



Fr. Frederick McGinn CES

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Visit us @ ffm.ycdsb.ca



Tweet us @FFMcGinnCES

April 2018 Newsletter



Lord,

The resurrection of Your Son has given us new life and renewed hope. Help us to live as new people in pursuit of the Christian ideal. Grant us wisdom to know what we must do, the will to want to do it, the courage to undertake it, the perseverance to continue to do it, and the strength to complete it.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. **Amen.**

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Happy Easter! Although we celebrate Easter at the beginning of the month this year, the Easter season actually continues for fifty days until Pentecost on May 20th. It is the beginning of a new season of grace and a time of joy and thanksgiving. During the first week of April, we also observe Golden Rule Week. The Golden Rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you," was taught by Jesus in his Sermon on the Mount. When we follow this rule, we are practicing the virtue of reverence.

This month, we celebrate the virtue of Reverence. Reverence, refers to the proper attitude we should have towards God. Respect is another dimension of Reverence, and it means to see the other person with new eyes. In many ways, Reverence asks us to not only respect one another, but to have reverence for the sacred part of one another and God.

As we gear up for the last few months of the school year, FFM is busier than ever! With so many events and activities taking place, we encourage the FFM community to consult with our website as updates are posted regularly. Our Junior and Intermediate students have been working hard, preparing for our school level Oral Communication Presentation on **April 23rd**. The Junior presentation will take place in the morning, beginning at 10:35 am and the Intermediate presentation will take place in the afternoon, beginning at 1:00 pm. As always, all parents are welcome to attend.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Ms. M. Sullivan
Principal

Mr. F. De Bartolo
Vice Principal

Area 3 Catholic School Trustee:
Dominic Mazzotta
Ann Stong

Superintendent of Education
Area 4:
Mary Battista

Our Lady of the Annunciation
Roman Catholic Church
905-773-5223
Pastor:
Father Peter Lackmanec



April Catholic Virtue:
Reverence

I will honour and respect God's gift of life. I will appreciate the awe and wonder of God's creation. I will celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection.

The School Day:
Entrance: 9:00 a.m.
Recesses: 10:20 a.m. & 2:25 p.m.
Lunch: 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.
Dismissal: 3:30 p.m.

To report student absences/lates,
please dial: 1-855-856-7862 or
[http://](http://yorkcdsb.schoolconnects.com)
yorkcdsb.schoolconnects.com
before 9:00 a.m.

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



Strategic Commitments



Catholic Community of Faith

Catholic School Council Updates

On behalf of the CSC, thank you to the school community for helping us raise \$7145 in our annual school fundraiser for technology and an outdoor classroom.

Save the date and join us **April 18** as FFM is excited to be hosting DRUM DAY with DRUM FIT. DrumFIT is a cardio-based drumming program that combines physical activity with brain fitness, resulting in the most fun students can have while increasing their overall wellbeing. Students grab drumsticks, and drum away to amazing music all while incorporating brain fitness activities that are FUN! Check them out at www.drumfit.ca for further information.

Please see attached flyer for RSVP information. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish Updates



Adoration - Friday April 6th at 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Join us for First Friday Devotion which includes Benediction. Come spend some quite time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.



Divine Mercy Sunday - April 8, 2018

Join us on Sunday, April 8, 2018, as we recite the chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Presider: Deacon Bosco
 2:30 pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament / Silent prayer
 3:00pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet with Benediction
 3:30 pm: Pot Luck gathering

(NOTE: THERE IS NO MASS ATTACHED TO THIS SERVICE)



Attention all Ladies- Catholic Women's League of Canada

Are you wanting to enrich your Catholic faith?, Would you like to get more involved with our Parish and Parish school community? Well, then look no further than "The Catholic Women's League of Canada". We are a national organization rooted in gospel values calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God.

Come join us and make a difference in your life, family and community.

(see church bulletin for upcoming meeting dates and times)

For more information please call Jennifer Beaupre at 647-515-5362.



Sacrament of Confirmation

Families wishing to have their child Confirmed at Our Lady of the Annunciation parish, for next year, must be registered, using parish envelopes and attending mass every week for 6 months prior to confirmation classes for Confirmation eligibility. Announcements re: Confirmation will be done at weekend masses and an information night ONLY. Please do not call the parish office for information.



YOUTH Choir members needed:

Calling all Youth who would be interested in joining our Parish Choirs.

Youth Choir sings at the Saturday 5pm mass.

For more information please call the office at 905-773-5223

Catholic Community of Faith



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Check them out at www.drumfit.ca. for more information

Please use the below RSVP form to reserve your spot. We look forward to seeing you there! It will be a great family night out.

Please reserve your spot as space is limited. It will be first come first serve. Please return RSVP by FRIDAY APRIL 13th:

☐ Wednesday April 18th 6:30pm-7:15pm

Family name and number of participants _____

☐ Wednesday April 18th 7:15pm-8:00pm

Family name and number of participants _____



Catholic Community of Faith



York Catholic District School Board

Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1
Tel: 905-713-1211, 416-221-5051, 1-800-363-2711, Voice Mail Box: 17129
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, we wish you and your families the blessings of the Easter season.

Happy Easter!

Sincerely,

Ann Stong
Trustee
Richmond Hill

Dominic Mazzotta
Trustee
Richmond Hill

Quality Learning For All

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

We are beginning to plan the school organization for September 2018. It would be appreciated that you advise the office if your family is planning to move out of the Father Frederick McGinn boundaries or change schools.

The process for formulation of class lists for September will begin soon. After we determine class organization, each student is individually discussed and placed according to a number of criteria. This is a process we take very seriously; it involves much prayer, thought and conversation.

Given the parameters in which we have to work as determined by registration numbers and ministry and board directives, our goal is to establish balanced classes, providing effective groups which will benefit all children. Teachers in sending grades meet to carefully consider learning styles, academic skills, social grouping, special education and ESL needs, behaviour needs, etc. You can surely appreciate that creating the best and most effective groupings is a task requiring careful thought and planning. Our goal is to establish balanced classes to provide effective working groups which will benefit all children in each class.

At this time, we are uncertain as to which teachers will teach a specific grade. Staffing decisions will not be finalized until late August.

Accepting parental requests for specific teachers is not permitted under Board guidelines, and would not be in the best interest of all children in the school as it could restrict school staff in forming what we consider to be the most ideal classroom groupings.

The teachers who have worked with the children this year know them and will make determinations based on each child's best interests. **If you feel strongly that there are extenuating circumstances not listed above, please submit your request in writing, including the rationale for your request, to Ms. Sullivan by Friday, May 18.**

Any written requests will be shared with the team of teachers generating class lists, however, this does not guarantee that your request can be honoured.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

The FFM Jump Rope for Heart Campaign was a huge success. As a school, we were able to raise **\$5991.82!** Thank you to all of the students who participated in the fundraiser



EQAO

Between **May 22rd and June 4th**, our grades 3 and 6 students will be participating in the EQAO Primary and Junior Division Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. As all students are expected to be in attendance, we ask that you please avoid scheduling medical/dental appointments, or vacations during this period. Additional information will follow in the weeks to come.



We Are Silent

Around the world there are children whose voices are not heard. Child labourers, children facing poverty, children who are denied access to an education or clean water, and children who are bullied are just some of the issues that are silencing children around the world. On **Tuesday, April 24th**, all classes will take a vow of silence for a length of time during the day to raise awareness and better understand what it is like to have your voices unheard. Sometimes speaking out means using no words at all!



Intermediate Dance Team

On **Thursday April 12** the Intermediate Dance Team will be participating in the For the Love of Dance Showcase at St. Elizabeth High School. They have been working hard since February on creating a beautiful dance to the Catholic virtue Hope. The song they are dancing to is Supermarket Flowers by Ed Sheeran.

The girls are very excited to showcase their talent in a few weeks.



Quality of Learning for All

Pause to Play Challenge

In partnership with York Region Public Health, the annual spring pause to PLAY challenge in York Region schools encourages students to put their TV's, gaming devices, tablets and computers on "pause" for one full week and become more physically active through play. Parents can also join in with their kids at home! The challenge runs **April 30 to May 4, 2018**. Let's turn off the screens and enjoy real PLAY at FFM!

How Healthy is your SELFIE? is back at FFM! To coincide with Pause to PLAY we invite families to take selfies of active play and healthy living. Let's fill our wall with all the great fit families we have here at Fr. Fred!



Jr. Basketball Intramurals

Over 100 students from grade 4-6 had an opportunity to sign up for Jr. Basketball Intramurals in late February. For the months of March and April girls and boys have participated in daily games taking place at both morning and afternoon recesses improving basketball skills, working on teamwork and getting active. From these games both Ms. Neves and Ms. Khan will be choosing students to represent FFM at local tournaments taking place in May.

A special thanks to the members of the Athletic Executive that help make this endeavour possible. Lucas M., Paul H., Emma F., and Alisa for your consistent and positive support.



Environmental Committee News

"Let us protect with love all that God has given us!"
Pope Francis

The eco-monitors have been busy. Earth Hour was a huge success with 100% participation when students at FFM powered off to save energy. April is Earth Month. Students at FFM will celebrate Earth Week with a school yard and community clean up through Pitch In Canada during the week of **April 23rd to 27th**. Ms. Buchner and Ms. LaGuardia's classes will have an Earth Week liturgy on **Wednesday, April 25th at 10:40am**. Please join us in the gym as we show how we are stewards of the Earth. As well we will be having trashless lunches and snacks on Mondays. On Minimal Mondays all students are asked to bring a trashless snack/lunch and take any trash home on that day. This will increase awareness of waste minimization at FFM. Every classroom also has a GOOS (Good on one side) bin in their classroom. Students are asked to reuse paper by using paper that is only printed on one side to reduce paper consumption. April 30th to May 4th is Pause to Play week and many classes are participating in this activity. By turning off screens and playing outside we are enjoying the environment while conserving energy. A big thank you to the Catholic School Council for their amazing fundraiser which will go towards an outdoor classroom. We have a site plan and are looking forward to beginning this project in the near future. Remember to follow the eco-club on twitter [@ecoclub_ffm](https://twitter.com/ecoclub_ffm)

Thank you for all your support in these initiatives!



ARE YOU MOVING?

If you are planning to move out of the area please fill out the information below and return it to the MAIN OFFICE as soon as possible. This will assist us in setting up the classes for next year.

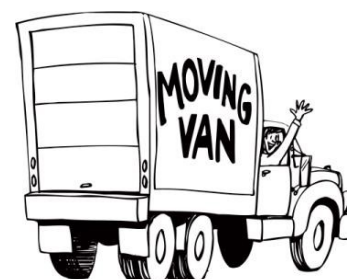
Name of student: _____

Teacher's name: _____

Date of Move: _____

Moving to: _____

Name of New School: _____



Quality Learning For All



Kindergarten Registration

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year begins January 8, 2018

To register, please bring the following original documents:

- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (child or parent)
- 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, 2018 (born in 2014)

SK: Children must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2018 (born in 2013)

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



Mission Statement

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Vision Statement

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Strategic Commitments



Safe & Caring Schools



FFM Safety Blitz

Student Drop-Off and Driveway

Parents and guardians are reminded to exercise caution and be patient when using the student drop off and parking lot areas, especially during peak periods.

Here are a few simple rules:



Do not park in the drop off loop (this impedes traffic and slows everyone down)



Do not park in the handicap spot unless you have the appropriate sticker



Have your child exit from the passenger side of your car



If you would like to walk your child/children to the door, you need to park your car in the designated lot or spot on the street



No cars should be entering the front parking lot between **8:45am-9:00am and 3:15 pm -3:45 pm** (Only school buses are permitted to enter during these times)



Do not let your child out at the curve near the handicap parking, stopping there impedes traffic, pull up ahead to the curb so other parents can continue to pull up, let's keep the flow going



If dropping child off by front lot, there is no stopping in front of or immediately adjacent to the driveway - obey the signs that say NO stopping at any time



We are all in this together. Our children's safety is our number one priority