



**St. Gabriel
Catholic School**
396 Spring Garden Ave.
Toronto, Ontario
M2N 3H5
416-393-5256
FAX: 416 393-5199

**Principal
C. Crispo**

**Secretary
P. Monaco**

**Head Caretaker
S. Coulter**

**Superintendent:
P. Aguiar
416-222-8282**

**Trustee:
M. Rizzo
416-512-3405**

**CSPC Chair:
M. Sparkman
416-397-6800
Mailbox #88256
csac.stgabriel@tcdsb.org**

**Parish:
St. Gabriel Catholic Church
670 Sheppard Ave. E.
416-221-8866
stgabrielparish@bellnet.ca
Pastor: Fr. Brando
Hours of Operation:
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**



St. Gabriel Catholic School

February 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

February Virtue: LOVE

Jesus says, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples." (John 13:34-35) And so begins our virtue of the month of February LOVE. As often is the case in the month of February, Valentine's Day is a focal point. But this year, as we approach the sacred season of Lent (also in February), we realize that Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2018. And for that reason we will be combining Shrove Tuesday celebration with Valentine's Day festivities as to not conflict with Ash Wednesday and the solemn observances during Lent. Please be reminded that Holy Week starts on Monday, March 26 and runs through to Monday, April 2nd and that there will be no school on Good Friday and Easter Monday.

The month of February is also dedicated to African Canadian Heritage Month. During the month of February students participate in festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present. The theme of this year's campaign will be *Black Canadian Women: Stories of Strength, Courage and Vision*. *Daily announcements, visits to the public library and guest speakers will take place throughout this month.*

Along with the TCDSB, we endorse environmental sustainability and provide students with opportunities to act as responsible stewards of creation. Under the direction of Ms. Gauthier and the EcoTeam, students have unique opportunities to learn about their ecological footprint, and the ways they can reduce their impact on the Earth. Here are some initiatives for the month of February:

National Sweater Day - February 2, 2018

Students are encouraged to come to school with a warm sweater as we will be turning down the heat in our school by two (2) degrees to support efforts to reduce climate change.

Flip the Switch Friday - February 9, 2018

Earth Hour 2.0 - The school will try and turn off all the lights in the school where it is safe to do so for the entire day. We will also be conducting a lights out lunch campaign throughout the month to reduce our energy consumption.

Phantom Friday - February 15, 2018

Classes are encouraged to investigate and find out what Phantom Power is all about. Did you know that your home's devices, when plugged in, continue to draw power even when they are off? We will be encouraging classes to unplug things that are not in use to reduce our power consumption.

Yours in servant leadership,
C. Crispo



ST. GABRIEL SCHOOL HOURS
2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

Start of School Day: 9:00 a.m.
Morning Recess: 10:42 a.m. to 10:57 a.m.
Lunch Hour: 11:45 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Afternoon Recess: 2:10 p.m. to 2:25 p.m.
Dismissal: 3:30 p.m.

SAFE SCHOOL ARRIVAL PROGRAM

Please leave a message by calling the school at **416-393-5256** when your child will be absent or late. Please make sure that all students who arrive late check in at the front office.

SIGNING IN AS A VISITOR

Please be reminded that signing in as a visitor and wearing a sticker that identifies you as a "VISITOR" to our school is mandatory!! We encourage and appreciate all our volunteers, be it for the nutrition program, for scientists in school, school excursions, etc. However, the safety of our staff and students is our number one priority and signing in allows us to regulate and monitor who is in our school, when and for what purpose. Full compliance is expected.

NUTRITION PROGRAM NEWS

Parent volunteers are still needed on Wednesdays - if you are able to volunteer from 9 - 11am on Wednesday mornings, your help would be very much appreciated. Also, please contact Soonim if you can volunteer on Shrove Tuesday (Tuesday, February 13th) to help with the making and distributing of pancakes to all of our students ☺

ST. GABRIEL'S MASS TIMES
AND YOUTH CHOIR

St. Gabriel's Parish mass times:
Saturday 4:30
Sunday 8:30, 10:30, 12:30

MONTHLY VIRTUES

Monthly Virtues are celebrated by all TCDSB's schools. Throughout the year we will be recognizing students each month by honouring those students who have demonstrated the virtue of the month through their words and actions.

September - Hospitality
October - Gratitude
November - Peace
December - Charity
January - Courage
February - Love
March - Forgiveness
April - Justice
May - Compassion
June - Faithfulness

The following students were recognized for their demonstration of **courage**:

- Ariane Rodrigues
- Bianca Haiashi
- Gregory Kis
- Cameron Chan
- Maryana Tkachenko
- Eliana Corro Monagreda
- Sunny Kim
- Camilla Mendoza
- Koyinsola Biobaku
- Jiwoo Baek
- Junior Brown
- Mattia Salvatore
- Ian Lopez Fonseca
- Tony Baek
- Adam Medwecky
- Alessandro Staffetta

5 Useful Tips to Improve Your Child's Work Habits - By JEI Davisville

There is a fine line between helping your child with their homework and doing the work for them and while the latter may ensure a good grade on the assignment, the former will produce longer lasting results. Students are given homework to use the skills and information they learned in class, independently at home so that the knowledge sticks. In this sense you're helping them by not helping them! We're not saying that you should completely leave your child alone when they are doing their homework. There are times where they will need you to clarify instructions, or provide different examples than the ones given in their book. Helping them in this way is OK, just as long as you keep the answers to yourself...let them experience the feeling of solving problems on their own, it promotes confidence and risk taking - two very essential ingredients to a growing learner.

Here are some helpful tips that you can use at home to support your kids with their homework, and help them improve as readers and writers:

1. Read to them often, and let them read to you!
2. **Model instruction instead of giving away answers.**
3. Give them alternative examples to the ones provided in the book if they still aren't getting the concept (real life examples help students make connections to what they are learning and becomes easier for them to paint a picture in their mind).

4. Ask them to explain how they got the answer (they need to be able to support their choice and is great practice for building creative and critical thinking skills).

5. Before checking their work, let them check and correct their own mistakes first (this will prevent them from relying on an adult for the answers).

These are just some small ways you can help your child with their homework, without taking all the credit! By doing this, you are still involved in his or her studies which is key to their overall development as a learner. If you find yourself needing support with your child's studies at home, don't hesitate to seek advice from your child's classroom teacher, she/he will be happy to help and appreciate that you want to be involved. Keeping some form of communication between the classroom and home is invaluable to the success of your young learner.

Take advantage of this time, your child is the prime age to be a student, their minds are fresh and hungry for knowledge!

CHESS @ ST. GABRIEL

CHESS'N MATH Association: Back by popular demand - Chess at St. Gabriel - every Monday at Lunch from 11:45 - 12:45 in the Library starting Jan. 29 - April 9. The cost for this program is \$90 for 8 weeks. To register online go to: www.chess-math.org/stgabriel or pick up a registration form in the office.



**TORONTO CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
TRUSTEES 2017-2018**

Wards

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino | 416-512-3401 |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 416-512-3402 |
| 3. Sal Piccininni | 416-512-3403 |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 416-512-3404 |
| 5. Maria Rizzo | 416-512-3405 |
| 6. Frank D'Amico,
Vice-Chair | 416-512-3406 |
| 7. Michael Del Grande | 416-512-3407 |
| 8. Garry Tanuan | 416-512-3408 |
| 9. Jo-Ann Davis | 416-512-3409 |
| 10. Barbara Poplawski | 416-512-3410 |
| 11. Angela Kennedy, Chair | 416-512-3411 |
| 12. Nancy Crawford | 416-512-3412 |
| Rhea Carlisle
Student Trustees | 416-512-3413 |
| Joel Ndongmi,
Student Trustee | 416-512-3417 |

Drop-off and Parking Safety

Due to the most recent tragic event, the loss of a kindergarten student in one of our TCDSB schools, I implore parents, guardians and all staff to follow and obey parking signs.

1. Staff parking only: please do not park in the parking lot to drop off your child(ren) - use the student drop off to pick up and drop off - use street parking if you wish to walk your child(ren) to the school yard
2. Student drop off only: do not park in the student drop off/pickup zone - remain in your car and have your child(ren) exit on the right side of the vehicle
3. No idling: always turn off your car if you have to wait more than 1 minute
4. Accessible Parking: never park in the accessible parking spot without a permit



FRIENDS & FAMILY PHOTO NIGHT



**BRIGHTPICS WILL BE AT ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL
FOR FAMILY PHOTO NIGHT ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 2018.
TIMES ARE AVAILABLE FROM
4:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.!**

DRESS IS CASUAL.

**1-5x7 FOR \$ 5.00
OR 3-5x7 FOR \$ 10.00**

