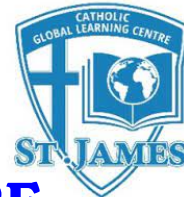




ST. JAMES



CATHOLIC GLOBAL LEARNING CENTRE

98 Wanita Road, Mississauga, ON L5G 1B8
Phone - 905-891-7619 Fax - 905-278-6539

September 2024

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Principal

M. Cloutier McCann

Secretary

A. Litster

School Parish: St. Mary Star of the Sea

Pastor: Father Michael Simoes

*Lord Jesus,
I ask for Your help as I begin this new
school year.
Allow me to experience Your presence in the
many blessings You put before me.
Open my eyes to the new challenges and
exciting opportunities that this new school
year brings.
Open my heart and mind to new friends and
new teachers.*

Amen

Virtue: September - Faith

A person with *faith*...

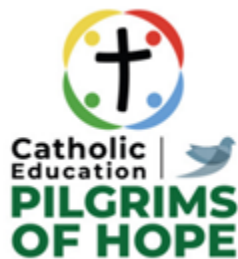
- Prays regularly and reverently
- Learns from Scripture stories
- Believes that God loves us no matter what
- Assumes that there is good in everyone
- Accepts the God-given worth of themselves & others

To begin the new school year, we'll focus 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.

Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year!

The theme for Catholic Education Week “**Pilgrims of Hope**”, the theme Pope Francis has chosen to celebrate and honour the upcoming Jubilee Year. This is a special opportunity to place Jesus Christ and the



teachings of the catholic church at the centre of our Pilgrims of Hope journey. To be pilgrims, represents our journey in this life as we connect to our faith and relationship with Christ. We are called to ‘pilgrim’ with one

another building relationships of love, peace and solidarity towards each other.

September marks **Truth & Reconciliation Week** which is an opportunity to learn about the beauty, joy and incredible contributions of Indigenous Peoples. It is also a time to reflect on, and learn about, the impacts of residential schools and injustices towards Indigenous Peoples. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (**Orange Shirt Day**) takes place on September 30. Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community intergenerational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of “Every Child Matters”. On Monday, September 30, all staff & students are encouraged to wear orange.



As part of our commitment to **environmental stewardship**, the St. James school community relies on digital communication rather than paper consumption. Most communication is sent via email. Families can expect to receive brief digital weekly updates as well as a monthly newsletter to

parent/guardian email. All funds collected for special events and excursions will be made through School Cash Online, please see the board website under the parent tab or page seven of this newsletter. Families are strongly encouraged to check email regularly to keep informed about upcoming events, deadlines, permission forms, school and board procedures as well as IB information. Please help us do our part to be environmentally responsible.

New this September, our school’s participation in the organics (**green bin**) program. Thank you to our Catholic School Council for supporting this program and helping us convert organics into soil.



On September 26, St. James will be hosting our **School Open House and BBQ**. The Catholic School Council has booked a food provider. Orders and payment will be due through School Cash Online by Thursday, September 19, 2024. More information to come from the Catholic School Council.

Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memoranda 128 Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct was updated and comes into effect in September 2024. The update and direction includes **cell phone usage**. Cell Phones must now be kept turned off or set to silent mode and be out of sight for the school day. Contravention of the Ministry of Education expectations will be addressed according to the procedures outlined within our Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board’s Catholic Code of Conduct. Should parents/guardians need to communicate with their children during the school day are asked to contact the school office. I will be conducting classroom visits to review the revisions to PPM 128 as well as the Catholic Code of Conduct.

On behalf of the St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre staff, we look forward to an exciting school year.

M. Cloutier McCann
Principal

Coming home for parent/guardian signature:

- GF 401 - Health & Physical Education Element of Risk Form
- GF 402 - Elementary Intramural Element of Risk Form
- GF 068 - Student Annual Consent
- Dismissal Permission Form
- Student Verification Form

School Hours

Morning Supervision 8:45 - 9:00 a.m.

Morning Bell 9:00 a.m.

Recess 10:23 a.m.

Lunch 12:01 p.m.

Afternoon Entry 1:01 p.m.

Recess 2:24 p.m.

Dismissal 3:30 p.m.

Office Hours 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

School Parish

St. Mary Star of the Sea Church

11 Peter St. S.

Mississauga, Ontario, L5H 2G1

905-278-2058

Pastor: Fr. Michael Simoes

Upcoming events:

- September 29 - Parish Family Potluck
- September 28/29 - First Annual Backpack Drive & Blessing

Please see the attached flyers for more information.

School Evacuation

If an emergency requires the evacuation of the whole school population, students and teachers will walk to:

Forest Avenue Public School

20 Forest Avenue, Mississauga

Phone (905) 278-2472

Parents will be informed as soon as possible as to the safety and whereabouts of their children.

Fire Drills

We are required to conduct three fire drills in the fall and three in the spring. These practices are to ensure that students and staff are prepared in case of an emergency. We will be practising safely evacuating the school during the month of September.

School Organization

St. James C.G.L.C. school organization has now been finalized. Below is our staff list:

Principal M. Cloutier McCann

Secretary A. Litster

Kindergarten: FDK A - M. Pellegrino & J. Mendonca

FDK B - A. Galea & R. Johnson

Gr. 1 C. Arruda

Gr. 2 S. Alaimo

Gr. 3 M. Marchesan & G. Alaimo

Gr. 4 D. DeMelo

Gr. 5 A. Thibault

Gr. 6 J. Roy

Gr. 7 J. Orlando

Gr. 8 D. Correia

FSL PYP - PYP/Planning T. Stalony

FSL MYP - MYP/PYP Planning N. Stecki

SERT/ Library/IB Coordinator - PYP K. Maier

SERT/ESL/IB Coordinator - MYP S. Kelenc

ERW D. Chircop

PYP Planning J. Guida

Custodians

D. Black

W. Bousfield

Custody of Children

On rare occasions, we are faced with difficult situations in which non-custodial parents arrive at school. We are best able to serve and protect students when we are made aware of legal custody arrangements and visitation rights. If legal custody matters affect your family, please ensure the office is aware.

The Rosary Apostolate

The Rosary Apostolate is a volunteer organization who pray the Rosary with children in Catholic Schools. Its formation was inspired by St. John Paul II when he launched a three-year preparation program for the Jubilee Year 2000. The Rosary Apostolate is supported by our local parish, the Diocese and Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board.

St. James has had the privilege of hosting Rosary Visitors in our classrooms for many years. All volunteers undergo a 10-step screening process as mandated by the province for volunteer organizations that include a Vulnerable Sector Check prior to visiting classrooms. The classroom teacher remains in the classroom and prays the rosary along with the students. Rosary visitors visit our school once a month for a total of eight visits, concluding with our May Celebration. Duration of class visits differ (15-40 minutes) depending on the grades.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with our Rosary Visitors this school year and their first school visit on October 9th.

Attendance & Punctuality

Help Your Child Succeed in School:
Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early
School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

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

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before
- Don't let your child stay home unless he/she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, counselors or the principal
- Schedule appointments and extended trips when school is not in session

WHEN DO ABSENCES BECOME A PROBLEM?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

Visitors

Parents/visitors are reminded that they are not permitted entry to classrooms and are not to accompany their child down the hallway. Please report to the office. School personnel will assist with the entry of late students as well as the early release of students for appointments. All students leaving the school during the school day will only be released through the front office and we ask that parents please wait at the front door to receive their child safely.

Sign In/Out

The office will be handling the signing in and signing out of students. If you need to pick up your child during the school day, please notify the classroom teacher or office in writing or through the safe arrival/school messenger system. Once you arrive, please ring the doorbell and we will arrange to have your child brought to you at the front door. If a student is leaving the school independently during the day, we must have a written note to release them, phone permission will not be accepted.

If by chance students are late, we ask that they stop outside the office door and report themselves present. This is an important part of our safe entry process. When a child is alerted to the office as absent, the secretary cross-references to students who have checked in late before sending out the safe arrival callout.

Attendance Reporting

Please use the School Messenger - Safe Arrival reporting system to inform the school of late, early dismissal or absent students. This is the preferred method of reporting. We must hear from a PARENT or AUTHORIZED GUARDIAN.

If you are unable to access the School Messenger system you may also send an email to the JAMEE mailbox to report your attendance st.jamesinfo@dpcdsb.org

If you are having trouble accessing both systems, messages can also be left on the phone system at 905-891-7619

Parents In The Yard

For your child's safety we request that he/she not be on school property until supervision begins at 8:45 a.m. Please do not drop your child off at the school prior to 8:45 a.m.

If not using the Kiss and Ride at dismissal, parents are reminded to refrain from approaching the school building or class lines and allow your child to come to you.

School Front Door Access

Parents/guardians:

- Arrive at school on time to allow children to enter with their classmates to avoid front entry lates. **Our bell time is 9:00 a.m.**
- If your child arrives late, you will not be allowed to accompany them to class
- Once the front door has been opened please direct your child to come to the office right away for signing in purposes. The office will take care of signing in your child and directing them to their class.
- Out of respect and to limit interruptions, access will not be granted once the National Anthem and daily prayer has begun. The door will once again be opened upon their conclusion.
- Please be patient as there are times when staff are away from the desk attending other duties.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we continue to implement the access protocol.

Kiss & Ride

The safety of our students and parents is of great concern to us here at the school. Please drive **SLOWLY** through the Kiss and Ride lane as well as the drive through lane. Please wait to pick up your child in the four designated spots. Please do not block the Kiss and Ride zone and areas that would hinder the movement of cars. Cars cannot be left in the lanes at any time.

Inclement Weather Procedures

If school is cancelled due to poor weather conditions, this information will be posted on the Dufferin Peel Board website: dpcdsb.org

It may also be announced by the following radio stations.

CFRB CBC CHUM CFTR CKFM CHWO
CHIN

This board decision is normally made by 7:00 a.m.

Dress Code

To ensure that children are properly attired for all weather conditions, we ask parents to monitor what their children wear to school. Children are expected to participate in DPA/PE activities and are reminded to dress for the weather. It is our expectation that a standard of neatness, modesty and good taste in dress is upheld. Inappropriate, suggestive or offensive slogans on any type of clothing are not acceptable.

Change of Clothes/Shoes

Children are expected to participate in Daily Physical Activity/Physical Education activities and are reminded to dress for the weather. It is recommended the children of all grades have a change of clothing at school in the event that they get wet.

Students are asked to ensure that they have a pair of indoor shoes at school. We ask that children change their footwear when they come inside in an effort to keep our classroom floors clean.

Gym Attire

It is important for students to have appropriate gym attire on their gym days. Running shoes, shorts, sweatpants, warm-up pants, t-shirts, or a hooded sweatshirt are necessary to participate in gym. The GF401 Health & Physical Education Element of Risk form must be signed and returned prior to student participation in Physical Education.

Head Injuries

The school continues to follow the school board's head incident procedure. Please be aware you will receive a call from the school informing you of ANY incident involving your child's head. If we do not speak to you directly, a message will be left for you advising of the incident. In the case of a more serious incident you will be asked to call the school back and we will continue to try to reach you.

Medication

On occasion, the school is asked to store and/or give medication to students. Medication of any kind cannot be stored on school property without the proper medical forms on file.

1. A completed form must accompany each request for medication to be stored by the school. It is the prerogative of the Principal to decide whether or not medication will be stored or given out and may establish such conditions as are deemed necessary regarding any specific request.
2. School personnel will not assume responsibility for the administration of any medication.
3. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to monitor the quantity of medication stored by the school.
4. Please let the office know if you require Storage of Medication Forms so they can be forwarded to you.

Asthma Awareness

We would like to inform you that St. James continues to participate in "We Share the Air", a Scent Sensitivity Awareness Campaign. There are students in attendance who suffer from life-threatening asthmatic conditions to air pollutants. Exposure even to minimal odours may cause potential life-threatening reactions.

Very common severe chemical triggers are; perfume, scented products and personal care products (such as hairspray). These products may cause severe reactions for students. The safety and well-being of all the students is a priority.

In order to ensure the safety and well-being of all students, we request that our school community refrain from wearing scented products complying with our Scent Free Zone Campaign at school and all school events. Please ensure that all caregivers are also aware of our awareness campaign.

If you have any questions, please talk to your child's teacher or the school staff.

Anaphylaxis Awareness

As we begin a new school year, we would like to inform you that St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre is an allergen aware school. There are pupils in attendance who suffer from severe and life-threatening allergies to certain foods, such as dairy, peanut and nut products. Exposure to the smallest quantities can cause severe 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. The safety and the well-being of all of our students is a priority.

In order to ensure the safety and well-being of all pupils, we request that you **NOT** send any lunches or snacks that contain peanuts and/or tree nuts, including peanut butter substitute products. Please make sure that all of your children's caregivers are aware of the food restrictions. Please avoid sending food for birthdays or special occasions. Should there be additional allergy concerns in specific classrooms; the classroom teacher will share information.

Student Accident Insurance

Please see the Insure My Kids information brochure that was attached to the start up package for cost-effective student accident insurance coverage. Enrolment is voluntary.

Birthday Snack/Treats/Non-Edible Gifts

We are asking that all parents please refrain from sending in edible snacks/treats as well as any non-edible gifts to the classrooms. We thank you for your cooperation.

School Cash Online

If you haven't already - Sign Up Today

Our school only offers School Cash Online as a method of payment.

School Cash Online provides the ability to pay school-related fees safely, quickly and easily. By using School Cash Online, you can help increase efficiency and security at our school by making payments directly into our school bank account. Parent registration is a simple process. Once you have registered, you will receive email notification of fees or items for payment related to activities for your child(ren). In addition, a receipt for payment will be issued to you directly and a history of payments are available at all times.

Please follow the link below to register online.

<https://dpcdsb.schoolcashionline.com>

Lunch

Your child will need to bring a full lunch, personal water bottle and snacks every day. There will be no pizza lunch program for September. Food delivery services such as Uber Eats and Skip the Dishes will not be permitted. Water fountains are also available but we recommend the use of water bottles. We also have two water filling stations.

If your child forgets his/her lunch, school staff will contact you to provide a lunch. Students will only be allowed to leave school property at lunch if they **have a written note from a parent/guardian.**

Please complete the lunch arrangements section on the back of the student verification form coming home on September 3rd, 2024.

Phone permission will not be accepted.

Personal Electronic Devices on Board Premises and/or Board Sanctioned Events for Educational Purposes

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 Wi-Fi network.

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.) are to 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.

School Agenda

Organizational skills are key to student success. To assist, school agendas are provided for students in Grades 1-7. Students in grade 7 & 8 have access to Google classroom via board provided Edwin Chromebooks that have agenda features; please connect with your child’s teacher if you believe a paper agenda is required for your grade 8 student. Teachers will be reviewing the importance of using an organizational tool with students. Students are responsible for recording their homework, upcoming projects/assignments, important dates and teacher notices. We encourage parents to check agendas daily and our MYP parents to have students take you on a tour of the Google Classroom platform.

Evaluation & Reporting

There will be two report cards this year, one in February and one at the end of June. There will also be one progress report sent home to parents in November. Student achievement will be shared with parents on a regular and continuing basis, through telephone conversations, notes and assigned student work. If you have questions or concerns at any time during the school year, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher.

Dogs on School Property

Please be aware that dogs should not be brought onto school property. We have students with severe allergies. If your dog is escorting you and your child to and from school please make arrangements to meet your child on the sidewalk in front of the school.

Special thank you to Mr. Black for picking up after the many dogs who are let loose in our schoolyard after hours.

Catholic School Council

Catholic School Councils provide an opportunity for parents and guardians to discern how their gifts and talents might serve the school community. As per the Ontario Regulation 612/00 and 298, the purpose of a school council is, through the active participation of the parents, improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents.

In addition to the purpose of school councils as identified in the regulation, the mission of the Catholic School Councils in the DPCDSB, is to promote the vision, values and sacramental life of Catholic practices for the Catholic communities we serve.

Nomination forms and an explanation of roles are attached with this newsletter. If you're interested in holding a position and/or becoming a member on the St. James Catholic School Council, please submit the attached nomination form by Thursday Sept. 19th, 2024 at 3:30p.m. If you wish, submit a paper copy of the nomination form to the office, or you can email the form to St.JamesInfo@dpcdsb.org

As per Dufferin Peel Policy and General Administrative Procedures, the majority of members shall be parent members with the maximum number of parent members being 15. If more than 15 nomination forms are received, an election will be necessary and will take place at the school on October 3rd.

All parents/guardians are welcome to attend any St. James Catholic School Council meeting. The first meeting is tentatively set for October 3rd.

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

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.

Kidssentials is not a lunch delivery service bringing in pre-packaged foods, but a Catering company which mixes, assembles and serves food fresh at your school just minutes before lunchtime.

- 100% Nut free facilities and products
- We use compostable & recyclable packaging, and promote online/paperless ordering
- Our meals contain only the highest quality ingredients and freshest produce
- Vegetarian & Allergen-free entrées available (gluten, soy, egg, sesame, seafood, dairy free)
- Optional snacks, side salads & beverages are available

Various payment options available. Ordering is flexible – order only for the days you wish.

Ordering deadline for the week of service is the **WEDNESDAY PRIOR**.

Allergy: Kidssentials kitchens are peanut & nut free. If your child has other food allergies or dietary requirements, please contact us prior to placing your order to discuss the food options that are safe for them. Kidssentials does not review the orders you place and is not responsible for the choices you make. It is up to each parent to make their decisions.

On Kidssentials lunch dates, we always bring extra food, and our helpful staff remain onsite during the lunchtime; please let your child know that if he/she ever has a question about their lunch, they should come and see us right away and we can address anything onsite that is brought to our attention.

If you have any questions please contact Kidssentials directly.

Kidssentials Offices: 905.855.1914

9:30am – 3:30pm, Monday – Friday

mail@kidssentials.com / www.kidssentials.com



(PYP) The Primary Years Programme

Welcome back!

Greetings to all of our PYP families - new and returning! Hope everyone had a happy, restful summer. The return to school marks a lovely time in the Primary Years Programme hallway; with enthusiasm, we welcome students back to our classrooms built around the virtues, diversity, and student agency. Over the course of the school year, our youngest learners will engage in fun learning experiences that develop and strengthen the attributes of the IB Learner Profile (more on this below!). Each month, you can find more information about the Primary Years Programme as well as highlights in this section of the newsletter. Stay tuned!

Primary Years Programme: Quick Facts

As we begin a new year, it can be helpful to review the foundational practices and concepts upon which our Primary Years Programme is built. If you are new to our community, the following information provides a glimpse of what you can expect in your child's classroom, as the new school year begins.

Here are some of the distinguishing features of the Primary Years Programme (PYP):

- As an IB World School, St. James offers an inquiry-based, concept-driven model of learning, through the PYP.
- Ontario Curriculum subjects are organized under Transdisciplinary Themes taught throughout the school year. These themes appear in grades K - 5.
- The programme helps students strengthen attributes associated with the Learner Profile. Our programme encourages students to develop these traits as they develop greater agency. See more information, below!
- Students learn the importance of being internationally-minded.
- Students learn to view themselves as active citizens, capable of taking meaningful action.

Learner Profile Attributes		Inquirer
Open-Minded	Knowledgeable	Caring
Thinker	Risk-Taker	Communicator
Balanced	Principled	Reflective

Launching the First Unit of Inquiry

This September, your child will begin their first unit of inquiry in their classroom. There are many different ways to begin a unit of inquiry; here are a few pathways our PYP teachers have taken that align with our IB philosophy of exploration and concept-driven learning.

Beginning with an interesting provocation.

Teachers may propose a question, problem, or real-life situation connected to the unit's central idea. This encourages students to think deeply, make connections and discuss their wonderings.

Accessing prior knowledge

Students are invited to share what they already know about a subject or topic. This is an excellent way to empower students right from the onset of the unit and get them connected to the central idea.

Inquiry / Entry Tickets

Your child may bring home an introductory activity or reflection to get them thinking about their new unit of exploration. This is a great way to make school-home connections and share in your child's learning!

A Quick Hello!

If you are new to our St. James community, allow me to introduce myself - My name is Kimberly Maier, and I have been lucky to teach at St. James since 2015. As the PYP coordinator I have the pleasure of helping your children learn through inquiry; I can also answer any questions that you may have about our Primary Years Programme. I also get to interact with students through my roles as Teacher Librarian and Special Education Resource Teacher.

During my time at St. James, I've had the opportunity to teach several grades within the PYP and MYP. Watching students transition and progress from one program to another has been both rewarding and informative.

I look forward to collaborating with our PYP students and their fantastic teachers! Please feel free to contact me here at the school if you have any questions about the Primary Years Programme or services to support your child in their learning journey!

- K. Maier





(MYP) The Middle Years Programme

September Feature: IB and MYP – What's it all about?

What is an IB Education?

IB programmes are a continuum of learning from K-12 beginning with the Primary Years Programme filled by the Middle Years Programme and concluding with the Diploma Programme in secondary school. The programmes can run independently or consecutively as they share common goals and values such as developing lifelong learners.

IB programmes aim to provide an education that enables students to make sense of the complexities of the world around them, as well as equipping them with the skills and dispositions needed for taking responsible action for the future. They provide an education that crosses disciplinary, cultural, national and geographical boundaries, and that champions critical engagement, stimulating ideas and meaningful relationships.

- International Baccalaureate
<https://www.ibo.org/globalassets/new-structure/about-the-ib/pdfs/what-is-an-ib-education-en.pdf>

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

- International Baccalaureate
<https://www.ibo.org/globalassets/new-structure/about-the-ib/pdfs/what-is-an-ib-education-en.pdf>

The MYP is the second phase on the IB continuum. The programme mirrors the IB-PYP in many regards, while developing its own unique programme qualities.

Students continue to learn about themselves through the lens of the ***Learner Profile Attributes***, the heart of the IB, which run through all levels of the IB organization. Students reflect on strengths, areas of challenge, and set goals for further growth in each of these 10 attributes.



The MYP also focuses on deepening self-reflection through the introduction of the ***Approaches to Learning (ATL's)***. These are classified into five main categories, and further divided into 144 specific indicators. Teachers and students will select appropriate ATL's to focus on for individual units of study and lessons.



Structurally, the MYP is an extension to the PYP, moving from six Transdisciplinary Themes taught by one homeroom teacher, to specialized teachers where subjects and units are taught under the umbrella of a Global Context.



More similarly to the PYP, is the interplay of an Inquiry Based Learning Cycle: where questioning, independent learning, collaborative approaches, action, transfer skills (subject and experience based), self-selection of presentation methods, focus on learning process rather than solely an end result, are all of equal importance.



The MYP is a rigorous programme that challenges students and promotes accountability of the individual. Students can expect to participate in a full rotary program being in each classroom for 40 or 80 minutes of their day, with FSL continuing at 40 minutes per day. Portfolio development will continue and Year 3 (Grade 8) students will complete the mandatory in-depth Community Project, beginning in October. More information on each of these to follow. We anticipate a highly successful IB - MYP school year!

Welcome and Hello

If you are just joining St. James CGLC, welcome and if you are a returning family, welcome back! My name is Steven Kelenc and I've been fortunate to be at St. James since 2015. In that time I have had several roles within the Middle Years programme and have had the opportunity to work with many teachers and students. I am the MYP Coordinator as well as the Design teacher for the programme. Additionally, I support students through my role as Special Education Resource Teachers.

I am excited about the year ahead and working collaboratively with our MYP students and all of their amazing teachers! Each month, you can find more information about the Middle Years Programme as well as highlights in this section of the newsletter.

Please feel free to contact me at the school if you have any questions about the Middle Years Programme or services to support your child in their learning journey!

- S. Kelenc

Upcoming Dates

Sept 8 - UNESCO International Literacy Day
Sept 16 - P.A. Day, No School for Students
Sept 26 - School Open House/BBQ
Sept 30 - Orange Shirt Day

Be sure to visit our school website. All newsletters and other pertinent information are always updated.
<http://dpcdsb.org/jamee>

Save the Date: School Open House/BBQ

**Thursday September 26th, 2024
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

**Please watch for more details coming from
the Catholic School Council mailbox.**

P.A. DAY

**There will be no school for the students on
Monday September 16th, 2024.**

The school will be closed for
Re-organization/Faith Development Day.