

St. TERESA OF CALCUTTA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

September 2024



1120 Runningbrook Dr.
Mississauga Ontario

Phone: (905) 273 - 3937

Fax: (905) 273 - 9223

Principal
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:

Monday, September 16, 2024 -PA DAY-no
school for students on this day

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.

Back-To-School Prayer



Dear God,

Please bless all children in this new school year. Give them strength to learn, concentrate and act in love towards their classmates. Watch over them at home and at school. When days become challenging, grant them peace and relaxation, knowing that Your patience, wisdom and courage is excellent in every way. Guide them in their mind, thoughts and body so they may use the knowledge gained to build your kingdom. We thank you for this new school year and ask that you bless the students, families and faculty that make school such a wonderful place.

In your name we pray!



Principal's Message

Welcome Back, Everyone!!

On behalf of the entire staff, we would like to welcome you and your children to the 2024-25 school year at St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School. As a Catholic school, we are committed to providing a nurturing environment where students can grow not only in knowledge but in faith and character. We are fostering a community where everyone is valued and respected and where the love of God is at the center of all we do.

To the many families and students joining our school community for the first time, we extend a special and warm welcome.

St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School would also like to welcome back Father Facey and the parish team at St. Patrick's. We look forward to working with you to help nurture the faith of our students.

We are fortunate to continue working with Mr. Mario Pascucci, our Catholic School Trustee. Trustee Pascucci is a wonderful advocate for our students and school community.

We are also blessed to be under the direction of Superintendent, Mrs. Dulcie Belchior.

I would like to thank our teachers, educators and office staff who have been working diligently preparing for the new school year.

A special thanks to our custodial team, Mr. Xamin and Mr. Garcia for working so hard over the summer to prepare our school for re-opening.

In the next few days, I hope to be meeting many families when you drop off your children and visit the school at our Open House/ Book Fair on September 25th. All my best for a wonderful school year! I look forward to working with you.

God Bless!
Mrs. Maddison



PEOPLE OF FAITH...

- KNOW THAT WE ARE ALL PART OF GOD'S FAMILY
- WANT TO BE GOOD LIKE JESUS
- PRAY REGULARLY AND FROM THE HEART
- KNOW THERE IS GOOD IN EVERYONE
- SEE GOOD IN THE WORLD
- USE AND RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE'S RIGHT NAMES
- ARE CONFIDENT THAT GOD LOVES US ALL
- BELIEVE THAT GOD LOVES US NO MATTER WHAT
- LEARN FROM BIBLE STORIES
- LEARN FROM THE FAMILY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH



In the month of September, we will celebrate the virtue of: Faith:

A Faithful Person...

- Prays regularly and reverently
 - Learns from Scripture stories
 - Honours people's God-given names
 - Assumes that there is good in everyone
 - Accepts the God-given worth of themselves and others
- To begin the new school year, we'll focus our attention on the first of our virtues – **Faith**.

Faith is the great virtue of believing in God and trusting that God is with us.

A *faithful* person believes that we are created, guided by and destined to be reunited with God.

A *faithful* person believes that God's plan for us includes the right to be safe, especially at school.



SAFE ARRIVAL /STUDENT ABSENCES

It is important that students attend school regularly and punctually. If your child will be late or absent, please use SafeArrival Absence Reporting. With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods: 1. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger App from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Once you are signed up and logged in, select Attendance then Report an Absence. 2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca> . The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence. 3. Call the toll-free number 1 (844) 435-3440 to report an absence using the automated phone system. These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time. If further assistance required on how to report an absence using SafeArrival can be found on the following link: <https://www.dpcdsb.org/parents/absence-reporting> This measure is to ensure the safety of your child. We thank you for your continued support in following this procedure.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Catholic School Council is an advisory body whose mission is to enhance the education of our children in a faith-centered environment in partnership with the school, home, parish, and community.

The aim of our Catholic School Council is to support school activities and students through the promotion of faith, achievement, equity and well-being at our school.

The last 2023-2024 CSC meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Catholic School Council information letter and Nomination forms for the 2024-2025 school year have been sent via email to you.

Nominations are due by September 25, 2024.

The first 2024-2025 CSC meeting will be on Wednesday, October 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.



OPEN HOUSE/BARBEQUE & Book Fair

Our **Annual Open House BBQ** and Meet the Teacher night has been scheduled for **September 25th**. The BBQ will start at 5:30 p.m. in the playground. Thank to STOC Catholic School Council for their support. We will be holding our STOC Book Fair that week and evening!

The STOC Parent Council would like to invite you to join us for our Annual Open House and School BBQ on Wednesday, September 25. This is a great opportunity to meet your Parent Council and engage in an evening of fun activities with your school community.

[Open House BBQ on September 25.pdf](#)

Payment is to be made on school cash online, do not send cash/cheque with your child as cash/cheque will not be accepted.

This item is available on school cash online, Tuesday, September 17 is the last day to place your order.

You will not be able to make purchases on the day of the BBQ.

YARD SUPERVISION

Please do not send your child(ren) to school before 8:40 a.m. Staff supervision of students in the playground begins at 8:40 a.m. To ensure your child's safety, we appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

Each school year start-up often brings some unexpected changes in terms of enrolment and staffing. Staffing and class placements are tentative and based on school enrolment. All school organizational plans are subject to review in early September, based on actual enrolment. If reorganization is necessary and your child is affected, you will be notified of these changes. *Your patience and support are greatly appreciated during this transitional time.*

COMBINED GRADES – DID YOU KNOW?

A combined grade class is comprised of students from two consecutive grades. Combined classes are a reality in the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, as with all schools in Ontario and have been an educational reality dating back to the "one room school house". Teachers of all classes, single or combined grade, strive to meet the range of individual needs of all students. This is achieved through the implementation of varied teaching and assessment strategies and working with students in a variety of groupings. Teaching strategies and groupings are chosen as appropriate to the learning styles of the students in the class.

BUSING - CONTACTING STOPR

Internet: www.stopr.ca - this website provides up to date delay and inclement weather cancellation information in addition to policy, procedures, and frequently asked questions.

Businfo.stopr.ca - this website allows parents to access specific to "what school do I attend" and "am I eligible for transportation." This site also provides parents access to specific bus stop locations and pick up and drop off times for their children if eligible for transportation.

Telephone: Transportation EAST 905-890-6000



DPCDSB is now on

TwitterX! For the latest board news and information, follow us @stocmississauga.

UPDATING OUR RECORDS

Once again, this year we will be contacting parents/guardians at home or work if their children have not arrived at school and we have not received information about their absence. **It is essential to have up-to-date information (i.e. parent's work number, cell number, emergency contact person, etc.)** Please complete the **Student Verification form** (one per child) and return it to school. If any of the information changes throughout the year, please contact Mrs. Gordon in the office.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

As required by the Education Act and the Ministry of Education, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board annually provides parents with information about cost-effective student accident insurance coverage via student courier. Although enrollment is voluntary, the Board encourages parents to take advantage of the inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports, excursions/field trips, or if parents do not have dental insurance coverage. **Information for Reliable Life Insurance will be sent home during the first week of school.** There are different options for enrolment: 1) Complete the traditional form and mail it in or 2) Photocopy the form and fax it to Reliable Life at 1-905-522-7211 or 1-800-463 KIDS (5437) or 3) Enroll

on line at <http://www.insuremykids.com/> Parents alone have the right to insure their children.



SABRINA'S LAW - **ANAPHYLAXIS REACTION**

As we begin the new school year, we would like to inform you that St. Teresa of Calcutta School is an allergen aware school. There are pupils in attendance at our school that suffer from severe and life-threatening allergies to certain foods, such as peanut and other nut products, and fish. Exposure to the smallest quantities can cause severe and life-threatening reactions. Anaphylaxis is a severe and life-threatening allergic reaction. The most common allergen triggers are food, insect stings, medications, exercise, and latex. An anaphylactic reaction involves symptoms from two or more body systems. We would appreciate the cooperation of the entire school community by NOT sending any lunches or snacks that contain peanuts, peanut products or other nut products. We want St. Teresa of Calcutta School to be a safe environment for all students. Thank you for your assistance with this initiative.

If your child is at risk for severe life-threatening allergic reactions (anaphylaxis), please ensure that the teacher and office are aware and that the proper medication and emergency information forms are in place and up to date.

STORING & ADMINISTRATION OF **MEDICATION**

Please be advised that there is a Board policy on the storage and administration of medication. If your child requires daily administration of medication, please contact the office as soon as possible.

MEDIC ALERT NO CHILD WITHOUT **PROGRAM**

The **No Child Without Program** offers a free Medic Alert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a Medic Alert membership, your child's voice in an emergency. For further information, visit www.nochildwithout.ca. If your child is already part of the **No Child Without Program** and there have been changes to their medical

condition, medications, emergency contact information call Medic Alert at 1-866-679-3220 ext #1 to update your child's file.

BRINGING VALUABLES TO SCHOOL

We remind parents that students are not to bring valuable items to school such as expensive jewelry, personal games, special toys etc. **The school will not take responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged items.**

LUNCH

Each student should arrive at school with a full, **reusable water bottle along with snacks and lunch** each day. If your child forgets their lunch, we will contact you. If children will be going **home for lunch**, it is our expectation that your child will go directly to their own home and then return to school. Students should not be going to lunch with their friends.

WE SHARE THE AIR

Please remember that we do ***Share The Air*** with all students and staff in the school. We have several students and some staff members that do suffer from Asthma, some severely. Therefore, we are asking that for the health and safety of all, that students refrain from using any scented products. Perfumes and colognes are a major concern. The Boards 'Homepage' has posted information around 'We Share The Air', as well posters to the same effect are posted in every classroom as well as the main entrance for all to see and read. Thank you for your support in keeping all breathing safely!

VISITORS, VOLUNTEER, PARENT ACCESS

To ensure the safety of students and staff, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board requires ALL visitors (including parents, guardians, volunteers) to use the front door and come to the front door.

Anyone working in our school as a new employee or volunteer must have a Criminal Reference Check completed by Peel Police. CRC are free of charge for volunteers. Forms are available from the office.

This is also **essential in order to volunteer for school trips**. Please get a Criminal Reference Check as soon as possible if you plan on **volunteering for a school trip at any point throughout the school year**.

At St. Teresa of Calcutta, we want all students to come to school feeling happy, safe, and ready to learn. On Thursday, September 5 we had Welcome Back Assemblies with all students in *Primary, Junior and Intermediate Divisions*.

Catholic Graduate Expectations

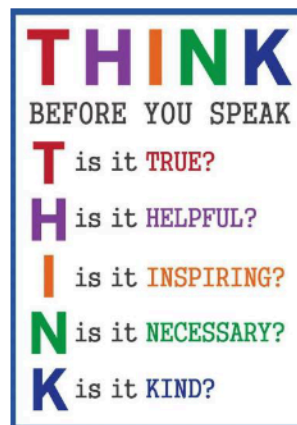


Please review the following guidelines with your children to ensure we all come to school ready to learn, serve, love, and grow together:

- 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*



- **Harmful Language** will not be tolerated



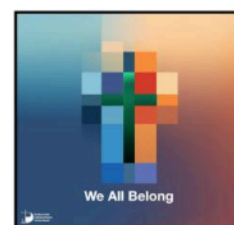
We will continue student and principal led behaviour reminders online and on the PA announcements!

Congratulations and a special thank you to our Mental Health and Well-Being Grade 8 Leaders, Reyna, Mya B., Christian L. and Nikola who have lots of activities planned for STOC throughout the year.

Watch this space for more information!

STOC School and Community Proud!

The updated **Student Handbook for Elementary and Secondary** is now available on the DPCDSB main website under the **STUDENT** tab. [DPCDSB Website](#)



Community Development



PLASP-BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The PLASP Program begins at 7:30 a.m. and resumes once school is dismissed until 6:00 p.m. Children participate in recreational activities, are served a nutritious snack daily and have time for homework. For further information, call 905-890-1711 or visit the website at www.plasp.com

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (PEDS) ON BOARD PREMISES

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board acknowledges the value of the use of technology for learning. Students are permitted to register and use personal electronic devices (PEDs) on board premises and/or board sanctioned events *for educational purposes, under the direction of staff and only with parent/guardian permission* (GF 066- Network User Application and Agreement, completed at initial registration). Students may register their PED for the purpose of connecting to the board wireless network. Students are required to adhere to the student “Personal Electronic Device Used with WI-FI Network Student Agreement” and the “Network User Application and Agreement.” The student agreement GF 337 will need to be signed before students can use the WiFi network. The forms are attached to the Newsletter. **Please be advised that the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board will not be responsible for any cost incurred through the use of personal data plans.**

PEDs are to be used responsibly and should not interfere with learning; their use must comply with the Catholic Code of Conduct, board policies and procedures. **Any personal communications (i.e., phone calls, text messages, etc.) will continue to be directed through the main office.** Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in a loss of PED privileges and/or any other consequences deemed necessary by school administration.

The school principal may authorize limited acceptable uses of personal electronic devices during school-sanctioned activities for a specific designated purpose outside of instructional spaces and/or in common areas.

Students are responsible for the safety and security of PEDs at all times and the Board assumes no responsibility for lost, damaged or stolen devices.

DOGS ON THE PROPERTY

Please remember that St. Teresa of Calcutta continues to be a **DOG-FREE ZONE**. Please refrain from bringing your dog onto school property when you are picking up or dropping off children. Although we love to see your furry friends please remember that many students are afraid of dogs and seeing them on the school yard will pose unnecessary anxiety and uncertainty for students.

Dates to Remember

[Click here for a link to the 2024-2025 School Year Calendar](#)

Sept. 9	DPCDSB International Literacy Day
Sept. 16	P.A. Day
Sept. 19	2023-2024 Final CSC Meeting
Sept. 25	Open House/BBQ & Book Fair
Sept. 20	Photo Day
Oct. 2	2024-25 Catholic School Council Meeting
Oct. 14	Thanksgiving Day

Show Your School Pride – Purchase an STOC T-shirt! September 3 To September 25



Here are the links to the STOC Apparel on School Cash Online.

Hoodie:

<https://dpcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/193465/146/False/True>

¾ Sleeve T-Shirt:

<https://dpcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/193469/146/False/True>