Blessed Sacrament Catholic School Newsletter



NOVEMBER 2026

Principal's Message

Dear BSCS Families,

What an incredible month it has been – there was so much to be grateful for in October! Championship games, beautiful weather, our teachers and Early Childhood Educators, academics in full swing, our Hallowe'en Dance-a-thon and festivities, and most importantly, the sense of safety and community at Blessed Sacrament School.

As we enter the month of November, we do so humbly, as we shift our focus to honouring those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Remembrance Day calls on us to pause, reflect, and give thanks for the men and women who served and continue to serve to protect our freedoms. It is a profound reminder of the cost of peace and our duty to safeguard it.

In a world that often feels divided, we are challenged as a Catholic school community to actively look for ways to forge peace right here in our classrooms, playgrounds, and homes. True peace begins with small actions—listening with empathy and compassion, offering forgiveness, and choosing kindness over conflict. As Jesus reminded us during the Sermon on the Mount:

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." — Matthew 5:9

Throughout this month, we invite all families to join us in praying intentionally for peace: for unity within our city, inclusion throughout our country, and an end to conflict throughout our world.

In alignment with this focus on peace, Ontario has designated the week beginning on the third Sunday of November as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week to help promote safe schools and a positive learning environment. Let us show our children how we must strive to be instruments of God's grace and love wherever we go—this is our intentional focus this month.

On behalf of our staff and parent community, I would like to congratulate our newly elected Catholic School Parent Council, who have already started their important work. We look forward to an exciting year ahead!

The 2025–2026 Grade 3 and 6 EQAO results were released a few weeks ago; the scores are impressive and indicative of good efforts last year. Our students scored above the board and provincial averages in all domains: Reading, Writing, and Mathematics. Individual score reports were sent home to parents last week.

In a few weeks time, Progress Reports will be going home, and parents will be invited to attend Parent-Teacher Conferences. We look forward to welcoming parents and guardians to participate in these important early conversations regarding how your child has adjusted to their new grade and what next steps are needed to achieve overall academic success and well-being. Online scheduling will be available to parents very soon.

Every day gives us a new chance to reveal God's love through simple acts of care and compassion. Thank you to our entire community for your unwavering commitment to our mission of faith, service, and learning; your ongoing support and partnership are what make Blessed Sacrament School such a vibrant, faith-filled place to learn and grow.



Ms. Julie Dey
Principal

Mr. Karl Leitmann
Vice-Principal

A LOOK AHEAD…

Nov. 11	Remembrance Day
Nov. 13	World Kindness Day
Nov. 16-20	Bullying Prevention Awareness Week
Nov. 20	PA Day - No School
Nov. 20	National Child Day
Dec. 3	BSCS Christmas Concert
Dec. 21- Jan. 1	Christmas Break

November Calendar of Events posted on the BSCS website.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Monthly Catholic Virtue Award…p.2
Remembrance Day……..p.3
Bullying Awareness……..…….p.3
Progress Report Cards...……..p.4
Parent-Teacher Interviews..……p.4
BSCS Spirit Wear……..p.4
Danceathon…….. p.5
BSCS Sports Corner…..……p.6
Message from CSPC……..…p.7
Volunteer Opportunities……...p.8
Parish News……..p.9
2026-27 School Calendar…….....p.10
Contacts & Resources……..p.11

24 Bedford Park Ave,
Toronto, ON M5M 1K5

Tel: 416-393-5226
Fax: 416-393-5809

THE MONTHLY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AWARD

The Monthly Catholic Community Award is 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.

OCTOBER: GRATITUDE VIRTUE AWARD RECIPIENTS





Student Name	Classroom	Teacher(s)
Audrey L.; Kate S.	ELP/1	Ms. Murphy/Ms. Andonov
Lysandra A. B.	ELP/2	Ms. Andreacchi/ Ms. Straub
Kate P.	ELP 3	Ms. Adam/Ms. Gameiro
Mason M.	Gr. 1	Ms. Grober
Presley L.	Gr. 1/2	Ms. Simonton
Mia S.	Gr. 2	Ms. Coulter
Leo S.	Gr. 2/3	Mr. Cunneen
Benicio M.	Gr. 3	Ms. Sinclair
Theo T.	Gr. 3/4	Ms. Walker
Nicholas E.	Gr. 4	Ms. Bustamante
Capri-Rose D.	Gr. 4/5	Ms. Cassata
Alice Soler T. F.	Gr. 6	Ms. Quiroz
Alice C. F.	Gr. 7	Mr. Marchione
Nathan E.	Gr. 8	Ms. Moro
Sophie L.	Gr. 5	Mme. Kudlik
Charlie T.	Gr. 6	Ms. Metyas
Maisy M.	Gr. 7	Ms. Chen
Stephanie C.	Gr. 8	Ms. Parvu
Jonas S.	MEDD-ISP	Ms. Iannelli



SEPTEMBER: HOSPITALITY

OCTOBER: GRATITUDE

NOVEMBER: PEACE

DECEMBER: CHARITY

JANUARY: COURAGE

FEBRUARY: LOVE

MARCH: FORGIVENESS

APRIL: JUSTICE

MAY: COMPASSION

JUNE: FAITHFULNESS

NOVEMBER VIRTUE: PEACE

The Catholic Community Award Criteria for the virtue of Peace:

- students who demonstrate calm and instill peace in others
- students who stay level-headed under pressure
- students who generously forgive others
- students who promote and practice conflict resolution
- students who engage in inner peace practices like meditation
- students who are involved in school activities related to promoting peace

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Remembrance Day Celebration



Students will come together to honour and remember those who have made sacrifices in service to our country on **Wednesday, November 11, at 10:30 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church.** This ceremony will be a time of gratitude, reflection, unity, and respect as we stand together to ensure that the legacy of courage, service, and peace lives on through each of us.

Students will receive a poppy and are encouraged to make a small donation in support of veterans and their families.

Donation envelopes will be sent home the week of Monday, November 9.

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week: November 16 – 20

The TCDSB's Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week takes place from November 16 to 20. During this time, we will remind our students to focus on the everyday actions that help create a community built on kindness, respect, and understanding. Together, students will learn about the important difference between conflict and bullying. While conflict involves disagreements that can be resolved respectfully and fairly, bullying is characterized by repeated, intentional behaviour that causes harm.

The effects of bullying behaviour on students' learning, and on their spiritual, emotional, physical and psychological health are well recognized. Bullying runs counter to our Catholic values of respect, inclusion and social responsibility.

Through classroom discussions and activities, students will explore effective strategies for managing conflict, responding to bullying behaviours, and supporting one another. By working together, we can ensure that our school remains a safe, caring, and inclusive place for everyone.

Please visit the TCDSB's webpage for more information on policies to support bullying prevention in schools and to access parent and guardian resources.



SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Progress Report Card and Parent-Teacher Conferences

The Progress Report reflects your child's advancement toward meeting both overall and specific curriculum expectations. Summative achievement assessments will be provided in the first and second-term report cards issued in February and June. Additionally, the development of Learning Skills will be reported for each term. **The Progress Report Card will be sent home with students on Tuesday, November 17, 2026.** Help us save a tree and return the envelope which will be reused for February and June reports**.**

We value ongoing communication about student achievement, which extends beyond the **three formal reporting periods in November, February, and June.**

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher at any time to discuss their ongoing progress.

Parent-Teacher Interviews – Book Online

Parent-Teacher interviews will be held on the evenings of Tuesday, November 17, and Thursday, November 19. We look forward to discussing your child's achievements, strengths, and next steps for learning. Information about scheduling an interview through the booking portal will be shared via The Buzz weekly email.

If you have more than one interview to attend, please avoid booking appointments back-to-back. We recommend leaving at least 10 minutes between sessions to allow sufficient travel time.

BSCS Spirit Wear: 2026-2027

Show your BSCS spirit! Spirit Wear will be available to order throughout the 2026-27 school year.

The BSCS Spirit Wear Online Store will be open for two weeks during each order period:

Holiday/Winter Order	Spring Order
November 16–30, 2026	February 22–March 8, 2027

Don't miss the November ordering period, a perfect time to stock up on winter weather essentials. **Please remember to include the student's name and teacher with your order**. Orders will be processed in batches and delivered to the school for distribution to classrooms approximately 3 to 4 weeks after the ordering period closes**.**

Questions or Need Help? Contact the Spirit Wear Coordinators:

- Shannon Doyle Raffoul: s.doyle.raffoul@gmail.com
- Kaitlyn Leeb: kaitlynleeb@gmail.com

For order-specific questions, please contact Emma at Canadian Custom Apparel: emma@canadiancustomapparel.ca



2026 HALLOWEEN DANCE-A-THON

What an incredible day! On Friday, October 30, our school community came together for our Halloween Dance-a-thon. The day was packed with high energy, fantastic costumes, and outstanding school spirit from start to finish! We kicked off the morning on the turf with our costume parade, where students impressed everyone with their creativity and amazing costumes. A sincere thank you to all the parents and families who came out to cheer on our students. A special shoutout to **Mr. Qubti** for being a fantastic DJ!

Based on all the smiles and laughs throughout the day, we think the Dance-a-thon was an overwhelming success! **A heartfelt thank you to all of our families for their incredible generosity in making donations.** As our biggest fundraiser of the year, proceeds directly support programming, resources, and supplies for our students. The final fundraising total and raffle prize winners will be announced in early November. **If you haven't had a chance to donate yet, there is still time; the donation link will remain open until Wednesday, November 4.** Every bit helps!

We want to extend a special thank you to our incredible volunteers: **Angela Holdsworth**, **Kate Schultz**, **Brooke Sorenson**, **Christina Teixeira**, **Nicole Visca**, and **Laura McElwain**. Your time and hard work behind the scenes were deeply appreciated! A huge thank you to BSCS parent **Kenneth Lim** for taking our class photos.

Thank you as well to our wonderful **teachers and staff** for supporting the event. Finally, a massive thank you to our organizing committee members, **Heather Lannigan**, **Cynthia Zeemel**, and **Alexandra Snell**, for your leadership and tireless efforts.











Cross Country

A huge congratulations to all the cross-country runners on an outstanding season – we earned a championship banner at the Divisional Meet, a finalist banner at the Regional Meet, and we sent 29 runners to the City Finals on October 21. It was hard fought, but we had impressive results against the best in the city! All students should be incredibly proud. A huge thanks to our parent volunteers and cheerleaders, and the coaching staff: Mr. Qubti, Ms. Camp, Ms. Cassata, Ms. Bustamante, Ms. Walker, Ms. Parvu, Ms. Adam, Ms. Coulter, and Mr. Fox.











Flag Football

On Monday October 28, the Intermediate students travelled to St. Oscar Romero High school for the divisional flag football tournament. It was a dominating display put on by the students winning two out of three games in their round robin. They played Our Lady of Victory in the semi-finals and shut them out 12-0, to cruise into the finals. In the finals they took on Father Serra in a hard-fought game prevailing 6-0 to become divisional champions for the fourth year in a row. We are looking forward to the Championship finals on November 2 at Michael Power High School. A huge thanks to the coaching staff, Mr. Kowalik, Ms. Moro and Ms. Iannelli, and to all our parent drivers, volunteers and supporters!



MESSAGE FROM PARENT COUNCIL

Thank you to everyone who participated in our first CSPC meeting of the year and AGM on October 13, where your new Parent Council was voted in. Here is your CSPC for the 2026-2027 school year:

Laura McElwain & Alexandra Snell - Co Chairs
Nadia Bucciarelli - Fall Fundraiser Coordinator
Tiffany English - Media Coordinator
Heather Lannigan - Volunteer Coordinator
Ada Maxwell-Alleyne - Condo-Parent Liaison
Michal Nalepka - Treasurer
Adam Zukowski – Secretary

As the previous school year ended, we said a heartfelt farewell to three extraordinary members of our Parent Council who stepped down from their roles. Julieth Rico and Rebecca Glady have blessed our council with a wealth of knowledge and insight, and their dedication to our students and families has left a lasting mark on Blessed Sacrament. We also extend our gratitude to Wendy Abbott-Serroul, who concluded her two-year tenure as Council Chair after more than a decade of selfless volunteer service. From leading the fundraising efforts for our school turf and playgrounds to beautifully coordinating so many of our community's milestone events, Wendy's diligence and leadership have truly shaped our school.

We are endlessly grateful for the immense time, energy, and heart these three remarkable individuals poured into enriching our school community, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

This Year...

Kicking off the 100th year of Blessed Sacrament - thank you to Nadia and Ada for putting together an incredible Danceathon for our school, and to the staff and volunteers who made this event possible! We are so grateful for the generosity of our parent community. The Danceathon funds so many wonderful opportunities for our children. The way our community comes together for our students is truly what sets our school apart!

We look forward to many more exciting community events this year, like a Parent Social, our Annual Christmas Concert, Carnival Week, and Fun Fair!

Investment Priorities

One of CSPC's key priorities is investing in a broad range of resources and programs for the benefit of all students at Blessed Sacrament. Planning for our annual budget starts long before the new school year begins. The principal works closely with teachers to determine what their classroom needs are, and they identify broader school needs in alignment with the Board priorities of learning, equity and well-being. We also survey parents every few years to gauge feedback on budget priorities and areas for future investments. The budget will be communicated as soon as it is ratified at the CSPC Meeting.

Every year, we also offer a bursary for Blessed Sacrament families who may need assistance with school related expenses. Requests can be made in full confidentiality directly to Ms. Dey: julie.dey@tcdsb.org.

Stay In Touch

We'd Love to Hear from You! There are a variety of ways you can engage with the Blessed Sacrament CSPC. 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. Go to our website to subscribe to our BSCS Calendar (links are on the Home Page), to sync all our important events, PA Days, Dress Down Days, and more!

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. You can reach us anytime with questions, comments or concerns at cspc.blessedsacrament@tcdsb.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Pizza Lunch Resumed October 26 and will run every Monday (Tuesday after a holiday Monday) until the end of June. 1 volunteer is needed each week for our JK/SK to Grade 6 classes. 11:40 a.m. to noon. Sign-up.

Kiss 'N Ride: Kiss N Ride is our morning drop-off program, and we have a great need for volunteers and a new program coordinator! Please consider volunteering if you are able so that we can keep this program running. Every shift helps. Volunteers help with drop-off each morning from 8:40 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (program starts at 8:45 a.m.). Show up, grab a yellow safety vest from just outside the main door, and meet in front of the JK/SK yard. The program needs 2 volunteers each morning. If you would like to be part of the email communications about the program, please contact program coordinator Deb Hutton at debhutton22@gmail.com or 416-662-4758. Sign-up

Please note, A Police Record Check (PRC) is now required to volunteer in schools. Please apply early as processing times vary. BSCS volunteers – follow these steps.

If you have questions about volunteering, please contact Heather Lannigan, BSCS Volunteer Coordinator at heatherlannigan@hotmail.com.

Thank you to the many volunteers who have helped kick-off our 2026/2027 volunteer year!

Class Parents: We extend our gratitude to our 18 Class Parents for the 2026/2027 school year: Patricia Aiello, Nathalie Caceres, Tristin Carter, Alanna Charles, Joanna Develiadis, Shannon Doyle Raffoul, Carla Faraldo, Angela Holdsworth, Deb Hutton, Tram Le, Lucy Li, Adriana Morrison, Daniela Saldias-Rocha, Kate Schultz, Brooke Sorensen, Nicole Visca, Vivian Wong, and Barbara Yang.

Kiss n Ride: We also recognize and appreciate our small but mighty team of parents, students, and staff who have kept this important program running. Thank you to our Coordinator, Deb Hutton, for her incredible dedication to the weekly coordination, as well as our Grade 7 and 8 students for their help: Abigail, Ava, Amanda, Christian, Dominique, Emma, Ivan, Jessica, Maitland, Mila, and Summer. We also thank our parent volunteers: Tristin Carter, Lydia Chan, Theresa Devlin, Ji Hyang Park, Doug Kavanagh, Laura McElwain, Madja Potes Dagami, Kathryn Shaw, and Alex Snell.

Pizza Lunch: Hats off to our Coordinator, Robyn Meridith, for all her work getting the program up and running again this school year! We also thank our committee members, Cynthia Zeemel, Enza Giordano, and Marisela Navarro, for their weekly leadership, as well as our parent volunteers who helped on the first day: Kristen Bortolin, Nadia Bucciarelli Mari, Ki Kim, Sonia-Lynn Rodrigues De Rocchis, Nicole Visca, and Celine Yap. A special thank you as well to our student volunteers who lent a helping hand!

Danceathon: A big thank you to this year's Co-Chairs, Ada Maxwell-Alleyne and Nadia Bucciarelli Mari, for the countless hours they dedicated to making our first-ever Danceathon a huge success! We also thank our volunteer photographer, Kenneth Lim, as well as our volunteers who helped with organization, set-up, take-down, and prizes: Angela Holdsworth, Alex Snell, Laura McElwain, Kate Schultz, Brooke Sorensen, Kristina Teixeira, Nicole Visca, and Cynthia Zeemel.

Did we miss anybody? If you know of someone who is volunteering in the initiatives above but was not mentioned, please let Heather know!

PARISH NEWS



Blessed Sacrament Parish
1926-2026
A Century of Faith and Community

24 Cheritan Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4R 1S4
Tel: 416-481-2256



YOUTUBE CHANNEL
For BSCS school masses, parents join to participate virtually via the Blessed Sacrament's Church YouTube channel.

FLOCKNOTE
BlessedTO Flocknote is the newest way to have Blessed Sacrament Parish updates sent directly to your email inbox. Sign-up today, by registering here.

E-BULLETIN
Keep in touch with the Parish via text by registering for their e-bulletin. Text 'Digital' to 514-900-0130

WEBSITE: blessedsacrament.archtoronto.org

Children's Liturgy Program 2026

This program takes place at Blessed Sacrament Parish on Sundays at the 10:00 a.m. mass during the following dates:

- November: 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29
- December: 6, 13, 20 (27 is cancelled for Christmas/ New Year's Holiday)

This program is open to students in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2.

Registration forms are available in the Loretto Room of the Parish.



2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

The following chart lists school holidays, Professional Activity (PA) days, and other key dates for the 2026 - 2027 school calendar year of the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB).

Number of School Days	194
Number of Professional Activity Days	7
PA Day: Parent-Teacher Conferences	November 20, 2026
Christmas Break	December 21, 2026 - January 1, 2027
PA Day: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting	January 15, 2027
PA Day: Parent-Teacher Conferences	February 12, 2027
Family Day	February 15, 2027
Mid-Winter Break	March 15 - 19, 2027
Good Friday	March 26, 2027
Easter Monday	March 29, 2027
Victoria Day	May 24, 2027
Ontario Day*	June 1, 2027
PA Day: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting	June 4, 2027
Last Day of Classes	**June 29, 2027**
PA Day: Provincial Education Priorities	June 30, 2027

*Ontario Day is an instructional day.



CONTACTS & RESOURCES

Toronto Catholic District School Board 2026-2027

Source: TCDSB

On Friday, June 27, 2025, the Minister of Education placed the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) under supervision. While under supervision, all decisions that would normally be made by trustees, except for denominational matters, will now be made by the appointed Supervisor, Mr. Frank Benedetto.

Parents and guardians are asked to begin by addressing school-related matters at the school level, in recognition that those closest to the classroom are often best equipped to support timely and effective solutions. For more information on how to address school-related concerns, please visit the TCDSB Student / School Related Concerns webpage.

If your concern requires additional review or support beyond the school level, the Student and Family Support Office will assist by connecting you with your superintendent or the appropriate Board personnel.

CSPC—CONNECT WITH US!

There are many ways to connect with the Blessed Sacrament Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC) and stay informed:

- Reach out anytime with questions, comments, or concerns at: cspc.blessedsacrament@tcdsb.org.
- Stay in the loop with our weekly email updates, The Buzz, featuring the latest school news.
- Visit our website: blessedsacramentcs.com for a wealth of information on school programs, events, and resources.
- Check out our monthly newsletters for key dates, highlights, and upcoming activities.
- Join our private Facebook Group for real-time updates and community discussions.
- Attend our monthly CSPC meetings to hear important school updates, share your voice, and participate in decisions that shape our school.

We welcome and value your involvement, thank you!

CONTACT & INFORMATION

Blessed Sacrament School:

Office phone: 416-393-5226

Principal: Julie Dey

Vice Principal: Karl Leitmann

www.blessedsacramentcs.com

Blessed Sacrament Parish:

Office phone: 416-481-2256

Father Larry Marcille

Address: 24 Cheritan Avenue

www.blessedsacramenttoronto.ca

BSCS Newsletter Team: Daniela Saldias-Rocha & Jennie Lopes

Please email submissions for the December 2026 BSCS newsletter to bscs.newsletter@gmail.com by Nov. 20, 2026.

If you require an accessible version of this newsletter, please contact us.

To obtain a printed copy of this newsletter, please visit the school office.