



DECEMBER 2016

ST. RITA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

178 Edwin Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M6P 3Z9

Phone Number: (416) 393-5216

Fax Number: (416) 393-5803

Principal:
Waldo Aristizabal

Secretary:
Cheryl Migliaccio

Superintendent:
John Wujek
(416) 222-8282 Ext. 2592

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:
Kathy McCabe
(416) 397-6350



St. Rita Catholic School Newsletter

Principal's Message:

As we enter the season of Advent to prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus, it is rather suitable that this month's virtue is CHARITY. Many of us are already engaging in the mad rush to purchase gifts to put under the tree on the 25th, but let us be mindful of the fact that charity is not always about giving material things. Our quote for the month is "Where charity and love are, God is there". As St. Thomas Aquinas described it: "Charity is friendship first with God and secondly with all who belong to God."

Advent stresses attentiveness, vigilance, and a willingness to be alert and on guard. It is a time to examine how we have been preparing the way of the Lord. Let's find the courage to take stock and engage in spiritual house cleaning so that we will discover the true joy of Christmas.

Please join me in welcoming our new staff member to St. Rita C. S. Mr. E. Bird is our new Gr. 3/4 teacher. We look forward to working with him in our school community.

**May you have the gladness of Christmas which is hope;
the spirit of Christmas which is peace; and the heart of Christmas
which is love.**



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

Mr. W. Aristizabal

NEW REGISTRANTS WELCOME:

Call 416-393-5216 or the TCDSB Admissions Department at 416-222-8282, ext. 2383.

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.

Kindergarten Registration Starts January 18, 2017.

The Toronto Catholic District School Board invites families with children born in 2013 to register for Junior Kindergarten beginning Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 10 a.m. EST.

Registration options:

Online: Parents will be able to complete their application online beginning at 10 a.m. EST on January 18, 2017, at SOAR.tcdsb.org, and follow up with a visit to the school to present the required documents. The online application is available at: <https://soar.tcdsb.org/Login.aspx>.

In Person: Parents can register at their local school with the required documents beginning January 18, 2017 at 10 a.m. EST. To accommodate the busy schedules of registration session during the month of January. There will be a Kindergarten Registration Evening On January 25, 2017, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. for children registering for the 2017/2018 school year at St. Rita C.S.

Registration documents:

- Child's Birth Certificate or Passport/Immigration documents if child was not born in Canada
- Child's Catholic baptismal certificate (or proof of Catholicity of parent)
- Proof of residency in Toronto (some examples: a lease agreement, utility bill)
- Immunization Record

Cold weather

As the cold weather and snow approach, we remind parents to send an extra pair of shoes for your child(ren) to wear indoors.

Also, please ensure students come to school properly dressed with hats, boots, snow pants, gloves and winter coats. Get all the latest information about cancellations and closures throughout the winter months, and all year long by following @TCDSB on Twitter.



Cold and Flu Season

If your child is not feeling well enough to go out for recess, please keep her/him at home. Fresh air is healthy and unless it is just too cold, everyone from ELP to Gr. 8 will go outside for recess.

Pizza Lunches

The pizza lunches for December will be held on **Thursday, Dec. 1 and Dec. 22.**



Subway Lunch, Lunch Lady, and Pita Pit

Subway lunch will take place on **Thursday, December 15th**, Lunch Lady will happen on **Thursday, December 8th**.



Student Safety

Parents are reminded that all doors to the school are locked. All parents and visitors are required to buzz the doorbell to speak to our secretary and then enter the school. We ask for your patience and understanding as we continue to implement this important safety initiative. **Parents, caregivers, older siblings are asked to wait for their child(ren) or siblings in the schoolyard after school unless a meeting with the teacher has been scheduled.** All students should enter and exit the school building by their designated doors. The school's front doors are **not** to be used as a shortcut to the school yard.

St. Rita is an Allergen Aware School. Some children in our school have a severe life threatening food allergy to peanuts and nuts (anaphylaxis). This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes. In order to ensure that our school is a safe environment for all students, **we ask that you only send foods with your children that are free from peanuts and other nut products.** Also, kindly avoid sending food for special occasions (i.e. birthday, Christmas, etc). There is no other way of controlling food which comes from home other than the specific and diligent awareness and action by parents. **Please help in ensuring the safety of our children by helping to keep St. Rita Catholic School a peanut and nut free zone.**



Personal Belongings

We have an acceptable user policy when it comes to electronics. For obvious safety and educational purposes, we ask that no cell phones, cameras, i-pods, expensive jewellery, hand-held games or any electronic gadgets be brought to school. Teachers may ask students to use their cell phones or other devices for instructional purposes. **Cell phones, if brought to school for emergency purposes, are to be turned off and left in their schoolbag. Please note that the school is not responsible for lost items. If students bring their electronics to school, they are responsible for them.** Parental support in this area is required and greatly appreciated. Please monitor your child's activities on the internet and the various social media sites. If students bully their classmates on any site, they will face consequences. If activity that occurs outside of school impacts the school climate, consequences will be imposed. Hockey sticks, baseball bats and hard balls are not permitted at school. Students who bike to school are asked to lock them up on the fence adjacent to the laneway. All rollerblades must be removed before entering the school.



ME to WE

Our next **DRESS DOWN DAY is on December 23, 2016.** Students are asked to bring \$1.00 to participate in these days. November Dress Down Day raised \$69.50. The monies go to Me to We initiatives.

Spirit Day

Wear your ugly sweater on December 16th for Spirit Day.



Thank You!!

Please join me in thanking, Ms. Sanderson for the outstanding job she did in leading us in our Remembrance Day Ceremony. Her knowledge and expertise was greatly admired by all. Our special guest Julie Dzerowicz, Member of Parliament for Davenport, enjoyed the ceremony thoroughly and expressed her appreciation.

St. Rita's Christmas Concert

Our Christmas concert will take place on December 22. Please ensure your child is at school by 6:15 p.m. as the concert will commence at 6:30 p.m. sharp.



Movie Night – How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Our Movie Night is on Friday, December 16th at 6:30 p.m. in the school gym. Admission is \$5.00 per person with popcorn and a drink. Pizza slices will be sold for \$2.00 per slice.

Christmas Break

Christmas Break is from:

December 26 - January 8, 2017.

Classes resume Monday, January 9th, 2017.

Kindergarten Items

The ELP class is in need of some items. If you have any of the following items at home, that you no longer need/want and would like to donate, we would be happy to take: small pots and pans, wooden spoons, old CDs and ribbons.

Another Flu Season has begun

Toronto Public Health Tips for Avoiding the Spread of Flu and Other Viruses:

- Get your flu shot
- Wash your hands often
- Cover your cough/sneeze
- Do the knuckle bump instead of shaking hands
- Stay home if you are sick



To keep students healthy, all children going to school must be protected against the following diseases:

- measles, mumps, rubella
- diphtheria, tetanus, polio
- meningococcal
- pertussis/whooping cough
- varicella/chickenpox – applies only to children born on or after January 2010, entering Junior Kindergarten

Watch for a letter from Toronto Public Health with details about your child.

416.338.7600 toronto.ca/health |  TORONTO Public Health



Helpful tips to avoid the flu:

- Get your flu shot
- Wash your hands often
- Cover your cough/sneeze
- Do the knuckle bump instead of shaking hands
- Stay home if you're sick

Visit toronto.ca/health to find a free flu clinic near you

416.338.7600 toronto.ca/health |  TORONTO Public Health



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

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2016-2017

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