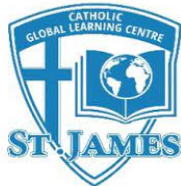




ST. JAMES



CATHOLIC GLOBAL LEARNING CENTRE

98 Wanita Road, Mississauga, ON L5G 1B8

Phone - 905-891-7619 Fax - 905-278-6539

School Website: <http://dpcdsb.org/jamee>

January 2025

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Bruno Iannicca

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School Council Co-Chairs

A. Patola

N. Popova

School Parish: St. Mary Star of the Sea

Pastor: Father Michael Simoes

Virtue: January - Self Control

A person with self control...

- Has patience.
- Knows how to wait his/her turn.
- Can calm themselves down and think before reacting.
- Knows how to avoid physical aggression.
- Can think things through and do what is best for all.

God has given us the ability to choose. We are able to control how we react to what happens around us. We may feel pressure to react violently to a situation. We've all "lost it" at one time or another. We are never proud of those moments. As soon as they happen we make a promise that they will not happen again. Through prayer and concentration, we can become better at exhibiting self-control. Self-control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that 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.

Epiphany

Epiphany, also known as Three Kings' Day is a special date in the Christmas story as it's when people celebrate how a star led the Magi - also known as the Three kings or the Wise Men - to visit the baby Jesus after he had been born.

Epiphany is a feast that recognizes the manifestation of God in Jesus, and of the risen Christ in our world. The feast of manifestation, or Epiphany, is traditionally celebrated the 12th day after Christmas, January 6th.

Christians have historically celebrated a period of 12 days surrounding Christmas. Christians believe that the 12 days of Christmas mark the amount of time it took after the birth of Jesus for the magi, or wise men, to travel to Bethlehem for the Epiphany when they recognized him as the son of God.

*Lord God,
You brought the Magi of old to
worship Your Son, Jesus,
and so You have brought us to
worship Him also.
Receive our gifts and give us Christ in
His body and blood,
that we may return home according to
Your holy way.
Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Amen.

Principal's Message

On behalf of the St. James staff, Happy New Year and welcome back!

The 2025 Jubilee's theme - Pilgrims of Hope, refers to the journey of faith. This journey is not just personal; it is communal, and it's rooted in our commitment to build a just and compassionate world.

Reflecting on one of the five sub-themes of the Pilgrims of Hope Journey~ By Honouring Human Dignity, the St. James community illustrated that we truly are the hands and feet of Christ, reaching out to the marginalized, the overlooked, and the forgotten, reminding them—and us—that we are all beloved children of God.

Thank you to all who donated to our **Soup Drive** and our **Hat & Mitten Tree** donations— you have modelled how we are extending the kingdom of Christ through action. Our Student Council, under the guidance of Ms. Thibault, should be very proud. Our MYP **Christmas Marketplace** was also a huge success for the second year in a row— thank you to everyone for your support. Thank you to Ms. Roy and the MYP staff for supporting our young entrepreneurs. Combined with our **Comfy Couch** event, St. James raised \$1775.00 for ShareLife.

Jesus' life on earth was marked by His care for the marginalized—the poor, the sick, the outcasts. He came to be a light in the darkness, offering hope to those who were in need, spiritually and physically. As His followers, we accepted His invitation to do the same.

We return to school with renewed energy and a positive outlook as we look forward to the many initiatives taking place – a variety of clubs including the start of the basketball season.



St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre will also be undertaking the five year International Baccalaureate review process.



As we begin 2025, we continue to encourage our learners to be **Knowledgeable** about the world, natural **Inquirers**, deep **Thinkers**, **Communicators** in a variety of ways, **Caring** towards ourselves and

others, **Principled** in our actions, **Open-minded** to all, **Balanced** in our daily lives, **Risk-takers** in new learning situations and **Reflective**.

Wishing everyone health and happiness for 2025!
May we continue to strive to make every day in our lives as beautiful and meaningful as Christmas Day!

*God's blessings for you and your family,
M. Cloutier McCann, Principal - On behalf of the
St. James Staff*

Registration

Kindergarten to Grade 8: 2025-26 School Year

Please note the following registration dates for Kindergarten to Grade 8 for St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre for the 2025-26 school year.

Registration for St. James will take place on **January 13th, 2025 until January 16th, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. (To be considered for the random selection, registrations must be received with the required documentation (see the adjoining column list) by 3:00 p.m. sharp on Thursday, January 16th, 2025).**

St. James does not offer online registration. All registrations must be submitted by email to the St. James mailbox at st.jamesinfo@dpcdsb.org. If you need to bring your registration form and supporting documentation in person to the school, please place it in an envelope and **leave it in the secure mailbox** to the left of the front door.

Potential registrations for Kindergarten for the St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre are advised **to register at their home school** before registering at St. James.

If you are not currently attending a Dufferin-Peel school a full registration package is required, see #2 in the next column. A student registration form and the St. James Application Form can be found on our website.

Only complete registrations will be accepted.

All documentation must be received at the time of registration to be included in the random selection.

The date of the random selection for St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre will be held Tuesday February 4th at the Board. Results will be emailed to all applicants.

1. If **currently attending a Dufferin-Peel school**, only one (1) document—**St. James Application Form** will be required.

2. If **registering for the first time at a Dufferin-Peel school**, along with the student registration form and St. James Application, the following documents will be required for all grades by the deadline to be eligible for the random selection (**due to email registration a copy of the documents will be accepted**):

- **Proof of age of the child**
Birth certificate or passport
- **Original Roman Catholic baptismal certificate**
 - an original Roman Catholic baptismal certificate (for child and/or parent/guardian), or;
 - an original baptismal certificate (for child and/or parent/ guardian) from a church that is in communion with the Holy See of Rome, or;
 - an original baptismal certificate (for child and/or parent/ guardian) from an Eastern Catholic Church.
- **Updated immunization records**
Report your child's immunizations to the Region of Peel online **before registration** and provide the reference number.
- **Proof of Canadian citizenship**
Birth certificate, passport or permanent resident status.
- **Proof of home address**
TWO of the following: property tax bill, current utility bill, electronic bill, real estate document or Government of Canada issued forms. On a case-by-case basis, consideration for any special circumstance shall go through the respective Superintendent or Admissions Officer. If the lease agreement is the sole documentation and not a standard lease form, it should be notarized/Commissioner of Oath.
- **Proof of English Separate School Support**
Complete an Application for the Direction of School Support and/or a Separate School Lease Agreement (Separate School Lease required if one parent is non catholic).

Please note:

If a spot becomes available, the school will contact the applicant. Applicant will have 48 (forty- eight) hours to accept the spot. Additional paperwork will need to be completed. We ask that documents be returned within 48 (forty-eight) hours.

Winter Wear

Please ensure that the snow pants and gloves/mittens that your child is wearing are water resistant as many students come back into class with wet clothing. In some cases the items do not have an opportunity to dry before the student goes back out for recess. Having an extra pair of gloves/mittens is advisable.

Cold Weather Temperatures

The Dufferin-Peel C.D.S.B. in consultation with Peel Health has developed guidelines for periods of extreme weather conditions. At rest, an unprotected person is able to maintain their core body temperature until the temperature falls to or below minus 25 degrees Celsius. Someone who is protected by clothing or is physically active may be able to withstand exposure to colder temperatures. Therefore, consideration is given to reducing the amount of time outdoors for children (grade 8 and under) when the temperature is -20 degrees Celsius or colder. When the temperature or equivalent wind chill temperature is - 25 degrees Celsius or lower children will be kept indoors.

Inclement Weather Procedures

If school buses are cancelled in a specific zone or in multiple zones, the school will remain open in that zone. St. James is in zone 1. Although St. James does not have busing, when busing is cancelled to zone 1 we will remain open. There is no distribution of learning devices in anticipation of inclement weather-related bus cancellations. For students unable to attend in person, no remote access to the classroom will take place. Students may access the Learning Management System (LMS), if they choose to.

If there is a full system closure, where all DPCDSB schools and facilities are closed to students and staff, there is no switch to synchronous learning for the day. Students may access the Learning Management System (LMS), if they choose to. The decision to cancel will be posted on the Dufferin Peel Board website: dpcdsb.org. This board decision is normally made by 7:00 a.m.

Catholic School Council

Mark Your Calendars

Please join us for the Catholic School Council meetings. All parents are encouraged to participate in council meetings. You do not have to be an executive member of the council to attend. Meetings start at 6:30 p.m. in the library and can be attended in person or virtually. The link to the Google Meet meeting will be emailed to the community on the day of the meeting.

Thursday February 6th

Thursday April 3rd

Thursday April 24, 6:30-7:30 pm Public Budget
Information Webcast

Ongoing Fundraisers:

Mabel's Labels

Step 1 - Visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com

Step 2 - Search for **St. James (Mississauga)** & select our school. **Always** select our school so we earn 20% back to raise funds for our students!

Step 3 - Order labels & Mabel's Labels mails them directly to you!

KIDSENTIALS is pleased to be catering lunches fresh at St. James School. Ordering deadline for the week of service is the WEDNESDAY PRIOR.

www.kidssentials.com

Stay In Touch:

For meeting minutes and other council information, visit us at www.dpcdsb.org/JAMEE/Parents/

****All council information will be communicated with the school community through the newly created council email address**

jameecscinfo@educ.dpcdsb.org



(PYP) The Primary Years Programme

A Look Inside the Library: Extending Classroom Inquiry

Our library serves as an important learning commons for both our PYP and MYP learners. This central space fosters a passion for reading, and serves as a hub for both independent work and collaboration.

At St. James, the library also plays an important role in facilitating the inquiry and skill-building of our youngest learners.

Last month, we focused on how each transdisciplinary unit of inquiry focuses on a central idea. During their weekly library sessions, PYP from FDK to Gr. 3 make connections to the [central idea](#) at the heart of their current unit of inquiry. The unit of inquiry influences the books chosen for Read Aloud and informs new questions that further the exploration.

As an example, let's take a look at how one of our PYP classes extends their learning in the library.

Classroom Spotlight: Grade 2

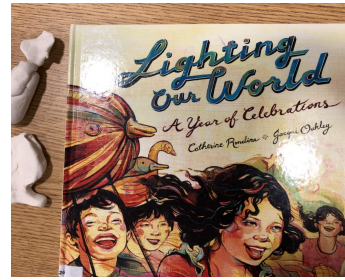
Before the holiday break, Mrs. Alaimo's Grade 2 class was exploring an inquiry unit about traditions under the transdisciplinary IB theme, "Where We Are in Place and Time". The class has been unpacking ideas related to the following [central idea](#): *Traditions and celebrations among groups shape communities*.

To help understand the central idea more thoroughly PYP classes will typically explore 3 to 4 lines of inquiry, or subtopics, within a unit. Our Gr. 2 learners focused on the following [lines of inquiry](#):

- *Diversity celebrations and traditions within families.*
- *Contributions of cultures in our community and across Canada*
- *Comparing family tradition, past and present.*

The IB encourages a transdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning, which means these lines of inquiry are explored through the lens of various subjects in the classroom, such as Language, Math, Social Studies, Science and the Arts.

These lines of inquiry become an important thread, linking the learning that happens in the classroom to learning in the library. During this unit, the grade 2s listened to weekly read-alouds from the book "Lighting



Our World: A Year of Celebrations". Students had fun "travelling" to a few new countries during each library visit, as we explored annual celebrations around the world, including the Sapporo Snow Festival in Japan and the international celebration of Kwanzaa.

The discussions that followed each read-aloud session allowed us to explore key concepts, such as [Perspective](#) and [Change](#). Exploring celebrations from other countries promoted open-mindedness, allowing students to see that their traditions may differ from those celebrated by children and families in other parts of the world. Students were also able to make connections to how traditions have stayed the same, or evolved over time.

Evidence of student engagement in a unit of inquiry can often be seen in the choices they make as readers. For instance, some students took agency by asking if there were any books related to celebrations of particular interest to them, including Mexico's All Souls Day, or Day of the Dead celebration, and Dutch Christmas. Other students made connections between their own family traditions for Christmas and Lunar New Year, and those experienced by characters in the books they read.

Looking Ahead: February's Student Led Conferences:

We're approaching that time of year! Our PYP teachers look forward to welcoming you back into the classroom for this year's Student Led Conferences next month.

What might I see and hear?

- Evidence of your child's learning within the current unit of inquiry.
- Examples of how materials are used in flexible, imaginative ways.
- Dialogue around reflection and goal-setting.
- A Student Portfolio with work samples demonstrating progress and development over time.
- Evidence of collaboration within the classroom
- Learning that is internationally minded and reflects real-world applications.
- Learning experiences that invite the activation of prior knowledge.

January Feature: Student-Led Conferences

Student-led conferences (SLC) will occur next month in conjunction with Term 1 reports. These conferences are an annual occurrence at St. James for all students in FDK to Grade 8 and promote IB best practice. Furthermore, SLC's provide students an opportunity to engage, reflect, and take ownership of their learning.



In the Middle Years Programme (MYP), students have been developing and building their student portfolio of work samples and reflections. Student Portfolios were featured in the [November Newsletter](#). During the SLC, students will present their learning to their parent/guardian(s) by sharing work samples and personal reflections. Parents will listen to their child speak about how they felt their first term progressed in terms of challenges, successes, and opportunities for growth. Some other areas students may focus on include:

- What learning has been important to them?
- What are they most proud of in their learning?
- What skill have they shown the most improvement?
- What places have they struggled in their learning?
- What learning goal could they strive to reach by the end of the year?
- What attributes of the learner profile enabled you to learn best?



Image from *In Thinking School Leadership*:
<https://thinkib.net/leadership/page/36004/student-agency>

Student-led Conferences are an opportunity to empower students with language that places an emphasis on growth, progress and development. SLC's also provide an opportunity for engaging students, teachers and parents in reflection of learning.

Throughout the Student-led Conference and in the time preparing through reflection, students demonstrate the IB profile of *Communicator* by demonstrating that they can express themselves confidently and creatively.



Image adapted from IBO:
<https://www.ibo.org/contentassets/fd82f70643ef4086b7d3f292cc214962/learner-profile-en.pdf>

Upcoming Dates

Jan 6 - School Resumes
Jan 8 - Gr. 4 Silvercreek Trip
Jan 10 - Samantha Youth Ministry visits Gr. 4-8
Jan 11 - St. Mary Star of the Sea - First Communion session #1
- IGNITE STEM event (see details below)
Jan 13 - Welcome York University Teacher Candidates
Jan 13 to 16 - St. James Registration
Jan 15 - Rosary Apostolate Visits Classrooms
Jan 16 - Gr. 4 & 5 Living Arts Trip
- Differing Abilities Parent Info Session
- St. Paul SS Registration Night
Jan 18 - St. Mary Star of the Sea - First Communion session #2
Jan 20 - P.A. Day, No School for Students
Jan 21 - Gr. 8 St. Paul Course Selection
Jan 25 - St. Mary Star of the Sea - First Communion session #3
Jan 29 - All Grades Denise Wild's Sewing Studio
Jan 30 - FDK to Gr. 2 Parent Engagement Literacy 6:30 p.m. (Details Coming Soon)
Jan 31 - Term 2 begins

P.A. DAY

There will be no school for the students on Monday January 20th, 2025.

Staff will be participating in:

Term 1 Assessment and Evaluation of Pupil Progress.

IGNITE STEM Catalyst Conference

Are you a Grade 8, 9, or 10 student with a passion for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math?

The Mississauga Public Library invites you to the [IGNITE STEM Catalyst Conference](#):

- Date: Saturday, January 11th, 2025
- Time: 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM EST
- Location: Hazel McCallion Central Library (301 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, ON L5B 3Y3)
- Cost: FREE

This conference aims to unite students, industry professionals, and organizations for a dynamic day of interactive workshops, panels, and networking

opportunities. Prepare for an exhilarating day of discovery, innovation, and connection.

What's in Store?

- Hands-On Workshops
- Inspiring Panel Discussion: Hear from university students as they share their STEM journeys, offer advice, and answer your questions.
- Valuable Networking: Connect with peers, educators, and industry professionals
- Makerspace Tour: Discover the Hazel McCallion Central Library's Makerspace, featuring 3D printers, laser cutters, robotics, and more!

How to Register

Please register via [Eventbrite](#) to reserve your spot.

For more information:

[Elsie Mahendran](#)

Program Coordinator, Youth and Young Adults
Mississauga Library 905-615-3200 ext. 3539

DPCDSB Entry Planning Info Sessions for students with Differing Abilities

(In-Person Jan 16 & Virtual Jan 20)

The DPCDSB Special Education and Learning Services Department invites parents/guardians to an information session to support the entry planning and transition for students with differing abilities who will be new to the DPCDSB and beginning September 2025.

Parents/guardians will have the option to attend the in-person or a virtual session of this event. During the in-person session, parents/guardians will have the opportunity to meet with board staff and to learn more about the entry planning and transition process for students with differing abilities. The same information presented at the in-person event will be shared at the virtual evening session for those families who choose to attend online.

In-Person Session: Thursday, January 16, 2025, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., St. Marcellinus Secondary School, 730 Courtneypark Dr. W. Mississauga

Virtual Session: Monday, January 20, 2025, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Virtual Presentation via Microsoft TEAMS

REGISTRATION: [Register online](#) by Thursday, January 16, 2025.

Please refer to the [event flyer](#) for registration and information.