

ST. SIMON NEWSLETTER

Happy Children Who Love to Learn



Contacts

Principal:

Mr. M. Boccia

Vice Principal:

Mr. B. Howlett

Superintendent:

Mr. A. Della Mora

Trustee:

Mr. S. Piccininni

Parish Church:

Fr. Efren

St. Jude

Catholic Church

3265 Weston Rd.

416-742-9072

Secretary:

Ms. P. Pisani

CSAC Chair

Mr. E. D'Alfonso

St. Simon is an eco-friendly school:

The newsletter is only available in electronic form.

If you would like a newsletter sent to your email, please send a request to: brett.howlett@tcdsb.org

The newsletter is also accessible via the school website:

<http://www.tcdsb.org/schools/stsimon/News/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>

If you wish to receive a paper copy please contact your child's teacher, or the office.

St. Jude's Parish newsletter is also available on the school website.

Virtue of the Month: Forgiveness

How timely that the virtue for this month is FORGIVENESS, not only because we are in the season of Lent but also because it is an important cornerstone of our faith and one that Jesus modeled for us in his life and death. We are reminded that forgiveness is a gift to ourselves as we let go of the burden of resentment when we forgive another person and it's a gift to our children when we teach and model it to them. This month St. Simon will be exploring the virtue of forgiveness by fulfilling our Lenten Promises presented at our Ash Wednesday Liturgy.

Highlights For March

4- CSAC Meeting 7pm Library

Gr 8 Immunization

10- Skills Canada Presentation Gr. 7&8

11- Autism Awareness Dance

13- Virtue/ DPA Awards Assembly

16-20 March Break No School

25- Jr. Boys Volleyball

26- Jr. Girls Volleyball

27-Earth Hour- Lights Out



Lent

The 40 days of Lent, which precedes Easter is based on two Biblical accounts: the 40 years of wilderness wandering by the Israelites and our Lord's 40 days in the wilderness at which point He was tempted by Satan.

Each year the Church observes Lent where we, like Israel and our Lord, are tested. We participate in abstinence, times of fasting, confession and acts of mercy to strengthen our faith and devotional disciplines. The goal of every Christian is to leave Lent a stronger and more vital person of faith than when we entered.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The seasons and days of penance in the course of the liturgical year (Lent, and each Friday in memory of the death of the Lord) are intense moments of the Church's penitential practice. These times are particularly appropriate for spiritual exercises, penitential liturgies and pilgrimages as signs of penance, voluntary self-denial such as fasting and almsgiving, and fraternal sharing (charitable and missionary works)." (CCC 1438)

Source: <http://www.catholic.org/clife/lent/faq.php>

Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC):

www.tcdsb.org/cpic

School website:

<http://www.tcdsb.org/SCHOOLS/STSIMON>

School BLOG:

<http://stsimonschoolblog.blogspot.ca>



St. Simon Catholic School

20 Wallasey Ave.

Tel - 416-393-5383

Fax - 416-397-6299

School Hours

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m

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Who, What, Where, When, Why and How?

St. Simon's Hosts W5H

On Tuesday February 17th, St. Simon School hosted and participated in the 2015 Junior W5H tournament along with St. Roch, St. Andrew and Monsignor John Corrigan. After 3 intense rounds of open-ended, designated and toss-up questions, our school placed second overall with a total of 94 points. AWESOME JOB ST. SIMON!!

Congratulations to our W5H team, members are; Vanessa Andrianopoulos, Giulia Colalillo, Martina Scalfio, Andrew Stekar, David Armata, Damon Lam, Queenie Castasus and Daniel Della Rossa. We would also like to thank our gr. 8 helpers: Sarah, Camilla, Nikki, Renzo, Manny, Isabella and Alexia. Finally a big thank you to our coaches Mrs. Urbani, Mrs. Barillaro and Madame Arena.

Junior W5H team



Sports

Boy's Basketball

Although our Intermediate boys did not move on in our regional tournaments, they trained hard and demonstrated excellent teamwork and sportsmanship. They represented St. Simon very well and look forward to a new season. The line-up included:

Dale Hibbert, Captain
Daniel Varacalli, Assistant Captain
Nick Apa
David Buslon
Marc Anthony Fletcher
Jaden Andraos - Fazari
Matthew Di Salvo
Devonte Hibbert
Carter Salmon
Harold Wiggan

Thanks to coaching and mentoring from Mr. Feht, Terrel Auguste and Mr. Di Croce.

Girl's Basketball

On Wednesday, February 11th, the Girls Basketball Team participated in the Divisional Basketball Tournament at St. Jude's. The girls played a total of four games: a loss against St. Jude, two wins against Father Serra, and an unfortunate loss against St. Jude's in the finals. Throughout the tournament, the girls continued to demonstrate a positive attitude and displayed a lot of energy, enthusiasm, and team spirit. After facing a challenging first game against St. Jude's, the girls played for two well-earned victories in two of their matches against Father Serra, bringing them to second place in the tournament finals.

The coaches and girls would like to extend a warm thank you to St. Jude's school for hosting us and to Mr. De Caria for organizing and convening the games.

We would also like to once again extend a sincere thank you to all of the parents who have continued to support their daughters, for helping with transportation to and from St. Jude's, and providing coffees and lunches. The coaches look forward to participating with all of you in next year's tournaments.

The girls' team is comprised of: Captain Alona Fiandaca, Victoria Cafua, Gabrielle Panzeca, Isabelle De Ciantis-Freire, Camilla Contento-Parrotta, Nicole Atanda, Olivia Grande, Isabella Naccarato, Heidi Asante, Brenda Enahoro, Nathaly Burgoa, and Liliana Caracci.

Congratulations on your victory, girls!

Sincerely, Ms. Pedace, Mrs. Ulatowska, and Mr. McIsaac
The Coaches



March 2015

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The Year of Charity

St. Simon's Helps Others in Need

Hello St. Simon's School,

I wanted to let you know that we received your incredible donation of \$500!! I want to extend sincere thanks and deep gratitude to the students, staff and parents of St. Simon! We are so grateful and appreciative of your support year after year, and none of our projects overseas would be possible without the help of passionate and dedicated school communities like the one at St. Simon! Thank you to all the students, because I am sure they worked hard for this, and I want to recognize them for their efforts!!

Melanie
Free the Children



March Message from Your Trustee

It seems as if it was just yesterday when I welcomed everyone back to the start of another school year, and now here we are quickly approaching the last few months.

I hope that the students in our secondary schools who recently completed their first semester exams were successful, and that they are having a good start to the second semester. I also hope that our elementary students are continuing to enjoy their school year, and achieving academic success with the support of their parents, teachers and other staff.

As always, I encourage parents and staff to check the board's website for the latest news (www.tcdsb.org) and to follow TCDSB on Twitter for updates on a daily basis. With March comes the hope for an early Spring, particularly after what has seemed like a very long and cold winter.

For those who will be taking some time off during the March break, I wish you a safe, restful and enjoyable holiday.
Best regards,

Sal Piccininni



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From the Office

Student Information Updates

As the year progresses, often some information changes. Please ensure that all emergency contact information is current. If an emergency were to happen, the school must have current contacts. If you have changed your phone number or address please inform the office.



Winter is Here!

As the weather is changing, please ensure that students are dressed appropriately for the cold, ever changing weather. Students should have a pair of indoor shoes to wear in the building and packing an extra pair of socks, gloves and pants is recommended.

Picking Up and Dropping Off Students

Travelling to and from school is a very important part of a students day. Therefore it needs to be done safely. Over the past few months, many accidents have been narrowly avoided in front and around our school. Drivers are reminded that they are not to pick up or drop off students in the bus drop off area or in the staff parking lot. Drivers are also encouraged to drive with courtesy and generosity as all drivers want to arrive at their destination in a safe manner.

Due to the snow banks on the street, the street is significantly more narrow. If you are picking up students, please try not to park on the street opposite the bus parking as this is one of the many areas that causes congestion and traffic issues.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to safety.

International Languages

The TCDSB International Languages Program invites parents to register their children in the Spanish Language Program held at St. Simon every Saturday from 9:30am– 12pm. Everyone is welcome. We receive new students every Saturday.

Thank you ,

Ms. Lopez, Instructor

To report an absence please call 416-393-5383 (4pm-8am)

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2014 – 2015

Number of school days	194
Number of Professional Activity Days	6
Christmas Break	December 22, 2014– January 2, 2015
Family Day	February 16, 2015
Mid-Winter Break	March 16 - 20, 2015
Good Friday	April 3, 2015
Easter Monday	April 6, 2015
Victoria Day	May 18, 2015
Last day of classes	June 25, 2015

Six Professional Development Days

Parent teacher interview	November 14, 2014
Faith Day	December 5, 2014
Ministry	January 23, 2015
Parent teacher interview	February 13, 2015
Ministry	June 5, 2015
Assessment & Evaluation	June 26, 2015

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

TRUSTEES 2014-2015

Wards

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino | 7. Michael Del Grande, Chair |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 8. Garry Tanuan |
| 3. Sal Piccininni | 9. Jo-Ann Davis |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 10. Barbara Poplawski |
| 5. Maria Rizzo | 11. Angela Kennedy |
| 6. Frank D'Amico | 12. Nancy Crawford, Vice-Chair |

Christopher MacDonald, Student Trustee Hannah McGroarty, Student Trustee



St. Simon Catholic School

March 2015

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4 12:30 - HPV – 2 nd dose Gr. 8 girls 7pm CSAC mtg	5 	6 World Day of Prayer Choir to School Board Office	7 
8	9 Skills Canada Presentation Gr 7 & 8 students	10	11 TCDSB Autism Awareness Dance	12 Rosary Team 	13	14
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <h3>March Break</h3> </div>						
22	23	24 Ms. Tafuri & Mr. Ricci's classes visit Crawford Lake	25 Boys' Junior Volleyball Tournament	26 Girls' Junior Volleyball Tournament	27	28 Earth Hour 
29 	30	31				



Monthly Update from the Board

March 2015

TCDSB Safe School Inquiry

Public Meetings

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

6:30- 9:00 PM

St. Andrew Catholic School, 2533 Kipling Avenue

Etobicoke

Wednesday March 25, 2015

6:00 PM- 9:00 PM

Senator O'Connor Secondary School, 60 Rowena Drive
North York

*All Public Meetings are open to any person or group from the TCDSB community wishing to present their views. No prior registration is required. Those wishing to testify may contact Christina DeLuca from TCDSB Corporate Services at 416-222-8282 ext. 2473 or by email: christina.deluca@tcdsb.org

No Change to Secondary School Admission Policy At This Time

No changes to the policy will be implemented in the short term. Status quo remains until further consultations are conducted regarding any proposed recommendations arising from the first phase of parent input and the findings of first cycle of School Accommodation Reviews. For more information, see the letter from the Director on our website: <http://www.tcdsb.org/News/othernews/2015/Pages/Letter-from-Director-of-Education-Regarding-Secondary-School-Admissions-Policy.aspx>

March 21—World Down Syndrome Day: <http://www.tcdsb.org/pages/world-down-syndrome-day.aspx>

March 22—World Water Day: <http://www.tcdsb.org/pages/world-water-day.aspx>

Earth Hour—March 27th 10 a.m. (for school); **March 28th 8:30 p.m.** (at home) <http://www.tcdsb.org/board/environment/earthhour/pages/default.aspx>

Voices of Charity

The Director of Education, Angela Gauthier, presents her latest webcast which focuses on the pursuit of innovation and excellence in TCDSB schools: <http://youtu.be/fD19Ff5ZaC4>

Upcoming Information Sessions for Parents

CSAC Training Session—Understanding school funding and the Board budget; more about fundraising--March 4th, 7 p.m. at Catholic Education Centre, 80 Sheppard Avenue East

OAPCE Toronto hosts PRO (Parents Reaching Out) Grants Workshop #1
Partnerships, connecting to curriculum--April 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Information for Students:

Summer Employment—Focus on Youth Accepting Applications Until March 27th
Check online for detailed information <http://www.tcdsb.org/forstudents/focusonyouth/pages/foy-2015.aspx>

Scholarships, Bursaries, Awards, Contests—Get the latest information here: <http://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/AwardsScholarshipsBursariesContests/Pages/default.aspx>

Special Events for March

March 2—School Support Staff Appreciation Day: <http://www.tcdsb.org/pages/support-staff-appreciation-day-2015.aspx>

March 7—Lift Jesus Higher Rally: <http://www.tcdsb.org/pages/lift-jesus-higher-rally.aspx>

March 8—International Women’s Day

March 16-20—March Break

March 21—International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination: <http://www.tcdsb.org/pages/international-day-for-elimination-of-racial-discrimination.aspx>

Board and Committee Meetings

March 3—Budget Committee

March 5--Student Achievement Committee

March 9--Special Board

March 10--Governance & Policy Committee

March 12--Corporate Affairs Committee

March 25—Special Education Advisory Committee

March 26--Board

March 30--OAPCE Toronto

(Meeting dates subject to change; check the website for the latest information: <http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/TrusteesoftheBoard/boardmeeting/information/Pages/Meeting-Schedule.aspx>)

Remember to follow us on Twitter @TCDSB for all the latest news and information, or visit our website at www.tcdsb.org.