



# St. Margaret Catholic School News

## St. Margaret Catholic School

85 Carmichael Avenue  
Toronto, On M5M 2X1  
416-393-5249 x 0  
50 Ameer Avenue  
Toronto, On M6A 2L3  
416-393-5249 x 3

**Principal: M. Leitao**  
**Vice Principal: S. Ranalli**  
**Secretary : V. Picillo**  
**Secretary : M. Barbara/**  
**A. Colavincenzo**

**Superintendent: M. Caccamo**  
**416-222-8282 Ext. 2267**

**Trustee: M. Rizzo**  
**416-512-3405**

**Parish: St. Margaret of Scotland**  
**Catholic Church**  
**416-485-7781**  
**Pastor: Fr. Andy**

TORONTO CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOLBOARD  
TRUSTEES 2018-2019

- Ward 1** - Joseph Martino
- Ward 2** - Markus de Domenico
- Ward 3** - Ida Li Preti
- Ward 4** - Teresa Lubinski
- Ward 5** - Maria Rizzo
- Ward 6** - Frank D'Amico
- Ward 7** - Mike Del Grande
- Ward 8** - Garry Tanuan
- Ward 9** - Norm Di Pasquale
- Ward 10** - Daniel Di Giorgio
- Ward 11** - Angela Kennedy
- Ward 12** - Nancy Crawford



Dear Parents,  
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. With the celebration of Catholic Education week during the first week of May we are hosting our Welcome to Kindergarten night and attending the TCDSB Woodbine Music Festival.

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. We continue in ensuring that our students always strive for excellence in all that they do.

Sunday May 12th is also the celebration of Mother's Day. We wish all Mothers 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 8th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Please plan to attend this important 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 2019. 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.

### 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 5th at 2:00 pm**. Our Confirmandi will be bestowed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit during the Sacrament of Confirmation on **June 9th 2:00 pm** mass for our grade 7 students. Father Andy and Father Allan 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 17th. 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 8th**.

### **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. Fun was had by all!

### **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..

### **Budget Consultation Ends May 10th**

All parents, staff, students and stakeholders are reminded that the deadline for submitting completed surveys is May 10<sup>th</sup>. To learn more about the budget, to complete the online survey, or download a pdf copy of the survey, please visit: <https://www.tcdsb.org/Budget-2019-2020>

### **Sign Up for School Cash Online**

This new cashless system offers parents the convenience of paying for school related fees online. Register for **School Cash Online** by visiting [tcdsb.schoolcashionline.com](https://tcdsb.schoolcashionline.com) and selecting "Register". Once registered, you will receive an email notification when items become available for purchase online. For more information about School Cash Online visit [www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/schoolcashionline/](https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/schoolcashionline/)

### **International Languages Elementary (ILE) After-Hours Program**

**Online registration begins May 21, 2019**

**SHARE YOUR VOICE. GROW TOGETHER.**

Visit [tcdsb.org/ILRegistration](https://tcdsb.org/ILRegistration) to enrol

For more information, please email [IL.elem@tcdsb.org](mailto:IL.elem@tcdsb.org) or call 416 222 8282 ext. 2495

## Reminder to Sign Up for School Messenger

New reporting system for student absences, as well as critical news and information including bus cancellations, school closures, safety concerns etc. Sign up here <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>).

CSPC Executive Training Workshops - School By-Laws & CSPC Annual Year End Activity & Financial Report

**Date: May 13th, 2019 6 - 8pm**

Catholic Education Centre, Quigley Hall, 1st Floor  
**Town Hall consultation sessions on the following TCDSB Policies:**

S 10 - Catholic School Parent Councils

P 04 - Catholic Parent Involvement Committee

A 33 - Guidelines For Trustees, Parents and Staff In addressing School Related Concerns

**May 13, 2019 5-6 pm and 8-9 pm**

<https://www.tcdsb.org/CSPCTrainingWorkshop>

Ward 2 Town Halls Hosted by Trustee Markus de Domenico

**May 23, 7-9 pm**

All Saints Catholic School, 1435 Royal York Road, Etobicoke

**May 30th, 7-9 PM**

St. Clement Catholic School, 4319 Bloor Street West,

Connecting Students with Campus Ministry

It's that time of year when Grade 12 students are finalizing which university or college they will attend in September. To assist them and their families in making choices that include a supportive Catholic community, Chaplaincy Connect is a tool to personally connect students with campus ministries across Canada in a way that is intentional, invitational and informative. Students and chaplaincy leaders have reported high rates of retention and involvement resulting from these connections. Please help spread the word to students or their families!

To connect with the Campus Ministry at their chosen institution, students simply enter their contact information in the [Google form](#). Someone from the Campus Ministry staff will be happy to get in touch with them. For more information or to receive Chaplaincy Connect cards, email Eliza Trotter, Diocesan Coordinator of Campus Ministries at [etrotter@archtoronto.org](mailto:etrotter@archtoronto.org).

EQAO's 2019-2020 Student Advisory Committee--Call for Applications

The call for application for the 2019-2020 EQAO Student Advisory Committee is open until May 10th. This committee will be one of our key sources for student voice in the agency's activities. We also meet with student trustees, and staff engage student focus groups from time to time. This will be the second year of the Student Advisory Committee. The other committees within our governance structure are the EQAO Advisory Committee, the Modernization in Measurement Advisory Panel and the Equity Council.

They seek students who demonstrate a passion for effecting change in their communities and who have a desire to make a difference—either through their actions or through their ideas.

Contests/scholarships/awards

Reminder: Historica Canada Me, Moi + Canada

**Deadline for submissions is November 1, 2019**

More information can be found here: <https://historicanada.wishpondpages.com/memoicanada/en/>

Breakthrough Junior Challenge

<https://breakthroughjuniorchallenge.org/> **June 15, 2019 deadline**

Coro San Marco Scholarship

Music scholarship for any student entering University or College in Music in Canada

Deadline is **May 25, 2019**

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Coro>

**Toronto Police Service 42 Division Scholarship**

**Deadline May 25<sup>th</sup>**

Details: <https://www.tcdsb.org/TPS42Scholarship>

**Check here for more: <https://www.tcdsb.org/AwardsScholarshipsBursariesContests>**

## Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers Needed For 4th Annual Toronto Carnival Run

The Toronto Carnival is looking for volunteers who would like to help with the 4th Annual Toronto Carnival Run taking place on **Saturday July 27, 2019**. This Caribbean inspired charity fun run is one of Toronto's most spirited runs.

The organization provides volunteer hours and reference letters if required and a yummy breakfast for all our volunteers!

Students and staff are invited to consider supporting this event.

To register: <http://torontocarnivalrun.com/volunteer>

## Catholic Education Week 2019

*Living as Joyful Disciples / Vivre en disciples joyeux*

May 5 - 10, 2019

<https://www.tcdsb.org/catholiceducationweek>

## TCDSB Celebrates Respect for Life Week

May 12-17, 2019

As a Catholic community, every week is Respect for Life Week as we work together to nurture and empower our students and one another to stand up for those who are most vulnerable: the unborn, the elderly, the sick, those with mental health issues, those who suffer poverty, injustice, violence, abuse and who are marginalized in other ways. All life is sacred, and we are called to serve and to love one another.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/RespectForLifeWeek>

Life in the Spirit Conference--"*Refreshed & Renewed*"

**Free Admission**

**May 4-5, 2019 9 am - 4 pm**

**St. Mary's Catholic Academy, 66 Dufferin Park Ave.**

<https://www.tcdsb.org/LifeInSpiritConference>

## **We Belong Celebration Coming May 21<sup>st</sup>**

Check out the many submissions received: <https://www.tcdsb.org/WeBelongSubmissions>

### **FaithTalk**

Tune into Radio Maria during Catholic Education Week to hear Dante Alighieri student Marcia Dubsky share her views on living her faith. Watch for our digital scrapbook with all the student submissions for FaithTalk. <https://www.tcdsb.org/RadioMaria>

### **May Events and Observances:**

May is Asian Canadian Heritage Month  
This month acknowledges the long and rich history of Asian Canadians and their contributions to Canada. It also provides an opportunity for Canadians across the country to reflect on and celebrate the contributions of Asian Canadians to the growth and prosperity of Canada. <https://www.tcdsb.org/AsianCanadianHeritage> **May is Also Speech, Language and Hearing Month**  
<https://www.tcdsb.org/SpeechLanguageHearingMnth>

May 1 World Principals' Day

**May 3 Polish Heritage Day** <https://www.tcdsb.org/PolishCanadianHeritage>

**May 3 Board-wide Civvies Day** in support of the Angel Foundation for Learning [https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/?page\\_id=6193](https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/?page_id=6193)

**May 4-5 St Demetrius hosts annual elementary swim meet** <https://www.tcdsb.org/SwimMeet>

**May 6-10 Festival of the Arts at Woodbine Centre** <https://www.tcdsb.org/FestivalOfTheArts>

**May 6 Intermediate W5H City Finals** at Madonna Catholic Secondary School

**May 8 Post 21 Transition Fair** at Msgr Percy Johnson <https://www.tcdsb.org/TransitionFair>

May 16 Toronto Newcomer Day 11:30 am-3:30 pm at Nathan Phillips Square, 100 Queen St W  
All Torontonians are invited to join us in welcoming newcomers in Toronto with activities and entertainment at this showcase of Toronto's diverse communities.

Information: [Toronto Newcomer Day](#).

**May 20 Victoria Day**

**May 27-31 Bike to School Week** <https://www.tcdsb.org/BikeToSchoolWeek>

**May 27-June 1 Digital Literacy Week** <https://www.tcdsb.org/DigitalLiteracyWeek>

**High School Athletics:** Softball, Baseball, Rugby, Cricket and more. <https://www.tcdsb.org/Athletics>

### **May Meetings:**

May 2 Student Achievement and Well-Being Committee

May 7 Governance and Policy Committee

May 9 Corporate Services Committee

May 13 Bylaws

May 13 Catholic Parent Involvement Committee

May 15 Board

May 28 Student Achievement and Well-Being

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