



APRIL 2016

ST. RITA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

178 Edwin Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M6P 3Z9

Phone Number: (416) 393-5216

Fax Number: (416) 393-5803

Principal:

Elisa Arciero

Secretary:

Cheryl Migliaccio

Superintendent:

Dr. Jim Saraco
(416) 222-8282 Ext. 5371

Trustee:

Barbara Poplawski
(416) 512-3410

Parish:

St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic Parish
Pastor: Rev. Joseph Tap Van Tran
163 Annette Street
(416) 769-8163

School Hours:

9:00 a.m. Entry
10:42 a.m. Recess
11:45 a.m. Lunch Hour
12:45 p.m. Entry
2:10 p.m. Recess
3:30 p.m. Dismissal

CPIC (Parent Engagement--TCDSB)

www.tcdsb.org/cpic

OAPCE Toronto (Provincial Voice for Parents)

www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto

Adult ESL:

Barbara Gajdamowicz
(416) 397-6350



St. Rita Catholic School Newsletter

Principal's Message:

Spring is finally here and we are looking forward to the exciting months ahead. Our Grade 2 students will be receiving their First Reconciliation and Holy Communion on April 16th and 17th and the Gr. 7s and 8s will be receiving their Confirmation on April 15th. Please remember that we will be having our ShareLife Toonie Tuesday on April 19th, during ShareLife week. Your toonie or whatever contribution you are able to make, goes to help many worthwhile Catholic Charities here in our own city. Your generosity is deeply appreciated in assisting those in need.

April has been assigned the virtue of JUSTICE. At this time, justice comes from the obligation to respect the dignity of every human person. This dignity comes from being created in God's image. Failing to respect human dignity, including failing to do justice, is a failure to respect the image of God in others. As in this month's quote from Amos 5:24, "Let justice flow like a stream, and righteousness like a river that never goes dry", at St. Rita Catholic School we will be working towards justice.

We are well into the final term of this school year. The Grades 3s and 6s are preparing for their EQAO assessments by completing and reviewing their respective curriculums. Later this term, our Grades 2s, 5s and 7s will write the CAT/4 assessments. This is a Canadian norm referenced test for Language and Mathematics. April is Hispanic Canadian Heritage Month.

May God continue to bless you and your families!

Respectfully,

Ms. E. Arciero



Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Kindergarten began **January 13, 2016**. Parents can save time and complete their application via the Board's online Registration Website:

<http://soar.tcdsb.org>

The following documents are required for registration:

1. Child's Birth Certificate
(Certificate of Citizenship or Landed Immigrant Status)
2. Child's Catholic Baptismal Certificate (or other proof of Catholicity)
3. Child's Immunization Record
4. Proof of residency in Toronto

General information is available by telephone at 416-222-8282, ext. 5314 or via the board's website at www.tcdsb.org

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Call 416-393-5216 or the TCDSB Admissions Department at 416-222-8282, ext. 5320.

For general information about the Toronto Catholic District School Board, please visit the website at www.tcdsb.org.

Stay in touch with the latest news throughout the school year:

Follow @TCDSB on Twitter

Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC)

This year our Parent Council paid for each First Communicant and Confirmandi to make a rosary bracelet with Beading Buds. The students can wear their bracelet on the day of their sacrament and have it blessed by Father Joseph. What a beautiful keepsake! Thank you.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the staffroom. Please join us!

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular school attendance and punctuality are important for student progress. Children should be kept home only when they are ill. Appointments, whenever possible, should be arranged outside of school hours. Being on time for the start of class is important. The bell rings promptly at 9:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Your child/children should be in the school yard by this time so that they can assemble with their peers and be involved in all activities from the beginning of class. All children who arrive after the class has entered the school will be marked late. If dropping off your child late, he/she needs to get a late slip before being admitted to his/her classroom. The office staff or administration will escort any JK/SK students to their classroom.



Supervision Hours

We have supervision in the school yard from 8:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. and from 3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Please ensure your child is not dropped off too early in the morning or left too late afterschool as there is no one here to supervise your child. **Students should not be dropped off between 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. to sit in the front hall without supervision.** All students, including kindergarten students, should be picked up in the school yard where there is supervision at 3:30 p.m. **Parents are asked not to come in before 3:30 p.m. and wait in the front hall to pick up their child(ren).**



Pizza Lunches

The pizza lunches for April will be held on **Thursday, April 7 and April 21.**



Subway Lunch

On **Thursday, April 28** CSAC will be offering a Subway lunch package including a 6 inch sandwich and a drink.



Lunch Lady

If you would like to order a hot lunch on **Thursday, April 14**, simply complete the order form and send it to school or go on line and place your order.



Our Pita Pit Lunch Day!

On **Tuesday, April 19** St. Rita will be offering a delicious pita with your choice of toppings, a fruit cup and water.



Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Our Grade 2 students will receive the sacrament of **Reconciliation on April 16 at 2:00 p.m.** at St. Cecilia's Catholic Church. **First Communion is April 17 at 11:00 a.m.** A photographer from Bright Pics will be available to take pictures on April 17th.



Sacrament of Confirmation

Our Grade 7 and 8 students will receive the sacrament of **Confirmation on April 15 at 7:00 p.m.** at St. Cecilia's Catholic Church. The rehearsal and reconciliation will be on **April 14 at 7:45 p.m.** at St. Cecilia's Catholic Church.



Earth Hour

In order to promote awareness of the planned Global EARTH HOUR event, St. Rita C. S. participated by turning off the lights on Friday March 11. All classes turned off the lights and computers between 10:00 am and 11:00 a.m. to demonstrate how we continue to be stewards of the earth.



Administrative Professional Day

On **April 27**, we thank our secretaries for all that they do. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to **Mrs. Migliaccio** for her dedication and hard work. Mrs. Migliaccio is the first person you talk to when you call our school. The next time you call the school; don't forget to thank her for her hard work.



Volunteer Appreciation Week: April 11-15, 2016

This is a wonderful time to acknowledge the contribution that all our volunteers make to our St. Rita school community. Our congratulations and thanks to all our volunteers, and to all the students, staff and parents who help out! A potluck luncheon will take place on April 14 to honour our volunteers.



HPV Immunization Clinic

The Gr. 7 and 8 students received the 2nd dose of their immunization on March 2.

Dress Down Day

On March 29th, St. Rita had its dress down day and earned \$41 for our ME to WE initiative. Thank you for your generosity.



Green Apple Grant Calendar

Thank you to all the students who submitted a vegetable or fruit recipe for our contest. Ms. Arciero evaluated all the recipes and rubrics were sent home. The marks count for a writing mark in second term. The students who will have their recipes published in the school's nutrition calendar are: **Pedro C, Anaija M, Kevin S, Jacob B, Ramon A, Hamish B-K, Samantha A, Joseff B, Edwin X, and Bryant E.** Congratulations! The calendars will be on sale before the end of the year.

School Mass

The next school Mass is on **Wednesday, April 13 at 10:00 a.m.** at St. Cecilia's parish. The Kindergarten to Gr. 4 students will go by school bus and the Gr. 5 to 8 students will walk. All parents are welcome to attend.





Appropriate Dress Code

Our students' well-being will continue to be a priority for both myself and the staff as we continue to follow the TCDSB Dress Code based on the principles of respect, safety, and diversity. A reminder that the Appropriate Dress Code at St. Rita includes the use of a white or navy blue shirt/blouse and a navy blue pant/skirt, **no denim**. Students who are not following the Dress Code will bring home forms and/or you will be receiving a phone call. A formal incident report will be documented if there is a fourth incident. Parents' support of the Dress Code is much appreciated.



Student of the Month

The March student of the month is the student who can work out a problem and is willing to forgive and apologize when something happens. The winners are: Matthew L-B, Arina B, Kevin S, Alakii M, Ramon A, Juliana M, John S, Davonta S, Jonathan A, and Rachel S.

School Year Calendar

The school year calendar for 2016-2017 has been approved. This includes the system-wide professional activity days. Check here for information <https://www.tcdsb.org/school/schoolyearcalendar/pages/default.aspx>
Please note that there is a system-wide PA day scheduled for April 15th.

Budget Consultation

TCDSB thanks the many parents, students, staff and community members who participated in consultation regarding the Multi Year Recovery Plan. Please visit the board's website at www.tcdsb.org or follow us on Twitter @TCDSB to get the latest information about the consultation regarding the 2016-2017 budget.

Mark Your Calendars and Prepare to Celebrate Catholic Education Week May 1-6, 2016 "Opening Doors of Mercy"

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/catholiceducationweek/pages/default.aspx>

Parent Engagement Resource Event: Supporting All Our Students...Imagine the Possibilities April 30th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre, 80 Sheppard Avenue East
Hosted by TCDSB's Special Services Department and the Special Education Advisory Committee
Features workshops, special education resources, community resources, raffles, door prizes.

Guidance Corner – Mr. F. Amato

I hope that everyone had a restful March Break, as we begin the final stretch of the school year.

Self-Regulation

One of the more difficult Work Habits and Learning Skills to understand is Self-Regulation (see page one of the report card).

Self-Regulation includes monitoring our self-control and self-efficacy; taking responsibility and being accountable for our actions; finding a balance in all aspects of our lives; responding appropriately; moderating behaviour and being proactive rather than reactive. Chapin defines Self-Regulation as, "Learning to regulate one's own Physical, Emotional and Cognitive processes in healthy, proactive ways to be successful across several domains of life. [It is] healthy, adaptive and "appropriate" responding to internal and external events." <http://www.slideshare.net/chapin55/helping-young-children-learn-selfregulation-doing-more-with-less>

When we feel as though we are losing control, we need to learn to identify the physical signs and find healthy ways of maintaining a balance. We need to identify our emotions, find appropriate ways of expressing them, and learn to take responsibility for the way that we feel about things, rather than blaming external influences. And finally, we should develop our problem-solving skills, planning and organization skills, and cultivate a positive outlook about ourselves and the world around us.

If you are looking for a website that offers tips to teach children the skills to resolve issues independently, visit Brad Chapin's online blog and check out the interactive app, software program and online videos that help children practice and make learning self-regulation skills fun! <http://psychchallenge.blogspot.ca>

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2015-2016

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Angela Gauthier, Director of Education
80 Sheppard Ave. E., Toronto, ON Website: www.tcdsb.org

