

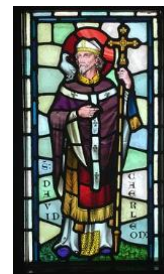


ST. DAVID'S

CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2019

NEWSLETTER



Lord God,
May we, your people,
who look forward to
the birthday of Christ
experience the joy of
salvation and celebrate
that feast with love
and thanksgiving.

Amen

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Advent is a time of expectation where we prepare our minds and souls for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus. In December our school will be decorating a Christmas tree, lighting an Advent wreath, keeping the Advent calendar, singing joyful songs as a class and as a school, creating crafts and praying,

Our grade 3 students led by Mrs. Donato-Sciortino and Ms. Panici are preparing the Advent mass that will happen on December 5th at 1:30pm and for December 17th, our Catholic School Council together with the Primary Division are organizing a Christmas Celebration for families.

During the Christmas season, we cannot forget the needs of those who are less fortunate than ourselves. We have been blessed with so much and now we are sharing with those in our community who have not. The whole school is participating in the Luke 4:18 initiative to give to less fortunate families during these times. Thank you for giving what you can!

We are very proud of the results of our School Climate Survey (page 6): All the students surveyed feel that they are safe at school and are expected to do good work. However, we are concerned with the fact that St. David students spend almost double the time watching TV programs on a school day compared to children in other schools of our Board or the Province. We encourage you to help your children use their time to read, work on math problems, do homework, crafts and play outdoor games or board games with their friends instead of spending so much time playing video games or watching TV.

On behalf of St. David's staff we wish you and your family a joyous and blessed Christmas season. May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace, the gladness of Christmas bring you hope, and the warmth of Christmas grant you love.

Yours in Catholic Education,

M. Champagne

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Superintendent:

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Principal:

Mónica Champagne

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Phyllis Giansante

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School Phone:

(905) 832-1887

Safe Arrival Line:

1-855-856-7862

School Website

<http://sdd@ycdsb.ca>

Instagram/Twitter:

Stdavidmaple

St. David Catholic Church:

(905)832-5595
Fr. Ernie DeCiccio

Catholic School Council Chairs:

S. Andriano &
A. Napoli

Secretary:

S. Gareri
Treasurer:

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

Integration of Our Catholic Faith

Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

Effective Use of Our Resources

Engaging Our Communities

DECEMBER'S CATHOLIC VIRTUE: HOPE

*With God's grace, I will never give up hope
I will maintain a positive attitude and look for
the brighter side of situations*

**SPIRIT OF HOPE**

During summer, D. worked very hard selling lemonade on her street with the goal to give it to a good cause. She decided to donate all the proceeds (\$80) towards Terry Fox foundation. We want to congratulate her for her giving spirit and for personalizing the virtue of hope.

Our Luke 4:18 Committee, led by Ms. El-Chami and Ms. Suppo are creating Christmas Ornaments to decorate the doors of the Seniors at the Maple Health Center.

**LUKE 4:18**

This Christmas fill your heart with the joy of giving. Our Luke 4:18 Committee would like to support *The St. Vincent de Paul Basket Drive* which aids local families. The need is here in our community. Whether it's a struggling single parent, a family with unexpected financial issues, a serious illness or injury causing loss of work. *The baskets provide more than the necessities of daily life; they give the gifts of kindness, dignity, and hope to the recipients.* Our St. David school community would like to continue to give generously and we are asking families to give what they can. The smallest contribution can make a big difference. Each division will be given a family to support. Together with this newsletter we are sending the items that each family needs for this Christmas.

MARK THE DATE:

FIRST COMMUNIONS: Sunday, April 26th at 3:00 pm
CONFIRMATIONS: Monday, April 27th at 7:00 pm

ROSARY APOSTOLATE

Our Rosary Apostolate ministers are back this year. They will be praying with our children the first Wednesday of every month.

ADVENT MASS CELEBRATION

On Thursday, December 5th at 1:30 pm, our students will walk to church to celebrate the Advent Mass. We'd like to invite everyone from our school community to join us for this special event.

FIRST CONFESSIONS

In December our grade 2 students will be ready for their first confession. Registrations will happen on Dec. 2 and 3rd at 6:30 pm in the church. First Confessions will happen on Dec. 5th and Dec. 19th

REMEMBRANCE DAY

On November 11th, our school community came together to commemorate and remember the sacrifices made by those who have fought for our freedom. Students in Mrs. Dibiase, Mrs. Cudini and Mrs. Palazzo's class did an outstanding job preparing a solemn yet inspiring ceremony for our school.



Thank you, Mrs. Mendoza, for preparing our choir to sing so beautifully!



ANTIBULLYING WEEK AND PINK SHIRT DAY



During antibullying week our students were engaged in reflection about how to act with kindness towards others.



The Student Council organized an Anti-Bullying presentation in which they taught the different between conflict and bullying, how to be an upstander instead of a bystander and what to do if they witness any act of bullying at our school.



HEALTHY BODIES, HEALTHY MINDS**EXTREME WEATHER GUIDELINES**

At the October CSC meeting, we reviewed the Inclement Weather Policy, and a vote was taken to set the temperature thresholds for the 2019—2020 school year.

The overwhelming majority wished to keep the policy for our school status quo, which is:

-15 degrees or above (with the wind chill), students are outdoors

▸ between -15 and -17 degrees (with the wind chill), students are outdoors but the lunch recess outside will be shortened to 20 minutes

▸ -17 degree or below (with the wind chill), we will stay indoors. We use

<https://www.theweathernetwork.com/ca/weather/ontario/maple>

to review the outside temperatures throughout the day to determine if students will be staying indoors or going outside. We remind parents that the children must come appropriately dressed for outdoor recess periods. Fresh air is a necessary ingredient for a responsive child, as is exercise between periods of class work. All students who come to school are expected to go out for recess.

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents are required to call the

SAFE ARRIVAL LINE

at 1-855-856-7862

or visit

yorkcdsb.schoolconnects.com
to report their child's absence.

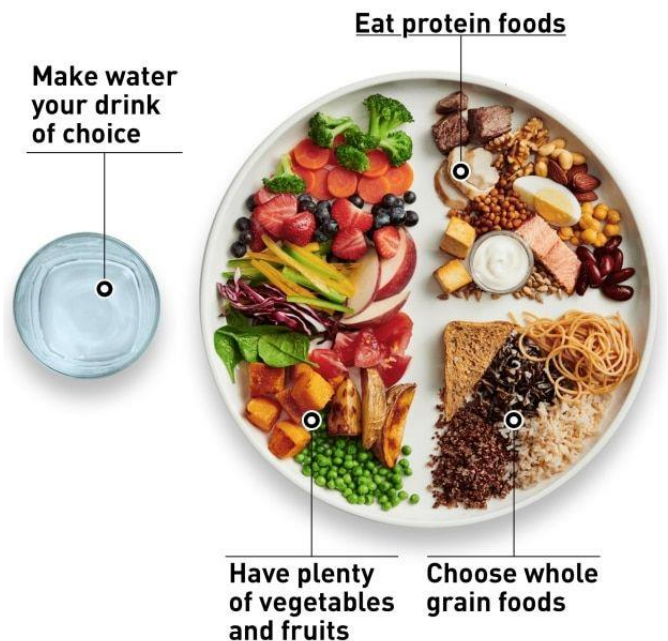
All absences must be reported prior to 8:50 am the day of the absence. Parents must obtain a confirmation number or the absence has not be recorded properly. All absences, including vacations, weather related absences— including bus students, early leaves from school for any reason, illness, late arrivals, appointments etc., should be recorded in this manner.

Students are encouraged to be on time for school. Late arrivals cause disruptions to classes that are already in session.



Our Healthy Eating leaders learned from nutritionist Bevilacqua about the new Canada Food Guide. They are planning to share this knowledge with all the students

Please visit <https://food-guide.canada.ca/en/> for more information

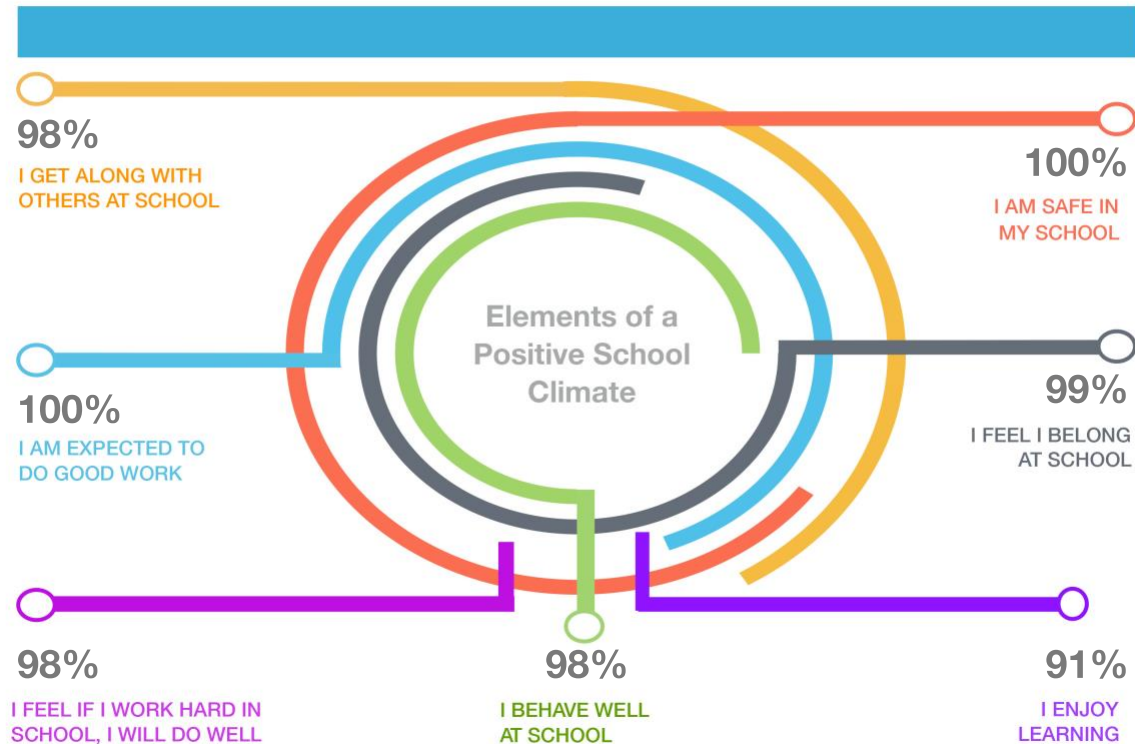
Canada's food guide recommendations

CBC NEWS

Source: Health Canada

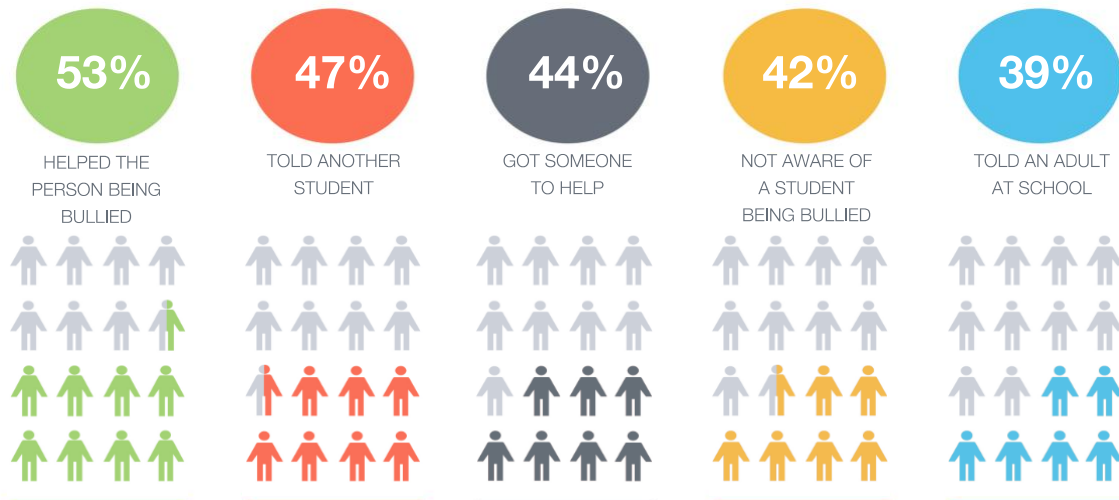
2019 School Climate Survey

Elementary Students Surveyed: Grades 4, 6 & 7



Top 5 responses reported by students who saw or heard another student being bullied

Perceptions of Students in Grades 4, 6 & 7



Student Well-Being

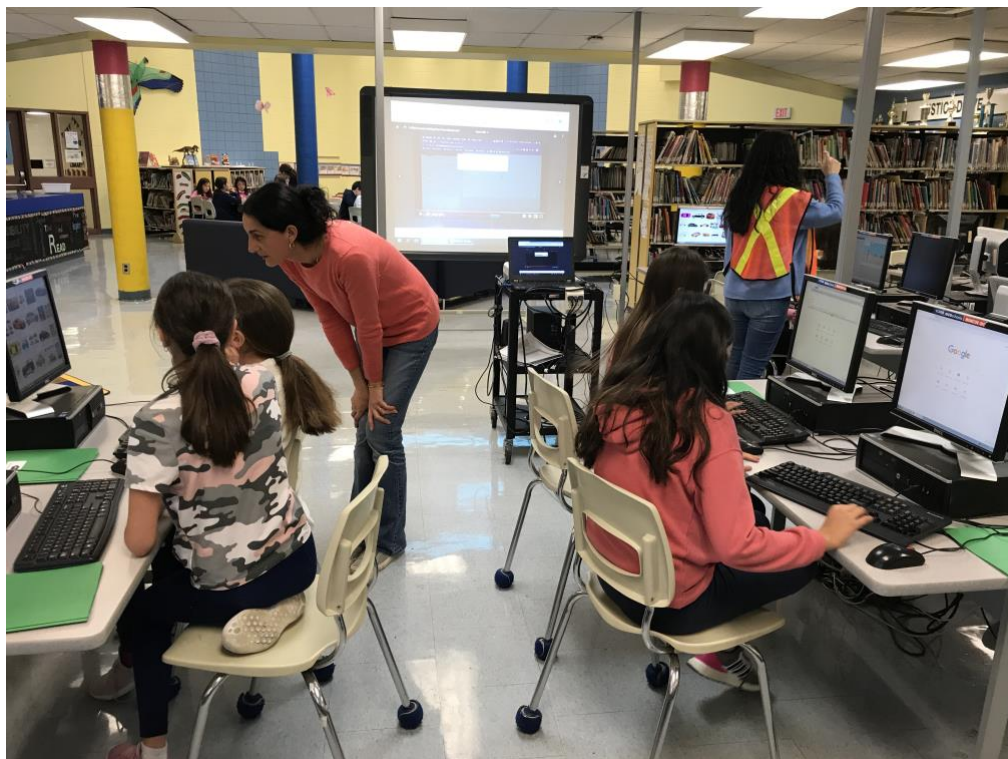
Perceptions of Students in Grades 4, 6 & 7



LEARNING COMMONS NEWS

Thank you to the St. David school community for supporting our first Book Fair of the year! It was very successful and we were able to raise \$1050.00 for our school! These funds will be used to enhance our school and the Library Learning Commons. Thank you to Mrs. Libertini, Mrs. DiPietro, Ms. Martire, Mrs. Shalhorn and Ms. DeCicco for helping with the Library Fair.

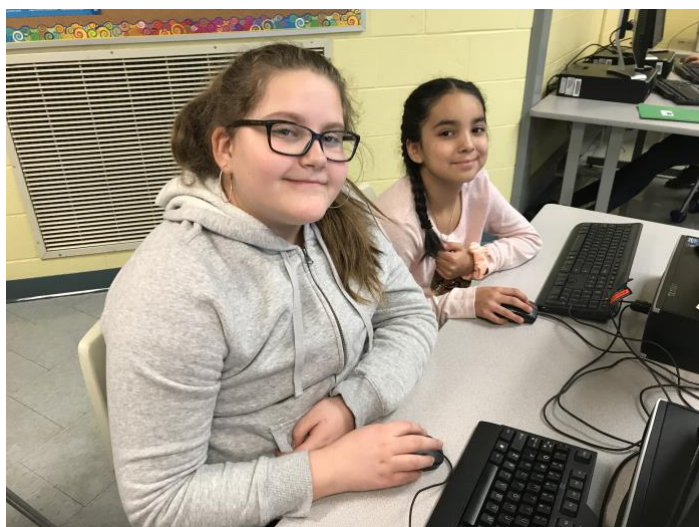
During the month of December we prepare for the coming of Jesus. Advent will begin on Sunday December 1st and we will be discussing the meaning and symbols of advent during Library visits.



As well the Junior and Intermediate classes are busy creating paper cranes in honour of Sadako Sasaki and her wish for Peace in the World.

During lunch recess a group of Junior and Intermediate girls are preparing for this year's annual Hackergal Hackathon! This initiative was created to encourage and inspire girls all over Canada to learn and explore the possibilities in code! The fifth annual Hackathon will take place on December 11, 2019. Thank you to Ms. DiPietro for leading these girls through code!

Please take a moment to enjoy the beautiful decorations set up by Mrs. Libertini in our Library as well as the two walls by the Library entrance that were also painted by Mrs. Libertini.



INTERMEDIATE BOYS AND GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS



Coaches Palazzo, Cudini and Dibiase want to congratulate the Intermediate Girls and Boys Volleyball teams for an overall successful volleyball season.

Our Intermediate Boys Volleyball team, James M., Marco S., Michael Z., Francesco S., Corrado S., Paolo A., Ryan D., Vince A., Cossimo C., Kevin I., Matteo C., Justin Q., and Sebastian G., played in the South Area Local Tournament on November 18th. After the Round Robin Matches the boys placed first. They played in the championship game and fell short in an overtime match where they lost by only two points. Our Intermediate boys demonstrated great sportsmanship and skill throughout the season.

GO STINGERS GO!

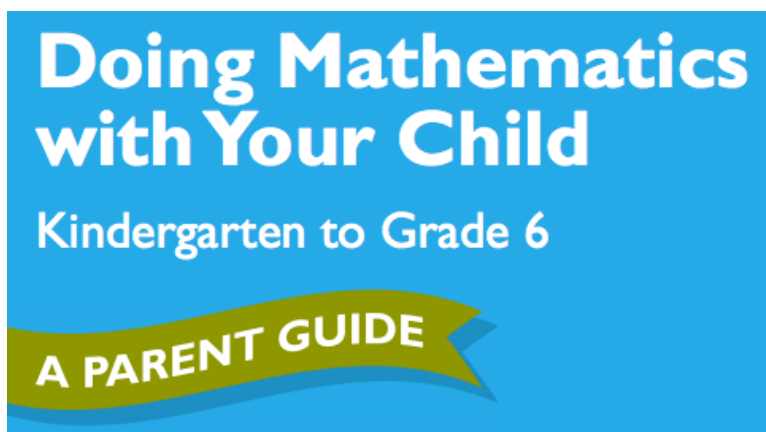
Our Intermediate Girls Volleyball team Sienna N., Claudia S., Victoria M., Bianca L., Michela C., Samantha P., Patricia S., Erica M., Rosemary A., Gabriela C., Ava T. played with great skill, perseverance, discipline, and above all - team spirit. The girls placed third overall in the area tournament. Throughout the tournament they demonstrated determination, teamwork and excellent sportsmanship. Great work girls!

GO STINGERS GO!



DO YOU WANT TO HELP YOUR CHILD IN MATH?

Please visit:



<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentguidenumen.pdf>

For an easy to understand guide to help you support your child at home.

ST. DAVID - DECEMBER, 2019 CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
7:00 pm First Confessions Preparation at Church	7:00 pm First Confessions Preparation at Church	Rosary Apostolate 10:45 am VIP for Grade 6s	1:30 pm Advent Mass at Church (Parents and family are welcome) 6:30 pm First Confessions at Church	Electra Safety Presentations
9	10	11	12	13
1:00 pm St. Joan of Arc Music Presentation (Parents and family are welcome)		Hackergal Hackaton (Coding for Girls)		
16	17	18	19	20
Primary Trip to Willowgrove	6:30 pm Primary Christmas Night		6:30 pm First Confessions at Church	1:00 pm School Sing-Along CIVVIES DAY Ugly or Nice Christmas Sweater Day
23	24	25	26	27
HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS - NO SCHOOL				
30	31	1	2	3
NO SCHOOL				



York Catholic District School Board



Learning Together in Christ
Engaging. Enabling. Empowering

Student Services will be hosting an

INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS REGISTERING FOR KINDERGARTEN YEAR 1 (JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN) IN SEPTEMBER 2020



**YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND OUR PARENT INFORMATION SESSION TO
LEARN ABOUT OUR SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020
York Catholic District School Board
Boardroom
320 Bloomington Road West
Catholic Education Centre
Aurora
7:15 pm - 8:30 pm

Register at link:
<https://forms.gle/WDtbFaSUEMz6JD1m6>
Registration deadline:
January 15, 2020

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