



St. Michael the Archangel CES

161 Via Campanile Woodbridge, ON L4H 3K5
Tel: 289.553.3802 | Fax: 289.553.3587
Website: <http://smal.ycdsb.ca>
Twitter: @st_smal



SEPTEMBER 2020 EDITION

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Fr. Andre Lima

Superintendent of Schools
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Principal
Joanne Bortolussi

Acting Vice-Principal
Marc Caruso

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year! We hope that you and your family enjoyed a safe and happy summer, with many faith-filled and memorable moments.

On September 8th and 9th, staff worked diligently to finalize class placements, clean the school and prepare classrooms, organize start up materials, and review guidelines and protocols to prepare a safe and welcoming environment for SMAL students, based on the [2020-2021 YCDSB School Re-entry Plan](#). We began our staggered start to the school year with Grades 1-3 students on September 10th, and Kindergarten students on September 11th. On September 14th we welcomed our Grade 7 & 8 students, and finally on September 15th, our Grades 4, 5 and 6 joined our school family. Over the next month, our goal is to have staff continue to support student well-being, and practice routines and procedures with students, such as hand washing / sanitizing, mask wearing and removal, and mobility in the building.

We wish Mrs. Connie Quadrini success as she takes on the role of Acting Principal at St Clement CES. We welcome Mr. Marc Caruso to our school. He will be our Acting Vice Principal on a part time basis.

We look forward to continuing our home-school-parish partnership to build our dynamic Catholic learning community. May St Michael the Archangel continue to protect and pray for our community.

Yours in Catholic Education,

J. Bortolussi
Principal

M. Caruso
Acting Vice-Principal

To report student absences and lates, please dial:
1-855-856-7862 or visit
go.schoolmessenger.ca

SMAL School Day:
8:55 - Indoor Supervision Begins
9:10 - Morning Entry
10:30 - AM Recess
12:10-12:30 - Lunch
12:30-1:10 - Lunch Recess
2:30 - PM Recess
3:40 - End of Day

Loving creator,

Map your goals for us in our hearts. Make our classrooms oases in the busy world. Make them places of warmth and trust. May our affirmation of our students enable them to stretch themselves as they seek holistic growth in a safe, nurturing, Catholic environment. Amen

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
Effective Use of Our Resources
Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement
Engaging Our Communities

2020/2021 St Michael the Archangel CES Faculty

Mrs. I. Scappaticci- FDK
Mrs. Romano- FDK
Ms. Peronti- FDK
Mrs. Sisti -FDK
Ms. Genua- SK/Grade 1
Mrs. Rando- Grade 1
Ms. Davenport- Grade 1/2
Ms. Molino-Bancheri- Grade 2
Mrs. Marini- Grade 2 /3
Ms. Flabiano- Grade 3
Ms. Modica- Grade 3
Ms. DeCaria- Grade 3 /4
Mr. Waywell- Grade 4
Mrs. Colozza- Grade 4/ 5
Mrs. Messere- Grade 5
Ms. Sarcinella- Grade 5
Mrs. Totino- Grade 6
Ms. Sanita- Grade 6
TBD- Grade 5 /6
Ms. Iacobelli- Grade 7
Mrs. Burbello- Grade 7
Ms. Castellano- Grade 7
Mr. Testani- Grade 7/ 8
Mrs. Gallo- Grade 8
Ms. Fanone- Grade 8
Ms. Ruberto- Grade 8
Madame. Abdilla- French Teacher
Madame Balenzano- French Teacher
Madame Pecchia- French Teacher
Madame Vigliatore- French Teacher
Mrs. Zuccaro- Teacher- Librarian
Ms. Farrell- Core Resource Teacher
TBD- Core Resource Teacher
Ms. Rumeo-ESL Teacher
Ms. Pagliaro- Physical Education Teacher
Ms. Giordano- Music Teacher
Mrs. Bancheri- Educational Assistant
Mrs. Bianchi- Educational Assistant
Mrs. Russo- Educational Assistant
Mrs. Toter- Educational Assistant
Mrs. Piazza- Educational Assistant
Mrs. Toritto- Educational Assistant
Ms. Maksuti- Wellness Ambassador
Mrs. Iazzi- Secretary
Mrs. Dragone- Secretary
Mr. Melchionna- Head Caretaker
Ms. Gorro - Caretaker

Ms. Bortolussi- Principal
Mr.Caruso- Vice-Principal



SCHOOL AND PARISH

PARTNERSHIP: We value the strong partnership the school has with St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church and

with Msgr. John and newly appointed associate pastor Fr. Andre. Together, with the Church, we support parents in the faith formation of their children. Preparation for Reconciliation and First Communion (Grade 2), and Confirmation (Grade 7) takes place through the parish. Students receiving a sacrament this year must register their child at St. Clare of Assisi Church.

RESCHEDULED FIRST COMMUNION DATES: If your child is in grade 3, please see note from Msgr John at the end of this document. Please also refer to the church website at <https://saintclareofassisi.ca/holy-communion> for the most up to date information. .

RE-SCHEDULED CONFIRMATION DATES: Due to the pandemic, there are re-scheduled Confirmation dates. These dates are pertinent to those students who were originally supposed to receive Confirmation this past Spring and they are currently in Grade 8. **The students will be divided into two days. Please note the following:**

Dec. 7 at 7pm- Students with Last Names A-J
Dec. 10 at 7pm- Students with Last Names L-Z

Please refer to the church website at <https://saintclareofassisi.ca/confirmation> for the most up to date information.

SCHOOL VIRTUES: Each month a different Catholic virtue is emphasized throughout the school. Students are encouraged to demonstrate these virtues in their daily actions and words with one another. By doing this, we show that as a community we always strive to respond to Jesus' call. During the month of September, the Catholic Virtue of Courage will be highlighted in our daily prayers and in our classroom reflections.

What does the Bible say about **COURAGE**? In scripture, it is also often defined as 'boldness' and 'confidence'. God is always there with us, encouraging us to have courage in our life and to face our challenges with bravery.



SCHOOL MASSES AND PRAYER

CELEBRATIONS: Our first school liturgy will be celebrated virtually in respective classrooms on Tuesday,

September 29th, 2020 at 10:00am. We will mark the start of a new school year as well as celebrate the feast day of our school patron, St. Michael the Archangel.

We encourage you to pray the Prayer of St Michael the Archangel as a family, on a daily basis.



ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,

*DEFEND US IN BATTLE,
BE OUR PROTECTION AGAINST THE
WICKEDNESS
AND SNARES OF THE DEVIL.
MAY GOD REBUKE HIM,
WE HUMBL Y PRAY,
AND DO THOU
O PRINCE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST,
BY THE POWER OF GOD,
THRUST INTO HELL
SATAN AND ALL THE EVIL SPIRITS,
WHO PROWL ABOUT THE WORLD
SEEKING THE RUIN OF SOULS.
AMEN.*

Catholic Communities of Faith

SCHOOL DRESS CODE: St. Michael the Archangel implements a Standardized Dress Code. All students are expected to come to school in proper Dress Code clothing. The approved Standardized Dress Code for St. Michael the Archangel will include the following:

- Colours of RED, BLACK, and WHITE
- JEANS OF ANY KIND WILL NOT FORM PART OF THE STANDARDIZED DRESS CODE
- St. Michael the Archangel Spirit Wear track pants and t-shirts WILL be permitted as part of the Standardized Dress Code
- NO language, logos or pictures of any kind on tops are permitted
- NO accessories not keeping with the spirit of the Dress Code as determined by the administration will be permitted

Should students not comply with the Dress Code expectations, some example of a progressive discipline approach may include but are not limited to:

- Verbal reminders of expectations
- Communication with parents/guardians
- Written notification to parents/guardians

We thank you sincerely for your cooperation in this matter.

MORNING ENTRY ROUTINES: Students are asked to enter the building directly starting at 8:55am and not congregate in the yard. All exterior doors will be unlocked and supervision INSIDE begins at 8:55am to 9:10am.

Kindergarten Entry/Exit: Kindergarten pen; doors facing the parking lot,

Primary Entry/Exit (except Grade 1s): North doors (closest to the garbage bins)

Junior Entry/Exit: North- East Doors (same side as Primary doors)

Intermediate Entry/Exit: Doors facing the parking lot adjacent to the Kiss and Ride

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

Ms. Genua's Class Entry/Exit: Kindergarten pen facing the parking lot

Ms. Davenports Class Entry/Exit: Grade 1 pen facing the field

Ms. Rando's Class Entry/Exit: Grade 1 pen facing the field

DISMISSAL ROUTINES: During afternoon dismissal, students in Junior and Intermediate should not be crossing through the Primary yard, except if they have to pick up a sibling in that yard. Otherwise, they should be using the walkway adjacent to the Kiss and Ride.

Parents who are entering school property during entry and dismissal times are asked to kindly wear a mask, maintain physical distance, and do not engage in conversations with the teacher. Should you have a question/concern, please reach out to the teacher in the method he/she has chosen and/or leave a message with the secretary. Although we love our furry friends, please also refrain from bringing your pets onto school property.

LATES: Please note that after 9:10am all exterior doors will be locked, and students trying to access them will be considered late. If your child is late, they will need to enter the building through the main front doors, and sign in at the table in front of the office. A late slip will be required to enter their classroom.



STUDENT AGENDAS: Again this year, we will be using agendas as a communication and organizational tool for students, teachers and parents. Your child will be receiving an agenda from their teacher, at no cost this year. If you need to communicate with the teacher, please email or call the school. The agendas are for student use only, and teachers will not be writing or touching student agendas.

CONCUSSION AWARENESS WEEK/ROWAN'S LAW : During the week of September 28-October 2, 2020 we will be recognizing #RowansLawDay by educating and engaging students in activities and discussions that increase awareness about concussions and to share Rowan Stringer's Story. **Students are invited to wear Purple on Friday, October 2nd.**



EMERGENCY FORMS, TECHNOLOGY FORMS AND MISCELLANEOUS FORMS FROM THE OFFICE :

Forms will be sent home. Please ensure that you complete these forms as soon as possible in order that we may have the most up to date records for your child(ren).

CHROMEBOOK RETRIEVAL AND DEPLOYMENT & BYOD:

We are pleased to note that those families who have chosen remote learning and have responded via the google form sent a few weeks ago expressing a need for technology, are now in receipt of a device.

In regards to our BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program, teachers will undertake inventory of those students choosing to bring their own personal device, and those students who require a device at school. Please look out for correspondence from your child's teacher.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY: SMAL will be marking Orange Shirt Day on September 30th, 2020. On this day, we recognize Canada's indigenous people, children and families impacted by Canada's Indian Residential Schools. As Catholics, we often focus on reconciliation; this day marks our commitment to acknowledge that these wrongs should never happen to anyone again.



Students are invited to wear Orange on Wednesday, September 30.

SMAL TWITTER ACCOUNT AND SMAL WEBSITE:

Now, more than ever, it is extremely important to stay connected to our parent and school community. Please follow our school twitter account (@st_smal) and check our website (www.smal.ycdsb.ca) often for updates.



COVID 19 SCREENING TOOL: The Ontario government launched a [new voluntary interactive screening tool](#) to assist parents, students and staff with the daily assessment of COVID-19 symptoms and risk factors that is required before attending school. The results will let parents, students, and education staff know whether they should attend school each day or guide at-risk individuals to proper resources. This tool is another layer of prevention that the province is using to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and the communities where they live and work.



ANAPHYLAXIS & ALLERGIES: The YCDSB has an anaphylactic policy to help protect students affected by life threatening allergies.

As outlined in the Board's policy, parents are asked to inform the school of such allergies, and required to fill in S15 and S15a forms which are available in the office. For students whose allergies were previously known to the school, forms were emailed to families in June. Each form must include a passport sized photo so that the student is easily identifiable by staff. Parents are asked to ensure that students for whom Epi-Pens are prescribed have two Epi-Pens at school. It is strongly advised and encouraged that one Epi-Pen is to be on the student's person at all times and the other stored in the office for emergency use. We continue to remind and inform our students NOT to share food in our school environment (including on the school grounds, buses, before/after school and in any school sanctioned events for students) and wash their hands. If you are new to our school and your child has an allergy, please contact the office for the appropriate documentation if required. 'Allergy Safe' environment signs are posted by the classroom doors. S15 & S15a forms will be reviewed by classroom teachers, itinerant teachers, support staff, and supply staff. Staff have also received training and information on recognizing the signs of an anaphylactic reaction, how to take appropriate action, and how to administer the Epi-Pen. Learn more about our school Allergy/Anaphylaxis Plan on our website or here: [2020/2021 SMAL School Anaphylaxis Plan](#)

PEDICULOSIS: The YCDSB appreciates concerns related to Pediculosis at the school, community, and regional level. The Board also recognizes that the Ministry of Health does not designate Pediculosis as a communicable disease, and as such, it is not considered a health hazard to the community. Anyone can get head lice, regardless of cleanliness. Head lice is not a public hazard, as it does not cause illness, but they are a nuisance. Please check your child's head regularly for lice or nits. If you find lice or nits, kindly contact the school office. Students will be readmitted to school once treatment has been administered and confirmed by the parent, in accordance with the procedures of this policy.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL: Whenever possible, we ask that medications be administered at home. However, should your child require medications to be administered at school please pick up the required S16 and S16a forms from the office. Complete the form (including physician's signature) and return it to school. Students are not to keep medication (aside from inhalers and EpiPens) in their knapsack or in the classroom. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



ASTHMA PROTECTION: The York Catholic District School Board recognizes that there are some students within the school system who have a diagnosis of asthma that could be life threatening. The Board also recognizes that asthma management is a shared responsibility among students, parents, caregivers, and the school community. It is the responsibility of parent(s)/guardian(s) to advise the school immediately upon registration and/or when in receipt of a diagnosis of asthma. It is also the responsibility of parent(s)/guardian(s) to ensure that all medical information pertinent to their child's diagnosis of asthma is always current.

If your child has a diagnosis of asthma, please contact the school office immediately so that the appropriate forms are completed and school records are up to date in accordance with Board policy. Thank you for your immediate attention to this request, and ongoing support in the shared responsibility for asthma management in our school.



Safe and Caring School Community

PERSONALLY OWNED ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

Students are encouraged to leave personally owned electronic devices (e.g., cellular phones, tablets) at home, however if brought to school, students must keep these devices turned off and stored away out of site during instructional time unless used under the supervision and instruction of their teacher. Please note that students are responsible for the care and security of their own personal device. Neither the York Catholic District School Board nor the school is liable for any device lost, stolen or damaged. For further information, please consult the school board's policy number 318.

PARKING LOT SAFETY: Everyone must feel safe and welcome when they come to our school, and that begins in our parking lot. We highlight parking lot safety in our newsletters so our community is aware of our rules. We are grateful for the support of our parent community, our community liaison officer, and municipal parking officers for their guidance, cooperation and support.

KISS AND RIDE: Drivers using our kiss and ride will notice our barrier pylons. These pylons help improve traffic flow. Please remember that the kiss and ride is not intended for parking or stopping. This area is designated for drivers to pull in, unload safely, and drive through. Drivers who wish to leave their vehicles and accompany children to the playground or kindergarten pen are reminded to park in available parking spots or use of street parking where appropriate.

FIRE ROUTE: We respectfully remind our community not to park or idle in our bus route or entry and exit gates. This area is for buses and emergency vehicles. We must not choose haste and convenience over the safety of our children. We also ask that drivers do not drive into the parking lot from the exit gate at the north side of the lot. The front driveway is designed for one way traffic only with vehicles entering, when appropriate, from the south entrance. Thank you for respecting these traffic safety rules.

A Message from St. Clare of Assisi Parish

(also posted on SMAL website)

Dear Parents,

As you know, due to the CoronaVirus pandemic our First Communion for our children was cancelled. To remedy this situation, our parish has **RESCHEDULED** First Communion to the following date:

Saturday November 21 @ 3:00 p.m. – FOR St. Michael School

We hope you feel comfortable in bringing your children to receive their First Communion on the above listed date. Also, since we have to abide with restrictions and rules for social distancing, we need your utmost understanding on how we can celebrate these liturgies. What we propose is that only the father and mother of the child receiving First Communion be present. **No siblings, grandparents, uncles and aunts etc.** To facilitate family participation, we will be **LIVE STREAMING** the liturgy so that family and friends can view on YouTube from home. We will engage a photographer to take one picture when your son/daughter is receiving their First Communion.

To prepare for these liturgies we ask that only **ONE** parent attend the Parent Meeting:

Wednesday November 18 @ 6:00 p.m.

Sincerely,
Msgr. John Borean



SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MARY BATTISTA
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2020 - 2021

MARIA MARCHESI
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		E/S 1	E/S 2	E/S 3	B 4	
	M 7	8	9	10 Friday for JK/1K and for JK/2K and for JK/3K	11 Friday for JK/2K and for JK/3K	12
13 Friday for JK/1K and JK/2K and JK/3K and JK/4K	14 Friday for JK/1K and JK/2K and JK/3K and JK/4K	15 Friday for JK/1K and JK/2K and JK/3K and JK/4K	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER

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	B 31					

JANUARY

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MARCH

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	E 31					

JUNE

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	S 31	B 30				

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS
 E/S - Tuesday, September 1, 2021
 E/S - Wednesday, September 2, 2020
 E/S - Thursday, September 3, 2020
 E/S - Friday, November 13, 2020
 E - Friday, January 15, 2021
 E/S - Friday, February 1, 2021
 S - Friday, May 7, 2021
 E - Monday, May 31, 2021
 S - Tuesday, June 29, 2021

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
 Labour Day September 7, 2020
 Thanksgiving October 12, 2020
 Christmas Break Dec. 21, 2020 - Jan. 1, 2021
 Family Day February 15, 2021
 March Break March 15 - 19, 2021
 Good Friday April 2, 2021
 Easter Monday April 5, 2021
 Victoria Day May 24, 2021

ELEMENTARY START DATES

September 10: Grades 1 to 3
 September 11: JK / SK
 September 14: Grades 7 and 8
 September 15: Grades 4 to 6

SECONDARY START DATES

September 10: Grade 9 Orientation Cohort A Face to Face (Cohort B + C Virtual)
 September 11: Grade 9 Orientation Cohort B Face to Face (Cohort A + C Virtual)
 September 14: Grades 9 to 12 Cohort A Face to Face (Cohort B + C Virtual)
 September 15: Grades 9 to 12 Cohort B Face to Face (Cohort A + C Virtual)

LEGEND

- M** Mandatory Holidays
- B** Board Approved Holiday
- E/S** Elementary/Secondary PA