



**St. Kevin
Catholic School**
Twitter: @StKevinTCDSB

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Principal:
Ms. Colleen Hayward

Secretary:
Ms. Anita Fernandes

Superintendent:
Mr. Peter Aguiar

Trustee:
Mr. Michael Del Grande

Parish:
Fr. Xavier De Pinto, Pastor
Ms. Nadine Kotes, Secretary
Precious Blood Catholic Church
1737 Lawrence Ave. E
416 751 2661

Hours of Operation:
Office: 8:15 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Classes: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Lunch Hour: 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.



St. Kevin Catholic School News

VIRTUE FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

Forgiveness

Greetings St. Kevin C.S. Families,

This month's virtue is forgiveness. At our assembly in February, we spoke about forgiving others and also forgiving ourselves. With Lent beginning this Month, it is a fitting time to focus on forgiveness.

To err is human, to forgive is divine.

Lent begins on March 1st, which is 46 days before Easter Sunday. Ash Wednesday is derived from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting, which included wearing ashes on the forehead. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. Ashes are made from the palm leaves, which were distributed at the previous year's Palm Sunday. When ashes are applied to a person's forehead, the following is spoken: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return *or* Repent and believe in the Gospel". Father Xavier will be here for our para-liturgy and the distribution of ashes at 11am, in our gymnasium, on March 1st.



Adapted from <http://www.catholic.org/lent/ashwed.php>

In March, we also celebrate Celtic Heritage Month at St. Kevin C.S. We will be highlighting the accomplishments and the contributions of Celtic Canadians in Canada as part of our Virtue of the Month Liturgy on March 31st at 1pm. Parents are welcome to attend.



A reminder that March Break is from March 13th -17th and the school will be closed during this week. Classes resume on March 20th, 2017.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Colleen Hayward
Principal





UPDATE!

St. Kevin Parent Council Update

Our next meeting is on **March 6th** at **6:30pm** in the school library, on the second floor. All parents are welcome to attend the meeting.

Shrove Tuesday

On Tuesday, February 28th, your CSPC continued the tradition of serving pancakes to the entire school. Students were treated to delicious pancakes in the morning. Thank you to S. Murday, M. Fedeli, J. Hernandez, B. Sequeira, S. Mahadeo, and K. Alves for making and serving pancakes. Thank you to M. Gonzales for donating the pancake mix. It was truly a delicious event!



Absence Reporting

Please continue to call the office when your child will be late or absent from school. From time to time, we do have a number of children absent due to the same illness and/or in the same class. When calling in your child's absence, if you can, please let us know the reason – especially if you have a diagnosis from a doctor. There are some diseases that we need to report to Public Health. It also allows to ensure that more attention is given when cleaning certain areas of the school.

Virtue of the Month

Congratulations to our students who received special recognition for last month's Virtue of the Month: Love.



Our recipients for this month are: Austin P., Julia S., Chris P., Shantell B., Bryce B. Ava M., Julia T., Riel H., Robyn B., and Isabella M.

Congratulations to all of our students!

Mental Health and Well-being

When children engage in physical activity, not only does it help improve their physical health, but it also has been shown to improve their mental health and well-being. When children exercise, their brain releases endorphins which helps to improve sleep, energy levels and mood. It also can reduce anxiety, and improve relationships.

Exercise helps to reduce anxiety: When children are anxious they tend focus on negative thoughts, which in turn may make them feel more anxious, creating a negative cycle. Participating in physical exercise may help break this negative cycle because your child is focused on the demands of the activity rather than their negative thoughts. As well, when children exercise their body releases hormones called endorphins, which make them feel good.

Improved Relationships: Engaging in shared physical activities may give a child or teen the opportunity to feel a sense of companionship or belonging. Participating in sports may alleviate some of the social pressure that anxious or shy children and teens may otherwise experience when interacting with their peers.

Information obtained and adapted from www.aboutkidshealth.ca

Basketball

Our Intermediate Girls and Boys Basketball teams competed in tournaments in February. Both teams put in many hours practising and competing in pre-tournament games and both teams finished second overall. Congratulations to all the students. Thank you to the coaches, Mr. Aceto, Ms. Devlin, Ms. Ianniciello, Ms. Aquino, and Mr. Willock for the countless hours coaching both teams this season.



Volleyball

Our Junior Boys and Girls competed in tournaments last week. Both teams qualified for the semi finals and placed second overall. Congratulations to all the students. Thank you to all the parent drivers and to the coaches, Mr. Aceto and Ms. Ianniciello.



Online Payment Option

Please note: Parent input is being requested.

The TCDSB is considering implementing an online application that would permit parents to make payments electronically through two methods.

Method 1: Parents can securely transfer funds from their bank account directly to an online 'my Wallet' account. When they wish to make a payment to the school, they simply add an item to their shopping cart and pay for the item from their 'my Wallet' account.

Method 2: Parents can use a credit card such as VISA or MasterCard. Using this electronic payment application, for large payments such as overnight trips, parents would also be able to pay through installments.

In order to offer this application, the TCDSB would have to charge a 1% administrative fee to help offset the cost of the application. To do this schools would set their charges 1% higher. For example, an item that costs \$9.90 would cost \$10.00.

At the time of the purchase, \$9.90 would remain in the school account to pay for the item and \$0.10 would go directly to the TCDSB central account to help offset the cost of the online application.

In order to gauge interest in such an online application, we are engaging in a consultation process, in the form of a short survey. The survey is open now and will close on Tuesday March 7th at 12 noon. To participate in the survey, please click on this link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/Onlinepaymencconsultation
Or scan this QR code using a QR code reader app on your phone or tablet:



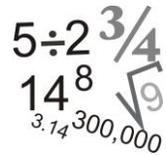
Me to We Fundraiser



Thank you to all who purchased candy-grams. We sold over 1600 candy-grams to raise \$825 dollars. The money will be going to the Me to We foundation to support educational efforts in Tanzania. Thank you to our Me to We team, Mrs. Karam, and Ms. Lewis for organizing the event.

Mathematics Corner

A few tips to help support your child's learning in mathematics:



Tip #1

Encourage your child

Some children find learning new concepts difficult and become overwhelmed or give up. It helps to remind your child not to give and that with hard work, perseverance, and asking for help will make a difference. Mistakes are a part of learning and are needed to grow. It's a good idea to be curious about what your child is learning.

Tip #2

Be positive about math!

Avoid saying you didn't like mathematics or that you weren't good at mathematics. Show that mathematics is a needed life skill, it can be fun, and is important. Try to point out the different ways you use mathematics on a daily basis – sports, grocery shopping, hobbies, etc.

Tip #3

Ensure your child keeps up with his/her mathematics homework

Mathematics concepts often build on one another, so it's important to be caught up.

Tip #4

Be available to talk about your child's mathematics work

Give your child time to work out answers when completing homework. It's tempting to jump in and solve it for him/her, but it's important to listen, ask questions, and allow your child to share the methods that are being taught in class. Try make the needed tools available – ruler, graph paper, protractor, etc., that may be needed to complete homework.

Adapted from CODE - Ontario

Nutrition Program

Our Nutrition Program is nearing its one year mark here at St. Kevin C.S.

Melinda Fedeli has been our Nutrition Coordinator since its inception last year. We receive a small portion of funding from government sources; however, we do rely on parent donations to fund the program.



The program runs every day and students are served a mid-morning snack. Please consider donating \$25 to the program. Your support is much appreciated.

African Heritage Month

In February, we were visited by Kirk Mark from our Community Relations Department and visiting professor Dr. King'endo from the University of Embu in Kenya. The focus of the visit was to speak about how African Heritage is also Canadian history. The messages from both speakers about diversity, respect, and love were well received by students. Thank you to Mrs. Karam for organizing the visits. Please see our twitter feed for a couple of pictures.



W5H

Our Junior W5H team competed last week and placed 2nd overall. They represented our school extremely well. Congratulations to the students. Thank you to their coach, Ms. Lewis, and to all the parent drivers.



Church-School-Home Connection



The Sacrament of First Communion will take place on Sunday, April 30 @ 2:30pm.

Classes for Confirmation begin Saturday March 25th at 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the Precious Blood Catholic Church Hall.

Family Literacy Day

In honour of Family Literacy Day, St. Kevin C.S. held "Snuggle Up and Read" on Friday January 27th during the school day.

A few parents joined their children to snuggle up and read. Lynne Symons from Maryvale Library joined us and entertained all with different literacy activities. We finished the event by celebrating our Virtue of the Month recipients.



As part of the event, we held a Pajama themed Spirit/Civvies Day. Students brought in their "stuffies" (stuffed animals) and a few "blankies" made their way into school, too! A fun time was had by all. Please check our twitter feed for pictures.

We raised over \$270 for Sharelife. Thank you!

For the Monthly Update from the TCDSB, Mental Health and Well-being Newsletter, and our St. Kevin C.S. Newsletter and Calendar, please visit:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/schools/stkevin>

TRUSTEES 2016-2017

Wards

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|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino | 5. Maria Rizzo | 9. Jo-Ann Davis |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 6. Frank D'Amico, Vice-Chair | 10. Barbara Poplawski |
| 3. Sal Piccininni | 7. Michael Del Grande | 11. Angela Kennedy, Chair |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 8. Garry Tanuan | 12. Nancy Crawford |
| Rhea Carlisle, Student Trustee | | Karina Dubrovskaya, Student Trustee |

