

Weekend Update: Friday, April 25, 2025

It was wonderful to return to school on Tuesday morning, to see the bright white cloths adorning our cross and altar, rejoicing the resurrection of our Saviour. Our morning reflections were centred around the hope and joy that the Easter season provides for us. We also spent time reflecting on the passing of our Holy Father, Pope Francis and have added a special picture to our altar to honour him. We concluded the week with a beautiful Kindness Liturgy, led by students in Mme. Dougherty's class and honoured all the students who were "caught being kind" in our school! We also had an opportunity to honour our EARTH this week through a very special video created by our Eco Club as well as class activities, prayers, and an opportunity to get outside and do some spring cleaning in our community.

This week our Intermediate Boys Basketball team successfully defended their Family of Schools Championship from last year and they have spent the rest of the week preparing for the Board Tournament on the 29th. We are so proud of them and their hard work and will be cheering them on from afar on Tuesday, "Go Mercy Magic!!" Our Intermediate Chess team participated in the Board Chess Tournament and had a tough day of competition, but a wonderful experience! Our Girls at Bat program will continue next week and the Intermediate Soccer team is taking shape. Thanks to the students who take a risk to try out and work hard to hone their skills. The cast of the Little Mermaid are busier than ever as their production is now a little more than one month away! Save the date... May 29th is the night for families to come and see our stars bring this beloved story to life. Our Youth Faith Ambassadors, Well-Being Leaders, and Girls Coding Club have also been busy this week working on new projects.

This week we also welcomed the Mississauga Fire Department back to our school for very important Fire Prevention assemblies and students likely came home asking about testing the smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors, as well as identifying the family meeting place. This was well-timed when the very next day we had a fire alarm go off, unexpectedly, and students safely made their way to their meeting places with their teachers until the fire department ensured it was safe to return to school. Thankfully, it was just some smoke from burnt food from the microwave! Thanks to the Fire Fighters who came to present to the school as well as those that responded to the alarm!

As we look ahead to next week, I know that a large group of Intermediate students will be busy this weekend preparing for their trip to Ottawa leaving on Wednesday morning. It doesn't feel like that long ago that we had the parent information night for this trip and now we are all set and ready to go! We wish them a safe journey and can't wait to hear all about their adventures. I hope all our families have a wonderful weekend, hopefully the sun will shine on you all!

Leslie Marchand

April's Virtue: Love

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.

(Mark 12:30-31)



God wants us to serve and to see the goodness in everyone we meet.

Staff Directory:

Leslie Marchand	Principal
Serita Pereira	Head Secretary
Jennifer Cahill	FDK Teacher
Hui Zhang	DECE (LTO)
Heather Maxwell	Grade 1/2 Teacher
Caroline Loiacono	Grade 1/2 Teacher
Cindy Nguyen	Grade 3/4 Teacher (LTO)
Trish Fang	Grade 4/5 Teacher
David MacSporran	Grade 5/6 French Immersion Teacher
Colleen Dougherty	Grade 6/7 French Immersion Teacher (Mon, Wed, Fri)
Lisa Manns	Grade 6/7 French Immersion Teacher (LTO) Tues, Thurs
Vacancy	Grade 6/7 Teacher (LTO)
Madeleine Hinterhoeller	Grade 7/8 French Immersion Teacher
John Galbraith	Grade 7/8 Teacher
Sara Petrucci	SERC Teacher/ESL/SERT/Planning Time
Elaine Romaniuk	Sanctuary Program Teacher
Filomena Pandullo	Special Education Teacher/Planning Time
Lyla Colavecchia	Core French/ Planning Time Teacher (M, T, Th, F)
Paola D'Agostino	Teacher Librarian/Planning Time
Asmaa Esso Daher	Education Resource Worker
Sylvia Caruso	Education Resource Worker (Sanctuary)
Kellie Donaher	CYW
Jamie Brassard	CYW Sanctuary Program
Gillian Grant	Social Worker
Margaret Russ	MHSW (Sanctuary)
Jason Kotsopoulos	School Psychologist
Cheryl Suh	Speech and Language Pathologist
Tony DiRenzo	Head Custodian
Rose DiCerbo	Night Custodian
Jeremiah Scott	Night Custodian

Dental Screening Forms:



Several weeks ago, forms went home to all students in JK, SK, and grades 2, 4, and 7 regarding the Dental screening at the school on May 6th. Thank you to all the families who have already returned them. Please note that we need all our parents to return this form regardless of consent. Please reach out to the school if you have any questions or need a new form.

Confirmation Retreat: April 28

As a reminder, students preparing for their Confirmation will make their way to Merciful Redeemer Parish on Monday morning for a special retreat day. Students will walk to the parish with Mlle. Hinterhoeller shortly after arriving to school and will return around 1:45. Students should dress appropriately for the walk and the weather.

Parent Engagement Evening: STEAM – Tuesday, May 6, 2025

DPCDSB, in collaboration with the DPCDSB Black Community Advisory Council (BCAC), is hosting a parent engagement evening highlighting the importance of representation in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) will be hosted on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. located at St. Margeurite D'Youville Secondary School, 10815 Dixie Rd, Brampton.

This event will focus on highlighting Black representation in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math, while showcasing potential careers, and identifying multiple pathways to STEAM industries. The evening will feature a keynote presentation from a Black female leader in STEAM industries, and offer opportunities for students to engage in hands-on STEAM activities. The STEAM Parent Engagement Night is open to DPCDSB families with students in grades 7 – 12+ who wish to attend.

Interested families are invited to register early as capacity is limited.

Date: Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: St. Marguerite D'Youville S.S., 10815 Dixie Rd., Brampton

Registration: Please indicate interest in the event on the form [linked here](#)

Target Audience: DPCDSB families with Black-identifying students in grades 7 – 12+



Click [here](#) to access a flyer advertising the event

Parent Engagement Evening: Building Safe Communities

Parents and guardians are invited to join us for an insightful evening where student safety advocates will address critical issues impacting youth today. Learn how families, school staff and police can work together to create safer and supportive environments for students at school, online, and within their communities. There are two different dates for this event. Wed, April 30th at St. Aloysius Gonzaga CSS and Thurs, May 29 at St. Marguerite d'Youville CSS in Brampton. Please see the flyer attached to the Weekend Update email for RSVP information.

Grade 6 Vaccination Consent forms:

Information regarding consent for the Peel Public Health Vaccination Clinic for the 2025-2026 school year was sent home with our current Grade 6 students. Please complete it and return to the school; we will forward it to Peel Public Health on your behalf.

Secondary Summer School, Grade 8 Reach Ahead – July 2025

Information about Secondary Summer School, Grade 8 Reach Ahead Information was sent home with all our grade 8's this week. It has also been posted on the [Secondary Summer School – Grade 8 Reach Ahead Webpage](#) on the board website. Registration is now open and closes on **Wednesday, June 11, 2025**. Summer School programs will run from July 7 to August 1, Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 1:30 each day.

Students must register using the link posted on the [Secondary Summer School – Grade 8 Reach Ahead Webpage](#).

Weekly Lunches

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
No special Lunches.	Subway Order from Lunchbox on SchoolCash by previous Sunday at noon.	Lunchlady Order from the lunchlady website, 48 hours in advance.	Panago Pizza Popcorn	Harvey's Order from Lunchbox on SchoolCash by previous Sunday at noon.

Our lunch offerings are always optional and meant to ease the pressures of daily lunch making for families and our students do enjoy their special lunches as well! The school does get a share of commission from these items to support extra activities and materials in our school.

Reporting Student Absences

Student absences should be reported by parents/guardians for each student in our school through the Safe Arrival system in School Messenger. There are three ways to access the program:

Web: www.go.schoolmessenger.ca App: SchoolMessenger Phone: 1-844-435-3440 (toll free)

Student absences not reported will trigger phone calls to confirm the absence each morning. If you need assistance, please contact the school.

Water Bottles:

As we are a Platinum Eco School, we remind students to bring a reusable water bottle to school each day. We have water-filling stations for their bottles to be refilled but we do not have any disposable cups for students to fill.

Reporting Student Injury:

When students get hurt and come to the Office for care, we look at their injury and provide first aid treatment as appropriate. Sometimes, students are just looking for some “magic ice” and a visit in the Office and then go on their way. When students hit their head, or require more significant treatment, you will receive a call from the school to inform you of the injury. This may come from the Office, or the classroom teacher.

Non-Essential Items at School



As a reminder, we ask that students refrain from bringing non-essential items to school like toys, and trading cards. Students may want to share some of their special items, but we'd hate to see these favourites get lost. These items are a distraction from learning and can also create conflict between students if they go missing. I thank you all for supporting this from home.

School Day and Kiss and Ride:

Our school day commences at 8:45. Students will be able to enter the school as of 8:30 each morning and will be asked to make their way to their classroom. All students (other than FDK) are asked to enter the school through the side door closest to the driveway entrance of our school.

Parents who are driving are asked to drive their children up to the front of the school so staff supervising the Kiss and Ride are present to assist children exiting cars and making their way to the sidewalk.



Please avoid pulling over to drop children off at the entrance to the parking lot, as this significantly backs up traffic. If you wish to park and walk your children to their entrance, you are welcome to do so.

Students are dismissed at 3:15. Primary students are to be picked up on the school grounds so teachers can ensure they have been safely met. All students being picked up by car are asked to walk around to the front of the school to line up on the sidewalk and wait for their ride. All our Kindergarten students are to be dropped off and picked up at their gate at the front of the school.

Student Lunches:



Please make sure your children come to school with their lunch. Our intermediate students (**grade 7 and 8 only**) may bring a note to sign-out for lunch. Please ensure the note is dated with the appropriate date. Students can then go out to eat but are asked **not to bring food or drinks back to school**. Students will not be able to go back to their class until the bell rings again at 12:56 to signal the start of our afternoon classes. Students will not be permitted to call home to ask for permission, please have this arranged in advance.

Students Signing Out for Lunch:

ONLY students in Grades 7 and 8 are permitted to leave the property for lunch. EACH time your child wants to go out for lunch in the community, parents are required to provide a note, dated, and signed, for that specific day. We thank you for supporting your children in making these plans in advance.

Allergens:

Please make sure you are sending your children to school each day with lunches that are free from allergens including **Nuts, Tree nuts, Pumpkin, and Seafood**. We have many children in our school who have serious allergies to these allergens, some of whom are airborne allergies. We thank you in advance for your attention to this as you pack lunches.

Dress for the Weather:



Please be mindful of the weather conditions and dress children appropriately. **Students are all expected to have indoor shoes at school**, as wet and soiled boots and shoes will remain in the hallways to keep the classrooms clean!

Cellphone Communication

This is just a reminder that cell phone communication is not permitted during the school day. If you need to connect with your children, please contact the school and we will support you in connecting with them. Students bringing phones to school are expected to leave them in their backpacks on silent or turned off. Smart watches should also be set to school mode. If students are feeling unwell, they are reminded that they need to come to the office and call home from there, so we are aware and can monitor them. Thank you for your attention to this.

We also remind parents and students that taking pictures, and recording videos of students or teachers during the school day is prohibited, ESPECIALLY when there is no consent.

Catholic School Council

Thank you to the parents who joined us for our Catholic School Council meeting this week and also participated in the DPCDSB Public Budget Information Webinar. Our next Catholic School Council meeting is Monday, June 2, 2025. If you have items you would like considered for the Agenda, please reach out to the school or email us at OLMCYCSCInfo@dpcdsb.org The link and agenda will be sent to all families closer to the date.

Merciful Redeemer Parish



We invite you to continue to check out the Merciful Redeemer website at www.mercifulredeemer.org for the latest bulletin and other events happening at the Parish.

Self-Identification Option for Indigenous Families:

If you are First Nation (Status Indian or Non-Status Indian), Métis and/or Inuit you can self-identify as Indigenous. You do not need to produce any documentation or proof of ancestry. Self-identification is voluntary and confidential. "This has been really important for us because of the sense of community and the connection to other Indigenous families." ~ Melanie Cormier, parent.

Self-identification will provide access to culture and language programs and monthly programming for students and families. Relevant information will be sent directly to you about upcoming cultural events and opportunities which help to build community and a sense of Indigenous pride in Dufferin-Peel.

To learn more about opportunities for Indigenous students and families please visit:

<https://www3.dpcdsb.org/students/indigenous-self-identification>

Upcoming Events:

Please click on the following link to access the [2024-2025 School Year Calendar](#).

Monday, April 28, 2025

Confirmation Retreat @ Merciful Redeemer
Grade 5 Trip: Peel Safety Village

Tuesday, April 29, 2025

Int Boys BBALL at Board Tournament
Mrs. Fang's Class: Braining Camp Workshop

April 30-May 2, 2025

Intermediate Ottawa Trip

May 5-9, 2025

Catholic Education Week

Monday, May 5, 2025

Valedictorian Election

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Dental Screening: JK, SK, 2, 4, 7

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Team/Clubs Picture Day
Confirmation @ Merciful Redeemer

Friday, May 9, 2025

CEW Liturgy @ 1:15

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Grade 4-8 Track and Field Day

Wednesay, May 14, 2025

Celebration of Mary: Morning Star School
Rosary Leaders (AM)

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Grade 6 Flight Museum Trip

Friday, May 16, 2025

PD Day: No School for students

Monday, May 19, 2025

Victoria Day Holiday: No School

Thursday, May 22, 2025

Miss. West Family of Schools Soccer
Tournament

May 26-29, 2025

Little Mermaid Week @ OLMCY

Monday, June 9, 2025

PD Day: No School for students

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

Miss. West Track and Field Meet

Thursday, June 19, 2025

FDK Celebration of Learning

Friday, June 20, 2025

Athletic Banquet

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Report Card Distribution (Via Email)
Year End Mass @ 10:00

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

GRADUATION!

Friday, June 27, 2025

Last day of school!

Joyous Time of Year

May the glory
and the promise
of this joyous time of year
bring peace
and happiness to you
and those you hold most dear.

And may Christ,
Our Risen Saviour,
always be there by your side
to bless you
most abundantly
and be your loving guide.

- Author Unknown

He is
not here,
He has
Risen!
Luke 24:6