



**St. Gabriel
Catholic School**
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Toronto, Ontario
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Principal
A. De Roma

Secretary
P. Monaco

Head Caretaker
S. Coulter

Superintendent:
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CSPC Chair:
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Mailbox #88256
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Parish:
St. Gabriel Catholic Church
670 Sheppard Ave. E.
416-221-8866
stgabrielsparish@bellnet.ca
Pastor: Fr. Brando
Hours of Operation:
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.



St. Gabriel Catholic School

November 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

November Virtue: Peace

November is for remembering and celebrating the lives of our loved ones and those who have died in the past and present. Let's acknowledge, honour and pray for all saints including deceased family members, all souls and the many women and men who sacrificed their lives during wars which continue around the world. Blessedly, our rich faith tradition has condemned all war as the exercise of a global human evil. We are called to be PEACEMAKERS! St. Ignatius encourages us to imagine this as our last day, a means to being more loving and forgiving in our decisions.

We begin the month of November by looking at our EQAO and CAT results. Our Urgent Critical Need is: **Students are struggling to understand key math words/language and therefore it is preventing the students from understanding the questions and completing the steps involved.** Our goal is to improve overall mathematic scores by continuing to promote a growth mindset and explicitly teach math vocabulary and language. We have already had one Professional Development (PD) session on Oct. 5th. Our intention is to improve student achievement by improving our own teaching practices and strategies in mathematics. **HELP YOUR CHILDREN MATHEMATIZE THEIR DAILY LIVES!** We encourage families to mathematize as much of their daily lives together as possible. Join with us in our shared responsibility as we teach and model a love of math; supervise your children and feed their brains at home; seeing the math in daily life; help them to persevere in their efforts when they feel like giving up; challenge them to go deeper, while heightening their awareness of the breadth and depth of their interests and motivations. Parents, work closely with your child's teacher because together we can make a difference in your child's progress.

This year, Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week, is November 18-24, 2018. Starting in 2010, Ontario schools, staff and parents have been encouraged to learn more about bullying and its effect on student learning and well-being. As a school community, we will participate in raising awareness throughout the week.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

Yours in Catholic leadership,

Antonella De Roma



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.

ST. GABRIEL'S MASS TIMES
AND YOUTH CHOIR

St. Gabriel's Parish mass times:
Saturday 4:30
Sunday 8:30, 10:30, 12:30
Confirmation - Sunday, June 9th @ 3pm
First Communion - Sunday, May 26th @ 3pm
Graduation - Friday, June 21 @ 6:30pm

TERRY FOX MARATHON OF HOPE

Our St. Gabriel families showed tremendous support for our Walkathon this year! We raised a total of \$1044.00, between online donations and cash donations. Thank you to our entire school community for coming together to support the ***Terry Fox Marathon of Hope***. This makes us part of a larger community of millions of Canadians who participated in Terry Fox Runs to make a difference in the lives of people living with cancer. Once again, thank you for taking the time to visit the Terry Fox website and for your generosity. These special events in our school cannot happen without the leadership of our staff - thank you Ms. Noonan, Ms. Shortt and Ms. Galluzzo for volunteering to organize such an amazing event!

Rory McGuckin, Director of Education

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 **gratitude** ... *"Jesus took the bread in his hands and gave thanks to God. Then he passed the bread to the people, and he did the same with the fish, until everyone had plenty to eat."* John 6:11

- Eshaan Peters
- Osbert Lee
- Luiza D. Benvenutti
- Ethan Enisuoh
- Tiffany Htut
- Sarkis Agop
- Earl Consencino
- Kemi Biobaku
- Aidan Hu
- Michela Cologna
- Ogechi Oguamanam
- Jeannie Chan
- Adesewa Anifowoshe
- Aidan Cologna
- Lorraine Calasagsag
- Davin Moon

80 Sheppard Ave. E., Toronto, ON · Website: www.tcdsb.org



Roots of Empathy
Racines de l'empathie

Roots of Empathy has a mission to build caring, peaceful and civil societies through the development of empathy in children and adults. The focus of Roots of Empathy in the long term is to build the capacity of the next generation for responsible citizenship and responsive parenting. In the short term, R.O.E focuses on raising levels of empathy, resulting in more respectful and caring relationships and reduced levels of bullying and aggression. At the heart of the program is a neighborhood infant and parent who visit the ELP classroom nine times over the school year. Mrs. Pacheco, a trained Roots of Empathy instructor, coaches students to observe the baby's development and to label the baby's feelings and intentions. In this experiential learning, the baby is the "Teacher" and a lever that Mrs. Pacheco will use to help children to identify and reflect on their own feelings and the feelings of others. Thank you Ms. Pacheco for continuing this program at St. Gabriel.

PARENT TEACHER CONFRENCES

Now that you've made your appointment to visit your child's teacher and classroom, how do you go about ensuring that you have a constructive interview? Keep in mind that the interview is short... ten minutes. As a parent, what you want to know first is how is my child doing: are they meeting all the expectations in their particular grade? Your teacher will be able to provide samples of student work, assessment pieces, and good anecdotal information to allow you to understand how your child is doing in school. Here's a plan you might adopt — **First thing:** how is my child doing in relation to the curriculum taught this term, particularly in literacy and mathematics? **Next thing:** how is my child as a learner? Are they consistently engaged in their work, do they work well with other students, do they complete the work they begin?

Last thing: what can we do as a school/classroom team to ensure that your child continues to succeed or does better in the coming term?

Many parents like to have their children attend interviews with them. This can be a good thing. However, avoid putting your child under the interrogator's lamp. The constructive way of making a plan for improvement is getting the "buy-in" of your child. Acknowledgement that there is room for improvement (if this is the case) but work collaboratively with your child and their teacher to focus on "next steps" for improvement. Keeping all the relationships strong among parent, teacher, and student is important for the success of your child.

ANAPHYLAXIS ALERT

We would like to inform you that we are an **allergen aware school**. There are students in attendance who suffer from severe and life threatening allergies to certain foods such as **peanuts, nut products, sesame seeds, eggs, seafood and shell fish**. **Anaphylaxis is a severe and life threatening allergic reaction.**

We are asking that you do not send any lunches or snacks that may contain peanuts, nuts, eggs, seafood, shell fish and sesame seeds. As well, please check prepared foods for traces of peanut oil or nut products. These items could potentially harm a child. **We would also ask that you please do not send food for birthdays or special occasions.** There are many alternatives such as stickers and pencils. Please remind your children not to share food in the classroom.

We thank all of you for being diligent in following this request. We must maintain as safe an environment as we possibly can for our students. Since all our students share the school building space in their daily activities, we need to take precautions to minimize any cross contamination issue.



TORONTO CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
TRUSTEES 2018-2019

Wards

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino | 416-512-3401 |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 416-512-3402 |
| 3. Sal Piccinini | 416-512-3403 |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 416-512-3404 |
| 5. Maria Rizzo, Vice-Chair | 416-512-3405 |
| 6. Frank D'Amici | 416-512-3406 |
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| 10. Barbara Poplawski, Chair | 416-512-3410 |
| 11. Angela Kennedy | 416-512-3411 |
| 12. Nancy Crawford Taylor Dallin | 416-512-3412 |
| Student Trustee Joel Ndongmi | 416-512-3413 |
| Student Trustee | 416-512-3417 |

Peace Prayer of St. Francis Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred,
let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is
doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light, Where there is
sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master,

Grant that I may not so much seek To be consoled
as to console;

To be understood as to understand; To be loved as
to love;

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and

It is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen



International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program: November Update

IL Survey to Be Conducted in All TCDSB Elementary Schools

On July 12th, the Board of Trustees of the TCDSB approved a motion to survey parents in all TCDSB Elementary Schools to determine whether parents wish to continue or initiate an International Languages program at their child's school.

Process and Timelines:

- **One survey will be sent to each family with the Progress Report card with the oldest or only child in each family.**
- All surveys must be completed and returned in the sealed envelope provided, **to the school principal** no later than **November 27, 2018.**
- No survey will be accepted after November 27th.

Should parents wish to have a translated version to assist with the completion of the English survey, they can request a translated copy from the school principal or download a copy of the target language from:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/InternationalLanguages/International-Language-Survey/Pages/Default.aspx>. Translations are available in Spanish, Portuguese, Ukrainian, Arabic, Filipino, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional) Tamil, and Italian.

All parents are encouraged to participate to ensure that results reflect the individual and collective voice of the school community. Surveys from **67% of all families in the school must be completed and returned in order for the results to be considered viable**. In order to determine if the program is to be continued, using the Board approved model or to move the IL program to an alternative model, **the majority of 51%** should be attained for the preferred selection.

In January, a report will be submitted to the Board of Trustees. This report will include a list of results by school, including the response rates for each school. However, only schools with the required 67% response rate will receive a detailed summary of parent responses.

For updated information regarding the International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program please visit:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/internationallanguages/pages/change-to-international-languages-program.aspx>

St. Gabriel Parent Council News

The Parent Council has had a busy start to the school year! Following the elections of members at the end of the September, the council kicked off the year by selling St. Gabriel "Spirit Wear" at Curriculum Night. Orders were distributed to the students during the last week of October. For those students and parents that missed out on purchasing any items, there will be another opportunity later in the year to place an order.

At the October meeting, the newly elected council allocated funds leftover from the 2017-2018 school year. With \$5800 in the Parent Council Account, \$2400 was paid towards the "Scientist in the Classroom" Program, and \$3000 was paid for buses for each class to go on a trip. This leaves the new 2018-2019 Parent Council with \$400 in the account to begin the year.

On Halloween, the Parent Council is hosting a Halloween Dance for all students. The Parent Council will be selling store-bought and nut-free items to students. The students are encouraged to wear their costumes for the event.

On November 7th the Parent Council will be kicking off the "Big Box of Cards" Fundraiser. The students will go home on that day following a school-wide assembly with more information regarding this fundraiser.

Stay tuned in December for more information concerning other Parent Council events including Christmas Movie Night on December 6th 2018 and the Christmas Fair on December 18th 2018.

We thank you for your continued support. Remember that all money raised by the parent council goes directly back to the students for initiatives that support student achievement and well-being.

Our next meeting is Tuesday November 20th 2018 at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.