

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2019

St. Pius X Parent Council Newsletter

Playground Revitalization

As you may already be aware, work is being done towards a much-needed revitalization of St. Pius X's playground.

The south yard needs a facelift. The north yard is not much more than pavement. And, if we are successful in achieving our goals, even the JK/SK yard can be improved.

Last year, the parent council, along with some very helpful parents, began the necessary process with the TCDSB and, now that we have a proposed plan (visual plan of the yards), we are ready to go to the next step. In addition to obtaining and approving builder's plans, *this next step means coming up with the funds to pay.*

The school board no longer has funds for playgrounds; therefore, it is totally up to us. This will be a significant effort and there is no time to waste with a target start date for the work of Summer 2020.

The Playground Revitalization Committee will be having its first meeting to plan and commence fundraising within the month. If you are interested in helping out or just interested in seeing what this is about, please contact Jeremy Greven at jeremy@6squared.vc.



Mark Your Calendar for these Parent Council activities!

OCTOBER

- 25 Civvies Day
- 30 Lunch Lady
- 31 Halloween Dance & Spirit Day



NOVEMBER

- 1 Halloween Candy Drive begins
- 6 Pizza Day
- 12 & 14 Parent-Teacher Interviews
- 13 Lunch Lady
- 14 Civvies Day
- 15 P.A. Day - no school!
- 20 Pizza Day
- 27 Lunch Lady
- 29 Christmas Bazaar & Spirit Day

Next Parent Council
Meeting
Wed., Nov. 13 @ 7 p.m.

What's Happening?

Get ready for these upcoming CSPC events!



Halloween Spirit Day – Oct. 31

On Thursday, October 31, students can celebrate Halloween by coming to school dressed in their costumes or in black & orange. Due to safety concerns, weapons and sharp props are not permitted; masks are allowed, but please ensure that your children can see through them clearly, to avoid any mishaps. The school will be holding a Costume Parade in the morning, and the St. Pius X “Me to We” Committee will be hosting a Halloween dance during the day. Get ready for a SPOOKtacular day!



Halloween Candy Drive - Nov. 1 to 7

If you are drowning in treats on November 1, consider donating your excess candy, gum, chips and chocolate to our Halloween Candy Drive. Each year, the Parent Council collects excess Halloween candy for Canadian Food for Children, which ships it directly to children in developing countries. Not only is candy a rare treat for them, but they are often so malnourished that they don't want to eat, even when food becomes available. Sugar stimulates their appetites for more nourishing food. Candy can be dropped off in the school foyer from Friday, November 1, to Thursday, November 7.

Civvies Day for JDRF - Nov. 14



St. Pius X will be holding a Civvies Day on Thursday, November 14, for World Diabetes Day. Students are invited to incorporate light blue into their civvies and make a voluntary \$2 donation to support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). JDRF's research is committed to improving the lives of every person with type 1 diabetes and to curing the disease. To find out more, visit www.jdrf.ca.



Christmas Spirit Day - Nov. 29

Don't forget to wear red, green and white on the day of our Christmas Bazaar, which is also our November Spirit Day. Get decked out in your most festive attire and enjoy a day of holiday fun!



Activity Fee Reminder

If you haven't already done so, please consider sending in your voluntary Activity Fee contribution of \$50 per student. The annual collection pays for craft fees for JK/SK, the school-wide Scientists-in-School program, and classroom resources for all teachers. Because there were no agendas this year, additional funds are being allocated to further supplement field trips. **You can now pay your Activity Fees online at www.spxcspc.com.** Thank you for your support!

Christmas Bazaar & Spirit Day - Nov. 29

The St. Pius X Christmas Bazaar is an annual tradition and a favourite event for our students and families. As one of the Parent Council's biggest fundraisers, it's a huge undertaking that couldn't happen without the dedication and effort of the many parents who volunteer their time and energy to make this day magical for all.

Christmas Spirit Day coincides with the Bazaar, and students are asked to wear red, white or green.



Seeking Parent Volunteers

Parent volunteers are needed to help solicit and pick up donations, wrap gift items and baskets, contribute baked goods, set up the night before, manage tables the day of the Bazaar, and clean up afterward. To volunteer, please visit www.spxcspc.com/christmas-bazaar-2019 or email spxbazaar@gmail.com.



Items Needed for Silent Auction, Raffle & Gift Baskets

Do you or someone you know have items that could be donated to the Christmas Bazaar for its silent auction, raffle or gift baskets? Items can include new and unopened toys or gifts, event tickets, electronics, pre-made gift baskets and gift cards, to name a few. Consider the never-opened, never-used items sitting in the bottom of your closet at home, or even approaching your place of work for possibilities. Many companies support community initiatives with gift cards, cash, coupons, products, services and more. There may also be promotional items, samples, dead stock, returns or "last year's" merchandise that they wouldn't mind getting off their hands. If you can help, please email us at spxbazaar@gmail.com.



Elf-for-a-Day Raffle

Students will, once again, have the chance to participate in our popular Elf-for-a-Day Raffle! The names of two lucky students will be drawn, and each will be able to pick a friend to join him or her. All four students will be designated our St. Pius Elves-for-a-Day and will receive \$10 each to spend at the Bazaar, visit Santa, decorate Christmas cookies with the principal and vice-principal, and enjoy a special lunch. Raffle tickets will be \$1 each and will be available for students to purchase in early November.



Class Christmas Craft

The Class Christmas Craft is a Christmas Bazaar tradition. In early December, students in every classroom will work with parent volunteers to complete a unique keepsake to take home to their families. Details and a call for classroom volunteers will be sent home in mid-November.

And follow @spxcspc on Twitter and Instagram as well as SPX CSPC on Facebook to see what's new!

Other News & Needs

Running Club - starting Nov. 22

This year's Running Club is lined up and ready to go on Friday, November 22. For those new to the Club, it was started in 2014 by two avid parent runners as a way to maintain year-round conditioning for students in Grades 3 to 8, and to supplement training for cross country and track & field. The Club intends to hold Friday sessions from 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. The Club is also seeking one or two parents to help with supervision. If your child is interested in being part of the Club, or if you'd like to help out, please contact **Arbelle Manicat-Emo** at arbelle-m@rogers.com, as soon as possible.



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Your 2019-2020 Parent Council Members

Please welcome your new St. Pius X Parent Council members, elected at the AGM on September 25.

C = Co-Chair; T = Treasurer; S = Secretary

Jeremy Greven
Indira Guevara
Danielle Hough (C)

Jennifer Janke
Arbelle Manicat-Emo
Joanne Noble (S)

Ruby Patrickson
Catherine Santos
Juzet Santos (C)

Barbara Sylvestre-Williams
Marianne Ventrone
Christine Vinci (T)

Teaching Staff Representatives: Ms. Cairo & Mr. Palozzi
Community Representative: Don Hunter

St. Pius X Apparel Shop Is Open for Business!!

The St. Pius X Parent Council offers "principal-approved" school and gym wear with our cool St. Pius X logo. Just go online at www.spxcspc.com/apparel-shop to choose your t-shirts, track pants, and hoodies in navy or white, in youth and adult sizes. All money raised goes to support school programs. So just buy our stuff already!



We hope that you enjoyed ...

Family Fun Day – Sept. 21

On September 21, the St. Pius X community gathered for a final taste of summer as the sun shone down on our Family Fun Day. Whether you were a being a life-size Hungry Hippo, watching the live martial arts demonstration, making new animal friends or simply enjoying some food or a cold beverage, thank you for helping us kick off the year right! A special thanks goes to all of the many parent and staff volunteers and donors who made this event possible.



Terry Fox School Run – Sept. 27

St. Pius X participated in the Terry Fox School Run on Friday, September 27. Students and staff from Grades 2 to 8 ran in Étienne Brulé Park, while those in JK to Grade 1 did a walk in the schoolyard. Together, we raised \$734.65 for cancer research! Thank you to Ms. Agres and the Spirit Squad for our warm-up; to organizer Jennifer Janke; and to all of the staff and parent volunteers for another successful year!

St. Pius X Meet & Greet – Oct. 2

Thank you to everyone for joining us at the St. Pius X Meet & Greet on Wednesday, October 2, hosted by the Parent Council. A big thank you goes out to parent Marc Williams and The Williams Catering Company for the delicious selection of food! Thank you, also, to Starbucks in Bloor West Village and Tim Horton's on St. Clair for donating coffee; to David's Tea for the tea; to all of the parents who brought in treats for our dessert table; to Principal Tari, the teachers and staff for joining us; and a special thanks to organizers Danielle Hough, Joanne Noble, Marianne Ventrone and Jennifer Janke.

Newsletter prepared by L. McIninch. Photos by Ranna Asha Photography, C. Watkins and L. Klaamas



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Email
spxcspc@gmail.com



Website
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