SEPTEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

Virtue of the Month
Hospitality

Principal’s Message

I hope everyone had a safe and happy summer! I am very excited to be returning to the Transfiguration community and I look forward to working with all of you. On behalf of the staff at Transfiguration, I would like to welcome back all returning students and their families. A special welcome is extended to families new to our community, who I am certain will not only contribute much to our school, but will realize how fortunate they are to have joined Transfiguration. I trust that you will quickly feel a sense of belonging and friendship within this Catholic education community. As we welcome our students back to school in September it seems fitting that this month’s virtue is HOSPITALITY. Our teachers have been busy preparing their classrooms, gathering together resources, supplies and putting up bulletin boards that will invite the students back into a welcoming environment. The staff and I look forward to working in partnership with the school community throughout the coming year.

God Bless,
M. Gagliardi
Principal

Sacramental Preparation Classes

Again this year, preparation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation will be given through Transfiguration of Our Lord Parish.

Sacramental preparation parent information meetings have been scheduled at the Church for September 16th and September 17th at 7:00 p.m. Any parents of students wishing to receive either the Sacrament of Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation must attend one of the meetings. For any inquiries, please call the Church office at 416-247-0513.

Web Address: www.tcdsb.on.ca/transfiguration
SCHOOL COUNCIL (CSAC) - 2012 – 2013
Please welcome back our Catholic School Advisory Council
(CSAC) Executive:
Chair: Joy Forrester-McLeod
Vice Chair: Dmitra Culmone
Secretary: Reshma Henriques
Treasurer: John De Re
Parent Rep: Margaret Galati
Church Rep: Nelli Domingues
Teacher Rep: Dino Fantinato
Parish: Rev. Mark Van Patten
Voting Members: Nadia Cameron, Anna Marto, Helena Vaz, Chris Henrieus, Ann Vecera Marto, Kim Ruggeri, David
DeRose, Nia Mavromihelakis, Raffaela Gallo Megas, Jorge
Martinez, Steve Abitrante, Daniela Dennis, Ana Mira.
Meetings will be monthly at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. Babysitting
is available, for school aged children. All are welcome. The next
meeting is on Thursday September 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the
school library.

Safe Arrival Program
Parents are asked to call the school before 9:00 a.m. if
your child will not be attending school that day.
You may also leave a message outside of regular school
office hours (8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.).
Because of safety concerns it is policy that if your child
does not arrive at school we must contact a parent at
home or at work. We will also call all emergency
contacts.
Students are expected to arrive at school by the 9:00 a.m.
and 1:05 p.m. entry times.

Students who arrive after the bell and do not enter the
building with their class are considered late and must
report to the office to receive a late slip before
proceeding to their classrooms.

Please assist us by:
Calling the school before 9:00 a.m. to tell us that your
child will be absent - (416) 393-5276.

Please ensure that your home, emergency, sitter, cell
and work numbers are up-to-date.

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 1:05 p.m. Your children
should be in the school yard at this time so that they can
assemble with their peers and be involved in all activities
from the beginning of class.
On extremely cold/rainy days, children should not arrive
in the morning or at noon hour until five minutes before
the bell, at which time they will be allowed to go directly
to their classrooms.

Early Dismissal
Students who must leave the school earlier than the 3:30
p.m. dismissal must bring a note from their parent/guardian requesting early dismissal. Parents must sign
their children out in the sign-out book in the office.
Students will be called to the office to meet their parents. Students will not be released to parents/guardian at
the classroom door. At the 3:30 p.m. dismissal, students
are expected to leave the school property promptly and in
an orderly way, and walk directly home, unless
participating in a school-supervised activity.

Dropping Off and Picking Up Students By Car
To ensure the safety of all students we are requesting
that all students arriving by car be dropped off at the
Church parking lot or meet their parents at a designated
spot on a side street so as not to block the bus routes.
The Church has requested that parents abide by the
directional arrows in the parking lot as there have been
a number of close calls.
Please do not park or wait for your children in the
building with their class are considered late and must
bus-loading zone. Cars may be ticketed in this area.

Visitors to the School
It is Board Policy that ALL visitors must report to
the office upon entering the school. A sign-in procedure
is in place for anyone visiting the school at any
time. Parents, unless it is an emergency, please make
prior arrangements to speak to staff at a mutually con-
venient time. Schools are becoming increasingly busy
places. Commitment by staff to their students and their
programs take precedence over unexpected visits and
interruptions. We need to control access to our school in
order to provide a safe, secure learning environment.

School For Lunch
Students are encouraged to eat lunch at home. However,
for students who are unable to go home for lunch,
parents must notify the school, in writing, if their child
is to stay at school for lunch. All students remaining for
lunch must obey the following rules. Students who refuse to comply with these rules will not be allowed
to remain in school for lunch. These rules are for the
safety and health of our students.
1. Lunch must be eaten in the designated lunch rooms
only.
2. All students must remain in their lunch room and eat
in their own seat until dismissed by the supervising
teacher.
3. Students are expected to remain quiet while eating.
4. Students are expected to leave the lunch room clean and tidy.

**Under no circumstances are students allowed to leave school property during the lunch hour unless they are signed out by a parent or guardian. The parent/guardian must pick up/sign out their child at the office.**

**Medication**
From time to time schools are asked to dispense oral medications to students when parents/guardians AND physicians have completed and signed the appropriate TCDSB forms. The forms to dispense any medication are available from the school principal and must be updated on a regular basis.

Please be advised that staff in TCDSB schools will **not** dispense non-prescription medications to students.

**Staff Changes**
Please join us in welcoming new staff members to our school: S. Dadjeu (French Core); Long Term Occasional Teachers (LTO): Ms. P. Smyth (Grade 2/3) and Ms. N. Berardinelli (Gr.1/2).

**Allergies!!!!**
We have children in the school that have a severe allergy to peanuts in particular. If they should come in contact with any foods containing peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil, etc., they could become very ill and may die! To safeguard their lives, please adopt
the following measures:

Please do NOT send any snacks (cookies, chocolate bars etc.) or sandwiches containing peanut butter to school. If any peanut butter has been eaten for breakfast or lunch at home, please make sure your child washes his/her hands. Any peanut residue left on crayons, toys, games, and desks etc. could be fatal. As an allergen aware school, we greatly appreciate your cooperation in keeping students safe!

**Birthdays**
As you are aware, Transfiguration promotes an allergen aware environment. **As a result, we are asking that parents do not send cakes, donuts, or other food items on their child’s birthday.** You are welcome to celebrate your child’s birthday by sending stickers, pencils, book marks, etc. to his/her classmates. We recognize all birthdays over the P.A. Thank you for your cooperation in making Transfiguration a safe environment for all.

**Picture Day**
Bright Pics Photography will be at Transfiguration to take class and individual photos on **Friday October 4.** Students are reminded to be in proper uniform for the photographs.

**Student Planners**
Each student is expected to purchase and use the student planner. The cost of the agenda book is $9.00. The classroom teachers will collect the money during the first week of school. Planner are an excellent method of teaching students organizational skills. As well, the agendas provide one means of communication between the home and school. **Please take time with your child to review the first pages of the agenda because it outlines important information about school codes and procedures.** If you have any questions concerning the agenda book, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher.

**Homework**
In general, the purpose of homework is to complete and review work, foster effective work and study habits and develop self discipline, independent thinking and responsible attitudes.

**General Time guidelines for Homework**
Gr. 1 - 3 - Approximately 30 minutes
Gr. 4 - 6 - Approximately 60 minutes
Gr. 7 - 8 - Approximately 80 minutes

**Electronics**
CD players, ipods, MP3 players, cell phones, electronic games, etc. are **not** to be brought to school unless specified by the classroom teacher for educational purposes. These are expensive items and must remain at home. We cannot assume responsibility for loss or damage of these items. **If confiscated, items may need to be picked up by the parent at the school office.**

**School Uniform**
Transfiguration students are expected to come to school in uniform on a daily basis. **The uniform consists of a white top with navy bottoms. Tops must be logo/stripes-free.** There are a number of retail stores that now carry standard navy and white clothing lines, as well many uniform suppliers enable retail purchase.

“Often, when I am reading a good book, I stop and thank my teacher. That is, I used to, until she got an unlisted number. “

~Author Unknown

**Welcome Back!!!!!**
Please update your calendar.
Calendar of Events 2012/2013

SEPTEMBER 2012
Tues Sept 4  School Begins
Wed. Sept 12 Staff Anaphylaxis Workshop
Thurs. Sept 13 CSAC (7:00pm)
Mon. Sept 17/ Parent Sacramental Preparation
Tues. Sept 18 Meeting - Transfiguration Church 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Sept 19 Mr. SUB Day
Wed Sept 26 Curriculum Night 7:00 p.m.
Thurs. Sept.27 TTC Photos (AM)
Terry Fox Walk(Raindate: Sept. 28)
Fri. Sept 28 We Day Kickoff - ACC

OCTOBER 2012
Wed Oct 3  School Photo Day
Thurs. Oct 4 QSP Magazine Fundraiser Kick-Off
Mon Oct 8  Thanksgiving Day - No Classes
Week of Oct.15 Cross Country (New)

NOVEMBER 2012
Mon Nov 1 Secondary School Application
Forms distributed to Gr. 8 students
Sun. Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Mon Nov 12 Secondary School applications due in school office
Thurs. Nov 15 Progress Report Interviews
Fri Nov 16  PA Day - Progress Report Interview
Week of Nov. 19 Intermediate Volleyball

DECEMBER 2012
Fri. Dec 7  PA Day
Dec. 24-Jan. 24 Christmas Break

JANUARY 2013
Mon Jan 7  Classes Resume
Fri Jan 25  PA Day

FEBRUARY 2013
Week of Feb 11 Intermediate Basketball
Thurs Feb. 14 Interviews
Fri. Feb 15  PA Day-Interviews
Mon Feb 18 Family Day

MARCH 2013
Mar 11 - 15 March Break
Week of Mar 25 Junior Volleyball
Fri. Mar. 29  Good Friday
Sun. Mar 31 Easter Sunday

APRIL 2013
Mon Apr 1 Easter Monday
Wed. Apr 10 Witness to Faith Cross Visit
Week of Apr 29 Junior Soccer

MAY 2013
Week of May 5 Catholic Education Week
Week of May 13 Track and Field
Mon May 20 Victoria Day
Week of May 30 Intermediate Soccer

JUNE 2013
Fri June 7  PA Day
Thurs June 27 Last Day of Classes
Fri June 28  PA Day

School Year Calendar 2012/2013
Sept 4  First Day of School
Oct 8  Thanksgiving Day
Nov 16  PA Day
Dec. 7  PA Day
Dec 24 - Jan 4 Christmas Break
Jan 7, 2013 School Resumes
Jan 25  PA Day
Feb 15  PA Day
Feb 18  Family Day
Mar 11 - 15 March Break
Mar 29  Good Friday
April 21 Easter Monday
May 20 Victoria Day
June 7  PA Day
June 27 Last Day of School
June 28  PA Day