



St. John XXIII Catholic School

The Monthly - April 2018

Trustee
C. Cotton

Superintendent
L. Sawicky

Principal
C. Mills

Secretary
E. Marincola

Parish
St. Justin, Martyr

Parish Priest
Monsignor V. Vlasic

St. John XXIII Catholic School
125 Krieghoff Avenue
Unionville, Ontario
L3R 1V8
905-477-3288
<http://j23.ycdsb.ca>



Prayer for Spring

God of new life.
During the season of spring
We celebrate the Risen Lord,
Your Son Jesus,
And recognize the beauty of the earth,
Your creation.
May we always offer you our prayers of
Thanksgiving for the season of spring.
Amen



Enjoy a blessed Easter season with family and friends!

Warmest regards,
C. Mills

Celebrating the Virtue of *Reverence*

- + honour and respect God's gift of life
- + appreciate the awe and wonder of God's creation
- + celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection

Mission

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

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

Core Values.

Catholicity, Excellence, Equity, Fiscal Responsibility, Inclusion, Integrity, Respect

Strategic Commitments

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

"We believe in the power of prayer."



Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

New YCDSB Director of Education - Ab Falconi

We welcome Ab Falconi, our new Director of Education on April 1, 2018.
Best wishes and many blessings Mr. Falconi!

Welcome

Oral Communications

SJXXIII Oral Communications Competition will be held on Wednesday, April 25th in the gym. Junior students will present at 9:15 a.m. and Intermediate students at 10:45 a.m. The top student from each division will attend the area-level Oral Communications Competition, which will be held at St. Justin, Martyr C.E.S. in Markham on May 2nd, 2018. Thank you to Ms. FitzGerald, Mr. Yu and Mme Cardinale for organizing our Oral Communications program and to all of the teachers and students who have been working hard on their speeches. Good luck to all!



EQAO

Grade Three and Grade Six students will be writing their EQAO tests at the end of May and the beginning of June. Our teachers have been working hard throughout the year to ensure that our students have the knowledge, skills and confidence to reflect their true competency during EQAO. We encourage you to continue to do your part as parents in reinforcing and supporting your child's education. We wish students all the best on their EQAO test writing. We ask that parents try not to schedule any trips or appointments during these weeks in order to accommodate the prescriptive timelines of the EQAO testing procedures.



Running Club

Running Club will be beginning this spring – stay tuned for more information.



Basketball

Our Girls and Boys Intermediate Basketball teams will play in Area tournaments on April 4 (Boys' team) and April 5 (Girls' team). We wish them well in their upcoming tournaments! Go Jaguars Go! Junior Basketball practices for both the boys' and girls' teams will be underway in the next few weeks– local tournaments are scheduled on April 30th and May 7th respectively. Thank you to Mr. Silveri and Mr. Sciuili for their efforts in coaching our junior students.



Library News...

Our library continues to be a busy and exciting place. Here is an outline of some of the things that will take place in April:

- Our junior and intermediate students will be invited to join the Silver Birch Book Club. We will read and discuss these books simply for the joy of reading.
- We continue to read our Blue Spruce Books in grades JK to 3. Recent titles include *The Darkest Dark*, *A Squiggly Story* and *The Branch*. Please ask your children about these stories. I think they will be delighted to share what they have learned with you.
- Sunday, April 22 is Earth Day. We will read about and discuss ways to be kind to Mother Earth in the library. As a family, consider taking National Geographic's Earth Day Quiz at <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/games/quizzes/earth-day-quiz-whiz/>.
- As always, we will continue to learn about the practice of mindfulness using our "Glitter Jar" and meditation skills

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Integration of Our Catholic Faith

Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation

Our Grade 2 students will receive the sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday, April 29th at 4:00 p.m. and Grade 7 students will be confirmed at St. Justin, Martyr Church on Sunday, May 6th at 3:00 p.m. May God continue to bless our students and their families as they continue on their faith journey.



School-wide Virtue Morning Celebrated-Theme 'Be Positive'

On March 23rd, JK-Grade 8 students had a wonderful morning together learning, sharing and participating in a variety of theme-related activities, such as; mindfulness, singing and art.

Be positive

Monthly Virtue Recognition and Celebration Assemblies-Virtue of Perseverance

Living our faith is the spirit of this school-wide initiative. Each month we hold an assembly and recognize those students who have demonstrated the month's virtue. While we know that all students show each month's virtue in one way or another, some students demonstrate the virtue of the month in a particularly special way. We celebrate the following Virtue of Perseverance Award recipients: Laiyto S., Kate C., Mia B., Jaeden N., Matteo B., Marcus N., Sabina S., Mason B., Isabella S., Aiden C., Rianna K., Anthony C., Bianca L.M., Rihanna A., Vincente D., Christian F., Fiona A., Elle V., Nicolas D., and Neveah T.A.



Catholic Education Week-May 6-11

We will be celebrating Catholic Education Week during the week of May 6 through May 11. The theme to be celebrated this year is "**Renewing the Promise**".



We will be sharing more information of the special events we have planned to celebrate this week in the weeks to come.

Volunteer Appreciation Tea—Wednesday, May 9, 2018

'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.' Margaret Mead



Our Volunteer Appreciation Tea will be held on Monday, May 9th at 2:20 p.m. and honours the kindness and support of the many volunteers in our school community who so generously give of their time and share their talents. We are most appreciative!

Healthy Schools Update

Students are continuing to enjoy a morning snack from the Healthy Snack program on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. We are grateful to parent volunteers who make this program possible. We are having a Loonie/Toonie Drive on April 13th to help support the program which is funded in part from the Ministry Breakfast for Learning and a grant from the Metro Green Apple program. More information on the Loonie/Toonie day will be sent home shortly.



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Engaging Our Communities

Catholic School Council

Our next Catholic School Council Meeting will be held on April 12th, 2018, in the library starting at 7:00 p.m. Please join us if you are able.



Digital Footprints and Setting Healthy Boundaries Online-April 5

All parents are invited to an informative evening on internet safety and digital citizenship featuring engaging guest speaker, Anthony McLean. The parent evening takes place on **Thursday, April 5 from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** Thank you to the hard working CSC parents for organizing the parent engagement event. Please call the main office at 905 477 3288 if you are plan to attend.



Share Fair 2018

St John XXIII's annual Share Fair will take place during the afternoon of Friday, May 11th. Share Fair is an important fundraiser with all proceeds going to Markham-Stouffville Hospital and Share Life. Students will engage in fun activities throughout the school, such as; the always popular Fish Pond! Parents are very welcome to attend. A letter will be sent home to outline the details of Share Fair, including how to purchase tickets and items needed for class raffle baskets. Donations of gently used books and toys are always welcome and will be used as prizes. Thank you to Ms. Burdi, Ms. Faria, Ms. Ofilan, Mlle Sassone and Ms. Sculli and for organizing this meaningful and fun-filled event. Also, thank you to all our families for their continued support of this school tradition!



St. John XXIII Yearbook 2017-2018

Yearbook order forms will be going home shortly. The cost for a soft cover yearbook is \$37, but please check the order form for upgrade options. If you have photos from school events that you would like considered for the yearbook, please send directly to Ms. Christidis at lina.christidis@ycdsb.ca. A big thank you to Ms. Lin, Mrs. Crowe, Ms. Christidis, Ms. Fantauzzi and our Intermediate students for their hard work in reflecting student learning, engagement and spirit at St. John XXIII! **Orders are due on May 18th, 2018.** More information will follow in the next few weeks.



Chef à l'école

On Thursday April 26th and Friday April 27th, the French cultural, Language and cooking program will be at St. John XXIII again this year. As in past years, students will once again enjoy baking, singing, and listening to stories...tout en français! Information will be sent home in the next few weeks.

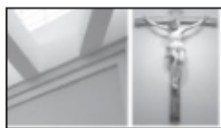


Are you Moving?

Parents and/or guardians who are moving out of the area and/or know that their children will not be returning to St. John XXIII, are asked to inform the school in writing as soon as possible.



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St. Justin Martyr Parish

3898 Highway 7 East - Unionville, ON L3R 1L3 (905)-479-2463

April 2018 School Newsletter

Happy Easter! Alleluia.

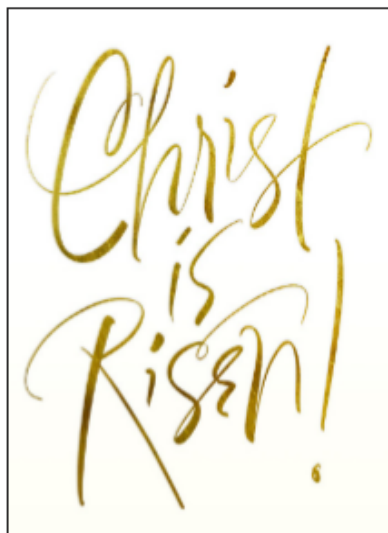
Some people just have the ability to make something out of nothing. Jesus has the ability to make nothing out of something. He takes the power of sin and death and destroys it completely. In place of sin, darkness, and death, Jesus brings life, light, grace and joy. Through his love and sacrifice, life is changed, not ended. Our life has a purpose and goal that allows God to make something out of nothing.

We become His masterpiece, His people, the Church.

This Easter, remember who you are and why we come together. Welcome the stranger, the estranged, those whose faith is weak.

Together, we sing and offer our alleluias for this great day the Lord has made. On behalf of our "faith family" to yours, we wish you a blessed Easter celebration.

Msgr. Vid Vlasic, Pastor



Activities at a Glance

April 8

Divine Mercy Hour

All are welcome to the Church from 3:00pm - 4:00pm for an hour of prayer, adoration and confessions.

April 7/8

Bundle Sunday Truck

We will be collecting donations of gently used clothing for the St. Vincent de Paul's annual Spring Bundle Sunday Drive. Please bring your donation to any of our liturgies this weekend. No appliances please.

April 14

Confirmation Family Interviews

We warmly welcome our Grade 7 families for their post-program interview. Anytime from 10:00am - 1:00pm. If you don't remember your interview time or need to change it, kindly contact Andrew Santos.

*** Have you seen our NEW website as yet? Visit www.stjustinmartyrun.archtoronto.org for more news and details on coming events!*

Sacramental Prep

We would like to congratulate all of our parents whose children will be celebrating either the Sacrament of First Holy Communion or Confirmation during the coming Easter season! Rest assured that St. Justin's will continue to keep you, your families and your loved ones in our prayers. Please mark down the following dates!

First Communion Masses

Sundays April 22 & 29 - 4:00pm

Confirmations

Saturday, May 5 - 2:00pm

Sunday, May 6 - 3:00pm

Confirmation Wind-up Celebration

Saturday, June 2 at 5 PM. Youth Mass followed by Feast with the Priests!

**** More Info next month! ****

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Digital Footprints and Setting Healthy Boundaries Online

Location: St. John XXIII CES
125 Krieghoff Ave., Unionville

Please call St. John XXIII School at 905 477 3288 by Tuesday, April 3, 2018 if you plan to attend.

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York Catholic District School Board

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Tel: 905-713-1211, 416-221-5051, 1-800-363-2711, Voice Mail Box: 17134
Fax: 905-713-1272 • www.ycdsb.ca

March 2018

*"They can no longer die; for they are like the angels.
They are God's children, since they are children of the resurrection."
Luke 20:36*



At the York Catholic District School Board, we are committed to developing school communities formed by Catholic beliefs and traditions that enable all members of our learning community to engage in their personal faith journey.

For forty days in Lent, we have participated in the call of the Church to pray, fast/abstain, and to give to those in need. Throughout the Lenten Season, our schools demonstrate what it means to live the Gospel by putting our Catholic faith into action. Students and staff reflect on Christ's Passion and His greatest gift to us, His Resurrection.

We are truly blessed with the gift of publicly-funded Catholic education. Our faith is alive and vibrant in school communities. We have come together for Masses, liturgies, charitable endeavours and other Lenten activities, as we all prepare for the Resurrection of our Saviour.

Easter is the most important holy day in the Christian calendar. The Resurrection of Christ is the core event of our Catholic faith. It is the Resurrection that reminds us that each student in our care, and each person we encounter, is a child of God. We celebrate the God of life who reminds us that we are all children of hope and resurrection.

As we look ahead to celebrating the resurrection of our Lord for the next 50 days of the Easter Season, I wish you and your families the blessings of the Easter season.

Happy Easter!

Sincerely,

Carol Cotton
Trustee

Carol Cotton, Trustee – Markham (Area 1, Wards 1, 2, 3, 6)
carol.cotton@ycdsb.ca • Home Tel: 905-889-9064

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