

# POPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues to Educate All Students



December is here and Christmas is just around the corner. I love Christmas for many reasons but especially for celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. As Catholics it is paramount that we recognize the importance of who we are especially during the

Advent Season. Jesus is the reason for the season. When you celebrate Christmas this year remember that you are truly blessed. Christmas is not about who gets the biggest or best present. It is about looking at ourselves in the mirror and asking how can we make a difference in another person's life? That person may be your child, a parent, a brother, or sister. It may be your wife, a husband, a neighbour, or stranger. Regardless, you may not know it but you do make a difference in many peoples lives. Show your appreciation by telling them how lucky you are for having them in your life. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! May 2020 be filled with health, happiness and prosperity.

## Trustee

Ms. Rose Cantisano

## Superintendent

Mr. Anthony Arcadi  
905-713-2711

## Pastor

Msgr. Greg  
(905) 893-7879

## Administrators

Ms. Susin  
Mr. de Sousa  
905-893-8782

## Secretaries

Mrs. Pellegrino  
Mrs. Sousa  
905-893-8782

## CSC Chair

Tony Angelucci - Chair  
Christina Petrolo: V. Chair

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

## Mission

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.

## Core Values

Catholicity, Excellence, Equity, Fiscal Responsibility, Inclusion, Integrity, Respect.

## Vision

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

## Strategic Commitments

Integration of Our Catholic Faith, Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement, Effective Use of Our Resources, Engaging Our Communities.



## York Catholic District School Board

Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1  
Tel: 905-713-1211, 416-221-5051, 1-800-363-2711, Voice Mail Box: 17137  
Fax: 905-713-1272 • [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca)



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we get into the excitement of Christmas and the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, I invite you all to join me as we reflect on the many blessings from this past year and to look forward to the many blessings that await us.

Christmas is a time of year when our schools joyfully participate in celebrations that lift the hearts of our students on the blessed journey to Christ's birth. In our schools, students are celebrating through musical concerts and Nativity plays, community service projects and most importantly through a deepened time of prayer. Each of these provide our students with opportunities to enrich their spiritual journeys that give deeper meaning to this faith-filled season.

Let us be grateful that we are a part of a Catholic school system where students can practice their faith every day as they grow intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. Let us be inspired by the foundation of excellence which supports all that we do here at the York Catholic District School Board.

I hope that your hearts will be filled with the warmth that is the closeness of your family, friends and loved ones this holiday season. May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you throughout the year. Merry Christmas!

Yours in Catholic Education,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rose Cantisano".

Rose Cantisano

**TERRA COTTA FUNDRAISER:**

Thank you to all the families who contributed to our Terra Cotta Fundraising Program this year. We sold 2095 boxes totalling \$27, 235. Pope Francis profit's \$10,475 dollars. This will go a long way in helping us attain our goals this year. We will be having an assembly with the students to hand out top prizes including Visa Gift Cards, Class Pizza lunches, and our Grand Prize a PS4 Game Council.



We would like to thank our Catholic School Council for taking on this initiative specifically Elena Riolo and Christina Petrolo for all their extra work in organizing other parents who helped with the sales. **Pick-up for your products will be on Thursday, December 5th starting at 2:00 pm in our library until 6:30 pm. Once again thank you for all your support and generosity!**

**SANTAFEST:**



On Sunday, November 24th, Pope Francis participated in the Vaughan SantaFest Parade. Many families came out to show their Christmas spirit and participated by walking with other families in the parade. We would like to thank **Deanna D'Ambrosia and Laura Cardile** from our **Catholic School Council** for all their hard working in



**WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS:**

Congratulations goes out to the Girls Intermediate volleyball team for winning the San Lorenzo Ruiz invitational tournament and the school's first divisional tournament ever at Pope Francis. The girls demonstrated great passion, athleticism, perseverance, and teamwork. Best of luck at the area Board Finals on December 3rd at St. Theresa Lisieux. Thank you to our coaches **Ms. Romeo** and **Mr. Crivaro**. Go Cardinals Go!

AA:SS19-20:1022



York Catholic District School Board



Learning Together in Christ  
Engaging, Enabling, Empowering

*Student Services will be hosting an*

**INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS REGISTERING FOR KINDERGARTEN YEAR 1 (JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN) IN SEPTEMBER 2020**

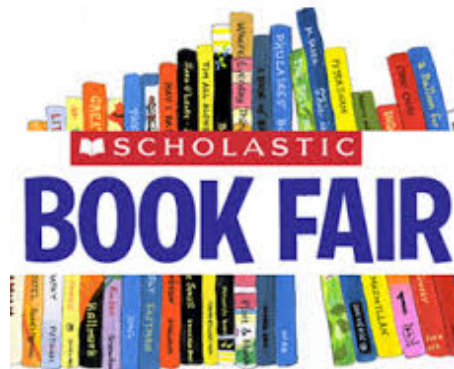


**YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND OUR PARENT INFORMATION SESSION TO LEARN ABOUT OUR SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020**  
**York Catholic District School Board**  
**Boardroom**  
**320 Bloomington Road West**  
**Catholic Education Centre**  
**Aurora**  
**7:15 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Register at link:**  
<https://forms.gle/WDtbfFaSUEMz6JD1m6>  
**Registration deadline:**  
**January 15, 2020**

Mission Statement	Vision Statement	Core Values	Strategic Commitments
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.	Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integration of Our Catholic Faith</li> <li>Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement</li> <li>Effective Use of Our Resources</li> <li>Engaging Our Communities</li> </ul>



## Can't Wait To See You!

During the week of **December 9 to 13**, Pope Francis School will be participating in this annual celebration of all things reading! Our hope is that we can inspire our children to replace some of the time they spend watching television or playing video games with reading great literature. Let's try to get a book in every child's hand!

Please note that a **portion of the cost of each book sold comes directly back to the Pope Francis library**. Proceeds will be used to purchase new novels and picture books for all grade levels. Let's fill our shelves!

A Book Fair preview will take place **on Monday December 9**. Students will have an opportunity to record any titles of interest to them on a wish list to bring home for you to see. They will have at least two chances to visit the fair during the school day to make purchases. The Fair will also be open, for your convenience, **every afternoon from 3:35 to 4:30**. Sales will also take place **after our Kindergarten and Primary Christmas concerts**.

Don't forget to return the **BALLOT located on the back of the Scholastic pamphlet** for a chance to win **\$50 in free merchandise!**

**Please Note: The Book Fair will accept cash, or cheques made payable to Pope Francis School**



## FAMILY IN NEED



Christmas is a wonderful time of the year. For many, we are so fortunate to provide our children with all they need and more. Nevertheless, you often hear of families struggling to provide for their children during this festive time.

We currently have families at Pope Francis who require our help. Unfortunately, they are struggling and have little means of providing their children a Christmas due to difficulties.

We are asking families to donate to help make this Christmas a special one. By donating a **Walmart Gift Card** (amount of your choice) we can provide families the means of purchasing food, clothing, and toys. If you're interested in donating please drop off gift cards to Mr. de Sousa in the main office. God bless you for all your generosity.



## PERFORMANCE CLUB AT BOARD:

Congratulations to our Performance Club for singing and dancing at the Board on Monday, December 2nd. The students were fantastic! They represented Pope Francis with dignity and pride. A special thank you to our teachers **Ms. Aquino, Ms. De Luca and Ms. Hendrych** for all their hard work. We thank **Mr. Arcadi our Superintendent** for introducing the students to all who were present. Thank you also to all the parents who attended.



## JESUS IS THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS:

Let us give thanks to God for our school, community, and families. We are all so blessed to have each other to depend on as well as to help. As a Catholic Learning Community, we should take pride that our children are in one of the finest schools YCDSB has to offer. During this time of Christmas celebration, let us give special meaning to what Christmas is all about and celebrate the birth of Jesus. He is our saviour and gives eternal life to all who believe in Him. Make time this Christmas to celebrate the real meaning behind Christmas. From our family to yours, Merry Christmas! May 2020 be filled with health, happiness, and prosperity.

**EXTRA CLOTHING:**

With the winter months upon us and students playing in snow, we ask that parents send an extra set of clothing in the event that their child(ren) become wet after recess play. Normally students with snow pants and coats do not get wet but from time to time, student will get wet due to snow getting into their boots, coat, and pants. We thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

**SAFE ARRIVAL:**

A reminder that parents need to call Safe Arrival if their child is going to be late or absent. We noticed a higher number of parents are not calling in their child's absence. The number for Safe Arrival is 1-855-856-7862. We thank you in advance.

**LUNCHTIME SUPERVISORS REQUIRED:**

We are in need of lunchtime supervisors. This is a paid position for one hour a day from 12:05 to 1:05 pm. No experience necessary and training will be provided. If you or someone you know would be interested in the position, please contact Mrs. Pellegrino in the main office at 905-893-8782.

**KISS AND RIDE:**

With an increase of student enrolment this year, our Kiss and Rise drop off loop has become extremely busy. Concerns over the safety of our student's well being is always a priority. Unfortunately, parents continue to double park, not following any of the traffic signs and disregard the safety of all. We are asking all parents to be mindful once you enter the parking lot to drop off your child(ren). It takes a split second for a lifetime of tragedy. Please reduce your speed, be patient, and be mindful that we are all in a hurry but let's make safety a priority for our children. We thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

**STUDENT ARRIVAL:**

We are finding that more and more students are coming to school late. Punctuality is paramount to the success of all students. We ask all parents to be mindful of the importance of having your child(ren) arrive on time. These are habits that will help them a lifetime.

The Magic of  
*Christmas*  
is not in the presents  
but in *His*   
presence

**Pope Francis presents...**

our 4th annual Kindergarten/Primary concert...

O COME LET US  
*Adore*  
HIM  

**We are excited to showcase our hard work, please join us if you have reserved seating on,  
Tuesday Dec 10 (Kindergarten) and Thursday Dec 12 (Primary)  
for a celebration of faith and Christmas cheer!**

***May the meaning of Christmas fill your heart with joy!***



# DECEMBER 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Pizza Nova	3 Bretton	4	5 Pick-up Terra Cotta Cookie Orders	6 Pizza Nova	7
8	9 Scholastic Book Fair Pizza Nova	10 Scholastic Book Fair Kindergarten Christmas Concert AM & PM <b>Bretton</b>	11 Scholastic Book Fair	12 Scholastic Book Fair Primary Christmas Concert AM & PM	13 Scholastic Book Fair Pizza Nova High School Registrations Due Today	14
15	16 Pizza Nova	17 Bretton	18 Santa Claus Visits Pope Francis!	19	20 Civvies Day Pizza Nova Last Day Before Break	21
22	23	24	25 <b>Merry Christmas!</b>	26	27	28
29	30	31	1 <b>Happy New Year!</b>	2	3	4