



## **Weekend Update: Friday, May 30, 2025**

This weekend update cannot begin without celebrating the massive success of the Mercy Magic Production of, “The Little Mermaid”! Congratulations to the cast and crew and creative team on a fantastic 3-show run this past week. As I said many times, a production of this nature does not happen by accident, nor is it something that is thrown together. This process began all the way back in September and we are grateful for the staff who have given so much of their free time to lead these students on this journey. I also want to thank all those who came to see the show including students and staff from St. Elizabeth Seton School and Divine Mercy School and the incredible turnout for our evening performance. Without the support of the community, this production (and others like it) would not be possible. I hope everyone involved enjoys the feeling of success as the production closes and I sincerely hope that all the students involved continue to develop their artistic talents in future endeavours, as well as their technical, production skills!

This week we began a special Novena dedicated to the Holy Spirit in preparation for Pentecost on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> which will conclude the Liturgical season of Easter. Each day the novena prayers focus on one of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and begins with a description of the Gift, a short biblical passage, and a special prayer. I am attaching a copy of Day 3 and Day 4 of the Novena for families to share together at home, so we can stay on track when we resume the Novena on Monday which will be Day 5.

As we look ahead to next week we have many exciting events to share. First, students in grades 3 and 6 will be working on the EQAO assessments of Reading, Writing, and Mathematics throughout the week. We wish our students the best of luck and remind them to breathe, and enter the assessments with confidence, remembering that all the knowledge they need is already within them! They need only to take their time and do their best. We are also excited for our “Bike to School Week” next week. We have set a goal of 100 km traveled by students coming to school on their bikes next week so we ask parents of students participating, to support your child in knowing how many km it takes them to bike each way so we can track our goal. We have special prizes to give away to participating students as well as certificates. Students are reminded to wear their helmets, follow all bike and road safety rules. All bikes should be locked up at the bike racks by the student entrance to the school each day. and please ensure their bikes are locked up in the bike racks each day. On June 5<sup>th</sup> our school, along with numerous others in our family of schools, will be having a rainbow spirit day. On that same day, we will be cheering on our Mercy Magic Intermediate Softball Team when they compete at the Family of Schools Tournament at Tom Chater Park. Fingers crossed they get a beautiful day for their games!

Finally, I want to welcome Ms. Jacklyn Linhares to our school community. Ms. Linhares has accepted the contract to teach the students in our Grade 6/7 English class. And with one welcome, we also prepare for another farewell, as we thank Mrs. Manns for all her hard work in our Grade 6/7 French Immersion class since February. I know you will join me in wishing Mrs. Manns farewell and welcoming Ms. Linhares.

*Leslie Marchand*

## June's Virtue: Fairness

*I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. (2 Cor. 8:13-14)*

God wants us to treat each person as we would like to be treated.

### 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) <b>Tues: Final Day</b>
Jacklyn Linhares	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 find attached to the Weekend Update email the June edition of our Catholic School Trustee, Brea Corbet's monthly newsletter. I also want to extend my gratitude on behalf of our entire community to Trustee Corbet for joining us for "The Little Mermaid" on Thursday evening. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and dedication!

## **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 continue to remind students 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. 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 continues to be reviewed with our students and we thank you for your support from home as well.

## **Graduation Information:**

Permission forms for the Graduation Luncheon along with the official Invitation were 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. Thank you to all the families who have already paid for the Graduation and a gentle reminder to those who still need to that the item can be found on SchoolCash online.

## **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](#).

### Weekly Lunches

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
No special Lunches.	<b>Subway</b> Order from Lunchbox on SchoolCash by previous Sunday at noon.	<b>Lunchlady</b> Order from the lunchlady website, 48 hours in advance.	<b>Panago Pizza Popcorn</b> <b>Final Pizza Day is Thursday, June 19, 2025</b>	<b>Harvey's</b> 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](http://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](mailto:OLMCYCSCInfo@dpcdsb.org). The link and agenda will be sent to all families on Monday morning.

### **Merciful Redeemer Parish**



We invite you to continue to check out the Merciful Redeemer website at [www.mercifulredeemer.org](http://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>

### ***Novena to the Holy Spirit: Prayer***

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.*

*Amen*



### **Upcoming Events:**

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

#### **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**

Rainbow Spirit Day

Miss West Int Softball Tournament

#### **Monday, June 9, 2025**

PD Day: No School for students

#### **Wednesday, June 11, 2025**

Miss West Track Meet

#### **Thursday, June 12, 2025**

Rescheduled: Miss West Int Soccer Tournament

#### **Friday, June 13, 2025**

MacSporran/Dougherty Trip to the Movies

#### **Thursday, June 19, 2025**

SERC Penpals visit

#### **Friday, June 20, 2025**

Athletic Banquet (Lunch)

Kindergarten Celebration of Learning @ 2:15

#### **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!

