaning together and ‘passion’ meaning a strong feeling. When we see someone is in distress and we feel their pain as if it were our own, and strive to eliminate or lessen their pain, then this is compassion.

Simple ways to show Compassion:

- Pick up trash – be good stewards of the Environment and show you care to save the Earth.
- Call or visit someone who isn’t feeling well – it means so much to them to know you were thinking of them.
- Help people out who might be feeling awkward, isolated, or left out in the school yard.

Education Week Special Activities:

- Kindergarten Orientation on Thursday, May 4, for NEW SEPTEMBER 2017 Junior Kindergarten students.
- LEGO Math Night for Grades 1 to 6 on Thursday, May 4, (5:30 to 7:30 pm).

At a Glance – Some Important Dates to Remember:

Friday, May 5 – AM	Panoramic and Grade 8 Graduation Pictures
Saturday, May 6	First Communion at St. Francis of Assisi Church
Thursday, May 18 – AM	Grade 7 and 8 Immunization
Monday, May 22	Victoria Day Holiday
Friday, May 26	Confirmation at St. Francis of Assisi Church
May 23 to June 7	CAT/4 and EQAO Testing
May 30 to June 2	Grade 7 and 8 Quebec City Excursion

April Students of the Month

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

Ms. Mazzuca/Ms. Bellissimo	Michael DS
Ms. Jennings	Jose P
Mr. Sorrentino	Sophia P-M
Mr. Pietramala	Sofia A
Ms. Nina	Siena C
Miss Silva	Hailey P
Ms. Rodrigues	Erin P-M
Ms. Prsa	Matthew C
Ms. Sobol	Mariana M
Ms. Calautti	Nicole M

Destination Imagination

On February 25, the Spaghetti Yeti's and the BEAN, from Ms. Prsa's class, went to St. Basil's to compete in Destination Imagination. DI teaches 21st century learning and STEM. Teams must



work together to develop a solution to one of seven open ended challenges. It was a great learning experience and we bonded as a team. The BEANS placed 2nd in the Improv Category and moved on to Provincials, which took place on April 2. Through this once in a lifetime experience, we built new friendships, reinforced old ones and learned more about each other. It was definitely worth it and we would do it again.

By Maya F, Emily P, and Linh P

South Region Chess Tournaments

On March 30, the St. Francis of Assisi Chess Club attended the South Regional Open Individual Chess Tournament at St. Anthony School. Six students represented the school: Matthew C, Renée F (who despite being in Gr. 3, represented our school proudly in

the Gr. 4 Competition), Kyle H, Matteo O, Duncan R, and Maia R.

Special congratulations to Maia R who placed 2nd among the Gr. 3 students and qualified for the City Tournament on April 7 at St. Timothy School and placed 11th. Job well done!

On April 26, the St. Francis of Assisi Chess Club travelled to St. Anthony School to compete in the South Regional Team Chess Tournament.

The team: Destiny C, Matthew C, Kyle H, Theo J, Thomas L, and Matteo O, competed extremely well and narrowly missed out on an opportunity to advance to the City Team Tournament, finishing in 4th place out of seven schools.

Congratulations to all the students who competed well in the tournaments and gained valuable experience.

Thank you to the coaches, Mr. Pietramala and Mr. Sorrentino.

Intermediate W5H

On April 3, the Intermediate W5H team went to St. Vincent de Paul dressed for success. After answering our hearts out in three close matches, we came in an astonishing 4th place and fabulously coming in 1st for fashion. The experience was great! Team: Lucas A, Destiny C, Kayla H, Kyle H, Theo J, Thomas L, Ethan M, Matteo M, Lan N, Matteo O, Sydney P.

By Lan N and Matteo O

Inter-faith Dialogue on Climate Change

On April 21, Grades 5 and 6 students: Emma B, Shunera C, Siena C, Sofia G, Vincenzo L, Nicole P, Brianna PS, and Nina Z went to Pope Francis School and talked about climate change.



We learned that God wants us to take better care of our world and that by making a small change we can make a big impact.

We would like to challenge our friends at SFA to stop bringing plastic water bottles to school and to bring a refillable bottle instead. We also challenge everyone to think of ways to Reduce and Reuse our garbage before we recycle it.

These are simple things we can do. We can use the compost to build a healthy garden for fruits and vegetables instead of buying it at the store, because transporting produce causes more pollution. We also learned a lot about the bees and monarch butterflies and we plan on planting more flowers this spring so we don't lose anymore bees or butterflies.

By Brianna PS and Shunera C

Earth Day Clean Up!



On April 21, some of the Intermediate students participated in the Earth Day clean up. They tirelessly collected garbage around the school in areas such as: the garden, school yard, parking lot, and the grassy fields. They collected an astonishing 1,000+ pieces of litter.

We noticed that humans are very wasteful. Each Canadian consumes over 750 kg of garbage each year. Let's try to minimize how much we consume for the sake of the plants, animals, and the water of our Earth. Follow the 3R's by properly recycling, reducing waste and reusing containers.

Here is what you can specifically do:

- bring healthy litter-less snacks
- pack your lunch in reusable containers
- use both sides of the paper
- respect school materials
- open the blinds and turn off the lights!

SFA SHOW NO POWER!

By Lan N and Dan T

Let's Talk Science Challenge

On April 24, after months of hard work and preparation, Ms. Prsa sent three teams, the Golden Beans, the Rise of the Gorillaz and the Let's Talk Satisfactory to the Let's Talk Science



Challenge (LTS). LTS is a challenging STEM competition that encourages young minds to pursue a career in STEM. After a day of fun, challenge and SCIENCE, the teams were finally awarded for their perseverance. Rise of the



Gorillaz were the runner-up for the Team Spirit Award and the Golden Beans placed third overall.

By Maya F, Emily P, and Linh P

WENTT Conference

On April 26, the Grade 7 girls and Miss Silva attended the WENTT Conference at Bishop Marrocco/Thomas Merton. Throughout the day, the girls attended workshops that introduced them to non-traditional careers for women. Hands-on activities and experts in the trades provided them with unique experiences in carpentry, mechanics, plumbing, electrical, welding, horticulture, cosmetology and cooking.



One student's perspective:

It was a very rewarding day seeing all of the different aspects of skilled trades and how the stereotypes can be misleading, since those skills can be transferred to all areas of life. It was fun to create and bring home items that we assembled—plants, birdhouses, treasure chests, and pizza dough. The day was rounded off by guest speakers and a DJ who kept the positive energy going.

Boy's Junior Volleyball

On April 11, the Boy's Junior Volleyball team participated in the tournament held at St. Raymond. They demonstrated solid skills and great determination against five fierce teams. Unfortunately, they just missed out on a playoff position. A great day and experience was had by all.

Congratulations to: Shane B, Justin C, Ruben C, Jamie F, Lucas F, Axl G, Darin P, Roberto R, and Alexander S. Thank you to Ms. Pol-Bodetto, Miss Silva, and Mr. Dos Santos.

Girl's Junior Volleyball

On April 12, the Girl's Junior Volleyball team played at the South Divisional tournament at St. Raymond's School. The girls played with enthusiasm, dedication, sportsmanship and great teamwork. They represented St. Francis of Assisi proudly, finishing tied for first in the Round Robin. After a hard fought semi-finals win, the girls lost in the finals, but not without displaying enthusiasm, dedication, sportsmanship and great teamwork.



Congratulations to Sofia A, Daniela B, Emma B, Siena C, Maya F, Sofia G, Keira H, Emily P, Nicole P, and Nina Z for their efforts and dedication over the past couple of months. Thank you to Ms. Pol-Bodetto, Miss Silva, and Mr. Dos Santos.

First Holy Communion

Rehearsal: Monday, May 1, at 6:30 pm – St. Francis of Assisi Church

Saturday, May 6: 4:30 pm Pictures (Church basement)

4:45 pm Group Photo (Church steps)

5:00 pm Mass

Confirmation

Rehearsal: Tuesday, May 23, at 6:30 pm – St. Francis of Assisi Church

Friday, May 26: 6:30 pm Pictures (Church basement)

6:45 pm Group Photo (Church steps)

7:00 pm Mass



A chance to wear all things
STAR WARS
t-shirts or civvies



School Year Calendar 2017-2018 Approved

Labour Day	September 4, 2017
First Instructional Day	September 5, 2017
Thanksgiving Day	October 9, 2017
Christmas Break	December 25, 2017–January 5, 2018
Family Day	February 19, 2018
Mid-Winter Break	March 12–16, 2018
Good Friday	March 30, 2018
Easter Monday	April 2, 2018
Victoria Day	May 21, 2018
Last day of classes	June 28, 2018

Professional Activity (PA) Days for ELEMENTARY schools:

October 6, 2017	Provincial Education Priorities
November 17, 2017	Parent-Teacher Conferences
December 1, 2017	Provincial Education Priorities/Faith Development
January 19, 2018	Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting
February 16, 2018	Parent-Teacher Conferences
June 8, 2018	Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting
June 29, 2018	Provincial Education Priorities

May 5th is Parish Family Day

We thank the many schools who shared their initiatives, artwork, videos and written work celebrating the bonds between our parishes and our schools, and the relationships that are continually nurtured by our staff, pastors, students and families. All submissions are on the Board's website her:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/YearoftheParish/PFDShowcaseSubmissions/Pages/default.aspx>

May is Speech, Language, and Hearing Awareness Month

If you have a concern about your child's speech or language, your school Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) can help! Speak to your child's teacher to find out more, or contact the Speech and Language Department at 416-222-8282, extension 2261.

May is Asian Canadian Heritage Month

May 10—[Asian Heritage Month Mass and Cultural Expose](#) at Brebeuf College.

Canada 150

Celebrating the 150th anniversary of our nation and our province, and recognizing TCDSB's place in the history of Canada dating back to before Confederation. Check out all the resources, opportunities, contests and related information here:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/affiliates/Canada150/Pages/default.aspx>

TRUSTEES 2016 – 2017

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2. Ann Andrachuk
3. Sal Piccininni
4. Patrizia Bottoni
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8. Gary Tanuan
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10. Barbara Poplawski
11. Angela Kennedy, Chair
12. Nancy Crawford

Student Trustees: Rhea Carlisle
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Angela Gauthier, Director of Education

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