



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/>



St. Gregory Parish
Fr. John Bertao
(416) 239-4831

Superintendent: D. Yack (416) 222-8282 ext 2596
Trustee : A. Andrachuk (416) 512-3402
CSAC Chair: A. Severino

Principal: G. Benedek
Vice Principal: K. Van Dinter
Vice Principal: E. Power
Secretary: C. Ventura-Vieira
Clerk Typist: S. Shanahan

October 2013

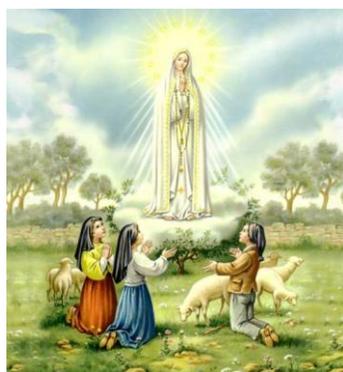
TCDSB

From the Office

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Though it is hard to believe, our first month back at school is already behind us. September has flown, and both teachers and students are well into their routines, working hard and actively participating in school life. With everyone's cooperation, enthusiasm and commitment, we have already accomplished much.

As you know, October is dedicated to our Blessed Mother. God, in His great love for us, gave us a most extraordinary favour by sending His Mother to us at Fatima to promise us peace. The story of Fatima encourages us to pray the rosary to achieve true peace and harmony.



"O, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth, reign over us. And teach us how to make the Heart of Jesus reign and triumph in us as it has reigned and triumphed in Thee."

Sincerely,
Gabrielle Benedek
Principal

A Prayer for Autumn Days and Restless Hearts



God of the season, there is a time for everything;
there is a time for dying and a time for rising.

We need courage to enter into the transformation process.

God of autumn, the trees are saying goodbye to their green leaves,
letting go of what has been.

We, too, have our moments of surrender, with all their insecurity
and risk.

Help us let go when we need to do so.

God of fallen leaves lying in coloured patterns on the ground, our
lives have their own patterns.

As we see the patterns of our own growth, may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights, there is always the
dimension of mystery and wonder in our lives.

We always need to recognize your power-filled presence.
May we gain strength from this.

God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain, many gifts of
growth lie within the season of surrender.

We must wait for harvest in faith and hope.

Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.

God of geese going south for another season, your wisdom enables
us to know what needs to be left behind and what needs to be
carried to the future.

We yearn for insight and vision.

God of flowers touched with frost and windows wearing white
designs, may your love keep our hearts from growing cold in the
empty seasons.

God of life, you believe in us, you enrich us, you entrust us with the
freedom to choose life.

For all this, we are grateful.

October Virtue

Amen

**THIS IS THE DAY,
THE LORD HAS MADE.
LET US REJOICE AND
BE GLAD.**

~ PSALM 118:24 ~

- GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR EVERY DAY HE GIVES US.
- IF WE EXPECT OTHERS TO BE GRATEFUL FOR WHAT WE DO, WE SHOULD SHOW APPRECIATION TO OTHERS.
- EVERYTHING WE HAVE TO BE THANKFUL FOR COMES FROM GOD.
- REMEMBER THE STORY OF THE LEPERS WHO JESUS HEALED AND THINK OF HOW MANY RETURNED TO SHOW THEIR GRATITUDE.



GRATITUDE

The Virtue Award for the month of September goes to the student in each class that welcomes others to play and work, guided by the message of "whatsoever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me."

TEACHER	GRADE	Students			
Ms. Aceto	JK/SK	Ashton	Giorgia		
Ms. Santelli	JK	Vienna	Laura		
Ms. DeFranco	SK	Ava	Paloma		
Ms. Pitoscia	1	Evangeline	Harry		
Ms. Mulvihill	1	Lara			
Mrs. Roy	1	Maria	Travis		
Ms. Alberton	2	Maria	David		
Mrs. Gentile	2	Krystian	Skye		
Ms. Yetman	2	Andrew	Renee		
Ms. Ceddia	2/3	Rafael			
Ms. Steponaitis	3	Martina			
Ms. Brajuka	3	Marina	Keira		
Ms. Loughlin	3	Elisa	Steven		
Ms. Henderson	4	Brenna			
Mr. Zinko	4	Amelia	Luke		
Ms. Micallef	4	Chris	Olivia		
Ms. Hall	5	Steven	Carescia	Emily	
Ms. Andreacchi	5FI	Nicola	Daniel	Sarah	
Ms. Quartarone	5/6	Peter	Marc	Mikael	
Ms. Bellissimo	6	Lauren	Stephen		
Mme Abboud	6FI	David D.			
Ms. Botelho	6FI	Tommy	Tamara		
Ms. Italiano	7FI	Adam	Ryan		
Mlle Carniel	8FI	Erica	Ben		
Mr. Natalino	7	Alexander			
Ms. Dalmau	7/8	Lucas	Anthony		
Ms. Silvestre	8	Irati	David		

GRATITUDE

October's virtue is GRATITUDE, how appropriate that we will be celebrating Thanksgiving in just a few short days. Our quote for this month is "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad" Psalm 118:24. "Thanks" is a simple word, but it is a precious fountain of faith in God, and it fills our hearts with a readiness to cherish everything we have. Although the world is currently experiencing economic challenges, and we may have difficulty saying thank you for some of our hardships, sometimes this can release us from that sense of entitlement that can prevent us from really seeing God's grace in our daily lives. The choice to be grateful is not always without effort.

REPORTING

"Elementary Progress Report Card" will be directed home to you in mid-November (**November 12**) providing checklist and anecdotal information detailing your child's progress to that time. Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on:

Thursday, November 14, 2013
5:00 - 8:00 pm
Friday, November 15, 2013
8:30 - 11:00 am

Two "Provincial Report Cards" will complete the year. The first will be sent home **Tuesday, February 11, 2014**.

LOCKDOWN

As we do yearly, we will once again, be practising our lockdown procedures with all of our students. Our first drill will be held on **Monday, October 21, 2013**. As with our fire drills, this practice allows all students and staff to become familiar with the expectations that have been set out for us.



If you have specific questions regarding our procedures, please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

PEANUT/NUT-FREE SNACKS

A number of our students have been diagnosed as having a serious, life threatening allergy to peanuts and/or nuts, among other allergies.



We **strongly** recommend that treats brought into the classroom setting be **non-food items** (stickers, pencils, etc.).

We would remind all our students that peanuts, nuts and/or products containing peanuts or nuts are **not** to be brought to school.

For snacks, please note that **reading food labels remains a must** as companies may change their policies without notice.

Nutrition Facts	
Per 1 bar (35 g)	
Amount	% DV
Calories 130	
Fat 2.5 g	4 %
Saturated 1 g	5 %
+ Trans 0 g	
Cholesterol 0 mg	0 %
Sodium 115 mg	5 %
Potassium 135 mg	4 %
Carbohydrate 26 g	9 %
Fibre 6 g	24 %
Sugars 7 g	
Starch 13 g	
Protein 2 g	

INGREDIENTS: WHOLE WHEAT, ROLLED OATS, MILLED CORN, RICE, ROLLED BARLEY, SUGAR, FANCY MOLASSES, VEGETABLE OIL, SALT, BARLEY MALT SYRUP, HONEY, VITAMINS (THIAMIN HYDROCHLORIDE, NIACINAMIDE, d-CALCIUM PANTOTHENATE, PYRIDOXINE HYDROCHLORIDE, FOLIC ACID), MINERALS (IRON, ZINC OXIDE), SOY LECITHIN, BHT. CONTAINS WHEAT AND SOY INGREDIENTS.

2012/2013 CAT/4, EQAO RESULTS

The results of the CAT/4 testing for our grade 2, 5 and 7 students (in 2012-2013) have been forwarded to the school, as well as to the individual students and their families.

In addition, our school's EQAO results for 2012-2013 (grade 3 and grade 6) have also been published.

Congratulations go out to all of the students who wrote these assessments for their results and effort. They have done themselves and this school community proud. As always, a huge "Thank You" must be extended to our staff and parents for the instruction, guidance and support that they provide.

PAPERLESS NEWSLETTER, CALENDARS, ETC. BEGINS AGAIN OCTOBER 2013.

Parents/guardians will receive weekly updates of upcoming events and important notices by email as a blind carbon copy (Bcc). The monthly newsletter and calendar will also be sent electronically to reduce the amount of photocopied paper used at the school. Most pertinent, and any urgent messages or reminders will also be sent to you by email. Please send an email to gabrielle.benedek@tcdsb.org to have your email address included. Paper copies of newsletters and calendars will only be provided by request after October. Weekly updates will commence in October.

APPROPRIATE DRESS CODE

Our dress-code policy at St. Gregory's continues to be working extremely well. We are looking to see the compliance rate is 100%. Just a reminder to parents that the dress code consists of navy bottoms, and either navy or white tops.

Please be reminded that the "The Navy Blue and White Dress Code" for St. Gregory will have the following requirements and restrictions:

- ✓ At all times clothing must be neat, modest, and suitable for a Catholic school environment
- ✓ Tops that do not have the St. Gregory Catholic School Crest must be plain and with no graphics, messages or slogans
- ✓ Tops are white or navy blue with no logos other than a St. Gregory crest

- ✓ Sweaters worn in the classroom must be navy blue or white with no logos.
- ✓ Shirts must have two sleeves
- ✓ Pants must be navy blue with no logos (no jeans)
- ✓ **Not** permitted- clothing that is revealing, including, but not limited to, halter tops, tube tops, tank tops, low cut tops, and midriff baring or suggestive attire
- ✓ Hats, caps, bandanas, sweatbands and other head attire may **not** be worn in school or in the classrooms and must be removed upon entry into the school.
- ✓ During the winter months, your child will need shoes for indoor use only. The wearing of socks or boots is neither safe nor healthy. In the event of an evacuation there will not be time to put on shoes nor is it safe to travel through the building or on the stairs in socks.
- ✓ Gym attire will also be navy blue and white and each classroom teacher will outline his/her requirements.
- ✓ Proper footwear (gym shoes) is the minimum requirement in the gymnasium. Running shoes/athletic footwear/dress shoes are required for the classroom or school

WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

Did you know that OCTOBER is International Walk to School Month?

Children and youth between the ages of 5-17 need at least 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous-intensity physical activity every day. Walking to and from school can help children reach these

levels. Unfortunately, only 31% of children walk to school on a regular basis in Toronto. Walking to and from school will not only help students meet the recommended daily amount of physical activity, but also improve community safety, promote social interaction, reduce traffic congestion, and protect the environment.



DRESS DOWN DAYS

St. Gregory students will be invited to participate in "dress down" (civvies) days on Fridays (with one or two exceptions) toward the middle of each month. We are hoping that each student will donate \$2.00 as he/she participates. All monies raised will support the school's initiatives. ShareLife/Social Justice initiatives.

Monies raised during September and October will go to support the Thanksgiving Food drive that a team of our intermediate students will be leading in support of the Daily Bread Food Bank. Please check the October calendar for the start date of the drive.

CSAC NEWS

CSAC held its Annual General Meeting this Wednesday past. As part of the Agenda, elections were held for the 2013-2014 council. Elected to the twenty voting positions are:

Ms. Antoniadis, Mr. Arone, Ms. Balsamo, Ms. Cimolai, Ms. D'Alessandro, Ms. Donnaperna, Ms. Fanelli, Mr. Filippozzi, Mr. Grnak, Ms. Mishko, Ms. Peri, Ms. Ribeiro, Mr. Ruso, Ms. Severino, Ms. Tavares, Ms. Tenuta, Ms. Zizek, Mr. Holyday, Mr. Vacarelli. Holding executive positions are: Ms. Severino (Chair), Mr. Ruso (Treasurer) Ms. Peri (Vice Chair), Ms. Tenuta (Secretary) We extend our thanks to the council who served the school community for the 2012-2013 school year under the leadership of Mr. Grnak, and look forward to another stellar year this year.

Happy Thanksgiving



During October, we focus on the virtue of gratitude, and all that we have to be thankful for.

As your Trustee I am thankful for the many dedicated parents who choose to send their children to our Catholic schools. I give thanks for the talented students who give us so many opportunities to celebrate their achievements. I am grateful for the many staff who support them and nurture them. And I give thanks for our parishes who provide us all with spiritual guidance.

I thank everyone in Ward 2 for all that they do to support Catholic education, and I wish you all a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

*Ann Andrachuk
Trustee Ward 2
Chair of the Board*

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2013-2014	
Wards	
1. Peter Jakovic	416-512-3401
2. Ann Andrachuk, Chair	416-512-3402
3. Sal Piccinini, Vice-Chair	416-512-3403
4. Patrizia Bottoni	416-512-3404
5. Maria Rozzo	416-512-3405
6. Frank D'Amico	416-512-3406
7. John De' Grande	416-512-3407
8. Garry Tanuan	416-512-3408
9. Jo-Ann Davis	416-512-3409
10. Barbara Poplawski	416-512-3410
11. Angda Kennedy	416-512-3411
12. Nancy Crawford	416-512-3412
William Lawrence, Student Trustee	416-512-3413
Enrique Olivo, Student Trustee	416-512-3417



Monthly Update from the Board

October 2013

Workshop for Catholic School Advisory Councils (CSACs) and School Principals

October 2, 2013

6:30-9:00 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre

80 Sheppard Avenue East

Visit www.tcdsb.org for more information

CPIC Elections (Catholic Parent Involvement Committee)

Ward 1,3,5,7,9,11 (two representatives to be elected in each ward)

October 7, 2013

7:00 p.m.

CPIC By-Elections

Wards 2,4,10 (one representative to be elected to fill vacant seat in each ward)

October 9, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Details: <http://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/ParentInvolvement/cpic/Pages/CPIC-Elections.aspx>

Secondary School Open Houses

Grade 8 students and their families are invited to visit Catholic high schools in their area

October 21-November 7, 2013

Check website for specific dates, locations and times: <http://www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses/Pages/default.aspx>

Conference for Newcomers and International Students

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is hosting a conference for students and families who are new to Canada, and TCDSB International Students, on **Saturday, October 19th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the Catholic Education Centre, 80 Sheppard Avenue East. Qualified Board staff and presenters will provide valuable information on navigating Ontario's education system; the TCDSB International Education Program; TCDSB Special Services in the areas of mental health, learning disabilities, gifted program and others, as well as how to access employment, housing, taxation and other settlement services. Workshops will be offered in English, Spanish/Portuguese, Chinese, Arabic and Filipino.

To attend the conference, guests are asked to register on-line at www.tcdsb.org/forcommunity/newcomers or call 416-222-8282 Ext. 1888. Students, parents, homestay families and custodians are welcome.

To view this announcement in other languages: <http://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2013/pages/newcomer-conference-2013.aspx>

Mark Your Calendars!

Special Services Fair

Working Together to Educate All

Find out about the many special services that the Toronto Catholic District School Board has to offer, and link up with additional resources in your community to support students and adults with special needs

November 2, 2013

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre, 80 Sheppard Avenue East

<http://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SpecialEducation/Pages/News-and-Events.aspx>

The Learning Partnership Presents 2014 Canada's Outstanding Principals' Award

This national award profiles outstanding leaders in education. Award recipients and their schools receive national recognition. Winning principals are invited to Toronto to participate in a gala evening and a 5-day executive leadership program at the Rotman School of Business. **Nomination deadline is October 26, 2013.** To learn more and to nominate outstanding principals in your community visit:

www.thelearningpartnership.ca

Appeal for Humanitarian Aid for Syria

The Toronto Catholic District School Board joins Catholics around the world in praying for peace in Syria, the Middle East and around the world. Our hearts go out to all the victims of violence and those who are left behind to mourn. Humanitarian aid is needed to help all who

are impacted by the continued devastation in that region. Please note the communication from the Archdiocese of Toronto providing details on how individuals, parishes and schools can support the relief efforts.
(http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/BoardAdministration/DirectorofEducation/Documents/ArchdioceseLetter_HumanitarianAidforSyria). We encourage you to consider this appeal and respond with generosity to our brothers and sisters who are in the midst of this crisis--**Angela Gauthier, Director of Education**

Watch for these upcoming events in October:

- Virtue of the Month—Gratitude
- October is Women’s History Month
- September 30-October 4th—Toronto’s Feeding Hungry Students Week
- October 5th—World Teachers’ Day
- October 7th—Rosary Day
- October 11th—System-wide Professional Activity Day (no classes for students)
- October 30th—ECE (Early Childhood Educator) and Childcare Worker Day

Get the latest news and information from the Board. Visit www.tcdsb.org or follow the Board on Twitter@TCDSB