



Light of Christ January 2018



290 MCCLELLAN WAY
AURORA, ONTARIO, L4G 6P3
PHONE: 905-727-5400

Mission Statement

Guided by Gospel values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

Vision Statement

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

Core Values

Excellence Equity
Human Responsibility Catholicity Inclusion
Integrity Respect

Strategic Commitments

Integration of Our Catholic Faith Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement
Retention of Our Resources Engaging Our Communities

Trustee

Mrs. Elizabeth Crowe
Elizabeth.crowe@ycdsb.ca

Superintendent

Ms. Tina D'Acunto
416-221-5050

Pastor

Rev. Francis McDevitt
Associate Pastor
Rev. Marijan Sisko
office@ourladyofgrace.com
905-727-4594

Principal

Mr. F. Di Marco

Head Secretary

Ms. K. Wardlaw
Office Support
Ms. A. Misura

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is my sincere hope that you and your family have started 2019 immersed in laughter and surrounded by family and good friends. It is often said that while the days are long, the years are short, and that certainly seems to apply even more so taken from the perspective as parents. They do indeed grow so quickly right before our eyes, and it is one of the great privileges for us educators to be witness to, and contribute to, in a small way, that growth. My hope for the Light of Christ community this year is to be conscientious enough to slow down our hectic lifestyles, in order to carve out time and space for meaningful experiences with our children. We do this most effectively by creating opportunities, such as the holidays, to spend quality time with our families. It is these moments which will bring us closer to God and to those we love.

May God bless you and your families with a healthy and prosperous 2019!

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. F. Di Marco
Principal

2018 - 2019 School Year

- Jan. 1st: Happy New Year!
- Jan. 7th: School resumes, welcome back!
- Jan. 18: P.A. Day (School closed for students).
- Jan. 25: Spirit Day (Super Hero Theme)
- Please donate \$2.00 (ShareLife)
- Feb. 1: P.A. Day (School closed for students).
- Feb. 5: Jr. Boys Volleyball Tournament
- Feb. 6: Jr. Girls Volleyball Tournament



*Let spirituality be your New Year's Resolution.
Thank you, Lord, for giving us the new year ahead.
Help us live the way we should, as each new day we tread.
Give us strength and courage, a hand that we might lend.
And give us gentle wisdom, so that we may help others.
The year ahead is empty, help us fill it with good things,
That will lead to joy and happiness through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*

LOC Website:
<http://loc.ycdsb.ca>

Please visit our website
regularly for school events



OUR SHARED VISION

We are a Catholic Learning Community of collaborative partners, called to serve one another by being committed to and accountable for quality learning by all,

In the month of January, we celebrate the virtue of Unity, where we strive to make everyone feel more welcomed and respected. For the students, the challenge is to be more inclusive with their peers, during both work and play, in an effort to value all people as children of God.

SAVE THE DATE

We will be kicking off our second major fundraiser of the year next month! Our Mardi Gras Dance-a-Thon will be held Tuesday March 5, 2019 (Shrove Tuesday). ALL funds raised through our Dance-a-Thon will be used to support student learning and well-being.

LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS

STEAM IN THE LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS:

STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. Throughout December and continuing into January, various classes have had STEAM opportunities within the Library Learning Commons. Our Kindergarten and Grade 3 students had the opportunity to build Christmas trees out of plastic cups and some of our Grade 1 students used Google's Santa Tracker to learn some basic computer coding. Thank you to all teachers and students for their enthusiasm and ingenuity during these lessons. There will be more STEAM opportunities to come!

FAMILY LITERACY DAY:

Family Literacy Day is an initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada and is celebrated annually on January 27th. It's goal is to emphasize the importance reading has in the lives of Canadians, and how important it is to read as a family. Planning on snuggling up with a good book with your son or daughter? Take a picture and send it into the school. It will be displayed outside the library on one of our bulletin boards as a reminder to LOC students that family reading time is fun and valuable.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR ADVENT MASS

We would like to thank our community for joining us as we came together for our Advent Mass Friday, December 7, 2018. Many thanks to Fr. Francis for attending. Thank you to Ms. Servinis, Ms. Spicer, Ms. Wright, Ms. Pellegrino and the numerous students who organized our Advent Mass celebration.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT @ LOC A HUGE SUCCESS!!

Thank you to our Light of Christ community for celebrating Christmas with us! Our JK to grade 6 students and staff of Light of Christ worked extremely hard preparing for our Christmas production. A special thank you to our grade 7 and 8 students who assisted as backstage crew.



Luke 4:18

February 2019 Initiative

<https://ayniproject.com/>

The Luke 4:18 Committee is excited to launch a new initiative this year in support of the organization AYNI. From **February 11th to February 22nd** Luke 4:18 will be collecting art supplies to support indigenous students in the village of Altos de los Mores. We will be accepting items such as: sparkles, tissue paper, stickers, googly eyes, pipe cleaners, construction paper, etc.

AYNI is a small grassroots organization based in Piura, Peru. It was founded by Margie Orsi, a high school teacher from Markham, Ontario. AYNI was established in 2001 and means "today for you, tomorrow for me." It is based on the idea of reciprocity - working together as a group for the group, sharing ideas and resources, and having a sense of responsibility to help each other. The projects AYNI runs aim to reduce barriers imposed by poverty and focus on the areas of Sustainable Development and Education (i.e. micro-credit loans, education scholarships, school supply collections, tree-planting, etc.). The Luke 4:18 Committee is excited to support this community of students by providing opportunities to support their educational journeys!

SPIRIT DAYS

On the last Friday of each month, we ask the students to donate a toonie in exchange for the privilege of wearing various themed clothing for the school day. We refer to these as "civvies days", and the monies brought in are donated to a variety of charitable endeavors throughout the course of the school year. It is a donation only, and those who are unable to donate, may wear civvies, regardless. Below is the Civvies Day schedule for the remainder of the year. Note: we will add a few more throughout the year, but those will be free, and will often reflect a specific theme or other school celebration (Valentine's Day would be one such example).

Here is the schedule for this year's Spirit Days:

January 25th, 2019

February 22nd

March 29th

April 26th

May 31st

June 27th

In December, Ms. Abbondandolo's, Ms. Haines' and Ms. Malcolm's classes colour coded with the Ozobots. The students showed perseverance, teamwork and creativity when coding. Students had the Ozobots completing mazes, saving Santa and racing other Ozobots. The grade sixes have started to explore block coding with the Ozoblockly program and will be using the ozobots to retell fairy tales in the new term. Thank you to the teachers for allowing me into your rooms to code! Thank you to the students for being creative, and making it fun for me too!

Ms. Malcolm



ANAPHYLAXIS-LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES

We continue to work in collaboration with the YCDSB, school, home and community in teaching our children and staff all about anaphylaxis and keeping our allergic children safe. Light of Christ CES is a nut safe environment. Please review with your child(ren) our Board's Policy 209, "Protection of Anaphylactic Students," which is located in the front pages of your child's agenda as well as on the Board's website, www.ycdsb.ca, under Policies.



There may also be a student in your child's class who is allergic to a specific food other than peanuts/nuts. If this is the case, a letter outlining these specific foods was sent home with your child. Please remember our entire school is peanut/nut safe. Our school has been proactive in the following ways: We have an "Allergy Safe School Plan" which is reviewed annually. As well, all staff are trained regarding administration of the Epi-Pen and recognizing reactions/symptoms.

Reminders...

- Nuts and nut bi-products are to be strictly avoided throughout the school.
- Some classes may have additional food items which also must not be brought into that specific classroom.
- Sharing of food and drinks is strictly prohibited.
- All snacks/lunches must be eaten indoors; food is not permitted outdoors at recess breaks and lunch time.
- All birthday treat-bags must contain non-edible items only (no food of any kind). Donating a game to your child's classroom is a great alternative to individual treat bags. Students can use these games during indoor recesses, once the cold weather approaches. Talk to your child's teacher to find out which games would be appropriate.

Please Note:

In order to ensure your child's safety, we would ask for your co-operation and assistance in ensuring that **ALL ANAPHYLACTIC STUDENTS** wear a fanny pack with their EpiPen in it at all times. Please ensure that your child is familiar with the use of the EpiPen auto injector. As well, we ask that you provide an EpiPen for the office in the event of an emergency. If your child has any life threatening allergies, it is strongly recommended that he or she wear a **MEDIC ALERT BRACELET** at all times. Thank you for your assistance and co-operation in this very important matter. Applicable forms were sent home in June to be completed over the summer by both the parents.

VISITORS TO LOC

Visitors are always welcome in our school. Please ensure you enter through the front doors of the school and report directly to the office. Parents who are visiting the school to volunteer or for an interview, must sign in at the office. You will be given a visitor badge to wear which assures the children that you are a "safe" visitor. For the safety of all children, please report to the office and follow procedures accordingly. Thank you in advance for your co-operation with this safety procedure.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

We would like to stress the importance of school punctuality and regular attendance. Regular attendance is vitally important and can lead to improved classroom learning, better test results, important relationships and friendships, good reference for future education and healthy habits. Regular attendance is directly linked to success at school.

Poor attendance patterns increase risk of failure and dropping out of school. Early intervention by home and school increases the likelihood of a student remaining in school.

The following points are proven factors in ensuring that a child will be successful in maintaining regular and punctual attendance:

- Have regular morning routines (wake up on time, eat breakfast, leave home to get to school on time).
- Following consistent night time routines (homework time, prep for next day, bedtime).
- Set alarm clock the night before.
- Get enough sleep and eat properly.

If you have any concerns with regards to your child's attendance and punctuality, please contact Mr. Di Marco. Remember your child is considered late to school if they are not in line with their class at 9:00 a.m.

SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL

It is important that students are supervised while on school property. Supervision begins at 8:45 a.m. Please ensure that your child(ren) does not enter the playground prior to the 8:45a.m. supervision time. As for dismissal, students who are not picked up on time will wait in the office for pick up. (Students in grades K-2 must be dismissed to a parent/caregiver/guardian, otherwise, they will remain in the office until contact is made with one of the aforementioned adults, to arrange pickup.)

BELL TIMES

The daily schedule for students in grades 1-8 is as follows:

8:45am	- Yard Supervision Begins
9:00am	- School Begins
10:20-10:35am	- Recess
12:00-1:00pm	- Lunch/Lunch Recess
2:20-2:35pm	- Recess
3:30pm	- Dismissal



RECESS

It is our expectation that all students go out for recess at scheduled times. Fresh air and exercise are important for all children;

However, each year we get requests for students to remain inside due to special circumstances. **All such requests should be accompanied by a note from your doctor explaining the special circumstance.** Please be informed that there are no teachers on supervision duty inside the school during regular outdoor recess. Furthermore, students need to remember three important rules to keep outdoor recess breaks enjoyable and safe:

- 1) **"NO CONTACT RULE"**: Children are not to play any games or engage in any activities that involve physical contact.
- 2) **"NO THROWING RULE"**: Please remind your children of the dangers of throwing rocks and other objects.
- 3) **"AVOID WET/ICY AREAS"**: Please remind your children to stay away from the puddles and wet/icy areas on the pavement and field. This is for their health and safety.

We thank you for your attention and continued support in this matter.

SCHOOL DRIVEWAY SAFETY



Please continue to take extra care in and around our school sites during drop off and pick-up times to ensure the safety of our students, staff and parents. Your utmost attention and co-operation in this area is very much appreciated.

Please remember that the front driveway is strictly reserved for busses from 8:35am-9:00am. This area is accessible throughout the school day, but does close again from 3:00-3:30 for bus transportation once again. Kindly park your car, either in the lot, or on the street, at these times, if you need to pick up your child(ren), or enter the school for any reason.



10 Growth Mindset Statements

What can I say to myself?

	INSTEAD OF:	TRY THINKING:	
	I'm not good at this.	1 What am I missing?	
	I'm awesome at this.	2 I'm on the right track.	
	I give up.	3 I'll use some of the strategies we've learned.	
	This is too hard.	4 This may take some time and effort.	
	I can't make this any better.	5 I can always improve so I'll keep trying.	
	I just can't do Math.	6 I'm going to train my brain in Math.	
	I made a mistake.	7 Mistakes help me to learn better.	
	She's so smart. I will never be that smart.	8 I'm going to figure out how she does it.	
	It's good enough.	9 Is it really my best work?	
	Plan "A" didn't work.	10 Good thing the alphabet has 25 more letters!	

(Original source unknown)

@sylvia duckworth



Kindergarten Registration

Registration for the 2019-2020 school year begins January 7, 2019

To register, please bring the following original documents:

- A Baptismal certificate from a Roman Catholic Church or a Catholic Church in Communion with the Holy See of Rome
- Proof of age
- Proof of legal status in Canada
- Proof of residency
- Proof of Separate School Support (i.e. MPAC Assessment Notice), or you can complete a school support form that is included in the registration package.

JK: Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2019
(born in 2015)

SK: Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2019
(born in 2014)

If your child is already attending a YCDSB school for JK registration is not required.

For information, contact the Admissions Department:



www.ycdsb.ca/admissions



@ycdsb



905-713-2711 or 416-221-5050





YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Kindergarten to Grade 8 Registration for Elementary Schools

School year 2019/2020

Important Registration Information

Dear Parent/Guardian:

To register your child(ren) for September 2019, you must provide the following original documents/forms for each child:

- **A Baptismal certificate from a Roman Catholic Church or a Catholic Church in Communion with the Holy See of Rome (child or parent)**
- **Proof of Age** (i.e. child's birth certificate)
- **Proof of Legal Status in Canada**
- **Proof of Residency** (2 documents required: 1 of Property Tax Bill, Proof of Purchase, Lease/Rental Agreement and 1 of Driver's License, utility bill, etc.)
- **Proof of English Separate School Support** (i.e. property tax bill that shows school support designation, MPAC Assessment Notice, confirmation of school support designation or, completed and signed school support form(s), which are included in the registration package). We wish to remind families that every time they move to a new residence, School Support form(s) must be completed.

Please note that the Elementary Student Registration Package, as well as the School Support forms are also available on the Board's website at: <http://www.ycdsb.ca/admissions>. To determine your home school, please visit <http://locator.ycdsb.ca/>

We thank you in advance for complying with the Board's Admissions requirements.

If you have any questions or require assistance, we ask that you please contact your local school or the Admissions Office at 905.713.1211 or 416.221.5050, extension 12434.

Thank you.

Let's Kick Start the New Year with Active School Travel, Kindness and Positivity!

Physical activity such as walking and playing outside keeps you healthy, strong and mentally fit.

Try to include these physical and mindfulness activities as part of your daily routine.



1. There are 3 patterns in the calendar. Can you identify them? 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
2. Which challenge date was your favourite? _____

<p>January 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Wish the crossing guard or a classmate on your walk to school a great day! 	<p>January 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ On your walk to school or the bus stop make a snow angel 	<p>January 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Count how many snowmen you see on your walk to school 	<p>January 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ On your walk to school complete 10 star jumps and 10 jumping jacks 	<p>January 18 – PA Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Check your local recreation centre for fun activities that you and your family can do together
<p>January 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Have a friendly conversation with someone you don't always speak to in your Class 	<p>January 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Say something positive to your parent/guardian or a member of your family 	<p>January 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ On your walk to school tell yourself you will have a great day 	<p>January 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Thank your crossing guard for helping you cross the road 	<p>January 25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Compliment your teacher and one of your classmates
<p>January 28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Drink water when you are thirsty and to prevent dehydration when active 	<p>January 29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Write down two positive things about yourself before leaving to school 	<p>January 30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Make someone laugh today 	<p>January 31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk to and from School or the bus stop today ✓ Wear something fun today - favourite colour, polka dots, animal prints 	<p>Winter Walk Day – February 6, 2019</p>

For a chance to win a prize, please submit a photo of your calendar with the days of challenges you completed, along with your answers to questions 1 and 2 to activeschooltravel@ycdsb.ca by February 8, 2018.



January 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Welcome back! For January, we have some tips for how to get outside and still have fun in the cold, including while you're walking/wheeling to school or the bus stop.

- Being dressed for the weather is the first step to enjoying the outdoors:
 - Wear a base layer (long johns, thermal long underwear – made of wool not synthetic or cotton)
 - Wear an insulating layer (wool socks, shirt and pants but not jeans or cotton)
 - Wear an outer shell (windproof jacket with a hood and bib snow pants with elastic or velcro fastening at the cuff)
 - Wear insulated waterproof snow boots
 - Have a hat that covers the ears (and a spare!)
 - Add a neck warmer
 - Finish with waterproof mittens
- Keep moving!
- Eat high-fat snacks like cheese and nuts to keep your body going.
- Drink water! Even though it's cold, the air is dry and your body can become dehydrated.

The YCDSB AST Team and York Region Public Health have put together a **Kindness Calendar** for January. After the excitement of the Christmas season, it's important to carry on the spirit of giving to yourself and to others.

How it works:

- Print the attached Active School Travel Kindness Calendar.
- Each day, check off the small acts of kindness that you complete in the calendar.
- There are two questions to answer on the calendar. Submit a photo of your calendar with your answers to: activeschooltravel@ycdsb.ca by February 8, 2019 to be entered in a prize draw! The winner will be chosen by random draw, no minimum days required for entry.
- We will Tweet the daily acts of kindness each school day from @ycdsb_AST. Tweet us photos of you being active and kind this month and tag @ycdsb_AST!

February 6, 2019 is Winter Walk Day!

Schools can visit <http://ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca/winter-walk-day/> to plan a day for your school community. Let us know if you are interested in participating so we can support you! There are activities available to you for that day, as well as for the whole month.

Sincerely,

YCDSB Active School Travel Team

ACTIVE
SCHOOLTRAVEL
York Catholic District School Board



Winter Walk Day – February 6, 2019



COMING SOON TO a lunch near you...



Challenge week: January 21 to 25, 2019

Get your kids involved in packing healthy lunches that include foods from at least three out of the four food groups. **During challenge week**, students will keep track of the number of food groups in their lunch using the record sheet. **All classes that participate in the challenge will be entered into a draw for a healthy lunch party.**

Connect with us! Share your healthy eating tips and photos of your kid's lunches using **#YRlunches** or tagging **@YorkRegionGovt**

For more information or for school lunch ideas, visit york.ca/myhealthylunch

How to pack A HEALTHY, LITTERLESS LUNCH

My healthy lunch
challenge



1 Get them involved!

Let your kids help plan, prepare and pack their own lunch. They will be more excited to eat their lunch if they help pack it. Get them to help chop, sort food into containers and make sandwiches or wraps.

2 Plan it out and make it complete!

Use Canada's Food Guide and include three or four food groups in your kid's lunch every day.



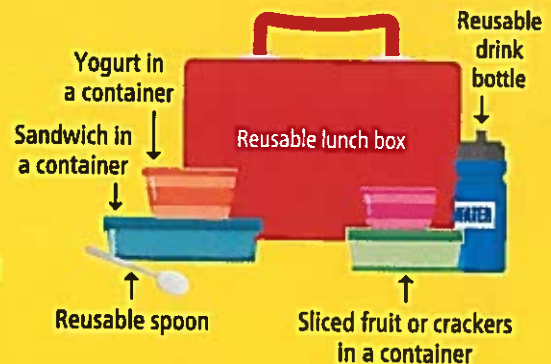
Mix it up!

Pack vegetables and fruit every day. Choose different foods to keep lunches interesting. Skip the sugary drinks! Go for water, milk or soy beverage.



3 Be litterless!

A litterless lunch is one where everything in the lunch is reusable or compostable and nothing goes in the garbage. This includes using refillable drink containers and reusable lunch and snack containers.



3 Be food safe!

Keep hot food hot by using a thermos. Keep cold food cold by using ice packs.



***“Phew! Cleaned out my closets
and filled 5 bags for donation!”***

- A de-cluttered, happy parent



Light of Christ Clothing Drive in Support of the Kidney Foundation of Canada

You are invited to drop off your donation on

Thursday January 24th from 3:30pm – 6:30pm or

Monday January 28th from 3:30pm – 6:30pm

Items accepted for donation include: *clothing, footwear, outerwear, linens, accessories (belts, ties and purses), yarn, fabric, draperies, pillows, luggage and sleeping bags*

(Kindly refrain from dropping off donations outside the assigned dates as we do not have excess storage room.)

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE
PARISH
SKATING PARTY!**

**SUNDAY JANUARY 20TH,
2019**

**1-4PM AT THE AURORA
FAMILY LEISURE COMPLEX
(INDUSTRIAL PKWY N)**

**JOIN US AFTER THE SKATE FOR
HOT CHOCOLATE AND HOT DOGS
FROM 3-4PM
IN THE ACTIVITY ROOM**

