



# St. Gregory Catholic School Newsletter

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JUNE 2014

TCDSB

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



It is hard to believe that the final days of this school year are almost upon us!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the St. Gregory Catholic School community – students, parents and staff – for ensuring a wonderful year for all. Your support and assistance throughout the course of the school year have guaranteed that the many initiatives and events that make our school such a special place continue to flourish and grow.

St. Gregory Catholic School is a very special place! The tremendous school spirit and enthusiasm evidenced by all are testament to it!

G. Benedek  
Principal



## A PRAYER OF FAITHFULNESS

**Father in Heaven,**  
**Ever-living source of all that is good,**  
**keep me faithful in serving You.**  
**Help me to drink of Christ's Truth,**  
**and fill my heart with His Love**  
**so that I may serve You in faith**  
**And love and reach eternal life.**  
**In the Sacrament of the Eucharist**  
**You give me the joy of sharing Your Life.**  
**Keep me in Your presence.**  
**Let me never be separated from You**  
**And help me to do Your Will.**

Amen.

HAPPY ARE THOSE  
WHO HAVE NOT SEEN,  
YET STILL BELIEVE.

~ JOHN 20:29 ~

- BEING A CATHOLIC IS FOUNDED IN FAITH - FAITH IN THE LORD.
- REMEMBER THAT IT IS THROUGH OUR WORDS AND ACTIONS THAT OUR FAITH BECOMES EVIDENT.
- LET YOUR ACTIONS BE GUIDED BY THE CENTURION'S WORDS TO JESUS, "LORD, I AM NOT WORTHY TO RECEIVE YOU, BUT ONLY SAY THE WORD AND I SHALL BE HEALED."
- IT IS OUR FAITH IN GOD THAT BRINGS COMFORT TO OUR LIVES.



# FAITHFULNESS



## SEPTEMBER 2014

If you are leaving our fine community and are not returning for September 2014 and have not yet had the opportunity to inform us, please call and let us know. We are beginning class reviews and student placements, and this information would be very helpful.

### GRADE 8 GRADUATION

Our Grade 8 students will be recognized at our Graduation Mass at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2014. Please join us to acknowledge our graduating class. After the Mass, the presentation of the diplomas, certificates and awards will take place in the church. The students will return to the school gym for refreshments and the powerpoint presentation.



### REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be coming home on Tuesday, June 24, 2014. Please try to return the final page of the report to us for Friday, June 27, 2014.



### BE SUN SAFE

With the warmer weather here, many of us enjoy spending time outside. However, the sun can be damaging. We all need protection but children are at an increased risk. To be sun safe you can:

- Look for shaded areas or create your own.
- Wear a hat with a wide brim.



#### **Sun Safety**

- Wear clothing to protect as much skin as possible.
- Wear sunglasses that are UV protective.
- Use a waterproof sunscreen with SPF (sun protection factor) 15 or higher. Don't forget lips, ears and nose.

For more information call the Toronto Health Connection at: 416-338-7600 or visit: [www.city.toronto.on.ca/health/sun/index/html](http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/health/sun/index/html)

### SEPTEMBER 2014 STUDENT PLACEMENTS

Staff have begun the process of determining student placements for September 2014. When generating class lists, some of the criteria include: academic ability (specifically in the areas of English and Mathematics, as well as overall achievement), individual work habits and student skills, maturity and social factors. We look to create classes that have a balance of gender and ability, as well as other needs.

Should there be specific information that you wish to share with us (recent assessment results, medical concerns, etc.), please provide this information in writing to the office.

Our decisions are made only after careful consideration of all the information and are based on the needs of each child balanced with the common good of the entire school community.

We are looking to minimize disruptions but, as always, look to your understanding and flexibility should the need arise to address classroom changes. Our staffing is tentative and changes can take place between our tentative class placements and the first day of school (and sometimes even thereafter!).

## TCDSB SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2014-2015

Please find attached the TCDSB School Year Calendar for 2014 - 2015. Please do keep this for your reference for next year.



## **NURTURING OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY THROUGH WORD**

### ***FAITHFULNESS***

As we prepare for the end of the school year, we are focusing this month on the virtue of Faithfulness. As we send our students off for a summer of fun and relaxation and our graduates off into the wider world, we have faith that they will return to us safely to begin another year. The quote from John's gospel reminds us "Happy are those who have not seen, yet still believe." John 20:29

We will encourage our students to continue to put their faith into action by bringing the Gospel spirit into every aspect of their lives. This is how we become true witnesses to Christ, extend the Kingdom of God and build a more humane world.

## CONFIRMATION



Congratulations go out to those of our Grade 7 and 8 students who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on June 7. They have chosen to enter more fully into their faith life and our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families as they continue to mature and grow.

## FIRST COMMUNION

Our Grade 2 students will be receiving the Sacrament of First Communion on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. We look forward to having you join us in celebrating this milestone with our students.



## PA DAY

Friday June 6, 2014.  
(No school for students)

## SENIOR KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION



Senior Kindergarten Graduation will take place on **Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>**, in our school gymnasium, beginning at **9:30 a.m.** for our morning SK students and families, and at **1:30 p.m.** for our afternoon SK students and families.

We look forward to welcoming moms and dads as our little people take that next step to Grade One.

## BBQ FUN NIGHT

Please plan to attend our annual barbecue on June 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. There will be raffles, games, hamburgers and hotdogs, kids activities, face painting, cake walks and much more. So plan to come out and join the fun



## PIZZA LUNCH

Our final pizza lunch will be June 25<sup>th</sup>. A huge "Thank You" goes to Daniela Balsamo for all her hard work in coordinating the pizza lunches this year, as well as all our parental helpers.



## GUIDANCE CORNER - ATTENTION PARENTS OF GRADE 8 STUDENTS:

Let's make this summer count!

Our grade 8 students are preparing for their transition to high school. While some are taking the summer transition course at their chosen high school, and others are taking enrichment courses, let's remember that our summer months present a wonderful opportunity for them to discover their gifts and talents as they explore ways to contribute to their community. Hopefully, all students are aware that they must complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement as part of the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). As TCDSB students, they are encouraged by our TCDSB vision to "transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action." Grade 8 students can begin to accumulate community service hours this summer, before starting high school in September. The purpose of the student community involvement requirement is to encourage students to:

- grow in the Christian calling to service and reflection, developing a generous and compassionate response to the local community and to the world
- foster an awareness and understanding of social and civic responsibility
- experience and celebrate the contributions they can make in supporting and strengthening their communities.

You and your child can access the TCDSB Community Involvement booklet, Activity Form and Parent Brochures on the TCDSB Portal. The parent brochures are available in 15 languages. For your

convenience, the following link will take you directly to the information you will need:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/Guidance/CoopEd/Communityservice40hours/Pages/default.aspx>

Although the guidelines in the booklet are clear, if you have questions, please contact the guidance counsellor at the secondary school.

The Community Involvement Activity Form must be printed, completed, signed and submitted to the Guidance Department at your child's secondary school in September to ensure that the hours are credited towards your child's Ontario Secondary School Diploma requirements.

## LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The last day for students to attend school in this school year is **Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**. Dismissal is at the regular time of 3:00 p.m.

The first day of school next year is Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>.



## OFFICE NEWS

It has been my privilege to serve this school community in the role of Principal these last two years. It is, therefore, somewhat bittersweet to share with you the news of my retirement at the end of this school year.

I thank you for having welcomed me to this school community and offer my prayers and best wishes to all of you.

(I will share details of who will be stepping in to the role of principalship as they become available.)

Gabrielle Benedek  
(soon to be retired) Principal

### TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2013-2014

#### Wards

1. Peter Jakowic 416-512-3401
  2. Ann Andrachuk, Chair 416-512-3402
  3. Sal Plocininni, Vice-Chair 416-512-3403
  4. Patrizia Boltoni 416-512-3404
  5. Maria Rizzo 416-512-3405
  6. Frank D'Amico 416-512-3406
  7. John Del Grande 416-512-3407
  8. Garry Tanuan 416-512-3408
  9. Jo-Ann Davis 416-512-3409
  10. Barbara Poplawski 416-512-3410
  11. Angela Kennedy 416-512-3411
  12. Nancy Crawford 416-512-3412
- William Lawrence,  
Student Trustee 416-512-3413
- Enrique Olivo,  
Student Trustee 416-512-3417

**Student Awards  
Virtue of the Month**

**MAY - COMPASSION**

TEACHER	GRADE	STUDENTS			
T. Aceto	JK/SK	Mateo I.	Joaquin I.	Jordyn N.	
P. Santelli	JK	Emmanuel G.	Vienna F.		
L. DeFranco	SK	Sarah H.	Adriana M.		
L. Pitoscia	1	Mason C.	Michael B.	Noah B.	Alyssa D.
C. Mulvihill	1	Blaise O.	Giselle S.		
T. Roy	1	Mary P.	Laura G.		
M. Alberton	2	Lucy T.	Nicole B.		
O. Gentile	2	Victoria L.	Charles V.		
N. Yetman/M. Tanchak	2	Renee P.	Francesco R.		
M. Ceddia	2/3	Jaden M.			
E. Brajuka	3	Avree V.	Alexander S.		
K. Steponaitis	3	Jack B.	Joshua B.		
A. Loughlin	3	Anthony G.	Jayden D.S.		
J. Henderson	4	Erica S.	Serena T.		
P. Zinko	4	Sofia G.	Matthew G.		
M. Micallef	4	Matteo P.	Diana L.		
N. Hall	5	Erin H.	Alexa S.	Tyler D.	Alexander R.
V. Andreacchi	5FI	Francesco V.	Filip S.	Gaizka P.	
M. Quartarone	5/6	Isabella D.	Elizabeth B.	Gabriel S.	
R. Bottoni	6	Zachary T.	Nour H.		
T. Botelho	6FI	Adrian D.	Sofia D.		
D. Abboud	6FI	Shirley V.	Matt		
P. Carniel/D. Italiano	7FI	Nicki I.	Emilia L.		
P. Carniel/D. Italiano	8FI	Ryan O.	Catherine W.		
A. Natalino	7	Elyce A.	Andrej G.		
C. Dalamau	7/8	Matthew G.	Nikki M.		
A. Silvestre	8	Rebecca G.	Sara S.	Monica Z.	





## Monthly Update from the Board June 2014

### Sickle Cell Awareness Day--June 19, 2014

The Toronto Catholic District School Board, at a meeting in April, proclaimed June 19<sup>th</sup> as Sickle Cell Awareness Day, in recognition of the United Nations declaration that this date be set aside to raise awareness about the global health concern.

As a Catholic community dedicated to student achievement and well-being, the Board is currently working on an overarching policy related to medical conditions, including Sickle Cell Disease, and further supportive strategies will be developed. See [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) for more information.

### June is....

- Aboriginal Education Month
  - **June 21, 2014** is National Aboriginal Day
- Italian Canadian Heritage Month
- Portuguese Canadian Heritage Month

<http://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/Pages/default.aspx>

### Canada Day Celebration

**June 26, 2014** in all TCDSB elementary schools—In honour of Canada Day all schools and offices are encouraged to gather in the gymnasium or outdoors and join in singing the National Anthem at the same time in the morning – **9:30 a.m.** More details to come.

### Summer School Reminder

#### Registration continues through to June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Visit our website for information about elementary summer school opportunities including Reach Ahead Credits for grade 8 students; enrichment programs in literacy and numeracy for grades 7 and 8 students; summer community service hours program; and secondary school credit courses including eClass.

<http://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/continuingeducation/secondarycreditcourses/summerschool/ssregistration/pages/default.aspx>

### Quick Reminders:

- **The last day of classes for elementary students is Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>.**
- **The new school year will begin on Tuesday, September 2, 2014**

### Students Who Are New to the Province Are Welcome At TCDSB Orientation Centre Throughout the Summer

The Toronto Catholic District School Board reminds newcomers to the Province that the Orientation Centre for secondary school students will remain open for most of the summer. The Orientation Centre will be open from June 30 to July 18, and again from August 11 to August 29. The offices will be closed from July 19 to August 10. The centre is conveniently located close to the Bloor and Bathurst subway station (at **700 Markham Street**) and remains open Monday to Friday throughout the regular school year from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

To receive more information or to book an appointment, contact the Orientation Centre at [marita.mccormick@tcdsb.org](mailto:marita.mccormick@tcdsb.org), or 416-393-5500. Info is also available on the website:

<http://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/BoardServices/OrientationCentre/Pages/Default.aspx>.

### Special Websites for Parents and Students

- Parents are encouraged to check out <http://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/Pages/default.aspx>. Find about CSAC, TAPCE and CPIC, as well as local or regional events planned specifically for parents.
- Students are invited to take advantage of the resources posted on our website at <http://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/Pages/default.aspx>. Find out about scholarships, employment, volunteer opportunities and more.

## Get the latest news

- Subscribe to ENews to receive updates each week sent via email.  
<http://www.tcdsb.org/News/eNews/Pages/default.aspx>
- Follow us on **Twitter @TCDSB** to receive updates throughout the day about school and board events, important announcements and accomplishments of students and staff.