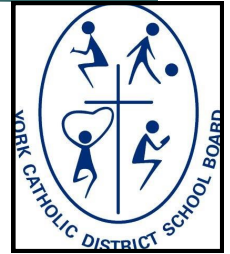




St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Elementary School  
475 Brownridge Drive  
Thornhill, ON  
L4J 5Y6  
Tel: 905-738-5703  
**Catholic Virtue: Wisdom**



February 2017

February is Black History month. It is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians, who throughout history have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation we know today. It is also an opportunity for the majority of Canadians to learn about the experiences of Black Canadians in our society, and the vital role this community has played throughout our shared history. We look forward to African Drumming presentation for grades K-8 on February 23rd!



### MONTHLY VIRTUE: WISDOM

#### KEY DATES:

Feb. 2- P.A. Day  
Feb. 13- Reports home  
Feb. 14- Valentine's Day  
Feb. 15- CSC meeting  
Feb. 20- Family Day  
Feb. 21-24 Carnival  
Feb. 23- African Drumming  
Feb. 28- Pancake Tuesday



#### School Hours:

9:00 a.m. –School starts  
10:20—10:35am recess  
12:00 -12:20pm Lunch  
12:20—1:00 pm recess  
2:20—2:35pm recess  
3:30 pm—Dismissal

\* \* \* \* \*

**Cathy Ferlisi:**

Trustee

**Mrs. DiNardo:**

Superintendent

**Fr. Mario-** Pastor

**Ms. Donovan-** Principal

**Mrs. Pontes-** Secretary

\* \* \*

#### SAFE ARRIVAL

#### HOTLINE

(call before 9:00 am)

**1-855-856-7862**

**or call the school  
after 9:00 am**

#### Words of Wisdom

*Live simply,*

*Love generously,*

*Care deeply,*

*Speak kindly.....*

*Leave the rest to God.*

*Life isn't about waiting for the storm to  
pass.*

*It's about learning to dance in the rain.  
Choose each day to not simply be alive  
but to LIVE!*

#### Catholic School Council (CSC)

**Next CSC meeting:** February 15, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. in the library

**Next PAR Transition meeting:** March 6, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. in the library

\*Please check the school website for updates: [sjw.ycdsb.ca](http://sjw.ycdsb.ca)



## Multi-Year Strategic Plan

#### Mission Statement

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.

#### Vision Statement

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

#### Core Values

Excellence    Equity  
Fiscal Responsibility    Catholicity    Inclusion  
Integrity    Respect

#### Strategic Commitments

Integration of Our Catholic Faith    Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement  
Effective Use of Our Resources    Engaging Our Communities

## Trustee's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I look forward to seeing many parents at the upcoming Homemade Literacy and Numeracy Workshop taking place on March 8 at St. Cecilia CES. Space is limited and spots are available on a first come first served basis. Remember to register by email: [www.homemade-literacy-math.eventbrite.ca](http://www.homemade-literacy-math.eventbrite.ca)

Wishing you and your loved ones a Happy Valentine's Day and a joyous Family Day.

Remember that I'm always a call or email away. Feel free to visit my website at:

[www.trustee.ycdsb.ca/ferlisi](http://www.trustee.ycdsb.ca/ferlisi) . You may contact me by email at [cathy.ferlisi@ycdsb.ca](mailto:cathy.ferlisi@ycdsb.ca) or by telephone at 416-565-7087. You can also follow me on Twitter @TrusteeFerlisi and on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/trusteeferlisi/>



## CSC NEWS

The CSC's annual Dinner & a Movie Night at the church was a wonderful success! Special thanks to Mrs. Wigston, Mr. DeMedicis and the Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph the Worker parish, and to both School Council Chairs from St. Joseph the Worker school and Holy Family for all their fine work in making this event happen. We would also like to thank our Trustee, Cathy Ferlisi, for donating the gift cards for the draw and for coming out to the support the event. It was a great way for both school communities to come together for some fun!

The CSC is now busily planning our next fun event- Pancake Tuesday! To celebrate the last day before Lent begins, the CSC and the school will be providing pancakes for lunch on Tuesday, February 28th! The pancakes will be supplied by Kids' Kitchen, which is a nut-free facility. Information about this event went home earlier in the month and is also posted on the school website: [sjw.ycdsb.ca](http://sjw.ycdsb.ca)

**Next CSC meeting:** February 15, 2017

## SHARING THE FAITH

**March 1-** Ash Wednesday liturgy in the gym  
@ 1:30 p.m. (organized by the Junior division)

## SCHOOL NEWS

### CHINESE NEW YEAR

Grade 5 teacher, Mr. Tunzi, and his students kicked off the Chinese New Year with their annual parade on February 10, 2017. This year's theme was the Year of the Rooster. Students donned brightly coloured outfits and held lanterns and celebratory signs. Others played drums and danced along with a beautiful Chinese dragon, as students lined the halls to watch. It was a wonderful spectacle!

### WINTER CARNAVAL

The French teachers have been working hard to organize this year's Winter Carnival which will take place February 21-24, 2017. Exciting games and activities have been planned and there are some great prizes to be won!! Each day, there will be a different theme. A calendar of weekly events will be sent home soon!

### AFRICAN DRUMMING

This interactive production for K-8, presented by Baba Williams, will take place on February 23rd, 2017. Holy Family school will also be joining us. The drum, dance and storytelling workshop is also a great way to educate and entertain students. It not only teaches them about conflict resolution, assertive communication, but also instills in them a sense of self and purpose: tools necessary to deal with bullying. In addition, engaging students in culturally relevant pedagogy can open doors to the heart and mind of young people and systematically transform their character and attitude.

## REMINDERS

### BUSES, LUNCHES & BAD WEATHER

A reminder that the school buses have the right of way in the school driveway. In the mornings, please pull ahead of the buses and drop your children off at the end of the Kindergarten yard or alternatively, please park in school lot or in the church parking lot to ensure your children are dropped off safely. Please check the weather forecast and [schoolbuscity.com](http://schoolbuscity.com) for updates. When buses are cancelled, all lunch programs at the school, including Soccer Plus, Music Star, and Hatch Canada, will be cancelled and rescheduled. Kids' Kitchen is the only lunch provider that will still deliver lunches. You will need to provide a lunch for your child on days that buses are cancelled. **If school buses are cancelled in the morning due to severe weather conditions the buses will not run in the afternoon, even if the weather conditions improve later in the day.** If you bring your children to school on that day, please pre-arrange with your child how he/she will be getting home at 3:30 p.m. Thank you for your cooperation.

### ALLERGY ALERT

As Valentine's Day approaches, we kindly remind you that students are not permitted to share candy with their peers. Valentine cards are fine. Thank you for your understanding. **\*Please note that lunches from McDonalds' and Tim Horton's are discouraged by the school board due to the fact that neither facility is nut-free. Thank you for your cooperation.**

## WINTER DRESS

We remind our students to continue to be dressed appropriately for the weather. **We ask that each child have indoor footwear e.g., running shoes to wear in the school and boots to wear outside.** Please check the weather report daily! Except under unusual conditions, students will go outside during recess and lunch hour. Research indicates that fifteen minutes of fresh air allows students to re-focus on their studies. We will be keeping students indoors when temperatures range between -18 to -20 degrees Celsius with the wind chill or when it is very icy. We continue to monitor the weather conditions daily and make decisions based upon our local conditions. Please keep in mind that children who are too ill to go outside should be resting at home. There may be days during the upcoming winter months when inclement weather presents a potential safety hazard to our children.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

We are currently accepting registrations for September 2017. Children must be four years of age by December 2017. At the time of registration the parent or guardian is responsible for providing:

- A Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate for the child
- Child's birth certificate
- Proof of residency
- Proof of Canadian Citizenship or landed immigrant status
- Proof of separate school support, (2015 tax assessment)

You may register your child during the following times: Monday—Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## SUPERVISION & PUNCTUALITY

**Morning supervision begins at 8:45 a.m.,** please do not drop off your children prior to this time. Students who are late must report to the office to obtain a late slip. Parents are asked not to escort students to their classrooms. All students must be signed out in the office by a parent/guardian, if they are leaving early.

## VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

The safety of your children is of utmost importance to us. It is imperative that the staff know the identity of all visitors along with the purpose of their visit. All visitors/volunteers must sign in at the office and pick up a visitor's tag. Parents/guardians are NOT permitted to walk through the hallways. Thank you for your cooperation.

