



Weekend Update: Friday, May 16, 2025

On Wednesday, May 14th we were led in a very special celebration by our Morning Star School Rosary volunteers. The annual Celebration for Mary is the culmination of the hard work and dedication that the volunteers have shared with us each month throughout the school year, bringing the rosary into our classrooms. Each celebration focused on the Glorious Mysteries and featured students leading prayers, crowning Mary, and all students placing a flower by the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes as they recessed out of the Gym. We are blessed with a wonderful partnership with Merciful Redeemer Parish. Our beautiful statue which adorns our altar at the front of the school will keep the special crown for the remainder of the month of May as well as some of the beautiful flowers that were made in her honour.

This week we also had the opportunity to open our doors to the Grade 4 French Immersion class from Divine Mercy School as part of our ongoing work to support their transition to Our Lady of Mercy School for Grade 5. The students participated in some cooperative games, made spectacular spring-inspired artwork, and even enjoyed a special Pizza lunch! We are always so pleased to have these opportunities to begin getting to know our future Mercy Magic and we want to thank the staff at Divine Mercy for making the walk with their students for the visit. Our grade 6 students made their way to Hamilton to the War Plane Museum supporting the science curriculum on flight, and although they hit some traffic on the return to school, they had a wonderful day exploring. A record-breaking number of our intermediate students also wrote the Waterloo GAUSS Math contest! More than 20 students signed up to complete the test which was written during their lunch hour on Wednesday. Congratulations to all the students who participated! We love seeing students embracing Math this way. Finally, on Friday, our staff worked both collaboratively and independently on professional development in the areas of Mathematics, Literacy, better understanding AI, and reviewing goals from the year.

On Tuesday, students in grades 4 through 8 had some fun participating in our annual Track and Field Day. We were so proud of all the effort students put into each event. Some students were competing for spots on the Track and Field team, but others were pushing themselves to try something new and try their hardest. No matter what the outcome, we were very proud of all their efforts! To congratulate them, we treated them all to a tasty popsicle at the end of the day. Our Softball and Soccer teams are also preparing for their upcoming tournaments, and the cast and crew of The Little Mermaid Jr are in the final stages of preparing for their show dates at the end of May. Tickets are available now on SchoolCash online for the evening performance. We encourage you to come out to support the hard work and dedication of these students and teachers who started the process in September! Tickets are \$10. Finally, I want to congratulate Mlle. Hinterhoeller and the amazing Yearbook Club on their successful completion of this year's yearbook! The Yearbooks will be on sale soon and you won't want to miss your chance to get a copy of all the amazing memories from the year! We hope all our families enjoy the Victoria Day long weekend; we'll see everyone back at school on Tuesday!

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 Ezzo 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

Water Toys at School

We have reminded our students this week that toys made for the purpose of spraying water are not permitted at school. We thank you for your assistance with this.

DPCDSB Revised Dress Code

At the beginning of March, all families received a communication from the Board regarding updates to Policy P-2006 Dress Code and School Uniforms. A copy of this communication is being enclosed with the Weekend Update email for your review. Of note for our students in an Elementary school setting are as follows, “as part of these changes, dress code expectations now require that students ensure the area from the top of the shoulders to mid-thigh is covered.” This expectation, along with the reminder that clothing should not contain offensive or inappropriate messaging, has been reviewed with our students each morning during the announcements.

It's Tick season!

Please see the attached information from the Region of Peel regarding Ticks and Tick safety which are being enclosed with 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>

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.

[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.

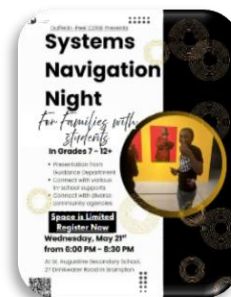
Parent Engagement Evening: Systems Navigation

Please note that this parent engagement event has been canceled. If you had registered for it, please adjust your calendar.

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:



The temperatures are beginning to climb, and students should dress for the conditions which may include a hat and sunscreen, if students are able to apply for themselves. We also remind students to pack a reusable water so they can stay hydrated.

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



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>

A prayer for the long weekend

Lord, thank you for this long weekend. We ask for your blessing on this time of rest and relaxation. Help us to be grateful for the blessings we have received this week and to use this time to recharge our spirits. May we be mindful of your presence in our lives and may we return refreshed and ready to serve you with renewed vigor.

Amen.

Upcoming Events:

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

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
Tickets available on SchoolCash for \$10.00

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

Friday, June 13, 2025

MacSporran/Dougherty Trip to the Movies

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 Parents are welcome!

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

GRADUATION!

Friday, June 27, 2025

Last day of school!

