



ST. CLARE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Woodbridge, ON L4L 8J5
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<http://sce.ycdsb.ca>

Twitter: @sce_ycdsb



MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents /Guardians,

Our Lenten journey towards Easter began on Ash Wednesday. During Lent it is important to remember to not just “give something up”, but rather to focus on “doing something” for others. Giving of ourselves, sharing our time, talents or skills, is yet another way to build community and bring us closer to God. Lent is a time to remind us of how one kind deed at a time brings us closer to being the person that God wants us to be. Simple acts of kindness not only bring great joy to others, but also fill our own hearts with love.

During the Month of March, we celebrate the virtue of perseverance. Perseverance is being persistent with a task in spite of challenges, difficulties or obstacles. We will be reciting this prayer over the morning announcements:

*God of the Journey, walk with us this Lent.
Help us to persevere in staying with you
On the journey through Lent to Easter. Amen.*

In March we continue to look forward to the many learning opportunities planned for the students. Kindergarten registration also continues. Our March Break has been postponed until next month. In honour of St. Patrick’s Day, we share with you a special Irish blessing:

*May God give you... For every storm, a rainbow; for every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise, And a blessing in each trial.
For every problem life sends, A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song, And an answer for each prayer.*

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. F. De Bartolo
Principal

Catholic School Trustee
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>Excellence, Equity, Fiscal Responsibility, Catholicity, Inclusion, Integrity, Respect</p>	<p>Strategic Commitments</p> <p>Integration of Our Catholic Faith, Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement, Effective Use of Our Resources, Engaging Our Communities</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 March, we celebrate the virtue of **Perseverance**. Daily reflections and classroom discussions will be centred around this virtue.



CIVVIES DAY

Our next Civvies Day will be held on **Friday, March 26**. Students who wish to participate are asked to wear appropriate clothing to school.

VIRTUAL ROSARY APOSTOLATE

The St. Clare community once again welcomes the Rosary Apostolate back to our school. They will be visiting our classrooms virtually on a monthly basis. Our first virtual session was held in December. We thank the staff, students and Rosary Apostolate representatives for leading us in prayer.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, March 11th at 7:00 p.m.**



GRADUATION PHOTOS

YCDSB has approved protocols for Graduation Photos for our Grade 8 students. Photos are being taken on **Tuesday, March 30th**. More information will follow in the days to come to our Grade 8 Parents/Guardians.



The health, safety and well-being of all students, staff and the entire SCE community has always been and remains our first priority. Information regarding new Covid-19 practices were shared with all YCDSB parents and guardians prior to schools reopening for face-to-face learning on February 16th. These changes were made by a joint effort of the Ministry of Education and York Region Public Health. It is extremely important to be aware of and comply with these new practices as we continue to deal with the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Please refer to the attached documents as they succinctly explain changes in Covid-19 practices for schools. Every student, staff member and visitor to the school is required to complete the updated 2021 YRPH School Screening Tool. An updated Staying Safe @ School infographic depicts the changes to Covid-19 practices in an easy to read format. These two documents will be referred to and will continue to guide our practices at the school when your child is not feeling well.

Parents who are called to pick up their children when they are exhibiting a symptom consistent with Covid-19 will now be sent home with a form outlining next steps as well as a Parent Attestation Form that needs to be filled out and returned to school when the child is able to return. We thank you in advance for cooperating with the Ministry of Education and York Region Public Health mandated protocols.

SACRAMENTS @ SCE

Sacrament dates have been shared with the SCE community. This year, our Grade 2 students will be celebrating their First Communion on **Saturday, May 15 at 12:30pm**. Our Grade 7s will be celebrating their Confirmation on **Wednesday, May 19 at 7pm**. Both ceremonies will be taking place at St. Clare of Assisi Parish. Registration forms for First Communion and Confirmation have been emailed to parents and can be returned to the school once completed.

SAFE & CARING SCHOOLS

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.

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.

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.

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.

SAFE & CARING SCHOOLS

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, and sign into the Visitors' Binder. If visitors are invited to enter the office beyond the foyer, a reminder to please respect a two-metre physical distance at all times. 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**.

Staying Safe @School

Changes to Covid-19 Practices

The Ministry of Education and York Region Public Health recently made the following changes for schools, effective February 16, 2021.

One Symptom



If you have **just ONE** Covid-19 symptom you must **stay home** from school and **get tested** at an Assessment Centre.

More Masks



All staff and students in **Grades 1- 12 must wear a mask** on school property throughout the day (except at lunch). JK/SK students are encouraged to wear masks. Two- or three-layer reusable cloth masks are recommended for students.

Parents/visitors should wear a mask when on school property, even during drop-off/pick-up.



Students and staff need to wear masks everywhere on school property, **even OUTDOORS** during recess.



Students should **bring four (4) masks to schools each day** and a clean paper or breathable cloth bag to store them in.

Entire Household Treated the Same

If **anyone in your household is sick** and does not have a negative COVID-19 test or an alternative diagnosis, **EVERYONE** in the household must stay home from school.



If anyone in your household has **travelled outside of Canada**, **EVERYONE** must stay home from school until their 14-day quarantine period has ended.



If anyone in your household was **identified as a high-risk/close contact of a COVID-19 case**, **EVERYONE** in the household must stay home from school until notified they can return.

Updated Screening



All students and staff must complete the **York Region Public Health school and child-care screening tool** before going to school each day. **DAILY CONFIRMATION** of screening is required for **staff and secondary students**.

*Special accommodations may be made in some circumstances. Please visit www.ycdsb.ca for more details.



York Catholic
District School Board

COVID-19 SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE SCREENING TOOL

Students/children, all school board and child care staff and essential visitors must screen for COVID-19 every day before going to school or child care. Parents/guardians can fill this out on behalf of a child.

Date: (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

SCREENING QUESTIONS

1. Is the student/child/staff/essential visitor experiencing any of these symptoms (including mild and/or resolved)?

(Check the appropriate answer. Choose any/all that are new, worsening and not related to other known causes or conditions they already have)

Fever and/or chills Yes No

Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher

Cough or barking cough (croup) Yes No

Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing (not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Shortness of breath Yes No

Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply (not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Decrease or loss of taste or smell Yes No

Not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders or other known causes or conditions they already have

Sore throat or difficulty swallowing Yes No

Painful swallowing (not related to seasonal allergies, acid reflux or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Runny or stuffy/congested nose Yes No

Not related to seasonal allergies, being outside in cold weather or other known causes or conditions they already have

Headache Yes No

Unusual, long-lasting (not related to tension-type headaches, chronic migraines or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Yes No

Not related to irritable bowel syndrome, anxiety, menstrual cramps or other known causes or conditions they already have

Extreme tiredness or muscle aches Yes No

Unusual, fatigue, lack of energy, poor feeding in infants (not related to depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction, sudden injury or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Pink eye (Adults 18+ only) Yes No N/A

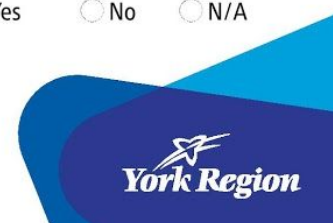
Conjunctivitis, not related to other known causes or conditions

Frequent Falls (For older adults) Yes No N/A

Stay safe. Stay Informed.

york.ca/COVID19

114 Last Updated February 24, 2021



2. In the last 14 days, has the student/child/staff/essential visitor travelled outside of Canada? Yes No
3. In the last 14 days, has the student/child/staff/essential visitor been identified as a “close contact” of someone who currently has COVID-19? Yes No
4. Has a doctor, health care provider or public health unit told you that the student/child/staff/essential visitor should currently be isolating (staying at home)? Yes No
5. Has someone in the household travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days who is not exempt from self-isolation because they perform an essential job (e.g. truck driver, pilot) and currently live within the home (i.e. they are not isolating at a government-funded isolation centre)? Yes No
6. Has someone in the household been identified as a “close contact” of someone who currently has COVID-19? Yes No
7. Has someone in the household been part of a dismissed school or child care cohort in the past 14 days, and are currently at home isolating? Yes No
8. Is someone in the household sick with the COVID-19 symptoms outlined above (new or worsening) and does not yet have a negative COVID-19 test result or alternative diagnosis from a health-care provider? Yes No

If you selected “Yes” to any of the above, the student/ child/staff/essential visitor should stay home (do not go to school or child care)

SCREENING RESULTS

If you answered “YES” to question 1 and the student/child/staff/essential visitor has any ONE of the symptoms listed that are new or worsening and not related to known causes or conditions that they already have (including mild and/or resolved), do not go to school or child care

- The student/child/staff/essential visitor should self-isolate away from other household members and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- All household members are required to stay home without exemption, even for essential reasons (except for medical care), until the symptomatic individual tests negative
- Book an appointment to get the student/child/staff/essential visitor a COVID-19 test:
 - If the result is negative, the student/child/staff/essential visitor and household members can return to normal activities (including school and child care) as long as they do not have a fever and symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours
 - If the result is positive, the student/child/staff/essential visitor who is COVID-19 positive must isolate for 10 days after symptoms first started AND household members must self-isolate as directed by Public Health; contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result
- If the student/child/staff/essential visitor does not get tested for COVID-19, they must isolate for 10 days after symptoms first started AND household members should isolate for 14 days from their last exposure to the symptomatic household contact

If you answered “YES” to question 2, 3, or 4, do not go to school or child care

- The student/child/staff/essential visitor should self-isolate away from other household members for 14 days after last known exposure OR return from travel, or as directed by Public Health, and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency
- Book an appointment to get the student/child/staff/essential visitor a COVID-19 test (if not already completed)
- Follow the advice of Public Health. Individuals can return to school/child care after they are cleared by Public Health
- If student/child/staff/essential visitor develop symptoms, seek testing at a COVID-19 Assessment Centre and contact public health or a doctor/health-care provider for more advice

- All members of your household should stay home from school or child care for the duration of the close contact's 14 day isolation period regardless of whether or not the close contact tests negative.
- If the close contact remains asymptomatic and tests negative, household members may leave the home for essential reasons (e.g. groceries, essential work) but NOT attend school or child care.

For question 3 Only:

- All members of your household should stay home from school and child care for the duration of the close contact's 14 day isolation period regardless of whether or not the close contact tests negative.
- If the close contact remains asymptomatic and tests negative, household members may leave the home for essential reasons (e.g. groceries), but CANNOT attend school or child care.

If you answered "YES" to question 5, do not go to school or child care

- The student/child/staff/essential visitor should stay home from school child care and only leave the home for essential reasons for the full isolation period of the household member regardless of if the household member tests negative
- If the household member is symptomatic and/or has a positive COVID-19 test result, the student/child/staff/essential visitor and household members must self-isolate for 14 days after their last contact with the household member who is COVID-19 positive; the student/child/staff/essential visitor of the household member should also seek out testing as recommended by Public Health

If you answered "YES" to question 6 or 7, do not go to school or child care

- The student/child/staff/essential visitor should stay home from school and child care
- If the household contact identified as a "close contact" or in a dismissed cohort remains asymptomatic and tests negative, household members may leave the home for essential reasons (e.g. groceries) but CANNOT attend school or child care until the "close contact" or individual from the dismissed cohort has completed their 14 day self-isolation.
- If the household member who is a "close contact" or in a dismissed cohort becomes symptomatic and/or has a positive COVID-19 test result everyone in the household must self isolate. Notify the school or child care who will contact Public Health for next steps.

If you answered "YES" to question 8, do not go to school or child care

- All household contacts of symptomatic individuals are required to self isolate without exemption, even for essential reasons (except medical care), until the symptomatic individual receives a negative COVID-19 test result, or an alternative diagnosis by a health care professional
- If the household member's result is negative, the student/child/staff/essential visitor and household members can return to normal activities as long as they do not have a fever and symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours
- If the household member's result is positive, the student/child/staff/essential visitor and household members must self-isolate for 14 days after their last contact with the household member who is COVID-19 positive; the student/child/staff/essential visitor of the household member should also seek out testing as recommended by Public Health

Visit york.ca/SafeAtSchool for more information on ways to protect yourself, your family and your school community.



Kindergarten Registration

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year begins January 4, 2021

Parents are invited to register online at:

www.ycdsb.ca/admissions

Following submission of an online registration, you will be asked to upload the following documents via a secure link:

- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (child or parent) or a Catholic Church in Communion with the Holy See of Rome
- Proof of age
- Proof of legal status in Canada
- Proof of residency
- Proof of Separate School Support (i.e. MPAC Assessment Notice), or you can complete a school support form that is included in the registration package.

JK: Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2021 (born in 2017)

SK: Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2021 (born in 2016)

If your child is already attending a YCDSB school for JK registration is not required.

For information, contact the Admissions Department:



www.ycdsb.ca/admissions



@ycdsb



905-713-2711 or 416-221-5050

