

JUNE 2019

St. Margaret Catholic School News



St. Margaret Catholic School

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**TORONTO CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL
BOARD
TRUSTEES**

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Ward 2 - Markus de Domenico
Ward 3 - Ida Li Preti
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Dear Parents,

As the 2018-2019 school year comes to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the entire St. Margaret staff for your ongoing support and commitment to the values and goals of Catholic Education.

We would like to thank the many wonderful parent volunteers who supported and assisted with so many of the initiatives that took place this year – Pizza Days,

CSPC Christmas Party, Valentine Dance, Spring Fling Dance, End of Year BBQ (June 21st) etc. A special note of appreciation to the CSPC executive. Thank you to all the parents who worked so hard to make this year a positive and productive one. How blessed we are at St. Margaret.



Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become (Pastoral Plan)

Throughout the year, we have seen our Pastoral Plan come to life in our school community in many different ways, as we witnessed how our students and staff continue to be welcoming places of learning, where all are included and all are accepted, all are valued and all belong.

In September 2019 we shift our focus to "we Believe".

We would like to personally thank Father Andy and Father Allan for their spiritual guidance and involvement with our students. We are blessed to have such a rewarding relationship with the parish.

The following staff members will not be returning to us in September and we wish them the very best: Mme Sawaya, Ms Craig, Ms Montealto, Ms.Figliano, Ms Siggia, and Ms Campbell. The staff gave freely of their time and shared their talents to the benefit of our students. They will be missed. We would like to wish them success in their future endeavours as they enter new chapters in their lives.

The next few weeks promise to be very busy as we work to have everything in place for the upcoming year. As the school year draws to a close we ask God to bless our staff, students and their families and take good care of them over the summer months. What a pleasure it has been to have served the St. Margaret community. Have a safe and restful summer and may God bless you all!

M. Leitao
Principal

S. Ranalli
Vice-Principal



September 2019

When school re-opens on September 3rd, a tentative class and grade organization will be in place. Changes in the month of September can occur due to unexpected enrolment shifts over the summer months. It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure that various needs and abilities are taken into consideration when changes are made. Children will be tentatively assigned to a classroom for September. In the coming weeks staff will be working cooperatively to organize students in classes. Appropriate placement is based on educational factors which will benefit all children in all classes. Our goal is to establish balanced classes with effective working groups which are educationally sound. If you are moving over the summer or going on a vacation that extends past September 3rd, 2019 please inform the school.

Athletics Update

The students and coaches worked diligently in preparing for this year's Track and Field Tournaments. The student athletes are to be commended for their excellent performance, sportsmanship and school spirit. We had several students who represented SMS at both the regional tournament and city finals. Thank you to all the coaches: Mr. Belmonte, Ms. Defina, Ms. Picillo, Ms. Boulos, Ms Canaria, Ms Zullo, Mr Rasquinha, Mr. Labate, Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Grassa. A special thanks to Mme. Harper for supervising the students eating their lunch after practice. We couldn't have done it without you!

School Mass

Please join us on **Wednesday, June 19th at 9:45 a.m.** for our year-end mass at St. Margaret of Scotland Parish.

Grade 8 Graduation

The graduates will participate in many activities starting with the year end excursion to Niagara Falls on **Friday June 21st**. The awards and diploma ceremony will begin at **6:00 pm on Monday, June 24th** followed by refreshments in the church hall. Thanks to CSPC for paying for all of the awards and subsidizing these activities. Congratulations to the Class of 2019! We wish our Gr.8s many blessings in their future endeavours!

SK Graduation

The senior kindergarten graduation will take place on **Wednesday June 19th at 1:00 pm**. We will be honouring our SKs as they move on from the kindergarten ranks to Grade One. Thanks to our Kindergarten staff and Ms. Cumine who are working hard to prepare a memorable celebration. Parents are reminded that this momentous celebration is restricted to moms and dads only (two seats per child—your cooperation is appreciated).

Play Day

Our Annual Year-End Play Day will take place on Friday June 21st beginning at about 9:00 am. Students in grade seven will be our station leaders and our grade 6s will captain the teams. All students from grades 1 to 6 will be placed on teams as they collaboratively participate in a variety of activities. Thanks to our committee for all of their support.

EQAO/CAT4

Congratulations to our gr.2, 3,5,6,7 students and staff for their work in completing the EQAO and CAT4 Assessments. These tests give our school very valuable data on how to move forward in our School Learning Improvement Plan.

Year End Reminder

On Wednesday June 26th, students are asked to bring plastic bags to school in order to clean out their desks and take all their personal belongings home. School materials will be collected by teachers during the month of June. If students cannot locate these items or return them in poor condition, they will be responsible for the replacement costs. As you do your spring cleaning, please look for any lost books, and even if they are from previous years, return them to school.

Me-to-We

We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to the SMS Community for their ongoing support of our initiatives. Through your generous support we were able to donate Funds to meet our Global Goal. Thanks to Ms. Boulos and Ms. Canaria for their ongoing efforts to engage our student body in opportunities for Leadership. Kudos to our many student leaders that led these initiatives. We look forward to continuing our efforts to become "Agents of Change—as we move from a Me-to-We Society."

Summer Safety

As the summer holidays are just around the corner, many students may be spending more time in front of their computers surfing the Internet for information or chatting online with friends. We would encourage all parents/guardians to remain vigilant and to monitor the online activities of their children. While at school, students adhere to the Board's Acceptable Use Policy, and online activities are strictly monitored. Internet safety is discussed with the students at age-appropriate levels at various times during the school year. Parents are also encouraged to review safety and security rules with their children and remind them of the expectations for safe play, school yard safety, and outdoor safety during the summer weather.

Guidance Corner for June

There are a number of summer learning opportunities available for intermediate students. A Summer Enrichment Camp for Grade 6,7 and 8 students helps to continue the development of necessary skills for success in both Literacy and Numeracy.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/ContinuingEducation/Pages/Default.aspx>

The SummerReach Ahead program offers students going into Grade 9, the opportunity to earn a high school credit through a variety of learning experiences at the high school they will be attending in September. You would have received registration information about the Summer Transition course in the acceptance package your child received from their September high school.

Graduating Grade 8 students can now begin their Community Involvement hours beginning July 1st. Guidelines on how to attain this graduation requirement can be found at:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/guidancecooped/communityservice40hours/Pages/default.aspx>

The Footsteps to Success summer day camp is being offered at St. Timothy, Saint Mother Teresa and Father Henry Carr during July and August. This free camp is available for children aged 10-13. More information and registration forms can be found here:

<https://footstepstosuccesstcdsb.weebly.com/>

It is important to keep your child active and motivated to continue learning during the summer months. Be creative with how you can involve your child in a variety of inexpensive and entertaining learning opportunities during July and August. I have included a couple of links for some fun ways to keep your children busy during the summer holidays

<http://www.modernmami.com/summer-activities-for-kids/>
<https://www.todaysparent.com/family/activities/unique-summer-camps-in-toronto/>

Students who may need counselling support during the July and August can access services from the Kids Help

Phone: www.kidshelpphone.ca (1-800-668-6868) or at various What's Up Walk-In agencies <http://www.whatsupwalkin.ca> (416-438-3697), or through your local

hospital Emergency Room.

Have a wonderful summer

Monthly Update from the Board June 2019

Summer School Registration Continues

Check here for registration information, as well as important dates to note course options, locations and more. <https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/continuingeducation/pages/default.aspx>

School Year Calendar for 2019-2020

<https://www.tcdsb.org/calendar/pages/schoolyearcalendar.aspx>

Want instant alerts about your child's absence? Sign Up for School Messenger

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure we introduced a new student absence reporting system called SafeArrival making it easier for you and staff to verify student attendance. With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

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. 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.

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.

Get Updates on School Bus Service

Register for the Toronto Student Transportation Group Parent Portal to receive real time notifications about school bus cancellations or delays. The parent portal will be updated and re-open in mid-August for sign up.

<https://www.torontoschoolbus.org/transportation-portal/Account/Register/>

International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program - After Hours Registration

[International Languages Elementary \(ILE\) After Hours Calendar 2019-2020.pdf](https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/InternationalLanguages/Pages/Saturday-School-Registration.aspx)

[ILE After Hour Centres - 2019-2020.pdf](https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/InternationalLanguages/Pages/Saturday-School-Registration.aspx)

Online registration: <https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/InternationalLanguages/Pages/Saturday-School-Registration.aspx>

Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become (Pastoral Plan)

Visit our website to see all the submissions from across the Board:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/rooted-in-christ/Pages/we-Belong-submissions.aspx>

Some of the photos from the year-end event have been posted to our website <https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2018-2019/pages/webelong.aspx> and we hope to add a short video of the highlights from the day to that page soon as well.

Virtue of the Month for June—Faithfulness

Resources and information: <https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/VirtueoftheMonth/Pages/Default.aspx#June>

Contests and Other Opportunities for Students

MLB Remix™ powered by SoundCloud

Create your own version of, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" to compete to win a trip to the 2019 MLB® All-Star Game® presented by Mastercard! Fans will have the opportunity to showcase their musical talent and bring in MLB All-Star Week™ with their own personal flair. The song entries will be judged by the renowned Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. **Deadline June 13, 2019.** <https://www.mlb.com/forms/mlb-remix-contest>

Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Month Poster Competition

September is Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Month--an occasion to recognize and celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Ukrainian Canadians to Canada. Toronto Catholic District School Board invites students to design a poster acknowledging the contributions of Ukrainian people to the Canadian mosaic. The winning entry will be used in connection with the celebrations in September 2019. **Deadline 5pm on June 17th, 2019.** Details: <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/OpportunitiesForStudents/Pages/UkrainianCanadianHeritagePosterCompetition.aspx>

Toronto Public Library Offers Tutoring and Support for Students

[https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?](https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMEVT25984&R=EVT25984)

[Entt=RDMEVT25984&R=EVT25984](https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMEVT25984&R=EVT25984)

Youth Homework Help & Mentorship 4-7 pm for Grades 8+. Drop in. No registration required.

Mon Jun 03, Mon Jun 10, Mon Jun 17, Mon Jun 24 at **High Park Library** Community Room

Receive one-on-one support in important aspects of your academic life and career including homework and course tutoring, high school course selection, college, university and scholarship applications, employment assistance such as résumé building and mock interviewing.

[https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?](https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMEVT25984&R=EVT25984)

[Entt=RDMEVT25984&R=EVT25984&utm_source=Teen+News&utm_campaign=Teen+News+-+May+9%2C+2019&utm_medium=email](https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMEVT25984&R=EVT25984)

Free Museum Admission for Children

Royal Ontario Museum: Every 3rd Monday of the month, the Museum will be open to the public for free General Admission from 5:30pm – 8:30pm.

Art Gallery of Ontario: Free General Admission every Wednesday from 6:00pm – 9:00pm.

AGO Free After Three: For youth ages 14 to 25. All Ontario High School students can visit the Gallery for free after 3 pm Tuesday to Friday during the school year. Simply present a valid student ID at the ticket desk.

Gardiner Museum: Children and youth aged 18 and under are always free.

Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Textile Museum: Children aged 5 and under are free.

Aga Khan Museum: Admission to the Museum and all exhibitions is free each Wednesday from 4pm to 8pm.

The Power Plant: Admission all year round is free!

Museum of Contemporary Art Toronto: Children and youth 18 and under are always free.

Free admission for everyone on the last Sunday of each month from 10am to 2pm.

Events and Observances

Mental Health

#HearNowON is a youth engagement project designed to hear student voices from across the province. TCDSB High School students are invited to share their thoughts on mental health education and enhancing wellness at school at the Toronto Student Forum:

Toronto #HearNowON Student Forum Saturday, June 8, 2019 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Novotel Toronto (45 The Esplanade, Toronto)

Students can register online (parent permission required) at

<https://www.wisdom2action.org/hearnowon/>

Sponsored by School Mental Health Ontario in partnership with Wisdom2Action and supported by the Ontario Student Trustees' Association.

TCDSB Celebrates Canada Day

Elementary Schools are encouraged to celebrate Canada Day on the last day of classes, June 27, 2019 by dressing in red and white and joining together at 10 a.m. to sing the national anthem.

We look forward to your participation as we share our pride in what it means to be Canadian!

June is...

June 3-7 Indigenous Education Week <https://www.tcdsb.org/forcommunity/heritagecelebration/nationalindigenousmonth/pages/indigenouseducationweek.aspx>

Italian Canadian Heritage Month <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/ItalianCanadianHeritage/Pages/default.aspx>

Portuguese Canadian Heritage Month <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/PortugueseCanadianHeritage/Pages/default.aspx>

Filipino Heritage Month <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/FilipinoHeritageMonth/Pages/default.aspx>

June 12th—Filipino Heritage Day

Deafblind Awareness Month <http://www.cdbanational.com/deafblind-awareness-month/>

Other Important Dates:

June 7th—PA Day for Elementary Schools

June 9th—Pentecost <https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/pages/pentecost.aspx>

June 12th—Filipino Heritage Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/forcommunity/heritagecelebration/filipinoheritagemonth/events/pages/filipinoheritageday.aspx>

June 19th—Sickle Cell Awareness Day

World Refugee Day—June 20 <http://www.un.org/en/events/refugeeday/>

June 28th is a PA day for all elementary schools. **Last day of classes is June 27th.**

June 26th to 28th are PA days for most secondary schools. (When in doubt, check with your local school for details.)

July 1st—Canada Day—Happy 150th Canada!

July 2nd—Summer School Begins

July 3rd—Angel Foundation for Learning Golf Tournament https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/?page_id=6197

July 12-14th—Steubenville Toronto <http://steubenvilletoronto.com/>

Visit www.tcdsb.org for more information about any of these events.

June Meetings

June 3: OAPCE

June 4: Governance and Policy Committee

June 6: Corporate Services Committee

June 11: Catholic Education and Living our Catholic Values Sub-Committee

June 12: SEAC

June 13: Regular Board

June 17: CPIC

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