

# St. Gregory Catholic School Newsletter

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

Superintendent: Mr. D. Yack  
Trustee: Mrs. A. Andrachuk  
CSAC Chair: A. Severino

Principal: J. Pannozzo  
Vice Principal: K. Van Dinter  
Secretary: C. Ventura Vieira  
Clerk Typist: S. Shanahan

SEPTEMBER 2014

TCDSB

## FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):  
We welcome our families back to another school year and extend a warm welcome to students and parents who are new to St. Gregory Catholic School. We look forward to various learning activities and events that will take place and we ask God's blessing for a successful year. As your new Principal, I will faithfully serve you to the best of my ability.

I have already been warmly welcomed by the staff and CSAC members along with a number of parents and I look forward to a wonderful school year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Van Dinter, Mrs. Ventura Vieira, Mrs. Shanahan and Mr. Vieira and his team preparing for the start of the school year.

Outlined in this newsletter is some important information that will promote a smooth start to the school year. Please ensure that the permission forms are returned to the classroom teacher by Monday, September 8th, 2014.

I'm looking forward to working with the entire St. Gregory Catholic community in making this year a success as the church, parent community and school continue to work together to provide an excellent Catholic and school continue to work together to provide an excellent Catholic education for our children.

Please feel free to stop by the office and introduce yourself to Mrs. Van Dinter or myself.

God Bless,

J. Pannozzo  
Principal



## Prayer For A New School Year

*Loving God  
Extend Your blessing over our  
families  
This new school year.  
May our school be filled with Love,  
Joy and Hope.*

*Let trespasses be forgiven,  
Let wounds be healed,  
Let conflict melt into harmony.*

*May our children grow in Knowledge,  
Understanding and Wisdom;  
May they be strong in mind, body  
and Spirit;  
May they have the courage to follow  
Your ways.*

*Finally dear God,  
May home, parish and school work  
Together  
To create a world where our children  
Can help build a civilization of love.*

*Amen.*

## ENTRANCE AND DISMISSAL

8:30 a.m.	Morning entry
10:12-10:27 a.m.	Morning recess
11:15 a.m.	Lunch Hour
12:15 p.m.	Afternoon entry
1:40 -1:55 p.m.	Afternoon recess
3:00 p.m.	Dismissal

## Student Absence/Lateness

Parents/Guardians must call and leave a message on the answering machine (Auto Attendant, Press #1).

Include your child's name, teacher's name, grade and a reason for absence.

**When a student arrives late for school, he or she must report to the office before going to class.**

## Early Dismissal

Children who **must** leave before dismissal, must be signed out by **parent/guardian** at the office.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

On days when the weather is inclement, students are asked to arrive at school just before the bell. Those students present at school will be permitted to enter the building at 8:15 in the morning. On such days, the recess periods will be held indoors and those students who stay for lunch will be supervised in the building. Unless the weather conditions are particularly bad, cold weather alone does not warrant an early entry to the building or indoor recess. Appropriate dress is a requirement on such days.

## STUDENT AGENDAS

Student Agendas will be distributed shortly. The teachers will be using this organizer to help students learn to plan their work and study time. The agendas have been designed with pages reflecting our Catholic values and traditions. The agenda is a valuable tool to assist with student achievement. It allows the students to record daily homework, assists in time management skills and is a good way to communicate between home and school. If you did not pre-order, you are strongly encouraged to purchase an agenda for your child now. The cost is \$7.50.

## CURRICULUM NIGHT

**Thursday, September 18, 2014**  
**7:00 p.m. in the Gym**

We welcome parents to our Curriculum Night on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. This is an excellent opportunity to meet your child's teacher, to see the classroom learning environment and to receive an overview of the curriculum for the year. More information will be provided soon.

## QSP READER'S DIGEST MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION

Again this year, one of our major fundraisers will be the QSP Reader's Digest magazine subscription sale. Your child will receive more information and a catalogue with the magazine choices in the near future. Please consider a magazine subscription or two for yourself or as a gift for a friend or family member. The school receives a portion of the total sales and you get a year of reading!

## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The number of our Before and After School Program is 416-236-8794, if you are interested. The hours of operation are 7:30-8:30 a.m. and 3:00-6:00 p.m.

## TCDSB APPROPRIATE DRESS CODE

### Guidelines:

**TOPS – Solid Navy Blue or White**  
Including: dress shirts, blouses, t-shirts (with or without collar, long or short sleeve), turtlenecks, sweaters, vests, etc. All shirts must have sleeves.

**BOTTOMS – Solid Navy Blue**  
Including: Dress pant, chinos, skirts, skorts, shorts (Bermuda length), active wear (wind pants, yoga pants, track pants), capris, tights, leggings, etc.

**No Denim.**

### DRESS/JUMPERS

– Solid Navy Blue

- All attire is free of any logo or graphics (i.e. Gap, Roots, Polo, etc.), but may include St. Gregory School crest.
- Appropriate Dress Code includes Phys. Ed. attire. / School team training.
- Navy and white school spirit wear i.e. 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, swim team) permissible
- All attire worn inside the classroom (i.e. sweaters, hoodies) must adhere to Appropriate Dress Code guidelines.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

### *ELECTIONS AND COUNCIL MEETING*

*Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014*  
*Staffroom - 7:00 p.m.*

We invite all parents to consider becoming a member of the Catholic School Advisory Council. Your active participation can only serve to enhance

all the wonderful things that happen in our school. You will find a nomination form attached to this newsletter, for either yourself or for someone else. Consider joining CSAC and as always, all parents/guardians are invited to attend. Please return the nomination form by Monday, September 22, 2014.

## ANAPHYLAXIS

As we begin a new school year, we would like to inform you that St. Gregory Elementary School is an ***allergen aware school***. There are children in attendance who suffer from ***severe and life threatening*** allergies to certain foods, such as peanut and nut products. Exposure to the smallest quantities can cause severe life threatening reactions. The most common allergen triggers are food, insect stings, medications, exercise and latex. An anaphylactic reaction involves symptoms from two or more body systems.

We at St. Gregory would appreciate the co-operation of the entire school community in NOT sending any lunches or snacks that contain peanuts or nuts, which could potentially harm a child. Other restrictions may apply on a class by class basis. Please make sure that all of your children's caregivers are aware of the food restrictions.

**Please do not send food for birthdays or special occasions.** There are many alternatives such as stickers and pencils. If you have any questions, please talk to your child's teacher or the school staff.

We look forward to your co-operation in making this a safe year for all our students.



WHATSOEVER YOU DO  
TO THE LEAST OF MY  
PEOPLE, THAT YOU DO  
UNTO ME.

- MATTHEW 25:40 -

- REMEMBER THAT GOD WELCOMES US ALL TO HIS TABLE: WE SHOULD DO THE SAME.
- BE GUIDED BY THE MESSAGE OF "WHATSOEVER YOU DO TO THE LEAST OF MY PEOPLE, THAT YOU DO UNTO ME."
- IF YOU WANT TO FEEL WELCOMED, MAKE SURE YOU ARE WELCOMING OTHERS.
- HOSPITALITY SHOULD BE EVIDENT IN YOUR HOME, SCHOOL AND THE CHURCH.

HOSPITALITY



### SCHOOL MASS

Our first School Mass with Father John will be on Wednesday, September 10, at 9:15 a.m. As always, parents are more than welcome to attend.



### HOSPITALITY

As we welcome our students back to school in September it seems fitting that this month's virtue is **HOSPITALITY**. Our teachers have been busy preparing their classrooms, gathering together resources, supplies and putting up bulletin boards that will invite the students back into a welcoming environment. But hospitality is more than just a welcoming back. Our quote for the month is from Matthew 25:40, "*Whatsoever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me*". According to Henri Nouwen, "The German word for hospitality is Gastfreundschaft which means friendship for the guest... It means the creation of a free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy". In our school community and in our homes we can discuss the concept of the least of our people or the stranger who needs our hospitality, be it the newly arrived to Canada or the new student at our school. Today hospitality is more important than ever and it is only through a deep moral obligation to hospitality that we transform our communities.

### DISCLAIMER

From time to time, the school will send home information from non-profit organizations, we remind parents and guardians to exercise caution any time they participate in or enrol their child in an outside organization's event after school hours. The school and the TCDS B are not liable for the quality of service these organizations provide or for the safety of the participants. We forward this information to keep our parent community informed of the wide variety of opportunities available with our local community.

### ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND CELL PHONES

We continue to encourage students to leave iPods, MP3 players, digital games or toys, cameras, cell phones, other electronic devices and other personal belongings of value **at home**. If your child brings a cell phone to and from school, it **MUST** be turned off while on school property and remain out of sight everywhere on school property including classrooms, the washroom, the parking lot and school yard. Matters of urgency should be dealt with **through the office**. If your child needs to contact you, they are to seek permission to use the school phone, the school will not be responsible for lost or stolen phones. In addition, students who have their phones on in school will be given one warning followed by a discipline report for any further infractions.



### VISITORS TO SCHOOL

All visitors must report to the office upon entering the school. A sign-in procedure is in place for anyone visiting the school at any time.



## BUS SAFETY



Please note that inconsistent travel on the buses will make it difficult to maintain service for your child. If you request transportation and your child does not use the bus on a regular basis, the space will be taken away. Students must be ready to board as soon as the buses arrive at the STOP or school. Buses will not wait since they must keep to schedule, have various runs, and serve other schools. Students must behave appropriately in order to maintain bussing service. Please ensure that you and your child know the bus number of your route. If buses are late, please call the bus company directly for up-to-the-minute information on what is occurring. The school does not have any control over the whereabouts of the buses. Please find out from your child during the first week of school his/her bus line colour and make note of the route number and phone number for use during the school year.

### *Student Safety and Expectations on the Bus and in Bus Lines*

- Observe the instructions of the bus driver at all times.
- Remain seated and facing the front at all times until the bus comes to a complete stop.
  - Respect others' property and do not cause damage to the bus in any way.
  - Do not talk loudly, yell, throw objects or fight on the bus.
  - Keep your hands and head inside the bus, do not lean out the window, spit or throw objects out the window.
  - You are not allowed to board another bus for any reason e.g. friend's birthday party, working on projects together.
  - Do not eat or drink on the bus. Show respect to the bus driver, student monitors and fellow passengers at all times.

## BUS COMPANY FIRST STUDENT – 905-629-8200

### A.M. ROUTES (before school)

Route CFE0477- Brown/Blue  
Route CFE0437- Green/Grey  
Route CFE0455- Pink/Purple  
Route PFE0819 - Red  
Route CFE0478- Yellow 'A'  
Route PFE0802 - Orange  
Route CAR0157-Yellow 'B'

### P.M. ROUTES (after school)

Route CFE0423- Red  
Route CFE0424- Blue  
Route CFE0425- Pink  
Route CFE0426- Brown  
Route CFE0433- Grey  
Route CFE0437 -Green  
Route CFE0478- Yellow  
Route PFE0802 - Orange  
Route PFE0819 - Purple

## PARKING LOT

Just a reminder that our buses take precedence over cars, in our horseshoe parking lot on the south side of the school. Please move when the bus is behind you. Also, the drop off and pick up area is a "Kiss and Ride". Please do not try to park in this area.



## PAPERLESS NEWSLETTER, CALENDARS, etc.

Parent/guardians will receive weekly updates of upcoming events and important notices via twitter. The monthly newsletter and calendar will be posted on the school's website [www.school.stgregorytoronto.com](http://www.school.stgregorytoronto.com) to reduce the amount of photocopied paper used at the school. Most pertinent, or urgent messages or reminders will also be sent to you by email.

## DRESS DOWN DAYS

Dress down/Civvies days will be held monthly. We would request a contribution of \$2.00 per student for ShareLife/Social Justice initiatives that will be taking place throughout the course of the year. Please look for specifics in upcoming newsletter/communications.

## SECURITY, SAFETY AND ACCIDENTS

Please take a few minutes to review street proofing and basic safety and security rules with your child. This will reinforce the lessons taught at school during the school year. Despite the constant reminders and attention given to issues regarding safety, occasional accidents do happen. In case of minor accidents, (cuts, scrapes, etc.), first aid will be administered by staff. If the child continues to be uncomfortable or is in distress, the school will notify the parent. In the case of a serious accident, parents will be notified. If attempts to contact you are unsuccessful, school staff will take the appropriate action as directed by TCDSB policy. In case of an emergency, it is absolutely imperative that we have, at all times, up-to-date information.

## STUDENT INSURANCE FORMS

All students will be given an insurance form to bring home. If you choose to purchase insurance please contact the company directly.

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS

Sacramental preparation is done through the Parish. Specifics regarding sacramental preparation will be provided when they have been made available to us from the parish.



## REGISTRATIONS

All Registrations require the following documents:

- A. Birth Certificate
- B. Baptismal Certificate
- C. Health Card
- D. Immunization Record
- E. Proof of Permanent Address
- F. Passport (if born outside Canada)
- G. Telephone numbers for home, work and emergency contact

## SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR 2014-2015

Labour Day	September 1, 2014
School Starts	September 2, 2014
Thanksgiving Day	October 13, 2014
Christmas Break (inclusive)	December 22, 2014 – January 2, 2015
Family Day	February 16, 2015
Mid-Winter Break (inclusive)	March 16-20, 2015
Good Friday	April 3, 2015
Easter Monday	April 6, 2015
Victoria Day	May 18, 2015
Last day for classes for Elementary students	June 25, 2015

### SIX PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

P.A. Day -Parent-Teacher Interviews (and in the evening of November 13, 2014)	November 14, 2014
P.A. Day 'Faith Day' Designated by the Ministry	December 5, 2014
P.A. Day Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting	January 23, 2015
P.A. Day Parent-Teacher Interviews	February 13, 2015
P.A. Day Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting	June 5, 2015
P.A. Day Provincial Education Priorities	June 26, 2015

Please be mindful that current student class placements are **tentative** until

## CLASS PLACEMENT

September 30<sup>th</sup> (and on occasion, into early October). Student enrolment does fluctuate during the month of September and all class sizes must meet Ministry and TCDSB requirements by the end of the month. It may yet become necessary to restructure our classes. We thank all families who may be impacted in advance for their understanding and co-operation.

## WASTE FREE LUNCHES

The Toronto Catholic District School Board remains committed to the environment and continues to look for innovative ways to promote conservation through energy and waste reduction initiatives.

We are asking parents to fully participate with your child in a "Waste Free Lunch Program" at our school. Be part of helping us become leaders in this environmentally friendly waste reduction program. It involves the following three steps:

1. Lunches and snacks should be packed in a re-usable container, not in disposable bags.
2. In order to avoid spills, we ask you to use containers that are re-sealable.
3. Leftover food which can be disposed of in the green bin program available at your home will be brought back home in their containers by your child.

Our hope is that this practice at school and at home will teach all children to carry this awareness and behaviour with them as they grow into young adults.

Thank you for your ongoing support with our school's environmental efforts.

If you discover that your child has been infected with head lice, please

## PEDICULOSIS

advise the office in order that classes can be checked to avoid further spreading. Outbreaks of pediculosis are common among school children and are not considered a health problem, but more of a nuisance. Any person, however clean, may become infested by exposure to other infested persons or their belongings, particularly hats, coats, blankets, combs, brushes, etc. Schools usually notice an increase of instances after holidays where students have gone to camps, etc. Parents are advised to check for lice on a regular basis. The eggs (nits) are attached near the base of the individual hairs, usually along the hairline at the back and sides of the head.

## MEDICATION

Principals, teachers and support staff of the TCDSB are **not** permitted to administer any type of prescription medication during the school day, unless they have written authorization signed by you, the parent, and the prescribing physician. The forms to dispense any medication must be updated yearly and on a regular basis; these are available from the school office. Also, please be advised that staff in TCDSB schools will not dispense non-prescription medications to students. At times, students need to take medication during regular school hours. Please note that any medication brought to school must be stored in the office. Students cannot keep medication in their desks or school bags. Although school staff cannot administer medication, we can supervise your children while they are taking it. It is extremely important that medication which is brought to school be:

1. Measured and put in single dose containers
2. Labelled clearly with your child's full name, time and amount to be taken, and whether refrigeration is required.

**When you children are ill, please keep them at home.** Sick children do

not learn well; they can spread germs to others and cannot be supervised indoors during outdoor activities. If children are well enough to come to school, they should be outside getting their exercise and fresh air during recesses and other outdoor activities.

## KIDSENTENTIALS

*Take a much-needed break from making lunches!  
Kidssentials is the fresh, hot lunch provider at our school.*

**ORDER ONLINE TODAY at**  
[www.kidssentials.com](http://www.kidssentials.com)

Kid tested and approved, Kidssentials lunches are generously portioned, using the freshest ingredients. They are nutritious, delicious, and are assembled and served fresh at the school; forget pre-packaged soggy burger buns or mushy pasta dishes, Kidssentials provides fresh, high quality home-style meals.

Always 100% peanut and tree-nut free, the rotating menu lists over 30 entree choices, including: burgers, pastas, burritos, salads, wraps, vegetarian, and allergen-free options (free of gluten, soy dairy, egg, sesame, and seafood). Entrees are available for \$4.95 each and healthy sides may be added for as little as \$1.00 each.

Kidssentials is also eco-friendly, and uses only compostable and recyclable packaging and cutlery. In partnership with our school, and to encourage a paperless environment, there are NO PAPER FORMS.

**Take a break from making lunch, and place your order ONLINE today!** Visit [www.kidssentials.com](http://www.kidssentials.com) and log in or create an account. Payment options include Visa, MasterCard, or credit-card-free by mailing a cheque.

**Our Hot Lunch Program Starts TUESDAY SEPT. 23<sup>RD</sup>** - Kids LOVE Kidssentials! Are you tired of making

lunch, but still want your child to receive a warm, healthy home-style meal? Take a break by ordering from our school's unique, fresh-served, eco-friendly lunch program! To view the school's menu and meal schedule, click on 'place your order' at [www.kidssentials.com](http://www.kidssentials.com) or contact **905.855.1914** or [mail@kidssentials.com](mailto:mail@kidssentials.com).

*Cancellation Policy:* If your child will be away at lunchtime on a Kidssentials lunch day, please contact Kidssentials directly by phone/email/website *before 8:00am* and a credit will be applied to your online account. Bon appétit!

## NEW FACES, NEW NAMES

The faces of our school staff have changed . We are happy to welcome:

Mr. J. Pannozzo – Principal  
Ms. J. Salmond – ELP teacher  
Ms. S. Maxwell – ELP teacher  
Ms. K. Pappano – SK/1  
Ms. Ciciirelli – Grade 6/7  
TBA – Grade 7  
Mr. A. De Medeiros- Gade 7/8  
Ms. D. Bahsous – Grade 8 FI/Eng  
Mr. R. Vlasschaert – Health/Phys.Ed.  
Ms. O. Kotliarenko – Instr. Music  
Ms. S. Oppong - ECE  
Ms. V. Mazzuca - ECE  
Ms. L. Kessler - ECE  
Ms. C. Selby - ECE



## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Please note that the City of Toronto is in the process of starting road work on Kipling Avenue. This work may take up to three months. As always, you are reminded to drive cautiously.

## TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2014-2015

### Wards

1.	Peter Jakovcic	416-512-3401
2.	Ann Andrachuk	416-512-3402
3.	Sal Piccininni	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, Chair	416-512-3409
10.	Barbara Poplawski	416-512-3410
11.	Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411
12.	Nancy Crawford,	
	Vice-Chair	416-512-3412
	Christopher MacDonald,	
	Student Trustee	416-512-3413
	Hannah McGroarty,	
	Student Trustee	416-512-3417