



ST. GREGORY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

126 Rathburn Road, Etobicoke, Ontario, M9B 2K6

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Visit us: <http://stgregorytoronto.com> and follow us on Twitter @StGregoryCS

St. Gregory Catholic Church
Fr. Sean Lee Lung
(416) 239-4831

Superintendent: Ms. Cifelli 416-222-8282
School Trustee: Mr. M. de Domenico
CSPC Chairs: M. Verrilli & V. Thomas

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

NOVEMBER 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we celebrate the virtue of peace in November, we mark the anniversary of the end of the First World War and dedicate our time and attention to learning from the past and thinking about how we can work towards creating peace among nations. Our school will be celebrating Mass at the church on Friday, November 11th starting at 10:15 a.m. Although space is limited, parents and guardians are most welcome to attend and join us for mass.

The Progress Reports will be sent home with students on Tuesday, November 15th. The Growing Success Progress Report provides teachers, parents and students with a timely assessment indicating whether students are progressing well or experiencing some difficulty. This allows students, teachers and parents to collaborate on determining learning goals and working on next steps for improvement and growth in learning in order to support student learning and achievement.

The Parent/Teacher interviews are scheduled for Tuesday, November 15th and Thursday, November 17th from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. More information to come regarding booking your interview times on line. Friday, November 18th is a PA Day and there is no school for students on that day.

Finally, thank you to the Dametto Family for donating thirty- five pumpkins to our school so that each class can be involved in a Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Thank you to our CSPC for coordinating this event and we thank them for all they do to support our school initiatives.

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. A sign-in procedure is in place for every individual who enters the school.

PLEASE CALL IN YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE:

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 sign out. Please contact your child through the office, not by texting your child.

Student Illness

Children who are not feeling well should stay home to prevent the spreading of germs or viruses.

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS: HALLOWEEN



On Monday, October 31, 2022, the students at St. Gregory wore their Halloween costumes at school and many classes had their own celebrations in their classrooms during the day. Our K-3 students also had an opportunity to showcase their costumes on a Halloween Parade.

Our CSPC held a Pumpkin Decorating Contest encouraging each class to create a unique pumpkin submission. Congratulations to Ms. Bucci and Ms Selby's ELP Class, Ms. Zuffa's Grade 2 class, Ms. Micallef's Grade 4 class & Ms. Odishou's Grade 7 class. Congratulations to all!!



Halloween Haunted House

Many thanks to Mr. Vennare's Grade 8 class for hosting the Haunted Halloween How!!! Students from Grade 1- 8 were invited to participate.

Meet the Cast!!



Halloween Costume Parade K-6



COMING UP IN NOVEMBER: Wheelchair Basketball

All students from K-8 will be involved in this exciting program during the week of Nov. 21st – 25th. This program was developed by Shawn Courchesne and Cruisers Sports with the purpose of increasing and promoting awareness, community involvement, Para Sports and accessibility. This program is designed to incorporate new activities into the school's existing physical education curriculum that will promote inclusion and equality.

About Shawn

Shawn is a 25 year old who suffered from a spinal cord injury in 2011 from a tragic accident which left him paralyzed and wheelchair bound. Shawn has been a member of Cruisers Sports since 2013. He has been playing wheelchair basketball for 5 years, previous player on the Ontario Junior Team, current player for the Cruisers Sports division 2 team, the Rockets. Shawn has presented his story and his love for wheelchair basketball in over 300 schools across the GTA in the past 2 years to help promote and spread awareness of Para Sports.

GOTCHA – HEARTS OF KINDNESS AND LOVE

We are bringing back the Gotcha initiative to St. Gregory, commencing November 1st.

As students are 'caught' in random acts of kindness, their names will be entered into a monthly draw with a chance to win PIZZA NOVA gift cards.

This initiative will continue to facilitate a strong sense of community within our school, as we acknowledge our students, and their various acts of kindness, in addition to bringing our Pastoral Plan into action, as we foster "Hearts of Kindness in Love". Through the GOTCHA campaign, together we are promoting a more caring, inclusive, participatory community for our students.

Let's continue spreading kindness at St. Greg's!

The Gotcha Committee



ELEMENTARY PROVINCIAL REPORT CARD

The Ontario Provincial Report Card is implemented throughout all elementary schools in the TCDSB. It is detailed, straightforward information about how your child is achieving and progressing in school in relation to provincial curriculum expectations.

The Progress Report Card is an opportunity to focus on the growth and the progress your students are making toward the overall expectations. The emphasis is on assessment for, and as, learning. Teachers will report student progress by checking one of the indicators that most accurately reflects student progress in relation to the overall curriculum expectations through the lens of the "achievement chart" categories. For example, the progress report card provides these indicators:

Progressing with Difficulty, Progressing Well
Progressing Very Well

The Report Card reflects the vision of the learner by describing distinctive expectations that the Catholic community has for graduates of our schools.

A responsible citizen who gives witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life;

A reflective, creative and holistic thinker who solves problems and makes responsible decisions with an informed moral conscience for the common good

A Caring Family Member - a caring family member who recognizes and cares for their home, school, parish and wider community families.

A Self-Directed, Responsible Lifelong Learner - A self-directed learner who demonstrated their God-Given Potential.

A Discerning Believer - formed in the Catholic Faith community who celebrates the the signs and sacred mystery of God's presence through word, sacrament, prayer, forgiveness, reflection and moral teaching,

A Collaborative Contributor - who finds meaning, dignity and vocation in work which respects the rights of all and contributes to the common good.

An Effective Communicator - who speaks, writes and listens honestly and sensitively responding critically in light of Gospel Values.



REMEMBRANCE DAY – NOVEMBER 11th

On Remembrance Day, we honour the men and women who have served and continue to serve Canada during times of war, conflict, and peace. More than two million Canadians have served, with many wounded and making the ultimate sacrifice during war and peacekeeping missions.

As Canadians, we remember the great contributions, sacrifices and efforts of all of the brave Canadians who served at home and abroad. The Canadians who went off to war believed that Canadian values were being threatened. They truly believed in the words of King George IV: "Without freedom, there can be no ensuring peace; and without peace no enduring freedom."

On November 11th, we remember their service and their sacrifice and recognize their enduring fight to preserve our freedom. We acknowledge their courage and the peace they fought so hard to achieve.

TCDSB BULLYING AWARENESS & PREVENTION WEEK

Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week is the third week of November. During Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week, Ontario students, school staff and parents are encouraged to learn more about bullying and its effect on student learning and well-being.

Bullying is defined as a form of repeated, persistent and aggressive behaviour directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem or reputation.

Schools are encouraged to use this opportunity to explain the different forms bullying can take. These include:

- **Physical:** hitting, shoving, stealing or damaging property
- **Verbal:** name calling, mocking, or making sexist, racist or homophobic comments
- **Social:** excluding others from a group or spreading gossip or rumours about them
- **Electronic** (commonly known as cyberbullying): spreading rumours and hurtful comments using cellphones, e-mail, text messaging and through social media.

Resources

- [Bullying Awareness and Prevention Q&As](#)
- [Bullying: We Can All Help to Stop It](#)

ST. GREGORY PARISH NEWS

Confirmation Registration:

3 STEPS for Confirmation Preparation at St. Gregory's Parish 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians of **Grade 7, Grade 8 and Grade 9 Students** looking to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation**.

The Confirmation Preparation classes will be held at the St. Gregory's Parish Hall.

STEP 1:

Registrations for 2023 Confirmation forms and schedule for Confirmation Preparation for St. Gregory's Church are available for pickup from the Church office.

STEP 2:

Once you have received a registration from the office, please read through the info package, **complete and return the registration back** to St. Gregory's Church office.

STEP 3:

There will be a **Confirmation Preparation FIRST meeting for you with your candidate on Sunday December 4 2022**. Details will be found in your Confirmation information package.

Registrations for Confirmation close Sunday December 4, 2022. **Please register as early as possible.**

If you have questions, please contact the Church office by email stgregoryset@archtoronto.org or phone 416 239-4831.

Office hours for registration pick up and drop off are :
Monday-Friday : 10am-Noon, 1pm-4pm
Sunday : 9am-1pm

In Christ,

Mr. Adam Kozak
Pastoral Associate
St. Gregory's Parish
122 Rathburn Road
Toronto

Communion Registration:

Dear Catholic Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of Students going in grade 2 and above looking to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

This is a friendly reminder for the upcoming meeting for one parent and the candidate to attend on

Wednesday, November 9th at 6:30 pm in the Church.

Registrations for First Holy Communion close on **Friday, November 11, 2022.**

Completed forms must be submitted to the church office.

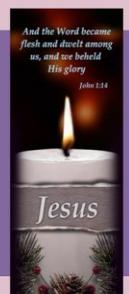
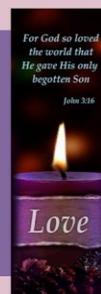
If you have questions or concerns, please call the Church office at 416-239-4831.

ADVENT 2022

The liturgical season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 27. We look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ and the joy and hope that comes with the magic of the season.

THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, and the everlasting life we find in Christ. The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice.



CSPC NEWS

We are happy to announce that we have filled all of our remaining council spots and are excited to see many new faces this year! Please feel free to reach out to us any time by emailing cspc.stgregory@tcdsb.org. Our monthly meetings are open to the entire school community, so please feel free to join us at any time!

2022-2023 Parent Council

Vanessa Thomas
Michelle McLaren
Sandy Lascu
Rosemary Chiappetta
Kathy Fenech
Sara Concordia
Diana Morrone
Celia Goncalves
Tina DeMaria
Susanne Reis
Andria Dametto
Kim Ruggiero
Steven Cardoso
Raquel Cardoso
Michelle Caruso
Lai Zhang
Kim Baird
Michelle Liotta
Anna Kozicka
Giovanna Santino

Executive Council

Vanessa Thomas – Co-Chair
Michelle McLaren – Co-Chair
Sandy Lascu – Treasurer
Rosemary Chiappetta – Secretary

Upcoming Meetings

Council Meeting – November 23 @ 7 pm

We would also like to extend our gratitude to the Dametto Family who generously donated pumpkins to each classroom for our annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest! Winners were announced on Friday, October 28 – excellent job done by all classes!

If you have a question for the CSPC, please feel free to email us at: cspc.stgregory@tcdsb.org.

TCDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan

The Vision for our new 2022-2025 MYSP is **In God's Image: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope.**

Our Mission

Our Mission will continue the focus on nurturing the faith development and academic excellence of our Catholic learning community through the love of God, neighbour, and self.

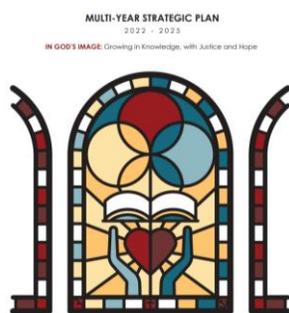
Overview

The new MYSP was informed by feedback collected through a comprehensive [stakeholder consultation process](#). The four stages of the MYSP Consultation and Development process took place between April and December 2021, and includes [monitoring guidelines](#) to be used to measure progress over the next three years.

We are called upon to responsively create programs, action plans, policies, and procedures that may be novel, brief, innovative, targeted, or streamlined. As such, living with, and recovering from a global pandemic requires flexibility and responsiveness at the system level.

The MYSP is an important communication and strategy tool for how the TCDSB is progressing across multiple action plans. It provides structure and strategy for ongoing improvement, with students at its centre. By describing our priorities over the next three years as a narrative, we can provide better transparency and accountability while aligning connections to the work we engage in across the Board with our staff, students, and families.

We are so grateful to everyone at the TCDSB for providing their feedback and for their steadfast commitment to our faith and the students and families we serve.



LUNCHTIME SUPERVISORS

St. Gregory is in need of lunchtime supervisors. All applicants are required to submit the documents listed below to St. Gregory's administration. All documentation will then be forwarded to Toronto Catholic District School Board's HR Department for reviewal.

All applicants must submit the following documents:

- Lunchtime supervisor application form.
- TB test results (within 1 year).
- Pastoral Reference Letter (letter within 1 year).
- Voided cheque or direct deposit form (provided by bank).
- New hire banking form to complete (will be provided).
- Copy of Social Insurance Number card.
- Proof of birth date with photo id.
- Confidentiality Agreement (will be provided).
- New Hire Personal Data Sheet (will be provided).
- Criminal Offense Declaration (form will be provided).
- Certified cheque or money order to Toronto Police Services.
- Vulnerable sector Screening Police Check (form will be provided).

Please call St. Gregory's Vice Principal Mrs. Ginocchi if you are interested in becoming a lunchtime supervisor and would like further details.

Salary is \$15.04 per hour; this includes statutory holiday pay and vacation pay. Benefits are not available for lunchtime supervisors.

Guidance Corner for November

Planning for Your Future



During the month of November, students in intermediate classes will begin to develop their Individual Pathways Plan (IPP), as they prepare to enter high school and think about what they would like to do beyond secondary school. Students will use myBlueprint to begin to record goals for themselves with a focus on learning skills, learn about their interests and abilities, explore career and post secondary opportunities and plan their secondary school courses.

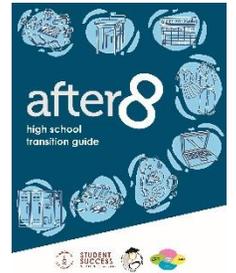
Parents are encouraged to explore the site with them. Simply follow these easy steps.

1. Please go to www.myblueprint.ca/tcdsb.
2. Click on "Login with school account."
3. Ask your child to use their TCDSB username and password to log in.

Secondary School Applications

The initial deadline for submitting applications is November 1st, 2022. Any applications submitted after this date will be placed on waiting lists and these students will be placed in schools with space after Friday, January 13th, 2023. Regional Program Applications are no longer available after November 1st.

For those students who applied to Regional Programs, the first wave of placement offers go out on **December 2nd** followed by a second wave on **December 9th**. Regular Program offers go out on **January 12th, 2023**.



Please keep a close eye on the email that you used to create your SOAR account for essential information, as they require you to act to secure any offer(s) from secondary schools.

Support Learning Skills Development at Home

As teachers are preparing the Progress Report Card evaluations, they will be considering how your child is demonstrating development in the six learning skills as identified on the Ontario report cards. Please follow this link for ideas on how you may want to encourage Learning Skills and Work Habit development at home.

[Learning Skills at Home](#)

Mr. Ferrari

TCDSB Elementary Guidance Teacher Counsellor

Areas 1 & 2



ABC Presents

ADVENT *retreat day*

“Christmas *Presence*”

SATURDAY DECEMBER 17 2022

beginning at 10am, completed by 4pm.

at St. Gregory's Church 122 Rathburn Road Toronto

What does it mean for God to be present to us?

What does Jesus offer to us? What do we offer to God?

An About Being Catholic spiritual retreat day hosted by St. Gregory's Parish Catechists Adam and Julia Kozak featuring enlightening presentations, open discussions, prayer and focused reflection time. You are invited to bring any family/friends if you would like to.

A lunch will be provided

There is no fee.

Who is this for: from lifelong Catholic to those just exploring faith...

all are welcome.

To take part, please simply email us with your name and if you are bringing anyone with you before December 14th: aboutbeingcatholic

