

San Marco C.E.S. School Newsletter

February 2019
Safe Arrival Number:
1-855-856-7862



250 Coronation Street
Woodbridge, Ontario
L4L 6H3 (905) 850-2230
School Website: smo.ycdsb.ca
Follow us on Twitter
@SanMarcoCES

Principal's Message

Trustee:

Mr. D. Giuliani

Superintendent:

Mr. Opiyo Oloya

Pastor:

Fr. Michael
Corcione

Principal:

Ms. R. Gravina

Catholic School Council Chair

J. Merianos

Head Secretary:

Ms. A. Linardi

Office Support:

Ms. T. Gismondi

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In the month of February, we look forward to many activities being offered here at San Marco Catholic School including:

- Our Ash Wednesday liturgy which will be held on March 6th at 10:45 am
- Several fun-filled "Carnaval" events planned for our students including a bilingual performance of "*The Three Musketeers*" from Dufflebag Theatre!
- Black History Month learning activities
- Dairy Farmers of Ontario Presentation for our Primary students
- Pink Shirt Day on February 27th

In February, we focus on the Lenten Season and on the Virtue of Wisdom which is beautifully reflected in the *Prayer of Wisdom*.

Wishing you all a wonderful month!

Yours in Catholic Education,

R. Gravina,
Principal.

A Prayer of Wisdom

*Great is the wisdom of the Lord!
God Almighty, Your Wisdom includes an understanding
of what is fair, what is logical, what is true,
what is right and what is lasting.
It mirrors Your pure intellect!
I entreat You to grant me such Wisdom,
That my labours may reflect Your insight.
Your Wisdom expands in Your creations,
Displaying complexity and multiplicity.
Your Wisdom is an eternity ahead of man.
May Your Wisdom flourish forever!*



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 School Council



Our next council meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 20th, 2019 at 6:30pm**. All meeting dates are posted on our school website. *All are welcome!*

Civvies Day

Our next Civvies Day will be held on **Friday, March 1, 2019**. Students are invited to bring in a donation of a loonie or toonie to benefit ShareLife. **Please help support our Luke 4:18 initiative. Thank you!**



Holy Sacraments

Please continue watch for special notices with specific information regarding preparation for the sacraments at St. Peter's Church. Please remember to register your child at the church for the sacraments.



Please refer to St. Peter's Church Bulletin for special notices regarding Sacraments.

First Holy Communion: May 4 at 5pm (rehearsal with parents May 3 at 8pm at Church)
Grade 2 Reconciliation: March 7 (at San Marco)
Confirmation: May 9, 2019 at 7pm (rehearsal with sponsors at May 6 at 8pm at Church)

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation classes continue for all candidates and will be held at **Holy Cross Catholic Academy at 7 pm** on the following Tuesday evenings: **January 8, 15, 22, 29**
February 5, 12

ANAPHYLAXIS *****

A Life Threatening Allergy

Anaphylaxis

As we continue to take a proactive approach to make our school a safe environment for our students with life-threatening food allergies, please be reminded that the school is a Nut-Safe environment. It is a good practice to wash your hands thoroughly before and after each meal to avoid cross contamination, particularly after breakfast and before coming to school. We thank you for your continued effort in keeping our school a safe environment for all the students.



Catholic Virtues

This month's virtue is **WISDOM**. Wisdom is the ability to see things as they are, and the ability to respond to reality as it is. The wise person knows how to accept things in life that cannot be changed, and how to try to change those things that need improvement.



Rosary Club

Our Rosary Club continues to meet weekly on Thursdays at lunch recess. Announcements are made inviting and encouraging all students to our school Chapel to pray the Rosary.

Valentine's Day Safety



Valentine's Day is Thursday, Feb. 14th, 2019. With Valentine fast approaching, the risk of exposure to peanuts and tree nuts is significantly increased for students with severe allergies. We would like to remind parents that treats/candies or any food items are not allowed at school. If you wish to send Valentine Loot Bags into the school, please ensure they contain no food, candy, or drink, but perhaps note paper, pencils or erasers. We thank you in advance for adhering to this nut-free policy as well as our food sharing policy. Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping everyone safe.

Term 1 Report Cards

Term 1 Report Cards for students in Grade JK to 8 will be sent home on Tuesday, February 19th with your child. Interviews will be by request only. If you would like an interview, please contact your child's teacher.

Medication

If your child requires medication (prescribed by a physician), please notify the school and complete the necessary S16A form (available at the office). All medication must be sent to the office for safekeeping. Please note that medication cannot be administered by Administration without completing the necessary forms.

Reporting Student Absences/Safe Arrival

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school every day. In order to report your child(ren)'s absence or late, you are required to access our Safe Arrival Program. The Safe Arrival Program allows parents and guardians to report their child(ren)'s absence or late in advance, or bell time for the current day. The YCDSB has implemented an enhanced Safe Arrival Program through School messenger, which includes a new website and APP. The Safe Arrival Number remains the same (1-855-856-7862). Parents/Guardians can report lates/absences using any of the 3 methods below: Call the Toll Free **Safe Arrival Number: 1-855-856-7862**. Use the **Safe Arrival School Messenger Website: go.schoolmessenger.ca** or use your mobile device to download the **SchoolMessenger App** from the *Apple App Store* or the *Google Play Store*. P

San Marco SPORTS . . . Junior Girls and Junior Boys Volleyball Teams



This month our Junior Girls and Junior Boys Volleyball teams will participate in their much anticipated tournaments. Congratulations to all our participants and coaches and we wish you all the best in your tournaments. The Junior Boys tournament will be held on February 11, 2019 and the Junior Girls tournament will be held on February 13, 2019. **GO LIONS GO!!**

Intermediate Girls & Boys Basketball Teams

Our Intermediate Girls and Boys teams, led by their coaches, will be preparing shortly for their upcoming tournaments next month. The boys tournament will be held on March 27 and the girls tournament will take place on March 28th.

GOOD LUCK LIONS!



The
Season
of
Lent



Ash Wednesday Liturgy and Shrove Tuesday

Please join us for our **Ash Wednesday** Liturgy on Wednesday, March 6th at 10:45 am in the gym. All are welcome

We will celebrate **Shrove Tuesday** on March 5th, with a nut safe pancake treat for our students, hosted by our Catholic School Council. Information will be distributed home listing all ingredients. If you do not wish your child to participate in Pancake Tuesday, please contact your child's teacher directly. Thank you!

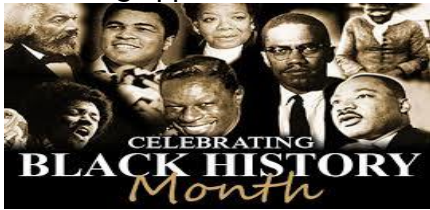
Lent is a time of year when Christian people begin their forty day journey toward Easter. During this time we reflect on our lives and repent for the ways in which we failed to fully live out the call of our Baptism. The word "lent" means springtime. It comes from the same root as "lengthen", since (at least in our northern hemisphere) the days begin to lengthen during the time in which we celebrate lent. In the natural world the long nights are giving way to longer days. The death of winter is turning toward the life of spring. In a similar way, Christians are turning from the darkness of sinful lives to the brightness of new life in Christ.

Shrove or Fat Tuesday: We begin preparing for our Lenten fast the day before Ash Wednesday. In many Christian cultures today, no meat (or meat products such as fat) is eaten for the whole forty days of Lent. Because of this, a custom developed to use up all the fat and meat before lent began. On the feast of Carnival ("Meat Goes"), we say good-bye to meat. We fry up pancakes to use up all our fat. (Shrove or Pancake Tuesday). And so, we begin our fast with a feast.

Ash Wednesday: The ashes we use on Ash Wednesday come from the burning of the branches of palms blessed the year before on Palm Sunday. Ashes have been a symbol of repentance from Old Testament times. They remind us of our own mortality and our limitedness as creatures. Ashes remind us of how much we are in need of God's grace and mercy.

Black History Month

The month of February is recognized throughout Canada as a time to celebrate the sacrifices and contributions of Black Canadians. Throughout February students will participate in a variety of discussions and grade-level lessons that focus on diversity and equality. Book displays will be set up in our library for students to explore and read and library lessons will focus on celebrating Black History Month. We look forward to these wonderful learning opportunities!



PINK SHIRT DAY - FEB. 27, 2019

On February 27, 2019 San Marco will be celebrating **Pink Shirt Day** which focuses on building a positive climate and learning environment of respect, safety and inclusivity.

WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO WEAR PINK ON FEB. 27!



SMO "ARTS ALIVE" CLUBS

We have started our **"ARTS ALIVE" Clubs** for our grades 4-8 students which include: Drama, Music, Dance and Visual Arts. Interested students will be working throughout the year on Arts pieces which will be showcased later on at an SMO Spring event.

SMO Primary Art Club

We will also be organizing a Visual Arts Club for our Primary students. Information and permission forms will be sent home shortly.



Multiplication Contest - Congratulations Grade 4s!

Congratulations to our Grade 4 students on winning the Family of Schools Multiplication Contest! Thank you to Father Giacomo and St. Peter's Catholic Church for putting our students to the test and organizing this event for us.

Carnaval Week!

Carnaval/Carnavale 2019 will take place the week of February 18th. There are many activities planned for this week. For your convenience, **all activities and theme days have been listed in the Calendar attached** to this newsletter.



These include: themed days, Candy Jar Guessing Game, Daily Tombola, Carnaval Effigy sales, a bilingual presentation of *"The Three Musketeers"* by Dufflebag Theatre Company, mask making, "Guess Who" Staff Pictures Game and of course, Bonhomme & Marco the Lion class visits and more!!

Earth Rangers visit to San Marco

We were all very excited to welcome Earth Rangers who visited San Marco on January 24th for a special presentation. The presentation was an interactive, multi-media experience that featured LIVE animal ambassadors and focused on the importance of protecting our environment and habitats. Thank you Earth Rangers!



HOT LUNCH- Wed & Thurs

Our Hot Lunch Program continues every Wednesday and Thursday. A reminder that the last day of Term 1 Hot Lunch program is FEBRUARY 7, 2019. **The new term 2 Hot Lunch Program begins Wednesday, February 13th and runs until April 25th.**

Many thanks to our dedicated Catholic School Council and parent volunteers, without whom, this program would not be possible. **THANK YOU!**



Hot Lunch and SNOW DAYS

If the school remains open on snow days, our providers will continue to deliver hot lunch when the buses are cancelled. However, In the event of a school closure we will re-schedule the lunch at a future date. **Any changes to hot lunch programs will be communicated through Twitter @SanMarcoCES and on our school website at smo.ycdsb.ca. Please check Twitter and our school webpage on snow days for up to date information on our hot lunch programs.**



San Marco Library

Happy February. This month our Black History Month and Valentine books will be available for sign out. We will begin our Forest of Reading Book Challenge with the Primary grades and this will extend into April when we will vote on our favourite book from the 10 titles. Our MakerSpace club continues this month as well. A lot of fun and exciting adventures await the students in our library so please come join us. Have a wonderful Valentine's Day and Family Day.



Happy Reading!

Ms. C. Boragina

Read! Learn! Grow! Inspire!

Weather Conditions

Students are asked to dress appropriately for the weather conditions of the day. This includes wearing snow pants, gloves, hats, boots, and scarves. They are also asked to change into their indoor shoes before entering the classroom. Please note, that in accordance with the YCDSB Policy 221 and in collaboration with the San Marco Catholic School Council, this year our Catholic School Council voted that in extreme weather temperatures of -15°C or colder, students will be directed to remain indoors for recesses. Please note that other winter factors such as high winds, icy conditions on the pavement and/or field, or wet snow will be taken into consideration.

It is also very important to please send extra socks and a change of clothes for wet weather. Also please ensure your children have INDOOR SHOES to wear inside their classroom for safety.



Recess Rules

We encourage all students to experience their recess outdoor breaks in an enjoyable and safe manner.

However, we would like to remind all students not to bring any hard playing balls in order to ensure the safety of all students.

Also we would like to remind all students to follow these very important rules in the school yard:

THE BIG 6



Drop Off Zone

Drivers are reminded to continue to be cautious of students who are crossing the sidewalk on either side of the loop and to obey the stop sign which is located at the end of the loop.

Please do not pass vehicles that are unloading students. **Treat it like a "drive thru".** Please move your vehicle as close as you can to the stop sign, rather than stopping in front of the doors when unloading your child even if there are no cars in front of you. Also please do not enter/exit the parking lot at the end of the day. Thank you all for your cooperation.

PA DAY - Friday, Feb. 1, 2019

Friday, February 1, 2019, will be a P.A. Day. There will be no classes for students.

Family Day - Mon. Feb. 18th

The school will be closed on Monday, February 18th for Family Day. School resumes on Tuesday, February 19th, 2019.

GRADE 8 GRAD PHOTOS

Our Grade 8 Graduation Photos will take place on **Tuesday, February 26, 2019.** More information will be sent home with students.

THE BIG 6

1. Show respect to every student and every adult.
2. Use words that compliment, help, and support people.
3. Settle differences peacefully, together.
4. Take care of the school, your belongings, and the belongings of others.
5. Always be where you are supposed to be.
6. Always try to perform better than you did yesterday.





Important Information

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				31 CIVVIES DAY for Share Life. Please donate a loonie or	1 PA DAY - No School	2 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition St. Clements @ 9:30 am
3	4 DANCE Club	5 Confirmation Class at Holy Cross at 7pm Jr/Int ART Club	6 Winter Walk to School Day MUSIC Club	7 Last day of Term 1 Hot Lunch Program DRAMA Club	8 Chess Club Dairy Farmers Presentation (Primary) Primary ART Club	9
10	11 JR Boys VB Tournament DANCE Club	12 Confirmation Class at Holy Cross at 7pm Jr/Int ART Club	13 JR Girls VB Tournament Hot Lunch term 2 Program starts today MUSIC Club	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> DRAMA Club	15 Chess Club Primary ART Club	16
17	18 Family Day - No School	19 Report Cards go home (new date) Jr/Int ART Club PAJAMA DAY CARNAVAL	20 CSC Meeting at 6:30 at the school SPORT JERSEY T- SHIRT DAY MUSIC Club	21 DRAMA Club TUQUE & SCARF DAY	22 Chess Club Primary ART Club WACKY HAIR & SUNGLASSES	23
24	25 DANCE Club	26 Grade 8 GRAD Photos Jr/Int ART Club	27 PINK SHIRT DAY — Please wear pink tops! MUSIC Club	28		

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CARNAVAL/CARNAVALE 2019

19 - 22
FÉVRIER



SAN MARCO CARNAVAL/CARNEVALE 2019



19-22
FEBBRAIO

lunedì/ lundi le 18
février/ febbraio

**HAPPY
FAMILY
DAY!!**

martedì/ mardi le 19 février/
febbraio

**Bonne Nuit mardi:
PAJAMA DAY**

Wear your comfy and cozy
pajamas to school!



**Donate at loonie or
toonie to ShareLife**

mercoledì/ mercoledì
le 20 février/ febbraio



**Sport Jersey/T-
Shirt Day**

Wear your favourite
sports jersey or T-
shirt

giovedì/ jeudi le 21
février/ febbraio

**TUQUE & SCARF
DAY!**

Wear your favourite
tuque and scarf just
like Bonhomme!



venerdì/ venerdì le 22
février/ febbraio



**Wacky Hair & Sunglasses
Day**

Have fun with your hair do &
creative glasses!

****French Theatre
Performance**

**10:45 am Dufflebag Theatre
Company**

"The Three Musketeers"

Week's Events

- ❖ **Themed Days:** Students will dress in their most unique and fun attire. A reminder that all dress must be school appropriate.
- ❖ **Daily TOMBOLA (Bingo) over PA:** Classrooms will be given a bingo card. Words will be announced over the P.A. each morning. The first two classes to complete their ENTIRE card will win a class prize.
- ❖ **Exposition d'Art:** In class Carnaval Arts and Crafts activities
- ❖ **Bonhomme and Marco the Lion class visits!** Bonhomme and Marco the Lion will be visiting the classrooms this week!
- ❖ **Candy Jar Guessing:** Grades 1 – 8: Guess how many candies are in the jar. \$0.25 per guess. Guesses will be sold during French class. The person with the closest guess wins the Jar! In case of a tie, there will be a draw.
- ❖ **Bonhomme Effigies sales:** JK to Gr. 8. Mini Bonhommes will be sold during French class for \$2.00. ***LIMITED QUANTITY AVAILABLE!!!****
- ❖ **Individual TOMBOLA at lunch recess in the library Gr. 1 to 8 - \$1.00/card (Maximum 1 card/student) Daily Prizes for Tombola Winners**
- ❖ **GUESS WHO GAME - Staff childhood pictures – students guess all the staff members – 1 winner per division (Grades 1-8)**
- ❖ **Class Carnaval / Carnevale SPIRIT points**





San Marco Catholic School



250 Coronation St., Woodbridge, Ontario; L4L 6H3

T. (905) 850-2230

F. (905) 850-2433

Dear Parents/Guardians:

**CALLING ALL SAN MARCO
ARTISTS IN GRADE 4 to 8**



Arts! Alive consists of four extra curricular clubs: Drama, Dance, Music and Visual Arts. Each of these clubs will run from February to early May, where students will have the opportunity to explore the various art forms, learn various artistic techniques and participate in the creative process.

The hard work of each of these four clubs will culminate in one spectacular "Arts Alive" showcase to be held Tuesday May 14th 2019 at 6:30pm. Mark your calendars now to save the date for this "cannot miss" performance.

Interested students are allowed to sign up for a maximum of 2 out of the 4 clubs, although they may participate in one club or no clubs if they so choose. We are asking students to carefully consider which clubs (if any) they are most interest in, and to then indicate on the form below which they would like to join.

Students are reminded that once they sign up, they are expected to attend all of club meetings. The work being done at each session will be an integral part in the process leading up to spring performance.

Kindly complete and sign the acknowledgement portion below and return it to your classroom teacher no later than January 31st, 2019. We are looking forward to an exciting few months as the ARTS become ALIVE at San Marco!

Yours in Catholic Education,

"ARTS! Alive" Committee

Student Name:	Parent Signature:
Teacher:	Date:
Arts! ALIVE Art Clubs (Students May Select up to 2 clubs)	
<input type="checkbox"/> DRAMA (Thursday 12:20-1:00)	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC (Wednesday 12:20-1:00)
<input type="checkbox"/> DANCE (Monday 12:20-1:00) ***Informed Consent to be Signed - Form to Follow***	<input type="checkbox"/> VISUAL ARTS (Tuesday 12:20-1:00)