



ST. CLARE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

391 Velmar Dr.
Woodbridge, ON L4L 8J5
Tel No.: 905-856-6643 Fax: 905-856-6349

<http://sce.ycdsb.ca>

Twitter: @sce_ycdsb



DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Advent is a time of hopeful anticipation. We await the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ! It is a time of self-reflection, a time of patient and prayerful waiting. Catholic schools are called to be places of hope. Hope is the spiritual virtue by which we place our trust in Christ's promises and rely not on our own strength alone, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit.

As Catholics we know that the Advent season is about preparing our hearts and souls for the birth of Jesus our Saviour. During this month the students and staff will be preparing for the coming of the Lord Jesus through prayer and by helping others within their classes, throughout the school and the wider community. Area 3 schools will be participating in a one day Toy Drive in support of the CP24 CHUM Christmas Wish. On Tuesday, December 8, a donation bin will be placed outside the front doors of the school from 8:00am to 3:30pm. Please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy to the drive. We are planning for the last week of school before the break to be a Christmas themed Spirit Week. More information will follow as we get closer to the date.

When you celebrate Christmas this year, remember that you are truly blessed. Christmas is not about who gets the biggest or best present. It is about looking at ourselves in the mirror and asking how can we make a difference in another person's life? That person may be your child, parent, brother or sister. It may be your wife, husband, neighbour or a stranger. Whether you know it or not, we all make a difference in the lives of others with our actions and words. It is also important to show our appreciation for those who make a difference in our lives. Tell those around you how lucky you are for having them in your life.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! May 2021 be filled with health, happiness and prosperity.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. F. De Bartolo
Principal

Catholic School Trustee & YCDSB Chair
Maria Marchese

Superintendent of Education
Opiyo Oloya

Pastor
Rev. Mgrs. John Boreon

Associate Pastor
Rev. Andre Lima

CSC Chair
Sandra Carvalho

Administrative Assistant
Maria Boem

Principal
Francesco De Bartolo

To report student absences and lates, please dial:
1-855-856-7862
OR
go.schoolmessenger.ca

SCE SCHOOL DAY:

- 8:35 Supervision Begins
- 8:50 Morning Entry
- 10:20 AM Recess
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:20 Lunch Recess
- 1:00 Afternoon Entry
- 2:20 PM Recess
- 3:40 Dismissal

<p>Mission Statement</p> <p>Guided by Gospel values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.</p>	<p>Vision Statement</p> <p>Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.</p>	<p>Core Values</p>	<p>Strategic Commitments</p>
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MONTHLY VIRTUES

Each month, a different Catholic virtue is highlighted board wide. Students are encouraged to demonstrate these attributes in their daily actions both at school and at home. During the month of December, we celebrate the virtue of **Hope**. Daily reflections and classroom discussions will be centred around this virtue.



ADVENT LITURGY

Given that we cannot gather in the school gym for monthly masses & liturgies, classes will be participating in virtual monthly liturgies. Our Advent Liturgy will take place on **Tuesday, December 15, 2020**.

CIVVIES DAY

Our next Civvies Day will be held on **Friday, December 18th**. Students who wish to participate are asked to wear appropriate clothing to school.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next virtual meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**



CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK

We are planning for the last week of school before the break to be a Christmas themed Spirit Week. More information will follow as we get closer to the date.



ONE DAY TOY DRIVE @ SCE

St. Clare CES is joining schools across the Woodbridge area and participating in a one day Toy Drive! Collection bins will be placed outside the front doors on **Tuesday, December 8, from 8:00am to 3:30pm**. Parents and students are invited to drop off a new, unwrapped toy on that day. Toys will be collected by the City of Vaughan and donated to the CP24 CHUM Christmas Wish. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

TIME TO SET GOALS & GO!

Term 1 is now in full swing! With your child's Progress Report Card and ParentTeacher Interviews complete, it is now time to work with your child to celebrate their successes and to develop a plan to address any next steps for ongoing success identified by you and / or your child's teachers. The plan is greatly augmented through strong two-way communication between home / school and it may take the form of :

- Curriculum-based newsletters/calendars/website
 - Notes/Checking of the Agenda
 - Phone Calls
 - Signing of rubrics, tests, assignments, etc.
 - Parent-teacher meetings, as needs dictate
- Let's help our children grow, not only as learners, but as well-rounded, character-focused individuals.



EXTREME TEMPERATURE THRESHOLD/WARM

The extreme temperature threshold at St. Clare CES has been set at -18 degrees celsius. That means if the temperature (including the windchill) is less than -18 degrees celsius, students will be heading outside for recess. Please ensure that students come to school appropriately dressed for the weather.

EXTRA CLOTHING REMINDER

It's that time of year again and the weather is getting colder, wetter and can be quite unpredictable. Please send extra clothing to school with your child for those cold, wet and/or muddy days. Extra socks are especially important as students will often have wet socks on rainy or slushy days. Extra clothing may be kept in the bottom of the knapsack. Please label your child's clothing whenever possible. With winter approaching, please ensure your child comes to school appropriately dressed for recess times and 40 minutes of outside activity at lunch time.

If a parent feels their child is too ill to go out for recess, then the child should be kept at home until they are better and are able to enjoy the outdoor recess routines.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2021/2022 School Year opens January 4th, 2021! Registration can now be done online from the board's website, www.ycdsb.ca. If you have a child who is turning 4 in 2021 or know of one who lives in the St. Clare boundary, please share this information with them.



INCLEMENT WEATHER NEWS

It is difficult to believe that the winter months are upon us. In the event of inclement weather, parents are asked to please exercise discretion in deciding whether to send your child(ren) to school. In the event of extreme winter weather, Student Transportation Services (STS) of York Region will notify designated radio and TV stations regarding bus transportation cancellation by 6:15 a.m. You may also wish to check the board website, YCDSB Twitter, or schoolbuscity.com for information. When transportation is canceled, schools will remain open and parents/guardians will have to make alternate arrangements to transport their children to and from school. Please note that if transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will not operate in the afternoon. If buses are cancelled for the day, all tests, quizzes, excursions, school programs, parent meetings, evening presentations, and evening permits are automatically cancelled and will be rescheduled.

NEW! HELPFUL TIPS ON INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS

When an Inclement Weather Day has been declared, an email will be sent to you from the school with the following information and reminders:

- All schools will be closed
- Students are NOT to come to school
- All student learning will be remote
- Staff will teach remotely through their virtual classroom
- B&A Programs will NOT run
- Child Care Centres remain open at the discretion of the operator
- Tests, quizzes, non virtual parent meetings are cancelled for today, and will be rescheduled
- If your child is not attending class via remote learning, please input their absence in the Safe Arrival system by calling 1-855-856-7862 or online at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca> before the start of the school day.

ST. CLARE IS A CHARACTER SCHOOL

Each morning, as part of our school announcements, we remind all our students at St. Clare is a character school. This means that we always hold ourselves to a higher standard. If students should ever find themselves in difficulty and cannot resolve a problem on their own, they are reminded to approach a caring staff member for assistance. We review daily that we must keep our hands and feet to ourselves and only to use kind words, even when we are provoked. Both the YCDSB and our school places excellence, equity, community and positive relationships at the heart of student success and well-being. ***We are a Catholic Learning Community of collaborative partners, called to serve one another by being committed to and accountable for quality learning by all with Jesus as our inspiration.***

STUDENT BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the YCDSB and St. Clare Catholic Elementary School that students will:

- ★ Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- ★ Respect differences in people, their ideas and their opinions
- ★ Treat one another with dignity and respect, especially when there is a disagreement
- ★ Respect and treat others fairly
- ★ Respect the rights of others
- ★ Take appropriate measures to help those in need
- ★ Seek assistance from teachers to resolve conflicts peacefully
- ★ Demonstrate respect for people in positions of responsibility
- ★ Respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching
- ★ Be courteous and polite at all times

We thank you for reviewing these expectations for behaviour and overall conduct with your child.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

Visitors are not to enter the school during hours of operation unless identified through a prearranged exception. It is expected that parents/guardians **contact the school by telephone first at 905-856-6643 if assistance is required.** Visitors will only be allowed to enter after they have reviewed the self-assessment notification posted at the front door. Visitors will be admitted individually by buzzer and remain in the front foyer. Visitors are expected to wear a mask at all times when inside the school and to sanitize their hands upon entry. If visitors are invited to enter the office beyond the foyer, a reminder to please respect a two-metre physical distance at all times. As usual, all permitted visitors must confirm their arrival by signing in/out. If a parent/guardian needs to meet with the Principal or teacher, **the meeting must be scheduled in advance.** While we are always willing to partner with you regarding any questions or concerns you may have, **drop-in visits to speak with the Principal or a teacher are not permitted at this time.**

MASKS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Parents are reminded to wear masks at all times when on school property. This includes at drop off in the morning and pick up in the afternoon, as well as when entering the school.