



# St. Edward Catholic School News

33 Cairns Drive, Markham, ON, L3P 7M8

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## September 2019

Trustee: J. Ecker

Superintendent: L. Sawicky

Principal: C. Mills

Secretaries: J. Campisi

C. Paglialunga

Pastor: Fr. D. Barber

Parish: St. Patrick

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A warm welcome back to returning families and a special welcome to all our new families and to our Grade One French Immersion students! We are all looking forward to an exciting year of learning and growing and are grateful for our wonderful and very special St. Edward school family!

Please plan to attend our annual Open House on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> in the school gymnasium at 6:30 p.m. This evening is an excellent opportunity to meet your child's teacher and to learn more about the curriculum and exciting learning opportunities your child will enjoy this coming year.

A big thank you to our St. Edward teachers custodians, secretaries and board personnel for their tremendous work over the past few weeks in preparing our school and classrooms for a safe and smooth entry and for engaging and learning activities.

I look forward to meeting each and every one of you and to a wonderful school year ahead!

Kindest regards,

Mrs. C. Mills

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

#### September

- ⇒ 6-Opening Assembly-10:30 a.m.
- ⇒ 12-Open House-6:30 p.m.
- ⇒ 18-School Photo Day
- ⇒ 23-Volunteer Orientation-6:30 p.m.
- ⇒ 19-CSC Elections-7:00 p.m.
- ⇒ 23-PA Day-No school for students
- ⇒ 26-Terry Fox Walk
- ⇒ 27-Civvies Day
- ⇒ 23-27-Safety Awareness Week

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ◆ Student Safety: Drop-off procedure (page 4)
- ◆ Five (5) Forms to be returned to the Office by Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Catholic School Council Nomination Form (page 7)

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### FORMS TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL

- ◆ Emergency Form (one per student)
- ◆ Freedom of Information
- ◆ Acceptable Use of Information Technology
- ◆ Walking and Lunch Permission Form
- ◆ Catholic School Council Nomination Form

#### 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

#### 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

*Be the best you can be!*

## Our School-St. Edward

### St. Edward Catholic School 2019—2020

Gr. 1	L. Bean A. Toma M. Ibrahim
Gr. 2	C. Germani A. Woo-Grebenc
Gr. 2/3	B. Tsiogas
Gr. 3	D. Dimney J. Di Rezze
Gr. 4	M. Bastien C. Gouthro K. Montano
Gr. 5	S. Manna S. Santeramo
Gr. 6	K. Abraham M. Dagher
Gr. 7	M. Haas J. Liu
Gr. 8	H. Fraser
Gr. 8	F. Yu
FSL	M. Comeau G. Gunnip

Core Resource A. Minchella

ESL	L. Bucci
Music	S. Vieira
Phys. Ed.	K. MacInnis

Teacher Librarian G. Viggiani  
EA S. Lewis

Sr. Admin. Ass't. J. Campisi  
Gen. Admin. Ass't. C. Paglialuna  
Head Custodian L. Nguyen  
Evening Custodians  
A. Doucas & K. Doucas  
Lunch Time Supervisors:  
M. Colombo, L. Davison, A. Drury



### SAFE ARRIVAL

#### STUDENT ABSENCE REPORTING

Before the bell time for the current day,  
please call 1-855-856-7862 or visit  
[go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca)

Planned absences may be reported in advance.

### School Hours

School begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. Students and parents are reminded that each student has a responsibility to be on time. Arriving late disturbs the other students, interferes with the program and centers attention on a latecomer. Please help us teach the value of "being on time".

8:30 a.m. Entry

9:50—10:05 a.m. Recess

11:35—11:55 a.m. Lunch

11:55—12:35 p.m. Lunch Recess

12:35 p.m. Afternoon Entry

2:00—2:15 p.m. Recess

3:00 p.m. Dismissal



### School Yard Supervision

St. Edward staff have been assigned school yard and bus supervision duties. Morning supervision begins at **8:15 am**; therefore students **should not be left at the school unattended prior to this time**. Pupils should proceed to the back of the school yard alone; parents should not accompany students into the yard. This procedure will help foster a sense of confidence and independence while permitting staff to quickly identify strangers.

### Lunch Routine

Students, who stay at school for lunch, eat in their classes for the first twenty minutes (11:35 -11:55). During the lunch hour, students are to remain on school property. Please advise the office or send a note any time your child's routine changes.

**Parents are urged to send their child with lunch rather than dropping it off. Those needing to do so are asked to place them on the lunch table in the foyer. Be sure to label lunches with your child's name and teacher's name!**



### Meetings with Teachers

Your child's teacher is the best person to help you when you have a concern about your child's progress. Please contact the teacher first to discuss any concerns.

When a parent wishes to arrange a meeting with the teacher, please contact the school to leave a message for the teacher. The teacher will contact you as soon as possible to make an appointment.



## Best Practices

### Open House

In celebration of a new school year  
and  
in appreciation of your  
dedication and commitment to  
your child's education,

You and your children are  
cordially invited  
to join us at our Open House

**On Thursday, September 12th,  
6:30—7:30 p.m.**



### Home and School Communication



### St. Edward Newsletter Online

The St. Edward Weekly Parent Memo will be emailed to parents each week with school information and upcoming events. We are also on Twitter! Please follow us @StEdwardCES for the latest tweets showcasing student learning, faith and engagement at SED. If you are not using Twitter, you are still able to access our school twitter feed through the St. Edward's school website [sed.ycdsb.ca](http://sed.ycdsb.ca)

### Pediculosis (Head Lice)

The York Catholic District School Board recognizes concerns related to pediculosis (head lice) at the school and community level. Pediculosis (head lice) are not a public hazard, as they do not cause illness, but they are a nuisance. To prevent pediculosis (head lice) from becoming a problem at our school we all need to work together. Please check your child's head on a regular basis for lice or nits. If you do find lice or nits, you must contact the office so that we can notify other parents in your child's class to keep a special watch for any signs of head lice.

A student's readmission to school is contingent upon the Parent/Guardian submitting a completed and signed "Pediculosis Treatment Form" communicating to the Principal that treatment for pediculosis (head lice) has been administered.

More information on the identification, treatment and prevention of pediculosis (head lice) from the Canadian Pediatric Society [https://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/head\\_lice](https://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/head_lice) and Toronto Public Health ([toronto.ca/health](http://toronto.ca/health)) is available on the school's website. A hard copy of the information posted on the school's website will be provided by the Principal if requested by the Parent/Guardian.

### Mark Your Calendar

#### Professional Activity Days for Staff

#### **No classes for students**

September 23, 2019

October 21, 2019

November 15, 2019

January 17, 2020

January 31, 2020

June 1, 2020

June 26, 2020

#### Mandatory Holidays

Thanksgiving, October 14th

Christmas Break Dec. 23rd-Jan. 3rd

Family Day, Feb. 17th

March Break, Mar. 16th-20th

Good Friday, April 10th

Easter Monday, April 13th

Victoria Day, May 18th

### Parent Handbook

Please visit our board website at [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca) to reference the board's Parent Handbook. It provides an excellent overview of the curriculum expectations for each subject and grade level, and highlights board policies as well.

## Best Practices (Cont'd)

### Agendas



Agendas are an excellent communication tool between home and school that also promotes effective organizational skills. Unfortunately, we have been notified by the manufacturer that there will be a delay in distributing student agendas this year. Agendas should arrive in the next few weeks. Teachers will be sharing their form of home/school communication in the interim.

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### Standardized Dress Code

Our students wear a Standardized Dress Code. Our colours are navy blue for bottoms and white or navy blue plain (without images or print) tops.

Also, please ensure that your child has a pair of shoes to wear indoors for class and for gym (non-marking). These shoes will be left at school.



### Lost Items and Valuables

No matter how vigilant we are, clothing and possessions do go missing. To avoid confusion, please take a moment to label your child's clothing. Valuables, which include costly toys, jewelry and all electronic devices (ie. ipods, head phones) **must not** be brought to school due to the potential for loss, damage, or theft. Any misplaced items will be left in the Lost & Found area.

### Cell Phones at School



We would like to remind parents that students will always be allowed to use the school office telephone in emergency situations. For security, and to discourage distractions, no cell phones are to be used by students while on school property. If parents feel the need to send a cell phone with their child, this phone must be turned off from the moment the student enters onto school property until they leave school property. In the event of a truly urgent situation, contact the office directly.

Please Note: The school is NOT responsible for any lost items.

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## Driveway Safety and Student Independence

We need your cooperation in using the driveway to ensure the safety of our children. Please continue to use the ONE WAY signs and enter our driveway ONLY from the south.



**Note that priority to the driveway is given to buses starting at 8:05 am to allow our bused students to be dropped off. To ensure students' safety, the same rule as on the road will apply in our driveway: No car shall pass a school bus in the driveway. At the end of the day, two full rows of buses will be lined up on the driveway, making it essentially impossible to drive through until all buses have left. Once all buses have cleared, the driveway will be open for traffic again. Please refrain from using the adjacent public school's parking lot, as they have experienced a growth in student population, and thus need their parking spaces.**

When dropping off your child, please simply direct your children to the proper play area, where a teacher will be on supervision. Parents picking up children at the end of the day are asked to meet them outside at the appropriate doors. Please do not enter the front doors during dismissal. This will help facilitate an orderly and safe dismissal. Please note that the side driveway is for staff parking only. We encourage you to take advantage of bus services if applicable.

We ask that all visitors to our driveways exercise patience and extreme caution. Our children's safety is worth the sometimes irritating wait!

## Best Practices (Cont'd)

### St. Edward Nut-Safe Plan and Scent-Safe School

We have students with potentially life threatening forms of allergic reactions called Anaphylaxis. If an allergic child comes in contact with even a small quantity of peanuts or other nut products, the child may develop hives, swelling and/or have difficulty breathing. Immediate action must be taken by administration of an Epi-Pen. If untreated or delayed, these symptoms may become more severe leading to a drop in blood pressure, loss of consciousness, and in some cases, death.

We wanted to share this information to make you aware of how severe this condition is and to heighten your awareness of its occurrence in our school. Parents are advised that as per YCDSB policy, no nuts may be included in any food brought into the building. They are requested to refrain from bringing in treats such as cakes, donuts, cookies, etc., for birthdays and/or other celebrations because of the risks associated with these products for students with severe allergies. Instead you may wish to send non-food items (i.e. loot bags, etc.).

As well, we have students and staff members that are extremely sensitive to perfumes, colognes, scented soaps, aftershaves and other scented products. Please ensure that your child or any visitors entering the school does not use any scented products.

**Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in ensuring that all children bring safe snacks to school!**

### Administration of Medication

School staff cannot administer medicines such as aspirin, cough medicine and eye drops. If your child requires prescription drugs, please check with your doctor about the possibility of prescribing medication that could be taken before school and/or after your child returns home. If your child is required, in the opinion of the child's physician, to take medication at school, it is the Board's policy that parents/guardians submit a completed Administration of Medication form (S-16) to the school with the medication. Do not send medication, even over-the-counter medication to school with your child without notifying the school and completing the form. Medication must be kept locked in the office, in its original container with your child's name clearly marked on it. (Policy 207)



### Protection of Students With Asthma

In accordance with the Act to Protect Pupils with Asthma (Ryan's Law : Ensuring Asthma Friendly Schools, 2015) the Board introduced policy # 206: Protection of Students with Asthma. The York Catholic District School Board recognizes that there are some students within the school system who have a diagnosis of asthma which could be life threatening. The York Catholic District School Board also recognizes that asthma management is a shared responsibility among students, parents, caregivers and the entire school community.

It is the responsibility of parent(s)/guardian(s) to advise the school immediately upon registration and/or when in receipt of a diagnosis of asthma. It is also the responsibility of parent(s)/guardian(s) to ensure that all medical information pertinent to their child's diagnosis of asthma is always current.

If your child has a diagnosis of asthma please contact the school office immediately so that the appropriate forms are completed and school records are up to date in accordance with Policy 206.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request and your ongoing support in the shared responsibility for asthma management in our school. Please refer to the Board's website for more information related to Policy 206.

## Integration of our Catholic Faith

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### Faith Activities

We value the strong partnership our school has with our parish, St. Patrick's. Please note the following information regarding sacramental preparations:



Registration for the sacraments should be done by families of students in grade 2 at the parish office.

Parents Only information meeting—Friday September 14th at 7:00 p.m. OR Saturday, September 15th at 9:30 a.m.

Confirmation Information Meetings for Grade 7 students— Friday September 28th at 7:00 p.m. OR Saturday September 29th at 9:30 a.m.

## Engaging our Communities

### Catholic School Council News

On behalf of all St. Edward CES parents, students and staff, I would like to thank each of the following members of the 2018—2019 Catholic School Council for their dedication and hard work throughout the year:

**Council Chair**-Jennifer Bahen

**Co-Chair**-Cathy Di Fonzo

**Treasurer**-Louella Silveira

**Secretary**-Laura Pino-Lopez

**Faith Representative**-Paul Giuliano

**School Representative**-Martha Baglieri

**Principal**-Chris Mills

**Parent Representatives**-Tommy Chan, Beverly Cruzat, Monique Fabregas, Nadia Muktar, Rene Pinto, Connie Schifitto, Sinead Sugrue

These volunteers deserve the gratitude of our community. Students have benefited directly through the activities organized, resources purchased and all the initiatives and projects this Council has undertaken.

Elections for the 2019-2020 Council will take place on **Thursday, September 19th, 2019 at 6:30p.m. in the library. The Nomination form is appended.**

### Volunteer Orientation Session

We are most grateful to our parent volunteers whose hard work enhances all aspects of our school community. There will be a Volunteer Orientation session on Thursday, September 19th at 6:30 p.m. in the school library all parents interested in volunteering.

### School Bus Transportation

School bus transportation is provided for eligible students who live within the school boundaries by the York Catholic District School Board. If you have any questions or concerns regarding busing, you can go to [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com).



*Be the best you can be!*

# Engaging our Communities

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## ST. EDWARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS 2019 “OUR CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE - GET INVOLVED”

School Councils are advisory bodies established in every Ontario school. In the York Catholic District School Board, School Councils will be known as “Catholic School Councils”.

### Benefits of being on the Catholic School Council:

You can meet new people, learn additional skills and find out more about the educational system. Your involvement can provide new insights, fresh ideas and a different perspective for the school. You can make a significant contribution to the school and your child’s education.

### Responsibilities of a Catholic Council Member:

- To focus on student learning and school improvement
- To represent and communicate the views of the school community
- To maintain a school-wide perspective on all issues
- To provide informed advice to the School Principal
- To contribute regularly at Council meetings - six to eight meetings a year

### Input of School Council may include:

- School code of conduct
- School budget priorities
- Faith dimension
- School policies
- Curriculum and program priorities
- School Improvement Plan

### Catholic School Council Membership:

Parents	max 12	(to be elected by parents)
Parish rep.	1	(may be appointed by Parish Priest)
Community rep.	1	(appointed by Council)
Non-Teaching staff	1	(elected by non-teaching staff)
Teacher	1	(elected by teachers)
Principal	1	(automatic member)

If you are interested in becoming a candidate for election, or if you would like to nominate a candidate, please complete the form below and forward it to the School Principal as soon as possible. Without the commitment of parents, our School Council cannot operate.

**Nominations will be accepted from  
Sept. 3-19th, 2019  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL  
ELECTIONS  
September 19, 2019  
Now is the time to let your voice be heard!**

### **Please return this slip with your child by September 19th.**

Catholic School Council Election: Thursday Sept. 19th, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m. in the library

Candidate’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

I am the Parent/Guardian of : \_\_\_\_\_ (Name and Grade)

I wish to declare my candidacy/nominate a candidate for an elected position as a parent representative on the Catholic School Council.

I understand the role and responsibilities of a member of the Catholic School Council.

Candidate’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Be the best you can be!*