

St. TERESA OF CALCUTTA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

January 2025



Principal's Message



As we begin the New Year, we'd like to welcome all students, families, staff and community members back!

We wish you a new year filled with health and happiness and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support as we work together – home, school and parish to educate each child with the virtues of a Catholic Education.

We are very proud of everyone's hard work and accomplishments so far this year. Our Rock N' Christmas Concert was a great success and filled us with the joy and spirit of Christmas. We would also like to thank the St. Teresa of Calcutta Community for their generous support of our Youth Faith Ambassadors Christmas Initiatives.

Special thanks to families who participated in the Angel of Giving Campaign which enabled us to help several families in the St. Teresa of Calcutta school community.

Please continue to check out the School and Board websites during the year which are valuable means of accessing information. We are also on Twitter.

May your New Year 2025 be filled with Joy and Peace.

Mrs. Maddison

Prayer for the New Year

As we begin our new year let us give thanks for all we hold dear: God, our health, our family, and our friends.

Let us live each day in the most loving ways and let us serve all who are in need.

Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.

Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.

May this year be filled with peace, prosperity, and love.

May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

Amen

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Gráinne Maddison

Secretary

Lorrise 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:

Please mark your calendars and make appropriate arrangements.

Monday January 20 is a Professional Activity Day. There will be no classes for students.

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 SELF-CONTROL...

- FOLLOW THEIR CONSCIENCE
- ARE PATIENT WITH THEMSELVES AND OTHERS
- SHARE AND TAKE TURNS
- ARE ABLE TO USE PRAYER TO CALM THEMSELVES DOWN
- THINK BEFORE THEY REACT (W.W.J.D.)
- LOOK FOR PEACEFUL WAYS TO SOLVE CONFLICT
- TRY TO DO WHAT'S BEST FOR EVERYONE
- HAVE THE POWER TO STAND UP FOR WHAT IS RIGHT

"WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?"



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 **Thursday, January 9** we had Behaviour Classroom Meetings and Assemblies with all students in *FDK, Primary, 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 –



January 2025 School Health E-Blast from Peel Public Health

What you'll find in this edition:

For Parents/Guardians

- Free Dental Screening for Children in Peel Public Health Dental Clinics
- National Non-Smoking Week is January 19-25

Free Dental Screening for Children in Peel Public Health Dental Clinics

Peel Public Health offers free dental screening for children 17 years old and younger in Peel Public Health dental clinics.

What is a dental screening?

- A dental screening is a quick look inside a child's mouth.
- A registered dental hygienist provides the dental screening.
- A dental screening in our Peel Public Health dental clinics is provided to children who:
 - did not receive a dental screening at their elementary school.
 - are not yet in elementary school.
 - missed their elementary school dental screening.
 - are in high school or out of school and are 17 years old or younger.



Image Description: A child smiling while a dental screening.

What are the benefits of a free dental screening?

- It's quick.
- It helps identify children who may need dental care.
- It helps increase access to free dental services for eligible children.

How do I book an appointment for a dental screening for my child?

- Call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700 to book an appointment for a dental screening for your child.

National Non-Smoking Week is January 19-25

National Non-Smoking Week is taking place January 19-25! This is the perfect time to talk with youth about the harms of smoking and vaping.

Smoking and Vaping: The Facts

- Both cigarettes and vape products contain **nicotine**, which is very addictive. Kids can become addicted to nicotine faster than adults because their brains are still developing.
- **Second-hand smoke** is very harmful to children as their lungs are still growing. The long-term effects of **second-hand vape aerosol** are unknown.
- Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of illness and early death in Canada that can be prevented.
- The long-term health effects of vaping are still unknown. It took 20-30 years to discover that cigarettes cause cancer.

Help to Quit Smoking or Vaping

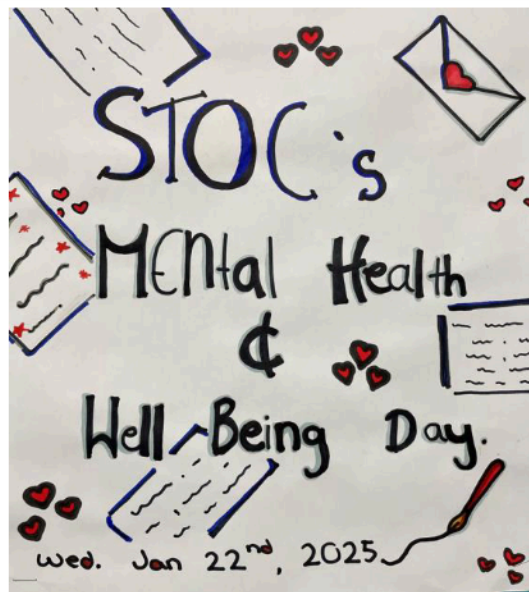
There are tools that can help youth quit smoking and vaping such as quit apps. Check out some quit apps at NewAgeVaping.com.ca/Quitting.

The Canadian Cancer Society offers tools to help those who want to quit. You can use their online quit program on their website, get phone help by calling 811, or text iQuit to 123456. Learn more at Smokershelpline.ca.

Contact Us

Peel Public Health – School Health
PublicHealthSchoolSupport@peelregion.ca

Use #SchoolHealthPeel to connect with us on Social Media!



Bell
Let's Talk

Virtue –Self-Control

This month we will celebrate the virtue of self-control. God has given us the ability to choose. We can control how we react to what happens around us. Through prayer and concentration, we can get better at controlling our reactions. We can get better at showing self-control.

Self-control helps us to resist the temptation to do something we will regret. Self-control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that will harm ourselves or others. Self-control is one of the marks of a spiritually mature person.

When we all use self-control, we can be sure that our school will be a safe, caring and inclusive place to live and to learn.

Students will be presented with the *January Virtue of Self - Control* Awards at an upcoming Assembly.

The date will be shared with you when finalized.

Catholic Graduate Expectations



A Caring Family Member

I CARE!

I love God, myself and my family
I care about and respect my 'family' at school, at Church, in the community, and the world
I care about and respect God's creation and everything in it
Because I care, I pray for all my families, and I will live my life like Jesus.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

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

Our **Rock'n Christmas Concert** on December 18 was a wonderful success and an example of our STOC Catholic Faith, care and appreciation for one another. *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: January 16, February 20, April 24, May 8, and June 12 with a timed agenda from 7:00-8:30.



Thrive in Community

January 2025

Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being



[Thrive in the Community - January 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@Home - Algebra](#)

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.

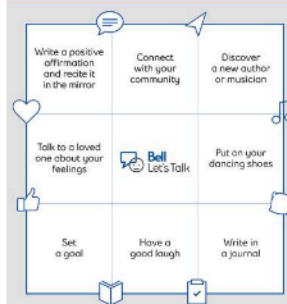
Please send your child:

- 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!

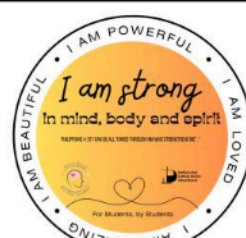
Self-Care Activity

This month, challenge yourself to complete as many self-care activities as you can. For each activity completed, fill in the square.



Let's create real change.

Join in with #BellLetsTalk



At STOC, we have participated in **Mindful Mondays** with virtual announcements and prayers led by our intermediate students. 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.**

STOC Mental Health and Well Being Day is on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.



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



COMMUNITY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Self-Identification Option for Indigenous Families

November 11, 2024

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) is committed to supporting Indigenous (First Nation, Métis, and Inuit) students and families in our schools.

If you are First Nation (Status or Non-Status Indian), Métis, or Inuit, you are invited to self-identify as Indigenous. No documentation or proof of ancestry is required. 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 cultural and language programs, as well as monthly programming for Indigenous students and families. Relevant information will be sent directly to families about upcoming cultural events and opportunities which help foster a sense of community and Indigenous pride within Dufferin-Peel.

For more information about the self-identification process and opportunities available to Indigenous students and families, please visit our [Indigenous Self-Identification Webpage](#)

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please contact DPCDSB's Indigenous Education Coordinator, Jodie Williams, at jodie.williams@dpcdsb.org.

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.

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, or call DPCDSB's Admissions Department at 905-890-1221.

St. Teresa of Calcutta Intermediate Boys Volleyball

BOARD CHAMPIONS



Eco Team Updates



STOC ECO TEAM

Our STOC Eco Team continues to provide us with Eco-Inspiring Activities we can do at home at and school. Thank you to Ms. Casciaro, Ms. Corapi and Ms. Knibbe for leading this team of dedicated students. 🌍

- *National Sweater Day – February 1*
- *Winter Walk – February 7*
- *Backyard Bird Watch – February 16-19*

Intermediate Boys Volleyball

BOARD CHAMPIONS

In December our Intermediate boys volleyball team played in the Board tournament.

We were already part of the top 6 teams in the board. We got off to our usual slow start and lost our first set. But then came storming back to win the second set against St. Monica's. Then we won both our sets against St. Francis Xavier, making us the number one team on our court, as well as earning a spot in the semi-finals.

In the semi-final we had to play against Queen of Heaven. We lost the first set by just a few points. So again, we had to rally and win the second set. This was done with the help of Cesare's run of amazing serves. We were up 12 nothing before we lost one point. And we went on to win the second set 25 to 7. Which meant a tie-breaker was needed to see who would go to the final.

We took our momentum from the second set and won the third giving us a spot in the final! So Top 2 in the board.

Our challenger was St. Gregory. We won the first set 25 to 9. But lost the second set 24 to 25. So again we had to go to a tie-breaker this time to decide who would be the number one team in the board.

Well.... our little school here at St. Teresa of Calcutta made history! Our boys won the tiebreaker and therefore they are the number one team in the board! That is number one out of 125 schools! We got to bring home a huge banner to hang in the gym to commemorate this tremendous achievement.

We cannot stress this enough, Board Championships do not happen easily, the boys have accomplished something very special here.

Mrs. Beach and Mr. Felice would like to thank the boys for all their hard work and determination. As well as their perseverance, they never gave up. Also, the love and support they showed each other out on that court was a beautiful thing to watch and be a part of. They also showed excellent sportsmanship and were commended on their behaviour from many other people at the tournament.

Your historic 2024 Intermediate boys' volleyball team is as follows:

Kelsey, Nikola, Raf, Milosh, Charlie, Nicholas, Cesare and our Captain and most valuable player Constantine!
Congratulations Boys!

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

Walk away
Ignore
Talk it out
SeeK help

Use Your WITS!

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

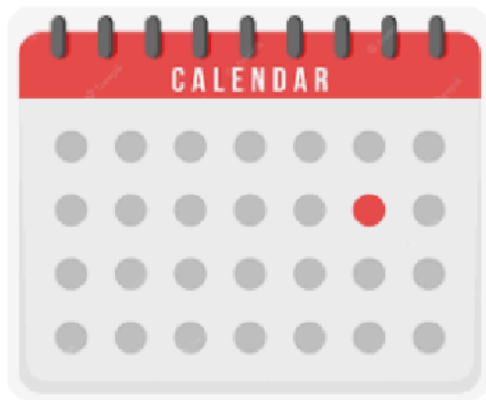
R. Scarpelli FDK
M. Karandysovsk DECE
L. Medeiros FDK
A. Pereira DECE

S. lassogna Grade 1/2
M. Casciaro Grade 1/2
M. Bailey Grade 2/3
M. Neiva Grade 3
T. Armstrong Grade 3/4
C. Pereira 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 SERT/ ESL
L. Mykhalyuk ESL
Z. Pyczek Planning Time

M. Knibbe ERW
A. Passarelli Child and Youth Worker
A. Estabrooks Speech and Language
Pathologist
R. Jardin Psychologist
D. Kostyshyn Social Worker
L. Gordon Head Secretary
J. Xamin Head Custodian
E. Garcia Night Custodian
A. D'Ettore Night Custodian



Dates to Remember.....

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

Jan 6	First Day of school after Christmas Holidays!
Jan 16	Girls' Club / CSC Meeting 7:00
Jan 20	Term 1 Assessment and Evaluation of Student Progress P.A. Day
Jan 22	<i>STOC Mental Health and Well Being Day</i>
Jan 29	Family Literacy Day
Jan 30	ShareLife Cozy Spirit Day!
Jan 31	Term 2 Begins
Feb. 5	Intermediate Dance and Music Showcase 1:00 p.m.
Feb. 11	Term 1 Report Cards sent home
Feb. 13	Term 1 Report Card Interview Evening
Feb. 14	Term 1 Report Card Interview Day (PA DAY for students)
Feb. 20	CSC Meeting 7:00
Feb. 26	Pink Shirt Day
Feb. 27	ShareLife Cozy Tropical Day!