

# ST. GREGORY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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CSPC Chairs: M. Bridger  
C. Sachanowicz

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

## MAY 2019

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We are celebrating the spring weather and looking forward to the opening of the green yard hopefully on May 6, weather permitting, for students to enjoy the natural environment.

Our first group of grade 2 students, with the support of Father Sean, the school community and family and friends, made their First Communion on April 27 and demonstrated their understanding of the importance of this special Sacrament. The second group of children will celebrate the Sacrament of First Communion on Saturday, May 11, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Our Grade 8 students participated in a Retreat at St. Gregory Church on April 29 to reflect on their elementary school experience before the graduation trip to Ottawa at the end of May and before transitioning to secondary school. We thank Father Sean as well as the St. Gregory Church CWL for preparing this spiritual journey and providing the lunch and snacks.

The week of May 5 to May 10<sup>th</sup> is Catholic Education week and this year's theme is Living as Joyful Disciples and is marked by special activities at all grade levels, including morning prayer celebrations and activities. We embrace the virtue of compassion for the month for May and are committed to supporting the Angel Foundation for Learning.

The St. Gregory Swim Team will participate in the TCDSB Swim Meet at the Etobicoke Olympium on May 4 and May 5, 2019. They have practiced extensively and deserve a great event. We want to thank St. Demetrius School for hosting this year's meet as we know from experience that it is a major undertaking! The Track and Field athletes are busy practicing in preparation for the Divisional Meet which will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at Centennial Park.

All parents, guardians, family members and friends are invited to the St. Gregory Catholic School ARTUCATE on Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. ARTUCATE highlights individual and collaborative visual and performing arts and celebrates student's creative thinking and talents. We look forward to seeing all of you at this affirmative event.

On behalf of the staff at St. Gregory Catholic School, we would like to wish all mothers a Happy Mother's Day. As St. Therese of Lisieux reminds us - *"The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of a mother."*

J. Pannozzo

### SCHOOL HOURS/TIMES

<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	MORNING ENTRY
<b>10:12-10:27 a.m.</b>	A.M. RECESS
<b>11:15-12:15 p.m.</b>	LUNCH HOUR
<b>12:15 p.m.</b>	AFTERNOON ENTRY
<b>1:40-1:55 p.m.</b>	P.M. RECESS
<b>3:00 p.m.</b>	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.

### STUDENT ABSENCE REPORTING

**School Messenger has been implemented as the platform for reporting student late arrivals and absences. Parents/Guardians can reach School Messenger using the following options:**

#### PHONE

**1-833-251-3286**

#### ONLINE

<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home>

#### **or SchoolMessenger Mobile App**

#### 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.

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### INDIGO GIRL WINNERS



This school year, St. Gregory Catholic School invited the Indigo Girls Group to provide an after school program – the Girls Club for girls from grades 5 to 8 which from January to April.

The Indigo Girls Group is run by young women for young women and aims to educate and create discussion surrounding current societal themes including success/failure, body image and self- confidence, bullying, stress and anxiety, safety in social media, and more.

The Indigo Girls Group also encourages girls to achieve their goals through creating projects using their own ideas. Therefore, Girls Club members were invited to submit a Passion Project which involved developing an initiative that would make a difference in the community.

St. Gregory students: Natalie Skinner, Elizabeth Skinner, Sienna Faria and Aleksandra Lyp proposed a project entitled “Bracelet for School Supplies”. They shared their idea of making and selling bracelets and then using the proceeds to purchase school supplies for students in need. The Indigo Girls Group chose this Passion Project from amongst all the entries in Ontario, and gave the “Bracelets for School Supplies” team \$300.00 in funding to start their Project.

“One day, we want to become bigger....maybe even go worldwide. A simple notebook and pencils can help our society in the future. Who knows, maybe we can inspire a future author. We all know that far too many children don’t even have the basic supplies to make it through a school day.” Congratulations, Girls!

### ANGEL FOUNDATION

The TCDSB Angel Foundation for Learning was created to empower TCDSB students to focus on their education. Students in the numerous and diverse schools across the Toronto Catholic District School Board face various challenges that affect their ability to achieve their best. Through the support of donors, sponsors and volunteers, The Angel Foundation for Learning is able to support, inspire, and nurture TCDSB students through its Four Wings of Support.

The Angel Foundation aims to:

- foster physical health through Student Nutrition Programs
- provide opportunities for all students to participate in class trips and activities through its School Allocations
- ensure that students have warm clothing, food, hearing aids and eyeglasses as well as other necessities through the Guardian Angel Funds and Bursaries and Awards, we work to give every student an equal
- encourage students to pursue further education and dreams through the Awards and Bursaries Program

St. Gregory Catholic School would like to support the Angel Foundation for Learning to continue supporting students. We will have 2 civvies days in May- Friday, May 3 and Friday, May 31 to collect donations for the Angel Foundation.



**THE ANGEL**  
**FOUNDATION**  
**FOR LEARNING**



**TCDSB BUDGET CONSULTATION**

**ME, MOI + CANADA CONTEST**

To mark the 50th anniversary of the Official Languages Act, Historica Canada invites students to reflect on bilingualism and Canadian identity through the Me, Moi + Canada Contest. Students are encouraged to submit a video to explain the role bilingualism plays in everyday life. Students aged 6 years old and up are invited to participate. The deadline is November 1, 2019. For more information go to:

<https://historicacanada.wishpondpages.com/memoicanada/en>

**ASIAN-CANADIAN HERITAGE MONTH**

The month of May acknowledges the long and rich history of Asian Canadians and their contributions to Canada to the growth and prosperity of Canada. The TCDSB will be hosting an Asian Canadian Heritage Mass and Cultural Exposé on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 starting at 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Morrow Park Catholic Secondary School located at 3379 Bayview Ave., Willowdale. This celebration of Asian cultures and traditions will bring together students from across TCDSB to perform songs and dances from many regions across Asia.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/AsianCanadianHeritage>

**Speech, Language & Hearing Month**

<https://www.tcdsb.org/SpeechLanguageHearingMnth>

All parents, staff, students and stakeholders are reminded that the deadline for submitting completed surveys is May 10<sup>th</sup>. To learn more about the budget, to complete the online survey, or download a pdf copy of the survey, please visit:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Budget-2019-2020>

**CSPC EXECUTIVE TRAINING WORKSHOPS**

**CSPC Executive Training Workshops  
School By-Laws & CSPC Annual Year End Activity & Financial Report**

**Date: May 13th, 2019 6 - 8pm**

**Location: Catholic Education Centre, Quigley Hall, 1st Floor**

**Consultation sessions will be held on the following TCDSB Policies:**

- S 10 - Catholic School Parent Councils
- P 04 - Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
- A 33 - Guidelines For Trustees, Parents and Staff in addressing School Related Concerns

<https://www.tcdsb.org/CSPCTrainingWorkshop>

**TOWN HALLS**

Parents/Guardians are invited to Ward 2 Town Halls hosted by trustee Markus de Domenico. There will be two opportunities to attend this event during May.

The first town hall is scheduled to take place on Thursday, May 23 at All Saints Catholic School which is located at 1435 Royal York Road from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

The second town hall will take place on Thursday, May 30 at St. Clement Catholic School which is located at 4319 Bloor Street West from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**RESPECT FOR LIFE WEEK**

The TCDSB celebrates Respect for Life Week on May 12-17, 2019.

As a Catholic community, every week is Respect for Life Week as we work together to nurture and empower our students and one another to stand up for those who are most vulnerable: the unborn, the elderly, the sick, those with mental health issues, those who suffer poverty, injustice, violence, abuse and who are marginalized in other ways. All life is sacred, and we are called to serve and to love one another.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/RespectForLifeWeek>

## TCDSB MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is defined as a state of well-being in which every individual realizes his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community (WHO). Mental health is not the same thing as mental illness. We know that in any given year 20% of us will experience a mental health problem or illness. We all have mental health, the same way we all have physical health.

If you are concerned your child may be struggling, look at whether there are changes in how the child is thinking, feeling or acting. Also pay attention to how the child is functioning at home, at school and with friends (cps.ca). There are professionals and other caring adults you can consult with to determine next steps and identify supports for your child. Consider the following:

- Talk to your child to find out what's going on and how he/she is feeling
- Talk to the classroom teacher to see if they also notice the changes/concerns
- Discuss your observations with the family doctor
- Ask the school principal about mental health supports available at school, such as the guidance counselor, social worker, psychologist, or Child and Youth Worker
- In case of emergency proceed to your local hospital or call 911

## COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

### What's Up Walk-In Counseling

Professional and confidential walk-in counseling for children, youth, young adults and their families. No fee. No appointment. No Health Card. Six locations across Toronto. See website for locations and hours of operation.  
<http://www.whatsupwalkin.ca/>

### Kids Help Phone

Professional and confidential counseling available 24/7 via phone. Text and live chat also available – see website. 1-800-668-6868  
<https://kidshelpphone.ca/>

## GUIDANCE CORNER - Mr. Chyz

During the month of May, there is a focus on Mental Health Awareness and the Virtue of Compassion. The first week of May is typically known as Children's Mental Health Awareness week. Take the time to help your child understand that talking about our feelings and getting help when something is bothering us, is the healthy way to approach fear, anxiety, worry or depression. As we are still in the Season of Easter, we are called to be people of hope. Helping children develop a hopeful outlook on life, can foster resilience and coping during difficult times. Also, trying to understand another person's feelings and wanting to help them, can go a long way in responding compassionately to those who may need our friendship and support. Help your child develop positive coping strategies when facing difficult situations. Please see parent fact sheet from the Canadian Psychological Association:

<http://www.cpa.ca/docs/File/Publications/FactSheets/PsychologyWorksFactSheetParentingChallenges.pdf>,

link to parent resources from the Psychology Foundation of Canada:

<https://psychologyfoundation.org/Public/Parents/Content/Parents/Parents.aspx?hkey=eba1572a-bff7-41fc-b74a-dca79be49c2b>.

This article from Psychology Today magazine, offers insights into helping children develop compassion:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/ca/blog/the-power-prime/201407/5-ways-instill-compassion-in-your-children>

In an effort to align with the Board Learning Improvement Plan and the mandate of implementing Creating Pathways to Success (2013), all grade 8 students will be completing an Exit Survey on myBlueprint, as they work towards fulfilling the expectations of their Individual Pathways Plan (IPP). Ask your child to show you their Individual Pathways Plan and become familiar with it, as the use of it will continue in high school.

## BRICKS AWARD

<b>B</b>	<b>Belonging</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>Respect</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Integrity</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Character</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>Kindness</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>Service</b>

Grade 8 students are invited to apply for the St. Gregory BRICKS Awards to leave their legacy.

Students who demonstrate the BRICKS virtues by: exhibiting respect for their own and others learning, helpfulness, inclusivity, compassion, school spirit, enthusiasm, participation in school activities, courtesy towards all members of the school community, leadership, the willingness to stand up for what is right, understanding the importance of following school rules, and showing school and community spirit are reminded to complete an application form.

*Completed applications must be handed in to Mr. Pannozzo by **Friday, May 24, 2019.***

## STUDENT MONTHLY RECOGNITION

Student monthly recognition for the 2018-2019 school year are based on the TCDSB Virtues of the Month which align with the Catholic Graduate Expectations as well as principles of Catholic Teaching. 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 students, therefore, are described not only in terms of knowledge and skills, but in terms of values, attitudes and actions.

The virtue for the month for April is Justice. The virtue of justice means that we deal fairly with others, recognizing the equality and dignity of all. It requires that we work to ensure that all people, especially the poor and the weak, have access to opportunities. Justice is extended to people, animals, the environment; in fact, the whole universe.

GRADE	TEACHER/S	JUSTICE
ELP	Ms. Rosa/Ms. Cabral	Sebastian, Lauren, Tiago, Myles
ELP	Ms. Bellissimo/Ms. Del Vecchio	Charlotte, Julian, Isa
ELP	Ms. Andreacchi/Ms. Da Silva	Leticia, Filip, Ava
ELP	Ms. Martino/Ms. Selby	Ben, Chelsea, Tyler, Sara
SK/1	Mr. Fatigati	Juan, Joe (both SK)
Gr.1	Ms. Botelho	Isabella, Olivia
Gr.1	Ms. Barone	Massimo, Anessa
Gr.1	Ms. Ceddia	Maya, Ronald
Gr.1/2	Ms. Martinez	Luca, Wynne
Gr. 2	Ms. Gentile	Alexandros, Leonardo
Gr. 2	Ms. Chiaravalotti	Frank, Alessandro
Gr. 2	Ms. Salmond	Sofia, Maya
Gr. 3	Ms. Caruana	Alessia, Cohen, Zachary
Gr.3	Ms. Steponaitis	Benjamin, Erik
Gr.3	Ms. Yetman	Gab, Lucas
Gr. 3	Ms. Wiseman	Jacob, Nicholas
Gr.3/4	Ms. Visconti	Lucas, Kallia
Gr.4	Ms. Micallef	Giorgia, Elias
Gr.4	Ms. De Vincenzo	Keane, Emmanuel
Gr.4/5	Ms. Quartarone	Rodrigo, Daniel, Angel
Gr. 5	Ms. Alfino	Troy, Alejandro, Colin, Julyana
Gr. 5 EF	Ms. Pallotta	Adriana, Lina, Sarah
Gr. 6	Ms. Cicirelli	Julian, Nicholas, Christopher
Gr. 6	Ms. Trinetti	Travis, Francisca
Gr. 6 (EF)	Ms. Hetmanczuk	Steve, Evangeline
Gr. 7	Mr. Vennare	Nahom, James, Andrea
Gr.7/8	Ms. Beltrano	Joey A., Abigail, Beatrice
Gr.8	Mr. De Medeiros	Joshua, Anthony, Kovas
Gr.7 (EF)	Ms. Bahsous	Lucas, Grace K., Jaden
Gr. 8 (EF)	Ms. Brodziuk	Alex, Sofia T., Keira

## CSPC NEWS

Parents are encouraged to attend the next CSPC meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, May 15**  
**Time: 7:00 p.m.**  
**Location: Staff Room.**

Pizza Lunch and Subway Lunch are a tradition at St. Gregory. Volunteers are needed.

For more information:  
volunteersofstgregs@gmail.com

Parent Involvement Matters!



## QSP FUNDRAISER

Thank you to students, parents and guardians for supporting our QSP fundraiser. CSPC raised approximately 10,000.00 which will be put towards activities and resources to enhance and support student learning through Scientist in the School workshops, Artist in the Classroom workshops, replacement of gym equipment, technology/devices for teaching and learning of coding and robotics, etc.



## ARTUCATE

# artucate

...*Back by Popular Demand!*

### Please Join Us

on Thursday, May 9, 2019, from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm, at St. Gregory Catholic School presents "ARTucate" as part of an extension to the Toronto Catholic District School Board "Education Week". This event is a wonderful opportunity for the school community to come together and celebrate "The Arts". Come and see the exceptional artistic talent that is alive and well at St. Gregory's!

### TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2018 - 2019

#### Wards

1. Joseph Martino	416-512-3401	8. Garry Tanuan	416-512-34081
2. Markus de Domenico	416-512-3402	9. Norm Di Pasquale	416-512-3409
3. Ida Li Preti	416-512-3403	10. Daniel Di Giorgio	416-512-3410
4. Teresa Lubinski	416-512-3404	11. Angela Kennedy	416-512-3411
5. Maria Rizzo, Chair	416-512-3405	12. Nancy Crawford	416-512-3412
6. Frank D'Amico	416-512-3406	Taylor Dallin, Student Trustee	416-512-3413
7. Michael Del Grande, Vice-Chair	416-512-3407	Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee	416-512-3417



