



JANUARY 2018

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:

(416) 397-6350



Principal's Message:

Welcome back and Happy New Year to everyone! I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas Holiday with family and friends. We have a lot for which we are grateful! It is very fitting as we celebrate the Epiphany this week to be welcomed at our school by the nativity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

While January sees the beginning of the New Year, many of us also regard it as the true beginning of the long hard winter. In this sense, it is apt that the virtue for January is COURAGE. The quote for this month is from (Isaiah 41:10) *"Do not fear, for I am with you: do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous hand.* (Luke 1:30) "But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. (Matthew 28:5) The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. Jesus himself uses these words to strengthen his apostles (John 6:20) But he said to them, "It is I; don't be afraid." It takes a lot of courage to practice and to have the courage to live our faith.

The winter months are an important learning period for all students. Classroom routines and expectations have been established over the fall, areas for improvement have been identified and now children have a great opportunity to focus and apply themselves to achieve their true potential. Please continue to monitor and support your child's learning by checking their homework, reading with them and engaging with them in their studies whenever possible.

Respectfully,

Mr. W. Aristizabal



Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Kindergarten, and French Immersion begins **January 17, 2018 10:00 a.m.** Parents are invited to complete their application via the Board's Online Registration Website:

<https://soar.tcdsb.org/Login.aspx>. There will be a Kindergarten Registration Evening on **January 24, 2018, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.** children registering for the 2018-2019 school year. 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 **TCDSB Admissions Department** at 416-222-8282, ext. 5320 or via board's website for details:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/EarlyYears/KindergartenRegistration/Pages/default.aspx>

Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC)

Thank you to our CSPC for paying the TTC fare for our teacher and supervisor to participate in the Primary Mixed Indoor Soccer Tournament. Thanks also to the CSPC for all the time and commitment in our fundraisers for the month of December. In the true spirit of Christmas, the St. Rita Catholic School Community came to the assistance of eight families this year in our school community. These families received food, including a turkey, a chicken, and a ham as well as fresh fruits and vegetables! These donations were made possible thanks to the **Dovercourt Boys and Girls Club.**

The next CSPC meeting will be on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the staffroom. Please join us!

Cold Weather

As the cold weather and snow approaches, 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 snowpants, hats, boots, gloves and winter coats for outdoor play. 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(ren) needs to stay in for recess due to a cold or illness, we encourage you to keep them at home. There are no supervisors to watch over these students. Fresh air is healthy and unless it is just too cold, everyone will go outside for recess.



Snowballs and Inappropriate Schoolyard Play

Now that the snow has arrived, students are reminded that throwing snowballs is inappropriate and unsafe play in the schoolyard. We remind the students on a daily basis, but sometimes students forget when they are playing at recess. The students are allowed to play with the snow, but they are **not allowed to kick the snow or throw it at someone.**



Parents, we ask for your support in this matter and please remind your child that inappropriate schoolyard play will have consequences from detentions, community service, or resulting in a suspension. Once again, the school and the home are partners in ensuring safety for all.

Pizza and Subway Lunches

The pizza lunches for January will be held on **Thursday, January 25** Subway lunch will take place on **Thursday, January 18.**



Student Safety

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 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.**



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 bell the student will be marked late. If dropping off your child late, please do so at the office.



St. Rita C. S. Christmas Concert

Bravo to all the teachers, support staff, and students for sharing their talents at the Christmas Concert on December 18. Thank you to all the parents and family members who filled the gym and supported this event! Thank you to everyone who contributed baked goods, organized the bake sale tables and to all those who purchased baked goods. It was truly a successful evening! Congratulations to all the Raffle winners too! All proceeds will go towards student activities.

Christmas Bake Sale—\$384.30

Christmas Raffle—\$362.65

Santa Pictures—\$174.00



ME to WE

Me to We is a year-long program created to celebrate the power of young people to create positive change in the world. Students learn about social issues and discover how they can be part of the solution to both local and global challenges. Through our Dress Down Day in December we earned \$31.00

Our next DRESS DOWN DAY is Friday, January 26.

Primary Indoor Mixed Soccer

A dedicated group of primary students began practicing in November for the soccer tournament that was held on Wednesday, December 5th at St. Francis of Assisi.



At the tournament, the students played with all their hearts and represented St. Rita C.S. very well. Way to go, team!

Congratulations to: Eric M, Laura A, Alexander C, Kylie D, Vobien T, Nathan B, Sophia S, Mijo K, Arina B, Betzi O, Emily O, Matthew L, Maya B.

A special thank you to Mr. Koka for his time and dedication to coaching the team. Thank you also to Joshua Estevao who was the helper for the coach at the tournament.



Parents are required to report their child's immunization to Toronto Public Health. If you got a letter, our records show you still need to report. Visit toronto.ca/health, to update and report your child's immunization.

No health card? Toronto Public Health offers free immunization clinics.

Book an appointment online
www.tphbookings.ca

416.338.7600 toronto.ca/health | TORONTO Public Health

Cold Alerts and Weather-Related Cancellations/Closures

With the approach of winter weather, Twitter and the board website are the best sources of the latest information relating to cold weather alerts, cancellations and closures. Get all the information here:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/HealthandSafety/Pages/Weather-Related-Safety-Concerns.aspx>

And remember to check the Toronto Student Transportation Group website for any school bus delays throughout the year.

<http://www.torontoschoolbus.org/>



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

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