

ST. CLARE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues to Educate All Students

Principal's Message

Can you believe we are already in March? It seems like only yesterday that we came back from Christmas Break. This month, as with the previous months, will be a busy one. Students are working at their academics and concentrating on doing as well as they can for their final report card. Remember to set your clocks forward 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 9th.

On Wednesday, March 6th, **Ash Wednesday** takes place. Ash Wednesday is one of the most important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. We thank **Rev. Msgr. John** for joining us on such an important day.

On Tuesday, March 26th, our Grade 7 students will celebrate the sacrament of **Confirmation**. It will be a beautiful evening filled with pride and excitement as our young students prepare to further their journey as Catholics. A special thanks to **Rev. Msgr. John and Father Antonello** for all that they do for St. Clare.

On Tuesday, April 11th, we will have our school level Oral Communications competition. Junior students will participate in the morning while our Intermediates will be in the afternoon. Students from both divisions will compete to see who will represent St. Clare Catholic Elementary School at the Area 3 competition. Students qualify to participate at the school level only if they win at their class level. Every year we have such wonderful speeches on various topics.

Good luck to all our students.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. de Sousa

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 Inclement Weather Notification

In the event that School transportation is cancelled due to inclement weather and/or poor road conditions:

- ✓ **Schools remain open**

For Parents/Guardians with children in Elementary School:

- ✓ Please use the Safe Arrival System if your child(ren) is absent due to inclement weather. Students who are unable to attend due to buses being cancelled, must still be reported absent using the Safe Arrival System.
- ✓ [Hot Lunch programs at all YCDSB Elementary Schools are cancelled.](#)

For Parents/Guardians with children in Secondary School:

- ✓ Cafeteria Services at all **YCDSB Secondary Schools** are closed.

For ALL Parents/Guardians:

Please exercise discretion in deciding whether to send your child to school today.

- ✓ The decision to cancel school transportation service is **region-wide**, meaning all school buses, vans and taxis are not operating.
- ✓ Schools are open and parents/guardians can make alternate arrangements to transport their children to and from school.
- ✓ As school transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will not operate in the afternoon.
- ✓ Exams, tests, quizzes, excursions, charter trips, school programs, co-curricular activities, evening presentations, workshops, in-services, as well as, parent meetings (e.g. Identification, Placement, and Review Committee Meetings, IPRCs) are cancelled for today, and will be rescheduled.
- ✓ Permits are cancelled for this evening.
- ✓ All Continuing Education Courses scheduled for during the day and evening, are cancelled. This includes: ESL, Secondary, and Adult Interest Courses.
- ✓ Before and After Programs in schools make every effort to remain open in inclement weather. However the decision to open or to close early is up to the discretion of the Child Care Operator.

For ALL YCDSB Staff:

All in-services scheduled at schools or at the Board Office are cancelled.

CARNAVAL:

Carnaval week was a great success! Students thoroughly enjoyed themselves as they participated in activities such as Jersey Day and Crazy Hair Day. The students all enjoyed the movie day as well as the teacher guessing contest. A special thanks goes out to our French and Heritage teachers who include:

Mme. Bruno, Mme. Pizzoli-Tomaso and Sig. Resile.

**SHROVE TUESDAY:**

This year Shrove Tuesday falls on Tuesday, March 5th. Students and staff will be served delicious pancakes with syrup to celebrate Mardi Gras, the last day before Lent. We thank the Catholic School Council for providing the pancakes and our volunteers who will deliver them to each of the classrooms.

ASH WEDNESDAY:

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of our Lenten Season. Lent is a special season of the liturgical year when we focus upon the love Jesus has for each of us. We thank **Rev. Msgr. John.** in advance for his time.

GRADE 7 CONFIRMANDI:

On Tuesday, March 26th at 7:00 pm our Grade 7 students will further their Catholic journey by celebrating their confirmation at St. Clare Church. It is a beautiful evening filled with spirituality, family and coming together as children of God. I would like to thank our teachers **Mr. Mirabelli and Mr. Ruberto** for preparing our students for this milestone. Also where would we be as a community without Rev. Msgr. John and Father Antonello. We are blessed to have such caring and passionate priests who go well beyond the call of God. We hope to see family and friends attend this important milestone in our student's Catholic journey.

HOCKEY:

The 2018-2019 St. Clare Catholic Ice Hockey season will begin shortly. Our first game is on Tuesday, March 5th, at York University. We congratulate the boys and girls who tried out and made the final roster. I would like to thank **Ms. Campoli** and **Mr. Santilli** for their hard work and commitment.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW COMPETITION

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is for boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 14. It provides an athletic outlet and encourages the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Kids compete within their own gender and age and progress from local level to district, regional and state/provincial competitions. **Aidan D. and Lucas C.** will be competing at the competition on Saturday, March 2. We wish them the best of luck as they try to move on to the provincial finals!

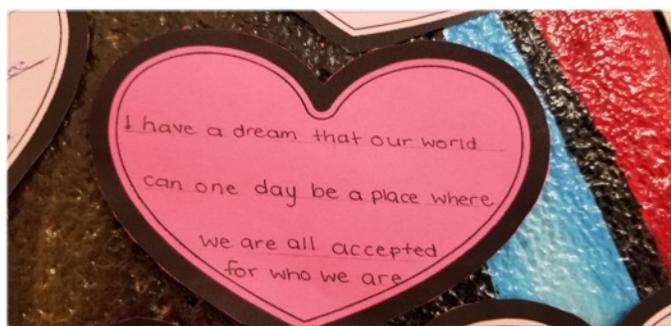
**CALLING OFFICE FOR STUDENT PICKUP:**

We understand the need to save time when picking up your child early from school for various reasons. Nevertheless, we ask that you do not call the office in advance of your arrival and ask the secretary to have your children ready for pickup. Unfortunately, when we have a number of parents doing this it is difficult for our secretary to carry on with her daily duties due to the volume of calls. In the future if you have to pick up your child please come into the school, sign them out and request to have them come to the office. We will be happy to assist. We thank you in advance for your attention in this matter. **Hopefully, we do not have anymore inclement weather days but as you know our student's safety comes first. With that in mind we ask all parents to please call the safe arrival line when your child is absent on regular days or inclement days. Thank you for your support in this matter!**

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Our foyer display is filled with information on Black History Month. Apart from books by Black authors, students were asked to write down their dreams on a heart representing what they believed a better world would look like. Here are some of the examples they wrote down:



What a wonderful world it would be where “we are all accepted for who we are”. This phrase is common amongst many students at St. Clare. It embraces a Catholic doctrine that suggests God made each one of us different yet expects us to love each other for who we are. It is said that we often need children to remind us of a world that can be

Mrs. da Silva’s Grade 6 students created shoe box projects on Blacks who have made a significant contribution to their heritage. Some of the projects included Martin Luther King, Jackie Robinson, Michelle Obama, Willie O’Ree, Michael Jackson and Katherine Johnson. The detail included in the projects were excellent. Most possessed models of the person they did they research on and all were examples of what you can accomplish with determination and hard work. The picture to the right displays a few examples. Congratulations to the students in Mrs. da Silva’s class.





CARNAVAL

PINK SHIRT DAY:

Pink Shirt Day occurred on Wednesday, February 27, 2019. The theme of the day is to be 'be kind' ... Pink Shirt Day originated in 2007 after two teenagers from Berwick, Nova Scotia encouraged fellow students to wear pink t-shirts in support of a peer who was being bullied for wearing a pink shirt. Students at St. Clare displayed their support by wearing a pink top in solidarity of the campaign. This is just another way students at St. Clare demonstrate their support to stop bullying.



Students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 show their support in this campaign. Awareness and open communication is a positive way to make a school climate inviting and engaging. We thank all students for their support in this important cause.

PIZZAVILLE STUDENT HOT LUNCH FORM

ST. CLARE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Student Council Hot Lunch

Dear Parents,

We will continue serving cheese pizza slices on Thursdays and our pizza provider is Pizzaville. Slices will be sold at **\$3.50** per slice. We have added Potato Wedges to the menu at **\$3.75** per order. This hot lunch program will begin on **Thursday, April 4th, 2019**. If you are interested in ordering pizza or potato wedges on Thursdays, please complete the bottom section of this form and return to your child's teacher by **Friday, March 22nd**. We ask that parents process one form per child.

No refunds will be available but pizza slices/potato wedges can be picked up by 12:30 pm on the day of the pizza lunch.

	Thursday April 4	Thursday April 11	Thursday April 18	Thursday April 25	Thursday May 2	Thursday May 9	Thursday May 16	Thursday May 23	Thursday May 30	Thursday June 6	Thursday June 13	Thursday June 20
1 Slice \$3.50												
2 Slices \$7.00												
Potato Wedges \$3.75												

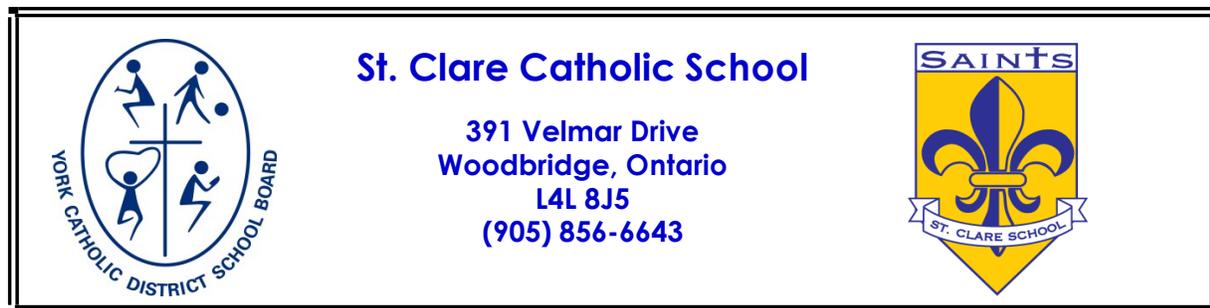
Our school participates in lunches from Pizzaville who is in accordance with Bill 8 (no added trans fat) and the Ontario's School Food and Beverage Policy PPM 150 Guidelines. Please visit their website for full details at www.pizzaville.com. Funds generated will be applied towards the school's improvement plan including technology, sports and academics. Thank you for your participation.

Total amount of Slices: _____ **Total amount of Wedges:** _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

TEACHER/GRADE: _____



February 25, 2019

Dear St. Clare School Parent Community,

We are writing to inform you of the forthcoming Lenten toiletry drive.

The St. Clare of Assisi Parish Reach Out Group is currently preparing for the Lenten Toiletry Drive in support of The Sisters of Charity and The Sisters of Life.

Toiletry items requested are:

For Babies - wipes, body wash, lotion and ointments;

For Women - elegant soaps, body wash, bath accessories, lotions and creams.

Please place the items in a ziplock bag and place them into the bins located in the school foyer.

"We should not serve the poor like they "were" Jesus. We should serve the poor because they "are" Jesus.

During this time of Lent, our St. Clare C.E.S. community would like to contribute to those in need.

We require that all toiletries are brought to school and dropped off in the foyer by: Tuesday, March 26th, 2019.

Thanking you in advance for helping us with this charitable event.

"The Greatest Good Is What We Do for One Another." **St. Mother Teresa**

God blessings always,

Liturgical Committee

St. Clare C.E.S.





Active School Travel

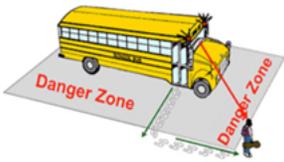
March, 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

"The wheels on the bus go round and round..." Walking to the school bus stop and riding the bus to school are considered important forms of active school travel. Students who live outside of the Non-Transportation Zone for their home school qualify for school bus service.

Walking to the bus stop and riding the bus provides a number of benefits including:

- Teaching children the value of time and being organized
- Keeping children active, which leads to strong physical and mental health
- Encouraging social interaction and improving and building social skills
- Keeping communities safe and reducing private automobile traffic congestion
- Reducing environmental air pollution
- Making school more accessible for all children

Ministry of Transportation School Bus Safety Tips	
When you board or leave the bus	While on the bus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wait in a safe place away from the edge of the road • Stay out of the DANGER ZONE. If you can touch the bus, you're too close. Use 10 giant steps to take you out of the DANGER ZONE, and make sure you and the bus driver can see each other. • Always cross the road in front of the bus, never behind. • Look all ways and wait for the driver to signal before you cross in front of a bus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay seated, facing forward at all times • Don't put things in the aisle • Never distract the bus driver • Don't eat or drink while on the bus • Don't yell, push people or throw things • Keep your arms and head inside the bus 

If your child does not qualify for the school bus we encourage walking/cycling/scootering to school or parking a block away from the school and walking the rest of the way. If you can't walk/cycle/scooter every day, choosing active travel once, twice, or a few days a week can still provide benefits.

Ontario Crossing Guard Recognition Day - March 20, 2019

The Ontario Traffic Council has chosen **Wednesday, March 20th, 2019** as Crossing Guard Recognition Day. If your child passes by a crossing guard on their way to school, take a moment to THANK your local crossing guard to show your appreciation! Crossing guards play an important role in keeping children and neighborhood's safe!

Sincerely,

YCDSB Active School Travel Team



MARCH 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Ricci's Pizza	5 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Treats	6 Ash Wednesday Lent Begins Ricci's Pasta & Sandwiches	7 Pizzaville	8 Astoria Shish Kebob House	9
10  Time to Spring Ahead	11 March	12 Break	13	14	15	16
17 	18 Back to School Ricci's Pizza	19	20 Ricci's Pasta and Sandwiches	21 Rosary Apostolates Pizzaville	22 Astoria Shish Kebob House	23
24	25 Ricci's Pizza	26 Grade 7 Confirmation St. Clare of Assisi Church	27 Ricci's Pasta and Sandwiches	28 Pizzaville	29 Astoria Shish Kebob House	30