



**St. Margaret  
Catholic School**

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**Vice Principal: S. Ranalli**  
**Secretary : V. Picillo**  
**Secretary : M. Barbara**

**Superintendent: P. Aguiar**  
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Catholic Church**  
**416-485-7781**  
**Pastor: Fr. Andy**

TORONTO CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOLBOARD  
TRUSTEES 2015-2016

**Wards**

- |                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
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| 2. Ann Andrachuk      | 416-512-3402 |
| 3. Sal Piccininni,    | 416-512-3403 |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni   | 416-512-3404 |
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| 6. Frank D'Amico,     | 416-512-3406 |
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| 12. Nancy Crawford,   | 416-512-3412 |
| 13. Rhea Carlisle     | 416-512-3413 |
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| 14. Joel Ndongmi      | 416-512-3417 |
| Student Trustee       |              |



# St. Margaret Catholic School News

## *Principal's Message*

Dear Parents / Guardians,

As we continue to celebrate the joy of Easter, there is a feeling that the risen Lord will assist us in responding positively to the call for us to be peaceful people, and a loving and an enriched community.

Each year in May, we recognize Catholic Education Week highlighting the distinctive contributions that Catholic schools make to our students, our community and our society. With the celebration of Catholic Education week during the first week of May we are hosting our Welcome to Kindergarten night, a Science night, attending the TCDSB Woodbine music festival and participating in First Communion and Confirmation. Please refer to the enclosed May calendar for details.

Academically the grade 3 and 6 students will be gearing up for their EQAO testing which will take place at the end of May beginning of June. Our Grade 2, 5 and 7 students will be writing the CAT-4 test within this same time span. We continue, as we know you do as well, in ensuring that our students, your children, always strive for excellence in all that they do.

May 13th is also the celebration of Mother's Day. We wish all Mother's a blessed day.

Principal  
M. Leitao

Vice Principal  
S. Ranalli

### Welcome to Kindergarten

We invite all JK registrants and their parents to attend our Welcome to Kindergarten Evening scheduled for Wednesday, May 9th from 6:00 –8:00. Please plan to attend this important information and play-based evening as we look to partner with parents to improve our students' school readiness skills.

### September Registration

We again ask for your co-operation in keeping us informed of your plans for next year. Please let us know if your child(ren) will not be returning or will be on vacation in September 2018. If your child(ren) will be on vacation, please let us know the day he/she will return to school. This information is invaluable as it affects our staffing needs for September. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

### Please Start your School Visit at the Office

When entering the school please begin your visit at the main office. When dropping off your child(ren) it would be most appreciated that you do so at the main office as well.

### **From the Parish**

The Communicants will be celebrating their First Holy Communion on **Sunday, May 6th at 2:00 pm**. Our Confirmation will be bestowed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit during the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Sunday, May 20th at 2:00 pm** mass for our grade 7 students. Father Andy and Father Noel have been visiting the students regularly at school and will continue ensuring our students are fully prepared to partake in these sacraments of initiation. Our blessings to all the students who will be taking these momentous steps in their sacramental preparation. We would also like to thank the parish, the parents and the teachers for their diligence in preparing the children.

### **Music Festivals:**

The Instrumental Band demonstrated their musical talents at the Festival at St. Joseph Morrow Park on April 18. The performance was well received and students appreciated the feedback and direction from the adjudicator. Congratulations to Mr. Russo for the fine showing and to the students who were professional and harmonious. In honour of Catholic Education Week, the band will also be performing at the TCDSB Music Festival at the Woodbine Centre on **Wednesday May 9th**.

### **EQAO (Grs. 3, 6)/ CAT4 Testing (Grs. 2, 5, 7)**

Please note that standardized testing will take place the last week of May and into June. Please try to ensure that your children are at school on these days. Please provide support and encouragement on the days of the tests so that children are positive about the experience. A good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast will assist the students so they can work to their full potential. More detailed letters will be going home in the near future explaining the specifics of each assessment.

### **School Learning Improvement Plan (SLIP)**

Each year schools are required to develop and adjust their school learning improvement plan to be implemented in the school curricula. This learning plan ensures that students are given maximum opportunity for achievement and success. The SLIP is tied to EQAO achievement tests which are taking place later this month, as well as the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan. Thanks to all those who have taken the leadership in devising the school plan and continue contributing to its development. These ongoing efforts ensure that it is a dynamic and transparent initiative.

### **CSPC: Earth Day Dance**

Thanks to the parents and community for supporting our Earth Day Dance CSPC Fundraiser. The students had a great time moving to music and showcasing their dance moves. Special mention to all the staff and parents who volunteered to assist with set-up and treats.

### **May is Mental Health Month**

In Ontario Children's **Mental Health Awareness Week** is the first week of May. The aim of this week is to increase awareness about the signs children and youth may display when they have a mental health problem, decrease stigma associated with mental illness, and help people realize that help is available and treatment works:

**Be Mindful:** "Mindfulness means paying attention in a particular way, on purpose, in the present moment, and nonjudgmentally" ~ *Jon Kabat-Zinn*.

**Reach Out:** Asking for help may be a difficult task for many students. Students may not be aware of the many supports and resources available in our school community. Engage in classroom discussions about "how" to ask for help as well as "who" students can access for support. Encourage students to become aware and further develop their own personal support network.

**Pray:** Praying helps to improve our mental health by offering emotional comfort and reducing stress. Encourage children and youth to engage in daily prayer or "conversations" with God.

**Get Enough Sleep:** Engage in conversations about sleep routines. Discuss the important role that sleep plays in our emotional well being.

**Exercise and Eat Healthy:** Exercising and eating healthy is another aspect of good mental health. Speak with students about healthy choices when deciding on what to eat and engaging in physical exercise..



Toronto Catholic District School Board Polish Heritage Day

The Polish community in Canada and around the world will join together to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Poland's Independence on May 3rd, 2018. We welcome you to celebrate this historic event as outlined in the Toronto Catholic District School Board's official proclamation designating this day as *Polish Heritage Day*. For additional information, contact the Polish Consulate in Toronto.

## Monthly Update From the Board May 2018

### Parent and Community Consultations

Parent and community feedback is being sought on a number of important Board policies and issues, including annual initiatives such as development of the TCDSB budget for 2018-2019.

Supporting student achievement is a key pillar of the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP). **Your voice is important to us.** We encourage you to visit [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) regularly and check out the new one stop shop for all TCDSB-wide community consultations.

### EQAO Announces Student Advisory Committee

EQAO has just announced the creation of the EQAO Student Advisory Committee, whose role will be to represent the student voice in the agency's activities. The Student Advisory Committee is the fourth and newest committee within its governance structure. As EQAO seeks to continuously improve its programs, they want to ensure that students' voices are informing their thinking. EQAO celebrates student diversity across the province, and their approach to open dialogue welcomes all viewpoints. See below for an invitation to students, which outlines eligibility criteria, and the application form for this opportunity. Submissions must be received by **May 31, 2018** and selections will be announced on **June 20, 2018**.

[EQAO Invitation to students](#)

[EQAO Student Advisory Committee Application](#)

### Canada's Volunteer Awards Program

Canada's Volunteer Awards (CVA) program is about recognizing the significant contributions that volunteers, not-for-profit organizations and businesses across the country make to help people and their communities. The Awards are about people working in partnerships to find new solutions to strengthen our country.

Nomination deadline is June 15, 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/volunteer-awards.html>

### Reminder: 2018-2019 School Year Calendar

<https://www.tcdsb.org/school/SchoolYearCalendar/Pages/Default.aspx>

### Never Miss Out on News and Information

Visit [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) for the latest, or follow us on Twitter @TCDSB.

Not on Twitter? No problem. Subscribe to ENews, and you will receive regular email updates about all the events and important news from around the board. <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>

For the latest news about athletics, see: <https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/healthoutdoorphysed/tdcaa/pages/tcdsb-athletics.aspx>

## Upcoming Events to Note:

May is...

- Asian Canadian Heritage Month
- Speech Language and Hearing Month
- May 1—World Principals' Day
- May 2—Student Job Fair at the Ontario Science Centre  
<https://www.tcdsb.org/schools/darcymcgee/news/2017-2018/Pages/50thanniversary.aspx>
- May 4—Angel Foundation for Learning Board-Wide Civvies Day—May the 4<sup>th</sup> Be With You. All students and staff invited to participate. Proceeds support the work of the Angel Foundation for learning including scholarships/bursaries/awards, nutrition programs and other initiatives that support the inclusion and involvement of all TCDSB students.
- May 5—CPIC/OAPCE Parent Summit <http://www.angelfoundationforlearning.org/>
- May 5—If I Ruled Toronto—1 Day Conference for Youth  
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/if-i-ruled-to-2018-tickets-43869246096>
- May 6-12—Catholic Education Week <https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/catholiceducationweek/pages/default.aspx>
  - May 7-11 TCDSB Festival of the Arts at Woodbine Centre <https://www.tcdsb.org/forcommunity/communityrelations/newsandevents/2017-2018/pages/woodbine-centre-festival-of-the-arts.aspx>
  - May 8—Day of Prayer for Catholic Education
  - May 9—Year of the School Celebration and Launch of New Pastoral Plan
  - May 10—Student Mass and Peace Walk
- May 6-12--Children's Mental Health Week <https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/specialeducation/mhs/news/mhw/pages/childrens-mental-health-awareness-week.aspx>
- May 7—Elementary Track and Field Divisionals begin; City Championships May 23<sup>rd</sup>. <https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/HealthOutdoorPhysEd/TDCAA/Pages/Track-and-Field.aspx>
- May 13-19—Respect for Life Week <https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Pages/Respect-for-Life-Week.aspx>
- May 16—WENTT Conference for Secondary School Students at Humber College  
<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/studentssuccess/newsandevents/2017-2018/pages/wentt-conference.aspx>
- May 20—Pentecost
- May 25—Picnic for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students and their families <https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/specialeducation/speech/newsandevents/pages/tcdsb-picnic-for-deaf-and-hard-of-hearing-students.aspx>
- May 28-June 1—Bike to School/Work Week <https://www.tcdsb.org/board/environment/transport/pages/bike-to-school-week.aspx>
- May 29—TCDSB Mini Special Olympics <https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2018/pages/special-mini-olympics.aspx>
- May 30—Newcomers Day at Toronto City Hall <https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2018/pages/newcomer-day.aspx>



