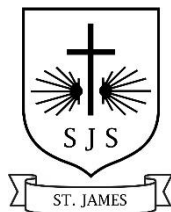


# ST. JAMES NEWSLETTER



230 Humbercrest  
Boulevard  
Toronto, Ontario  
M6S 4L3  
Telephone: 416-393-5275  
Principal:  
K. Schneider

Superintendent:  
416-222-8282 x 2732  
Dr. J. Saraco

Trustee:  
Barbara Poplawski  
416-512-3410

Parish:  
St. James  
728 Annette Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
416-767-6451

Classes start at 9:00 a.m.  
(Please be on time)  
Lunch Hour: 11:45-12:45  
p.m.  
Dismissal: 3:30 p.m.



## A Thanksgiving Prayer - Samuel F. Pugh

*O God, when I have food,  
help me to remember the  
hungry;  
When I have work,  
help me to remember the  
jobless;  
When I have a home,  
help me to remember those  
who have no home at all;  
When I am without pain,  
help me to remember those  
who suffer,  
And remembering,  
help me to destroy my  
complacency;  
bestir my compassion,  
and be concerned enough to  
help;  
By word and deed,  
those who cry out for what we  
take for granted.  
Amen*

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## Principal's Message

### ***VIRTUE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER: GRATITUDE***

If the only prayer you say in life is thank you – it is enough. **Meister Eckhart**

The Virtue for the month of October is GRATITUDE. We are reminded to focus on the many things in our lives for which we are grateful. In our personal lives it may be the precious gifts from our families, and friends and the support and love that we share. At work it may be the support and prayers of our colleagues during difficult times. The blessings of food, friends, family and freedom are all gifts from our Creator God that are meant to be acknowledged and shared. At St. James School students will be encouraged to demonstrate gratitude by saying "thank you" and showing appreciation around them.

It was a pleasure to meet with so many of our new and returning parents during our pizza / curriculum night on Oct. 1. Thank you for attending and being a partner in Catholic Education. The gift of your time to our children and their school is so precious and greatly appreciated.

International World Teacher Day was celebrated on October 5. St. James has the best and kindest teachers in the world! The teachers go above and beyond the call of duty and truly care about every child under their care. God bless them for their steadfast love, patience, forgiveness, and empathy to all our children.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. Enjoy this special time with your families and let us all shout with joy and praise God for the many blessings He has bestowed on each and every one of us!

K.Schneider



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## **Student Illness**

With the changing season and cooler temperatures, we are reminding the children to come appropriately dressed for the autumn season. For children who become ill while at school, we can provide only short term rest facilities until a parent is called. Remind your children to wash their hands regularly, eat healthy snacks and foods, and get plenty of rest to avoid the cold and flu.

## **Safety Reminders**

If you are picking up your child at school, at any time throughout the day, you are asked to report to the office to SIGN OUT your child.

## **Peanut/Nut Free Snacks**

A number of our students have been diagnosed as having a serious, life threatening allergy to peanuts and or nuts, among other allergies. We do not allow treats to be brought to the

classroom. We recommend non-food items such as stickers and pencils etc.

Remember that peanuts, nuts and food that contain these items are not allowed in the school.



## **Scent Free School**

We strive to be a scent free school! **We ask that our entire school community kindly refrain from wearing or using any products with a strong scent such as perfume, deodorant, hair spray, hair lotions, body sprays, hand sanitizers, laundry detergent, etc. Please make sure that your child also does not come into contact with anyone wearing a strong scent before coming to school. Use unscented products.** Thank you for your adherence to this very important request.

## **Curriculum News**

Every year St. James develops an annual School Learning Plan. It is like a blueprint and plan for building a house. After looking at the available data from last June's report cards from JK-Gr. 8, the Grade 2, 5, 7 CAT 4 results and past EQAO results we set our goals for the year.

Our #1 Learning Goal will be on math skills in the area of computation and problem solving skills. Parents we will need your help. We ask parents to work with their students on grade appropriate computation skills such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Look at your child's agenda and check to see that homework is done. Teachers will be sending home math homework that must be completed. If your child does not understand please contact the classroom teacher by phone or through the agenda. We are here to work

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together so your child understands. Working together on computation skills with your child prepares them for a global job market.

Our #2 learning goal will be organization. Our students must come to school every morning with the correct tools to start learning. They must come with a pencil /pencil, eraser correct notebooks and textbook. We have thirty minute time periods and much time is wasted making sure that each student also has a pen or pencil.

Please help your child to organize what they should have in their knapsacks before coming to school.

## BOARD NEWS

### Parent Engagement

TCDSB values the involvement of parents in the education of their children, and welcomes their participation in the lives of our school communities. This initiative is an

opportunity to recognize, celebrate and enhance the important role that parents play at both the school and Board level. Educational research has consistently pointed to the positive effects that parent engagement has on student achievement and well-being. In

October we have the **TCDSB Catholic Parent**

**Involvement Week from October 24-30, 2015.** The week will kick off with an open house and workshops at the Catholic Education Centre Saturday, October 24, 2015 - 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For information and a list of all events for the week, please go to <https://www.tcdsb.org/forparents/parentinvolvement/news%20and%20events/pages/tcdsb-catholic-parent-involvement-week.aspx>



### Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day

This year October 8<sup>th</sup> has been set aside as ECE Appreciation Day. We offer thanks for the important work that ECE's do, in partnership with our Teachers and other support staff, to engage youngsters in the joy of learning. They help them to begin the journey of self-discovery, and play an integral role in nurturing a sense of caring Christian community in our schools.

### Stay in Touch

To receive regular updates on news and events from the Board, including urgent information about school bus cancellations and school closures, subscribe to E-news:

<https://web1.tcdsb.org/interestsubscription/subscription.aspx>

Or follow on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/TCDSB>

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Visit the website frequently for news and information at [www.ICDSB.org](http://www.ICDSB.org)

## **St. James CPSC**

The first CPSC meeting took place on September 22 in the school. It was a great turn out. Elections were held and 7 voting members were elected. This years council is: Zona Beckles, Keli Jeziorski, Debbie Hammond, Lisa Tsotsos, Trish Aurelio, Madalena Martinez, and Lourdes Sousa. Our executive council will be elected by the parent council on Oct.13th. All parents are welcome to attend all CPSC meetings. The next meeting will be held on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the school gym.

## **Email Distribution List**

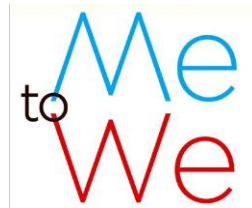
The response to our email distribution list request has been well received. The list has been set up and we will begin distribution on **Monday October 5.** There are some email address that are not

working. A letter will be sent to those families asking for an update. If you have any questions or have not received a test message please call the school office.



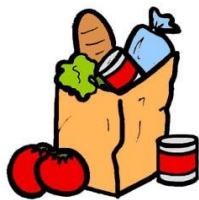
Please note that this email list is only for outgoing messages. Do not send requests, notes, or absence updates via this email. **THEY WILL NOT BE READ.**

## **School News**



On Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> St. James was represented by 14 students from Mrs. Scace's class at the We Day rally at the Air Canada Centre. It is the year of Empowerment. The students, Jeniffer, David, Christopher, Erick, Kallon, Sarah, Victoria, Daniela T., Ryan, Ariam, Ivy, Daniela S., Julia, and Jocelyn listened to many motivational speakers such as Queen Noor of Jordan, Chris Spencer, Chris Hadfield, Nelly Furtado, and Hedley. They learned that they have the power to make a change in the world on a local or global level. The co-founders of We Day, Chris and Marc Kielburger, spoke to our youth, making them aware of many issues such as child labour, gender inequality, homelessness, hunger and lack of schools in many Third World countries. Our "Me to We" students want to make a difference. They will be having several fundraisers to help the impoverished on a local and global level. They have already started their first initiative The 'Me to We' team will be collecting canned food for the Good Shepherd Centre. Please send canned goods and nonperishable items with your child until October 31<sup>st</sup>.

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## Art Project

Congratulations go out to our Grade 8 class who will be completing 4 watercolour paintings each year. The Grade 8 class applied for and were chosen for a grant for this project. Mrs. Scace's class will be working with an artist to complete 4 watercolour paintings based on the work of the Group of Seven. Once completed these paintings will be displayed in the front foyer of the school. WAY TO GO!

## Halloween

Halloween is fast approaching. We ask that no sweet treats to eat be brought in on Friday, October 30, 2015. It is too much sugar for our students in one day and we are teaching our students to always eat healthy. Healthy eating continues to be part of St. James's annual

Health Action Plan. If you wish to bring in a Halloween treat please bring in a fruit or vegetable snack, pencils, erasers or stickers for the students. October 30<sup>th</sup> was scheduled to be a civvies day. Since the kids traditionally dress up on this day we will be moving civvies day to October 23<sup>rd</sup>.



## Halloween Costumes

**Students are reminded that Halloween costumes must be age-appropriate and not include any accessories that are deemed to be unsafe.**

## Free Math Tutoring

**Are you in grade 7 or 8? Need help with math homework?** Then why not get live online math tutoring from an Ontario teacher? It's free and easy to sign up.

To set up your account you'll need your Ontario Education Number (OEN) found at the top of your report card near your name.

Visit this site for more information:

<https://www.edu.gov.on.ca/elearning/homework.html>

## Report Cards

The Provincial Progress Report Card is used to inform parents and to monitor students' progress towards achieving the overall and specific expectations so that



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timely, specific and descriptive feedback can be provided in response to student needs. This will be sent out in November. The First Provincial Report Card will reflect the

January/February to June of the school year as well as the student's development of Learning Skills and Work Habits during that period.

Although there are only three formal reporting periods, communications with parents and students about achievement is a continuous process that occurs throughout the whole of the school year. Please feel free to

student's achievement of curriculum expectations introduced and developed from September to January/February of the school year, as well as the student's development of the Learning Skills and Work Habits during that period. The Second Provincial Report Card will reflect the student's achievement of the curriculum expectations introduced or further developed from

contact us at any time to request a meeting to discuss your child's progress.

<b>Elementary Schools</b>	<b>Parent/Teacher Conference Date</b>
Progress Report Card	November 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2015(evenings) 5:30-8:30 pm & 13 <sup>th</sup> (morning) 9:00 am-11:30 am
First Provincial Report Card	February 11 <sup>th</sup> , (evenings) 5:30-8:30 pm & 12 <sup>th</sup> (morning) 2016, 9:00 - 11:30 am
Second Provincial Report Card	Report sent home near the end of June



## **Upcoming Dates:**

Nov 6 – Little Red Theatre  
Nov 10-13 – Book Fair  
Nov 12-13 –Parent Teacher Conferences  
Nov 16 – High School Applications due  
Nov 17- Immunization Clinic

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