

# St. TERESA OF CALCUTTA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Hands to Serve, Hearts to Love, Growing in the Image of Christ*

February 2025



## Principal's Message

Dear STOC Family,

St. Teresa of Calcutta is a vibrant, active, faith-filled community, and February brings many opportunities for us to celebrate, reflect, grow, and pray. We look forward to learning more about Black History Month, celebrating St. Valentine's Day, and preparing for the Lenten Season.

This month, we will share student successes as we come together for parent/guardian-student conferences to discuss Term One achievements on February 13 and February 14.

As we focus on the Virtue of Respect, we would like to pause to acknowledge and express our gratitude for the following:

- **Our Students:** For their enthusiasm, laughter, spirit, hard work, determination, and perseverance.
- **Our Parents/Families:** For supporting their children at home, contacting teachers with compliments or concerns, assisting their children in following our Catholic Code of Conduct, supporting academic progress, reporting absences, and maintaining the home/school connection.
- **Our Teaching Staff:** For their endless dedication and hard work in supporting student achievement and well-being, and for their commitment to a safe, caring, and inclusive Catholic environment.
- **Our Office Staff:** For addressing the daily needs of our parents, staff, and students, and ensuring the safety of our staff and students.
- **Our Custodial Staff:** For their efforts to ensure that our school is safe and clean.
- **Our Trustees of the Board, Mario Pascucci, and our Superintendent, Dulcie Belchior:** For their continued guidance and support.
- **Our Catholic School Council:** For working hard to provide valuable and positive initiatives that help improve students' learning.
- **Our Parish Team:** For their spiritual guidance and the in-school visits and celebrations they share with us.

On behalf of the staff of St. Teresa of Calcutta, we wish you a wonderful month. *Mrs. Maddison*

## **Diversity Prayer**

We praise You, God, for  
the diversity  
we see all around us.

We rejoice in the complex  
beauty of your creation.

Help us to  
celebrate the wonderful  
blend of cultures and  
peoples in this  
world  
by actively seeking  
solidarity with one

another.

**Amen**

We will have our Shrove  
Tuesday Celebration on  
March 4, 2025

This year, Ash Wednesday  
coincides with Valentine's  
Day. It is a unique  
convergence of solemnity  
and love. Our Ash  
Wednesday Para-Liturgy  
will be taking place on  
March 5, 2025, at 9:30  
a.m.

1120 Runningbrook Dr.  
Mississauga Ontario

[BlessedTeresaofCalcuttaInfo@dpedsb.org](mailto:BlessedTeresaofCalcuttaInfo@dpedsb.org)

Phone: (905) 273 - 3937

Fax: (905) 273 - 9223

### Principal

Gráinne Maddison

### Secretary

Lorrie Gordon

### Superintendent

Dulcie Belchior

### Trustee

Mario Pascucci

Contact number 905-302-3096

### Parish

St. Patrick  
Fr. John Facey

Associate Pastor  
Fr. Brian Clough

St. Patrick Church  
921 Flagship Dr, Mississauga, ON  
L4Y 2J6  
(905) 270-2301

### Dates to Remember:

**Thursday, February 13** – Parent/Teacher  
Interviews

**Friday, February 14** – PA Day for Parent Teacher  
Interviews. \*No school for students  
Please mark your calendars and make appropriate  
arrangements.

## School Hours for 2024/2025

School begins: 8:55 a.m.

First Recess: 11:00-11:15 a.m.

Lunch: 11:55-12:55 p.m.

Second Recess: 2:25-2:35 p.m.

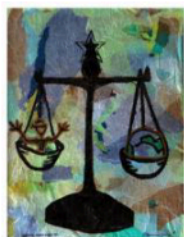
Dismissal: 3:25 p.m.



## PEOPLE OF RESPECT...

- SEE GOD'S PRESENCE IN THEMSELVES AND OTHERS
- TREAT OTHERS AS THEY WOULD LIKE TO BE TREATED
- WELCOME OTHERS WITH SMILES AND FRIENDLY GREETINGS
- ALWAYS DISPLAY GOOD MANNERS
- SAY 'EXCUSE ME', 'PLEASE' AND 'THANK YOU'
- AVOID THE TEMPTATION TO SWEAR OR GESTURE INAPPROPRIATELY
- LOOK FOR WAYS TO ENCOURAGE AND PRAISE OTHERS
- TALK KINDLY ABOUT OTHERS AND AVOID GOSSIP

# RESPECT



### A Responsible Citizen

#### I HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES!

I am a peace-maker  
I am fair  
I am forgiving  
I follow rules and do my share  
I help the poor and care for people in need  
I stand up for what is right  
I know that all life is precious  
I respect and protect the world and all that is in it  
Because I accept my responsibilities, I can make a difference, and will live my life like Jesus.

## STOC Student Behaviour - New Year's Intentions

At St. Teresa of Calcutta, we want all students to come to school feeling happy, safe, and ready to learn. On **Friday, January 31** we had Behaviour Classroom Meetings and Assemblies with all students in *Junior and Intermediate Divisions*. **Please review the following guidelines with your children to ensure we all come to school ready to learn, serve, love, and grow together:**

- **3 R's @ STOC - Respect yourself/Respect others and take Responsibility for your actions**
- **No Rough Play** (No tackling, pushing, or shoving allowed - hands off & personal space at all times!) & **Dare not to swear** (A lot of swearing/cursing & inappropriate language is happening at school - please do not use that language in our school community)
- Continue to use your **WITS - BRAVE** expectations/strategies (please see page 6 & 7 for more information)
- When the **bell rings** at recess - game over. Stop the game and line up.
- **At Lunchtime** - r-e-s-p-e-c-t our Student Supervisors
- **Snack Program** – snacks are provided by a YMCA grant as needed through the office
- **Phones/Devices** - may be used in class with teacher permission/outside the classroom turned OFF and OUT OF SIGHT. If communication with home is necessary, the office phone must be used
- Please review *Ethical and Responsible Use of Technology* (from Agenda)
- **THINK before you speak/post** (see page 7)
- **Harmful, Discriminatory Language and/or actions** will not be tolerated



We will continue student and principal led behaviour reminders online and on the PA announcements –





This month we celebrate the virtue of Respect. Every person in our lives carries the Spirit of God and so every person is our brother or sister through Jesus Christ. As brothers and sisters who share one Holy Spirit, we are all valuable to God. We all deserve to be shown courtesy, consideration, sensitivity, and thoughtfulness, which are different ways of showing respect. Respect should come first and foremost from us. We must respect ourselves and then we will be able to respect others. We should also be able to expect to be treated with respect by everyone we meet. Through prayer and concentration, we can get better at respecting ourselves as well as respecting those around us.

A respectful person:

- Treats himself/herself and everyone else with equal consideration and courtesy
- Uses a positive tone of voice and body language
- Avoids swearing, name calling, put downs, and inappropriate gestures
- Looks for ways to encourage and praise others

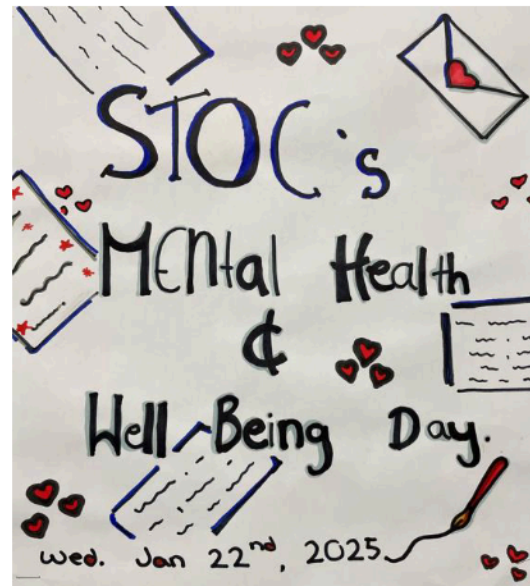
Students will be presented with the January Virtue of Self-control & February Virtue Respect Virtues Certificates at the upcoming **Virtue Assembly on Friday, February 28 - 9:30 a.m.** and parents are welcome to attend



**February is Black History Month** and is acknowledged widely as a month devoted to the celebration of Black stories, contributions, and achievements. "During Black History Month, people in Canada celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians and their communities who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada a culturally diverse, compassionate, and prosperous country" (Government of Canada). As a Catholic community, we are called to live in solidarity. Solidarity requires that we learn from, and about our families in Christ.

STOC Students from all grades will be sharing insights and information and a daily trivia contest from Ms. Bailey's Grade 2/3 class with the school during announcements.

**We will conclude Black History Month with presentations from Positivity Lives Here !**



We are very proud of our Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions, Grade 8 students, Mya, Rayna, Nikola, Milosh and Christian with Co-ordinating Teacher, Mrs. Beach and Public Health Nurse, Jennifer Pickering, who put together the First Annual Mental Health and Wellbeing Day on Bell Let's Talk Day Wednesday, January 22.

This whole school initiative was a full day of fun and mindful activities for students from kindergarten to Grade 8. STOC was featured on CTV news with Pauline Chan.

At STOC, we have participated in **Mindful Mondays** with virtual announcements and prayers led by our intermediate students. A Girls Club is offered monthly for our older students and each Monday, students are provided with student generated ideas to support mental health and wellbeing. **We will continue with this student led initiative throughout the school year.**





## CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Thank you to our Catholic School Council members for their efforts to support our school.

*Stay tuned for details about our STOC CSC Spring Events!*

### Co- Chairs-

Claudia Filipe and Chris Garofalo

### Secretary-

Julia Van de Kraats

### Treasurer-

Nelly Xavier Cordner

### OAPCE Representative –

Janet Kus

### Parish Representative–

Andrea Gavrilovic

### Teacher Representative –

S. Iassogna

Our next meeting will take place on January 16 with a timed agenda at 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

*All School Council Meetings will be at 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 20, April 24, May 8, and June 12 with a timed agenda from 7:00-8:30.*

An email address is available for STOC Catholic School Council:

[mtrsacsinfo@dpcdsb.org](mailto:mtrsacsinfo@dpcdsb.org)



## Thrive in Community

February 2025

Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being



### Thrive in the Community - February 2025

## Math @ Home



Connect learning between school and home with our DPCDSB

**Math@Home newsletters.**

[DP Math At Home Site](#)

Each Math@Home newsletter:

- Highlights a mathematical concept/skill.
- Includes related Family Math Activities that can be done at home.
- Spotlights a resource that can be used to further support doing math at home.

**February's focus:**

[Math at Home - Geometry](#)

## Snow and Ice and Winter Weather

Snow is part of our winter life in Canada, providing both frustration and enjoyment. We all like to play in it; however, snow and ice can be very dangerous. In fact, most injuries happen during wintertime. For safety reasons, our school rule must be that snow stays on the ground – no snowball throwing, kicking snow or any other activity with snow or ice that could be harmful, which includes sliding on slopes or icy patches.

*Thank you for taking the time to reinforce these safety rules with your children.*

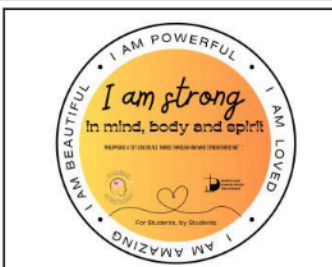
### Weather is very unpredictable.

Please send your child:

- wearing layers that can be removed or added to depending on the weather.
- every day with hats, coats, mitts, and boots.
- practice zipping, buttoning etc. so they can get ready independently to go outside.

An extra set of clothes at school is a great idea in case of slips/falls. Please remind your child to bring a pair of **indoor shoes** to school and label the shoes for our primary students. Running shoes are preferred because they are safe and can also be used for gym. We appreciate your continued support!

**Positivity Lives Here** will be at our school on February 24 for class presentations and February 25 for whole school assemblies and a Parent Engagement Evening. Topics include social, emotional and environmental health with a focus on online safety and a wrap up for *Black History 365; A Look Back, A Look Within, A Look Ahead* at STOC !



## The Library



A library card is FREE! It allows you borrow from a large selection of books, magazines, video games and more.

Please find the latest **after-school program** details below, at the **Mississauga Valley Library** and feel free to share with others.

**The Library also has some special free events planned for March Break.** Please encourage your families to visit their local Library during this March Break 2025.

For more information on our program offerings please view the [Mississauga Valley List of Programs](#) or call the branch at 905-615-4670 to speak to staff or visit the library website at [www.mississaugalibrary.ca](http://www.mississaugalibrary.ca)

Upcoming Children Programs Mississauga Valley Library:		
Date:	Time:	Program:
Saturdays from Jan. 11 – March 29	2:30-3:30pm	Family LEGO (all ages)
Wednesdays from Feb. 20 – March 27	7-7:30 pm	Family Storytime (all ages)
Saturdays Feb. 15, March 15	10:30-11:15 am	Spanish Storytime
Friday Feb. 14	2-4 pm	PA Day Drop In





## Kindergarten Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now open

Kindergarten registration for the 2025-2026 school year at Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) schools is now open. DPCDSB offers the Kindergarten program in 125 Catholic elementary schools in Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon, Bolton and Orangeville.

Parents/guardians can register online at [dpcdsb.org](https://dpcdsb.org).

Registration is open to Catholic children and children of Catholic parents. Kindergarten students must be at least four (4) years of age by December 31, 2025.

The following documents are required to complete the registration process:

- Proof of age of the child
- Original Roman Catholic baptismal certificate (for child and/or parent/guardian) or original baptismal certificate from a church in full communion with the Holy See of Rome or an Eastern Catholic Church.
- Immunization Reference #'s from the local Public Health Unit
- Proof of Canadian citizenship or permanent resident status
- Proof of home address
- Proof of English Separate School Support

Please refer to the [Register for School webpage](#) for accepted forms of documentation.

Inquiries about home school locations/boundary areas should be directed to the DPCDSB Planning Department at 905-890-0708 ext. 24440.

For more information, parents/guardians should contact their local Catholic school, visit the DPCDSB website at [dpcdsb.org](https://dpcdsb.org), or call DPCDSB's Admissions Department at 905-890-1221.

**Attendance and Punctuality - We continue to have students who arrive late at school. Please help your child to be on time!**



### DID YOU KNOW?

**Showing up on time every day is important to your child's success and learning from preschool forward.**

Missing 10% of school (1-2 days every few weeks) can:

- Make it harder to develop early reading skills
- Make it harder to develop numeracy skills
- Develop a poor attendance pattern that's hard to break
- Absences can affect the whole class as time may be required to help children catch up
- Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves



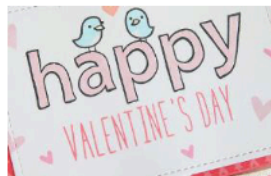
**Monday, February 17 – There is no school for staff and students on this day**

### Wednesday, February 26 – Pink Shirt Day

Bullying is a major problem in schools, workplaces, homes and online. Over the month of February and throughout the year, it is important to raise awareness of these issues and support programs that foster children's health and self-esteem.

Our 2024 Pink Shirt Day design was inspired by moments of kindness, empathy and understanding that can mean so much to children impacted by bullying. For bullied kids, it can be hard to know where to turn. But a helping and supportive hand can make a world of difference! Remember that whether it's sending a check-in text, calling out bullying behaviour when you see it, or simply offering your support, there are so many ways we can all help and connect with people being bullied.

**Let's Lift Each Other Up this Pink Shirt Day, and all year!**



STOC will be celebrating Valentine's Day in a special way this year. Students will have the opportunity to purchase Candygrams for their friends for \$1.25, and all proceeds will be donated to ShareLife. You can purchase a few or as many as you want. These special treats will be delivered to whomever your child wishes and will be labeled with "To:/From:". Primary students will receive assistance labeling.

Should you wish for your child to send one to each student in the class, the number of students in each class is showing below.

Purchase between Mon. Feb.3 - Mon. Feb. 10

This item is now available to purchase on school cash online, DO NOT send cash to school with your child.

[eCheque Instructions.pdf](#)

[Welcome To School Cash Online.pdf](#)

**Thank you for your continued support as we raise money for such an important organization in our Catholic community.**



### STOC ECO TEAM

The ECO Team have done a fantastic job leading our February Eco Initiatives:

- Winter Walk to School Day-February 5<sup>th</sup>
- National Sweater Day-February 6<sup>th</sup>
- The Great Backyard Bird Count-February 14-17th.



Speeding near our school poses a significant risk to our children. We urge all parents and guardians to adhere to speed limits on our residential streets and stay alert while driving in school zones, especially in the Kiss and Ride area.

Please follow all Kiss and Ride guidelines to ensure a smooth and safe drop-off and pick-up process for everyone. Let's work together to ensure the safety of our students and create a secure environment for everyone.



Ontario Health Central is offering Virtual Urgent Care Clinic services to provide timely medical support for families/individuals of all ages. This service connects patients with a Nurse Practitioner for assessments, diagnoses, and treatment of various health conditions.

This service is recommended for individuals who:

- Require medical care and cannot access their healthcare provider promptly
- Do not have a current healthcare provider
- Seek safe and convenient healthcare access

Visit [www.VirtualCareClinic.ca](http://www.VirtualCareClinic.ca) for more information.

[Link to Flyer](#)

What to do if someone  
is **BOTHERING** you?

**W**alk away  
**I**gnore  
**T**alk it out  
**S**eeK help

Use Your WITS!

[www.witsprogram.ca](http://www.witsprogram.ca)

UVIC

DIRE WITS

At **STOC** we want our students to feel safe and happy coming to school. We will be reminding our students to continue to be **BRAVE** by Setting Healthy Boundaries and using Bullying, Conflict and Relationship Strategies. We also encourage students to **THINK** before they speak (post, text etc.) **Is it True, Is it Helpful, Is it Inspiring, Is it Necessary, Is it Kind?** As well when faced with a problem, we encourage students to use their WITS-  
**Walk Away**  
**Ignore**  
**Talk it out or**  
**Seek adult help!**

Before you speak:

**THINK**

**T** = Is it True?

**H** = Is it Helpful?

**I** = Is it Inspiring?

**N** = Is it Necessary?

**K** = Is it Kind?

### St. Teresa of Calcutta 2024-2025 Staff Members

R. Scarpelli FDK  
M. Karandysovska DECE  
L. Medeiros FDK  
A. Pereira DECE

S. Iassogna Grade 1/2  
M. Casciaro Grade 1/2  
M. Bailey Grade 2/3  
M. Neiva Grade 3  
T. Armstrong Grade 3/4  
C. Pereira

(S. Sebastian LTO) Grade 4/5  
D. Salinas Grade 6/7  
A. Guzik Grade 7/8  
M. Felice Grade 8

A. Galle French  
V. Corapi Library/Planning Time  
Y. Chan SERC/SERT  
P. Noronha Planning Time

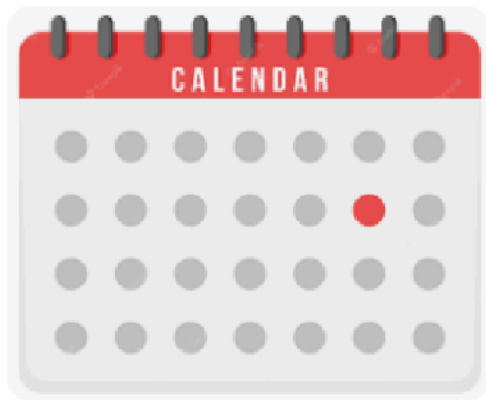
M. Tully  
L. Mykhalyuk  
Z. Pyczek

M. Knibbe  
A. Passarelli  
A. Estabrooks

R. Jardin  
D. Kostyshyn  
L. Gordon  
J. Xamin  
E. Garcia  
A. D'Ettore

SERT/ ESL  
ESL  
Planning Time

ERW  
Child and Youth Worker  
Speech and Language  
Pathologist  
Psychologist  
Social Worker  
Head Secretary  
Head Custodian  
Night Custodian  
Night Custodian



## Dates to Remember.....

[Click Here for 2024\\_2025 School Year Calendar](#)

Jan 31	Term 2 Begins
Feb. 4	National Sweater Day at STOC!
Feb. 5	Winter Walk to School Day/Intermediate Dance and Music Showcase 1:00
Feb. 9	St. Patrick's Catholic Women's League Public Speaking Competition
Feb. 11	Term 1 Report Cards sent home/ 100 Days of School
Feb. 13	Term 1 Report Card Interview Evening/ Candygram Delivery
Feb. 14	Term 1 Report Card Interview Day (PA DAY for students)
February 15-17	Family Day Weekend - Winter Bird Count
Feb. 18	Lunch Hour Tutoring Grade 7 & 8 Begins
Feb. 20	CSC Meeting 7:00/ Girls' Club
Feb. 21	St. Patrick Parish Youth Minister Visit- Grade 6, 7 & 8
Feb 24 & 25	<b>Positivity Lives Here</b> class visits, student assemblies & Parent Engagement Evening (Feb. 25)
Feb. 26	Pink Shirt Day
Feb. 27	ShareLife Cozy Tropical Day!
Feb. 28	Pink Shirt Day / Virtue of Respect Assembly 9:30 a.m