



ST. HELEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1196 College Street, Toronto, ON M6H 1B8

Telephone: 416-393-5208

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CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

NOVEMBER 2019

Virtue of the month: PEACE

“Whatever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me.”

Catholic Social Teaching: Promotion of Peace “Peace is not just the absence of war...” said Pope John Paul II. Peace is the fruit of Justice.

Catholic School Graduate Expectation: Because I accept my responsibilities, I can make a difference, and I will live my life like Jesus.

LEST WE FORGET



Dear Parents and Caregivers:

During the month of November, we focus on the virtue of PEACE. As we celebrate the Year of We Believe, we connect the virtue of peace to the Sign of Peace at Mass. Each time we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, we are invited to extend a sign of peace to those around us. Catholic social teaching reminds us that we are one family regardless of differences in ethnic, religious, or economic backgrounds. We are called to love our neighbor and loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world.

M. Sardo-Antunes
Principal

O. DeFigueiredo
Vice-Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER IS BULLYING AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH

- Nov. 1st – All Saints’ Day, Police Presentations “Personal Safety/Bullying”
- Nov. 2nd – All Souls’ Day
- Nov. 3rd – Daylight Savings Time Ends (clocks go back one hour), Dental Screening on going November 5th
- Nov. 5th – Int. Boys Volleyball Tournament
- Nov. 6th – Lunch Lady, Take your kids to work day, Int. Girls Volleyball Tournament
- Nov. 8th – Photo retake Day, Sibling Photos, Pizza Day ** New order form
- Nov. 9th – Special Services Education Parent Fair @ CEC
- Nov. 11th – Remembrance Day
- Nov. 12th - Progress Reports go home, Pita Pit
- Nov. 13th – Lunch Lady, Remembrance Day Mass @ St. Helen Church 9:30 a.m.
- Nov. 14th – Parent Teacher Interviews (PM), Anti-bullying Presentation “Saidat”
- Nov. 15th – Parent Teacher Interviews (AM), Nov. 15th – PA Day (No School)
- Week of Nov. 17th – Bullying Awareness Week
- Nov. 20th – Lunch Lady, CSPC Meeting 6:00 p.m., ME Bowling
- Nov. 22nd – Pizza Day
- Nov. 26th – Pita Pit
- Nov. 27th – Lunch Lady, ME Bowling
- Nov. 29th – Dress Down Day \$2.00

Manuela Sardo-Antunes	Odile DeFigueiredo	
PRINCIPAL	VICE-PRINCIPAL	
John Wujek 416-222-8282 ext. 5371		
SUPERINTENDENT		
Frank D’Amico 416-222-8282 ext. 3406		
TRUSTEE		
St. Helen Catholic Church 416-531-8188		
1678 Dundas St. W. Toronto, ON M6K 1V3		
PARISH		
Liz Croatto/Cindy Sousa Kang 2019-2020		
CSPC CHAIR/ CO-Chair		
www.tcdsb.org/cpic		
CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB)		
www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto		
OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS)		
390	8:30 am – 3:00 pm	11:15 am – 12:15 pm
ENROLLMENT	HOURS OF OPERATION	LUNCH HOUR



NEW REGISTRANTS WELCOME

Apply online: soar.tcdsb.org

Call 416-393-5208 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



**VIRTUE OF THE MONTH FOR
November is Peace**

This is the day, the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad. Psalm 118:24

We encourage our students to demonstrate the monthly virtues. Students will be recognized with certificates on the bulletin board outside the office and with a Medal of Virtue presented during our school monthly virtue assembly. During the Month of November, we will be celebrating the virtue of Peace.

SEPTEMBER 2019 Student of the Month Awards:
Virtue of the Month: **HOSPITALITY**

Teacher	Student	Teacher	Student
Ms. Salvato	Mackenzie D.	Ms. Andrade-Marcos	Raina B
Ms. Andrade	Gabriel M.	Mr. Da Silva	Isabel D.
Ms. Ciarrocchi	Alexa A.	Ms. DeMichele	Oliver L.
Ms. Hrzina	Sophia C.	Ms. Krzyzanowski	Emma F.
Mr. Carinci	Rihanna D.	Ms. Rebelo	Michael N
Mr. Hewitt	Alyssa K.	Ms. Oliveira	Ciara S.
Ms. Nesci	Mekayla A.	Mr. Reis	Isabella M
Mr. Carnovale	Chloe D.	Ms. Remondini	
		Ms. Pyskir	Simon O.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ABOVE
STUDENT RECIPIENTS FOR BEING
HOSPITABLE
AND FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST.**

OCTOBER 2019 Student of the Month Awards:
Virtue of the Month: **GRATITUDE**

Teacher	Student	Teacher	Student
Ms. Salvato	Oliva Rose S.	Ms. Andrade-Marcos	Jade B.
Ms. Andrade	Chelsea M.	Mr. Da Silva	Matthew M
Ms. Ciarrocchi	Mason M.	Ms. DeMichele	Kevin H
Ms. Hrzina	William N.	Ms. Krzyzanowski	Joseph D
Mr. Carinci	Lenny F.	Ms. Rebelo	Malisa M
Mr. Hewitt	Mickol D.	Ms. Oliveira	Sara D
Ms. Nesci	Emily G.	Mr. Reis	Matilde A
Mr. Carnovale	Noah P.	Ms. Remondini	
		Ms. Pyskir	

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ABOVE
STUDENT RECIPIENTS FOR BEING
GRATEFUL
AND FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST.**

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS – November 3rd

Don't forget to adjust your clocks back one hour on Sunday Nov. 3rd. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep!

BOYS AND GIRLS

INTERMEDIATE VOLLEYBALL



Good luck to those students who are participating in the Volleyball tournaments and representing St. Helen School on November 5th and 6th. A big thank you is extended to the coaches –Ms. DeMichele & Mr. Reis.



ARTS EXPRESS

**CARTOONING PROGRAM –
Wednesday Lunch Hour**

St. Helen School is pleased to offer the Arts Express lunch cartooning program for those students who preregister. The Program will run for 8 weeks during the lunch hour and will have students create, animate and bring to life their own unique characters.

LUNCH LADY - WEDNESDAYS

Lunch Lady is very excited to be serving our students hot lunches for the 2019-2020 school year.



Information has been sent home in regards to online ordering. Every lunch will meet provincial nutritional standards and are designed with kids' good health in mind. All meals will be made in a nut-free commercial kitchen and can be modified for kids with allergies or special food needs. If you have any questions email/call anthony@thelunchlady.ca 647-436-9134.



PHOTO RETAKE/ SIBLING

PHOTO DAY – November 8th

On picture retake day, students will have the opportunity to retake photographs or have a photograph taken with their siblings with parental permission.

**PIZZA LUNCH – ** New order
form Nov. 8th & 22nd**



CSPC will be coordinating our hot pizza lunch days for our students. A new order form was sent home with instructions. Volunteers are greatly needed to assist with these hot lunches. If you are able to volunteer an hour of your time on pizza days, please fill in a volunteer form available in the office and someone will contact you.



CHOIR

Students from Grade 3 and up and encouraged to join Mr. Cotter in our St. Helen Choir. Listen to announcements for dates of practices. All choir members perform during our school masses.

ME to WE TEAM

Intermediate students are encouraged to join the Me to We Team run by Ms. Oliveira.



Our Team goal is to make a difference in our society and help children all over the world who need our support. Stay tuned for more information on Me to We initiatives and fundraisers.



REMEMBRANCE DAY CELEBRATION

St. Helen School will demonstrate our gratitude to those who gave their lives for the freedom we enjoy today by wearing a poppy on November 11th and will be participating in a special Remembrance Day Celebration. Each student will receive a poppy to wear. The Poppy has been widely recognized as a symbol of Remembrance, since it was first adopted in 1921. The basic purpose of the poppy funds is to provide immediate assistance to ex-servicemen and women in need. This may include food, shelter or medical attention for them or their families. Thank you for your continuous support.



PITA PIT LUNCH DAYS – Nov. 12th, 16th

Online ordering (as well as manual paper orders) for Pita Pit lunches has started. Pita lunches will continue on alternating Tuesdays. Pita Pit follows the Food and Beverage Policy.

REMEMBRANCE DAY MASS – Nov. 13th

Please join us at our Remembrance Day/Peace Mass at St. Helen Church at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend.



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES



Will take place on the evenings of Thursday, November 14th in the evening and Friday, November 15th in the morning. Forms are being sent home for parental sign up.



The Council meets regularly and encourages the attendance of all community stakeholders. Please join us at our monthly scheduled CSCP meetings at 6:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be on November 20th. Future scheduled meetings to be announced in the upcoming newsletters. We encourage your involvement.

UPDATE FROM OCTOBER MEETING – council approved the fundraising budget of \$30,000 for 2019-2020. These funds will go towards funding initiatives such as agendas, join the dance, chicks and butterflies, scientist in the school. Future initiatives to include technology, beautification of grounds, playground improvements.

CSPC CAFÉ – November 14th

Don't forget to stop by the CSCP café during parent teacher interviews on the evening of November 14th. All goodies and refreshments \$1.00. All proceeds go towards enhancing our fundraising efforts.



FLIPGIVE FUNDRAISING – CSCP

CSCP has joined and started an online shopping campaign to raise funds for our school. Simply shop online like you normally would and a percentage of the sale will be given back to the school. Just in time for Holiday Shopping! Go to www.flipgive.com and join code ZTNBWS.

DRESS DOWN DAY – November 29th

Students are encouraged to dress down for a donation of \$2.00 on Friday November 29th.



HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS – SEC SOAR.TCDSB.ORG

The TCDSB launched their online Secondary School Online Registration on October 15th. All grade 8 students and families were encouraged to log on and sign up for their child(s) registration package. All applications were accessible until end of October when they will be locked in and processed.

HALLOWEEN DANCE – A THON THANK YOU

We thank everyone who participated in our annual CSPC Halloween Dance A Thon. A great time was had by all! The students and staff showed off their costumes and had a fantastic time dancing the day away. A special thank you to our parent volunteers for their time and support of this fun fundraiser.



ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

The Toronto Catholic District School Board strives to be efficient and environmentally-conscious by communicating electronically whenever possible. Communications can include information on school specific special events, newsletters, calendars, Board communications, and much more. ***St. Helen School will be adopting the goal of electronic communication, and will begin to send home communications via email with the goal of reducing our paper consumption.*** All emails will be sent under blind carbon copy with email addresses remaining private and confidential. If there is an email address that you wish to add/edit/delete on your child's student data file, please send in writing to the office the student name, parent name and email address that you wish to add/edit/change. Thank you for your continued support in making St. Helen an Eco-Friendly Environment for all.



CELL PHONE USE

Although many students bring cell phones to school as a communication device for parents to keep in contact with their children after school hours, please note that **CELL PHONE USE IS NOT PERMITTED DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.** Students are to keep their cell phones powered off and out of sight during the day and while on school property.

Class time is precious and students will not be allowed to engage in texting/ calling/ emailing during school hours. If you need to contact your child, please call the school and we will make every attempt to relay the message to your child and/or to bring your child to the office telephone. **Failure to follow school policy may result in the confiscation of the cell phone.**

Any use of cell phones/electronic devices, whether intentionally or unintentionally, to intimidate others will result in confiscation of the phone.



DRESS CODE

The "Appropriate Dress Code" consists of any combination of solid white and navy blue garments. (i.e., plain white top, navy blue bottom; navy blue top and bottom; no denim). **Any sweaters or hoodies to be worn in the school should conform to the blue/white dress code.** Thus any articles of clothing with writing/pictures/logos other than the school crest are not appropriate wear. This also means any articles of clothing in colours other than blue and white are **NOT** appropriate. Clothing with stripes and checkers are also not appropriate school wear. The school will contact parents when their children are not adhering to the school dress code. Please ensure that your child is equipped with appropriate wear.

Students are to be dressed properly for a safe physical education class. Running shoes for gym use should not be black soled as they mark up the gym floor. Makeup and jewelry are not appropriate for elementary students. Excessive make-up is not allowed.

All school related activities shall be governed by the dress code. Students are expected to dress in a manner that demonstrates respect for God, self and others. ***If students are not adhering to the dress code, parents will be notified and alternate arrangements are made. Student dress code is monitored daily.***

DRESS CODE FOR WARM WEATHER

In warm months, students should still be dressed in our **Navy and White dress code as well as**

dressed modestly. Tops with spaghetti straps, short shorts, torn clothing and jeans are not appropriate wear. Students are to be attired properly for a safe physical education class. Running shoes for gym use should not be black soled as they mark up the gym floor. Makeup and jewelry are not appropriate for elementary students. Excessive make-up is not allowed. All school related activities shall be governed by the dress code. Students are expected to dress in a manner that demonstrates respect for God, self and others. **If students are not adhering to the dress code, parents will be notified.**

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One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school each and every day. We would like to inform you of some changes that will be coming early in the new school year.

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure TCDSB has introduced a new, more efficient student absence reporting system called SafeArrival. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, making it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unreported student absences.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.

2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number 1 (833) 251-3286 to report an absence using the automated phone system.

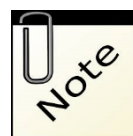
These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time up to a maximum of 10 consecutive days. It is important to note that when setting up your account, you must register using the email address and phone number associated with your child's Trillium account.

In addition, schools will use the SchoolMessenger Communicate automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up.

If you report your child's absence in advance using the SafeArrival toll-free number, website or mobile app, you will NOT receive these notifications.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE / LATES

Our school day begins at 8:30 a.m. It is imperative that the students arrive before the 8:30 a.m. morning bell and that they are ready to line up for school entrance with their class. When students are late, they miss important morning announcements that the Principal needs to make as well as important instructional time. The student who is late disrupts the classroom lessons that have been started. Student attendance is monitored closely and warning letters are being sent home when a student is consistently late and/or absent. Lateness is also monitored by the School Social worker.



PERMISSION TO LEAVE SCHOOL

If your child is required to leave school (before normal dismissal times) a note, **which is dated and signed by the parent** stating the reason for early dismissal, should be presented to

the teacher before the student is permitted to leave. A "sign-out" book is located in the office and all persons picking up students or students with written parental permission leaving early must complete the sign-out information before leaving the school. Parents who send friends, neighbours or relatives to pick up their children must inform the school in advance of changes.

SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Our children are supervised in our kindergarten yard and schoolyard **from 8:15 a.m.** to entrance time. Over the lunch hour, the students remaining for lunch are supervised by staff. For safety purposes, parents and guardians are kindly asked to keep the schoolyard clear by waiting on the other side of the fence from 8:15 a.m. and throughout the school day.



DISMISSAL

Parents picking up children should be at the school only five minutes before the dismissal bell in order to maintain an uninterrupted learning environment and to ensure the safety of all students. In the interest of safety, parents are asked to meet siblings and other children that they pick up in the schoolyard. Parents and caregivers are reminded that supervised dismissal time for students at the end of the school day is from 3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. If a student is not picked up by 3:15 p.m. in the school yard, the supervisor will bring the student to the office where a call will be made to arrange for pick-up of the student. The school office closes at 4:00 p.m.

SOFT FOAM BALLS IN SCHOOL YARD

If everyone follows this simple rule then we can all ensure student safety.



BIRTHDAYS & PROMOTING NON-EDIBLE TREATS

Birthdays are announced over the P.A. and children are invited to the office to choose a small token in celebration. Sending something for your child's birthday for the class is not necessary; however, if you wish to do so, we encourage non-food items (e.g., pencils, erasers, stickers, etc.).

ALLERGIES / SHARING FOOD



St. Helen's is an allergen aware school. There are children in attendance who suffer from severe and life threatening allergies to certain foods, such as peanuts or other nut products (this includes Nutella). Please let the school know if your child has a new allergy. Please remind your child to refrain from sharing snacks and lunches. **Students with ANAPHYLAXIS must carry an EPI-PEN with them at all times as well as having a second EPI-PEN stored at the school office. Parents/ Guardians will be given a form: TCDSB REQUEST AND CONSENT FOR ADMINISTRATION OF INJECTION OF MEDICATION IN AN EMERGENCY which is to be completed by the parent/guardian as well as the child's doctor.** An EMERGENCY ALLERGY ALERT FORM EPI-PEN ONLY will be completed with the student's photo and placed on the Medical Alert Board in the office, staff room and student's classroom. When on excursions children will be taking their epi-pens with them.

NO STOPPING ON COLLEGE ST.

Parents and the community must ensure that the safety of the children is the first priority when using surrounding streets to drop off children for school and picking them up. There are still illegally parked cars on College Street in front of the school and along Brock Street. Those individuals have been warned or have received tickets. The City of Toronto and Toronto Parking Authority have zero tolerance for offences in school zones and that people must understand that safety comes first over convenience. There is no need for illegal parking or on the sidewalk. The following parking tickets will be issued for certain parking violations: Stopping and Parking in a No Stopping Zone: \$60.00, Parking in a No Parking Zone: \$40.00, Stopping and Parking in a Bus Loading Zone - \$40.00. In addition, these zones are in place to make sure that there are no cars impeding the safe flow of traffic. Parking Enforcement is allowed to call for vehicle towing in the following circumstances: parking on a sidewalk, 9 metres from an intersection, in front of fire hydrants, in a no stopping and no standing zone. It is vital that the flow of traffic not be impeded in case of



emergencies eg. EMS, Police and Fire need access to the school or neighbours (which in some circumstances may be a matter of life and death) and the current illegal parking does not allow for this flow of traffic. With all of this being said, we as a community need to make this our motto “Safety over Convenience” and abide by the parking by-laws.

SCHOOL PARKING LOT

Parents and the community are reminded that the parking lot behind the school is private parking for The Toronto Catholic District School Board and to be used by staff members. It is private property and any unauthorized vehicles will be tagged and/or towed away at the owner’s expense. (Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 915).



REGISTER NOW: SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Parents/guardians are reminded to create their School Cash Online profile, in order to receive updates and information on upcoming school activities, including pizza lunches, civvies days, field trips, and much more. Paying through School Cash Online offers a safe and convenient payment option that eliminates the need to send cash or cheques to school. For more information and to create your account visit www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/schoolcashonline

SACRAMENTAL REGISTRATION AT ST. HELEN PARISH

If your child finished Grade one and is going into Grade two or was in Grade six and going into Grade seven they may be eligible to be a Candidate to celebrate his/her First Communion or Confirmation at St. Helen Parish in 2020. Please call St. Helen Parish to get information on qualifications.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION



Families with children born in 2015 or before, are invited to apply online for registration. Parents can complete their application via the Board’s new Online Registration Website: <http://soar.tcdsb.org>. The following documents are required for applying online and the originals are needed for the application appointment:

1. Child's Birth Certificate (Certificate of Citizenship or Landed Immigrant Status)
2. Child's Catholic Baptismal Certificate (or other proof of Catholicity)
3. Child's Immunization Record
4. Proof of residency in Toronto (e.g., landline phone bill, Tenant/Landlord Agreement, utility bill)

General information is available by telephone at 416-222-8282, ext. 5314 or via the board’s website at www.tcdsb.org.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2019 - 2020

Wards

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



Rory McGuckin, Director of Education

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

