



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School

116 Fermanagh Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M6R 1M2
Telephone: 416-393-5227
Fax: 416-393-5873

Principal:
D. Kairys

Secretary:
A Krol

Superintendent:
J. Saraco
Tel: 416-222-8282

Trustee:
Barbara Poplawski
416-241-7130

CSAC Chair:
Rose Milito
Tel: 416-222-8282 ext:88326

Parish:
Father Daniel Utrecht
St. Vincent de Paul CS
263 Roncesvalles Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M6R 2L9
416-393-7646

Hours of Operation:
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Lunch Hour:
11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

September 2015

Welcome to St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School

Principal's Message:

It is with anticipation and excitement, that I join the St. Vincent de Paul School Community. I look forward to working with you in making the upcoming year a stellar one. I also look forward to continuing with the many, outstanding St. Vincent de Paul traditions and working together on creating new ones. On behalf of the entire St. Vincent de Paul staff, welcome to the 2015-2016 school year. We extend special welcome to Sheila Malloch replacing Melissa Pavesi on her maternity leave, Bozena Grymek-Nowinowski, librarian technician replacing Andrea Blonde and Jessica Awaldalla replacing Merlin Tchaphchet.

Parent Connect

Parent Connect is a weekly email to keep families up to date with the events at the school. It is one of the primary forms of communication by the Catholic School Committee and the principal.

Please forward you email to stvd227@yahoo.ca. Also please visit our portal at <http://www.tcdsb.org/schools/stvincentdepaul/Pages/default.aspx>.

SCHOOL HOURS – 9:00 am -3:30 pm

Morning Recess	10:42-10:57 am
Lunch Grs 1-8	11:45-12:45 pm
Afternoon Recess	2:10-2:25 pm
Dismissal	3:30 pm

CLASS PLACEMENTS

The teachers put a great deal of time and effort into placing students into classes to provide effective working groups which will benefit all children in all classes. Consideration is given to the following criteria:

- learning styles
- academic abilities
- social groupings
- special education / English as a Second Language needs
- social/emotional/behavioral needs
- balance of males/females
- previous placement in combined classes.

As the month of September progresses, with enrolment fluctuations, it may be necessary to make minor or major adjustments in class size and composition. Parents of students involved in any class changes will be notified as changes become necessary. We ask for your cooperation and patience during this time.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Call 416-393-5326 or the TCDSB Admissions Department at 416-222-8282, ext. 5320. 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

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular school attendance and punctuality are important for student progress. Children should only be kept home when they are ill. Being on time for the start of the day is important. The bell rings at 9:00 a.m. If you drive your children to school, they should be in the schoolyard by this time so that they can assemble with their peers and be involved in all activities from the beginning of class. **All accumulated lates are documented and appear on the student report card. For many accumulated lates and absences, students will be referred to the social worker.**

Code of Conduct/Progressive Discipline

St. Vincent de Paul Code of Conduct is summarized under the 3 Rs.

- *Respect for self and others*
- *Respect for property*
- *Responsibility for own actions*

Please note the board progressive discipline policy is also implemented.

Homework

Your child's agenda provides an important means of communication between home and school. Please review the first section of the agenda which describes our Code of Conduct, Expectations and Safety Concerns.

Safe Arrival Policy

Please contact the school by phone or written note if your child is going to be absent or late. Your notification informs us that they are under your supervision and saves the office staff and teachers much time and concern. We will call home if the school has not been notified. **It is important that all work, home, emergency phone numbers and contacts are accurate and up to date. There is supervision in the yards from 8:45 a.m. until the bell rings at 9:00. Since students arriving before that time are unsupervised, no student should be in the yard before 8:45 a.m.**

School Yard Boundaries AM/PM

Both parents and teachers share a commitment for the safety of the students at St. Vincent de Paul CS. To ensure proper supervision of our students, we request that

between 8:45-9:00 am and 3:30-3:45 pm parents and guardians adhere to the practice of remaining in the periphery of the yard closer to the north building. This will allow teachers a clear view of the playground.

Please note that should you observe a matter of concern, you are requested to refer the matter to the staff member on duty.

Appropriate Dress Code

Please be reminded that an appropriate dress code is in effect in all of the TCDSB schools. Students are to be attired in clothing that is white and navy and not bear embellishment such as company logos, stripes and the like. Please also insure that the style of the clothing is in keeping with the Catholic Values of the School. This code does not extend to coats and jackets worn outside.

A school t-shirt may be worn for gym or on civvies days, as well as at tournaments.

Please make sure that the shoes are non scuffing.

Traffic Congestion

With the growing number of students being picked up and dropped off at school, the streets and parking areas immediately around the school become dangerously congested. Drive with extreme caution and be alert, patient and courteous. We ask that you obey all traffic signs and always assume the children have "the right of way". We also ask that you not park on Fermanagh Avenue as it is considered a "Bus Loading Zone".

Early Dismissal

Students who must leave before dismissal time may do so ONLY with contact from the parent. Primary/junior students must be picked up by a parent. If you are designating another adult to pick up your child, please inform the office by sending in a written note. Classroom routines are disrupted when parents come to the classroom door, or come early and wait around the classroom. We ask for your cooperation and understanding in avoiding such disruptions. Your child can meet you at the office.

Physical Education Classes

Physical Education is an integral part of the school curriculum as mandated by the Ministry of Education. It is required that all students participate in Phys. Ed., unless otherwise excused by a medical certificate. In order to participate fully and safely, students must come appropriately dressed for gym and sport activities. We recommend shorts and t-shirts, track suits and running shoes.

Recess

Students are expected to go outdoors for recess. If the weather is poor or extremely cold, indoor recess routines are followed. Generally speaking, a child who is too sick to be out at recess is too sick to attend school and profit educationally. We regret that there is no provision for students to stay indoors during recess. If there is a special circumstance, such requests MUST be accompanied by a letter from the doctor to the Principal stating the reason requesting the child stay indoors.

Activity is encouraged during recess which includes ball play.

To keep students safe, children are to play only in the Ball Zones, and only with soft air or sponge balls.

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Parent Interviews

We encourage parent-teacher communication. We have two formal interview nights/days. At other times the teacher may call you or you may wish to call and make an appointment with the teacher to discuss any concerns you may have. Teachers are not available to speak to parents during class time.

Important Forms to be Returned

Emergency Numbers

Your children are kept under continuous supervision throughout the day, both in the school and in the yard. However, unforeseen incidents will happen where we need to reach you during the day. Please ensure we have an up to date home number, work number and emergency contact number. If there are any changes in any of these numbers please notify the office.

Excursions

A Local Excursion permission form is to be signed by each parent on a yearly basis. This will authorize us to take your child on short walks to the park, around the neighbourhood, etc. From time to time, the teacher may feel that a particular trip to an interest center would be educationally valuable to the students to supplement the program in the classroom. For trips of this nature, you will be notified of the details of excursion date, time, cost etc. and your signed permission will be required to allow your child to participate in such outings. **Please note: excursions are not optional – they are part of the curriculum.**

Snacks

Students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks to school. We ask that you provide snacks that are not only healthy, but in small manageable portions which do not require spoons, forks, can openers, etc. This routine also allows us to keep food contained thus avoiding problems with rodents, roaches and food allergies. Encourage your children to bring home, on a daily basis, food they have not finished at school. This also allows you to monitor appropriate portions and preferences. Snacks are not permitted to be eaten in washrooms or in hallways.

Student Agendas

Staff, parents, and students are eager to begin using agendas on a daily basis. Each grade 2 to 6 teacher will be emphasizing with their students the importance of using the agenda to keep track of homework and assignments. We encourage parents to check this organizer on a regular basis, if not daily, and to make comments when they feel it is appropriate. Teachers will give parents specific instructions (i.e. frequency of signatures) at Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night on **Thursday, October 1st, 2015.**
We ask that you take the time to read the first section of the Agenda with your child.

Registration

Children who are 4 years of age by the end of December are eligible for E.L.P. classes. This is a two year Early Learning Program for 4 and 5 year old children (previously J.K. & S.K.).

All registrations require the following documentation:

1. Your child's Birth Certificate or Landed Immigrant Status Certificate
2. Your child's Baptismal certificate within the Catholic Church
3. Telephone number for your home, work and emergency contact
4. Your child's Immunization record
5. Proof of residency

Pediculosis – Head Lice

If you discover that your child has been infected with head lice, please advise the office in order that classes can be checked to avoid further spreading. Outbreaks of pediculosis are common among school children and are not considered a health problem. They are more of a nuisance. Any person, however clean, may become infested by exposure to other infected persons or their belongings, particularly hats, coats, blankets, combs, brushes etc. Parents are advised to check for lice on a regular basis. The eggs (nits) are attached near the base of the individual hairs, usually along the hair line at the back and sides of the head.

School Texts and Materials

Encourage your children to take good care of their school materials, texts and library books. Because of increased costs and budget cuts, it is not possible to replace lost or damaged items each year. If your child loses or damages school materials, you will be informed and a fee may be charged.

Lost and Found

It is very important that you mark all your children's property with his/her name. We do have a lost and found box and you are welcome to check it any time you are in the school.



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Student Information

Please ensure that all information regarding your child is up to date. If there are any changes, please notify the school immediately. If there are custodial concerns, it is important that legal documentation be supplied, otherwise, both parents are assumed to have equal access to their children. All documentation and information received will be kept in the strictest of confidence. It is not our policy to give out any information pertaining to your child. This also includes parents coming to the office to ask for class lists of phone numbers in order to arrange birthday parties.

Birthdays

We ask that if you wish to celebrate your child's birthday at school, please do so by donating a book to the classroom. Because of the increase in the number of students with peanut and other allergies or diet restrictions we are requesting that you do not send any food to school. We will make the day special by announcing birthdays over the PA each morning.

St. Vincent de Paul CS

We are most fortunate to be affiliated with St. Vincent de Paul Church. Father Dan Utrecht very generously gives of his time to enhance the spiritual experiences of the students at St. Vincent de Paul.

Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night

We invite you to our first official event of the year on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1st, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the evening is to allow for an informal gathering of the school and home and also to allow staff to introduce new curriculum, materials and expectations to the parent community. The evening is not intended to be a discussion of individual student progress. Discussion about your child can be accomplished through an appointment at any time, or at the first parent-teacher interviews. We look forward to a great turn out.



Student Insurance

Parents are encouraged to carefully read the options provided by the Insurance Company and seriously consider purchasing one of the very reasonable packages. The plan provides protection for dental damage due to accidents, fractures and other important coverage's which are not covered by the board nor Government Health Insurance Services. If you decide to take out one of the policies, simply complete the application, include a cheque and send it directly to the insurance company. **Please do not return it to the school.**

Visitors

In order to make the school a safe place for your child, it is Board policy that **all visitors** must report to the office when entering the school building. Any messages, books, lunches etc. will be passed on to your child via office personnel. As a courtesy, if possible, make prior arrangements to speak to staff at a mutually convenient time. Schools are becoming increasingly busy places, commitment by staff to their students and their programs take precedence over unexpected visits and interruptions. Please understand we do welcome you; it's just that we need to know who is in our school and the reason for the visit.

School Telephone

Parents are asked to refrain from requesting the school secretary to deliver messages to students in their classrooms. This should be done in emergency situations only. Also, students should refrain from using the school telephone unless it is an emergency. Any arrangement to visit friends after school **SHOULD BE DONE THE NIGHT BEFORE, NOT THROUGH THE SCHOOL OFFICE.**

Office Hours

Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. An answering system is available for messages 24 hours a day. Messages may be left for the office, if your child will be absent or for the teacher for other matters.

Safety

Please take a few minutes to review basic safety and security rules with your child. This will reinforce lessons taught at school during the school year. It is important to continuously remind your child to cross streets only where there are lights, crossing guards or pedestrian crossings. With our safe schools policy, we also ask you to reinforce rules on not leaving school grounds, not talking to strangers and being continuously aware of their surroundings. The yard is supervised starting at 8:45 a.m. during all recesses, and at lunch time.

Allergen Aware School

Each year more and more students are diagnosed with severe life threatening allergies.

St. Vincent de Paul is an allergen aware school. We have many students who suffer from Food Allergy to Peanuts (and products that contain them), Chickpeas, Seeds (sesame, tahini/tachini, cottonseed, caraway, mustard, flaxseed, poppy seed, psyllium, sunflower) Tree Nuts (can include almonds, brazil nuts, cashews, chestnuts, hazelnuts, macadamia nuts, pecans, pine nuts, pistachios, walnuts, shea nuts, hickory nuts, pinion among others) Shellfish and Fish (shrimp and fish products).

EXPOSURE TO EVEN THE SMALLEST AMOUNT CAN CAUSE SEVERE LIFE THREATENING REACTIONS THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION WITH MEDICATION OR HOSPITALIZATION. Please refrain from sending any treats on special occasions such as cookies, cupcakes, donuts. Instead send fruit or vegetables or non-edible treats such as stickers, pencils, erasers etc.

We aim for the entire school to be peanut and tree nut free and for certain classrooms to be allergy specific free.

To ensure the safety of all our students please adhere to the following:

1. Do not send any items to school that contain peanuts or tree nuts
2. Other allergies are only classroom specific

Allergies that some of our students have such as dairy, shellfish, certain seeds only apply to the specific classroom they are in. For example if a shellfish allergy letter is sent home to all the students in student A's class, we ask that all the class refrain from bringing in any shellfish in student's A class. This allergy is classroom specific only.

Please remember:

EVERY CHILD WITH A LIFE THREATENING ALLERGY MUST CARRY AN EPI-PEN AT ALL TIMES ON THEM AND HAVE AN EXTRA EPI-PEN TO BE HELD AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

We appreciate the co-operation of all parents/caregivers in the community in keeping our children safe.

Catholic School Council (CSC)

Our CSAC fosters a positive relationship between home and school and encourages a sense of community within the school. Included in its mandate are items such as: advising the Principal on various aspects of the school, fund raising and a general "coming together" for the betterment of all students and staff. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Committee, please contact the school secretary. Check the school calendars for the dates of upcoming monthly meetings. CSAC Annual General meeting and elections.

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ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL
2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Labour Day	September 7, 2015
Fall Term Commences	September 8, 2015
Curriculum Night	October 1, 2015
Thanksgiving Day	October 12, 2015
Picture Day	October 23, 2015
Parent/Teacher Interviews	November 13, 2015 (all day) PA Day - No School
Faith Day	September 3, 2015
Christmas Vacation	December 21, 2015–January 1, 2016
Winter Term Commences	January 4, 2016
Assessment & Evaluation PA Day	January 23, 2016
Parent/Teacher Interviews	February 15, 2016 (all day only) PA Day - No School
Family Day	February 15, 2016
Mid-Winter Break	March 14-18, 2016
Good Friday	March 25, 2016
Easter Monday	March 28, 2016
Victoria Day Holiday	May 23, 2016
Assessment & Evaluation PA Day	June 10, 2016
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	June 29, 2016

STAFF LIST FOR 2015-2016

ELP1	S. Fantetti	ECE I. Miraglia
ELP2	K. Eckert (LTO TBD)	ECE G. Labieniec
Gr. 1	J. Strong	
Gr. 1	M. Pavesi (LTO Sheila Malloch)	
Gr. 2	K. Rajca	
Gr. 2	T. Pinto	
Gr. 3	S. Hewitt	
Gr. 3/4	C. Goncalves	
Gr. 4	S. Martin	
Gr. 5 am/Gr 7 pm	C. McInerney Boniferro	
Gr. 5/6 am/Gr 5/6 pm	T. Green	
Gr. 7 F.I. am/Gr. 6 F.I. pm	J. Kundakci	
Gr. 7 am/5 F.I. pm	V. Choucair	
Gr. 7/8 am/Gr 7/8 pm	S. Couto	
Gr. 8 F.I. am/Gr. 8 pm	[open LTO for J. Sprules]	
Special Ed	M. Amaral	
Special Ed/ Empower	R. Temor	
L.I.	S. Almaria-Follett	
EA. Assistants	G. Vieira, J. Walker	
Vocal Music .4	M. Janus	
Instrumental Music .6	A. Scorsone	
Guidance (Wed am only)	F. Amato	
Library	Grymek-Nowinowski, Bozena	
F.S.L. am .50	C. Vanderlinden	
French Specialty am .50	J. Wilson	
Core French	L. Ciampa	
F.S.L. pm .60	J. Awaldalla	
Phys Ed.Spec. .90	S. Perez	
103C Principal	D. Kairys	
103 Secretary	A. Krol	
103A Clerk Typist .20	J. Fraser	
110 Head Caretaker	H. Janusz	
110 Evening Caretaker	S. Belchior, J. Ricciardi	