Year of the Parish

Josyf Cardinal Slipyj Catholic School

To Fast and to Feast

This is the season to turn around and let the SON shine in!
This is the season to Fast and to Feast!

Fast from judging others—Feast on Christ present in others
Fast from differences with others—Feast on the unity of all life
Fast from darkness—Feast on light
Fast from thoughts of illness—Feast on the healing power of God
Fast from hostility—Feast on peacemaking
Fast from words that pollute—Feast on phrases that build up
Fast from anger—Feast on understanding
Fast from worry—Feast on trust in God’s presence
Fast from bitterness—Feast on forgiveness
Fast from complaining—Feast on appreciation and thanksgiving
Fast from self-concern—Feast on compassion for others
Fast from suspicion—Feast on truth
Fast from discouragement—Feast on hope
Fast from problems that overwhelm—Feast on prayer that brings strength
Fast from chains that weaken—Feast on dreams that inspire
Fast from doubt that scatters—Feast on faith in God that centers our lives

When we empty ourselves of our fears—fear of failure, fear of loss, fear or criticism—we become free to do what needs to be done in life—

Joan Chittister
From the Office of the Principal

February has been a very busy month for the students at Josyf Cardinal Slipyj School. The students have enjoyed many enriching and interesting experiences. Some of the activities included a visit from a Ukrainian author, the Valentine Dance, Josyf Cardinal Slipyj 125 year Commemoration, Earth Rangers, Jr. W5H, Black Creek Pioneer Village, Pizza on Wednesdays, Family Movie Night, visit to Eatonville Library, Scientists in the School for the Kindergartens, boys and girls basketball tournaments, Nutrition Workshop, Loretta Penny Library Kenya Presentation, and the JCS District Review. Many, many thanks to all of our teachers and parent volunteers for dedicating their time and commitment to all of the students.

During this time of business we need to take a moment to remember that we are in the season of Lent, a prayerful and reflective month. Many of us gave up something and/or even are fasting during Lent. It may be chocolates, playing X Box, watching TV, meat on Fridays, and other fun and delicious things. And this is truly commendable and difficult for some of us. But we also need to remember that the act of giving may be just as difficult as fasting. During these weeks of Lent, let us remember the less fortunate in Toronto. The staff and students at Josyf Cardinal Slipyj School will be involved in a Food Drive for the St. Francis Table. The St. Francis Table is in desperate need of paper towels, cleaning products, soups, canned vegetables, canned meats, canned fish, rice, pasta sauces, tomato sauce, canned tomatoes, and much more. During this season of Lent, let us give more of ourselves and help others. Let us feast on giving!

A. Iwasykiw

3 Канцелярії Директора

Лютий традиційно виявився дуже занятим місяцем для учнів школи Йосипа Кардинала Сліпого. Діти мали можливість насолодитися багатьма цікавими і збагачуючими подіями. Серед них: візит української письменниці, танці до Дня св. Валентина, святкування 125-ї річниці з Дня народження Йосипа Кардинала Сліпого, програма "Охоронці Землі", змагання "Що, Де, Коли?" для 4-6 класів, екскурсія до піонерського села, піца по середах, сімейний вечір фільмів, візит до бібліотеки Eatonville, "Науковці в школі" для Дошкілля, змагання по баскетболу для дівчат і хлопців, майстерклас по здоровому харчуванню, презентація Лоретти Пені про Кенію, районний огляд нашої школи. Величезна подяка всім нашим вчителям і батьком-волонтерам за посвяту свого часу і зусиль для наших учнів.

Протягом цього дуже занятого часу, ми повинні пам’ятати, що почався Великий Піст, коли ми маємо можливість насолодитися багатьма цікавими та збагачуючими подіями. Серед них: візит української письменниці, танці до Дня св. Валентина, святкування 125-ї річниці з Дня народження Йосипа Кардинала Сліпого, програма "Охоронці Землі", змагання "Що, Де, Коли?" для 4-6 класів, екскурсія до піонерського села, піца по середах, сімейний вечір фільмів, візит до бібліотеки Eatonville, "Науковці в школі" для Дошкілля, змагання по баскетболу для дівчат і хлопців, майстерклас по здоровому харчуванню, презентація Лоретти Пені про Кенію, районний огляд нашої школи. Величезна подяка всім нашим вчителям і батькам-волонтерам за посвяту свого часу і зусиль для наших учнів.

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А. Івасиків
Goodbye and Welcome

It is with sadness that we are bidding farewell to Mr. Siauciulis, our grade 6 teacher on Friday, March 3. He has been with us while Mrs. Santiago was on maternity leave. We wish him all the best in his future as a teacher.

At this time we would like to welcome Mrs. Santiago who is returning from her maternity leave. She will be back and ready to start on Monday, March 6th. Welcome to JCS!

We are an Allergin Free School

There are children at the school who suffer from severe and life threatening allergens to certain foods, in particular peanuts, hazelnuts, almonds, cashews, peanuts, tree nuts, walnuts, pecans, sesame seeds, chick peas, nut products, eggs, all types of fish, and shell fish. We require the cooperation of the entire school and parents in NOT sending any snacks, Tim bits, doughnuts, and other edible treats on birthdays and special occasions. Edible treats returned and sent home with your child. In addition, we ask that parents discuss with their children the dangers of sharing food amongst friends. Students need to know that when a parent packs a lunch the expectation is that their food will be consumed by the child. Students are encouraged to bring back home any food that was not consumed so that parents are aware of what was and was not eaten.

URGENT REMINDER!!!

Please inform the school office if you have a new telephone number and if you have moved residence. It is very important that the school office is able to locate all parents at any time of the school day. The office has many numbers that are out of service. Please update the school office as soon as possible.

SICKNESS

We ask that all students who are under the weather with a sickness or recuperating from a sickness remain at home until they are 100% better. Students cannot learn when they are sick, weak and fighting the last effects of their sickness. Similarly, students are still contagious when they return too early. Please keep your child at home when they are sick or are recuperating.

Easter Flowers are Back!

JCS is proud to announce that our Spring Planters are back this year! The spring planters consist of flowering bulbs and are from the same reputable grower in Southern Ontario that supported our fundraiser last year. The flowering bulbs are potted in an attractive square planter and are perennial, thus they can be replanted outdoors and enjoyed year after year.

The cost to the JCS community is $20.00 per planter.

With both Easters being celebrated on the same day this year, this attractive planter will make a lovely gift for family and friends.

The funds generated by this fundraiser will continue to support technology enhancements in each classroom. Order forms (to be distributed the 2nd week in March) and full payment, cash or cheque are due by Friday, March 24th.

Parents will be able to pick up their planters on Tuesday, April 11th (Tuesday before Easter) between 3:00- 6:00 pm.
Education Support Worker Appreciation Day—March 6th, 2017

The Toronto Catholic District School Board has set aside the first Monday in March as Education Support Worker Appreciation Day to acknowledge our EA’s and all our support staff, of the invaluable contributions they make in the lives of our students and our school communities. This year, the appreciation day will be celebrated on Monday, March 6th. With warmest thanks to…Mrs. Leo and Mrs. Lazzaro.

International Women’s Day—March 8th, 2017

The TCDSB approved a motion to proclaim March 8th each year as International Women’s Day. Let us all pray for all women around the world.

IMPORTANT - March Break…NO SCHOOL!!!

Monday, March 13 to Friday, March 17th

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are reminding all students and parents that the school uniform as per Board Policy is as follows: solid navy or solid white top with navy bottoms. Many students are wearing coloured hoodies and stripped tops in class. Many boys continue to wear black bottoms, which is not per Board Policy. We are asking parents to take the time and effort into ensuring that your son or daughter come to school in uniform. Students not in uniform will be taking home a reminder from the school office indicating that your son or daughter are out of uniform. We ask that you sign this letter and return the letter back to school. Your cooperation and your child’s cooperation in this matter is appreciated.
Events/Activities of February 2017

Kateryna Babkina – Ukrainian Writer
125 JOSYF CARDINAL SLIPYJ DAY
February 9th, 1963 Josyf Slipyj was released and appointed Cardinal in 1965. Yet as he was not allowed to live in Rome, but was welcomed in Rome by Pope Paul II, granted Josyf the title of Primate of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.
W5H on Wednesday, February 22, at St. Josaphat School

Congratulations to our W5H members for placing first in their division. Members include Max C., Justin, Kristina, Alexandra R., Alexandra M., Alexander Y. Anna P. Igor B. Thank you to their coaches, Mrs. Antonyshyn and Mrs. D’Souza.

FUND Raising Initiatives

In our continuous effort to cherish children’s Ukrainian roots at JCS and planning different fundraising activities for 2017, funds collected during dress-down days will be going towards the school, heritage rejuvenation and restoration projects. This initiative will help us demonstrate our dedication to the cause as we continue to look for ways to draw additional funding sources.

Stay tuned for updates as we progress through the year
MATH TIPS FOR PARENTS

You are a math teacher!

We all know that reading with a child helps literacy skills, and that playing sports in the backyard teaches the value of teamwork and being physically active. But where are the life lessons for mathematics?

The truth is that we all use mathematics many times each day, but often don’t realize it. From trips to the grocery store to swinging in a hammock, math is part of our daily lives. Don’t underestimate your own math skills. You can help your child learn math!

“You are their idol. They look up to you. They don’t do a good job listening to you, but they do a fantastic job imitating you.” – Karl Subban, retired Toronto school principal and father of three NHL hockey players (P.K., Malcolm and Justin)

Math in everyday life!

It is important to help children recognize that everyone uses math all the time. Here are tips to help your child have a positive attitude about mathematics:

- Make learning math a positive experience. Don’t talk negatively about math to your child—it can lead to “math anxiety” (a proven cause of low achievement).

- Schedule math homework at the same time in a quiet location every day. Be available during this period to talk with your child. Create a math homework toolkit with pencils, erasers, ruler, protractor, graph paper, counters (beads or beans) and a calculator.

- When helping with homework, follow the method being taught. Don’t teach short cuts that could confuse your child. Do not say, “Let me show you my way – it’s simpler and faster.”

- Be relaxed and positive. You are not expected to be an expert. You are there to encourage learning.

- Ask your child’s teacher for strategies to use at home that reflect your child’s learning style. If your child asks for help and you do not know the answer, be honest and say, “I don’t know, but let’s figure it out together.” If you continue to be unsuccessful, you can also ask your child’s teacher for help. This gives your child permission to ask for help as well.

This edition of “Math Tips for Parents” was written by Lynda Colgan, Associate Professor and Director, Queen’s Community Outreach Centre, Faculty of Education, Queen’s University
Here are some suggestions that you may find helpful in supporting your child’s daily classroom work.

- Have your child help you solve everyday problems and talk about how your child can use what he or she is learning in mathematics.
- Play games that require a variety of reasoning skills (e.g., identifying relationships among numbers, grouping and classifying information, estimating, comparing answers to questions)
- Have your child solve a problem in different ways and talk about the advantages and disadvantages of each.
- Talk about the importance of mathematics in everyday activities
March Virtue - FORGIVENESS

To Err is Human. To Forgive is Divine

How timely that the virtue for this month is FORGIVENESS, not only because we are in the season of Lent but also because it is an important cornerstone of our faith and one that Jesus modeled for us in his life and death. We are reminded that forgiveness is a gift to ourselves as we let go of the burden of resentment when we forgive another person and it’s a gift to our children when we teach and model it to them. This month Josyf Cardinal Slipyj will be exploring the virtue of forgiveness by once again participating in our Lenten Food Drive.

How do we show Forgiveness at Josyf Cardinal Slipyj School:

- Let our actions be guided by the idea that Jesus said, “Let he who is without sin, cast the first stone.” It is easy to criticize others but no one is perfect. And, if God doesn’t judge us, how can WE judge others.
- The first step to forgiveness is to take responsibility for our actions. We usually know when we’ve done something wrong. Saying sorry can be tough but if you’re wrong, it’s the right thing to do.
- If you want to be forgiven, we need to make sure we forgive other people. We know that God will always forgive us when we do something wrong. If someone is really trying to make things better, we should try and move on from our anger and forgive them the way God forgives us.
- Live your life in a way that makes others know you are a follower of Christ. Jesus forgave others even when he was on the cross and we should follow Jesus’ way.

Important Holy Days

First Day of the Great Fast Day of Strict Abstinence – February 27, 2017
First Sunday of the Great Fast – March 5, 2017
Palm Sunday – April 9, 2017
Holy Thursday — April 13, 2017
Great and Holy Friday — April 14, 2017
The Resurrection, Easter Sunday—April 16, 2017
Easter Monday (no school)
Please note: Registration for the 2017-2018 school year begins January 18, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. E.S.T.

Kindergarten Registration for September 2017
The Toronto Catholic District School Board invites families with children born in 2013 to register for Kindergarten beginning Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 10 a.m. EST.

Registration options:
- Online: Parents will be able to complete their application online at: https://soar.tcdsb.org/Login.aspx. A follow up with visit to the school to present the required documents will be scheduled following the online application.

Information: 416-222-8282 ext. 5320 or 5314, www.tcdsb.org/kindergartenregistration

Upcoming CSPC Meetings
Tuesday, March 7 @ 7:00 pm in the school library
Tuesday, April 11 @ 7:00 pm in the school library
Tuesday, May 9th @ 7:00 pm in the school library
Tuesday, June 6 @ 7:00 pm in the school library

Parents are invited to attend!!!
On MARCH 3rd, 2017, the film "BITTER HARVEST" will be released in theaters across Canada! A love story, set against the backdrop of the 1932-33 Holodomor in Ukraine. Produced by prominent Ukrainian-Canadian Ihor Ihnatowycz, the film brings the tragedy of the famine-genocide to audiences around the world. (http://www.bitterharvestfilm.com/about/)

Below is a trailer link: http://www.dfilmscorp.ca/bitter-harvest

The film will be released across Canada on Friday, March 3rd, 2017 and will be in the following cities: Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Regina, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Windsor, London, Toronto, Thunder Bay, Kingston, Montreal and Halifax. A comprehensive list of theaters will be circulated shortly.

In Toronto the film can be viewed in the following theatres: Humber Cinema (Jane & Bloor) and the Yonge & Dundas Cineplex

Immediate Action for the Ukrainian Community:

“BITTER HARVEST” will be in theatres from March 3rd to 9th, and may be extended with continued demand and attendance.

Attendance - This is the first time that the Holodomor is depicted in a feature motion picture in the English language. While this historical drama has special significance for Canadian-Ukrainians, it is important that this story be disseminated and shared with Canadians from all walks of life.

Tickets – Individual tickets can be obtained at the box office of the theatre in your local city.

Group Tickets - Discount blocks of tickets can be purchased by contacting Cineplex directly at: 1-800-313-4461; Email: groupsales@cineplex.com. This is ideal for youth groups, seniors groups, schools (day schools and Saturday schools), church groups, dance groups, corporate groups, etc...).

For questions or general information you may have about release of “BITTER HARVEST” in your city or province, please feel free to contact me directly, by phone: 416 951 8097; or email: john.moskalyk@dfilmscorp.ca.

KINDLY CIRCULATE THIS INFORMATION WIDELY IN YOUR COMMUNITY!!!

Let us all do our part to see the success of "BITTER HARVEST" in Canada!
Monthly Update from the Board
March 2017

TCDSB Expands French Immersion Sites
The Toronto Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce the expansion of French Immersion sites, making it possible for more children and their families to take advantage of French Immersion programming. Parents and guardians can re-register their child for French Immersion using the SOAR-French Immersion application until March 10, 2017. Apply for French Immersion here: http://fisoar.tcdsb.org

Focus on Youth Summer Employment Program
The “Focus On Youth” program is a partnership between the Ontario Government, school boards, and local community agencies, providing summer programs for students in recognized high needs urban neighbourhoods, as well as employment opportunities and leadership training for youth. Focus on Youth supports the use of TCDSB school space and the employment of TCDSB students by non-profit community organizations participating in the program, and school space was offered to 85 community groups in 58 schools.


Anonymous Alerts
Starting in March, students in TCDSB secondary schools will be able to anonymously message their school principal about a range of issues including bullying and other safety concerns. www.anonymousalerts.com/tcdsb

Let’s Get Ready to Celebrate Canada 150
Everyone in the Toronto Catholic District School Board community is invited to join in Canada’s 150th birthday celebration throughout 2017. The 150th anniversaries of our nation and our province, coincide with our ongoing focus on our Pastoral Plan: “Together With One Voice: family, parish and school” which honours the three partners who have created the solid foundation on which Catholic education has been built. Catholic schools have been a rich and vibrant part of Canada’s and Ontario’s heritage since before confederation. JOIN US as we recognize our Boards unique place in Canadian history during this sesquicentennial year.

A website has been created for the many exciting events and initiatives that are already underway around the board: https://www.tcdsb.org/Canada150

Parish Family Day Happening May 5, 2017
As we continue to celebrate our Year of the Parish we want to know what makes your pastor and/or your parish unique.

Students are invited to create a short video, an original song, or piece of original artwork, write a short story or poem, or express themselves in any way artistically to highlight the relationship that the students have with the local parish and/or the priest/pastor at their church.

Remember that this does not have to be an additional assignment. Why not use the pastor/parish theme for a regular classroom lesson--whether that be a writing exercise, a poetry writing session or visual art project.
“Promote Your Parish” and let’s celebrate the many ways that our parishes and our parish priests contribute to our schools and communities. Submit the completed projects via email to parish.project@tcdsb.org by no later than April 7, 2017.

2017 ShareLife Parish Campaign
During this, our Year of the Parish, we encourage all students, staff and their families to consider supporting the many local Catholic charities that are funded through ShareLife. These Catholic agencies help families, single parents, the elderly, individuals with special needs, immigrants and refugees, the homeless and the needy, as well as the education of clergy within our own City of Toronto. Learn more about these organizations here: http://www.sharelife.org/Public/ShareLife-List-of-Agencies.

During Lent, and throughout the coming months, we invite you to consider partnering with your parish and support the work of ShareLife as it continues to “work wonders” in our own community and around the world.

A Mission of Hope for Haiti--Lenten Project with Missionaries of the Poor
This year, in co-operation with the Missionaries of the Poor, we are inviting our schools to participate in a special Lenten Drive, A Mission of Hope for Haiti. Our goal is to fill a 40-foot-long container with food, toiletries and school items that we may take for granted—e.g. food items, like rice and beans, toiletries, like toothpaste and toothbrushes, or school items, like pencils and pens. These items would be picked up from your school by volunteers from the Missionaries of the Poor, and through Canadian Food for Children, these items will be shipped to the Missionaries of the Poor to Haiti. The hope is that all schools will consider participating to some extent. If every student and staff provides just one item, it would be a tremendous help to the people of Haiti. Details are online here: https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/pages/hope-for-haiti-lenten-project.aspx

March Mental Health Newsletter
https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SpecialEducation/mhs/newsletters/March%20MH%20Newsletter%202017.pdf

Event Reminders:
March is Celtic Canadian Heritage Month
https://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/CelticCanadianHeritage/Pages/default.aspx
March 1, 2017—Ash Wednesday; Lent Begins
March 3, 2017—World Day of Prayer
March 6, 2017--Education Support Staff Appreciation Day https://www.tcdsb.org/pages/education-support-staff-appreciation-day.aspx
March 12, 2017—Clocks go forward 1 hour
March 13-17, 2017—March Break
March 20, 2017—Voices that Challenge Student Leadership Conference
March 21, 2017—International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination
https://www.tcdsb.org/pages/international-day-for-elimination-of-racial-discrimination.aspx
March 22, 2017—World Water Day https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/environment/water

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https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx to get all the latest news and information throughout the year.

March Message from Trustee Ann Andrachuk.

As we begin Lent, I am reminded about how fortunate we are as a Catholic community. Forty days of fasting, which begin with Ash Wednesday on March 1st, remind us of the sacrifices made by our Lord as we prepare ourselves for His resurrection on Easter Sunday. Contact your local Parish for Confession and Mass schedules.

Over the last several months the TCDSB has been engaged in developing and refining a comprehensive long term plan designed to position the Board, and the students it serves, for long term success. Known as the Long Term Accommodation and Program Plan, or LTAPP, the process seeks to identify and implement the programming students and parents are looking for and accommodate growing communities by identifying where new and expanded facilities are needed. For more information on the LTAPP please visit
https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/PlanningandFacilities/LTAPP/.

As we move closer to the end of the year the Board of Trustees are preparing to debate and decide on the budget for the 2017/2018 school year. As you may be aware, the Board has had to make some tough choices over the last several years to move towards a balanced budget. As we begin these discussions again I look forward to your input. You can find more information on the budget online at
https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/BudgetandFinance.

Finally, make sure to eat your fill of pancakes on Shrove Tuesday! Also, a quick reminder that March Break runs from March 13th to 17th. Take some time to rest and recuperate as we drive towards the end of the school year.
Ann