



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

OCTOBER 2017

OCTOBER VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: GRATITUDE

We have much to be thankful for at St. Francis of Assisi.

The virtue of gratitude is the channel through which we become aware of the sacred, and the many blessings of our lives.

During the month, students are encouraged to say “thank you” and show appreciation for those around them.

Gratitude allows us to appreciate and accept our lives and to accept and be grateful for what we have rather than wanting more. It allows us the opportunity to reflect on the many blessings in our lives.

Happy Thanksgiving!

A. Cianchetti
Principal

AT A GLANCE: SOME IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

October 2	National Custodial Workers’ Day
October 4	St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day
October 5	Rosary Day World Teacher Day 9:30 am – Welcome and Thanksgiving Mass
October 6	PA Day
October 9	Thanksgiving Day
October 25	DECE and EA Appreciation Day
October 26	Picture Day
October 27	Dress Down Day

Please see the monthly calendar for additional information and events.

CURRICULUM NIGHT

Thank you to everyone for attending Curriculum Night on Thursday, September 28th. It was a wonderful evening and a good opportunity to strengthen our school-home partnership.

SCHOOL SAFETY

MORNING ARRIVAL

Student supervision begins at 8:15 am in the school yard. Please do not send your children before this time unless they are involved in teacher directed activities. In order to provide optimum safety, parents and visitors must not enter the school yard in the morning, during the morning and afternoon recess periods, and lunch recess. Having

A. Cianchetti		
PRINCIPAL ↗		
John Shanahan 416 222-8282 X5371		
SUPERINTENDENT ↗		
Jo-Ann Davis 416 512-3409		
TRUSTEE ↗		
St. Francis of Assisi Parish		
72 Mansfield Avenue 416-536-8195		
PARISH ↗		
Penny Farinha		
CSPC CHAIR ↗		
www.tcdsb.org/cpic		
CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB) ↗		
www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto		
OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS) ↗		
157	8:30 – 3:30	11:15 - 12:15
ENROLLMENT	HOURS OF OPERATION	LUNCH HOUR



NEW REGISTRANTS WELCOME

Apply online: soar.tcdsb.org

Call 416-393Your sch number here
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

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

adults other than the staff in the playground invites the entry of trespassers and is a distraction to those in charge of supervising students.

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

At dismissal the students disperse into several directions. Several students walk home in partners or small groups. Most students are picked up by a caregiver in the school yard. There is no supervision in the yard after 3:30 pm. Staff ensure that students are picked up by their caregivers and the school yard is cleared. The 3:30 pm dismissal is not a recess period. Students should not be gathering or waiting in the front entrance area or the playground. Please assist us in picking up your children promptly and clearing the school yard as soon as possible to ensure safe dismissal.

EARLY DISMISSAL REQUESTS

Please write a note in your child's agenda to inform the teacher if you will be signing out your child during the school day. Please report to the office to sign out your child before picking him/her up. The teacher will send your child to the office at the requested time. Please do not call the office to request your child be ready for pick up. Unless it is an emergency, students should not be dismissed after 3:15 pm. During the last 15 minutes of the day, students receive important agenda reminders for the next day and parent notices being sent home.



DRESS CODE

The appropriate dress code consists of the following: navy blue pants, skirt/kilt, or walking shorts, a white collared polo-shirt, dress shirt, or blouse, with or without school crest; a navy blue sweater or pullover, also with or without the school crest. It is essential that the dress code be followed from the beginning of the school year.

DONATION DRESS DOWN DAYS

In keeping with our tradition of giving, contributions brought in on Dress Down Days will be in support of many initiatives such as The Angel Foundation, We, local school initiatives, and others.

CSPC

Please join me in congratulating our 2017 – 2018 CSPC Executive:

Chair:	Penny Farinha
Co-Chair:	Rosemary Pacheco
Treasurer:	Anna Rosa
Secretary:	Susana Caldeira

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, October 17th, at 5:30 pm.

DISCLAIMER



The school will send home information from nonprofit organizations from time to time. Please exercise caution any time you allow your child to participate in or enroll your child in an outside organization's event after school hours.

The school and the TCDSB are not liable for the quality of service these organizations provide or for the safety of the participants. We forward this information to keep our parent community informed of the wide variety of opportunities available with our local community.

FIRE DRILLS/LOCKDOWN

During the course of the year we will be practicing fire drills and lockdown drills. We will be having a fire and lockdown drill sometime in October. In total we will have 6 fire drills and 3 lockdowns/hold and secure drills. Teachers will review and practice the protocol to be practiced for each drill.

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE DATES

TCDSB Secondary schools welcome grade 8 students and their families to explore programs and services <https://www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses/Pages/Default.aspx>

TCDSB DIGITAL STORE

As our students continue to learn and adapt to the rapid advances in technology, the Toronto Catholic District School Board is committed to providing to all of our students and their families, equal access to the latest technology. We recognize the importance of promoting the 21st Century Competencies by supporting digital literacy, creativity, innovation, collaboration, and the overall needs and aspirations of all students. To that end, the TCDSB continues to be on the leading edge of providing technical upgrades and assistance by providing you with a very special opportunity: the TCDSB Digital Store. Visit our website for more information: <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/DigitalStore/Pages/default.aspx>

TCDSB CONTINUES TO FOCUS ON IMPROVING RESULTS

The Toronto Catholic District School Board continues to report improvements over time. Literacy results are high, with improvements evident over the past five years. Mathematics results are less impressive and mirror province-wide results in that area.

Reading and writing results are strong in both Grade 3 and Grade 6, either approaching or exceeding 80% at or above the Provincial Standard. In Primary and Junior, mathematics results remain low both in the Board and Province. At the secondary level, Grade 9 applied mathematics scores have shown improvement but continue to be low. In both Grade 9 academic mathematics and OSSLT, the Board mirrors the Province and maintains strong results with 80% or more meeting high standards. The EQAO results continue to point to mathematics and the applied level as an area of focus.

TCDSB LAUNCHES PHASE 2 SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

TCDSB will be implementing the School Cash Online Payment option in all schools, in 5 phases throughout the 2017/2018 school year. This new cashless system offers parents the convenience of paying online for school activities and purchases from the convenience of their home.

TCDSB CELEBRATES CANADA150 AND OUR OWN HISTORY

150 Heritage Moments being shared via Twitter. <https://www.tcdsb.org/affiliates/canada150/heritagemoments/pages/default.aspx>

IMPROVING ACCESS TO SCHOOL BUS INFORMATION FOR TORONTO PARENTS

Toronto Student Transportation Group and Boards Launch Transportation Portal

Toronto District School Board and Toronto Catholic District School Board parents are now able to access their children's transportation information online and receive email notifications if there are any school bus cancellations or delays, thanks to the launch of a new online transportation portal. www.torontoschoolbus.org

OCTOBER 4 – WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

Walk to School Day is an opportunity for all of us—students, staff, families—to focus on improved health and well-being, active lifestyles and building safer communities for everyone.

OCTOBER 16-20 WASTE REDUCTION WEEK

Take the Waste-Free Lunch Challenge October 20 as part of Food Waste Friday. Waste Reduction Week in Canada is a national environmental campaign that builds awareness around issues of resource efficiency, responsible consumption and production, and promotes actions that recover more discards for recycling and conserve natural resources. We encourage TCDSB elementary schools to take the Waste-Free Lunch Challenge during Waste Reduction Week to kick-off environmental awareness all year long.

HALLOWEEN



All students are invited to participate in Halloween festivities by coming to school in costume on Tuesday, October 31st. Please do not send children with weapons as part of their costume.

As Halloween approaches, we would like to remind you of our policy around distribution of treats and celebrations.

We have several students with allergies, who cannot participate in the consumption of edible treats. The risks associated with sharing treats are too severe. As such, we have asked parents not to bring in any cakes, cupcakes,

ice cream, etc., so as not to exclude anyone from celebrating. There will be times during the year, when as a school community, we will celebrate special occasions with treats.

Please do not send loot bags for Halloween, Valentine's Day, birthdays, Christmas. After much consultation in the past with our CSPC and teaching staff, this too has become somewhat excessive, adds extra pressure to parents and students, takes time, and is costly. Many times, the loot bags end up in the trash and this does not hold well with our commitment to the environment.

If you feel compelled to give at these special times during the year, we ask that you make a donation, however small, in the way of a book or monetary contribution for a larger classroom purchase to be determined by the teacher.



So please be reminded:



- **Any treats, loot bags, candy, lollipops will be sent back home with the child and not distributed.**
- Cards are a great way for children to demonstrate their good wishes. Please be sure there are no treats attached to the card.

LUNCH LADY

Please note: Lunch lady will be going paperless as of November 2017. Please order online at: thelunchlady.ca

FOOD DRIVE

During October we will be having a non-perishable food drive to collect food for families in our community who often don't have enough food to feed their families adequately each day. We will be holding this for the entire month of October. Thank you for your continued support.



SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

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

Miss Mazzuca/Ms. Raposo	Valentina C
Ms. Jennings	Luna GM
Mr. Sorrentino	Catarina P
Ms. Nina	Renée F
Mr. Pietramala	Nicole P
Miss Silva	Daniela B
Ms. Rodrigues	Sofia I
Ms. Prsa	Rogene T
Ms. Keane	Laura L
Ms. Calautti	Tatiana P

INVICTUS GAMES

ARCHERY (Fort York National Historic Site)



On Wednesday, September 27th, the Grades 4 to 8 classes went on an inspirational excursion to witness the "wounded warriors" – who bore physical and non-physical injuries serving their countries – in the Archery preliminaries. It was a great display of the human spirit and an honour to have had the opportunity to see it. The competitors (from 17 different countries), either standing, seated in a wheelchair or on a stool, aimed and shot 18 metres from the shooting line at 40 and 60 cm targets with skilled precision.



Our students didn't let the heat spoil their experience. They were also treated to getting into a real army tank and army truck – a few also experienced wearing part of a soldier's uniform. It is our wish that everyone has taken with them, a very valuable and lasting message from this excursion.



Here is a poem entitled INVICTUS by William Ernest Henley:

Out of the night that covers me,
black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
for my unconquerable soul.



In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeoning of chance
my head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
looms but the Horror of the shade,
and yet the menace of the years
finds, and shall find, me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
how charged with punishments the scroll.
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.

TORONTO STOCK MARKET



Our overall experience of the Me to We excursion to the Toronto Stock Market was incredible. While we were getting a free feast of delicious pastries and fruit, we were serenaded by a male choir from Kenya. We all jumped for joy when “the man, the myth, the legend,” Mark Kielburger took the stage. He gave a speech prior to the opening of the market and to kick-off We Day Toronto. This was a great trip indeed.

Thank you to Ms. O’Keefe for organizing this trip!

By Alex M, Matteo M, Matthew C, and William C

WE DAY



On Thursday, September 28th, 2017, ten members of the WE Group had the great opportunity to attend We Day – an event that sends a powerful message that no matter how old you are, you can change the world.

They listened to amazing singers and inspirational speakers. Prince Harry told us that he thought it was the coolest thing to help other people. Lilly Singh talked about how we should make “girl love” happen instead of “girl on girl hate.”

A big thank you to Ms. O’Keefe and Ms. Rodrigues for bringing the WE Group to this incredible event!

By Nina Z



TRUSTEES 2017 – 2018

Wards

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino | 5. Maria Rizzo | 9. Jo-Ann Davis |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 6. Frank D’Amico, Vice-Chair | 10. Barbara Poplawski |
| 3. Sal Piccininni | 7. Michael Del Grande | 11. Angela Kennedy, Chair |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 8. Garry Tanuan | 12. Nancy Crawford |
| | | Rhea Carlisle, Student Trustee |
| | | Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee |

