



# Blessed Sacrament Newsletter

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The virtue for March is forgiveness, which holds significant importance during the Lenten season, mirroring a core aspect of our faith exemplified by Jesus in his life, death, and resurrection.

Forgiveness is a personal liberation from resentment and a valuable lesson passed on to our children through our actions and teachings. Jesus demonstrated the essence of releasing grudges through forgiveness, urging us to apologize and embody them through our subsequent actions.

Throughout March, we will emphasize to students that the authenticity of an apology lies in the sincerity of one's words and the actions that follow.

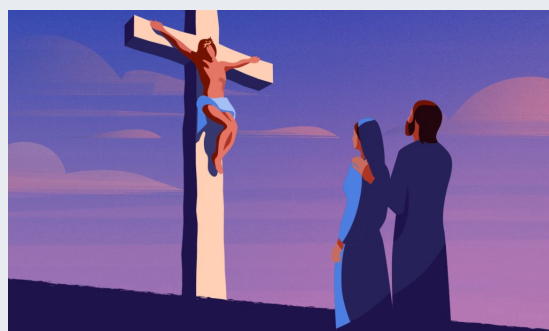
In preparation for the upcoming academic year, we request that you share with us if your child intends to transfer before September 2024. Please complete the **form** by March 29, 2024.

Staffing and classroom arrangements directly hinge on student enrolment, making it imperative to possess the most accurate information as we begin planning for the following year.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

*R. Agostino*  
Principal

*R. Balik*  
Vice-Principal



## A LOOK AHEAD ...

- Mar 1 World Day of Prayer
- Mar 4 Education Support Staff Appreciation Day
- Mar 8 International Women's Day
- Mar 11-15 Mid-Winter Break
- Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- Mar 22 ShareLife Wear Green Day
- Mar 22 World Water Day
- Mar 22 School Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
- Mar 23 Earth Hour
- Mar 24 Palm Sunday
- Mar 26 Purple Day- Epilepsy Awareness
- Mar 28 Holy Thursday
- Mar 29 Good Friday
- Mar 30 Holy Saturday
- Mar 31 Easter Sunday
- April 1 Easter Monday



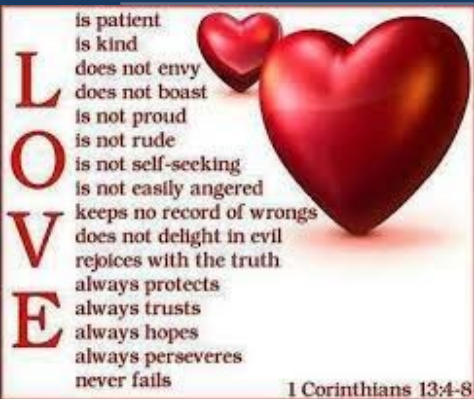
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# Love

## February Virtue Award Recipients



<p><b>ELP</b> Konstantinos K. Declan C. Olivia Z. Sofia B. Lucas F.</p>	<p><b>Grade 1</b> Kayden A. Caroline B. Mira Clare C. Gabriel F.</p>	<p><b>Grade 1/2</b> Georgia L.</p>	
<p><b>Grade 2</b> Mason H. Grace B.</p>	<p><b>Grade 3</b> James C. Martin K. Ella P. William M.</p>	<p><b>Grade 3/4</b> Christopher C. Remy D.</p>	
<p><b>Grade 4</b> Seren K. Vanessa L.</p>	<p><b>Grade 4/5</b> Alessia D.</p>	<p><b>Grade 5</b> Arianna A. Ava J. Stephanie C.</p>	<p>The virtue award recipients will be acknowledged at the next monthly</p>
<p><b>Grade 6</b> Alixe L. Zosia K. Elizabeth C. Alessandra F. Sammy O.</p>			
<p><b>Grade 7</b> Scarlet A. Abigail G. Stefano G. Cooper P. Lila V. Heidi L.</p>			
<p><b>Grade 8</b> Nia T. Calder F. Dosan S.</p>			

February Virtues of the Month Recipients



## MARCH VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: FORGIVENESS

### Criteria for the Virtue of Forgiveness Award

- students who demonstrate acceptance of others, their ideas and differences
- students who express sincere apology or remorse for their actions
- students who resist judging others
- students who are open and seek remediation for conflicts
- students who are willing to repair damaged relationship



## TCDSB N-WORD PROTOCOL

### Background:

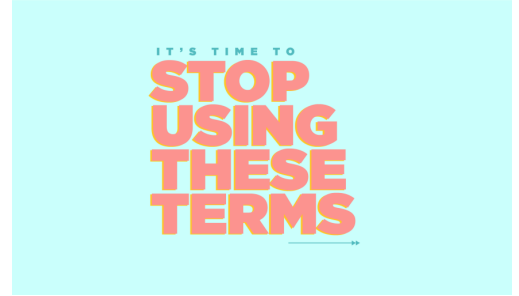
The TCDSB Equity Action Plan specifically aims to address all derogatory slurs. This protocol addresses the use of the N-word. It has been developed in consultation with staff, students, and parents, including a discussion with the TCDSB African Canadian Advisory Committee.

The N-word is rooted in hatred and oppression. It came from a time when enslavers used the word to demean, humiliate, and control African people. It is sometimes still used in this way today. There has been a move since the 1980s among some Black people to reclaim the power of the word, and that is why you may hear some Black people use the word.

It is important to note that the use of the N-word still causes trauma to many individuals in our school communities.

For these reasons, the TCDSB is clear in its direction.

The N-word is not to be used in TCDSB schools. This includes written or spoken form. Classroom instruction and pedagogy should help to instill this point in all members of the TCDSB community.



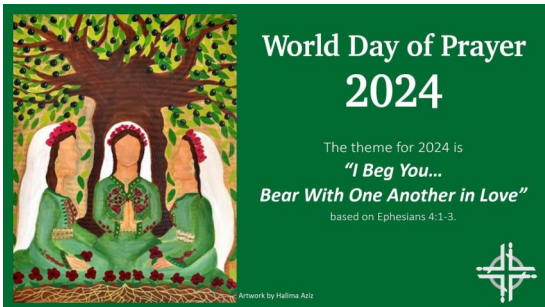
*Progressive discipline and restorative practices will be followed in instances where the N-word is used. Hateful use of the N-word will not be tolerated.*



## ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL PREMISES

Only students and staff are permitted in the schoolyard in the morning. If you wish to speak with the school administration or teachers before the beginning of the school day, please visit the office through the front door. Only staff and parents who have signed in at the office are permitted in the hallway and classrooms. At the 3:00 pm dismissal, parents are permitted in the yard to pick up children. Teachers accompany students to the yard at the end of the day for safe dismissal.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



World Day of Prayer (WDP) is traditionally observed on the first Friday of March, though communities can choose other dates. This year, World Day of Prayer is on March 1, 2024.

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement which brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Countries are encouraged to come together in spirit, unite on a common day, and pray for relevant issues affecting women and children.



## STREET PROOFING STRATEGIES

Remind children of these safety guidelines to reinforce with children in case they encounter a situation involving a stranger:

1. Encourage children to trust their instincts and assert their boundaries by emphasizing their right to say "NO," even to adults.
2. Remind them not to accept rides, gifts, treats, or money from strangers.
3. Ensure they are familiar with their full name, address, phone number, and how to reach their parents or dial 911 in case of emergencies.
4. If they notice someone following them on foot or in a vehicle, advise them to loudly call for assistance and quickly move away from the situation.
5. Teach them to decline any requests for help from adults, such as assisting in finding a lost pet, and instead prompt them to refuse politely and inform their parents or another trusted adult. It's crucial to emphasize that adults should never seek help from children in such circumstances.



## TCDSB EDUCATION SUPPORT STAFF APPRECIATION DAY MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024

The first Monday of March marks TCDSB Education Support Staff Appreciation Day. We deeply appreciate the significant contributions of these professionals, not only to the individual students they assist daily but also to the nurturing community spirit within our Catholic schools.

This special day recognizes the invaluable efforts of our board's diverse support staff, including Child and Youth Workers, Education Assistants, Instructional Assistants, Library Technicians, Job Coaches, Student Supervisors, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Support Staff, and others who promote student achievement and well-being, striving for equity of opportunity. They are esteemed professionals, providing mentorship, inspiration, support, and camaraderie.

To all our support staff, including Education Assistants Ms. Allain, Ms. DiLauro, Ms. Durante, and Ms. Rea, and Library Technician Mr. Huang, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for the passion, dedication, and care you bring to our schools and students each day. Your tireless efforts are truly invaluable.





## TCDSB SHARELIFE WEAR GREEN DAY FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024

TCDSB ShareLife Wear Green Day takes place on Friday, March 22, 2024. We encourage all students and staff to participate by donating through School Cash on Line in support of the campaign!

Please consider wearing green to support ShareLife and post your photos on social media using the hashtag #ShareLifeTCDSB.



## PIZZA LUNCH UPDATE

**Pizza lunch continues every Monday**  
(except for holidays when it moves to Tuesday)!

### Volunteer Call out!

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](#).



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAMS– WELLNESS WARRIORS



### MINDFULNESS MONDAYS



The Wellness Warriors have been very busy over the last few months. Our main focus for Term 1 was promoting kindness in our daily interactions. The Wellness Warriors are working on making this school a community where everyone is kind to each other and respects each other.

The start of February marked the beginning of "Mindfulness Mondays." The team has been visiting classes to work on things like Christian meditation, strategies to help us calm down in stressful situations, and the importance and impact of your words on others and ourselves.

We look forward to continuing our work in the coming months!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE & EQUITY STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

The focus of the Social Justice & Equity Student Leadership Team is to shed light on social justice issues, such as gender inequality and racism, and so far, the Equity & Social Justice leaders have run two successful fundraisers this year. We collected leftover Halloween Candy for the North York Harvest Food Bank and non-perishable food items throughout December that we donated to the Daily Bread Food Bank Food Drive. We also successfully fundraised money for Covenant House Toronto by selling Valentines' Day Heart Cookies made by Terracotta Cookies. The student leaders have also expressed interest in Project Bag and introducing the younger grades to social justice issues through various read-alouds and other activities.





### PAUL DAVIS PRESENTATION

On Monday, February 26, we welcomed 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, sexting and more. He has presented at dozens of conferences and appeared in countless media interviews. We last invited him to Blessed Sacrament in 2021, and we were delighted to have him back again this year in response to requests from the parent community. He provided two student sessions during the day: one for grades 4-6 and one for grades 7 and 8. He also provided a parent session at 6:30pm that evening, which more than 60 parents attended. He provided both students and parents with practical knowledge and tips on how to navigate the challenges of the digital age. For more details on Paul Davis, please visit his website: [socialnetworkingsafety.net](http://socialnetworkingsafety.net). Thank you to parents for requesting this. Input like this from the parent community helps CSPC prioritize investments in ways that best meet the community's needs.



#### TCDSB SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2024-2025

Number of school days	194
Number of Professional Activity Days	7
Number of Exam Days (Secondary Only)	10
Labour Day	September 2, 2024
First Day of School	September 3, 2024
Thanksgiving Day	October 14, 2024
Christmas Break	December 23, 2024–January 3, 2025
Family Day	February 17, 2025
Mid-Winter Break	March 10-14, 2025
Good Friday	April 18, 2025
Easter Monday	April 21, 2025
Victoria Day	May 19, 2025
Last Day of Exams for Secondary Students	June 25, 2025
Last Day of Classes for Elementary Students	June 27, 2025
Last Day of School Year	June 27, 2025



#### Seven (7) Professional Activity (PA) Days for ELEMENTARY schools:

September 27, 2024	Provincial Education Priorities
October 11, 2024	Provincial Education Priorities
November 15, 2024	Parent-Teacher Conferences
November 29, 2024	Provincial Education Priorities
January 17, 2025	Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting
February 14, 2025	Parent-Teacher Conferences
June 6, 2025	Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting



March 2024

# BSCS FUN FAIR 2024



Inflatables, food, games,  
pet room and so much more!  
Mark your calendar!

**May 25, 2024 • 12:00 to 3:30 PM**





March 2024

BLESSED  
SACRAMENT  
SPRING SOCIAL



THE CRICKET CLUB  
APRIL 12, 2024

**The BSCS Spring Social Committee is very excited to bring you the 2024 Spring Social!**

**Grab your stetsons, and your stilettos, Nashville is coming to Toronto y'all!**

Mark your calendar and book the babysitter for this fun night out! This is one of the key school events that our students depend on to fund literacy and classroom materials, technology such as laptops and projectors, athletic uniforms and equipment, and extracurricular activities.

New this year! Lower ticket price! **Now \$75/ticket** (includes food and drink ticket) and now a completely **cashless event**.

**What to expect:**

- Casual dress - Nashville theme (Jeans, cowboy hat, cowboy boots etc.)
- Silent and Live auction
- Live DJ and evening entertainment
- Food station
- Photo booth
- 50/50 draw
- Everyone is welcome! Friends and family too!
- Tickets on sale starting March 8th via cash online.

**Auction items:**

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:

- Sports tickets
- Lessons, classes, camps, recreational activities, etc.
- Personal training sessions, gym memberships, etc.
- Restaurant meals
- Clothing and accessories
- Home accessories and decor/Home electronics and small appliances
- Sporting equipment
- 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. Feel free to be creative! Why not offer up 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](mailto:bscsgala@gmail.com) if you can help! Thanks for your support!





March 2024

**BLESSED SACRAMENT  
SPRING SOCIAL**

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# NASHVILLE NORTH

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## STUDENT SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM



The School Spirit Team has been working very hard since the beginning of the year! We have organized many activities and games that students have loved, which keeps the BSCS spirit high! Mr. Binzangi is an amazing leader and role model for our committee, as he inspires new ideas and supports our ideas!

On Halloween, we held a costume contest. Students came to school in their amazing, creative, cool costumes, and winners were selected based on categories such as scariest, funniest, most creative, and best duo. Each class chose who had the best costume, and these students entered the final round! The final winners were awarded a certificate and had their pictures taken! Everyone had such great costumes, and there was a high Halloween spirit!

When it came time for Christmas, we wanted to make it the most fun it has ever been! We had so many activities, including Christmas trivia, candy cane hunts and art activities for the kindergartens! The school spirit team went around the school and asked questions about the history of Christmas! There was a sweet surprise for the students who got the question correct! The candy cane hunt was a big hit. The students loved finding the candy canes around the library, and their smiles were priceless!

Valentine's Day was all pink, red, and white! Do you know how everyone loves candy? Well, we do, too! That's why we made a Valentine's Day candy jar that students could win if they guessed the right amount of candies! We handed out ballots to each class. All the students saw the jar full of yummy, mouth-watering candy and guessed the amount! The winners were so happy with their candy!

The School Spirit Team is so excited to continue making our ideas come to life, and we can't wait for the activities to come. We will plan for Best Dressed in Green in March, a Leprechaun Gold Hunt, trivia, and an Easter egg hunt. We are still thinking about new great ideas, such as showing all staff some love/appreciation, and we will keep you posted on all the fun things.



### Volunteers Needed for the Following

#### **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](mailto:abbottserroul@yahoo.com).

#### **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](#), BSCS Volunteer Coordinator



## BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH NEWS

### Holy Week 2024

Palm Sunday, March 23 & 24 – Blessed Palms will be available at all Masses

### The Great Triduum

Holy Thursday, March 28 – Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7:30 pm  
(No 8:30 am Mass)

Good Friday, March 29 - Holy Liturgy:  
11:00 am, 1:00 pm & 3:00 pm

Stations of the Cross: 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday, March 30 – Easter Vigil 7:30 pm

Easter Sunday, March 31 - Masses: 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am & 1:00 pm



## 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  
Executive Superintendent: Shawna Campbell  
Trustee: Maria Rizzo (Ward 5)

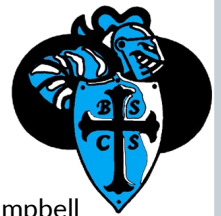
Website: [www.blessedsacramentcs.com](http://www.blessedsacramentcs.com)

Twitter: @BSCSchool

### Blessed Sacrament Parish:

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

Website: [www.blessedsacramenttoronto.ca](http://www.blessedsacramenttoronto.ca)



Please send submissions for the **April 2024** Newsletter to [bcs.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bscs.newsletter@gmail.com) by **March 27, 2024**