

History and Tradition of St. Sebastian

The school is named in honour of St. Sebastian, martyr and patron of athletes, soldiers, police officers and physicians. Sebastian was martyred for his belief in Jesus during the reign of the Emperor Diocletian in about the year 288.

St. Sebastian Catholic School endeavours to create a Catholic learning community in which students will be able to develop their spiritual, intellectual, physical and social potential.

Everyone is to respect the person and rights of all members of the school community, without discrimination due to race, colour, ethnic origin or creed.



The St. Sebastian Catholic School staff assists parents /guardians and the parish in faith development as well as sacramental preparation. We celebrate the Liturgy as a school community on a regular basis throughout the school year. All families are encouraged to attend Mass regularly on Sundays and to pray with their children.



What is CSAC?

CSAC is the Catholic School Advisory Council . **School Councils** provide advice and support to the principal and school board. Every school must have a school council; members include parents, a non-teaching staff member, and a community representative. The majority of members must be parents and the chair must be a parent. Principals do not vote on school council decisions. School councils are responsible for:

- sharing information with parents and the community and seeking their input on matters the council is discussing
- providing advice to the principal and school board on issues such as school year calendars, strategies to improve school performance, codes of conduct and dress, selection criteria for principals, and board policies that will affect the school

Many school councils are also actively involved in organizing social events for the school community, and in fundraising.

CSAC meets once a month in the school library from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Some of the items that have been discussed at meetings include:

- Planning upcoming events at St. Sebastian School such as the Annual Book Fair, Pizza Lunches, Hotdog Lunches, Civies Day and our Annual Dance-a-thon Fundraiser
- Discuss events and initiatives taking place at Board level such as workshops and conferences available to parents (most of these are FREE!!),
- Share information with parents, for example: Safe Schools, Budget Consultation, Appropriate Dress Code Policy
- Discuss extra-curricular activities and educational trips for the students
- Allocate funds in support of various school initiatives and trips

School Tips

School Start Time: 8:45 am
AM Recess: 10:15—10:25 am
Lunch: 11:40—12:40 pm
PM Recess: 2:10— 2:20 pm
Dismissal: 3:35 pm



Student Absence / Lateness

Parents/Guardians must call and leave a message on the answering machine (press "1"). Include child's name, teacher's name, grade and reason for absence. **When a student arrives late for school, he or she must report to the office before going to class, to receive a late slip.**

Early Dismissal

Children who must leave before dismissal time may do so only with permission from a parent or guardian, as indicated by a dated note.

Visiting Our School

All visitors, including parents and former students, must report to the school office. Visitors must sign in and will be issued a visitor's badge. They should go directly to the person with whom they will be meeting. For safety reasons, our school maintains a closed-door policy. Please respect this.

Appropriate Dress Code

The Appropriate Dress Code consists of any combination of white and navy blue garments. (e.g. plain white top, navy blue bottom or, navy blue top and bottom). ***NO DENIM, JEANS, or LOGOS!!*** Clothing should be adapted to weather conditions. Only navy blue or white sweaters, jackets or hoodies are allowed in class. For further clarification see *General Dress Code for Pupils Policy S.S.07* at www.tcdsb.org .

HOMEWORK AND STUDY SKILLS

To support student success we all need to work together as a team. St. Sebastian Catholic School strives to provide a caring and supportive environment that encourages all students to reach their full potential, values the individuality of each student, recognizes the varied learning styles of each student, and encourages all students to succeed.

Parents are their children's first teachers and there are many ways in which they can support and nurture the learning that takes place in school.

Parents are encouraged to:

- Establish homework routines and expectations
- Talk about school and the importance of a good education
- Read with and to their child
- Practice math skills
- Support extra-curricular activities
- Praise effort and celebrate success
- Be available to help – but don't take over the work
- Set realistic and positive goals
- Speak positively about teachers and support their authority and work
- Communicate closely with your child and their teacher

Homework includes the reinforcement of skills as well as the preparation and application of new curriculum content. Parental support and involvement has a direct impact on their child's school success. Homework assignments provide the opportunity for parents to see and support what their child does in school and provide an extension to the classroom setting. Homework and homework time should be a priority. A routine and a regular time and place for homework is always helpful. Homework is assessed as a Learning Skill and forms a part of the Provincial Report Card each term.

As a guideline, the length of nightly homework time should equal the student's grade X 10 minutes (e.g. a grade 4 student should spend 40 minutes (4 X 10) completing homework.



YOU the PARENT!

Would you like to know more about CSAC?

Do you want to know what goes on at the monthly meetings?

Are you interested in becoming a Parent Representative or a member of the Executive Council?

Do you want to know what is happening at St. Sebastian School?

Get up to date information from the Principal and School Board about upcoming events happening at the school....Come to a meeting and get involved!

More important than HOW parents get involved is that they ARE involved with their child's school!

The payback is enormous.

You'll get to know your fellow parents, you'll learn what's happening at school, and you'll have a hand in making St. Sebastian a stronger and more exciting place to learn.

When you become an active member of the school community, your child knows that education is worthwhile and valued.

That message will last a lifetime!

WELCOME

St. Sebastian Catholic Elementary School



**717 Brock Avenue
Toronto, ON, M6H-3P1
Telephone: (416) 393-5354**

Principal: Mr. Vincent Tanzini
Secretary: Mrs. Maria Ciciarelli

St. Sebastian Catholic School Advisory Council



**Catholic School Advisory Council
(CSAC)**

Co-Chairpersons: Rachel Castro
Dianne Andrade

Secretary: Dianne Andrade
Treasurer: Rachel Castro

Parent Reps: Christina Sebastiao
Adelina Borges

Email: csac.stsebastian@tcdsb.org