

ST. GREGORY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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St. Gregory Catholic Church
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Superintendent: Ms. Cifelli 416-222-8282
School Trustee: Mr. M. de Domenico
CSPC Chairs: K. Fenech & V. Thomas

Principal: J. Pannozzo
Vice Principal: M. Ginocchi
Secretary: C. Pulcini
Clerk Typist: S. Shanahan

APRIL 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

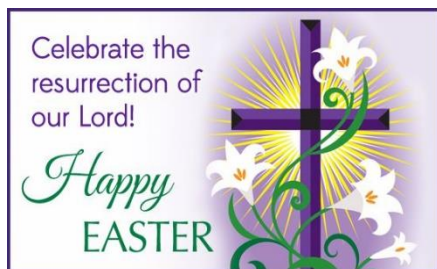
Welcome to Spring! I cannot believe that we are already beginning the month of April. Please note that effective Monday, April 4th, 2022 we will be ending the staggered entry and dismissal times. Supervision for students will begin at 8:15 a.m. in the school yard and all students will enter the school building at 8:30 a.m. **The dismissal time for all students (FDK to grade 8) will be 3:00 p.m.** We realize that this transition may cause some changes to your daily routines, and we wanted to provide you with advance notice so that you can plan accordingly.

We celebrate and place our focus on the virtue of Justice during the month of April. This virtue guides our school's discipline approach as we aim to encourage positive conflict resolution skills and strategies for all our students.

We would like to express our gratitude for the commitment and dedication of our administrative assistants, Ms. Pulcini and Ms. Shanahan to fostering a compassionate and welcoming environment in our school office and for their dedication to student safety and well-being. On behalf of the entire school community, we wish them a Happy Administrative Professional's Appreciation Day this month and thank them for their commitment to supporting our students in Catholic Education.

Finally, we are beginning to plan for next year. We will be sending a form to be completed **only** if your child will not be returning to St. Gregory in September 2022. Please return the form through School Messenger or have your child bring it to school and submit to the classroom teacher. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all families and friends of St. Gregory School a Happy and Holy Easter.

God Bless,
J. Pannozzo



SCHOOL HOURS/TIMES

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

All visitors to the school including parents and guardians are expected to report to the office immediately upon arriving at the school. Dismissal will now begin at 3:00 pm. **There will no longer be staggered dismissal.**

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.

Student Illness

Children who are exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or any other illness should stay home. COVID-19 passports must be signed daily for your child to enter the school.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

SUPPORT STAFF APPRECIATION DAY

On March 7th, we acknowledged Support Staff Appreciation Day. Many thanks to:

Our Educational Assistants Team – Ms. Bany, Ms. Ciaravella, Ms. D’Souza and Ms. Steca
Our Librarian Technician – Mr. Regner
Our RPN – Mr. Robert Diaz

You are an integral to creating safe and caring learning communities, as you help our students’ overcome challenges and succeed to the best of their abilities. You are trusted adults that provide daily guidance, support and compassion to our students on a daily basis.

To all our support staff, at St. Gregory and throughout the TCDSB community, we thank you for the many ways that you continue to support our students and our schools. May you continue to find joy in your work with our young people, and may God continue to bless you each and everyday!!

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY – MARCH 8

International Women's Day (IWD) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. St. Gregory’s students recognized this special day by participating in a variety of activities including celebrating female authors, characters, saints, and historical game changers, as well as participating in virtual events through the TCDSB. We also hosted a Staff Appreciation event in honour of the amazing women on our staff that dedicate their time and energy to serving our students. Thank you for inspiring our students and leading with excellence!!



#STANDWITHUKRAINE

We continue to pray for peace and justice to become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for the world. We are very thankful to the community of St. Gregory that came together to support humanitarian efforts. Together we were able to raise \$4755.00.

A Prayer of the Ukraine

Gracious God

We pray for the people of the Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine.

And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy. **Amen**

We planned several initiatives to take place in the month of March. We were able to raise money to support the people and families with the basic essential necessities as they have been forced to leave their homes and seek refuge.

#StandWithUkraine Blue and Yellow Day



Our EA Team created this beautiful bulletin in honour of #StandWithUkraine campaign



We thank you for your continued support! Together we can make a difference!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

On March 11, staff and students enjoyed celebrating St. Patrick's Day by wearing green!



ST. GREGORY PARISH NEWS

First Communion Retreat for all registered candidates and parents/guardians at St. Gregory's Church will be **Wednesday, April 13th at 6:30 pm via Zoom.**

For more information please contact St. Gregory's Church office at 416-239-4831.



APRIL CHRISTIAN VIRTUE - JUSTICE

The virtue for the month of April is Justice. 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. It assumes that none of us is free until all of us are. One of the central tenants of Catholic social teaching is the dignity of the human being; we are all created in the image of God, and therein rests our inalienable dignity. Justice is extended to people, animals, the environment, the whole universe.

CSPC NEWS

The CSPC is very excited to have launched both hot lunches and pizza and subway lunches. Hot lunches successfully launched during the week of March 21st and our first pizza lunch is March 31st. We received orders for 671 pizza slices for our first pizza lunch! Pizza Nova and Subway lunches will occur on alternating Thursdays. All orders must be placed one week prior to the lunch date.

The following link should be leveraged for placing your pizza and/or subway

orders: <https://stgregoryscpc.hotlunches.net>

Hot lunches are provided by Just Catering for Kids. Hot lunches are available every Tuesday and Friday. Order can be placed through: justcateringforkids.com.

The CSPC applied for the PRO (Parent Reaching Out) Grant. We will be using these funds to have a presentation for students, on social network safety. There would also be a component that would allow the presenter to also present to the parent community. Details are currently being worked on and will be shared with all, once finalized.

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who have graciously offered up their time, to help with our school lunches!

Our next CSPC Meeting will be held on

Wednesday, May 20, 2022

At 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

BRUSH-A-MANIA – ORAL HEALTH MONTH

April is a very special month in Canada. It is Oral Health Month. School children across Canada from Junior Kindergarten to grade six are going to brush their teeth.

Log on to www.brushamania.ca every day to record your child's brushes. After 30 days, every student who has brushed and/or flossed their teeth 100 times will be able to print out a Brush-a-mania certificate of achievement. His or her name will be entered into a draw to win a Nintendo Switch or one of fifty Android tablets. Don't forget to have FUN!

Sincerely yours for better dental health,

Dr. Raffy Chouljian, D.D.S

BUNDLE UP

Bundle Up

For the

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



We are collecting your donations at

St. Gregory

122 Rathburn Road, Islington
On

April 2 - 3, 2022



We DO NOT ACCEPT
appliances, baby or regular furniture,
books, mattresses, dishes,
construction material or video tapes
For more information visit
www.ssvptoronto.ca



Please drop off your items on April 2nd & 3rd.
The bin will be located in the church parking lot.

Lenten

Almsgiving

Opportunities

NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEE

Trustee de Domenico is hosting The Emerging Young Artists Competition 2022. This is a great way for your children to showcase their talents. This is also a great way for us to reconnect with the community as we come together at the EYA Celebration night on May 20th. The deadline for submission is April 22, 2022. All entries must be uploaded using a TCDSB school account.

Click here to make a submission:

[Send us your submission today](#) (TCDSB login required)

Questions:

Send your questions to EYACompetition@tcdsb.org.

Visit this page [Facebook page](#) for more information

The 2021 winners were honoured to receive a Letter of Congratulations from Premier Ford.



FOOD DRIVE - APRIL 4th – 8th

This Easter, St. Gregory's school community will be hosting a FOOD DRIVE in support of the Daily Bread Food Bank. Sadly, food insecurity affects 1 in 5 households in Toronto. 26.3% of mall children living in our beautiful city are living in poverty which is the highest rate in large urban cities in Canada.

Please join us from **April 4th – April 8th** in providing much needed dry food items to our neighbors and community members. We are gratefully accepting any canned food items however the Daily Bread Food Bank is requesting the following most needed items; **CANNED FISH, CANNED FRUIT, CANNED TOMATOES, CANNED VEGETABLES, OATMEAL**

LENT 2022

As we begin this season of repentance and reflection, let us contemplate what this time means and how the three pillars of Lent lead us to a closer relationship with God. At St. Gregory, we strive to engage our students in the Lenten experience through the three pillars of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

Prayer: Prayer is conversation with God. In prayer, we draw closer in relationship with God. Relationship with God makes us grateful for the blessings we have received. Prayer is the cornerstone of our Lenten journey and is vital to all our actions in life.

Almsgiving: Almsgiving (giving) is a response to God, one that we can come to through prayer and fasting. It is a way to live out our gratitude for all that God has given us, reflecting the realization that we are the Body of Christ, responsible for each other. Justice, mercy, and charity are integral elements of our baptism that call us to be disciples of Jesus.

Fasting: We help our children to decide what they'll give up and explain that giving up whatever it is, it's meant to draw them closer to Jesus. So perhaps a child will fast from candy, and when they want something sweet, they will remember Christ on the cross and will say a prayer. Or another child will show self-discipline by want to help more at home or promise to always clean up after themselves.



Students write about their Lenten promises and learn things they can do to be closer to God.





Guidance Corner for April

Easter Blessings

Happy Easter to you and your family! I hope that you are filled with a renewed sense of hope and joy. I encourage you to help your children to live out their faith by finding ways to serve others. It is in recognizing the needs of others that we build empathy and strong relationships with those around us.

Encouraging the Development of Self-Regulation

Understanding how the brain works might help us to understand why children behave the way that they do at times. Children often let their emotions take over because they have yet to learn how to control them. Dr. Dan Siegel's (UCLA) *Brain in the Palm of Your Hand* explanation can help you to understand how your child's developing brain works and how you can encourage them to learn strategies to control their emotions. Please click on the two videos below for more information.

[Flipping Your Lid - The Brain in the Palm of Your Hands](#) by Learn with Liz

[Why Do We Lose Control of Our Emotions](#) by Kids Want to Know

Free Academic Supports for Students

[Homework Help](#) offers free, real-time math tutoring offered by Ontario certified teachers available to students from grades 7-10. You'll have to log in using your TCDSB UserID and Password.

You can find free math tutoring with Ontario Certified Teachers for grades 6-11 with [TVO Mathify](#).

If your child had trouble with a specific skill in a specific subject area, check out [TVO Learn](#)! It is organized by grade level and subject area and filled with videos, explanations and activities to help your child feel more confident and gain a better understanding of what they are learning in class.

Have an amazing April,

David Ferrari

Elementary Guidance Counsellor Areas 1 & 2