



Sts. Cosmas and Damian CATHOLIC SCHOOL

111 DANESBURY AVE., TORONTO, ON M6B 3L3

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Fax: 416-393-5190

Follow us on Twitter @Stscosmasanddam.

This is a great way to find out what is happening in our school.

Virtue of the month is **Peace**: *“Peace I leave you, my peace I give to you.”*
John 14:27

Dear Parents and Guardians:

November is a month of Remembrance. We begin with All Saints Day on November 1st. These are the Saints who guide us and inspire in our faith development. On All Souls Day, November 2nd, we remember all the faithful departed especially family members and friends who remain in our thoughts and hearts. Please keep all those who have died in your prayers.

On November 9th, we will take time to remember all the brave men and women who gave their lives in war to bring peace to our world, **“Lest We Forget”**.

Every month in a school is busy, but the end of October and November are our “building” months, which keep us especially busy. We updated our School Learning Plan which will provide the focus for our instruction. This year we will continue to focus on Problem Solving in the area of Mathematics.

Progress report cards will be distributed on the 13th of November. **Parent-Teacher Interviews will take place on Thursday, November 15th from 5:30-8:00pm and Friday, November 16th from 8:30-11:00am.**

We have installed a STOP sign in the school parking lot to slow the flow of traffic down as cars exit the lot. Please adhere to the sign. We have also acquired a new Bike Rack for students who wish to ride their bike to school. It is situated at the front door.

We have also implemented cash online for many of our school events. This allows parents to seamlessly pay for school events without sending cash to school. Please consider registering.

Sincerely,

C. Profiti
Principal

November 2018





Catherine Profiti
PRINCIPAL
Michael Caccamo 416-222-8282 ext. 2267
SUPERINTENDENT
Maria Rizzo 416-222-8282x3405
TRUSTEE
St. Charles Borromeo 416-787-0369
811 Lawrence Ave. W, M6A 1C3
PARISH
Tony Dias
CSPC CHAIR
www.tcdsb.org/cpic
CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB)
www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto
OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS)
382 8:30-3:00 11:15 – 12:15
ENROLLMENT HOURS OF OPERATION LUNCH HOUR

NEW REGISTRANTS WELCOME

Apply online: soar.tcdsb.org
Call 416-393-5398 or the TCDSB Admissions Department at 416-222-8282, ext. 5320.

For general information about the Toronto Catholic District School Board, visit www.tcdsb.org
Stay in touch with the latest news throughout the school year: Follow @TCDSB on Twitter or Toronto Catholic DSB on Instagram

November 2018

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1 Invitational Volleyball Tournament	2 9:00 First Nation Ceremony Gr4/5 9:00 OCGEs, gr 7 Pizza Lunch	3
4	5 Scientist in the School Kindergarten	6 Boys Intermediate Volleyball (Karate)	7	8 Girls Intermediate Volleyball Photo Retakes 	9 Remembrance Day Assemblies Pizza Lunch 	10
11	12	13 Progress Report s go home  Skills Canada presentation gr8 (Karate)	14 CSPC Meeting 7:00pm School library	15 Parent-Teacher interviews 5:30- 8:00pm Pizza Lunch	16 Parent- Teacher Interviews 8:30-11:00am PA DAY No school	17
18	19	20 Rosary Apostolate (Karate)	21	22	23 Pasta Lunch Gr 2/3, 3 to Pioneer Village	24
25	26	27 OYAP Grade 8 excursion (Karate)	28	29	30 Photos with Santa 9-11am  Pizza Lunch	<i>December 1</i>

Upcoming Dates:

December 7th PA Day

December 6th Christmas Family Night

December 12th Advent Confessions

December 14th Advent Mass

December 21st Last day of school

International Languages Elementary (ILE) International Language Program: November Update

IL Survey to Be Conducted in All TCDSB Elementary Schools

On July 12th, the Board of Trustees of the TCDSB approved a motion to survey parents in all TCDSB Elementary Schools to determine whether parents wish to continue or initiate an International Languages program at their child's school.

Process and Timelines:

- **One survey will be sent to each family with the Progress Report card with the oldest or only child in each family.**
- All surveys must be completed and returned in the sealed envelope provided, **to the school principal** no later than **November 27, 2018**.
- No survey will be accepted after November 27th.

Should parents wish to have a translated version to assist with the completion of the English survey, they can request a translated copy from the school principal or download a copy of the target language from:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/InternationalLanguages/International-Language-Survey/Pages/Default.aspx>. Translations are available in Spanish, Portuguese, Ukrainian, Arabic, Filipino, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional) Tamil, and Italian.

All parents are encouraged to participate to ensure that results reflect the individual and collective voice of the school community. Surveys from 67% of all families in the school must be completed and returned in order for the results to be considered viable. In order to determine if the program is to be continued, using the Board approved model or to move the IL program to an alternative model, **the majority of 51%** should be attained for the preferred selection.

In January, a report will be submitted to the Board of Trustees. This report will include a list of results by school, including the response rates for each school. However, only schools with the required 67% response rate will receive a detailed summary of parent responses.

For updated information regarding the International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program please visit:
<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/internationallanguages/pages/change-to-international-languages-program.aspx>

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thank you very much for your generous donations to the ME to We Thanksgiving Food Drive for St. Francis' Table. We

donated 10 boxes of food. The ME to WE team truly displayed their spirit of Social Justice.

Cross Country Meet

In October, over 70 of our students participated in the board wide cross country event at Earl Bales Park. Our students performed very well with just over 30 going to the regionals and another 9 who went on to the city finals. Our DHH students also participated in the cross country special Olympics where they brought home three first place medals. Congratulations to all participants and their dedicated coaches.

SICK KIDS VS Walk

On October 18th, our students participated in the SICK KIDS VS Walk to raise funds for the new Hospital for Sick Children. Donations are still coming in, but to date we have proudly raised over \$5000.00 for this very worthy cause. Thank you for your generosity and thank you to our enthusiastic staff for organizing. Check out the YouTube link online. It's really great and features our students.

<https://youtu.be/hJPXpXx1LyU>

Fire Safety Presentations

Early in October, Toronto Fire Services visited our school to make fire safety presentations to all grades from Kindergarten to grade 8. These presentations were timely and informative. Students were enthusiastic to learn about fire safety at home at school. Remember to change the batteries in your home fire alarms this weekend as we turn the clocks back to end day lights savings on Saturday evening.

Officer Mike Comes to Visit

On October 16th, our School Resource Officer Mike visited our Kindergartens and intermediate classes. In the Kindergartens, he taught them about being able to call 911 themselves should their parent or guardian need help in an emergency. In the intermediate classes, he discussed the use of social media and the need to be very prudent about what should and should not be shared on line. Students were engaged in this very informative presentation.

Father Michael comes to visit

We are so blessed to have Father Michael join us regularly for class visits. He came twice this month to visit all of our classes. The staff and students enjoy his inspiring stories and

lessons of the Gospel that he shares. Father Michael also celebrated **Thanksgiving Mass with us October 26th**.

CSPC Hallowe'en Dance-a-thon

The Catholic School Parent Council would like to thank all the students who contributed to the Dance-a-thon fundraiser. They were able to raise over \$2500.00 for our school.

First Nations Spirit Name Day

On Friday, November 2nd, Mr. Arrigo's grade 4/5 class will be participating in honoring one of their classmates' Spirit Name Day. This student is of First Nations heritage and her family has kindly offered to have an Elder come to the school to acknowledge this special day with us.

Why having a spirit name and colors are important

Everything in creation has a name. The trees, animals, plants, fish, water and air all have names. A spirit name is important for a good beginning, strong prayers, and the good life. A spirit name is important for personal protection against sickness and disease. When you have your spirit name, your communication with the spirit world is strengthened. It is the name by which Creator knows you. In the Native American naming tradition, names should change. Children receive names that are descriptive, they may be given new names at adolescence, and again as they go through life according to what their life experiences and accomplishments are. In other words, names should change as the individual changes.

Colors are as important as your name. You can hang your colors in your room if you are on a healing journey. You can make your dancing regalia with your colors in beads and material. You need to find a path to honor your spirit name and colors. You can honor it through different ceremonies once a year or more often with community members to support you. In summary, Native American naming customs cover a wide range of traditions and vary from Nation to Nation and this holds true in modern times as well as in days gone by.

In modern society we have a pale shadow of this Native American naming tradition: our nicknames. Nicknames provide insight not only into the individual but also into how other people think of them. Nicknames also serve as time markers. As one person noted, "It is interesting when I think about it. I can tell who/where many of my friendships stem from by what name they call me."

Megwetch (meeg' Wet' ch) = thank you



Monthly Update from the Board November 2018

Don't Forget to Turn Your Clocks Back
Weekend of November 3-4, 2018. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep!

November's Virtue is Peacemaking

Find all the monthly resources associated with our virtues of the month online

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/VirtueoftheMonth/Pages/Default.aspx>

TCDSB Trustee Election Results

Congratulations to the newly elected and re-elected Trustees for the Toronto Catholic District School Board:

- **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

The new Board of Trustees will be sworn in at the Inaugural Meeting on Monday, December 3, 2018.

Information about Cannabis

On Wednesday, October 17, 2018, cannabis became legal in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

The Toronto Catholic District School Board remains committed to maintaining safe school and work environments that are welcoming and support the Board's focus on excellence in education.

Although legislation permits the recreational use of cannabis, the vaping, smoking, or use of lighted tobacco, cannabis/marijuana, herbal material (or any other combustible material) and electronic smoking devices **is prohibited at all TCDSB schools and worksites.**

Current rules for ALL TCDSB and Ontario schools:

A positive school climate and a safe learning and teaching environment are critical for student success and central to our Board's goals as outlined in our Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

All current policies and regulations governing the use of cannabis remain in effect and include, but are not limited to:

- Possession of cannabis (except for medical purposes, if authorized by a health care practitioner such as a physician or a nurse practitioner) will not be permitted while in schools or at school-related activities, even after legalization of recreational cannabis.
- Suspension may be considered for a student under the influence or in possession of cannabis.
- Suspension will be required, and expulsion may be considered, if a student gives cannabis to a minor.

PLEASE NOTE:

Smoking or vaping cannabis is NOT permitted at schools and places where children gather

You are also not permitted to smoke or vape cannabis:

- At school, on school grounds, and all public areas within 20m of these grounds
- On children's playgrounds and public areas within 20m of playgrounds
- In child care centres, or where an early years program is provided
- In places where home child care is provided – even if children aren't present

Additional Resources about Cannabis

The following is the web page link to information from Toronto Public Health about Cannabis.

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/health-programs-advice/cannabis/>

Other Resources

- [Government of Canada – Cannabis web page](#) (Portal - Information about health impacts, licensed producers, impaired driving, legalizing and regulating)
- [Ontario Government – Cannabis Legalization webpage](#) (what will be legal and won't be legal in Ontario)
- [Cannabis Talk Kit](#) – resource for parents, and can be helpful for all adult allies

Congratulations to the new and returning CPIC committee members:

- Chair: John Del Grande, Ward 12
- Vice-Chair: Joe Fiorante, Ward 3
- Secretary: Geoffrey Feldman, Ward 2
- Treasurer: Gus Gikas, Ward 6
- Assistant Treasurer: Ruth Oliveros, Ward 8
- Communications Director: Desmond Alvares, Ward 11

Other Ward Reps:

- Ward 1: Alison Canning and Raul Tellez
- Ward 2: Natalia Marriott
- Ward 5: Melinda Hackett
- Ward 8: Wendell Labrador
- Ward 10: Annalisa Crudo-Perri
- Ward 11: Ben Xavier
- Ward 12: Anthony Antonucci

And the Parent and Community Representatives:

- Isabel Starck
- Karla Coto
- Patricia Buzzo, OAPCE Toronto
- Mary LaFramboise, Faith in Your Child

To connect with CPIC or your local representative, see <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/ParentInvolvement/Pages/CPIC-Representatives.aspx>

To learn more about parent engagement and the work of CPIC, see

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/ParentInvolvement/Pages/default.aspx>

For Gifted Congregated Programs Information Night

The Toronto Catholic District School Board offers Full Time/Congregated Elementary Gifted Programs for students in Grades 6 to 8 who have an exceptional ability of Giftedness. These programs are integrated into the regular school community. Important aspects of the program are curriculum extensions in depth, breadth and pace, daily continuity of programming, collaboration with like-minded peers and leadership opportunities.

A Parent Information evening will be held for parents/guardians interested in exploring a full time elementary Gifted Program for their child with the exceptional ability of Giftedness.

The Parent Information evening will take place at **St. Edward School, 1 Botham Rd., on November 22, 2018 at 7:00 pm.**

Catholic Parent Involvement Committee

Opportunities for Students

Prime Minister's Youth Council: New Members Needed

The Prime Minister's Youth Council is accepting applications for the next cohort of members. Applicants must be 16-24 years old. The application deadline is **November 30, 2018**. [Click here for more information and to apply.](#)

House of Commons Page Program

Every year, House of Commons Pages are selected from high schools and CEGEPs across Canada to work in the House of Commons. While pursuing their studies at a university in the National Capital Region, these students gain valuable work experience and make friendships and memories that will last a lifetime. This year's application deadline is December 3, 2018. [Click here for more information and to submit an application.](#)

The RBC Black History Month Student Essay Competition 2018

The Competition is only open to grade 12 students who are: legal residents of Canada; applying to a Canadian post-secondary school; and plan to attend in the 2019/2020 academic year. In 750 words or less tell us how you think young people can learn from the achievements and contributions of Black Canadians. Submission deadline is **Friday, December 7, 2018**. [Click here for details.](#)

The 2018-2019 TCDSB Awards Season Has Begun!

Nominations are now open for the following TCDSB Alumni Award, Award of Merit and Friends of Catholic Education Award which will be presented at Awards Night on May 6, 2019.

Deadline: third Friday in January (January 18).

- **TCDSB Alumni Award:** Open to TCDSB alumni who are still active in the Catholic community and who have distinguished themselves in their career or accomplishments.
- **TCDSB Award of Merit:** Open to former staff, parents and trustees who have made outstanding contributions to the TCDSB and to Catholic education (can only be considered for award after a three-year period has passed since departure from the TCDSB)
- **Friends of Catholic Education Award:** Open to members of the general public (individuals or organizations) who have accomplished

extraordinary service to Catholic Education but who may not be Catholic.

- **NEW Award: Sister Evanne Hunter Young Women in Leadership Award**

In honour of International Women's Day, the Sister Evanne Hunter Young Women in Leadership Award is a new award that will be given annually to two exceptional TCDSB female students in their graduating year (one grade 8 student and one grade 12 student) in recognition of their leadership qualities and involvement in social justice efforts in their school and community. **Beginning November 1**, all schools will be invited to nominate one female student in their graduating year for the award. [Click here for more information.](#)

For nomination forms and information, visit: www.tcdsb.org/awardsnight

Province of Ontario Seeks Feedback on Education

The Province is consulting with parents across the province to address concerns and get feedback in several areas of the education system.

Feedback from these consultations will help shape decisions in the following areas:

1. Improving student performance in [Science, Technology, Engineering and Math \(STEM\)](#)
2. Preparing students with needed job skills, such as [skilled trades](#) and coding
3. Improving provincial [standardized testing](#)
4. Ensuring students graduate with important life skills, including [financial literacy](#)
5. Managing the use of technology in classrooms, such as cell phones
6. Building a new age-appropriate [Health and Physical Education curriculum](#) that includes subjects like mental health, sexual health education and the legalization of cannabis
7. Developing the first-ever [Parents' Bill of Rights](#)

How to participate

There are three ways to participate:

[Open submission](#)

Share your views on all or some of the 7 key consultation areas that are outlined above:

1. Use the private and confidential online [submission form](#), or
2. Email your written submission to fortheparents@ontario.ca and:
 - include your name or the name of your organization

- add “provincial consultations” as the subject
- attach your submission as a PDF or Word document

Deadline is December 15, 2018.

Metrolinx and Municipal Transit Agencies Host Accessibility Meetings

Metrolinx and municipal transit agencies are hosting Accessibility Public Meetings across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, and extend a personal invitation for everyone to participate. They want to hear from members of the public and other organizations about the accessibility of GO Transit, PRESTO, UP Express, and our new and upcoming Rapid Transit services and projects.

- **East – Whitby: Wednesday November 7, 6:30-8:30 PM**
Abilities Centre
55 Gordon Street
Theatre / Multi-Purpose Room (second floor)
* Note: this is a joint meeting with Durham Region Transit
- **Central – Toronto: Wednesday November 14, 6:30-8:30 PM**
Metro Hall
55 John Street
Rooms 308 & 309 (third floor)
- **Teleconference: Wednesday November 21, 5:00-6:30 PM**
RSVP required; please submit questions and comments in advance of meeting
Teleconference details will be provided to registrants
- **West – Hamilton: Thursday November 29, 6:00-8:00 PM**
Hamilton Public Library, Central Branch
55 York Street
Hamilton Room (main floor)
* Note: this is a joint meeting with the City of Hamilton

American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation, real-time captioning and attendant services will be provided at the in-person meetings. Alternative formats and other accommodations will be made available upon request. Interested individuals should pre-register. Those who are interested but can not attend, have other options for providing feedback.

Detailed information: Accessibility Public Meetings webpage

(http://www.metrolinx.com/en/aboutus/accessibility/accessibility_meetings.aspx).

TCDSB Staff Arts Presents Shakespeare on the Green

November 2,3,9,10, 2018

At Brebeuf College School

211 Steeles Avenue East, North York

Tickets on sale \$20

www.tcdsb.org/staffarts for more information or to order tickets

Angel Foundation for Learning Evening to Feed the Soul Gala

November 9th at Riviera Parque

For details and ticket information:

https://www.angelfoundationforlearning.org/?page_id=6185

Help feed hungry children, and support a variety of opportunities for students who need assistance.

November Meetings

- November 1—Student Achievement Committee
- November 5—Governance and Policy Committee
- November 13—Corporate Services Committee
- November 14—SEAC
- November 15—Regular Board
- November 19—CPIC
- November 29—Caucus
The Inaugural Meeting of the Board will be held on December 3rd.

Agendas generally posted the weekend prior to the meeting at www.tcdsb.org

Other Dates to Note:

- November 1—All Saints’ Day
<https://www.tcdsb.org/Pages/All-Saints-Day.aspx>
- November 1-7—Canadian Down Syndrome Week <https://cdss.ca/community/events-activities/down-syndrome-awareness-week/>
- November 2—All Souls’ Day
<https://www.tcdsb.org/Pages/All-Souls-Day.aspx>
- November 3-8--Holocaust Education Week
- November 5-9--Treaties Recognition Week
<http://www.chiefs-of-ontario.org/event/treaty-recognition-week-2/>

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- November 6--OAPCE Commissioning and Awards Presentation
<https://www.tcdsb.org/forparents/oapce-toronto/events/pages/oapce-toronto-commissioning-and-awards-presentation.aspx>
 - November 7—A Catholic Call to Serve
<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2018-2019/pages/catholic-call-to-serve.aspx>
 - November 11--Remembrance Day (**Schools commemorate on November 9th**)
<https://www.tcdsb.org/pages/remembrance-day.aspx>
 - November 14--Take Our Kids to Work Day
<https://www.tcdsb.org/pages/take-our-kids-to-work-day.aspx>
 - November 19-23—Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week
<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/safeschools/bullyingawarenessandprevention/pages/bullying-awareness-and-prevention.aspx>
 - November 20—Memorial Mass to honour students and staff who have passed away. 7PM at the Catholic Education Centre
 - November 21—World Day of Poor
<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2018-2019/pages/world-day-of-the-poor-.aspx>
 - November 23—Holodomor Memorial Day
<https://www.tcdsb.org/Pages/Holodomor-Memorial-Day.aspx>
 - December 2—Advent Begins

Visit www.tcdsb.org to get more information about any of these events

And remember to subscribe to ENews to receive regular updates via email

<https://www.tcdsb.org/News/eNews/Pages/default.aspx>

[X](#)

And/or follow @TCDSB on Twitter to get all the latest news and information