



Blessed Sacrament Newsletter

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Welcome back, and a joyful New Year to everyone! We trust you and your loved ones had a peaceful Christmas and a rejuvenating holiday break. January signifies a time for fresh starts. With the new year’s arrival comes a chance for self-renewal, setting goals, and devising a plan for success.

We all encounter moments of apprehension, especially when embarking on something new or facing changes in our lives. Our virtue of the month is courage; like all the virtues, it is honed through practice. As our students mature, we encourage them to confront challenges directly, emphasizing that mistakes are valuable learning experiences. Life’s obstacles and setbacks offer opportunities for self-examination and personal growth. It’s crucial to periodically remind them that the caring adults in their lives—parents and educators—are there to support them in times of difficulty.

Navigating peer pressure can be challenging for students. Children may find it tough to consistently make the right choices, fearing potential rejection and exclusion from their friends. Collaboratively, we must cultivate a school environment where students distinguish between reporting genuine concerns to staff and merely tattling. This ensures a safe space for students who may be mistreated or bullied.

While maintaining a strong focus on academics, we remain dedicated to supporting student well-being. The BSCS staff is unwavering in our commitment to ensuring each child reaches their full potential. Wishing you a fantastic new year ahead!

R. Agostino
Principal

R. Balik
Vice-Principal



A LOOK AHEAD ...

- Jan 1 New Years Day
- Jan 6 Epiphany of our Lord
- Jan 8 Back to School
- Jan 9 Grade 7&8 Ski Trip
- Jan 11 Grade 5&6 Ski Trip
- Jan 15 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan 19 PA Day
- Jan 24 Kindergarten Registration Opens for 2024
- Jan 27 Family Literacy Day
- Feb 9 Carnival Day
- Feb 19 Family Day
- Feb 20th Pizza Lunch on a Tuesday due to Family Day

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Charity

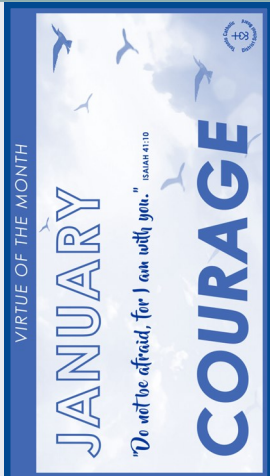
December Virtue Award Recipients



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

ELP Annabel H. Giovanna R. Olivia W. Chloe Y.	Grade 1 Daniella C. Dylan M. Luke D. Gabriel C.	Grade 1/2 Tyler K. Giada S.
Grade 2 William V. Makenna G.	Grade 3 Alexia H. Lucca I. Gianluca V. Luke K. J.J.F.	Grade 3/4 Charlie T. Audriana P.
Grade 4 Ario M. Sam P. Christian C.	Grade 4/5 Jessica L. Juan G. Reese A.. Marlowe T.	Grade 5 Summer S. Mia M. Emma P.
Grade 6 Cosimo P. Manuela G. Ryan P. Matilde N. Sofia P. Sammy T.		
Grade 7 Emmeline M. Katelin S. John F. Genevieve H. Avery M.		
Grade 8 Andrew M. Ella L. Simon G. Deimante G.		

NOVEMBER VIRTUE RECIPIENTS



JANUARY VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: COURAGE

Criteria for the Virtue of Courage Award

- students who confront fear
- students who persevere despite difficulties
- students who stand up against bullying and mistreatment of others
- students who embark on new projects/ are willing to try and learn new things



Christmas Concert

BSCS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On the evening of December 14th, we gathered for a delightful Christmas concert where our students showcased their dedication through outstanding performances, genuinely capturing the Christmas season's essence.

A special expression of gratitude goes to Father Larry for graciously allowing us to host the concert in the beautiful Blessed Sacrament church. Our sincere appreciation extends to Ms. Julie Brett, the church office administrator, whose behind-the-scenes collaboration proved instrumental in organizing the concert and orchestrating our school masses and special events.

Heartfelt thanks are directed to our devoted teachers—Ms. Andreatchi, Mme Crolla, and Ms. Keem—who were architects of this year's concert. Their tireless efforts and meticulous planning have transformed the event into cherished memories.

We convey our gratitude to Ms. Keem and our other gifted music teachers, Mr. Artymowich and Ms. Raposo, whose passion for music ignited a spark in our students, evident in the beautiful culmination witnessed at the concert.

A special acknowledgment is reserved for Ms. Parvu, whose piano talents added an extra layer of magic to our concert, and we consider ourselves truly fortunate to have her share her gifts with us. To our dedicated teachers and staff, thank you for your behind-the-scenes efforts to ensure our students had the opportunity to practice and shine. Your commitment to nurturing the talents of our students does not go unnoticed.





BSCS HOLIDAY INITIATIVES



Thank you so much BSCS community for all your support this holiday season!

Christmas Gift Card Drive

Thanks to your generosity we collected **\$4,070!** which was delivered to St. Jane Frances and St. Francis de Sales school principals. They were most grateful for all our support!

Winter Warmth Tree

We collected:

- 102 pairs of socks
- 94 winter hats
- 110 gloves & mittens
- 1 winter coat



Food Drive

4,000 + pounds of food was collected for the Daily Bread Food Bank!





GRATITUDE FOR THE BLESSED COMMUNITY!



**SAINT JANE FRANCES
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**
2745 Jane Street
Toronto, Ontario
M3L 2E8
Telephone 393-5296
Fax 393-5135



Tuesday December 19, 2023

Dear Staff, Students and CSPC of Blessed Sacrament Catholic School:

Warmest Greetings and Merry Christmas!

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and bright spirits. As we approach the festive season, I am reaching out to express our heartfelt gratitude for your past support and to share the meaningful impact your generosity has had on families of St. Jane Frances.

This Christmas, we are embarking on providing families with food, clothing and small toys for many families in our community that are experiencing challenges. Your generous donation has the power to bring joy to families. No contribution is too small, and every dollar brings us closer to making a magical Christmas for many families.

Your support means the world to us, and we are truly grateful for your consideration. Together, we have made this holiday season brighter for those in need.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous and blessed Christmas!

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. S. La Selva
Principal
St. Jane Frances



St. Francis de Sales Catholic School



December 19, 2023

The Community of Blessed Sacrament Catholic School

Dear Mr. Agostino;

On behalf of St. Francis de Sales Catholic Elementary School, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for your community's generosity towards our community. Your kind donation will help the school to support many families who might otherwise have a difficult Christmas season.

Our school of 340 students from Kindergarten to Grade 8, is located in the Jane Street and Finch Avenue area. It is a community that is grounded in the strong sense of helping each other. We are proud and honoured to include you as members of our extended community. Your gift to our school is quantifiable but the impact will be immeasurable.

It is fitting that December is the month of Charity in the TCDSB. Often, we think of charity as sharing things that we have with others. We often overlook that the act of giving is the charitable action itself and that the love we pass on through that act is what we are always called to do.

Please know that your support of our community is greatly appreciated. We wish you and your community a blessed Christmas season and best wishes for 2024.

Yours in gratitude,

Mr. Nick Netta
Principal
nicola.netta@tcdsb.org





GRADES 1 AND 2 AT WORK!





January 2024

LET'S GO SKATING!

We express gratitude to St. Michael's College School for including us in their Holiday Skate. The heartfelt reception given to students, parents, guardians, and staff, along with Christmas music and the enjoyment of delightful treats like hot chocolate and popcorn, was genuinely appreciated!





Pizza lunch Update

Pizza lunch resumes on Monday, Jan 8th!

Please note, on Family Day weekend, pizza lunch will take place on Tuesday, Feb 20th, as Monday, Feb 19th 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!
Volunteer Call out!

A BIG thank you to all volunteers who have already helped out and signed up to help.

Pizza Lunch Volunteers are needed EVERY WEEK!

As a reminder, volunteers are needed for ALL classes JK through to Grade 8.

More volunteer slots are available.

It only takes 20 minutes.

To help, please see Sign Up Genius, [Pizza Lunch](#).

For queries etc., contact bscspizzalunch@gmail.com

PARENT VOLUNTEERS TO SUPERVISE AT LUNCHTIME

We are seeking parent volunteers to assist in overseeing students during the lunch period from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm. If you wish to volunteer for one or more days per week, kindly reach out to [Principal Riccardo Agostino](#)

Lunchroom Supervisors Needed

WINTER ATTIRE AND OUTDOOR RECESS GUIDELINES

We urge students to come to school daily dressed appropriately for outdoor activities, especially during the regularly scheduled recess periods. All students must wear winter coats, suitable footwear, as well as head and hand protection. Our school policy advocates for regular outdoor recesses in winter, with exceptions made in cases of rain or severe cold, leading to alternative decisions such as shortened or indoor recess.

Students are required to have outdoor footwear for recess, to be worn only outdoors, and indoor footwear for classroom time.





INCLEMENT WEATHER PROTOCOL



If Environment Canada forecasts poor weather conditions (including ice, significant snowfall, poor visibility, or extreme cold temperatures), the Toronto Student Transportation Group (TSTG), the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB), and the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) teams will assess and monitor the situation overnight and into the early morning to determine any necessary bus cancellations.

This decision will be made by 6:00 AM.

Stay Informed: [TCDSB Homepage](#) • [TCDSB X](#) • [Toronto Student Transportation Group \(TSTG\)](#)

EXTENDED FRENCH EVENING INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF GRADE 4 STUDENTS



Blessed Sacrament offers the Extended French program from Grades 5 to 8. Students learn French as a subject, and French serves as the language of instruction in social studies, history, geography, physical education, health and visual arts. Instruction is provided in French for approximately 50% of the total instructional time until Grade 8 graduation.

In February, an in-person information presentation will be provided to interested parents and students currently in grade 4. The date will be shared with parents once it is confirmed.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Children born in 2020 are eligible to attend Junior Kindergarten in September 2024. Registration for the 2024-2025 school year will start on January 24th, 2024, at 10:00 am EST. Final placement is subject to a meeting with the school. All required documents must be uploaded to the application electronically before meeting with the school. Pre-registration begins in March. The school will confirm your appointment to complete the registration. Final placement is subject to a meeting with the school.

Children born in 2020 are eligible to attend Junior Kindergarten in September 2024.

Christian Orthodox students are asked to fill out the Paper Application.

[Online Application](#)

[Paper Application](#)



VOLUNTEER



Volunteers Needed for the Following

Bookkeeping / Accounting Support:

Calling all accountants / financial wizard\$! We need treasury support, ideally someone well versed in QuickBooks (or equivalent.) Active - 1-2 hours/week throughout the school year. Sign-up at [Financial Support](#).

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](#).

Carnaval:

Fun day of indoor / outdoor activities for the kids. Volunteers need to help at the hot chocolate station at the school. Active - variable - Fri Feb 9. Sign-up coming soon!

Spring Auction:

Are you the type of person who's good at sealing the deal? Do you refuse to take no for an answer? Has anyone ever told you that you could sell snow to a polar bear? If you answered yes to any of these questions, WE NEED YOU! We're looking for people who can solicit donations from neighbourhood businesses for our spring fundraising auction - people who aren't shy about reaching out to stores and restaurants to ask them for donations. Please let us know if you can help at blessedsacramentspc@gmail.com

Project Library Returns: Thank you to those who have already volunteered!

Are you passionate about books and organization? Looking for dedicated volunteers to help us put away and organize the library. Your assistance will play a vital role in ensuring that the library remains a welcoming and organized space for students, where a love of reading is born.

Time Commitment: Flexible & tailored to availability. Library is open: Wednesday (PM) & all-day Thursday & Friday.

Volunteer Roles:

Book Cataloguer: Responsibilities will include:

- Cataloguing: cataloging new books, media, and other library materials using the library's cataloging system
- Data Entry: enter book information, including titles, authors, publication dates, etc. into the library's database.
- Labeling: apply library labels, barcodes, and spine labels to books to ensure proper identification and tracking
- Repair & Maintenance: identify books in need of repair or maintenance and report them to for further action.

Book Shelver and Organizer: Responsibilities will include:

- Shelving Books: sort & shelf books in their designated sections according to the library's cataloging system
- Ensuring Order: Maintain the order and cleanliness of the library by ensuring books are displayed neatly
- Reshelving Returns: assist in reshelving returned books promptly and accurately

Training will be provided. If you are interested in participating in **Project Library** - Sign-up at [Project Library](#).

For questions or to participate email: Nadina Jamison Vanden Hoven, BSCS Volunteer Coordinator

Thank you

in advance for your participation!



We asked; you responded.
So much appreciation for the amazing volunteerism at the school.
Kudos to some of the incredible individuals helping thus far!

Holiday Helpers

Loads of activity just prior to the December holidays: Winter Warmth Tree, Gift Card Contributions, Daily Bread Food Bank volunteer drivers, holiday lunchtime supervision, Gingerbread House and so much more!

Special thanks to – Wendy Abbott Serroul, Angela Di Padova, Michelle Martel, Tarra Miller, Adam MacMillan, Carla Nichols, Danielle Riposati, Bianca Pamela Sanchez and Tiffani Steer.

Pizza Lunch

Kudos to Estelle Gorby who serves as the program coordinator. Assisting Estelle is the Pizza Committee that includes: Michelle Augusto, Enza Giordano, Tarra Miller and Cynthia Zeemel.

Much appreciation is extended to the class pizza distributors from Oct through Dec including: Wendy Abbott Serroul, Lauren Andonov, Laura Arata, Korinna Azreiq, Susan Baker, Ruth Baryliuk, Nigel Bastiampillai, Gillian Bayko, Pamela Bebee, Barbara Bokodi, Natalie Botica, Clémence Bouffier, Jennifer Chan, Lydia Chan, Angela Charlesworth, Katie Cheevers, Marissa Cunningham, Theresa Devlin, Deirdre Durieu, Peter Flynn, Chrissy Gamble, Laura Gardonio, Michelle Gaudon, Rebecca Gladdy, Christine Grabowski, Elizabeth Green, Mirna Hansen, Deb Hutton, Steve Ilkiw, Nora Karakas, Eunice Kidd, Mi Kim, Ron Lam, Andrea Lausman, Claire Lepelletier, Ida Li Preti, Maura Mansur, Ada Maxwell-Alleyne, Laura McElwain, Kate Mckenna, Kristin McRae, Daniela Metyas, Marisela Navarro, Carla Nichols, Nancy Nikolakakos, Allison O'Connell, Ricardo Palacios, Isabel Pardo, Karen Pefanis, Nick Roustas, Daniela Saldias-Rocha, Frances Salvaggio, Bianca Pamela Sanchez, Kelly Schultz, Tiffani Steer, Stephanie Tjon, Alejandra Toledano, Rachelle Tsotos, Nadina Vanden Hoven, Juliet Villagaray, Mariel Villar, Tiffane Wang, Barbara Yang and Teanne von der Porten.

Did we miss anybody?

If you know of someone who is volunteering in the initiatives above but wasn't mentioned, please let [Nadina](#) know!



TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2023 - 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. 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 **February 2024** Newsletter to Celia Figel: celia.figel@gmail.com by **January 26th 2024**