



# ST. CLARE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

391 Velmar Dr.  
Woodbridge, ON L4L 8J5  
Tel No.: 905-856-6643 Fax: 905-856-6349

<http://sce.ycdsb.ca>

Twitter: [@sce\\_ycdsb](https://twitter.com/sce_ycdsb)



## MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We begin the month of May by celebrating Catholic education week from **May 4 - May 8**. The theme this year is "Igniting Hope". During Catholic Education Week, we pray for all those who help support our young people in our Catholic schools. We give thanks for teachers, support staff and all members of our educational family. We also pray for all those who help sow the seeds of faith in our community: for our clergy who shepherd and guide us, for parents, primary educators of our children and for our schools as they weave the thread of faith through the classroom and beyond. Teachers will be sharing lessons through their Virtual Learning Environments around the theme of Igniting Hope. We have also planned a Spirit Week, again around the theme of this year's Catholic Education Week. Details have been shared with the community in an email sent last week, and posted in this newsletter. I thank you in advance for your participation.

Every year, the first week of May is also dedicated to Children's Mental Health Week. It is a week where we draw attention to the mental health issues that children and youth face, raise awareness of these issues, decrease stigma and provide understanding of the help that is available. This year, through Distance Learning, we continue to focus on the mental health of our students and families. Daily mental health activities were shared with parents in a separate email and posted to our website.

I would like to thank the staff, parents and students for their hard work and dedication during this time of distance learning. We know it has not been easy and appreciate the collaborative efforts in making this work.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. F. De Bartolo, *Principal*

**Catholic School Trustee & YCDSB Chair**  
Maria Marchese

**Superintendent of Education**  
Opiyo Oloya

**Pastor**  
Rev. Mgrs. John Boreon

**Associate Pastor**  
Rev. Antonello Murgia

**CSC Chair**  
Sandra Carvalho

**Administrative Assistant**  
Maria Boem

**Principal**  
Francesco De Bartolo

**To report student absences and lates, please dial:**  
1-855-856-7862  
**OR**  
[go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca)

**SCE SCHOOL DAY:**

- 8:35 Supervision Begins
- 8:50 Morning Entry
- 10:20 AM Recess
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:20 Lunch Recess
- 1:00 Afternoon Entry
- 2:20 PM Recess
- 3:40 Dismissal

<p><b>Mission Statement</b></p> <p>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.</p>	<p><b>Vision Statement</b></p> <p>Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.</p>	<p><b>Core Values</b></p> <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Excellence</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Equity</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Fiscal Responsibility</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Catholicity</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Inclusion</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Integrity</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Respect</div> </div>	<p><b>Strategic Commitments</b></p> <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Integration of Our Catholic Faith</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Effective Use of Our Resources</div> <div style="border: 1px solid white; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Engaging Our Communities</div> </div>
---	--	--	---



### MONTHLY VIRTUES

Each month, a different Catholic virtue is highlighted board wide. Students are encouraged to demonstrate these attributes in their daily actions both at school and at home.

During the month of April, we celebrate the virtue of **Responsibility**. Daily reflections and classroom discussions will be centred around this virtue.

### SACRAMENTS

Please note that all sacraments have been postponed by the Archdiocese at this time. They will be rescheduled once it is safe to do so. The parish will inform schools and parents when the time is right to proceed.

### JUNE ACTIVITIES CANCELLED

The YCDSB has made the difficult decision to cancel all remaining school activities planned for the month of June, including Grade 8 Graduation. We do plan on rescheduling Graduation for sometime in the fall pending approval by York Region Public Health.

### SEPTEMBER 2020

We are in the preliminary stages of planning for school organization in the fall. If you are moving out of the area and/or your child will not be returning to St. Clare in September 2020, please notify the school office by leaving a message on our general voice mail with the following information:

- Your name and phone number
- The name(s) of your child(ren)
- The reason for not returning to St. Clare (i.e. moving)
- The school your child(ren) will be attending in September 2020

You can reach our voicemail by calling 905-856-6643.

**Please note, parents of graduating students do not need to call.**



### VIRTUAL SUNDAY MASS

Our community parish, St. Clare of Assisi has virtually opened their doors, allowing us to pray, gather and experience the sorrow of Jesus' crucifixion along with the hope of his resurrection, as a true community of faith. It is my hope

that this will assist us all in feeling more connected during this time of physical distancing, as God gathers us within our own homes.

St Clare of Assisi Church

<https://saintclareofassisi.ca/>

### VAUGHAN COMMUNITY OF SCHOOLS FOOD DRIVE

On Tuesday, May 12, from approximately 10am-7pm, the Vaughan Food Bank will be collecting non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products at St. Clare CES. Details of this Food Drive will be shared with you in a letter this coming week.



**Online Kindergarten registration forms can be accessed from the board's website at [www.ycdsb.ca/admissions](http://www.ycdsb.ca/admissions).**

We look forward to welcoming your child into our school and encourage you to invite your neighbours and friends who live within our school's boundaries to begin the registration process.

Information on a virtual Welcome to Kindergarten will be shared with parents of new registrants soon.

### PHASE 2 OF DISTANCE LEARNING @ SCE

Monday, April 6th, is when teachers in Ontario rolled out Phase 2 of our distance learning program.

In order for your child to participate in this phase of distance learning they must be enrolled in their classroom teacher's virtual learning environment.

Your child's teacher will be contacting you if they have not yet logged into their Google Classroom or D2L online learning platform. We look forward to continuing our learning online until we can be together again.

### PHASE 2 MINISTRY EXPECTATIONS

As outlined in a press conference by the Minister of Education, as of April 6th, you can expect your child to be engaged in the following:

- Kindergarten to grade three: Five hours of work per student per week, with a focus on literacy and math
- Grades four to six: Five hours of work per week, with a focus on literacy, math, science, and social studies
- Grades seven to eight: 10 hours of work per week, with a focus on math, literacy, science and social studies

Please refer to the [Parent Guide to Distance Learning](#) shared with you via email by our Director, Ab Falconi, last week, for additional information. We thank you in advance for your patience as we work through the various challenges that come with this different way of learning that is new to many.



### MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Students regularly begin their day with morning routines at school. This consists of standing to sing Canada's National Anthem, morning prayer and reflection, and listening to school announcements. As we are currently home due to COVID-19, I thought I would bring the announcements to you! Morning announcement videos will be shared daily with you via your child's Google Classroom or D2L account. We hope you can join your child for their morning routines.



### APPROPRIATE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

During this period of distance learning, it is the expectation of all stakeholders that all online interactions are respectful, appropriate, considerate, kind and fair. Furthermore, given that there may be some live online video, voice and text interaction, there is a reasonable expectation that everyone's privacy is respected. Please review this expectation with your children and allow it to continue to inform all stakeholders' interactions moving forward. A reminder that parents should monitor their children's online interactions regularly. Teachers will review the appropriate use of technology expectations with their students periodically as well. If you have any concerns, please reach out to your child's teacher. Thank you for your partnership.

### YCDSB MENTAL HEALTH TWITTER ACCOUNT

Working from home can be challenging. It is important to have some tips to support good mental health and well-being for both adults and children. Please follow [@YCDSB\\_MH](#) for a variety of mental health and well-being resources.

## SAFE & CARING SCHOOLS

### ST. CLARE IS A CHARACTER SCHOOL

Each morning, as part of our school announcements, we remind all our students at St. Clare is a character school. This means that we always hold ourselves to a higher standard. If students should ever find themselves in difficulty and cannot resolve a problem on their own, they are reminded to approach a caring staff member for assistance. We review daily that we must keep our hands and feet to ourselves and only to use kind words, even when we are provoked. Both the YCDSB and our school places excellence, equity, community and positive relationships at the heart of student success and well-being. ***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 with Jesus as our inspiration.***

### STUDENT BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the YCDSB and St. Clare Catholic Elementary School that students will:

- ★ Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- ★ Respect differences in people, their ideas and their opinions
- ★ Treat one another with dignity and respect, especially when there is a disagreement
- ★ Respect and treat others fairly
- ★ Respect the rights of others
- ★ Take appropriate measures to help those in need
- ★ Seek assistance from teachers to resolve conflicts peacefully
- ★ Demonstrate respect for people in positions of responsibility
- ★ Respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching
- ★ Be courteous and polite at all times

We thank you for reviewing these expectations for behaviour and overall conduct with your child.

### SCE IGNITING HOPE 2020 SPIRIT WEEK

Monday Our Hope in Christ	Tuesday The Hope Within Us	Wednesday The Hope Among Us	Thursday Hope for the World	Friday A Future Full of Hope
<p><b>Hope For Heroes</b></p> <p>Not all heroes wear capes. Essential and front-line workers such as doctors, nurses, first responders, grocery clerks, sanitation workers, delivery drivers etc. are out there risking their lives everyday.</p> <p>Let's show our gratitude and appreciation by creating a thank-you sign/poster for essential and front-line workers.</p> <p><b>Please submit a photo of your Thank You poster/sign by Thursday, May 7 at 3pm.</b></p>	<p><b>God-Given Superpowers</b></p> <p>What is your superpower? What God-given gift or talent do you have and how will you use it to change the world?</p> <p>Create an image of yourself in your superhero uniform showcasing the super powers God gave you. You can do this through drawing, painting, coding or using any other creative method.</p>	<p><b>Act of Kindness</b></p> <p>Jesus spread the Good News and would offer help to anyone he encountered. He cares for us and loves us just like our parents do. Our parents work hard to make sure that we have everything we need.</p> <p>Do something today (and everyday) that helps lighten the workload of your parents. Some ways you can help your parents are: clean and tidy up a room in your home, load or unload the dishwasher, fold laundry, set and clear the table before a meal.</p>	<p><b>Build A Lighthouse</b></p> <p>A lighthouse is a tower like structure designed to emit light from a system of lamps and lenses. It provides light for sailors to navigate their ships safely. The Lighthouse is also a symbol of hope even when things around us are dark or uncertain.</p> <p>Explore images of lighthouses and re-create one by drawing a picture or by using materials you can find around the house such as lego blocks, paper cups, egg cartons etc.</p> <p><b>Don't forget to submit a photo of your Thank You poster/sign today by 3pm.</b></p>	<p><b>Our Planet, Our Home</b></p> <p>Let's show some love for the beautiful natural world that God has given us. Take some time today to connect with nature and become God's Steward of the Earth.</p> <p>Plant something new, tend to an already existing garden or simply clean up the outside area around your house. Please make sure you are being safe when doing so.</p>
				