



Blessed Sacrament Newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As eloquently described by St. Paul, love embodies patience, kindness, and humility. It does not harbour envy or rudeness; it is not insistent, irritable, or resentful. True love finds no joy in wrongdoing but rejoices in truth. These principles guide our reflections in February, a time dedicated to African Canadian Heritage. This month, we aim to deepen our understanding of African heritage and culture, acknowledging and celebrating African Canadians' significant contributions and accomplishments.

Aligned with the virtue of love, our focus encourages students to recognize that God's command to love one another parallels His love for us. Our actions should reflect this divine love, serving as a testament to our commitment as followers of Christ. Through our way of life, others should come to know our dedication to these principles.

We invite you to join us for our Ash Wednesday mass on February 14th at 1 pm at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, led by Ms. Zambri's and Ms. Fisher's classes. This gathering provides an opportunity for communal reflection and spiritual connection.

As we plan for the upcoming school year, we kindly request that you notify the school if your child is expected to transfer to another school in September 2024. Accurate enrolment information is crucial for effective staffing and classroom organization.

We deeply appreciate your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education. Your collaboration contributes to the nurturing and growth of our school community.

R. Agostino
Principal

R. Balik
Vice-Principal



A LOOK AHEAD ...

- Feb 1 African Canadian Heritage Month
- Feb 1 Junior Boys Basketball Tournament
- Feb 2 iLITE Conference at the CEC (Grade 7&8 student leaders)
- Feb 5-9 BSCS Carnaval Week
- Feb 12 Report Cards go Home
- Feb 13 Shrove Tuesday: Pancake Fundraiser for Angel Foundation
- Feb 13&15 Parent Teacher Conferences
- Feb 14 Ash Wednesday Mass, at 1pm
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day (Red, Pink and White Day)
- Feb 15 Childhood Cancer Awareness Day
- Feb 15 Intermediate Boys Basketball tournament at St. Michaels' College School
- Feb 16 PA Day
- Feb 19 Family Day
- Feb 20 Pizza Lunch on a Tuesday due to Family Day
- Feb 20 CSPC Meeting
- Feb 23 Dress Down Day
- Feb 26 Paul Davis Presentation- Social Network Safety for parents at 6:30 pm

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

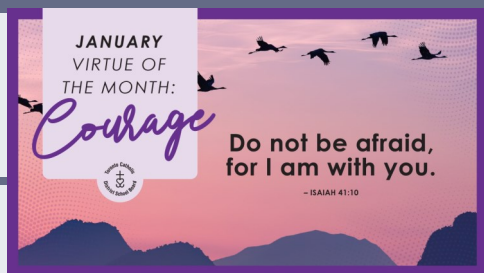
- Virtue of the Month Award Recipients 2
- Message from CSPC 3
- Spring Social 4
- Parent Teacher Conferences 6
- Carnaval Week 7
- Volunteer Opportunities 8






Courage

January Virtue Award Recipients



ELP Gisele D. Zayn L. Adriano D. Declan U.	Grade 1 Lila L. Valentina B. Nicholas P. Ember T.	Grade 1/2 Ethan A. Cayson C.
Grade 2 Maya M. Rhys S.	Grade 3 Massimo V. Charlotte L. Matias R. Lucia P.	Grade 3/4 Stefan B. Carter L. Brendan O.
Grade 4 Neriah S. Chloe M.	Grade 4/5 Pietro C. Rane E. Logan L. Grant F. Abigail T.	Grade 5 Ava S. Stefan P. Elisa P.
Grade 6 Marcus L. Sebastian L. Xavier D.		
Grade 7 Francesco C. Xavier S. Elle K. Victoria D. Kaitlyn O. Erica W.		
Grade 8 Zara V. Declan O. Nicolas P. Lauren D. Deimante G.		

The virtue award recipients will be acknowledged at the next monthly school mass.

DECEMBER VIRTUE OF THE MONTH RECIPIENTS



FEBRUARY VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: LOVE

Criteria for the Virtue of Love Award

- Students who offer support to peers in need
- Students who work in communion with others
- Students who demonstrate empathy toward others
- Students who show respect and recognize the contribution of others
- Students who give of themselves without the expectation of receiving anything in return
- Students who put themselves in "another person's shoes" and care about this person's feelings.



CSPC WELCOMES PAUL DAVIS

On Monday, February 26, we will welcome Paul Davis to the school. Paul Davis is a renowned internet and social media safety expert. He has presented to nearly 1 million students and parents across Canada and the US on topics such as online security, digital trails, social media safety, and more. He has presented at dozens of conferences and appeared in countless media interviews.

His presentations are targeted so that audience members leave with a wealth of knowledge and empowerment for their respective age level. We hosted him in 2021. We're delighted to have him back again this year in response to requests from the parent community. He will be providing two student sessions during the day: a session for grades 4 to 6 as well as a session for grades 7 and 8. Both sessions will include time for Q&A.



He will also be providing a parent session at 6:30pm that evening. We'll be sending out a Google form for RSVPs for the parent session. For more details on Paul Davis, please visit his website: socialnetworkingsafety.net.

Thank you to parents for reaching out to us about this. Input like this from the parent community helps CSPC prioritize investments in ways that meet the community's needs.

Social Network Safety **Parent Presentation at 6:30 PM**

DID YOU KNOW?

CSPC sets aside funds every year for Blessed Sacrament families who may need assistance paying for school-related expenses such as field trips and classroom resources. Requests can be made directly to Mr. Agostino and will be kept fully confidential.



BSCS SPIRIT WEAR-JANUARY 2024

The Winter BSCS Spirit Wear Sale is live.

Purchases can be made through:
SchoolCashOnline.

Due date is
February 9.

Kindly ensure that when making a payment, it is designated for the 2023-2024 school year.



HOME OF THE CHAMPIONS



BLESSED SACRAMENT SPRING SOCIAL

The event of the year is coming up on April 12 at the Cricket Club: **The Blessed Sacrament Spring Social!**

This is one of the most important fundraising initiatives for the school. Our students depend on this event to fund literacy and classroom materials, technology such as laptops and projectors, athletic uniforms and equipment, and extracurricular activities.

As part of the event, we will be holding a silent auction. Please consider donating an item (new, in original packaging), service, gift certificate or unique experience for our silent auction. We are looking for:

- Lessons, classes, camps, recreational activities, etc.
- Sports tickets
- Personal training sessions, gym memberships, etc.
- Restaurant meals
- Clothing and accessories
- Home accessories and decor
- Home electronics and small appliances
- Sporting equipment
- Ski chalet/cottage rentals
- Toys, games, etc.
- Services such as salon and personal care, dental, photography, home repairs/renovations, etc.
- Gift baskets
- Gift cards/gift certificates

If you or a family member/friend owns a business, this is a great opportunity to promote it.

You can also contribute by asking a business you frequent to make a donation.

As you're paying for a dinner out, a manicure, or a birthday gift, ask the store for a donation.

Have seasons tickets for a sports team? Why not donate a pair?

Or, if you're a ski club member, consider donating lift tickets.

Do you have a cottage or ski chalet you could offer up for a weekend? Feel free to be creative!

Why not offer a week-long or summer internship at your place of work, for example?

We love new and interesting ideas!

Please reach out to bscsgala@gmail.com if you can help!





Pizza lunch Update

On Family Day weekend, pizza lunch will take place on Tuesday, Feb 20, as Monday, Feb 19, is a holiday. If you have ordered a hot lunch for your student in advance for this date, remember to cancel it if they usually receive pizza!



Volunteer Call out!

Pizza Lunch Volunteers are needed EVERY WEEK!

To help, please see Sign Up Genius, Pizza Lunch.



Many thanks!
For queries etc., contact us at bscspizzalunch@gmail.com

Shrove (Pancake) Tuesday for Angel Foundation

On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, BSCS students will be treated to a morning snack of two whole-grain pancakes with syrup provided by LunchLady Khadija (khadija@thelunchlady.ca).



The proceeds will go towards supporting the Angel Foundation for Learning.



Donations can be made on [SchoolCash Online](#).

Equity and Social Justice Team Heart Cookie Fundraiser for Covenant House



The Equity and Social Justice Leadership Team will sell nut-free, heart-shaped cookies by Terracotta Cookie Company for Valentine's Day this year!

Cookies are \$2.00 each

Ordering is available through School Cash-on-Line. Order deadline is Monday, February 5th, 2024.

Proceeds from the sale of the cookies will be donated to Covenant House Toronto to help with Youth Homelessness.



Cookie Ingredients can be found at [terracottacookies](http://terracottacookies.com)

Valentine's Day & Food Allergy Reminder

Please do not send any food treats throughout the year on birthdays and for other celebrations, including Valentine's Day. Some alternative suggestions are small toys, pencils, stickers, crayons, a small loot bag or party hats.





FIRST-TERM REPORT CARDS AND PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES



The distribution of the First Term Provincial Report Cards is scheduled for February 12, accompanied by parent-teacher conferences on the evenings of Tuesday, February 13 & Thursday, February 15, running from 5:30pm to 8:00pm.

We encourage you to discuss your child's accomplishments during this term and collaboratively establish suitable goals for the second term. The Provincial Report Cards include designated sections for both you and your child to fill out, and we kindly request that you complete and return them to the school. Your active participation in this process is greatly valued.

GREAT QUESTIONS TO ASK AT THE PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

- * What does my child do well?
- * What skills does my child need to develop further?
- * What activities can we do at home to strengthen those skills?
- * Does my child do their homework and assignments efficiently and conscientiously?
- * Is my child facing any struggles in class unrelated to their school-work?
- * Is my child receiving additional help?
- * How does my child get along with other students?
- * What is the best way to contact you if we have more questions?



We asked; you responded. So much appreciation for the amazing volunteerism at the school.

Kudos to some of the incredible individuals helping thus far!



Kiss N Ride – kudos to **Deb Hutton** who serves as the fabulously diligent and incredibly tireless program coordinator. Deb’s dedication is admirable! Much appreciation is extended to the stalwart volunteers who continuously give their time since September: Ruth Baryliuk, Gillian Bayko, Theresa Devlin, Adriana Gabriel, Enza Giordano, Estelle Gorby, Tim Hudak, Jaime Lui, Nancy Marconi, Laura McElwain, Kate Mckenna, Nadia Medalla, Katy Miller, Carla Nichols, Natalie Orellana, Danielle Riposati, Sara Sharifpoor, Teresa Trudel & Nadina Vanden Hoven.

Did we miss anybody? If you know of someone who is volunteering in the initiatives above but wasn’t mentioned, please let [Nadina](#) know!



Carnaval Week: February 5 -9, 2024

Carnaval is back!!!

This year, BSCS Carnaval events will take place the week of February 5 to the 9, 2024.

It's a busy week but a longstanding tradition that students eagerly look forward to annually. Our Carnaval week and activities are loosely based on the characters and events of the "Carnaval du Québec".

Here is a quick overview for Carnaval Week:

- Monday:** Bonbon Guessing & Warm Pyjama Day
- Tuesday:** Où est Bonhomme & Wonderfully Silly Hairstyle Day/Favourite Cap/Hat Day
- Wednesday:** Door Decorating & Red and White Day
- Thursday:** Bingo! & Sports Jersey Day
- Friday:** Fun Day!!!



- ◆ Bonhomme Carnaval will be meandering through the indoor and outdoor events to increase excitement.
- ◆ Students participate in hockey, toboggan races, tug of war, cheer, Je me souviens, and more!
- ◆ And, this year, even the kindergarten kiddos will participate in a coordinated mini-version of Carnaval with egg-carrying and snowman relay!
- ◆ The community is also involved: CSPC Parents have always been very gracious and generous by providing Hot Chocolate during this day.



Carnaval 2023-2024 will surely be another memorable event for the students and continues to represent one of the year's high points!



February 2024

VOLUNTEER



Volunteers Needed for the Following

NEW

Carnaval Friday February 9:

Fun day of indoor / outdoor activities for the kids. Volunteers are needed to help at the hot chocolate station at the school. Sign-up at on [SignUpGenius](#).

Fun Fair:

Super exciting community day featuring inflatables, games and so much more. This year's event is scheduled for Saturday May 25. Co-chair position is needed straight away; volunteers for day of to be secured closer to the date. Co-chair helps plan the event as well as assists with onsite activity on May 25. For more information please contact the Fun Fair Chair - Wendy Abbott Serroul - abbottserroul@yahoo.com.

ONGOING

Kiss 'N Ride:

The morning drop-off program that keeps our kids safe.

Volunteers are need from 8:10 - 8:30 AM. Sign-up for a shift or two at [Kiss N Ride](#).

Pizza Lunch:

Volunteers distribute pizza to their child's class on Mondays (JK/SK to grade 4). Approx. 20 minutes during the lunch hour. Sign-up on [SignUpGenius](#).

For questions or to participate email: [Nadina Jamison Vanden Hoven](mailto:Nadina.Jamison.Vanden.Hoven), BSCS Volunteer Coordinator

thank you in advance for your participation!

CHILDREN'S BOOK DONATION FROM PARADISE COMICS



Our school is fortunate to receive a significant book donation from the Dixon Family, proprietors of Paradise Comics and valued members of our school community. Peter, Kristina, and Violet Dixon are generously contributing a collection of brand new books they will no longer be offering for sale due to the closure of the children's section.



This thoughtful donation will undoubtedly enrich our school's literary resources. The estimated worth is tens of thousands of dollars. The books will be inputted through the library from now until the end of March. Students can take out the books as soon as they are added.

Donations are still incoming, but we have received some wonderful series like Babysitters Club, the Harry Potter series, Marvel and DC graphic novels, Phoebe and her Unicorn, and many more. Extra books will also be shared in age-appropriate classrooms.



We are very excited and grateful for this wonderful donation!



TCDSB 2024 Remaining School Year Calendar

The following chart lists school holidays, Professional Activity (PA) days, and other key dates for the remainder of the school year. Note: PA Day scheduled for April 19 has been moved to April 8 due to the total solar eclipse. More details can be found on the [TCDSB site](#).

PA Day: Parent-Teacher Conferences	February 16, 2024
Family Day	February 19, 2024
Mid-Winter Break	March 11-15, 2024
Good Friday	March 29, 2024
Easter Monday	April 1, 2024
PA Day: Provincial Education Priorities	April 8, 2024
Victoria Day	May 20, 2024
PA Day: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting	June 7, 2024
Last Day of School Year	June 28, 2024

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2022 - 2023



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. Rafal Balik
Superintendent: Shawna Campbell
Trustee: Maria Rizzo (Ward 5)



Website: www.blessedsacramentcs.com
Twitter: @BSCSchool

Blessed Sacrament Parish:

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

Website: www.blessedsacramenttoronto.ca

Please send submissions for the **March 2024** Newsletter to bscs.newsletter@gmail.com by **February 23 2024**.