

ST. JAMES

CATHOLIC GLOBAL LEARNING CENTRE

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November 2024

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In Flanders Fields by John McCrae, May 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below. We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies
Grow
In Flanders fields.

Amen

Virtue: November - Conscience

A person with *conscience*...

- Chooses to do the 'right thing' and feels good about it
- Can see how his/her actions may help or hurt others
- Admits his/her wrong doing and feels badly about poor choices
- Says 'sorry' and tries to make up for mistakes
- Keeps promises even when tempted to give up
- Chooses to do what Jesus would do

Let us pray this month, for the grace and strength to be people of conscience - people who know the good and decent way to act and then choose to act that way.

Principal's Message

Inclusive Education

Each one called by name...(Isaiah 43:1) to be nourished, to be sustained, to grow, to the fullest extent of one's gifts and abilities.

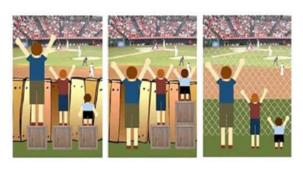
As a publicly funded, International Baccalaureate accredited school, St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre accepts all students. Our inclusive education policy is based on the principles and guidelines provided by the International Baccalaureate Organization, the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. The policy guides our beliefs, practices and commitment to addressing and supporting all students' growth and development.

"The IB principles of equity and inclusive education focus on **all** students—equal opportunities for every IB learner. Students whose learning, emotional and functional stability may be impacted by personal, family, social or other life circumstances are also supported through this policy. Equal opportunities in the learning journey will not mean equal outcomes, but the focus is on **all** IB students fully participating and engaging in IB programmes. The principle is to emphasize similarities and strengths and not differences and what divides us." (from Access & Inclusion Policy, IB)

Education for All and Learning for All, two Ministry of Education documents based on Hargreaves & Braun's research "Essential for Some, Good for All" (Hargreaves & Braun) outlines an integrated process of assessment and instruction designed to benefit all students, from high achievers to those who need additional support and those who have special education programs that include alternative learning expectations; helping all students improve their achievement and well-being.

As a faith-based educational environment, St. James promotes accessibility and mutual respect, honouring diversity and each person's unique identity -- modelling Dufferin-Peel's motto, "We All Belong". Planning for inclusion focuses on the differentiation of content, process and product. These inclusive

strategies are used to support diverse learning styles and needs, helping all learners reach their potential. Equitable outcomes often require differential treatment and resources in order to achieve a level playing field among all individuals and communities. This requires us to recognize and address barriers so all thrive in our environment. Fairness is not sameness



M. Cloutier McCann Principal

Electronic Delivery of Progress Reports

As we approach the time of year when Progress Reports are distributed, we would like to remind you of the change in how we will be delivering student Report Cards, as shared with you in June. We have transitioned to an electronic delivery system. This means that your child's Report Cards, including the November 12th Progress Report (Gr. 1-8) / Communication of Learning (FDK) will be sent directly to your child's registered DPCDSB student email account. To access the report cards, you will need your child's student number. Their student number is their email address. For example: 123456789@educ.dpcdsb.org. This is the same number that they use to log into their computers at school. Your child's student number is recorded in the front of their agenda for your reference. For FDK students, please check their communication bag. All progress report cards will be emailed to families by 3:00 p.m. on November 12th. Thank you for your patience as we work through this new process to enhance communication between the school and our valued parents and guardians. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

Scheduling Parent/Teacher Conferences

Dufferin-Peel CDSB has purchased an online booking system for parent interviews.



Parents/caregivers will receive an email with the event code. Using this event code, parents can make, change or cancel their own appointments. Parent requested interviews will be open for booking on November 12th at 4:00 p.m., once parents have had an opportunity to view their child's Grade 1-8 Progress Report / FDK Communication of Learning.

All Saints' Day & All Souls' Day

November 1st

All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1st. The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. The saints also give us a model of holiness. The charity they lived on Earth lives on. The witness of their love and sacrifice was not just a one time act in history. Rather, charity is living and continues to have an effect for the good. Therefore, the charity and witness of the saints lives on and affects our lives. This charity in their lives creates a bond with us, a communion. It enables us to love them, admire them and want to follow their example. It is this, coupled with their continuing intercession, that establishes a powerful bond of love and union with us.

November 2nd

All Souls' Day is a holy day set aside for honouring the dead. All Souls' Day, which is observed on November 2nd, is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven. Catholics believe that through the prayers of the faithful on Earth, the dead are cleansed of their sins so they may enter into heaven.

Remembrance Day Liturgy

Please join us for our Remembrance Day Liturgy to be held in the gym on Monday November 11th at 10:30 a.m.

Picture Retake Day / Sibling Photos

If you missed picture day, we will be holding picture retakes on Tuesday November 12th, 2024.

If you would like a sibling photo taken, please make your request in your child's agenda or send a message to st.jamesinfo@dpcdsb.org

Family Advent Mass

Please join us as we celebrate a
Family Advent Mass
being held for all families from the
St. James C.G.L.C. & St. Luke School
communities on

Tuesday, December 10th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. St. Mary Star of the Sea Church 11 Peter Street S., Mississauga

There will be a small reception after mass in the church hall organized by the Catholic School Councils of St. Luke and St. James.

Terry Fox Run/Walk

On Friday October 4th, the students of St. James took part in the Terry Fox Run/Walk. Thank you to all our parent volunteers that helped on that day. Special thanks to Ms. Maier for organizing this event, and to the Community for your continued support for Cancer Research. The total raised by St. James was \$1580.00.

The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations

Distinctive expectations for graduates of Catholic schools are determined and shaped by the vision and destiny of the human person emerging from our faith tradition. This Christian anthropology or world view, reveals the dignity and value of the person. Our tradition tells us God creatively and lovingly calls each of us into the wonder of life, sustaining us by the power of the Holy Spirit, throughout the human journey, into life eternal. We acknowledge that the journey includes moments of brokenness and sin.

We recognize in the person of Jesus, the risen Christ, the human face of God sharing our life in order to heal us of our brokenness and liberate us from sin. This Christian vision of the human journey is best understood within the context of relationship. It is accomplished in community, in solidarity with brothers and sisters in the Church and beyond.

Catholic education views human life as an integration of body, mind, and spirit. Rooted in this vision, Catholic education fosters the search for knowledge as a lifelong spiritual and academic quest. The expectations of Catholic graduates, therefore, are described not only in terms of knowledge and skills, but in terms of values, attitudes and actions.

Vision of the Learner - The Graduate is expected to Be:

- · A discerning believer formed in the Catholic Faith community who celebrates the signs and sacred mystery of God's presence through word, sacrament, prayer, forgiveness, reflection and moral living.
- · An effective communicator who speaks, writes and listens honestly and sensitively, responding critically in light of gospel values.
- · A reflective, creative and holistic thinker who solves problems and makes responsible decisions with an informed moral conscience for the common good.
- · A self-directed, responsible, lifelong learner who develops and demonstrates their God-given potential.

- · A collaborative contributor who finds meaning, dignity and vocation in work which respects the rights of all and contributes to the common good.
- · A caring family member who attends to family, school, parish, and the wider community.
- · A responsible citizen who gives witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life.

Parking Lot Safety Reminders

Parents and guardians are asked to please help make our driveways a safe place for our students. **Do not park in the accessible parking spots (unless you have a valid permit)**, the drop-off lanes or the fire route lane.

Please:

- Park only in designated parking spots
- Slow down while driving through our driveways
- Consider parking on the road and walking in
- Do not enter the driveway the wrong way

There is limited parking on school property and no parking on the south side of Wanita Road. Please be considerate of neighbours and refrain from blocking driveways. Consider parking on one of the neighbourhood streets and walking your child(ren) to the school, parking at the strip mall at the east side of the school off of Lakeshore or drop off/pick-up in Kiss and Ride.

Peanut Butter Substitutes

Parents/ guardians are discouraged from sending peanut butter substitute products to school with their child(ren). If a child with a life-threatening peanut allergy sees what looks like peanut butter, they may experience anxiety and/or a physical panic reaction. Such products can create significant challenges for staff, and especially students, to identify real peanut butter from the substitute. Please help us ensure all students feel safe by reading labels carefully and refrain from sending peanut products or substitutes to school.

Please Label Belongings

Please label your child's belongings so that when hats, mittens, gloves, boots or jackets go astray they can be found. Many young children have similar belongings and we want to ensure that your child has their own boots and clothing.

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.Board in consultation with the Peel Health Department 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 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.

School Trip/ Event Permission Forms

A friendly reminder that we will continue to email school trip/event permission forms for your child's various activities. Copies are also available on our school website under Permission Forms.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for all your help in our efforts to reduce the amount of paper used by our entire school community. By emailing our forms to the community, we are able to reduce the printing of non essential documents.

Completed forms may be sent electronically to the school email or if you are unable to send it by email a printed copy may be handed in to the teacher/office.

Please feel free to add all siblings on one form when they are attending the same event.

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

2025-26 Extended French Virtual Sessions

Any student who is eligible to attend a Dufferin-Peel Catholic school and who is presently a Grade 4 student may apply for the Extended French program for Grade 5 in September 2025. For more information, visit the Extended French webpage.

Brampton, Caledon & Dufferin Region Tuesday, November 5, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. Meeting Link

Mississauga Region Thursday, November 7, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. Meeting Link

Please note that the Extended French Program is not offered at St. James.

Catholic School Council

We are grateful for the initiative taken by our CSC members for the 2024-2025 school year:

Adam Patola - Co Chair Nina Popova - Co Chair

Kristin Zeljkovic - Secretary

Neil Sarin - Treasurer

Tina Morris - OAPCE Rep

Jason Bird - Community Rep

Stacy Bhola - Parish Rep

Erick Mayen - Voting Member

Amber Pronski - Voting Member

Heather Jagiello - Voting Member

Katherine Pasia - Voting Member

Ms. Johnson – Non-Teaching Rep

Mr. Kelenc – Teaching Rep

Ms. Roy - Teaching Rep

M. Cloutier McCann - Principal

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 November 7th Thursday February 6th Thursday April 3rd

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!

KIDSSENTIALS 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

One Time Donation

Your Catholic School Council is asking for your support, so that we can support your child/children's learning. We are asking for a ONE TIME DONATION to help support initiatives at the school.

An email will be coming soon outlining the various areas that we propose to help support the students of St. James. In order to meet our fundraising goals for this year, we are asking for \$50 per student; however, ALL donations in any amount are welcomed and appreciated. Please help us support the St. James CGLC community.

Faith Development & Spiritual Education:

i.e.: First Communion Celebration, Palm crosses, transportation to mass at the church

<u>Student Engagement: Curriculum Enhancements & Supports:</u>

i.e.: Library resources, technology, presentations, student agendas

Community Building:

i.e.: Workshops/Presentations, Carnaval events, graduation awards

Global Awareness:

i.e.: Social justice programming, IB actions - Creative Arts Music, Art Exhibition, ECO projects, hall enhancements

Outdoor Enhancements:

i.e.: Outdoor classroom improvements & seating, pollinator garden, graduation tree, front bench

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

In last month's newsletter, we looked at how our PYP classrooms reflect inclusivity, and foster a learning environment that allows inquiry-based learning to unfold

This month, we explore the Transdisciplinary Themes covered throughout the school year in our PYP classes and what launching a unit of inquiry looks like!

Transdisciplinary Learning

Foundational to the IB programme, a *transdisciplinary* approach to learning focuses on broad, conceptual understandings about the world around us. The focus of a transdisciplinary unit, or, its *central idea*, is explored from many different subjects within the classroom. Our Ontario curriculum expectations are woven into these themes.

Our K-5 PYP classrooms cover six transdisciplinary IB themes throughout the year; this means that your child will explore a unit of inquiry under the 6 titles below:

Who We Are Where We Are in Place and Time How the World Works How We Organize Ourselves How We Express Ourselves Sharing the Planet

Launching a Unit

The PYP teachers are always coming up with creative

ways to launch a unit of inquiry and activate student thinking.

Mrs. DeMelo's Grade 4 class is currently exploring rocks and minerals under the transdisciplinary theme Sharing the Planet. They



launched the unit by activating their prior knowledge, and created a brainstorm web of what students already know about rocks and minerals.

Students were also encouraged to bring gem and rock samples from home, which fostered connection making and sparked natural curiosity.





During one hands-on learning experience, students were provided with rock samples to analyse closely. Together, students made observations about their similarities and differences

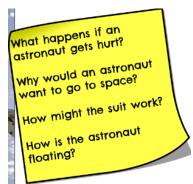


Students in Mrs.
Galea and Mrs.
Johnson's FDK class
have been exploring
the human body
under the
Transdisciplinary
theme, Where We
Are in Place and
Time.

Students began the unit by learning about how blood travels through the body. They made meaningful connections, comparing blood travelling through the body to transportation along a highway! Students then collaborated on a group diagram, sharing what they have learned about the circulatory system.

Students in Mrs. Marchesan and Mrs. Galea's Gr. 3 class have been practising question asking to begin their

inquiry unit. Students have been learning the difference between questions with definite answers and more open ended questions. Students practiced asking questions that begin with "What if...", "How can...", "How might..." and "What if...".





(MYP) The Middle Years Programme

November Feature: Student Portfolios

An inquiry based learning cycle has multiple components with reflection being an integral part of it. Throughout the Middle Years Programme, students are encouraged to reflect on an ongoing basis. The student portfolio is an extension to this, where Year 1 – 3 students are asked to reflect upon their development under the lens of an academic, social, and a co-curricular lens.

Why should students reflect? For one, and simply put, it is part of the IB inquiry cycle. More importantly however, is that reflection is reported to lead to a deeper understanding of how, what, and why students learn. Often, in education, students complete a task, receive an achievement level with feedback, and file the experience away without applying any critical analysis to the work. The student portfolio will call students to do more than that.

Students will be asked to refer back to past learning experiences to identify paths to success, as well as where pathways to improvement lay. The goal is for the gained insight to be transferred into future tasks. From the stance of social and co-curricular, the purpose is to have students identify their growth and interests. This will create a concrete profile of their involvement in school life and answer the question, *Am I developing my whole person by engaging in a variety of experiences? And if not, what can I do to change that?*

This MYP Portfolio is maintained over all three years of the programme and this year will be the second year of our digital portfolio trial. Last school year we began completing portfolio's in a digital format via a separate Google Classroom for each year of the MYP. This year we will carry over student work samples and reflections while continuing to grow their digital portfolio.



The portfolio is divided into 6 sections, with details as follows:

Student Work Selection

Students will select a minimum of 8 work samples, preferably from a variety of subject areas, for their portfolio. These should come from a range of the six IB Global Contexts. Students are encouraged to not simply select their "best work," but to rather select a range of achievement levels for more thoughtful review and reflection.

Student Work Samples

Each MYP year, you are required to select a variety of work samples – from different subject areas - for your portfolio. These should come from a range of global contexts.

You are encouraged to not simply select your, "best work," but to rather select a range of achievement levels for more thoughtful review and reflection.

Work samples may come in a variety of forms. These may include:

Journal entries	Revised writing	Artwork	PowerPoint Pres.
Tests	Research reports	Maps	Photo's of work
Rough drafts	Scripts	Collaborative work	Diagrams
Brochures	Timelines	Stories	Models
Interviews	Quizzes	Prezi presentations	Home learning

Co-Curricular Log

In this section, students will record their school involvement, by month, for the three years of the MYP. Upon graduation, we hope students will have developed to be well rounded, balanced citizens. There is also the hope that the attribute of Risk-taker stands strong, with students selecting areas out of their natural element.

Community, Family, Action

Once per term, families are encouraged to participate in an activity that enhances/compliments the student learning experience at the school level. This could range from visiting a museum to going to a Heritage House, to participating in a charity event. Student anecdotes and visual representation of the event would follow and be kept in the portfolio.

	MYP Co	mmunity Family Action			
	Activity Overview				
	Year #				
	Term #				
	Activity				
	Date of Activity				
	Family Member Participants				
Act	ivity Rating: Highlight your sto	ar rating	l		
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Skill Reflection

Developing to be mature, responsible, globally aware, faithful individuals is a primary goal of the students' education at St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre. To support development and awareness of all skills, students will be asked to reflect on a variety of skills including Learner Profile attributes, Catholic Student Graduate Expectations, Ontario Learning skills and DPCDSB Virtues. These are not to be solely ones they experienced success with, but also ones that are recognized as needing some attention and development.

It is important for student growth that they be able to recognize their own strengths as learners as well as areas that could be further developed.

Learner Profile Attributes - The heart of the IB program

irers

You have natural curiosity. You are able to conduct inquiry and research on your own. You actively enjoy learning.

Knowledgeable

You explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. You have in-depth knowledge in all subjects.

Thinkers

You apply critical thinking skills to recognize and solve difficult problems. You make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators

You understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many forms of communication. You work effectively and willingly with others.

Principle

You act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. You take responsibility for your own actions.

Parent Feedback

It is important to the MYP team that parents/guardians have a voice in the education and process of learning at St. James. Open lines of communication are key and this is another chosen avenue for such dialogue. At each reporting cycle parents/guardians will be asked to complete a feedback form, indicating student strengths and challenges. There will also be opportunity for questions about the learning and/or open points for more personalized information.

PYP Highlights

The PYP provided a strong foundation of learning strategies and skills for students in the MYP. Throughout those formative years, students were exposed to many learning experiences that helped to shape individual skill sets and encourage contributions to developing a balanced lifestyle. To honour the learning gained in the PYP, each portfolio will have a highlights section for students to self-select items they wish to carry forward and share with the MYP teaching staff.

Upcoming Dates

- Nov 4 Gr. 5 Queen's Park Trip
- Nov 4 to 6 Gr. 4 CCAT
- Nov 5 Gr 7 & 8 Virtual Parent Information session for Ottawa excursion
- Nov 6 Rosary Apostolate Class Visits
- Nov 6 Gr. 8 St. Paul C.S.S. Shadow Day Trip
- Nov 6 St. Martin Secondary School Open House
- Nov. 6 Black Excellence Professional Expo evening event for parents/caregivers & students
- Nov 7 International Inuit Day
- Nov 7 University of Waterloo Math Contest
- Nov 7 Catholic School Council Mtg, 6:30pm
- Nov 7 Holy Name of Mary Secondary School Open House
- Nov 7 St. Mary Star of the Sea First Communion parent session #3
- Nov 8 Indigenous Veteran's Day
- Nov 8 Samantha Cameron from Youth Ministry visits Grades 4-8
- Nov. 8 Hot Dog Day Lunch
- Nov 11 Remembrance Day Assembly 10:30 am in gym
- Nov 12 Picture Retake / Sibling Photo Day
 - Progress Reports Sent Home Electronically
- Nov 13 St. Paul Catholic Secondary School Open House
- Nov 14 Progress Report Conferences Evening
- Nov 14 St. Mary Star of the Sea First Communion parent session #4
- Nov 15 Gr. 7 & 8 Immunization Clinic
- Nov 18-22 Bullying Prevention Week
- Nov 21 Hot Dog Day Lunch
- Nov 21 St. Mary Star of the Sea First Communion parent session #5
- Nov 21 CCCSC Parent Engagement Evening(virtual)
- Nov 22 PA Day, No School for students
- Nov 25 FDK Royal Botanical Gardens Trip
- Nov 26 Pizza order /payment for December due
- Nov 26 Intermediate Girls' Volleyball POD tournament
- Nov 27 to 29 Gr. 6 Camp Muskoka Trip
- Nov 28 Intermediate Boys' Volleyball POD tournament
- Nov 28 Gr. 5 CBC KidsNew Virtual Workshop
- Nov 28 St. Mary Star of the Sea First Communion parent session #6

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

P.A. DAY

There will be no school for the students on Friday November 22nd, 2024.

Staff will be participating in Provincial Priorities covering the following topics: Student Well-Being, Literacy and Mathematics, School Safety and Violence Prevention

