



St. Gregory the Great Catholic Academy

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JANUARY 2020 EDITION

Dear Parents and Guardians -

Happy 2020 to all our SGG families! I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas break and that the season of our Savior's birth filled you with all the joy your hearts can hold. May 2020 bring you and yours much health and happiness.

In this new year, we are looking forward to building on the successes of the first half of the school year at St. Gregory the Great. We find ourselves in the final stretch of Term One and eager to begin some new projects on the horizon. Our library transformation is scheduled to begin shortly as is the completion of our chapel space. We look forward to sharing more information on these projects with you soon.

Our newsletters and Sunday messages continue to be an important vehicle for keeping you informed. Please take the time to read through them. If you have any questions or concerns, please connect with your child's teacher or the office. We're always happy to partner with you.

Yours in Catholic Education,
Mr. Vince Galea, Principal

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

Pastor
Msgr. John Borean

Associate Pastor
Fr. Antonello Murgia

School Superintendent
Opiyo Oloya

CSC Chair
Joseph Cosentino

Administrative Assistant
Lilli DiCarlo

Principal
Vince Galea

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the year that passed and the many blessings You have showered upon us. We ask your forgiveness for where we've fallen short and your guidance in making this new year a fruitful and blessed one. Thank you for every test of time that has brought us stronger in faith. Bestow upon us the gift of the Holy Spirit. We call upon our Lord Jesus Christ for His intercessions, His guidance and His light to shine our path. Amen.

To report student absences and lates, please dial:

1-855-856-7862 or visit go.schoolmessenger.ca
SGG School Day:

8:35 - Supervision Begins

8:50 - Morning Entry

10:20 - AM Recess

12:00-12:20 - Lunch

12:20-1:00 - Recess

2:20 - PM Recess

3:40 - End of Day

Mission Statement

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 Statement

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

Core Values



Strategic Commitments

Integration of Our Catholic Faith

Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

Effective Use of Our Resources

Engaging Our Communities

Catholic Communities of Faith



DECEMBER'S VIRTUE WAS HOPE:

We celebrated and recognized the virtue of hope in December. Congratulations to the following students for demonstrating hope at SGG through their words and actions.

Ms. Granchelli & Ms. Pecora:	<i>Gabriel D., Samantha L.</i>
Mr. Ricci:	<i>Aurora H., Mariann Rose G.</i>
Ms. Pasquariello:	<i>Aaron G., Angelica B.</i>
Ms. Mammone:	<i>Alesandro, Antonella</i>
Ms. Cipriani:	<i>Mya M., Giuliano D.</i>
Ms. Filippazzo:	<i>Dario B., Briyana L</i>
Ms. Mischiato:	<i>Chiara L., Liliana C.</i>
Ms. Ferazzutti:	<i>Gianna T., Viola R.</i>
Ms. Nunes:	<i>Isabella D., Amadeo S.</i>
Ms. Mastrangelo:	<i>Anna-Grace A., Adam D.</i>
Ms. Lapolla:	<i>Julia D.</i>
Ms. Scariot:	<i>Madison M., Makenzy D.</i>
Ms. Cook:	<i>Ava-Lauren C., Isabella K., Mikayla R.</i>
Ms. Loizides:	<i>Sofia G.</i>
Ms. Solimine	<i>Michael C.</i>

JANUARY'S VIRTUE IS UNITY: This month of January, we reflect on the following statements: *I will make everyone feel welcomed and appreciated. I will take some time to learn about the similarities and differences in my community. I will empower people*

JANUARY LITURGY: On Monday, January 13th, we will gather in the gymnasium for a liturgy of the word on the theme of 'unity'. The liturgy will be led by the staff. Parents are welcome to attend.

LUKE 4:18 & HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN: As you may have seen during the holidays, our school's Luke 4:18 committee artwork was featured at Entrance 4 of Vaughan Mills. Our students created two books of artwork showing how our school supports others in the community and spreads hope as part of the *Love Lock Project*. This month, we will be collecting for the Hospital For Sick Children. Beginning this first Friday with *Opposites Day* (students are to dress like a staff member and staff members will dress in uniform). We will also be having another themed day to be determined. On those days, we are asking our students to donate a loonie or a toonie towards this cause. More details are to follow. Thank you for your generosity!

SHARELIFE CIVVIES DAY: This month, our civvies day will take place on **Thursday, January 30th!** Mark your calendars! Remember to bring in a loonie or a toonie for ShareLife!

ROSARY APOSTOLATE: Our Rosary Apostolate visits SGG next on Thursday, January 23rd at 9:00 am.

SGG CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL: Our next Catholic School Council meeting will take place on Thursday, January 16th, at 7:00 pm in our school library. All are welcome to attend CSC meetings.



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

OCSTA VIDEO PROJECT:

Our Student Government recently submitted an entry to the Ontario Catholic School Trustee Association's annual video contest. This is SGG's first-ever submission and we couldn't be prouder of our students' efforts! The theme of the video is igniting hope, depicting how Catholic schools bring hope to life! SGG has certainly been active on the social justice front! More information is to follow once the competition officially opens! We'll need our community's votes! We wish our students the best of luck in this competition.

CONGRATULATIONS: On behalf of the SGG community, we extend congratulations to our Trustee Maria Marchese on her new position as Chair of the York Catholic District School Board. We thank Chair Marchese for her support of St. Gregory the Great.

Quality Learning for All



SGG CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL: Our next Catholic School Council meeting will take place on Thursday, January 16th, at 7:00 pm in our school library. All are welcome to attend CSC meetings.

A sincere thank you to our CSC for all the amazing work they do in our school.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN:

Registration for our September 2020 Kindergarten class is now open. St. Gregory the Great is eager to meet our newest little citizens! Please see the registration requirements below:

To register your child(ren) for the September 2020 school year, you must provide the following **original** documents/forms for each child:

- **A Baptismal certificate from a Roman Catholic Church or a Catholic Church in Communion with the Holy See of Rome** (child or parent)
- **Proof of Age** (i.e. child's birth certificate)
- **Proof of Legal Status in Canada**
- **Proof of Residency** (2 documents required: 1 of Property Tax Bill, Proof of Purchase, Lease/Rental Agreement **and** 1 of utility bill, phone bill, etc.)
- **Proof of English Separate School Support** (i.e. property tax bill that shows school support designation, MPAC Assessment Notice, confirmation of school support designation or, completed and signed school support form(s), which are included in the registration package). We wish to remind families that every time they move to a new residence, School Support form(s) must be completed.

We are pleased to offer Kindergarten registration online at: www.ycdsb.ca/admissions/. The Elementary Student Registration Package, as well as the School Support forms are also available on the same page (Admissions) of the Board's website. To determine your home school, please visit <http://locator.ycdsb.ca/>

We thank you in advance for complying with the Board's Admissions requirements.

Please share this information with any new families in the area! If you have any questions, please speak with Ms. DiCarlo in the main office.



GRAD PHOTOS: Please mark Tuesday, February 11th, 2020 on your calendars! Our Grade 8 grads will have their photos taken that day! Smile for the cameras!

JANUARY PA DAYS: A reminder that **January 17th and 31st** are PA Days. Staff will be working on those days, but the school will not be open for students. Please mark these dates on your calendars.

SOAR PROGRAM: We are pleased to share that the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region (LDAYR) will be visiting our intermediate students several times this month to provide additional teaching and support strategies for students with learning disabilities and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). They will also be supporting the efforts of our intermediate teachers, Core Resource teachers and Pathways teacher in preparing our grade 8s for transitioning to high school. Thank you to Ms. Grisonich and Ms. DiPede for organizing these sessions and to our Catholic School Council for funding this experience for our students. It will be a powerful learning experience for all!



FILM IN A DAY PROGRAM:

The *Film-in-a-Day* program will be visiting SGG in this month of January to work with our students in grades 5 and 6! This unique program that ties into the language arts and drama program expectations allows students to work with professionals in the film industry (writers, directors, camera crew) and with professional equipment. After storyboarding, writing, performing and filming with the professional crews and equipment, students will receive a link to a professionally edited short film that they have created! We look forward to this awesome experience for our students. Thank you to our staff for arranging for this fabulous and authentic experience for our students.

*God of harmony and unity,
You want us all to work together to build your kingdom.
May our ears hear your voice clearly, may our eyes see your beauty in all.
May our understanding break down walls of fear and prejudice.
May we make our school a place of friendship, a place of belonging,
a place of welcome.
Where everyone feels safe, where everyone has a place,
Where we all are united in You, dear God.*

Amen

Safe & Caring School Community

IMPORTANT - REPORTING ABSENCES: Completing our safe arrival program is among the most important safety procedures we complete at school on a daily basis. In order to complete this process quickly and efficiently, parents and guardians must communicate lates/absences via School Messenger in accordance with Policy 602 (SAFE ARRIVAL, SAFE DISMISSAL & ATTENDANCE – ELEMENTARY). If you have not called in your child's attendance by 8:45 am, the call out system will call you and you will be required to enter the absence and reason for the absence for your child(ren). Please familiarize yourself with the Safe Arrival system (information is on the first page of the newsletter). At this time, we would also like to remind families of the importance of full and regular attendance which has a direct impact on student success and well-being. Thank you for supporting both regular attendance and our school's attendance procedures.

EXPECTED BEHAVIOUR AT SGG:

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.

It is the expectation of the YCDSB and St. Gregory the Great Catholic Academy 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 disagreement
- ★ Respect and treat others fairly and respect the rights of others
- ★ Take appropriate measures to help those in need
- ★ Seek assistance from teachers to resolve conflict 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



END OF DAY DISMISSAL: All students exiting the building at dismissal must use the back doors, exiting onto the playground. Parents and guardians should make arrangements to pick up their children from the back. Only students riding the bus are permitted to use the front doors. Thank you for reviewing this expectation with your child as we continue to work to support a safe dismissal routine for all students.



WE ARE A UNIFORM SCHOOL: It is the expectation of staff and administration that students be dressed in the items that make up our school's uniform. Students who are not regularly in uniform will receive a notification to parents. As per Board Policy 219A, it is the responsibility of parents and students to abide by the school's dress code. Appropriate uniform items are posted on our school's website. We will continue to communicate visits from our uniform provider, DGN Kilters, to our community. Thank you for your support in ensuring our students are looking their best! Please see the back of the newsletter for DGN's January sales dates.

APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR COLD WEATHER: Please ensure students are appropriately dressed for the winter weather. Students are expected to be outside when the weather permits. Fresh air and exercise support a positive learning environment and good health. It is also a good idea for students to have snow pants for outside and an additional pair of pants and socks in their school bags. **Kindly note that St. Gregory's inclement weather temperature is set to -17** (between -15 and -17, students may be outside for a shorter recess period; at -18 students will remain indoors).



SLIPS & FALLS: Please exercise caution around the school. While the Board and school work to minimize icy patches or other hazardous conditions, please use great care when walking in and around the school. Although we plow, shovel, salt, sand and mop, winter weather in Canada comes with its challenges. Thank you for your cooperation in minimizing falls. Should you notice an unsafe condition, kindly let our office know so that we can attend to it.

RETAIL MOBILE
TUCK TRUCK

Conveniently Purchase Uniforms Just Steps Away From Your School

We will be at Father Bressani CHS on:

JANUARY 6 & 20, 2020

TIME : 11am - 4pm

Methods of Payment : Cash, Debit, VISA, MasterCard

or visit our retail location:

1500 Bonhill Rd. Mississauga, Ontario

Methods of Payment : Cash, Debit, VISA, MasterCard

Tues / Thurs : 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Wednesday / Friday : 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday : 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sun / Mon : **CLOSED**

Online Ordering:

www.dgn-kilters.com

Methods of Payment : VISA, MasterCard

Toll-Free Ordering:

1.800.437.5872

Methods of Payment : VISA, MasterCard





ST. GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC ACADEMY

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November 11, 2019

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s) of St. Gregory the Great Catholic Academy,

With the arrival of winter weather, the possibility exists that school buses may be cancelled due to the inclement weather. **Please note the following:**

- a decision to cancel school transportation service will be region-wide meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make alternate arrangements to transport their children to and from school if school bus service is cancelled.
- if transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will not operate in the afternoon.
- in the event that school transportation is cancelled, tests, quizzes, excursions, trips, school programs, co-curricular activities, evening presentations, workshops, as well as, parent meetings (i.e., IPRCs) will be cancelled and rescheduled. Hot lunches at SGG will also be cancelled. When hot lunches are cancelled, they will be made up on the following Tuesday unless otherwise specified. Please pack students lunches on inclement weather days if they will be coming to school.
- all evening permits and Continuing Education evening classes will be cancelled.

Please exercise discretion on whether to send your child to school when school transportation has been cancelled. If you have elected to keep your child at home, please remember to report their absence.

Inclement Weather Notifications will be posted to:

- School Website (sgg.ycdsb.ca) & Board Website (www.ycdsb.ca)
- Student Transportation Services of York Region Website (www.schoolbuscity.com)
- Twitter (www.twitter.com/ycdsb); SGG's Twitter handle: @StGregoryCA
- Designated Radio and Television Stations (see below):

AM 640	640AM	CJBC	860AM
CBC	99.1FM	CJCL	590AM
CFNY	102.1FM	CJEZ	97.3FM
CFRB	1010AM	CJKX	95.9FM
CHAY	93.1FM	CKDO	1580AM
CHFI	98.1FM	CKDX	88.5FM
CHIN	1540AM & 100.7FM	CKFM	99.9FM
CHRW	94.9FM	KISS	92.5FM
CHUM	1050AM & 104.5 FM	NEWS	680AM
CIQB	101.1FM	Q107	107.1FM
CIND	88.1 FM		
CITY TV	CTV TORONTO	GLOBAL NEWS	CP 24
CTV BARRIE			

Thank you for considering this information. If you have any questions, please contact us in the school office.

Yours in Partnership,

V. Galea,
Principal



Kindergarten Registration

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins January 6, 2020

Parents are encouraged to register online at: www.ycdsb.ca/admissions before bringing the following original documents to their local Catholic elementary school:

- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (child or parent) or a Catholic Church in Communion with the Holy See of Rome
- Proof of age
- Proof of legal status in Canada
- Proof of residency
- Proof of Separate School Support (i.e. MPAC Assessment Notice), or you can complete a school support form that is included in the registration package.

JK: Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2020 (born in 2016)

SK: Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2020 (born in 2015)

If your child is already attending a YCDSB school for JK registration is not required.

For information, contact the Admissions Department:



www.ycdsb.ca/admissions



@ycdsb



905-713-2711 or 416-221-5050

