



**St. Gabriel
Catholic School**
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A. De Roma

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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.



Rory McGuckin, Director of Education

St. Gabriel Catholic School

November 2019

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.

Our Urgent Critical Need in Math is: **Students will improve application of critical thinking skills when problem solving in all math strands.** 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. 11th. 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 17-24, 2019. 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



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

ST. GABRIEL SCHOOL HOURS
2019-2020 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: 2:12 p.m. to 2:27 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, May 17th @ 3pm
First Communion - Sunday, May 24th @ 3pm
Graduation - Friday, June 19th @ 6:30pm

TERRY FOX MARATHON OF HOPE

Our St. Gabriel families showed tremendous support for our Walkathon this year! We raised a total of \$740.00, 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 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

- Anne Talosig
- Jarvin Salangsang
- James George
- Ayla Ghafour
- Edison Li
- Olivia Chongo
- Tunmise Toluhi
- Linus Prado
- Diako Maleki
- Brendan Chan
- Cassandra Victorine
- Luna Jo
- Camilla Mendoza
- Daniel Bermudez
- Alan Akosung
- Michaella Viado
- Maryella Agop
- Nifemi Toluhi
- Naomi Lue

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PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

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

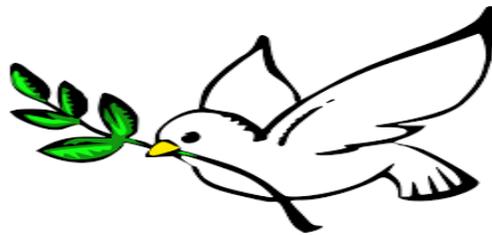
2019-2020

Ward

1	Joseph Martino	416-512-3401	Joseph.Martino@tcdsb.org
2	Markus De Domenico	416-512-3402	Markus.deDomenico@tcdsb.org
3	Ida Li Preti	416-512-3403	Ida.LiPreti@tcdsb.org
4	Teresa Lubinski	416-512-3404	Teresa.Lubinski@tcdsb.org
5	Maria Rizzo, <i>Chair</i>	416-512-3405	Maria.Rizzo@tcdsb.org
6	Frank D'Amico	416-512-3406	Frank.Damico@tcdsb.org
7	Michael Del Grande, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	416-512-3407	Mike.DelGrande@tcdsb.org
8	Garry Tanuan	416-512-3408	Garry.Tanuan@tcdsb.org
9	Norm Di Pasquale	416-512-3409	Norm.DiPasquale@tcdsb.org
10	Daniel Di Giorgio	416-512-3410	Daniel.DiGiorgio@tcdsb.org
11	Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411	Angela.Kennedy@tcdsb.org
12	Nancy Crawford	416-512-3412	Nancy.Crawford@tcdsb.org
	Taylor Dallin, <i>Student Trustee</i>	416-512-3413	Taylor.Dallin@tcdsb.org
	Kathy Nguyen, <i>Student Trustee</i>	416-512-3417	Kathy.Nguyen@tcdsb.org

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



November 2019

Monthly Update From the Board

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Special Education and Resource Fair

**November 9th, 9 am to 3 pm at the Catholic Education Centre
80 Sheppard Avenue East (Yonge and Sheppard)**

Resources and information for families of children with special needs

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/specialeducation/newsevents/pages/specialservicesfair.aspx>

Gifted Program Information Evening

November 28, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

St. Edward School, 1 Botham Rd.

A Parent Information evening will be held for parents/guardians interested in exploring a full time elementary Gifted Program for their child with the exceptionality of Giftedness.

Learn about the Full Time/Congregated Elementary Gifted Programs for students in Grades 6 to 8 who have an exceptionality of Giftedness. These programs are integrated into the regular school community.

City Council Approves Reduction of Speed Limits in Leaside

Thanks to the continued advocacy on the part of residents, as well as school communities in the Leaside area (including St. Anselm Catholic School), Toronto City Council has approved the reduction of speed limits to 30 km/hour in that neighbourhood. The change to the speed limit will come into effect sometime before the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

Congratulations to everyone involved for working together to support the health and safety of everyone in that area, particularly students and young children.

Opportunities for Students

My Accessible Canada Poster Contest

Vibrant Healthcare Alliance invites TCDSB classes to collaborate and raise awareness around individuals with disabilities, with a view to eliminating the barriers these individuals are confronted with on a daily basis.

In observance of International Day for Persons with Disabilities on December 3rd, Vibrant Healthcare Alliance is sponsoring a poster competition among the primary grades (Grades 3-5) around the theme 'My Accessible Canada'. **All posters must be submitted no later than November 15, 2019.**

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/AwardsScholarshipsBursariesContests/Pages/My-Accessible.aspx>

Volunteer Toronto Youth Expo

Calling all high-school, college, and university students — the Youth Expo is just one month away!

This is your chance to chat with 100+ non-profits and even sign up for some roles on the spot. Whether you want to meet celebrities at a film festival, care for animals at a local shelter, or fight climate change, you'll be sure to find a role that interests you.

Saturday, November 9th, 1 - 4 p.m.

Roy Thomson Hall | 60 Simcoe Street, Toronto

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/OpportunitiesForStudents/Pages/Toronto-Volunteer-Youth-Expo.aspx>

OCSTA Student Video Contest

OCSTA is pleased to announce the call for submissions for the Association's 2019 short-video contest for students in grades 4 through 12 at Ontario's publicly funded Catholic schools. This year's theme is:

In Pope Francis' post-synodal exhortation – *Christus Vini* – the Holy Father states: **“Christ is alive! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way he brings youth to our world, and everything he touches becomes young, new, full of life.”** Students are invited to prepare a 2-minute video that shows how Catholic schools are places where young people encounter the Holy Spirit and ignite hope through the love of Christ.

The video should be uploaded to YouTube where it can be viewed and evaluated for the contest. The submission deadline is **December 10, 2019**. The submission form can be downloaded from the OCSTA website (<https://www.ocsta.on.ca/about-ocsta/2019-short-video-contest/>).

Community Living: Together We're Better Contest

Classes and individual elementary students ages 4 – 14 are invited to send a video, story or poem that demonstrates how students with an intellectual disability are included, why everyone benefits from this, and why your class is better because everyone is learning together. **Deadline for submissions is Tuesday January 28, 2020.** [Click here for details on how to apply.](#)

Call for Submissions for Pastoral Plan Initiative

Rooted in Christ, we Believe

Students and schools are reminded to share what they are doing locally to celebrate our year of “we Believe” by using the hashtag #TCDSBelieves on Twitter, and by emailing your stories and ideas on how you are bringing our faith to life to ncc.team@tcdsb.org. We will be compiling your ideas and sharing them through the website throughout the school year.

Suggested Activity for the Year: Consider who inspires you, who nurtures your faith, who acts as a mentor and role model of Catholic living. Is it your school chaplain? A parent or other family member? Your pastor or other member of your parish? A teacher or other staff at your school? A colleague or friend? Why not sit down to have a chat with them, and interview them about their experiences of living their faith. Write an article or create a video of your interview. Write a short story, a poem, or create a piece of artwork, music or video that pays tribute to those who guide you on your own journey of faith. Send your submissions to ncc.team@tcdsb.org

Events and Observances

November's Virtue is Peacemaking

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/VirtueoftheMonth/Pages/Default.aspx>

November 1—All Saints' Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/Pages/All-Saints-Day.aspx>

November 2—All Souls' Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/Pages/All-Souls-Day.aspx>

November 1-7 National Down Syndrome <https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/pages/national-down-syndrome-awareness-week.aspx>

November 3-10 Holocaust Education Week

November 4-8 Treaties Recognition Week

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/FirstNationsMetisAndInuit/Pages/Treaties-Recognition-Week.aspx>

November 6 Take Our Kids to Work Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2020/pages/tokw-day.aspx>

November 11 Remembrance Day

November 15 System wide PA Day

November 15 Angel Foundation for Learning Gala—Snowball <https://t.e2ma.net/click/1h6bwb/pkw0ine/xqqaup>

November 17-23 Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SafeSchools/BullyingAwarenessAndPrevention/Pages/Bullying-Awareness-and-Prevention.aspx>

November 26 Memorial Mass to remember students and staff who have passed away in the past year, 7 pm at the Catholic Education Centre

Meetings

Student Achievement and Well-being Committee November 7

Catholic Parent Involvement Committee November 11

Governance and Policy Committee November 12

Corporate Services Committee November 14

Special Education Advisory Committee November 20

Regular Board November 21

Caucus November 28

For more information about these and other events, including athletics, visit www.tcdsb.org.

Follow us on Twitter @TCDSB to get all the news and information as it happens.

Not on Twitter? No problem. Sign up for Enews and receive a weekly email highlighting important news and information <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>