

ST. CLARE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues to Educate All Students

Principal's Message

On Thursday, April 11th, we will have our school level Oral Communications competition. Students in the Junior and Intermediate levels will compete to see who will represent St. Clare at the Area 3 level competition. Students qualify to participate at the school level if they win at their class level. Every year we have such wonderful speeches on various topics. Junior speeches will be in the morning while Intermediates will be in the afternoon. Students work so hard in delivering their speeches and we can be proud of all of them. You can help your child by encouraging them to practise over and over in front of people. This will help them with their flow, articulation and projection. If you're helping your child remember the element of Catholicity is an important component that some students forget to include. Good luck to our students.

Easter is the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. It is celebrated on Sunday and marks the end of Holy Week, the end of Lent, the last day of Easter and is the beginning of the new Easter season for the liturgical year.

As we know from the Gospels, Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day following his crucifixion, which would be Sunday. His resurrection marks the triumph of good over evil, sin and death. It is the singular event which proves that those who trust in God and accept Christ will be raised from the dead.

Since Easter represents the fulfillment of God's promises to mankind, it is the most important holiday on the Christian calendar. Wishing that the Lord bless you and your family on Easter and Always. Have a blessed Easter.

Yours in Catholic Education,

A. de Sousa
Principal

Trustee

Mrs. Maria Marchese

Superintendent

Dr. Opiyo Oloya
905-713-2711

Pastor

Rev. Msgr. John Borean
Fr. Antonello
905-653-8000

Principal

Mr. A. de Sousa
905-856-6643

Secretary

Mrs. Boem

CSC Chairs

Mrs. Carvalho - Chair

Multi-Year Strategic Plan

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.

Vision

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

Core Values

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

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
 Fax: 905-713-1272 • www.ycdsb.ca



LIVING IN COMMUNITY

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Christ is risen, alleluia!

On this, the solemnity of solemnities, I want to take the opportunity to wish you and your children a very happy and blessed Easter! The Resurrection is the fulfilment of our Saviour's promise of salvation and the Easter season is a time when we take a moment to celebrate the gift of our redemption with our families. It is also a time of great celebration in our schools, that coincides with the arrival of spring and new beginnings.



Holy Week, which has led us to this glorious moment, is the most solemn and holy period in our liturgical year. It is an opportunity for us to pause and enter into the Paschal Mystery by uniting our own suffering with that of Christ. These days are a period of particular importance in our schools as our students are given the opportunity to reflect on their life of faith. Our Lord's entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday signifies the beginning of our liturgical celebration of the Paschal Mystery, where we consider His coming Passion, Death, and Resurrection during the Triduum.

Holy Thursday, the first day of the Triduum, reminds us of the celebration of the Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of our faith. Good Friday marks Christ's sacrifice of His life as well as our humble acknowledgement that God himself paid the ultimate price for our salvation. Holy Saturday begins in sorrowful silence but culminates in our joyful celebration of Christ's victory over death in the Easter Vigil, particularly at the beautiful moment where we welcome catechumens into the Church through Baptism and share with them the redemption won for us by Christ.

This rich spiritual experience of the Paschal Mystery that we celebrate in our schools, ultimately reminds us of who we are as followers of Christ and members of Catholic school communities. It is the central moment in our life of faith, especially as we are reminded that we are sons and daughters of God through the great mystery of our redemption.

May the glory of Christ's Resurrection be a moment of joy and peace in your lives and those of your children this Easter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maria Marchese'.

Maria Marchese, Vice-Chair

Maria Marchese, Trustee – Vaughan, Woodbridge (Area 3, Ward 3)
 maria.marchese@ycdsb.ca • Cell: 647-960-3165



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LIVING IN COMMUNITY

April 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The York Catholic District School Board has begun to develop the next iteration of its Multi-Year Strategic Plan. The purpose of this process is to clearly identify what our goals will be within our strategic priorities for the next five years. An important part of this exercise is to engage you, our parents and guardians in the development of the plan and to ensure that your input is reflected.

Beginning in early April, York Catholic will engage in broad public consultations with members of the community. This will take place in the form of interactive online and in-person sessions at three of our secondary schools at the beginning of April. They will include and be followed-up with an online survey tool designed to help collect input from our community.

The scheduled in-person sessions are:

- April 2: Sacred Heart CHS (908 Lemar Rd, Newmarket, ON), Time: 6:30-8:00 pm
- April 3: St. Augustine CHS (2188 Rodick Rd, Markham, ON), Time: 6:30-8:00 pm
- April 4: St. Jean de Brebeuf CHS (2 Davos Road, Woodbridge, ON), Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

We sincerely hope that you will take the opportunity to attend one of our sessions and to participate online in our consultations.

For information on our public sessions or if you would like to register, please visit our website at www.ycdsb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ab Falconi".

Ab Falconi
Director of Education

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD CELEBRATES 50 YEARS!

This year marks a historic milestone for the York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary. For five decades, our Board has provided Catholic Education to generations of children and become an integral part of communities in York Region. We have grown from our humble beginnings to now encompassing 101 schools serving over 53,000 students and employing over 8,000 people. This development is a testament to decades of commitment from our students, their parents/guardians and the staff of our Board to Catholic Education.

Over the course of 2019, our Board will mark this incredible milestone through several events and initiatives. We will formally mark our 50th Anniversary of Tuesday, May 7 with a special Mass celebrated by His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto and Honorary Chair of the YCDSB, which will be followed by a Gala Dinner. In addition to the events on May 7, a number of other special projects have been commissioned to coincide with this important milestone.

<https://www.ycdsb.ca/50/>

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

The Stations of the Cross are a Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The 14 devotions focus on specific events of Jesus' last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. Children often talk about their superheroes and what they mean to them. I remind them that Jesus was the greatest Hero ever!





LIVING IN COMMUNITY

50th Anniversary Celebrations

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

4:30 p.m. - Mass

St. David's Church, Maple

Celebrant: Cardinal Thomas Collins

6 p.m. - Gala Dinner

Terrace Banquet Centre, Concord

Tickets: \$85

More information: www.ycdsb.ca/50

**50 Years of Faith, Learning and
Excellence in Catholic Education**

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

The Junior and Intermediate students are busy preparing and practicing their speeches. The school level Oral Communications competition will take place at St. Clare on Thursday, April 11th in the gym. The Junior division will present in the morning and the Intermediate division in the afternoon.

EQAO:

Our Grade 3 and 6 students will be participating in the Education Quality and Accountability Office's Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics from **Tuesday, May 21, to Monday, June 3, 2019**. In six one-hour sessions, students will complete a variety of assessment activities designed to allow them to demonstrate their skills and knowledge relating to reading, writing and mathematics as described in the Ontario Curriculum. Although the test is still a few months away, it is never too early to begin preparing for it. Parents are encouraged to support their children in preparation for the test. EQAO has developed a "Parent Guide to EQAO Tests" and "Questions and Answers for Parents" (available in 20 languages) to give you more information about the assessments and understanding what to expect. To access these resources, go to the EQAO website (www.eqao.com), click on "Parent Resources" and then select the appropriate choice for your child's grade. Just a reminder that it is very important that students are present when the tests are being administered and that there are no disruptions to their school day. Please ensure that doctor and dental appointments are scheduled after school hours during this time period. **Specific dates for our school assessment will be communicated on a later date from teachers.**

RULES FOR BLACK TOP RECESS:

With the recent change in weather, it is nice to see our students outdoors enjoying themselves. While we have been outdoors, we have remained on the pavement due to an icy or wet field. We want to communicate to parents the procedures of play when we are on the pavement.

There is no ball playing when we are on the pavement.

Ball playing is only allowed when the field is open.

No running is allowed when we are on the pavement.

Running is only allowed when the field is open.

All balls must be soft when the field is open.

Soccer balls are permitted only when the field is open.

The above rules are in place to protect your child during recess. These rules help to prevent injury as students in the past have encountered balls to their face, head or body. We hope you will review these rules with your child(ren) in hopes of keeping the playground safe.

YEARBOOK SALES:

Our 2018-2019 Yearbook is in the works. If you are interested in ordering a yearbook, please see the full page advertisement in this newsletter from Jostens. Yearbooks will start at \$35.00 each and May 25, 2019 is the last day to personalize your yearbook. www.jostensyearbooks.com



"I REGRET BUYING A YEARBOOK"
SAID NO ONE EVER

BUY A YEARBOOK

Jostens

MAIN DRIVEWAY BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER SCHOOL:

At St. Clare we pride ourselves on the quality of education we deliver at all levels. Nevertheless, the level of education pales in comparison to the safety of our students. I am constantly receiving calls about parents who enter the driveway before, during and after school. This is a safety concern and has been communicated a number of times. Children are crossing the main driveway only to encounter a car driving by while they are trying to get into the building. **WE ASK THAT YOU DO NOT USE THE MAIN DRIVEWAY TO DROP OFF OR PICK-UP YOUR CHILD.** There are **Do Not Enter** signs on the sides of both driveways. Please do not use the driveways from **8:00 am to 4:00 pm and comprise the safety of our children.**

Yearbooks Available Online now!



- Enhanced Personalization offers students 9 designs to personalize their yearbook
- Add icons to all nine designs, including monograms and crests
- Monogram and crest designs will appear approximately 1 inch by 1 inch on the cover
- Schools enrolled in Enhanced Personalization will receive the FREE Enhanced Distribution experience

Click Here or Go To:
www.jostensyearbooks.com

MONOGRAMS



CRESTS



NAME



CUSTOMIZE YOUR YEARBOOK!

WITH ENHANCED PERSONALIZATION

9 Designs to choose from!

- 4 Cool Monograms
- 4 Custom Crests
- 1 Name plus Icons

Includes distribution band (Enhanced Distribution)



www.jostensyearbooks.com

Buy your 2018-19 St. Clare Catholic Elementary Yearbook online today!

NEW! Choose to customize your yearbook! Personalization only available until May 24th, 2019.

Yearbook Contact: Sandra Egizii
sandra.egizii@ycdsb.ca

Want to buy an Ad in the yearbook? Go to: www.jostensadservice.com and shop your school. Send art to Sandra Egizii

CONFIRMATION CROSSES:

As part of their confirmation journey, the Grade 7 students made crosses as a keepsake to remember their confirmation. We would like to thank our parent volunteers for lending a helping hand: **Mrs. Celetti, Mrs. Di Fazio, Mrs. Fortuna and Mrs. Porporino.**

**NO DOGS PERMITTED:**

A reminder to parents and families that dogs are not permitted on school property. Some students are allergic while others are afraid of even the smallest dogs. We appreciate your support in this matter.

LENTEN TOILET DRIVE:

Thank you to all the families who donated to our Toilet Drive. We collected over 10 boxes of supplies for needy families. The St. Clare of Assisi Parish Reach Out Group prepared the Lenten Toiletry Drive in support of The Sisters of Charity and The Sisters of Life. Once again St. Clare supported those less fortunate and I thank you for your generosity. A special thanks goes out to **Mrs. Pecchia and Mrs. Ciccone** for organizing the drive and delivering the boxes.

CONFIRMATION:

On Tuesday, March 26, our Grade 7 students continued their journey in Catholic Faith by receiving their sacrament of Confirmation. It was a beautiful evening and wonderful to see families and friends gathered to celebrate this important celebration. Thank you to **Msgr. John and Father Antonello** for their spiritual guidance. We also would like to thank **Mr. Mirabelli and Mr. Ruberto** for preparing the students to receive their sacrament.

**WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY:**

World Autism Awareness Day is an internationally recognized day on **April 2nd** every year, encouraging Member States of the United Nations to take measures to raise awareness about people with Autism Spectrum Disorder throughout the world. The day itself brings individual autism organizations together all around the world to aid in things like research, diagnoses, treatment, and overall acceptance for those affected by this developmental disorder. We are asking students, staff and the community to wear the colour BLUE on **Tuesday, April 2nd** in support of understanding and acceptance for people with autism.

SEPTEMBER 2019:

We are currently planning and organizing for September 2019. Parents are asked to notify the school if their child is not returning to St. Clare in September 2019. We greatly appreciate your attention in this matter.

LENTEN PATH:

If you have a moment we encourage all parents to come see the display of lenten footprints that have a message from all students. Students were given the opportunity to write a message on what they gave up for lent or a promise they had made. The picture on the right displays all the footprints.



YCDSB AST Newsletter April 2019

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL HELPS TO KEEP THE EARTH CLEAN!

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22

We are all stewards of the Earth and as such it is our responsibility to be aware of how our actions affect the environment, including ways that we can make a positive impact. One easy way to do this is by reducing the number of times children are driven to and from school. Active travel, including using the school bus, helps to lower our carbon footprint. Driving your vehicle, even for short distances, requires a lot of energy, which contributes to the burning of fossil fuels, creating pollution and sending greenhouse gases into the air we breathe. These gases harm the Earth's atmosphere and contribute to pollution, smog and climate change, which are all harmful to both our physical and mental health.

Earth Day is an annual worldwide event and is celebrated on April 22. Earth Day is a time to reflect on our habits and consider making small changes to our routines. Do your part to keep the Earth clean by using Active School Travel to get to and from school! For those who are unable to walk or cycle to school every day, you could choose an active mode of travel two or three times a week. You can also consider parking a short distance away from the school and walking a block or two to decrease the pollution around the school playgrounds. For Earth Day suggestions, as well as school and classroom activities, visit: <http://ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca/spring-into-spring/>.

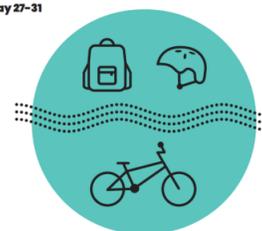
BIKE TO SCHOOL WEEK: May 27th – May 31st

Let's get rolling! Bike to School Week runs from May 27 – 31. We ask all schools to register their schools by May 10th and actively promote Bike to School Week! Schools that register by May 10th will receive a package of incentives, while supplies last. The package includes a bike repair kit, valve lights, reflective bands, bicycle bells, front lights, posters and stickers! This package can be used as prizes to motivate students. Schools that register after May 10th, will be notified where they can pick up an incentive package.

- To register visit: <http://www.bikemonth.ca/biketoschool>.
- To assist in promotion at your school, visit: www.bikemonth.ca/getting-started.
- For free York Region general and event posters, visit: www.bikemonth.ca/posters.

**Bike to
School
Week**
May 27-31

Discover the
fun of biking.



If your school is planning a Bike to School Week event or celebration or requires assistance to get started, email: activeschooltravel@ycdsb.ca.

**ACTIVE
SCHOOL TRAVEL**
York Catholic District School Board

APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Catholic School Council 7:00 pm	2 World Autism Awareness Day Yoga Grades 6-8	3	4	5 Hearing Clinic Yoga Grades 6-8	6
7	8 Hip Hop Kindergarten to Grade 5	9 Hip Hop Kindergarten to Grade 5	10	11 School Level Oral Communications Juniors and Intermediates pm	12	13
14 Palm Sunday	15 Hip Hop Kindergarten to Grade 5	16 Hip Hop Kindergarten to Grade 5	17	18 Rosary Apostolates	19 Good Friday	20
21 Easter Sunday	22 Easter Monday	23	24	25 Easter Mass 1:15 pm	26 Civvies Day \$2.00 Spring Photo Day	27
28	29	30 Dental Screening Kindergarten, Grades 2, 7 & 8				