



St. Gregory Catholic School Newsletter

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(416) 239-4831

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Principal: G. Benedek
Vice Principal: A. Martin
Secretary: C. Ventura-Vieira
Clerk Typist: S. Shanahan

March 2013

TCDSB

FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parents,

When Jesus entered human history, people had to make a choice between good and evil. Many made the wrong choice: they rejected goodness. It was easier for them – as it is for us – to do nothing than to do something, easier to be negative than positive, easier to be destructive than creative – easier, in short, to confuse good with evil.



An anonymous poet put it well:

I will do more than belong

➤ I will participate

I will do more than care

➤ I will help

I will do more than believe

➤ I will practice

I will do more than be fair

➤ I will be kind

I will do more than forgive

➤ I will love

I will do more than earn

➤ I will enrich

I will do more than teach

➤ I will serve

I will do more than live

➤ I will grow

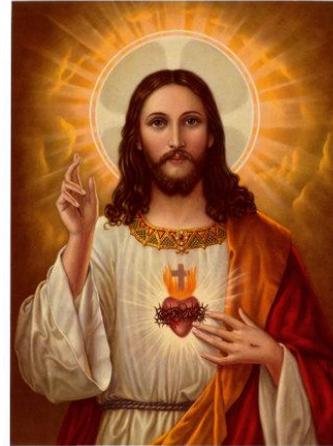
I will do more than be friendly

➤ I will be a friend.

May God continue to bless your family during this prayerful season.

Sincerely,

G. Benedek
Principal



TO FAST AND TO FEAST

**This is the season to turn around and let the SON shine in!
This is the season to Fast and to Feast!**

**Fast from judging others - Feast on Christ present in others
Fast from differences with others - Feast on the unity of all life
Fast from darkness - Feast on light**

**Fast from thoughts of illness - Feast on the healing power of God
Fast from hostility - Feast on peacemaking**

**Fast from words that pollute - Feast on phrases that build up
Fast from anger - Feast on understanding**

**Fast from worry - Feast on trust in God's presence
Fast from bitterness - Feast on forgiveness**

**Fast from complaining - Feast on appreciation and thanksgiving
Fast from self-concern - Feast on compassion for others**

**Fast from suspicion - Feast on truth
Fast from discouragement - Feast on hope
Fast from problems that overwhelm - Feast on prayer that brings strength**

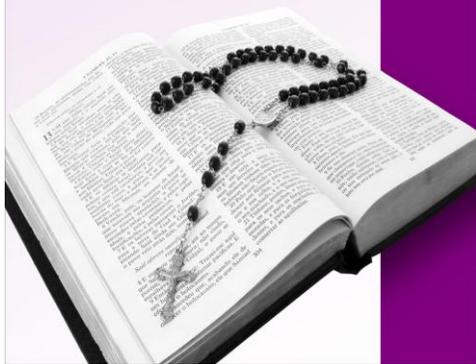
**Fast from chains that weaken - Feast on dreams that inspire
Fast from doubt that scatters - Feast on faith in God that centres our lives**

**When we empty ourselves of our fears - fear of failure, fear of loss,
fear of criticism - we become free to do what needs to be done in life -
Joan Chittister**

TO ERR IS HUMAN,
TO FORGIVE IS DIVINE.

~ ALEXANDER POPE ~

- LET YOUR ACTIONS BE GUIDED BY THE IDEA THAT JESUS SAID, "LET HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN, CAST THE FIRST STONE."
- THE FIRST STEP TO FORGIVENESS IS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR ACTIONS.
- IF YOU WANT TO BE FORGIVEN, YOU NEED TO MAKE SURE YOU FORGIVE OTHER PEOPLE.
- LIVE YOUR LIFE IN A WAY THAT MAKES OTHERS KNOW YOU ARE A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST.



VIRTUE OF THE MONTH

How timely that the virtue for March is FORGIVENESS. Not only because we are in the season of Lent but also because it is an important cornerstone of our faith and one that Jesus modeled for us in His life and death. We are reminded that forgiveness is a gift to ourselves as we let go of the burden of resentment when we forgive another person and it's a gift to our children when we teach and model it to them.

FORGIVENESS

AFTER HOURS ENTRY

Parents and students are reminded that access to the school building is limited to staff being present in the main office. We are available to open the front from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

LOST AND FOUND

All items in the lost and found were set out on display on Thursday, February 14 and Friday, February 15 during our Parent/Teacher Conferences. Unclaimed items will be retained to March 4, at which time they will be donated to a charitable organization.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



May you always have Walls for the winds. A roof for the rain, Tea beside the fire, Laughter to cheer you, Those you love near you, and all your heart might desire.

CARNAVAL

On Thursday, February 12th the entire school was involved in



Carnaval. In the morning all students were outside participating in a number of games. In the afternoon there were activities for students with a French theme. A special thank you to our French Department: Mme Gagnon, Mme Manieri, Mme Mantella, Mlle Iaboni and Mlle Carniel. A special thank you to all the student helpers. A huge thank you also goes to the Parent volunteers who under the direction of Mrs. Severino, kept the pancakes flipping and the tummies full at our refreshment station.



AFTER SCHOOL DISMISSAL

A reminder to all of our students and parents that at the 3:00 p.m. bell, all students are to make their way directly home. Our yard area is not supervised at the end of the school day.

FAITH CROSS

This year we celebrate the Year of Faith, the first year in our new three year Pastoral Plan – Faith, Hope and Charity.

Made by students of Neil McNeil Secondary School, the Faith Cross serves as a symbol to us.

Last year, the Witness to Faith Cross visited half of the TCDSB schools in the eastern part of the city and this year, it travels to the remaining schools in the west end. St. Gregory School will welcome the cross to our community on **Tuesday, March 5**, with a celebration of Mass at 10:15 a.m. A delegation representative of our school community will process with the cross along Rathburn to Martingrove to pass on the cross to Josyf Cardinal Slipyj. We will leave St. Gregory at 12:15 p.m. We invite you to join us as you are able.



THE CANADIAN ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

The Canadian Active After School Partnership is funded through the Public Health Agency of Canada. The Canadian Active After School Partnership is conducting a survey in order to obtain information to help parents/caregivers and inform programming in our community.

They have provided the following request:

The Canadian Active After School Partnership wants to better understand how children between 5 and 17 years of age spend their time after school in the 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm time period. Parents and caregivers are asked to complete a 10 minute survey to help learn more about this topic. We want to know how children spend their time after school; what parents think about after school programs that their children are now in; and what children who are in after school programming do during this time period.

To thank participants, a draw for one of three \$150 gift certificates at Sport Chek will be offered.

Access:

<http://fluidsurveys.com/s/CAASP/?&I=en> to take the survey.

Thank you for your participation. If you have any questions please contact Krissy Murphy at programs@phecanada.ca

PRIMARY SOCCER HOUSE LEAGUE

The St. Gregory Primary Soccer House League season came to a conclusion in February. It was a great season with a tremendous amount of



enthusiasm displayed by the primary students. Participation rates were very high throughout the season. The season began in October with each team playing a 22 game regular season. Congratulations go out to the Gregory's, who won the championship this year. Team members are Noah S, Seamus C, Jaden M, Daniel G, Gianfranco E, Matteo P, Matthew Z, Sarah B, Renee P, Amanda B, Kiara I, Laura B, Christine S and Sarah S. Next up in St. Gregory House League action will be a junior boys' and junior girls' soccer house league.

ST. GREGORY FITNESS CLUB



The St. Gregory Fitness Club continues to train every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning. Students enjoy play in the gym (anytime after 7:30am) and then go for a run (indoors or outdoors depending on the weather) at 8:10am. It is a great opportunity for students to start their day with some fun and exercise. The Fitness Club is for any grade 2 – 8 students. There are currently about 30 members who train regularly with the club and new members are always welcome at any time of the year. The Fitness Club trains until late June. Any students that are interested are asked to talk with Mr. Cooper to receive a permission form.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

While the TCDSB has established a "Bring Your Own Device" protocol for the academic use of electronic devices in the classroom setting at the teacher's discretion, the social use of such devices is **not** allowed. The school's recommendation continues to be that electronic devices be **left at home**. If they are

brought to school, they are to be powered off once having arrived to school (not just once in the building or classroom) and placed away (not kept on the student's person) for the duration of the school day.

Students will not be granted permission to respond to texts or messages on their devices. Should you, as the parent/guardian need to contact them, in an urgent or emergency situation, please do not hesitate to call the school at 416-393-5262.

Your support is very much appreciated.

ST. GREGORY SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR

Hi everyone! The warm weather is around the corner and it is now time to think of shorts and t-shirts. We have extended the time to order St. Gregory Spirit wear until March 8th, 2013. Please come to the office to look at the samples of t-shirts, shorts, pants and other sportswear and hoodies that are available to purchase. We have added new items to better reflect the needs of the children in our school. We also have the new spiritwear items on the order form.

If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me, Tanya Giaquinto at tanya.giaquinto@rogers.com. If you are interested in helping out, we are looking for volunteers to help out for next school year! Please send me an email.

Tanya Giaquinto

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2012-2013

Wards

1. Peter Jakovic	416-512-3401
2. Ann Andrachuk, Chair	416-512-3402
3. Sal Procininni, Vice-Chair	416-512-3403
4. Patrizia Bottoni	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
Andrew Walker, Student Trustee	416-512-3413

**Student Awards
Virtue of the Month
FEBRUARY - LOVE**

**For God so Loved the World,
He gave it His only Son.
John 3:16**

TEACHER	GRADE	STUDENTS			
T. Aceto / C. Tassone	JK	Katie A.	Ava G.		
P. Santelli	JK	Matthew C.	Sabrina P.		
N. Rafferty	JK/SK	Noah B.	Andrea S.		
K. Vieira	SK	Max C.	Nicolas L.	Kayla R.	Joshua B.
L. Pitoscia	SK/01	Elias M.	Rosanna S.	Jacob C.	
C. Mulvihill	1	Nicole B.	Van H.		
T. Roy	1	Victoria K.	Luke B.		
M. Alberton	1/2	Victoria L.	Summer M.		
M. Ceddia	2	Ana C.	Alythea A.		
O. Gentile	2	Charlize B.	Samantha C.		
N. Yetman	2/3	Victoria R.	Joseph M.		
M. Resendes	3	Stephen W.	Francesca g.		
E. Brajuka	3	Matthew G.	Chris M.		
A. Iwasykiw	3	Melissa M.	Matteo R.		
J. Henderson	3/4	Julia D.	Kaitlyn D.		
K. Steponaitis	4	Tiffany C.	Carescia J.V.		
M. Micallef	4	Francesco V.	Emily C.		
P. Zinko	5	Marisa Carleton	Gabriel Salisi		
N. Hall	5/6	Anthony D.A.N.	Olivia J.		
J. Pires	6/7	Paul H.	Arthur K.	Misha S.	
S. Peters	7	Christine C.	Christina M.		
S. Suraj	8	Garrett P.	Christopher McF.		
A. Silvestre	8	Maggie A.	Daniel T.	Lianna T.	
V. Andreacchi	5 FI	Erin H.			
D. Abboud	5/6 FI	Adam MacF.	Daniel P.	Alexandra S.	
T. Botelho	5/6FI	Camila C.	Kevin Z.		
M. Quartarone	7 /8FI	Christina Flores	Aviva Z.	Remi G.	
P. Carniel	7/8 FI	Ryan O'Sullivan	Kimberly Marinelli		



Monthly Update from the Board

TCDSB Budget Consultation

Watch for more information regarding the consultation process for the 2013-2014 TCDSB Budget. All stakeholders will be invited to participate in an online survey and/or a budget consultation meeting to be held in April. All parents, students, staff and Catholic school supporters will be invited to provide input. Visit the board's website at www.tcdsb.org for information as it becomes available.

Annual Report of the Director of Education

Check out the highlights from the 2011-2012 school year in the Director's Annual Report, online at http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/BoardAdministration/DirectorofEducation/Documents/Director_Annual_Report_2011-2012.pdf.

Parents and Catholic School Supporters Always Welcome to Board Meetings

TCDSB welcomes parents and Catholic school supporters to all public Board and Committee meetings. A complete list of meetings is posted on the Board's website at

<http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/TrusteesoftheBoard/boardmeeting/information/meetingschedule/Pages/Default.aspx>.

Should you wish to address the Board at one of those meetings, please note the revised delegations policy, and complete the delegations form to register to speak. <http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/Policies/Pages/T14.aspx>

Two Student Trustees to Be Elected

The Toronto Catholic District School Board has voted unanimously to increase student representation on its Board of Trustees. There will now be two positions available for election by TCDSB students. Student Trustees facilitate communication between the Board and the students it serves by sharing the perspectives and insights of their various student communities.

<http://www.tcdsb.org/News/NewsReleases/Documents/StudentTrustees2013FinalDraftNR.pdf>

March is Celtic Canadian Heritage Month

TCDSB recognizes that Canadians of Irish descent, who fled Ireland as a result of the potato famine, were instrumental in the development of the separate school board in Ontario because of their willingness to sign, along with Canadians of African descent, the petition that created educational opportunities for all, through The 1850 Common School Act, Clause 19. In 2008 TCDSB first enacted March as Celtic Canadian Heritage Month that encompasses inclusion of various members within the diaspora, as an acknowledgement of their contributions to the social, political, economic, and cultural life within our communities in the country.

International Women's Day

The Toronto Catholic District School Board approved a motion last year to proclaim March 8th each year as International Women's Day. This global celebration, focusing on equity and social justice, reflects our own vision that equity, diversity, accessibility and inclusivity are integral to the Catholic community.

In preparation for March 8th, we encourage schools to raise awareness and plan educational experiences for students that:

- promote inclusivity with a particular focus on the worth and dignity of women
- highlight the needs and concerns of women on a local, regional, national, and global arena
- applaud women's achievements
- highlight gender inequalities, violence and other issues facing women

Education Support Worker Appreciation Day

The Toronto Catholic District School Board has set aside the first Monday in March as Education Support Worker Appreciation Day to acknowledge the invaluable contribution that these individuals make in the lives of our students and our school communities. This year, the appreciation day will be celebrated on Monday, March 4th.

Earth Hour

Earth Hour will be celebrated this year on Saturday, March 23rd from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. TCDSB schools will mark Earth Hour on Friday, March 22nd from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. All non-essential lighting will be turned off for that one hour period, as a reminder of our global responsibility to reduce carbon emissions and energy consumption, and to reflect the Board's commitment to our collective efforts to become good stewards of the earth.

Other Dates to Note:

March 11-15, 2013

Spring Break

March 29, 2013

Good Friday

April 1, 2013

Easter Monday

Stay connected

To get regular updates from the Toronto Catholic District School Board, including information about cancellations or closures, please consider subscribing to E-News, a free electronic news service delivering news and information to your email. Sign up at

<https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>.

Or follow the board on **Twitter @TCDSB**.

Programmes du congé de mars 2013
POUR ENFANTS DE 5 À 10 ANS GRATUIT!
Pour s'inscrire, appeler la bibliothèque directement

Bibliothèque Centrale de North York
5120 rue Yonge 416-395-5630

"Les Lutins cordonniers" adapté des Frères Grimm
avec The Little Red Theatre.
Vendredi 15 mars 14h

Bibliothèque Don Mills
888 avenue Lawrence ouest 416-395-5710

Spectacle de magie avec Jean Deshaies
Jeudi 14 mars, 14h

Bibliothèque Downsview
2793 rue Keele 416 395-5720

Spectacle de magie avec Jean Deshaies
Vendredi 15 mars, 14h

Bibliothèque Danforth/Coxwell,
1675 Avenue Danforth 416 393-7783

Spectacle de magie avec Jean Deshaies
Vendredi 15 mars, 10h30

Bibliothèque Parliament
269 rue Gerrard est 416-393-7663

Programme musical Interactif avec Grace
Lundi 11 mars , 14h

Bibliothèque Sanderson
327 rue Bathurst 416-393-7653

Spectacle de marionnettes et d'histoires
Mercredi 13 mars, 10h30

Bibliothèque Agincourt
155 Avenue Bonis 416 396-8943

Spectacle de magie avec Jean Deshaies
Jeudi 14 mars, 10h

Bibliothèque Albert Campbell
496 route Birchmount 416-396-8890

Programme musical Interactif avec Grace
Mardi 12 mars, 14h

Bibliothèque Cedarbrae
545 route Markham 416-396-8850

Spectacle de marionnettes et d'histoires
Mercredi 13 mars, 14h

Bibliothèque de S. Walter Stewart
170 avenue Memorial Park 416-396-3975

Chansons traditionnelles du Québec et de la France
avec Philippe Flahaut
Jeudi 14 mars, 14h

Bibliothèque Woodside Square
1571 Sandhurst Circle Woodside Square Mall
416-396-8979

Chansons traditionnelles du Québec et de la France
avec Philippe Flahaut
Lundi 11 mars, 14h

Bibliothèque Richview
1806 avenue Islington 416-394-5120

Spectacle de marionnettes et d'histoires
Jeudi 14 mars, 14h

Renseignements, Céline Marcoux-Hamade, 416 395-5762

March Break Programs 2013
FOR CHILDREN 5 TO 10 YEARS OLD **FREE!**
To register, call the library directly

Don Mills Library 888 Avenue Lawrence West 416-395-5710	Magic Show Thursday March 14, 2pm
Downsview Library 2793 Keele St. 416 395-5720	Magic Show Friday March 15, 2 pm
North York Central Library 5120 Yonge Street 416-395-5630	<i>"The Elves, a Shoemaker, and His Wife"</i> From the brothers Grimm, presented by The Little Red Theatre Friday March 15, 2 pm
Danforth/Coxwell Library 1675 Danforth Avenue 416 393-7783	Magic Show Friday March 15, 10:30 am
Parliament Library 269 Gerrard St. East 416- 393-7663	Musical Interactive program with Grace Monday March 11, 2pm
Sanderson Library 327 Bathurst Street 416-393-7653	Puppets and stories Wednesday March 13, 10:30 am
Agincourt Library 155 Bonis Avenue 416 396-8943	Magic Show Thursday March 14 10am
Albert Campbell Library 496 Birchmount Rd 416-396-8890	Musical Interactive program with Grace Tuesday March 12, 2 pm
Cedarbrae Library 545 Markham Road 416-396-8850	Puppets and Stories Wednesday March 13, 2 pm
S.Walter Stewart Library 170 Memorial Park Avenue 416-396-3975	Traditional songs from France and Québec with Philippe Flahaut Thursday March 14, 2 pm
Woodside Square Library 1571 Sandhurst Circle Woodside Square Mall 416-396-8979	Traditional songs from France and Québec with Philippe Flahaut Monday March 11, 2 PM
Richview Library 1806 Islington Ave 416-394-5120	Puppets and stories Thursday March 14, 2 pm

For more information, call Céline Marcoux-Hamade, 416 395-5762