

ST. GREGORY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



126 Rathburn Road, Etobicoke, Ontario, M9B 2K6

Telephone: (416) 393-5262 Fax: (416) 393-5189

Visit us: <http://stgregorytoronto.com> and follow us on Twitter @StGregoryCS

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

Superintendent: Mr. Yack 416-222-8282
School Trustee: Mrs. Andrachuk 416-512-3402
CSAC Chairs: Stephen Thomas

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

NOVEMBER 2017

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

St. Gregory school would like to thank all the members of our school community for putting charity into action by supporting the Thanksgiving Food Drive with generous donations of food items which were forwarded to the Daily Bread Food Bank. Thank you also to the Dametto family for donating pumpkins which students and staff decorated to bring Halloween to the pediatric ward at St. Joseph's Health Centre.

As we celebrate the virtue of peace in November, we recognize the dedication and sacrifice of all the members of our Armed Forces as well as veterans by commemorating Remembrance Day during our school Mass which is scheduled for Friday, November 10, at 10:00 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend.

The Progress Reports will be sent home with students on Tuesday, November 14. The Growing Success Progress Report provides teachers, parents and students with an opportunity to identify learning strengths as well as areas for improvement early in the school year by indicating whether students are progressing well or experiencing some difficulty. The progress reports include next steps for improvement and growth in learning in order to help students with setting goals to encourage success.

Parent/Teacher Interviews will take place over two evenings on Wednesday, October 15 and Thursday, November 16th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday, October 17th will be a P.A. Day. We look forward to seeing you during the interviews!

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.*

J. Panno
Principal

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.

ST. GREG'S HOSTING TCDSB SWIM MEET

St. Gregory Catholic School is pleased to be hosting the 2018 TCDSB SWIM INVITATIONAL, on April 28 & 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

We encourage all parents, whether you have children on the swim team or not, to participate as committee members or volunteers for the Meet. 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 Swim Meet Management, Finance, Social Media, Programs, Food Services, Facilities Co-ordination, Signage, & 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.

CHANGES TO CONTACT INFORMATION

In order to ensure that the school is able to contact parents/guardians in case of emergency please inform the school of any changes as soon as they occur.

- change of address/telephone number
- change of employer/telephone number
- change of "emergency" contact person/phone
- change in medical information

ALLERGEN AWARE SCHOOL

St. Gregory C. S. is an allergen aware school which aims to ensure the safety and well-being of students including those diagnosed with allergies to specific foods. If you wish to celebrate special events such as birthdays please send non-food treats such as stickers, pencils, bookmarks, markers or erasers. If you have any questions, please talk to your child's teacher.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

St. Gregory would like to share a gentle reminder to inform the school immediately if your child develops severe allergies or is diagnosed with a serious medical condition in order for us to work with you to ensure your child's well-being by following appropriate procedures in regards to medication or health emergencies.

If a child requires medication during the school day or in an emergency situation (ANAPHYLACTIC REACTION), the TCDSB Permission to Administer Medication Form must be completed by both the child's doctor as well as the parents prior to administration of any medication.

Students with EPI-Pens are expected to carry an EPI-Pen with them at all times and to have a second EPI-Pen in the office as a back-up.

SCHOOL ENTRANCE AFTER HOURS

To ensure student safety, students are not permitted entry back into their classrooms after the school day. Students are responsible for collecting all their homework before the end of the learning day.

Please discuss the importance of using the agenda to record and review homework and materials in order to complete assigned work. We encourage all students to develop time and material management skills and strategies which serve them well throughout their school and work lives.

FIELD TRIPS AND SPORTS COMPETITIONS

Extracurricular events and class field trips are important to the academic and social success of all students.

St. Gregory students are reminded to represent their school proudly by demonstrating respect and courtesy towards others in all settings and by wearing their school uniforms and/or sports team jerseys with pride. Most importantly, student safety is enhanced when students are identifiable as belonging to a school group.

PARENT COMMUNICATION/SOCIAL MEDIA

Parent/Guardians will be able to review the monthly newsletters and calendar online on the school's website www.school.stgregorytoronto.com as St. Gregory continues to do our best to conserve paper and support the environment.

SAFE SCHOOLS

Ontario has designated the week beginning on the third Sunday of November as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week which is November 19-25 this school year to help promote safe schools and a positive learning environment.

St. Gregory Catholic School Safe School team (administrators, teachers and non-teaching staff and student ambassador) have collaborated on creating a safe school plan which ensures that bullying awareness and prevention strategies will be taught on an ongoing basis throughout the school year. As well, our school is committed to teaching all subjects through the lens of Gospel Values with the goal of helping students develop compassion for others and a recognition of the need to include everyone.

Our Catholic faith calls us to live together as a community and to love one another - bullying, in any form, runs counter to Christ's message of inclusion and His instruction that we treat one another with caring and respect. The Safe School plan for this school year has been posted on the school website. Please go to the tab – [About Us](#) and then Safe Schools.



MATH

St. Gregory staff are committed to continuous professional learning which supports student achievement and well-being. Staff have worked together on a Professional Learning Plan for the current school year which is currently being reviewed by our superintendent, Mr. Yack and which will be posted on our school website. The school's primary area of focus identifies mathematics teaching and learning as our goal for continuing growth and development.

We encourage our parents to remember their important role as math teachers!!

Parent Are Teachers: Math

Parental support and encouragement of children's learning has a positive impact on student success. Most parents recognize the importance of bedtime stories and understand that reading together helps children develop reading skills. However people may assume that it is more difficult for parents to contribute to children's understanding of mathematics. In fact, everyone uses math skills routinely during daily tasks and activities, therefore all parents are math role models!

Parent modeling is essential for children's learning. Children learn by making meaning through experience and interacting with important people in their lives. One of the best ways to be a math role model is to talk out loud as you work on everyday tasks. Thinking out loud allows your child to hear how you think, and it helps them to develop important skills required for "thinking things out" by posing and solving problems.

When your child sees you making predictions and observations, identifying problems, using problem-solving strategies, and solving real problems, they are more likely to adopt your behaviours and attitudes.

MATH AT THE MALL

Going shopping is an engaging place to practice math lessons.

Measurement: Grocery and bulk food stores have scales available. As you shop, stop and estimate the weight of a specific items (i.e., bag of apples). Use the scale to get an accurate measure in kilograms. Compare the estimate to the actual measurement. Discuss how to improve estimating skills and strategies. Select a variety of bottles, cans and containers that hold one common measure of (i.e., one litre) of various contents. Emphasize to your child that, although the shape may change, the volume stays constant.

Numeration: Keep a running total of the cost of the items by recording prices in a small notebook. Round the prices in order to estimate, then check the total with a calculator. How close were you to the actual total at the cash register?

COOK WITH MATH

Measurement: Describe and demonstrate how and when to use special tools (cups, spoons and scales) and methods for measuring ingredients. Explain which measuring device to use when reading a recipe? What are the steps in doubling or halving recipes? Show how and why cooks use a timer?

Division: How do you cut a pizza to give 4 people equal slices? How can you 24 cupcakes equally if there are 6 people at the birthday party? How many cupcakes does each person get if 12 more guests arrive?

Don't forget to model a positive MATHITUDE!

Mistakes are great learning opportunities – "Research shows that when students make mistakes, synapses fire and brains grow."

(from Mathematical Mindsets by Jo Boaler, p. 271)

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

St. Gregory staff and students attended school bus safety presentations on Friday, October 20 in the school gymnasium. Students from Kindergarten to grade 3 watched “The Safe Rider Program” featuring Buster the Talking School Bus who engaged the students while providing audio and visual text to reinforce important safety routines and procedures while taking the school bus.



The students in grades four to grade eight enjoyed an interactive presentation titled “The Rider Role Model Program” which presented up to date critical bus safety and behavior information to students so that they are safe and protected inside and outside the school bus. Students worked in teams on a quiz show type format to think about and apply bus safety rules.

St. Gregory school would like to thank the TCDSB Transportation department for providing this opportunity to ensure all our students are informed and aware about bus safety.



WELL-BEING

Toronto Public Health reminds us that flu season is coming up.

Elementary schools bring large groups of children together therefore kids get the flu most often. The flu germs are spread mainly by droplets, when people cough, sneeze or talk. The flu germs can live on surfaces like toys, counter tops, door handles for up to 8 hours. Your kids can pass the flu virus to you before they show symptoms.

There are several options including Toronto Public Health or your family doctor where individuals can receive the flu vaccine.

The flu vaccine is free for babies 6 months of age and older. For healthy kids ages 2 to 17 years of age, parents can choose from two types of flu vaccine. One is given as an injection and another as a nasal spray (where available).

6 Steps to Staying Healthy this Flu Season

- Get your flu shot early
- Wash your hands often
- Avoid touching your eyes and face
- Cover your cough or sneeze
- Do not share cups and utensils
- Clean and disinfect common surface areas like door handles, cell phones, keyboards, etc.

There will be a flu vaccine clinic at Cloverdale Mall located at 250 the East Mall on Saturday, November 4 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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 September and October were identified for their demonstration of discerning believer formed in the Catholic faith community who celebrates the signs and sacred mysteries of God's presence through word, sacrament, prayer, forgiveness, reflection and moral living.

GRADE	TEACHER	DISCERNING BELIEVERS
ELP	Ms. Rosa	Bethany, Elliot, Abraham, Lauren W., Tiago, Ella
ELP	Ms. Bellissimo	Nate A., Emanuel G., Julian C., Vivien C.
ELP	Ms. Andreacchi	Marcello, Mario, Ilija, Leticia, Owen, Lois
ELP	Ms. Martino	Kacey L., Isabella B., Matthew D., Isabella Y.,
SK/1	Ms. Botelho	Mason K., Hailey M., Miguel V., Luciano A.
Gr.1	Ms. Barone	Iva M., Rylan W., Sebastien G., Isabella C.
Gr.1	Ms. Ceddia	Cassandra D., Olivia R., Aiden B., Tiago K.
Gr. 1	Ms. Ricci (LTO)	Aiden H., Wynne M., Bria W.
Gr. 2	Ms. Trinetti (LTO)	Caroline E., Lily R.
Gr. 2	Ms. Gentile	Mia C., John G. Lauren T., Noah J.
Gr. 2	Ms. Dalmau	Cristian F., Leonardo S.
Gr. 2	Ms. Yetman	Joshua L., Emma F., Alexander R., Mia V.
Gr. 2/3	Ms. Caruana	Lauren C., Caroline L.
Gr.3	Ms. Hetmanczuk	Hailey M., Mario M., Megan H., Emmett S.
Gr.3	Ms. Steponaitis	Vivienne V., Madison K., Manning P.
Gr.3	Ms. Sestanj-Lunn	Madeline O., Elias T.
Gr. 4	Ms. Micallef	Lucas F., Sarah C., Juliana H.
Gr. 4	Mr. Zinko	Isabelle T., Matthew C., Ava G., Noah D.
Gr. /5	Ms. DeVincenzo	Samantha L., Lucas L., Owen S., Paloma G.
Gr. 5	Ms. Hall	Abigail S., Mason C., Sienna F., Samuel W., Max C.
Gr. 5/6	Mr. Fallico (LTO)	Andrea H., Stefanie G., Analiese S., Jacob C.
Gr. 5/6 (EF)	Ms. Abboud Mr. Pruchnicky	Aria B., Chelsea T., Paul B., Renee P., Andrew P.
Gr. 6	Ms. Quartarone	Milena B., Lucas B., Domenic B., Alexander S.
Gr.7	Mr. Speer (LTO)	Madison V., Christian R., Matteo G., Lesley C.,
7/8	Mr. Vennare	Stephen W., Tessa D.
Gr.8	Mr. De Medeiros	Emma C., Christine S., Vanessa P., Sydney N.
Gr.7/8	Ms. Bahsous	Javier P., Julia B., Keira L.

HALLOWEEN AT ST. GREGORY



The patients at St. Joseph’s Health Centre were able to enjoy the Spirit of Halloween through the efforts of the students and staff who took the time to share their creative skills by designing unique jack o lanterns. This endeavor inspired friendly competition among classes to see which group created the most “smile inducing” pumpkin.

Halloween at St. Gregory school was an exciting visual display of colour and ingenuity with students and staff dressed up to celebrate the power of imagination and drama. The Kindergarten to grade 6 classes participated in a Halloween Parade in the schoolyard in order to greet friends in other grades and to admire each other’s creativity.



CSPC MEMBERSHIP

The members of the CSPC Council for the 2017-2018 School Year are:

Stephen Thomas (Chair)
Marj Bridger (Vice-Chair)
Christina Sachanowicz (Secretary)
Vanessa Thomas (Treasurer)
Monika Boszormenyiova
Julie D'Aprile
Phil Vokins
Andria Dametto
Lisa Tarasca
Diana Morrone
Natasha Abramowitz
Jennifer Pyz
Lori Tenuta
Maria Skinner
Marcia Boule
Susan Rowlison
Nataliya Arcidiacono
Lydia Wiafe
Shantell Carr
Edward Filippozzi

Parents are encouraged to attend the next CSPC meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, November 22** at 7:00 p.m. in the school staff room.

Volunteers for various committees and activities are always welcome.

CSPC NEWS

The St. Gregory CSPC is excited to announce that this year's dance-a-thon fundraiser will be held at St. Gregory on **Thursday, November 16, 2017.**

This year's dance-a-thon will be hosted again by The Much Music Video Dance Party company! Students will enjoy a video dance party and have opportunities to win amazing prizes, all while supporting their school community!

All proceeds raised by the dance-a-thon will go toward supporting various educational experiences for all students at St. Gregory. We look forward to another successful event and appreciate any support you may be able to contribute.



Please note that more details will follow in the near future. We look forward to having a **melodious** time together at the St. Gregory Video Dance Party!!!!

TRUSTEE ANDRACHUK MONTHLY MESSAGE

Staying connected and up to date is increasingly important in our day-to-day lives. In recognition of this, the TCDSB offers more ways than ever to stay up to date on what's happening at your school and across the system.



The TCDSB sends out an eNewsletter to anyone who subscribes. The emails include highlights from board and committee meetings, school activities, bus cancellations, school closures, budget updates and special bulletins. To view past issues or subscribe please visit <http://www.tcdsb.org/News/eNews>. The TCDSB and many of our schools, principals and senior staff are also on Twitter. Their feeds provide a window into the amazing stories unfolding in our classrooms and schools. Jump on Twitter and search #TCDSB.

As the School Cash Online system continues to roll out across the Board, CSPC members and parents have access to a wealth of resources to help them get familiar with the new system. Take a look at some online resources at www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/schoolcashionline

Daylight savings time ends on November 5th when we "fall back." While we all remember to turn our clocks back an hour it's a great reminder to change the batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors as well. Finally, November 11th marks Remembrance Day across Canada. At 11 a.m., please observe a moment of silence to remember those who have sacrificed their lives so that the rest of us may enjoy the freedoms we so often take for granted.

Have a safe and pleasant November.
Sincerely,
Ann

