



Blessed Sacrament Newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*"Only those who have opened their hearts to Christ can offer a hospitality that is never formal or superficial but identified by gentleness and reverence,"
Blessed John Paul II.*

We are filled with anticipation for the upcoming school year. Vice- principal Rego and I look forward to welcoming new and returning families for another exciting school year at Blessed Sacrament!

As a Catholic school, we are committed to aligning our daily activities with our school board's 2024-27 Pastoral Plan, *'In God's Image: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope'*, which will be our guiding light. This plan guides us in enriching our learning, faith experiences, and ministry as well as strengthen the relationships between our families, parishes, staff, and students, united in our commitment to Catholic education.

The theme for the upcoming school year is *'Growing in Knowledge'*. Our school will follow this plan by helping students understand Jesus Christ's teachings, the Church's traditions, and the importance of living a life rooted in compassion, service, and integrity. We will nurture the mind, body, and spirit, using this knowledge to serve others and to help build a more just and loving society.

Our school is a Christ-centered learning environment that strives to shape educational paths to each learner's identity, passions, and strengths, fostering their lifelong learning and spiritual journey. We are committed to promoting an inclusive school community dedicated to equity, diversity, anti-racism, and anti-oppression. We aim to create an adaptable school environment that supports marginalized students and develops mentally healthy classrooms for students and staff centered on the growth of the whole person.

As we prepare to start the new school year, we want to recognize and thank our dedicated staff for their hard work. Our office staff, teachers, DECEs, and educational assistants have diligently prepared the classrooms, and we sincerely appreciate their efforts. A special thank you goes to our head caretaker, Mr. Gape, and the board's cleaning staff for their meticulous cleaning and organizing, especially given the ongoing work on the new heating system. Your commitment ensures our school is ready to welcome students back for a successful year ahead.

With Christ's teachings as our compass, we embark on a journey of learning, growth, and compassion.

R. Agostino, Principal



A LOOK AHEAD ...

- Sep 7: Ukrainian Heritage Day
- Sep 8: UN Literacy Day
- Sep 8: Grandparents' Day
- Sep 26: Casual Dress Day
- Sep 27: PA Day - No school for students
- Sep 30: National Day for Truth & Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day
- Oct 1: School Mass at Blessed Sacrament Parish: 9:45 AM
- Oct 1: CSPC AGM
- Oct 2: Curriculum Night
- Oct 11: PA Day - No school for students
- Oct 14: Thanksgiving - No school
- Oct 15: Thanksgiving Mass
- Oct 17: Walk-a-Thon
- Oct 21: Photo Day

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SIGN IN AT THE OFFICE

To ensure student safety, **all volunteers, parents and visitors** must report to the office upon entering the school. Please sign in / out at the office if you are picking up or dropping off items for your child. **Please avoid visiting the school or picking up your child during recesses and after 2:30pm.**

SCHOOL SCHEDULE: RECESS & LUNCH

8:30 am	School Day Begins
10:12 am – 10:27 am	Recess
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	Lunch Hour
1:40 pm – 1:55 pm	Recess
3:00 pm	School Dismissal

STUDENT SAFETY

At Blessed Sacrament Catholic School, the safety and well-being of all our students are always our top priority. We appreciate our parents' partnership and support in helping make our community a safe and welcoming environment. Some basic safety procedures will help reduce traffic congestion in school corridors, interruptions to classroom learning, and the possibility of unauthorized individuals gaining entry to our school.

- All parents and visitors to the school are to report to the office upon arrival.
- Students must be in the schoolyard by 8:30 am.
- Parents/guardians are not permitted to enter the schoolyard in the morning.
- Parents/guardians may enter the schoolyard at 3:00 pm dismissal to pick up their children.
- Please come to the office with your child if you are dropping off your child after the start of the school day. If you are picking up your child before dismissal, please report to the office.
- Walking through the parking lot to enter the schoolyard is dangerous and increases the risk of injury. Please always access the schoolyard at the entrances off Bedford Park Avenue.
- Only Blessed Sacrament students and staff are to be in the schoolyard during the school day so that staff supervising the playground can quickly identify unauthorized visitors.

SCHOOL MESSENGER APPLICATION: SAFE ARRIVAL

The Safe Arrival system is used to report a student's absence or to schedule a student's late arrival or early departure from school. **As per the TCDSB's protocol for signing out students, a parent must visit the school office prior to a student leaving the school.** Thank you for your cooperation and understanding, and kindly contact the school office if you have any questions. For more information on how to report your child's absence, visit the school website.

www.blessedsacramentcs.com/contact-us

EMERGENCY AND CRISIS RESPONSE PLAN

We will hold six fire drills and four Lock-down/Hold and Secure procedure drills during the school year. Teachers will review and practice the protocol for each drill. Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns. Visit the school board website for more details.

<https://www.tcdsb.org/page/emergency-and-crisis-response-plan>



SCHOOL DRESS CODE

The school dress code is solid white and navy blue. We encourage students to wear collared shirts during special events (school masses, assemblies, etc.). Please review the school dress code on the website:

www.blessedsacramentcs.com/dress-code

In addition, throughout the year, several spirit and dress-down days will be communicated to the community. The navy blue and white dress code is optional for students when they celebrate their birthday on the last Friday of every month.



Casual Fridays and Other optional Navy-Blue and White Days

- **September 26**
- **September 30** : Orange Shirt Day
National Day of Truth & Reconciliation
- **October 25**
- **October 31**: Halloween
- **November 28**
- **December 9 - 13** Christmas Spirit Week
- **January 31**
- **February 13**: Red and Pink Day for Valentine's Day
- **February 28**
- **March 28**
- **April 11**: Wear Green for ShareLife
- **April 25**
- **May 2 - May the 4th Be With You**
- **May 30**
- **June 23-27**: Spirit Week

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

We can only give prescription medication to students during the school day if we have both written and signed authorization from you, the parent, and the prescribing physician. Please keep the necessary medical forms up-to-date. Our staff cannot provide non-prescription medications to students .

ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL

Some students at Blessed Sacrament have severe and life-threatening food allergies (anaphylaxis) to nut products and other food items. Keeping the students safe is everyone's responsibility, and we kindly remind the community that student lunches and snacks are to be nut-free. For more information, please visit the school website to view the detailed Anaphylaxis policy .



www.blessedsacramentcs.com/resources

FOOD ALLERGIES—BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

Food Products that contain nuts, peanuts, peanut by-products, and peanut oil may not be brought into the school (they will not be distributed and will be returned home). Furthermore, please do not send in any food treats throughout the year on birthdays and/or for other celebrations. Alternatives to food items include a small toy item, pencil, stickers, crayons, a small loot bag (1 or 2 items) or party hats .





STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE



The Toronto Catholic District School Board does not cover accident insurance for student injuries on school premises or during school activities. Accidents can and do happen. Some damages incur medical, dental or other expenses not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans. As a parent or guardian, you become responsible for these expenses.

We make the Insuremykids® Protection Plan available for students through Reliable Life Insurance Company. Participation in such a program is voluntary, and the costs are to be paid by the parent or guardian. This program offers a variety of plans and benefits at affordable rates. Benefits included are:

- dental expenses (resulting from an accident) • total and permanent disability
- paralysis/loss of use
- Special disability benefits
- death benefits

If your child is not covered by your employer's plan for medical/dental accident benefits not paid by OHIP, Reliable Life offers a plan tailored to your needs. Plan rates vary from \$17.00 to \$33.00 per child. All rates are one-time annual premiums. Family rates for three or more children are also offered. If you wish to subscribe, you may apply 24/7 directly at www.insuremykids.com.

PLASP BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

For parents and caregivers using the PLASP before and after school daycare program, please review the following:

- If your child will not attend PLASP on a particular day, please advise PLASP directly by leaving a message at 905-890-1711, extension 7033. Please also notify your teacher in writing.
- Use the center parking lot doors when entering or exiting the school to pick up your child. There is a doorbell at this entrance, which is directly connected to PLASP rooms.
- Please note that students, parents, and caregivers cannot access their classrooms after school hours. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with the above, as this will ensure the safety and privacy of all our students and staff.

PLASP utilizes outdoor space as part of its program activities. Following the Play Space Supervision Policies mandated by PLASP Child Care Services, specific regulations must be followed:

1. **Prohibition on Playground Equipment Use by PLASP:** School-age and Kindergarten students are not permitted to use the School Board-provided playground equipment such as climbers, slides, and swings during PLASP programming.
2. **Restrictions on Interactions:** During outdoor play, PLASP children are not permitted to interact with children not registered with PLASP. This measure mitigates potential liabilities that may arise from unforeseen events or accidents.
3. **Minimum Outdoor Time:** The programming for children under PLASP care includes at least one hour each day, weather permitting, on the turf. **The turf area will not be available for general use between 4:00 and 5:00 pm.** However, you are welcome to utilize other spaces in the schoolyard and the turf area before and after this designated time.



BUS TRANSPORTATION



Transportation is provided for students who meet the following criteria:

- * Distance: JK- 8 more than 1.5KM from the school and within the catchment area
- * Special Needs: Home pick up for any student not attending their local school
- * Hazards/Board Approved Areas: Students that reside in specific geographical areas will be provided with neighborhood bus stops

Phased-in Start

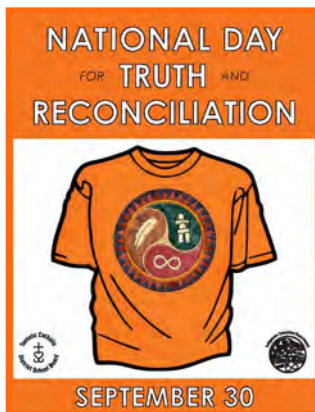
As the school year begins, the Toronto Students Transportation Group (TSTG) will once again implement a phased-in start for student transportation to provide a more consistent service for families and ensure that students with special education needs are prioritized to receive bus service beginning the first week of school.

- ⇒ Starting **September 3, 2024** student transportation services will be provided for the following students: Students with special education needs (excluding those in the gifted program) who travel to school on minibuses, minivans, taxis, and wheelchair-accessible vehicles.
- ⇒ Both the TDSB and TCDSB will be following this phased-in start. Should there be a significant impact on driver availability affecting the TSTG's ability to deliver safe and timely service, this may delay the onset of transportation for all other eligible students beyond **September 9, 2024**. Should this be required, families will be informed as soon as possible so that alternate transportation can be arranged.

Transportation Portal

All families with children using the transportation service must create an account on the transportation portal. This lets you confirm your child's transportation details, including bus stop location, school bus operator, contact information, and school bus route number. You can also subscribe to the late bus portal, which will send you an email about the bus.

- To access your child's transportation information, please visit the Transportation Portal, email transportation@torontoschoolbus.org or call 647-790-3829.
- General transportation information is located on the TSTG's website at www.torontoschoolbus.org; answers to many questions can be found on the FAQ page.
- Call Centre - 647-790-3829 General Inquiries - transportation@torontoschoolbus.org Safety Concerns - safety@torontoschoolbus.org Technology Issue with the Portal - support@torontoschoolbus.org .



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is observed on **September 30** and is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in the spring of 2013. It grew out of [Phyllis' story](#) of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually.

TCDSB National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Commemoration:
<https://youtu.be/EhuDmCUutik>



KISS 'N RIDE PROGRAM

**Starts
September
9th**

Our school is blessed to have a morning drop-off program that allows for the safe and convenient arrival of all students who are driven to school. It is run and staffed entirely by parent volunteers. There is ONE drop-off location for all students. It is located between the kindergarten yard and the school bus zone on the north side of Bedford Park Avenue.

Volunteers will be easily identifiable as they will be wearing yellow safety vests.

Kids should NOT be dropped off in the school bus zone, at the crosswalk or by the turf. Please do not park on the south side of Bedford Park Avenue.

For their safety and your peace of mind, students in JK and SK will be walked to the Kindergarten playground and delivered to a teacher. (They will be escorted directly to the JK/SK door in inclement weather). Children in Grade 1 will be accompanied to the main steps and directed to the west playground. All other students will enter the school area on their own.

Parents and caregivers are always asked to use your signal to indicate that you are queuing for the program. A volunteer will assist your child(ren) out of the vehicle on the street's curbside and escort them directly into the school as outlined above. Please DO NOT exit your vehicle. We ask that all backpacks and other belongings are already with your child, not in the trunk.



Drop-off begins at 8:15 am and ends at 8:30 am. Please do not arrive before 8:15 as there is no supervision. Students will need to enter the front door after 8:30 and report to the school office for an admit slip.

To keep this important service running, we need 3 volunteers each morning starting **Monday September 9**. Please sign up through SignUp Genius on the Blessed Sacrament school web-site: www.blessedsacramentcs.com and click "Volunteer to Help." If you have questions about the program, please get in touch with Deb Hutton, the parent volunteer coordinator for this program, at debhutton22@gmail.com or 416-662-4758.

CLASS PLACEMENTS

At Blessed Sacrament, our dedicated staff engages in the annual process of forming class groupings for the upcoming academic year. When determining the most suitable placement for each student, we take into account various factors, such as learning preferences, academic capabilities, proficiency in English as a Second Language (ESL), special educational needs, social and emotional considerations, behavioural requirements, equitable distribution of genders, as well as a student's prior class assignment.

Parents will receive an email with their child's classroom teacher's name and class list before the first day of school. We kindly ask for your understanding that the assigned classroom teacher will remain unchanged, and we will not accommodate specific requests. As we do each September, we may need to adjust class organization to meet Ministry classroom size requirements. We will promptly inform you if any changes affect your child's classroom.



2024–2025 Staff List

The following staffing model is tentative.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Principal: R. Agostino
 Vice Principal: R. Rego
 Secretary: N. Zaghloul
 Clerk Typist (W & TH): M. Liotino
 Library Office: H. Huang
 Head Custodian: J. Gape
 Night Custodian: D. Guangco

HOMEROOM CLASSES:

Kindergarten: M. Murphy, L. Andonov
 Kindergarten: A. Adam, C. Gameiro
 Grade 1: V. Grober
 Grade 1/2: C. Andreacchi
 Grade 2: M. Sinclair
 Grade 2: C. Coulter
 Grade 3: S. Wakeham for V. Mazzei
 Grade 3: S. Cunneen
 Grade 4: A. Zambri
 Grade 4: S. Fisher
 Grade 4/5: D. Bustamante
 Grade 6: M. Montealto
 Grade 7: C. Moro
 Grade 8: L. Marchione

EXTENDED FRENCH/RESOURCE

Grade 5 French (AM): A. Kudlik
 Grade 5 English (PM): A. Kowalik
 Grade 6 English (AM): A. Walker
 Grade 6 French (PM): S. Iannelli
 Grade 7 French (AM): S. Iannelli
 Grade 7 English (PM): C. Parvu
 Grade 8 English (AM): C. Parvu
 Grade 8 French (PM): A. Kudlik
 ESL (AM): A. Kowalik
 French Specialty: TBA
 Core French: T. Magnusi
 Core French (.50): M. Bichay

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION/MUSIC

Health and Physical Education (T-F): J. Qubti
 Health and Physical Education (M): C. Camp
 Vocal Music (T & W–AM): C. Keem
 Vocal Music (F, PM only): M. Raposo
 Instrumental Music (M, W, F): S. Artmowycz

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS:

C. Allain
 A. DiLauro
 M. Durante

MEDD

A. Simonton

CHILD YOUTH WORKER:

C. Freire

LIBRARY TECHNICIAN

H. Huang

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISORS:

M. Martel; P. Vera-Vassallo





THE MONTHLY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AWARD

The Monthly Catholic Community Award is a monthly award given to students who may be the "unsung heroes" of our community. They are the students whose daily efforts contribute to nurturing our Catholic school communities.

The Catholic Community Award is based on the monthly virtues.

CONNECTING THE VIRTUES OF THE MONTH
VIRTUES AT A GLANCE

MONTH & VIRTUE:
SEPTEMBER: HOSPITALITY
OCTOBER: GRATITUDE
NOVEMBER: PEACE
DECEMBER: CHARITY
JANUARY: COURAGE
FEBRUARY: LOVE
MARCH: FORGIVENESS
APRIL: JUSTICE
MAY: COMPASSION
JUNE: FAITHFULNESS

September Virtue: Hospitality

The Catholic Community Award Criteria for the Virtue of Hospitality

- ◆ students who welcome others
- ◆ students who focus on the positive, and believe the universe is a friendly place
- ◆ students who accept and celebrate diversity and pluralism
- ◆ students who are inclusive and accepting of

SCHOOL PHOTOS BY

Fall Photo Day: Monday, October 21, 2024
 Retake and Sibling Photo Day: Thursday, November 14, 2024
 Santa Photos: Tuesday, November 21, 2024



SCHOOL MASSES, EVENTS AND SACRAMENT DATES AT BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

We are happy to share the tentative dates for our upcoming Mass and Sacraments, which are genuinely transformative moments for our students. These occasions deepen their faith and strengthen the unique bond that defines our school community. School masses bring together students, parents, guardians, teachers, and staff in a shared experience of prayer and reflection, allowing us to unite in offering intentions and expressing gratitude for the many blessings we receive.

As divine gifts, the Sacraments guide us on our spiritual journey, marking significant milestones where we encounter God's grace and presence. Moments like First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion allow our students to grow closer to Christ and discover their vital role within the Church.

Please mark the following dates in your calendar:

- **October 1, 2024** at 9:45 AM: Opening School Mass– Virtue of Hospitality
- **October 15, 2024** at 1:00 PM: Thanksgiving Mass
- **November 12, 2024** at 9:45 AM - Virtue of Peace-Making
- **December 3, 2024** at 1:00 PM Advent Mass - Virtue of Charity
- **December 10, 2024** at 7:00 PM Children's Christmas Concert Primary (Grades 1-3)
- **January 21, 2025** at 9:45 AM Virtue of Courage
- **March 5, 2025** at 1:00 PM: Ash Wednesday Mass
- **March 19, 2025** at 9:00 AM Lenten Confessions (at school)
- **April 29, 2025** at 1:00 PM Virtue of Justice Mass
- **May 13, 2025** at 9:45 AM Virtue of Compassion Mass
- **June 10, 2025** at 1:00 PM: End of the School Year Mass
- **June 19, 2025** at 6:00 PM: Grade 8 Graduation Mass

Sacramental and Retreats Dates:

- **May 22, 2025** at 9:45 AM: First Reconciliation
- **May 25, 2025** at 2:30 PM: First Communion-Sunday
- **May 21, 2025** at 9:00 AM: Confirmation Retreat (Blessed Sacrament Church Hall)
- **May 29, 2025** at 7:00 PM: Confirmation Mass





TCDSB 2024-2025 School Year Calendar

The following chart lists school holidays, Professional Activity (PA) days, and other key dates for the 2024 - 2025 school calendar year of the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB).

Number of School Days	194
Number of Professional Activity Days	7
Labour Day	September 2, 2024
First Day of School for Students	September 3, 2024
PA Day: Provincial Education Priorities	September 27, 2024
PA Day: Provincial Education Priorities	October 11, 2024
Thanksgiving Day	October 14, 2024
PA Day: Parent-Teacher Conferences	November 15, 2024
PA Day: Provincial Education Priorities	November 29, 2024
Christmas Break	December 23, 2024 - January 3, 2025
PA Day: Parent-Teacher Conferences	February 14, 2025
PA Day: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting	January 17, 2025
Family Day	February 17, 2025
Mid-Winter Break	March 10-14, 2025
Good Friday	April 18, 2025
Easter Monday	April 21, 2025
PA Day: Provincial Education Priorities	April 19, 2025
Victoria Day	May 19, 2025
PA Day: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting	June 6, 2025
Last Day of School Year	June 27, 2025

CURRICULUM NIGHT-OCTOBER 2, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Wednesday, October 2, 2024, beginning at 6:30 PM. with a presentation by School Administration and CSPC in the gym. Three 15-minute classroom sessions will occur at 7:00 PM, 7:15 PM, and 7:30 PM.





DEVICE USE POLICY

The Ministry of Education has issued new direction to school boards affecting the use of electronic devices and access to social media at school. Please review our new Device Use policy: [Device Use | TCDSB Policy](#)

How Does This Impact My Child?

These changes ensure a focused learning environment by managing electronic device usage during school hours.

Further Information

The new [Device Use policy](#) outlines expectations for school community members regarding the use of any electronic device during the school day.

- Students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 must ensure their devices are switched off or set to a silent mode and stored out of view during the school day/ during instructional time (exceptions are outlined in the policy).
- If a student is using a device during the school day/instructional time, the educator will instruct the student to put the device out of sight. If the student fails to comply with the direction, the student will be sent to the principal's office.
- When principals are addressing a student who fails to comply with an educator's direction to place a device out of sight, the principal will exercise their discretion and consider a range of responses to address the student's behaviour in alignment with the board's [Progressive Discipline policy](#).
- Parents/Guardians are encouraged to discuss this policy with their children.
- Social media platforms are restricted on school networks and school devices.

Pizza lunch will be back in October!

We are happy to let you know that Pizza Lunch will be available for Blessed Sacrament students, commencing sometime in October - date to be confirmed. Pizza will be served every Monday (with the exception of holidays when it is served on Tuesday). Once again, we will be using Pizza Nova, with either cheese or pepperoni slices offered.



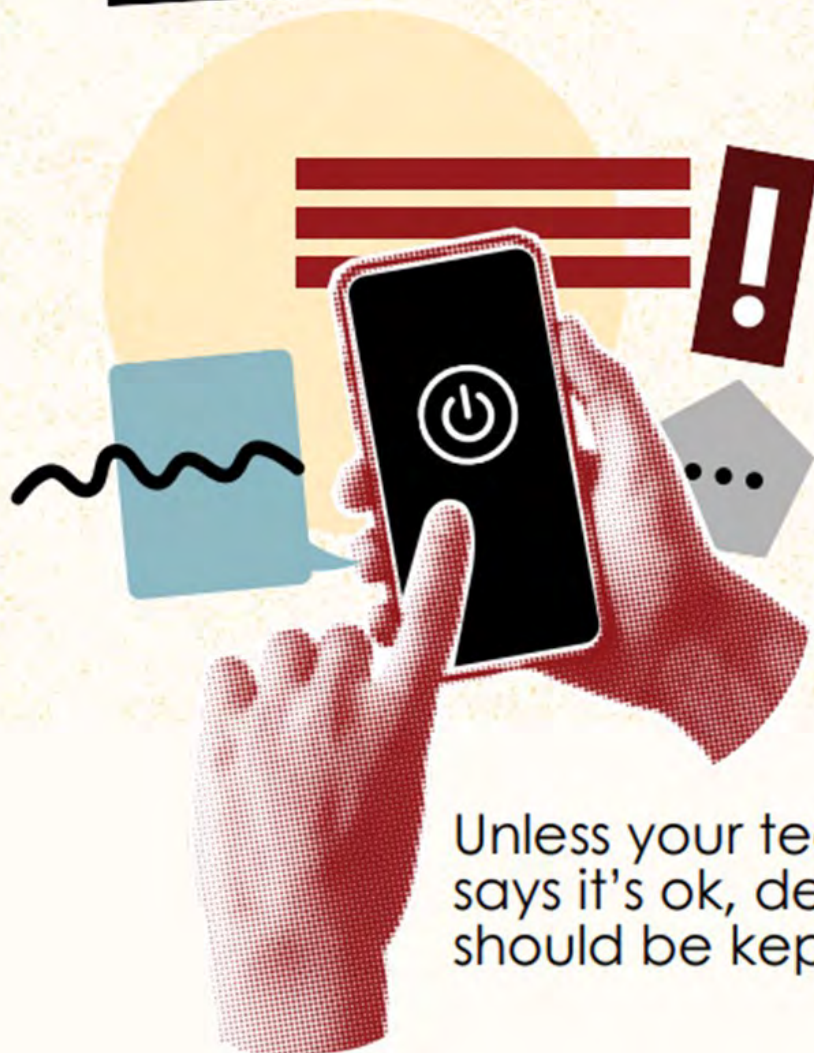
How do I order and pay? Parents will be asked to pay a one-time fee for pizza lunch for the entire year. Ordering will be available through school cash online in the coming weeks. Stay tuned!

Can I volunteer to help? Yes! Parents will have an opportunity to volunteer to distribute pizza in class rooms. Volunteers will be needed every week for all grades - ELP-Gr. 8. Volunteer spots will be available on Signup Genius in a few weeks.

More information will be available in the coming weeks. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to email bscspizzalunch@gmail.com.



POWER OFF SCHOOL'S ON



Unless your teacher says it's ok, devices should be kept away!

Devices include any electronics you can use to talk to people or go on the internet, like a cellphone, tablet (Chromebook or iPad), laptop, or smartwatch.

To learn more about the Device Use policy, visit www.tcdsb.org/policies-and-procedures





A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL (CSPC)

Welcome Blessed Sacrament families to the 2024/2025 school year! We hope you enjoyed your summer and are ready for a fresh start to the school year. A special welcome to the new families who have joined our school this year. We hope you are feeling welcomed and excited to be part of such a wonderful community. We also extend a warm welcome to our new part-time Vice Principal, Ms. Rego.

The purpose of the Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC) is, through the active participation of parents, to improve student achievement and enhance the accountability of the education system to parents. All parents are invited to attend monthly CSPC meetings, either virtually or in person. These meetings are a forum for parents to receive important school updates, share their views, and play an active role in their child's education.

2023-2024 CSPC IMPACT REPORT

Your Parent Council is pleased to share the CSPC 2023-24 Impact Report, which summarizes total funds raised, key investments in the school, total funds given back to those in need, and volunteer opportunities created to facilitate parent involvement.

Through fantastic fundraising events like Walkathon, the Spring Social and Fun Fair, we were able to raise more than \$70,000 this year. The generosity and support of the parent community is what made this possible. Thank you!

One of CSPC's key responsibilities is to ensure these funds are invested in a broad range of resources and initiatives, for the benefit of all students at





... 2023-24 CSPC IMPACT REPORT CONTINUED

Blessed Sacrament. Last year, we continued to invest heavily in classroom technology. We bolstered the school's commitment to STEM by investing in math resources and Scientists in the School. We funded classroom art and dance programs, and purchased new instruments for the instrumental music program. We covered the cost of the Haudenosaunee Games and Introduction to Lacrosse, a unique and inter active indigenous cultural experience for students in grades 4-8. We funded busing for multiple athletic events, purchased new sports equipment for the Phys Ed program, and new outdoor sports equipment for primary students to use during recess. We invested in mental health and well-being initiatives such as student and parent presentations from internet safety expert Paul Davis. We provided a bursary program for BSCS families who may need assistance with school-related expenses. And we supported many fun events for students and parents alike such as the Halloween dance, Carnival, and the Curriculum Night parent social.

We are fortunate enough to be able to support other communities in need. Last year, we raised \$4,000 in grocery gift cards for needy schools in the GTA, and donated more than 3,000 pounds of food items, 12 bags of uniform items, and 300 winter warmth items. Together with school-led initiatives like Twoonies for Terry, ShareLife and the Angel Foundation for Learning, Blessed Sacrament gave back nearly \$15,000. The generosity of this parent community never ceases to amaze!

Finally, we always strive to create great opportunities for parents to get involved in school activities. Thank you



BSCS Community Impact THE CHAMPIONS GIVE BACK IN 2023-2024



Christmas Mitten Tree
110 Pairs Mittens/Gloves,
32 Pairs of Socks, 94 Hats
donated & distributed



Christmas Gift Card Drive
\$4070 to St. Francis de
Sales & St. Jane Frances



**Pass It On Uniform
Drive**
12 Bags donated to
St. Francis de Sales



Christmas Food Drive
3,000 pounds =
5 car loads delivered

School & Student Led
Twoonie for Terry
Share Life
Angel Foundation
Gingerbread Houses
Valentines Day Cookies
& More!

**\$10,726 RAISED
SCHOOL &
STUDENT
INITIATIVES**

to the more than 145 parent volunteers who gave their time and energy to Kiss n' Ride, pizza lunch, Project Library, Walkathon, Fun Fair, the Spring Social and so many other important initiatives!
Your involvement is an important part of what makes this school community so special



BSCS OUTDOOR IMPROVEMENTS

We're delighted to share that CSPC's application for a TCDSB playground revitalization grant was successful!

We have received \$25,000 from the Board to help fund the re-building of the upper playground for grades 1 and 2. CSPC has been setting aside playground replacement funds for a number of years, and this grant from the Board brings us one step closer to making this project a reality. Stay tuned for more on this in the coming months!

School Facility Renewal Project

Part of our \$16 billion plan to build and renew schools

Building Ontario



QUINN CAMMAERT MEMORIAL

As many of you know, our school community lost grade 8 graduate Quinn Cammaert when she was tragically killed in a 2021 boating accident.

To honour Quinn's memory, CSPC has been working closely with the Cammaert family to create a beautiful tribute to Quinn here at the school. Building on the ladybug garden created by Kindergarten students a few years ago, we will be installing a permanent structure in the garden adjacent to the front entrance of the school. We hope this structure will remind everyone of how special Quinn was and the positive impact she had on the school.





YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE AN IMPACT

In June, several CSPC members stepped down. Some members had served on parent council for many years, and it was time to create opportunities for others to contribute their ideas, their energy, and their leadership. It's also important that parents of kids in younger grades have the opportunity to join CSPC, as their perspective is unique and important, and they can contribute over the long term. There will be up to 5 spots available for the 2024-2025 year. If you've ever thought about joining CSPC, this year is a great time to get on board and make an impact!

On Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 6:45pm, Blessed Sacrament will hold its Annual General Meeting, at which time elections will take place for the CSPC. The first monthly CSPC meeting of the school year will follow immediately after the AGM. All parents/guardians of students currently enrolled in the school are invited to attend the AGM, and can vote in the election and/or run as a CSPC parent representative.



Joining parent council is easy. You can nominate yourself, or someone else can nominate you. Either way, all you need to do is complete a half-page nomination [form](#). No prior experience necessary! Please submit your nomination form by Thursday, September 26, 2024 to blessedsacramentcspc@gmail.com. In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like to chat about what being on parent council is all about, please feel free to reach out to any CSPC member personally or email us at blessedsacramentcspc@gmail.com.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

There are a variety of ways you can engage with the Blessed Sacrament CSPC. You can reach us anytime with questions, comments or concerns at blessedsacramentcspc@gmail.com. We send out weekly emails called "The Buzz" that keep you up to date on all the latest school news. We manage the school website (blessedsacramentcs.com), which has a wealth of information on all things Blessed Sacrament. We put together the monthly newsletters, which highlight important dates and events. We also established the private [Blessed Sacrament Facebook Group](#) as an additional forum for up-to-the-minute news and events. And we encourage everyone to attend monthly CSPC meetings to get important school updates, voice your opinions and be involved in discussions that impact the school.

Wishing everyone a fun and productive year!





3180 YONGE STREET CONDO DEVELOPMENT

As many are aware, an 11-storey condo development has been approved at 3180 Yonge Street, adjacent to the school. Over many months, CSPC has been working closely with the TCDSB, City Planning Department, Councillor Mike Colle's office and the developer to voice our concerns about the impact the development will have on the health, safety and wellbeing of BSCS students and staff during demolition and construction. We've made progress in having those concerns addressed.

Although the project had been significantly delayed, the developer, Montcrest Asset Management, was granted a demolition permit by the City on July 9. Demolition began on August 23. Although the developer had assured us they would do everything possible to complete demolition before the first day of school, the demolition process is ongoing.

We have requested the developer undertake certain safety measures throughout demolition to ensure Blessed Sacrament students and staff remain safe and that learning is not disrupted. These include:

- No truck traffic along Bedford Park Avenue
- No truck traffic at all between 7:45-9:00am and 2:30-3:30pm
- Adequate traffic control and pedestrian assistance from 7:45-9:00am and 2:30-3:30pm
- No activities involving excessive noise to take place during school hours
- Direct line of communication between Mr. Agostino and the site supervisor to ensure continuous communication and issue resolution

Should you have any concerns regarding activity on site, please reach out to [Mr. Agostino](#).

Following demolition, the remaining hole will be filled with gravel, scaffolding will be removed, and hoarding will remain to keep the site contained. Although the developer has not determined a specific construction timeline at this point, they expect construction will not begin until the spring of 2026.

On August 29, the North York Committee of Adjustment held a hearing to determine whether to grant the developer's request to add an additional 4 storeys to the already-approved 11-storeys. Thanks in part to dozens of letters of opposition and 10 people who spoke at the hearing in opposition (including CSPC Chair Danielle Riposati, Trustee Maria Rizzo and the TCDSB), the developer's application was refused.

We will continue to keep the parent community informed as new information becomes available.



25th Anniversary

BSCS Annual

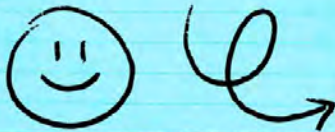
WALKATHON

Run for fun-draiser

October 17, 2024

01

A Note from the Walkathon Team



Hello Parents and Teachers!

The Walkathon Team is excited to kick-off the 25th Annual Walkathon happening on Thursday, October 17th. Mark this important date in your calendars! There are lots of PRIZES to be won and FUN to be had.

More information to come!

- Information letter sent home to parents
- Weekly communications through the BUZZ Newsletter and BSCS Facebook group postings

02



Look Out For

03

Stay In Touch

Evelyne Di Donato

Daniela Saldias-Rocha



BSCSWalkathon@gmail.com

Looking Ahead

We are in need of parent volunteers to collect prizes!

Please join the team as early as possible!





VOLUNTEER



Blessed Sacrament benefits from volunteers generously providing their time and energy. A variety of programs and events can only occur given the contributions of all the many volunteers. Last year we had **over 145 individuals who volunteered** in a dozen or so events!

At this stage – the full extent of programming is still to be determined – stay tuned to weekly updates, monthly newsletters, the BSCS website as well as the CPSC meetings for updates on volunteer activities!

Check out the Volunteer link on the BSCS home page for opportunities and information

For questions or to signal your willingness to participate email:

Nadina Jamison Vanden Hoven, Outgoing BSCS Volunteer Coordinator (nadina.jamison@utoronto.ca)

Heather Lannigan, Incoming BSCS Volunteer Coordinator (heatherlannigan@hotmail.com) .

Current Opportunities: available immediately

Class Parents: Serve as the liaison between the teacher and the parents. For roles & responsibilities, see: www.blessedsacramentcs.com/class-parents. A call out for volunteers will be sent to each class. Note class parents are secured following class list finalization – likely early October. Active throughout the year. Sign-up at [class parent](#).

Kiss 'N Ride: The morning drop-off program that keeps our kids safe. Volunteers are need from 8:10 – 8:30 AM. Work with Chair – Deb Hutton – to organize the program as well as take shifts. Must be able to be onsite 2-3 days / week. Contact Deb for more info debhutton22@gmail.com or 416-662-4758. Sign-up for a shift or two at [Kiss N Ride](#).

CSPC Catholic School Parent Council: information can be found at: www.blessedsacramentcs.com/cspc. Nominations are held each fall and new executive council is elected at the AGM. **October 1, 2024**. More info [here](#).

Walkathon: This year is the 25th anniversary of the annual BSCS Walkathon, our school's largest fundraiser, will be held on Thursday, October 17. Volunteers are needed, starting the first week of September, to assist the committee with collecting prizes. Volunteers will also be needed the morning of October 17 to help run the event. Please contact co-chairs Evelyne Di Donato & Daniela Saldias-Rocha at bscswalkathon@gmail.com.

Communications

Support: Provides important support for the sharing of information to the BSCS community. Leadership needed for the monthly newsletter. Active throughout the year. Sign-up at [comms support](#).

thank you in advance for your participation!



SCHOOLCASH ONLINE

SchoolCash Online is a convenient and safe way for parents and guardians to pay for school materials and activities, including class trips, pizza lunches, agendas, year-books, and more.

Any parent and guardian with a child currently enrolled in a Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) school can create an account on SchoolCash Online and pay for school materials and activities offered by the school.

To register, go to <https://tcdsb.schoolcashionline.com> and follow the instructions.

Once you have registered, you can then add your child to your account and receive emails and updates on available materials and activities.



SchoolCashOnline

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2022 - 2024



Ward

1.	Joseph Martino, Chair	416-512-3401
2.	Markus de Domenico	416-512-3402
3.	Ida Li Preti	416-512-3403
4.	Teresa Lubinski	416-512-3404
5.	Maria Rizzo	416-512-3405
6.	Frank D'Amico, Vice-Chair	416-512-3406
7.	Michael Del Grande	416-512-3407
8.	Garry Tanuan	416-512-3408
9.	Kevin Morrison	416-512-3409
10.	Daniel Di Giorgio	416-512-3410
11.	Angela Kennedy, Chair	416-512-3411
12.	Nancy Crawford	416-512-3412

Student Trustees :

Stephanie De Castro	416-512-3417
David Beshai,	416-512-3413

CONTACT & INFORMATION

Blessed Sacrament School:

Office phone: 416-393-5225
Principal: Mr. Riccardo Agostino
Vice Principal: Mr. R Rego
Executive Superintendent: Shawna Campbell
Trustee: Maria Rizzo (Ward 5)

Website: www.blessedsacramentcs.com

Blessed Sacrament Parish:

Office phone: 416-481-2256
Father Larry Marcille
Address: 24 Cheritan Avenue

Website: www.blessedsacramenttoronto.ca



Please send submissions for the **October 2024** Newsletter to bscs.newsletter@gmail.com by **September 23, 2024**