



Weekend Update: Sunday, May 25, 2025

Although it was a short, cool, and rainy week, we still managed to have lots of fun and keep busy at Our Lady of Mercy School. Students in Grades 3 and 6 preparing for their EQAO assessments at the beginning of June, spring sports teams trying to fit practices into any windows of dry weather they could, Eco Club preparing for a fun Bike to School week beginning June 2nd, and the cast and crew of “The Little Mermaid Jr” refining the show with each passing rehearsal. As we make our way into the final week of May, our halls and classrooms are a flurry of activity. There’s still plenty of school left in this school year and we remind our students to work to keep their focus in these final weeks.

A clear highlight from last week was welcoming our incoming Kindergarten students at our yearly, “Journey Into Learning” information night. Our Kindergarten room was filled with future Mercy Magic students and their families. The little learners had the chance to play, and work through fun activity centres while their parents met to discuss the FDK program, and how they can support their children to be school-ready in the fall. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the families for coming out on that cool evening, and to Mrs. Cahill and Ms. Zhang for all their hard work preparing for this special event.

As we look ahead to the final week of May, we are all very excited for our production of Disney’s “The Little Mermaid Jr”. A production of this nature takes so much time and effort to successfully produce. The process began in September with the creative team picking a play, and commencing auditions and early rehearsals. Rehearsals have continued all year long with music direction, choreography, staging and blocking all in anticipation of where they are now, putting all those pieces together for the show. Tickets for the evening performance are on sale now through school cash online for \$10. We thank everyone who has already purchased a ticket for the show and encourage all our families to consider coming to see this amazing production to support the arts at Our Lady of Mercy School.

Finally, we want to wish all our Grade 2’s many blessings as they prepare to celebrate their First Holy Communion this afternoon at Merciful Redeemer Parish. May God continue to bless you all as you make this next step in your faith journey, to welcome Jesus into your lives in a new way, now able to fully participate in the Eucharist.

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

Archdiocese of Toronto Parish Summer Camps – Totus Tuus

The Archdiocese of Toronto is offering a Summer Camp: [Totus Tuus](#) (Latin for "Totally Yours") in neighbouring parishes. [Totus Tuus](#) is an Archdiocesan program whereby seminarians and young adults visit different parishes, spreading the Good News of our Lord through catechesis, Mass, confession, songs and games! The camp is focused on both having fun and bringing children closer to God. It has a mix of fun activities and spiritual activities.

- Daily activities (Gr. 1 to Gr. 6 Program) include catechesis, Mass, songs, arts & crafts, outdoor + indoor games, and music.
- The evening program (Gr. 7 to Gr. 12) includes daily potluck dinner, games, small group discussion and nightly prayers.

Please see the attached for further information by Pastoral Regions in DPCDSB [Parish Summer Camps by Region](#)

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.

Graduation Information:

Permission forms for the Graduation Luncheon along with the official Invitation will be sent to the Class of 2025 as well as their families on Monday! We are very excited to celebrate this special milestone together at the end of June.

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>

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](#).

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 final session is this week. Click the link below for more details about the topic and the link for registration.

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

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 bottle 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.

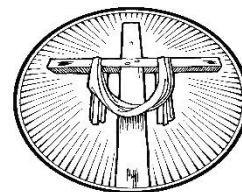
Self-identification will provide access to culture and language programs and monthly programming for students and families. Relevant information will be sent directly to you about upcoming cultural events and opportunities which help to build community and a sense of Indigenous pride in Dufferin-Peel.

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

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

Collect Prayer: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honor of the risen Lord, and that what we relieve in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen



Upcoming Events:

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

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

EQAO: Grade 3 and 6

Bike to School Week

June 2, 2025

Catholic School Council @ 6:00

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Miss West Int 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

Friday, June 20, 2025

Athletic Banquet @ Lunch

FDK Celebration of Learning

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!