



Weekend Update: Saturday, May 10, 2025

This week we have celebrated the blessing of Catholic Education as “Pilgrims of Hope”. We have come together through prayer, reflections, and class activities focused on the five themes of the week. On Friday, our school community gathered in the gym to celebrate our final Liturgy of the week where students shared artifacts from their learning with the entire school. These artifacts are now prominently displayed with our altar at the entrance of the school. I want to thank our Youth Faith Ambassadors, led by Mrs. Cahill and Mme. Dougherty, for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year preparing for this very special week. Along with Catholic Education Week, we also took part in activities for Mental Health Awareness Week. Each day we had a fun theme for students, the favourite days being “Twin Day” and “Cozy Day” for sure. Together, we continue to unmask mental health through education, and support. Thank you to our Well-Being leaders for the fun activities all week long both in classrooms and throughout the school. The final highlight of the week was undoubtedly witnessing the group of Intermediate students receiving their Confirmation at Merciful Redeemer Parish on Wednesday evening. I want to congratulate all these students who confirmed their faith through renewed commitment to their Baptismal vows and were sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. May you use the gifts to truly live your life with “greatness”.

As we look ahead to next week, we are all excited for the return of our annual Track and Field Day for students in Grades 4 through 8 on Tuesday, May 13, 2025. Students will all participate in the events and are reminded to wear the appropriate clothing and footwear for the day and to please bring a reusable water bottle. Students wishing to participate in the long-distance runs may do so in the afternoon, but they will need to sign up prior to Tuesday morning to qualify. We are also excited to welcome back the Grade 4 FI students from Divine Mercy for a fun morning on Monday, as we continue to support their transition for Grade 5. Our Grade 6 students are looking forward to their annual trip to the Flight Museum in Hamilton and our Yearbook Club will be working feverishly to complete the final pages of this year’s Yearbook to send to the publisher. Of course, we will end next week with a PD Day, so please make sure you mark on your calendars that there is no school for students on Friday, May 16th and then again on Monday, May 19th for the Victoria Day holiday.

This week we will also be sending out more information about ticket sales for our highly anticipated production of Disney’s The Little Mermaid Jr. The evening performance will be on Thursday, May 29th starting at 7:00pm and tickets will be available on School Cash online for \$10.00. We know that families will not be disappointed by our staging of the beloved Disney classic. The cast and creative team have been working tirelessly since the beginning of the school year, and we cannot wait to see them bring Ariel and her friends to life.

Leslie Marchand

May's Virtue: Acceptance

If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. (1 Cor.12:26-27)

God wants us to make friends with everyone no matter how different they may look or act.

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

Trustee Newsletter:

Please see the May edition of our Catholic School Trustee, Brea Corbet's Newsletter which is attached to the Weekend Update email.

Grade Nine Get Ready Program

All our students transitioning to Secondary School are asked to check out the information about the Get Ready Program in August in Dufferin Peel schools. Students will need to be registered for the program. You can do so at the following link. Be sure to register for the school that your child is attending. We have students making their way to St. Aloysius Gonzaga, St. Joan of Arc, Iona CSS, Philip Pocock CSS, and Loyola.

<https://www.dpcdsb.org/programs-services/summer-learning/get-ready-for-secondary-school>

School Climate Survey

The Catholic Community, Culture, and Caring School Climate Survey is the survey that DPCDSB uses to collect school climate information. Students in grades 4-8 are encouraged to complete the survey which can be found in their student dashboard. Parents and guardians can participate in their own CCCC School Climate Survey at <https://www3.dpcdsb.org/news/news-archives/school-climate-survey>. The survey will close on May 13th.

Thrive in the Community Newsletter

The May edition of the “Thrive” Newsletter is also attached to the Weekend Update email.

AYSP and DPCDSB Parent Workshop Series on Promoting Positive Behaviour

Associated Youth Services Peel and DPCDSB invite parents/guardians of youth age 12+ to virtual group sessions during the month of May. The purpose of the sessions is to promote positive behaviour in youth and prevent problematic behaviour such as substance use and internet overuse.

The three parent workshop topics include:

[Parenting in the Digital Age Balancing Screens and Social Media – Tuesday, May 13, 2025 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.](#)

[Building Resilience and Managing Stress in Youth – Thursday, May 22, 2025 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.](#)

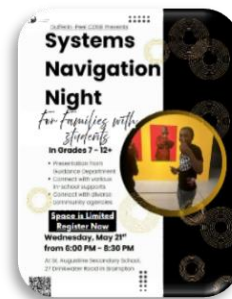
[Fostering Positive Parenting and Communication – Wednesday, May 28, 2025 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.](#)

Click each title above for more details about the topic and the link for registration. Each session requires separate registration. Parents/Caregivers can attend one or more sessions. Sessions will be broadcast via Zoom.

Parent Engagement Evening: Systems Navigation

DPCDSB, in collaboration with the DPCDSB Black Community Advisory Council (BCAC), is hosting a Systems Navigation Night on **Wednesday, May 21, 2025, from 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM at St. Augustine Secondary School, located at 27 Drinkwater Road, Brampton.**

This event will focus on ways to navigate the education system as Black students and families. During the evening, there will be a presentation from the Guidance Department, covering topics such as how to choose courses, understand prerequisites, and advocate for oneself in the guidance office. Additionally, there will be smaller



presentations detailing both in-school supports and community support services. The Systems Navigation 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: Wednesday, May 21, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: St. Augustine Secondary School, 27 Drinkwater Rd, Brampton

Registration: [linked here](#)

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

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.	<i>Subway</i> Order from Lunchbox on SchoolCash by previous Sunday at noon.	<i>Lunchlady</i> Order from the lunchlady website, 48 hours in advance.	Panago Pizza Popcorn	<i>Harvey's</i> 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

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



Once again we want to Congratulate all the students who had their Confirmation on Wednesday. Thank you to everyone at Merciful Redeemer Parish for all their hard work throughout the year preparing students and for the organization of a truly beautiful celebration.

We look forward to celebrating Mary this upcoming week as our Rosary volunteers lead the school in two very special crowning celebrations in the AM.

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>

Habemus Papam! A Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

Heavenly Father,

You have raised Your servant, Pope Leo XIV, to the Chair of Saint Peter. Pour out your abundant blessings upon him. Through him, guide Your pilgrim Church along the path to Heaven. Grant him wisdom to discern Your will, courage to fulfill it, and charity to shepherd Your people with the heart of Christ.

In this time of transition, bring peace to troubled hearts, Joy to those who suffer, and hope to the despairing.

May he be a faithful successor to Saint Peter, a humble servant of Your Word, and a fearless herald of Your Divine Mercy and Truth. Strengthen him with the grace of the Holy Spirit, that he may lead the Church in unity, holiness, and fidelity.

We entrust him to the maternal care of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and to the prayers of all the saints.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Upcoming Events:

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

Monday, May 12, 2025

Divine Mercy Grade 4 FI Transition Day

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Grade 4-8 Track and Field Day

Wednesday, 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
Journey Into Learning @ 6:00pm

May 26-29, 2025

Little Mermaid Week @ OLMCY

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Little Mermaid Jr Matinee for OLMCY

Thursday, May 29, 2025

Little Mermaid Jr Matinee for community
schools; Evening Performance @ 7:00 pm

June 2-6, 2025

EQAQ: Grade 3 and 6

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Miss West Softball Tournament

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 @ Lunch

Monday, June 23, 2025

Grade 6 Trip: Silvercreek

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!

