

ST. GREGORY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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St. Gregory Catholic Church
Fr. Sean Lee Lung
(416) 239-4831

Superintendent: Mr. Yack 416-222-8282
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CSPC Chairs: Stephen Thomas

Principal: J. Pannozzo
Vice Principal: B. Muron
Secretary: C. Pulcini,
Clerk Typist: S. Shanahan, L. Grise

FEBRUARY 2018

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

St. Gregory school thanks our parents for supporting Family Math Night and the many positive comments regarding teaching and learning at the school.

We would like to take the opportunity to inform you about some staff changes. A warm welcome is extended to Ms. Oppong (E.C.E) and Ms. Cicirelli who have returned from leaves, as well as, Ms. Del Vecchio (E.C.E) who will be working in the Kindergarten class with Ms. Bellissimo. We thank Ms. Da Silva (E.C.E), Ms. DiNardo (E.C.E) and Ms. McNamara (Lunch Supervisor) for their dedication and wish them much future success.

February is recognized as African Canadian Heritage which honours the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present who helped shape Canada's culture including Viola Desmond, Lincoln Alexander, Jean Augustine, and Elijah McCoy. The St. Gregory school library will feature biographical texts as well as literature in order to bringing African Canadian history to life.

First term report cards will be sent home with students on Monday, February 12th. The parent/teacher interviews will take place over two evenings: Tuesday, February 13 and Thursday, February 15 from 5:30 pm. to 8:00 p.m. Please note that there will be no school for students on Friday, February 16 bringing about a four day weekend ending with Family Day. St. Greg's family and friends are invited to the CSPC Family Skate which will take place on Monday, Feb. 19th at the Canlan Rink from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

St. Gregory students will be treated to a Shrove Tuesday pancake breakfast on Tuesday, February 13th which will be prepared and provided by the CSPC. Thank you to our CSPC and parent volunteers for giving our students the opportunity to participate in this tradition.

We will mark the beginning of the sacred season of Lent season by going to Mass as a school community on Wednesday, February 14 at 10:30 a.m. Due to the fact that Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day this year, we will combine Shrove Tuesday with classroom Valentine's Day festivities so as not to conflict with the solemn observance of Ash Wednesday.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

J. Pannozzo

SCHOOL HOURS/TIMES

8:30 a.m.	MORNING ENTRY
10:12-10:27 a.m.	A.M. RECESS
11:15-12:15 p.m.	LUNCH HOUR
12:15 p.m.	AFTERNOON ENTRY
1:40-1:55 p.m.	P.M. RECESS
3:00 p.m.	DISMISSAL

All visitors to the school including parents and guardians are expected to report to the office immediately upon arriving at the school.

A sign-in procedure is in place for every individual who enters the school.

Parents/Guardians must call the school at **416-393-5262** and leave a message on the answering machine (*Auto Attendant, Press #1*). Please state your child's name, teacher's name, grade and a reason for absence. **When a student arrives late for school, he/she must report to the office before going to class.**

Early Dismissal

Children who **must** leave before dismissal, **must** be signed out by their **parent/guardian** at the office. Please contact your child through the office, not by texting your child.



WELL-BEING

FEBRUARY IS PSYCHOLOGY MONTH

The virtue of the month for Love .At the heart of love is communication. But communication can be tricky as sometimes we talk more than we listen! My wise aunt always used to say “God gave you two ears and one mouth for a reason”! Sometimes we may feel that “just” listening is passive and not really helpful but present listening is often more helpful than any well-intentioned advice could ever be. In an article published in Psychology Today, Nancy Colier LCSW, Rev. reminds us that one of the most difficult things to do in a relationship (parent – child, spouse, friends tc.) is to listen to the person we care about describe a problem, and RESIST the impulse to solve the problem for them. Our nature, is to fix, solve and move on. In fact, one of the most powerful things in a relationship is to listen, without judgement, and to be with the other person. Colier writes “Really, we just want our experience to be heard, listened to, understood, and cared about. We want someone to know how it is for us in this moment, in this life, and to keep us company in our experience—exactly as it is.” We feel loved to the degree we feel listened to. The take away message is that listening to each other is very important. Make sure to find time to listen, to still our minds so that we can be with others and share their experience. Thoughtful listening is one of the most profound and powerful things we can bring to our relationships.

Source: TCDSB February Newsletter Mental Health & Well-Being

THE TCDSB Psychology Department invites parents and guardians to a presentation entitled

**HELP YOUR CHILD (AND YOURSELF) FLOURISH:
HOW TO REDUCE ANXIETY AND STRESS AND ACHIEVE MENTAL HEALTH**

Members of the TCDSB Psychology department Rita Alekian, Dr. Marie-Josée Gendron and Grace Labao-Martins will share their knowledge and experience of effective approaches to develop optimal well-being. This practical workshop will focus on strategies which support the physical, social, cognitive, emotional, and spiritual components of well-being. It will include positive psychology and cognitive behaviour techniques, as well as mindfulness and relaxation techniques that help manage stress, build resiliency and support good mental health.

The presentation is scheduled to take place on Thursday, February 22 at 5:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre located at 80 Sheppard Avenue East.

If you are interested in attending, kindly register at (416) 222-8282 ext. 2626 or <https://web1.tcdsb.org/Conference/Logon.aspx>.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROTOCOL

With the approach of winter and the associated ice and snow, there is always a possibility of school bus cancellations or delays, as well as school closures due to inclement weather. Your best source of information is via Twitter @TCDSB. For those who are not on Twitter, please tune in to local television and radio networks for updates.

Other good sources of information are:

- TCDSB’s website www.tcdsb.org
- Toronto Student Transportation Group website <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org>
- TCDSB 24-hour Telephone Information Line: 416-222-8282 ext. 2873
- Or if you wish to receive updates right to your email, subscribe to enews: <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Please note that Kindergarten Registration continues for the 2018-2019 school year. Parents may apply for registration at soar.tcdsb.org.

For September 2018 all children born in 2014 are eligible to attend Kindergarten. The following documents are required for registration:

1. Child's Birth Certificate
2. Passport/Immigration documents (only if child was not born in Canada)
3. Child's Catholic Baptismal Certificate (or proof of parent's Catholicity or RCIA/RCIC letter)
4. Child's Immunization Record
5. Proof of residency in Toronto
6. Direction of School Support

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

FAMILY MATH NIGHT



St. Gregory staff and students worked diligently to prepare a Math Learning Walk to share student learning in math across the strands: Number Sense and Numeration, Patterning and Algebra, Geometry and Spatial Sense, Measurement and Data Management and Probability. Pictured at right and below are student work samples exemplifying geometric objects and shapes in the real world environment.

Kindergarten students designed models using three dimensional solid shapes in everyday objects.



STOP THE STIGMA

The St. Gregory Stop the Stigma Committee Stop is made up of a group of intermediate students and teachers who endeavor to raise understanding and awareness about mental health and well-being within our school community. They are members of a network throughout the TCDSB whose mission is to acknowledge that it is not only important for every person to take care of their physical health but that it is just as critical to take care of mental health. Mental health is something that we all have yet it is often confused with mental illness. The team provides information for the school community about strategies individuals can use to remain mentally healthy and to foster resilience. They remind the St. Greg's community of the importance of living and practicing the virtues of the month in order to support each other.

Stigma occurs when people lack understanding about mental health. The Stop the Stigma team plays an important role in teaching all members of the school community that acceptance, compassion and understanding can create a supportive environment which is a protective factor for each person.

The team has promoted mental well-being through P.A announcements and fundraising through awareness days. The Stop the Stigma team created and delivered Compli-"mints" to support Bell Let's Talk Day held on Wednesday, January 31, 2018. Students and staff were given the opportunity to send positive and encouraging messages along with a mint to each other.



Junior Division students researched famous architectural structures and identified 2 and 3 dimensional shapes found in these structures.

For ideas to try at home go to:

- Mathies .ca
- <http://oame.on.ca/mathies/games.php>
- MotionMathGames
- Thinkfun.com



STUDENT MONTHLY RECOGNITION

Student monthly recognition for the 2017-2018 school year will be based on the Catholic Graduate expectations which guide teaching and learning from Kindergarten through to Secondary School. Catholic education views human life as an integration of body, mind, and spirit. Rooted in this vision, Catholic education fosters the search for knowledge as a lifelong spiritual and academic quest. The expectations of Catholic graduates, therefore, are described not only in terms of knowledge and skills, but in terms of values, attitudes and actions.

The students recognized for December/January were identified for demonstrating reflective, creative and holistic thinking and demonstrating problem-solving and responsible decision-making based on an informed moral conscience for the common good with knowledge, compassion and hope.

GRADE	TEACHER/S	
ELP	Ms. Rosa/Ms. Cabral	Charlotte, Rebecca, Parker, David, Siena, Philip
ELP	Ms. Bellissimo/Ms. Del Vecchio	Aiden C., Enzo D., Joe M., Nolan L.
ELP	Ms. Andreatchi/Ms. Oppong	Erik E., Michael R., Nathan D., Mia L., Eduardo G., Jordan Q.
ELP	Ms. Martino/Ms. Selby	Noah M., Ben M.
SK/1	Ms. Botelho	Farah, Ronald, Jordan
Gr.1	Ms. Barone	Dillon M., Marisa G., Jessica G., Aubrey G.
Gr.1	Ms. Ceddia	Julia M., Lee N., Cole S.
Gr. 1	Ms. Ricci (LTO)	Avery, Katrina, Lorencia
Gr. 2	Ms. Trinetti (LTO)	Victoria C., Cristian D.C., Brenden W.
Gr. 2	Ms. Gentile	Anna Jane, Anthony, Olivia, Nicholas
Gr. 2	Ms. Dalmau	Noah R., Aras K., Frida M.
Gr. 2	Ms. Yetman	Kenneth T., Genevieve C., Stella F.
Gr. 2/3	Ms. Caruana	Riyan, Sebastian B.
Gr.3	Ms. Hetmanczuk (LTO)	Addison Z., Micaela D., Daryl O.
Gr.3	Ms. Steponaitis	Addison, Micaela D., Daryl O.
Gr.3	Ms. Sestan-j-Lunn (LTO)	Justin D., Ruby D.
Gr. 4	Ms. Micallef	Manuele B., Madeleine P., Leah S.
Gr. 4	Mr. Zinko	Ernesto R., Samantha C., Daniel M.
Gr.4/5	Ms. De Vincenzo	Siobhan H., Jack L., Jebnifer H., Julian F.
Gr. 5	Ms. Hall	Zoe B., Joshua B., Macar P., Emma H.
Gr. 5/6	Ms. Cicirelli	Renee, Nolawi, Mya, Daniel
Gr. 5 (EF)	Ms. Abboud	Elizabeth S., Steve F.
Gr. 6 (EF)	Mr. Pruchnicky	Isabela F., Krystian G., Rytas K., Eric P.
Gr. 6	Ms. Quartarone	Pierce B., Elias G., Lyna T.
Gr.7	Mr. Fallico (LTO)	Lesley C.
Gr. 7/8	Mr. Vennare	Emilio, Daniel, Nicolas P., Maria M.
Gr.8	Mr. De Medeiros	Francesco V., Katherine S.
Gr.7 (EF)	Ms. Bahsous	Rachel, Zoe
Gr. 8 (EF)	Mr. Sansano	Christopher, Matteo

CSPC NEWS

COMMUNITY EVENT

The CSPC Family Day Skate will take place on Monday February 19th, 2018 at the Canlan Skating Rink located at 1120 Martingrove Rd from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.



Parents are encouraged to attend the next CSPC meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the school staff room.**

Volunteers for various committees and activities are always welcome.

SWIM MEET 2018

St. Gregory Catholic School is pleased to be hosting the 2018 TCDSB SWIM INVITATIONAL, on April 28 and 29, 2018, at the Etobicoke Olympium. We are looking forward to welcoming over 1,200 swimmers from over 35 schools across the Board. The TCDSB swim meet is possible due to the goodwill, time and expertise of volunteers from the host school. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase the commitment and enthusiasm of our school community as well as to raise funds for a variety of school resources and activities. All money raised will go to CSPC to support educational experiences for all students.

St. Gregory school is requesting assistance from all members of the school community to ensure that this event is a success and are currently seeking volunteers to assist with Meet Management, Finance, Social Media, Programs, Food Services, Facilities Co-ordination, Signage, and Advertising.

If you are interested in being a part of our SWIM MEET Committee, or volunteering on the Meet weekend, please contact Meet Managers: Jennifer Pyz or Maria Skinner: tcdsbswim2018@gmail.com.

TRUSTEE ANDRACHUK MONTHLY MESSAGE



There are many great activities in our schools and around the City this month, especially with Family Day on Monday the 19th. It's a great

opportunity for all of us to take a short break and spend some time with our loved ones.

Just a reminder that junior kindergarten registration began on January 17. If you have a child, or know someone else who does, that is entering kindergarten in September, please visit tcdsb.org to register.

As we near the midway point in our school year, it is a good time to remember the critical importance of safety when we pick up and drop off our children at school. A moment's inattention is all it takes for a tragedy to happen. Please be extra vigilant in and around school zones and, if possible, walk with your children to school to help reduce congestion in our drop off areas and help make our school communities safer for all.

As always, remember to express your love and gratitude to those you cherish everyday but especially this Valentine's Day.

Sincerely,

Ann

TRUSTEES 2017 – 2018

Wards

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

