

# St. Mary of the Angels CES Newsletter

School Website: [sms@ycdsb.ca](mailto:sms@ycdsb.ca) & Twitter: @SMSVaughan

## TRUSTEE

Maria Marchese  
(647) 960-3165

## SUPERINTENDENT

Maria Battista  
(905) 713 - 1221

## PRINCIPAL

Miranda Scenna

## VICE PRINCIPALS

Christian Zorzi

Anthony Modica

## Upcoming Events

- Dec. 6 Christmas Market
- Dec. 7 SMS Choir @ School Board
- Dec. 10-14 Christmas Spirit Week
- Dec. 13 Primary Sing-A-Long @ 1:00 p.m.
- Dec. 17 Advent Liturgy @ 1:00pm
- Dec. 20 FDK Christmas Concert @ 1:30 p.m.
- Dec. 21 Last Day Before Christmas Break
- Dec. 22-Jan. 6 Christmas Break
- Jan. 7 School Resumes

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

### SHARED VISION

<b>Mission Statement</b> To provide a quality Catholic education for all students, fostering their spiritual, intellectual, physical, and social growth, and preparing them for life in the 21st century.	<b>Core Values</b> Integrity, Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, Innovation, Collaboration, Communication, Leadership, Service, and Faith.
<b>Vision Statement</b> To be a leading Catholic school district, providing a high-quality education for all students, and being a model of Catholic education in the 21st century.	<b>Strategic Commitments</b> 1. Provide a high-quality Catholic education for all students. 2. Foster spiritual growth and faith development. 3. Promote intellectual growth and academic excellence. 4. Encourage physical growth and healthy living. 5. Develop social skills and responsible citizenship.



## Advent Prayer

Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin **Mary** placed her **life** at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful **hope** to hear the voice which announces His **glory** and open our minds to receive the **Spirit** who prepares us for His coming. We ask this through **Christ** our Lord. Amen.



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The first term of this school year has already come to an end and I have had many wonderful opportunities to interact with the students of St. Mary of the Angels. I do feel blessed! With each passing year, I become increasingly more aware of the many gifts that I have been given. Some may suggest that age will sometimes do that, but I prefer to refer to it as wisdom. Wisdom would involve not just the passage of time, but what we do with time and the lessons learned and lived along the way.

I feel blessed with the precious gifts of family, friends and faith. I have been blessed to be a part of a profession that has withstood the changes and ongoing challenges of time. The gift of family keeps me grounded, provides me with strength to overcome obstacles and embraces me with love. Friends are a source of renewed hope. They take part in our everyday experiences that make up such a huge part of our lives. Appreciating the gift of friendship and the importance they have in our lives, has certainly enriched mine. The gift of faith is something we give ourselves. With faith, we believe that anything is possible. God's love continues to be our guide and our strength.

The birth of baby Jesus, such a spectacular event, has great capacity to bring families and friends together. I have seen the face of God's love in people's kind words, acts of generosity, and in the sound of children's laughter.

My wish for you; warm blessings and treasured moments with your families. May God bless each of you with love, hope, joy and the spirit of Christmas.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. M. Scenna



## Anaphylaxis Allergies

There are several children in the school who are allergic to nuts, peanuts or seeds. These are life-threatening allergies. Please ensure that your child's lunch does not include any peanut or nut derivatives.

## Daily Schedule

Classes Begin	8:30 am
Morning Recess	10:00 am
Lunch	11:35 am
Classes Resume	12:35 pm
Afternoon Recess	1:55 pm
Dismissal	3:00 p.m.

## Did You Know?

St. Mary of the Angels has a Twitter feed! For the most up to the minute information on SMS follow @SMSVaughan

## Contact Us

St. Mary of the Angels CES  
351 Vellore Park Ave  
Vaughan, Ontario L4H0E4  
(289) 304 – 0719



## Reporting Student Progress

The Progress Reports went home on November 20th and parent teacher interviews were conducted on the 22nd and 23rd of November. Thanks to the parents for taking the time to meet with their child's teacher. Your input and support is greatly valued. I thank the teachers for their ongoing dedication in providing feedback that will continue to support student learning. Student success and student achievement is a joint venture. It is a journey that we have embarked on together.

Belief in oneself is one of the most important bricks in building any successful venture.  
*Lydia M. Child*

## Emergency Contact Information

Please make sure that we have your up to date emergency contact information as this is very important if we need to contact you throughout the day. Also, we encourage you to ensure your email addresses are up to date to receive all school correspondence.

## We Welcome Baby Jesus

On Monday, December 17th, we will be having our Advent Liturgy in our school gym at 1:00 p.m. Our Grade 6's will spiritually prepare us for the coming of Jesus.



## Spirit Club

In preparation for the upcoming holiday season, the Spirit Club will be running a Christmas Spirit Week from Monday, December 10th to Friday, December 14th. This will prove to be a very exciting week where students will have the opportunity to participate in many fun activities. Overview of themes attached.

The events include:

Monday: Pyjama Day –wear appropriate Pyjama bottoms to school

Tuesday: Winter Sports/Jersey Day - wear anything related to winter sports

Wednesday: Christmas Hat Day - wear your best festive hat

Thursday: Red and Green Day- Wear your snazziest Christmas colours

Friday: Christmas Civvies Day

**Let's all get into the Christmas spirit!**



## December—A Month to focus on Hope

- I will prepare for Christmas by waiting for hope, faith, joy & love.
  - I will look to the future with trust in God.



### Punctuality is a Life Skill

Punctuality is a life skill which is learned at an early age. Help your child acquire this skill by arriving at school daily between 8:15-8:25 a.m. In doing so, your child is able to relax, play and socialize with peers prior to entering the school with his/her classmates. As a reminder, all students who do not enter the school with their class lines should enter through the front doors and will be marked late. **There is still an overwhelming amount of students arriving late and you are encouraged to arrive before the morning bell.** Thank you for your co-operation. After the bell rings, all students should enter through the front doors only.

### Colder Weather

Winter is around the corner! With that in mind, please remember to dress children appropriately for the colder weather. Hats, gloves, scarfs and boots will keep your child (ren) warm during recess. It is also important to have an extra pair of clothes (socks, pants) for your children should they get wet. York Catholic School Board Extreme Weather Policy states:

- At the beginning of each school year, administrators, in collaboration with their Catholic School Councils, will determine the extreme cold weather temperature. This temperature with wind chill, shall be no warmer than -15 degrees Celsius and no colder than -20 degrees Celsius.
- The agreed upon extreme cold weather temperature is final and shall remain in effect for the entire school year.
- The extreme cold weather temperature shall be reviewed with the Catholic School Council annually.

**Administration, together with the 2018- 2019 Catholic School Council have determined that students will remain outdoors for recess when the weather is -16C or warmer. Students will remain indoors for all recesses if the weather is colder than -16C.**

In the event of inclement weather and bus cancellation the school will remain open, unless it is otherwise reported on the radio/television stations listed below. If buses are cancelled in the morning they will not run in the afternoon. Be sure to listen for updates about York Catholic District School Board. You can also visit [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) or call 1-877-330-3301 for bus cancellation information.

#### RADIO

590 AM, 640 AM, 680 AM, 860 AM, 1010 AM, 1050 AM, 1540 AM, 1580 AM, 88.5 FM, 89.9 FM, 93.1 FM, 95.9 FM, 97.3 FM, 98.1 FM, 99.1 FM, 99.9 FM, 101.1 FM, 102.1 FM, 104.5 FM, 100.7 FM, 107.1 FM.

#### TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CFTO TV CP24 GLOBAL NEWS



## Catholic Community Character Award Winners: Justice

<i>Teacher</i>	<i>Student of the Month</i>	<i>Teacher</i>	<i>Student of the Month</i>
<b>Ms. Sacco</b>	Livi P. Isabella R.	<b>Ms. Sardo</b>	Alessandro V. Layla D.
<b>Ms. Tatangelo</b>	Olivia V., William S. Marcus C.	<b>Ms. Sacco</b>	Julia D. Angela F.
<b>Ms. Kennedy</b>	Vienna S., Adrian A. Emily G.	<b>Ms. Barrila</b>	Valentina C. Adriano P.
<b>Ms. Romano</b>	Cara S. Liam V.	<b>Ms. Raponi</b>	Adamo A. Matteo M.
<b>Ms. Bartella</b>	Dominic H., Jaxon D. Sarah F.	<b>Mr. Zezza</b>	Catherine M. Luca L.
<b>Ms. Baldassarra</b>	Milania L., Francesco D. Toby B.	<b>Ms. Pellegrino</b>	Juan V. P. Matthew P.
<b>Ms. Noce &amp; Ms. Cristiano</b>	Lily Z. Cayden R.	<b>Ms. Cabral</b>	Dante C. Olivia G.
<b>Ms. Contatto</b>	Chiara B. Anthony P.	<b>Ms. Torchia</b>	Francesco V. Gianluca V.
<b>Ms. Cano</b>	Catherine F. Cristian S.	<b>Ms. D'Ercole</b>	Dylan T. Onyinyechi O.
<b>Ms. Gatti</b>	Mark E. Adriano G.	<b>Mr. Cavaliere</b>	Pedro B. Mikayla R.
<b>Ms. Simone</b>	Dante C. Isabella C.	<b>Ms. Monteleone</b>	Nikolas S., Daniel S. Luca B.
<b>Ms. Amato</b>	Sarah C. Anthony C.	<b>Mr. Spadafina</b>	Kiera D. Danniel H.
<b>Ms. Di Pietro</b>	Gabriel C. Massimo M.	<b>Ms. Mossa</b>	Rocco I. Emma M.
<b>Ms. Colasanti</b>	Dennis G. Nia G.	<b>Mr. Koci</b>	Christian O. Jason S.
<b>Ms. Colombo</b>	Jada M. Angelina M.	<b>Ms. Russo</b>	Chloe L., Siena D. Igor R.
<b>Ms. D'Ugo</b>	Isabella D. Matteo L.	<b>Mr. Asaro</b>	Christian M., Raphael G. Kayla T.
<b>Ms. Spadafina</b>	Daniel M. Nelysha V.	<b>Ms. Balsamo</b>	Andrew R., Jack D. Stefania P.
<b>Ms. Crupi</b>	Emma V. Mario A.		



Dear Parents/Guardians,

During this most holy season, we prepare for the coming of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Together we wish and pray for peace in our hearts, our homes, in our school, in our community, in our country and in our world.

#### Symbolism of the Advent Wreath

- ❖ The four Candles represent the 4000 years prior to Christ's coming and the four weeks of Advent.
- ❖ The unlighted Candles represent the dark ages before Christ's coming.
- ❖ The lighted Candles represent Christ, the light of the World. Each week we light one more candle and that represents the idea of the coming of Christ is closer.
- ❖ The circular form of the wreath symbolizes that God has no beginning and no end.
- ❖ The green of the boughs indicates hope-just as the green of spring indicates new life.

The word Advent means the coming of promise.

From all of us at St. Mary of the Angels, we would like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

May 2019 be filled with happiness, joy and prosperity.





**St Mary of the Angels'**



# *Christmas Spirit Week*

<b>Monday Dec 10/18</b>	<b>Tuesday Dec 11/18</b>	<b>Wednesday Dec 12/18</b>	<b>Thursday Dec 13/18</b>	<b>Friday Dec 14/18</b>
Pajama Day (appropriate pjs)	Jersey Day	Christmas Hat/Accessory Day	Christmas Sweater Day/ Green And Red Day	Civies Day



**Students are encouraged to bring a dollar a day. All proceeds will go to charity. (Mackenzie Health Centre)**





St Mary of the Angels' School  
Cordially invites you to our

**CHRISTMAS SING ALONG CONCERT**  
**"Jesus is the Reason"**

*Performed by*  
*Grades 1, 2 & 3 Students*

Thursday , December 13th, 2018  
Concert begins at 1:00 pm  
in the Gymnasium

**Guests are invited to bring donations of  
non-perishable food items to be donated to the  
Vaughan Food Bank.**



## Active School Travel

December 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

As the colder months approach us, our time spent outdoors is often limited. However, there are many benefits to being outdoors in the winter including: encouraging creative play; increasing physical exercise using different muscles groups; getting fresh air; improving problem-solving skills; and increasing exposure to vitamin D.

Just as we prepare for winter by bundling up or getting our flu shots, we prepare for Christmas by celebrating the Advent season. Advent is a time to reflect and prepare for the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Our York Catholic **Active School Travel Team** and **Religious Education Department** have teamed up this Advent to take our students on an **Active School Travel Challenge**. Using the Jesse Journey Tree, pictured on the right, students are encouraged to reflect on a different Jesse Journey Tree symbol and its related scripture passage each day as they journey to school between December 3 - 21.



### How it works:

- [Download our Active School Travel Challenge Package](https://www.ycdsb.ca/student-transportation/) containing Jesse Journey Tree symbols, scripture passages and prayers for each day of Advent. Please print off a copy for your child. The package is also posted on the Boards website under Student Transportation at: <https://www.ycdsb.ca/student-transportation/>.
- Each day, families/students read the passage and prayer and children colour and cut out their symbol at home (with the help of an adult as needed), and carry it with them as they walk/wheel to school or their bus stop while making the daily journey connections.
- When students arrive at school, or at an appropriate time during the school day, they should then add their symbol under the Jesse Journey Tree located in the school's front foyer. Over the course of the 15 school days during Advent, the tree will fill up.
- We will Tweet the symbols and connections each school day from [@ycdsb\\_AST](https://twitter.com/ycdsb_AST). Tweet us photos of your journey and tag [@ycdsb\\_AST](https://twitter.com/ycdsb_AST) so we can share your child's Advent journey.
- Following the daily symbols in the [Active School Travel Challenge Package](#) there is a picture of a Jesse Tree for your child to colour the corresponding symbol for each day they walk/wheel to school or the bus stop. Send a photo of your child's coloured tree to: [activeschooltravel@ycdsb.ca](mailto:activeschooltravel@ycdsb.ca) by January 7, 2019 to be entered in a prize draw! The winner will be chosen by random draw, no minimum days required for entry.

The Jesse Journey Tree is a way of celebrating our religious family tree while we promote healthy living, and a rich prayer life. We hope you will join us on this Advent journey!

Sincerely,

YCDSB Active School Travel Team and the Religious Education Department



# Jesse Journey Tree

## Active School Travel Challenge

