

Our Lady of the Rosary CES

206 Glen Shields Avenue

Concord, Ontario

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September 2017 Newsletter



A Blessing for the Beginning of the School Year
Dear Lord, as we begin this new school year,
we gather once again as your community of believers.
We thank you for the energy and the spirit that you renewed
in us through the summer months.

We thank you for the time to enjoy our family and
friends and to reflect on what is important in our lives.
Let this year be marked by enthusiasm and love so that,
with the inspiration of your Spirit,
we may continue to grow in our faith.

We ask this in your name.

Amen



Welcome Back to all the families of Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Elementary School and a special welcome to all the new students and their families who are joining us this year. We are also very pleased to welcome back the staff of Our Lady of the Rosary and welcome those new to our talented team.

Together our parents, Fr. Mario, our parish priest, and our staff are enthusiastically looking forward to making this an exciting year for learning, nurturing relationships, and continued faith-building for children. We extend a special thank you to our Trustee, Cathy Ferlisi, and our Superintendent, Nancy DiNardo, for their continued support and for representing us so well at the Board level.

At Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Elementary School, we will continue to encourage Catholic values to help our students grow as loving and faithful followers of Jesus Christ where respect is consistently demonstrated toward people of all ages, background, race, gender and beliefs. In partnership with St. Joseph the Worker Church, we will foster the children's spiritual growth especially through the sacraments of the Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation.

It is our vision to meet the needs of each individual child in our care. We have a very committed and hard working group of teachers who will be providing meaningful and productive opportunities for our students to learn the curriculum and beyond. This is so that your children, our students, may become responsible, successful citizens who are life-long learners that meet the challenges of the twenty-first century with know-how, persistence, and determination to meet their goals and desires. On behalf of the staff, we thank you for entrusting your children to our care. Communication between all partners in education is a priority at Our Lady of the Rosary. If at any time you have a question, concern or comment, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. She/he will be pleased to address issues that serve the best interests of your child. Also, please know that I am available should you have any questions or require assistance in any way.

At OLR., we have a very active, dynamic and hard-working Catholic School Council that works endlessly on behalf of our staff, students and parents. We appreciate all that council does for us.

As with each September school opening, we are very thankful for the efforts of our custodians, secretaries, teachers, volunteers, and Board staff for preparing our school and classrooms. The students will now settle into their classes and will be reunited with friends from last year, and will meet new friends. A great year is indeed upon us and we are ready and raring to go! We are looking forward to the opportunity of serving the community of Our Lady of the Rosary in the education of our students. We thank you in advance for supporting our school endeavours as we build a Catholic Learning Community here at OLR.

Yours in Catholic Education,
Anthony McGrath
Principal

Trustee: Cathy Ferlisi
416 221-5051 ext. 1716

Superintendent: Nancy Di Nardo
416 221-5051 ext.13123

Principal: Anthony McGrath
anthony.mcgrath@ycdsb.ca

Secretary: Mrs. Palermo

Parish Priest: Father Mario Salvadori



Catholic Virtue: COURAGE
Catholic Graduate Expectation:
A self-directed, responsible, life-long learner.

- * *I will stand up for what I know is right and just.*
- * *I will face challenges, fears, and difficulty with fortitude.*
- * *I will take responsibility for reaching my potential.*

The School Day

Supervision start time: 8:35 a.m.

Entrance: 8:50 a.m.

Recesses: 10:15 a.m. & 2:10 p.m.

Lunch: 11:50-12:50 p.m.

Dismissal: 3:20 p.m.

To report student absences/lates, please dial 1-855-856-7862 before the bell time for the current day, or visit yorkcdsb.schoolconnects.com
Planned absences may be reported in advance.

Our OLR Learning Community

Introducing the 2017-2018 Staff at Our Lady of the Rosary

Junior/Senior Kindergarten	Ms. Ecclestone	ESL	Ms. Marini
Junior/Senior Kindergarten	Ms. Battel	Core Resource	Ms. Guida
Grade 1	Ms. Bromley	Core Resource	Ms. Marinelli
Grade 1/2	Ms. Prechner	ISA	Ms. Bosse/Ms. Margie
Grade 2	Ms. Petrolo	Music	Mr. Costabile
Grade 3	Ms. Ali	Educational Assistant	Ms. Quattrociochi
Grade 3/4	Ms. Iaboni	Educational Assistant	Ms. Vicente
Grade 4	Ms. O’Sullivan	Educational Assistant	Ms. Malia
Grade 5	Ms. Sciulli	Educational Assistant	Ms. Gallo
Grade 5/6	Ms. DiVincenzo	CYW	Mr. Serieux-Hall
Grade 6	Ms. Amato	R.E.C.E.	Ms. Colella
Grade 7	Mr. Pellegrino	R.E.C.E.	Ms. Carpanzano
Grade 7/8	Ms. Gurrieri	Head Custodian	Mr. Thai
Grade 8	Ms. Giunta	Custodian	Mr. Notarangelo
Teacher Librarian	Ms. Guida	Custodian	Ms. Yun
Physical Education	Ms. Iannetta	Lunch Time Supervisor	Ms. De Luca
Hearing	Ms. Barker	Lunch Time Supervisor	Ms. Iori
French	Mme Colarossi	Lunch Time Supervisor	Ms. Pedota
French	Mme Guernon	Senior Secretary	Mr. Escobar
		Office Support Worker	Ms. Palermo
		Principal	Ms. Sferopoulos
			Mr. McGrath

Welcome Message from your Local Trustee

I hope that you and your family have enjoyed a safe and happy summer. My heartfelt welcome to new families and to those families returning to the Our Lady of the Rosary school community. I encourage you to contemplate joining Our Lady of the Rosary’s Catholic School Council – involved parents really do make a difference.

I look forward to working with you during this school year. As always, you may reach me at 416-565-7087 or by email at: cathy.ferlisi@ycdsb.ca. Feel free to visit my board website at: www.trustee.ycdsb.ca/ferlisi. Visit my Trustee Facebook page “Trustee Ferlisi” and follow me on Twitter @TrusteeFerlisi.



May the Holy Spirit guide your children during this school year in appreciating the love of Jesus Christ.

Election Nominations for our 2017-2018 Catholic School Council—September 18th



Our Catholic School Council is passionate about contributing to the important health and well-being of the entire Our Lady of the Rosary community. A hard working group of parents representing our school comes together to support learning in many different ways. By way of example, members of our Council and the volunteers who support their committees, organize weekly pizza and hot lunches to our students, fundraise, host sacramental celebrations, support our many social justice projects and above all, provide constant feedback to us to help support the academic, social and spiritual aspects of our school.

We invite all parents to consider becoming a member of the OLR Catholic School Council.

Your active participation can only serve to enhance all the wonderful things that happen in our school. The nomination forms will be sent home by the end of this week. Please fill it in and let your name stand for election to the OLR CSC for the 2017/18 school year. Nominations must be submitted to the office by September 13th. We look forward to your involvement!

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS

As we did last year, OLR will continue to reduce waste by going “electronic” with our school newsletters. Our newsletters are posted on our school website each month and will also be sent to you by email. If you need a hard copy, please send your child to the office and we will send one home to you. We encourage you to visit our school website often as pertinent information and monthly news is updated regularly. You can also look for us on Twitter @OLRrosary

<http://olr.ycdsb.ca>

Catholic Community of Faith

Terry Fox Run/Walk

"I just wish people would realize that anything's possible if you try; dreams are made possible if you try." — Terry Fox

Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic School will be hosting its 12th annual Terry Fox Run/Walk on **Friday, September 30th, 2016 at 9:15a.m.** The primary students will partake in a walk around the school grounds and the junior and intermediate students will be walking around Glenshields and Dufferin. We are asking that all students bring in a "Toonie for Terry". As well, you may wish to pledge online at www.terryfox.org/SchoolRun/. We are also encouraging students to wear red and white on this date to support this very worthwhile cause.

Ms. Guida, Ms. Marinelli, Ms. Amato, Ms. Gurrieri & Mme. Colarossi

Luke 4:18 Social Justice Committee

Luke 4:18 Social Justice Committee is an example of our Christian faith in action; it builds community and promotes student servant leadership. The students reflect on what we, as Catholics, can do to make a difference.

We are looking forward to another great year of faith-in-action by student members of the 2017/2018 Luke 4:18 Social Justice Committee.

Ms. Marinelli, Ms. Guida, Ms. Amato, Ms. Gurrieri & Ms. DiVincenzo



Quality Learning For All

Curriculum Night - Thursday, September 21st: 7:00 p.m.



Parents are invited to attend our Curriculum Night on **Thursday, September 21st, beginning at 7:00 p.m.** This is an excellent opportunity to meet your child's teacher, to see the classroom learning environment and receive an overview of the curriculum for the year. We will be meeting in the gym first to introduce the staff of OLR and the new Catholic School Council. To maximize the value of this information evening for all parents, we kindly request that you make child-care arrangements if at all possible. If you are unable to do so, your children must remain with you throughout the evening. Thank you.

Telephones, Cell Phones



We would like to remind parents that students will always be allowed to use the school office telephone in **EMERGENCY** situations. Please make arrangements at home for after school activities or changes in pick up arrangements. Cell phones can get lost, stolen, damaged, passed around or used by children or their friends to make/take inappropriate or even dangerous calls. Students can leave their cell phones in their school bags or keep them on their person, but out of site. They are to be turned off and only used after school hours. If students are found using a cell phone, even at recess, it will be given to the office where parents will be given a call. Repeated instances will result in the cell phone having to be picked up by a parent and asked not to be at school at all. Please help us by reminding your child of these rules.

School Times

School begins promptly at 8:50 a.m. Students and parents are reminded that each student has a responsibility to be on time. Arriving late disturbs the other students, interferes with the program and centers attention on a latecomer. Please help us teach the value of "being on time". If lateness continues, the Attendance Counselor will be contacted.

8:50 a.m.	Entry
10:15-10:30 a.m.	Recess
11:50-12:10 p.m.	Lunch
12:10-12:50 p.m.	Lunch Recess
12:50 p.m.	Afternoon begins
2:10-2:25 p.m.	Recess



School Yard Supervision



OLR staff have been assigned school yard and bus supervision duties. Please help the staff in ensuring a safe and protected environment for all children. **Please allow your child(ren) to proceed to the back of the school yard alone.** This provides the student with confidence and independence. In addition, this allows staff on yard duty to more readily spot any strangers. Morning supervision begins at 8:35 a.m. so please do not have students arrive at school before this time. Please note that all staff and supply staff on duty will be wearing **orange vests** so that students can easily identify the supervisor on duty. Also this will assist us in quickly spotting any strangers on our playground. These steps are all taken for the **safety** of the OLR students.

Agenda Orders



The agenda/planner is an excellent communication tool between home and school which also promotes excellent organizational skills. It has been well received and successfully implemented in many schools across the Board. We will continue to implement the use of the agenda/planner from grades 1 to 8. Agendas were ordered for students in these grades. Please send in **\$5.00** for the cost of this item. Please return the cheque payable to Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic School or money in a sealed envelope, clearly labeled with your child's and teacher's name by **Friday, September 15th, 2017.**

Picture Day: Mark your calendar!



Wednesday, September 13th is our school Picture Day! Individual and class pictures will be taken on this date.

Visitors and Visiting

Any visitor to the school, whether a parent, volunteer or otherwise, **must** report to the office. For the protection and safety of each child, we would ask that you adhere to this rule. Please note that visitors to our school and parent volunteers are asked to wear a Visitor Badge and/or Parent Volunteer Badge obtained at the office and are also asked to sign in the Visitor's Log Book.

VISITORS
WELCOME!
PLEASE SIGN IN
AT OFFICE

Monday, September 25th, 2017 is a **Faith PA Day** and there is **no school** for students. Staff will be participating in professional development activities.



Safe and Caring School Community

School Safety Week

During the last week of September, students and staff at OLR will take part in a variety of Safety Procedure Drills. Fire Drills, Lock Downs and Severe Weather will be reviewed and practiced. We will practice quickly and quietly exiting the building in the event of a fire. In addition, we will review where the safe zones are in the case of a lock down or severe weather. We will continue to practice these drills periodically throughout the year.

Parent Handbooks

Please visit our board website at www.ycdsb.ca to reference the York Catholic District School Board Parent Handbook. It provides an excellent overview of the curriculum expectations for each subject and grade level, and highlights board policies as well. For those unable to access this resource on line, please request a hard copy from the school.

Medication at School

Our schools do not have a school nurse. Therefore, whenever possible, have your doctor schedule medication to be administered outside of school hours. If, in extremely unusual circumstance, your child must take medication during the school day, come to the school office and complete the required form S16 and S16a. This form **must also be signed by your physician**. Students can not have medication in their bags or desks at school. All medication must be kept in its original container with your child's name clearly visible and will be safely locked in the school office medicine cabinet.

Freedom of Information, Emergency Forms

Emergency Procedure Forms will be brought home this week. These completed forms are critical in enabling us to reach you, the parents, or your designated emergency caregivers, in the event of an illness or an emergency. On some rare occasions, if parents cannot be reached, the Principal may need to take immediate medical action for your child that may involve hospitalization. For this reason, please make sure that ALL medical information is current, including any drug allergies or existing medical conditions that would be helpful without your presence. Please return these **green forms** by **Monday, September 11th**.

If you could include your e-mail address on the form it would be greatly appreciated.

Lunch Drop-Offs

Children should arrive at school with their lunch in the morning. However, at times you may find it necessary to deliver lunch at school. **Please** keep lunch drop-offs to a minimum and have your child's name on the bag and deliver the lunch to the table inside the front door of the school by **11:45 p.m.**

The Protection of Anaphylactic Students

The York Catholic District School Board has a comprehensive policy to help protect students with life threatening allergies. Protecting anaphylactic students from exposure to life threatening substances creates a major challenge to all elementary schools. As outlined in the policy, parents are asked to inform the school of such allergies immediately and are required to fill in **S15** and **S15a** forms which are available in the office. Each form must have a passport size picture attached so that the student is easily identifiable to staff. Parents are also asked to ensure that students for whom Epi-Pens are prescribed, have two Epi-Pens at school. Twin-jet Epi-Pens are **not acceptable** for school use. One Epi-Pen **should be worn by the student in a fanny pack at all times, which includes on the bus, on excursions, and on all other school related activities/sports. The other Epi-Pen must be stored in the school office for emergency use only. This Epi-Pen will also be taken on trips.**

The following are avoidance strategies we will be implementing at Our Lady of the Rosary to help keep all our students safe.

- ◆ We will continue with our "nut safe" school environment via food restrictions. Students will be informed of and reminded that they are not to share food. The school environment includes entire school grounds, buses and other modes of transportation, school trips, before/after school/weekend programs, and school sanctioned events involving pupils.
- ◆ We will prohibit food outdoors to minimize exposure to insects (i.e. wasps, etc.).
- ◆ We will continue to communicate regularly to the entire school community that we are a "nut safe" school via newsletters, and posting of "nut safe" signs throughout the school.
- ◆ We will take special precautions around holidays and special celebrations, by planning activities that ensure the health and safety of our students. No cakes, cupcakes, muffins, donuts, and the like, will be allowed in the school for birthday recognition purposes. If parents are wishing to send in a "treat", non-edible treats (stickers, pencils, etc.) are encouraged.
- ◆ We will continue to ensure that all products sold through the school for fundraising or otherwise are nut safe, as well as being in keeping with the Food and Beverage Policy.

We will continue to ensure that permit holders, visitors and all school staff are aware of these precautions.



We ask that NO PRODUCTS be brought into the school that may contain nut products such as peanut butter, Nutella, certain types of chocolate bars, cookies, Tim Horton's and McDonald's products. Fresh vegetables, fruit, "no nut" granola bars, raisins, etc. make great snacks for your child and do not pose health risks. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

IMPORTANT NEW BUS INFORMATION

In the event of a late bus we ask that you kindly visit the School bus transportation Website: www.schoolbuscity.com. and/or contact the bus company directly.

If you have any questions and/or concerns we ask that you kindly contact the Transportation Department at [905-713-2535](tel:905-713-2535). We ask that you make note of your child/children's school bus route numbers and the stops because you will require this information when checking the Website or calling the bus company.

The **NEW** school bus company is **SINTON TRANSPORTATION - VAUGHAN DIVISION – 905-264-6228:**

The Bus Routes are as follows:

In the AM it is Route 3072 (formerly Route #3156) and in the PM it is either Route 3035 (formerly Route #346) or Route No. 3115 (formerly Route #3940)

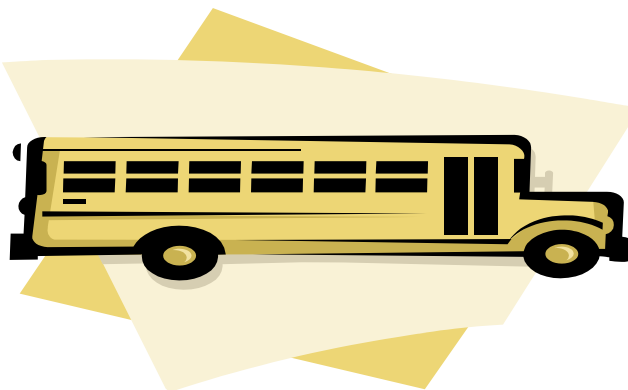
In the AM it is Route 3004 (formerly Route #304) and in the PM it is Route 3004 (formerly Route #304) or Route #3115 (formerly Route #3940)

In the AM it is Route 3095 (formerly Route #3916) and in the PM it is Route 3115 (formerly Route #3940)

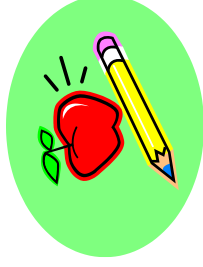
The wheelchair school bus company is **SHARP BUS LINES – 289-467-4998:**

In the AM it is Route 1508 and in the PM it is Route 1513

**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU REVIEW
WITH YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN THEIR
BUS ROUTES AND STOPS**



SEPTEMBER 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4 Labour Day	5 Back to School 	6	7	8	9
10 Grandparents Day	11 Hot Lunch forms go home 	12 First Holy Communion registration for grade 2 students	13 Picture Day -Catholic School Council Nomination Forms Due	14	15	16
17	18 CSC Elections @ 7:00 p.m.	19 Bus Evacuation Drills	20	21 Autumn Begins Curriculum Night @ 7:00 p.m. 	22 -Safety Awareness Week Begins	23
24	25 PA Day No School for Students	26	27 Grade 7 Confirmation Registration	28 Terry Fox Walk @ 9:15 a.m. Bring in a toonie for Terry!	29	30