

# ST. JOACHIM CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2024



**Principal: Mr. J. Lise**

**Vice-Principal: Mr. S. Salameh**

**Administrative Assistant : Mrs. M.J. Ferro**

**Attendance Secretary: Mr. A. Ekaete**

**Superintendent: A. Scigliano**

**Pastor: Rev. Suresh Xavier**

**Trustee: A. Thomas**

## September Prayer

Dear Lord,

Use my eyes . . . to see new friends,

Open my ears. . .to hear my teacher,

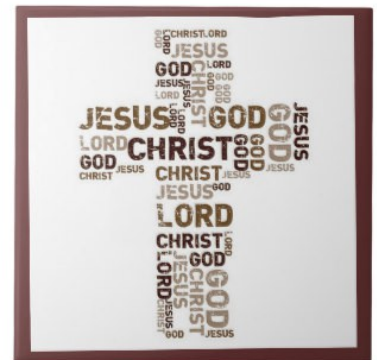
Open my mind. . .to learn new things,

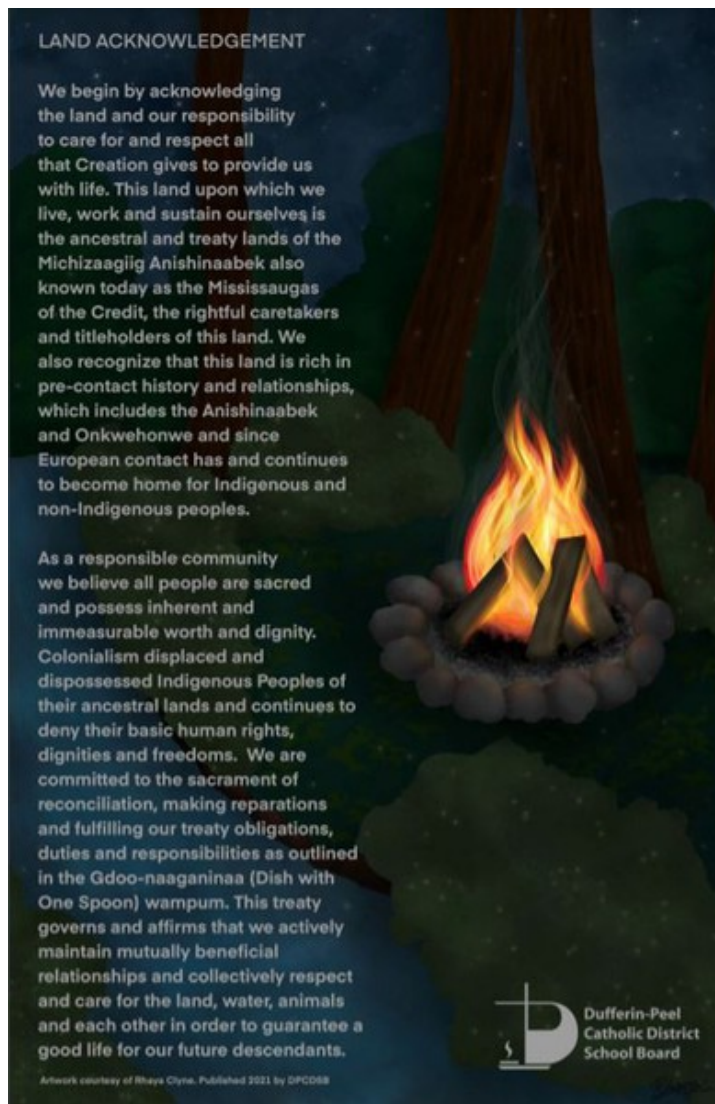
Let my heart remember You are near when I'm afraid.

Help me to love others like you do.

I want to shine your light so bright in my school

**Amen**





## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the entire staff, we would like to welcome you and your children to the 2024-2025 school year at St. Joachim Catholic School. It promises to be an exciting and rewarding year. To the many families joining our school community for the first time, we extend a special and warm welcome. We would also like to extend a greeting of best wishes to our Junior Kindergarten children who are starting school for the first time and hope that they will develop many happy memories of our school as they begin this very important journey.

Thank you to all staff for the time and commitment given over the summer helping to ensure a successful beginning to the new school year. Teachers have been extremely busy organizing classrooms, and planning curriculum. We would like to thank the staff for their hard work in making all of our students feel welcome. The **month of August** the school has seen an increased enrollment from FDK to grade 6. This has impacted most classes in the school.

A special thank you to Mrs. Ferro our Head Secretary and Mr. Ekaete for getting the office ready and answering the many phone calls. Thank you Mr. Llanderal, Ms. Harris and Ms. Malheiro our school custodians who worked extremely hard preparing the school to welcome back our students.

The St. Joachim staff will strive to create a synergistic relationship between the home, school and Parish. A relationship that involves the efforts and dedication of all involved in order to fully



develop our students. You the parents are the primary educators of your children. Catholic schools and the Church can only extend and complement the educational process that begins and continues from the home. Your contribution to the success of your children cannot be over emphasized. For this we urge you to become an active participant in your child's education this year.

Peace and Love,  
Mr. Lise and Mr. Salameh

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH SEPTEMBER: FAITH

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. A Faithful Person...

- Prays regularly and reverently
- Learns from Scripture stories
- Honours people's God-given names
- Assumes that there is good in everyone

## SCHOOL BELL TIMES & SUPERVISION



**ARRIVAL:** For your child's safety, please do not send your child to school earlier than 8:45am. Supervision of students begins at 8:45am, students arriving earlier will be unsupervised. As soon as your child arrives to school they should go their designated areas.

**School Begins: 9:00am**

Recess: 10:23am - 10:38 am

Lunch: 12:01 pm - 1:01 pm

Recess: 2:24 pm - 2:39 pm

**Dismissal: 3:30 pm**

**Dismissal:** If you are planning to pick up your child please ensure **that you will be on time**. There is no supervision after 3:30pm. Please ensure you have a plan for dismissal. If the school feels that this is pattern of being late for pick up, the school will contact the family about possible solutions. **Thank you for your support and patience as we endeavor to make the school the safest place possible for your children.**

### Kiss and Ride(Parking Lot)

#### KISS & RIDE PROCEDURES

1. It is important when you are dropping off your child in the morning that you enter the Kiss and Ride lane and **proceed to end of the lane at the STOP sign before allowing your child to get out of the car.**



2. Students must exit from the right hand side of the car (closest to the school) and parents should remain in the car. Parents may then enter the "drive thru" lane to exit the parking lot.
3. At the end of the day or at lunch, if you are pulling into the Kiss and Ride lane, please **do NOT leave your car**. Many parents have received tickets from the Municipality for this.
4. If you need to come into the school, you must park on one of the local side streets, or in the spots at the **front** of the school, **do NOT park in the side lot as moving traffic is dangerous to children at this location. Do Not park in the Bus lanes in the front of the school, as these lanes are dedicated for the busses.**
5. These rules are enforced and you could be fined if not abiding by Brampton's By-Laws.
6. If walking your child to school in the morning or picking them up at the end of the day, parents are asked to remain either **behind the black fence by the parking lot, on the path closest to the school, or on the perimeter of the school pavement**. This is for **your child's safety**, as teachers on duty cannot distinguish parents from "strangers" in the yard with such a large school.
7. **Parents are responsible for arranging to pick up their child on time at the end of the day. Students from Grades 2 to 8 are released at their exit door.**
8. Kindergarten and Gr. 1 students **ONLY** are released hand to hand. Those parents must park and make contact with the teacher for their child to be released.
9. **Only bus students exit at the end of the day through the front doors.**
10. Students walking with siblings are asked to have a **meeting spot** at the **back** of the school. Please meet your child at the back or wait in the Kiss and Ride.



#### WATER BOTTLES

Students will be encouraged to bring their own reusable water bottle to school each day. Water refill stations can be used to refill water bottles. Use of water fountains during this time will not be permitted.

#### HAND HYGIENE

Promoting hand hygiene is an important everyday action we can take to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect students and staff! In order to facilitate best hand hygiene practices, hand sanitizer will be available throughout the school for use. Students will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands (if a sink is available) when transitioning in and out of their classrooms, before and after eating, and when using shared classroom items.



#### TRANSPORTATION & BUS INFORMATION

Transportation Services is the organization which administers transportation for both school boards in Peel Region. Their website is: <https://www.stopr.ca/> It provides information to parents about their child's bus route, times, and stop location. You can also find out if there are any delays or cancellations. Please use this link to sign-up for the parent





We ask that students get into the habit of waiting at bus stops at least 5 minutes prior to the scheduled bus arrival time. It is a parental responsibility to ensure that Kindergarten and Grade 1 children are met at the bus stop upon arrival home. Please advise your children that safety is of the utmost importance to all of us. If they do not see a parent or babysitter waiting, they are to remain on the bus and will be returned safely to school to be picked up. Just a reminder to all parents and students that children are assigned to a particular bus and are not allowed to travel on another bus.

### Bus Safety

Whether your child rides the bus daily, or for school trips, it is important that they are aware of the safety rules on the bus.

Students are required to:

- Listen to the bus driver at all times and report any problems or injuries to him/her
- Go directly to their assigned seat and remain seated during the entire bus ride
- Do not eat, drink, swear, fight or chew gum on the bus
- Do not put arms out the window, or throw items or garbage out the window
- If any damage to the seat or bus is caused, students will be held responsible
- Be at least 5 minutes early at your bus stop.

Improper conduct on the bus will be dealt with at the office. Repeated or serious incidents can result in bussing privileges being suspended or removed. **We kindly ask that you please review these rules with your child.** Bussing is a privilege, not a right.

### Courtesy Seats:

On September 16, 2024, schools can begin approving students for courtesy seats by flagging them in the student information system. Approved students will be assigned to existing bus stops by STOPR shortly thereafter.

Please click on the following link to review STOPR's Courtesy Transportation - <https://www.stopr.ca/documents/db5b03df-df3f-4dfd-b6a4-660dc7f6fd3d>

Should you have any questions or require assistance with transportation, please contact Mr. Salameh.

## ALLERGIES & ANAPHYLAXIS

As we begin a new school year, we would like to remind you that St. Joachim is an **allergen aware school**. There are pupils and staff in attendance who suffer from severe and life threatening allergies to certain foods, such as dairy, peanut and nut products. Exposure to even the smallest quantities can cause severe life threatening reactions. Anaphylaxis is a severe and life threatening allergic reaction.

At St. Joachim we would appreciate the cooperation of the entire school community by NOT sending any lunches or snacks that contain nut or nut byproducts including peanut butter alternatives (i.e. WowButter), or other products containing nuts or nut oils (i.e., Nutella). If a student who has such an allergy comes into contact with anything containing peanuts, nuts, nut oils or derivatives, it could be life threatening. Your child's teacher will inform you of any class specific allergy concerns which could potentially harm a pupil. Please make sure that all of your children's caregivers are aware of the food restrictions. **Please do not send food for birthdays or special occasions.** If you have any questions, please talk to your child's teacher or the school staff. We look forward to your co-operation in making this a safe year for all of our pupils.



## COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

As a new school year begins, we encourage all parents/guardians to participate in their child's education and join our Catholic School Advisory Council. Our school community is growing, and we are always looking for new parents/guardians to join our dynamic school council. If you are interested in becoming a member, please complete the nomination form that will be shared electronically (via email) in the coming days. Completed nomination forms can be emailed to [St.JoachimElementaryInfo@dpcdsb.org](mailto:St.JoachimElementaryInfo@dpcdsb.org) or submitted through your child to the school office no later than **Friday, September 20, 12:00 pm**. Once we have received your application, we will send you an email to confirm receipt. Please note, all Catholic School Council Members must have a valid Criminal Reference Check or an Annual Criminal Offence Declaration Form. Further nominations will not be accepted after this time.



Many vital programs and technology continue to be funded and made possible by the work of our Catholic School Council! We appreciate the communities input, and hope you will attend our first meeting which will take place on Wednesday, October 2nd at 6:30pm in the school library.



### Section 11 - Nomination Form for Parent Member.pdf

[Download](#)  
18.3 KB



### Section 4 - Catholic School Council Roles.pdf

[Download](#)  
399.4 KB

## Office staff Procedures

The school continues to grow. With this in mind, please book an appointment to see a member of our office staff, and we will do our best to accommodate your request. If you have a question, please use this email: [St.Joachimelementaryinfo@dpcdsb.org](mailto:St.Joachimelementaryinfo@dpcdsb.org). **Do not email** school staff directly as our email has many filters and it may not be seen in a timely fashion. If possible please call the office if you have any questions, as they can direct you on who to speak to or can help you with a question.

We ask if that you have changed your pick-up routine, please let your child know beforehand and let the school or the teacher know. Please do not call near the end of the day, as office staff might not be able to answer the phone or check messages in a timely fashion. **If you need to pick-up your child please come before 2:15pm.**

If you are dropping off a lunch at the office we ask that you label all lunches. Mrs. Ferro and Mr. Ekaete will provide labels if needed.

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES



Each and every school within Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is required to have a fire emergency and evacuation plan. We are required under Board Policy to have three practice "Fire Drills" during the first term. The classroom teachers will review these procedures with their students. We are also required to review "Hold and Secure" and practice "Lockdown" and "Shelter in Place" procedures. We will continue practicing these drills throughout the school year. Teacher will be assuring children that this is strictly a practice. Please be assured that we always have the safety of our children as our first concern.



## VISITORS

Throughout the 2024-2025 school year, all schools are asked to monitor and restrict the number of visitors to our school. Anyone entering the school building must use the front entrance. When visitors arrive, they are asked to ring the buzzer to communicate with office staff. **All students must be signed out at the office if being picked up prior to the 3:30 dismissal.**



## SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is pleased to offer the School Cash Online Payment System. School Cash Online allows parents and community members to pay school-related fees online safely, quickly, and easily. Parents can purchase items like spirit wear, lunches, and field trips - anytime, anywhere.

Parent registration is as simple 3-step process which will give you email notification of fees or items for payment. In addition, a receipt for payment will be issued to you directly. Please follow the link below to register online.

<https://dpcdsb.schoolcashonline.com>

Should you encounter any difficulties, you can use the



## SAFE ARRIVAL

In the interest of your child's safety, it is very important to inform us if your child will be late or absent from school. To record your child's absence, two options are available to families

1. Call the school at (905.453.4472). Press 1 for the attendance line. Message can be left on the school's voicemail at any time. Please leave the following information:

- Your child's name
- Your child's teacher
- Date and time of absence
- Reason and duration of absence

2. Use School Messenger to report absences

parent help desk at 1 (866) 961-1803.

- <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>
- Phone 1-844-435-3440 (Toll Free)
- Download SchoolMessenger App



**How to guide for cash-online.pdf**

[Download](#)

59.2 KB

## SCHOOL ORGANIZATION & CLASSROOM INFORMATION

The beginning of each school year is always marked by unexpected changes, which require all of us to be understanding, accommodating and flexible. The September school organization is based on projected enrolment prepared by the Board's Planning Department. Such enrolment projection determines the number of teachers assigned to the school and consequently, the grade and class configurations.

In the event that student enrolment falls below or above projections, an adjustment to the number of teachers assigned to the school follows, which may affect the placement of your child. Staffing and student class placements are still tentative.



Based on increased, or decreased enrolment, we may need to reorganize the classes. The first reorganization day will be Tuesday, **September 17th, 2024**. If reorganization is necessary, we will work as quickly as possible to establish new student and/or teacher assignments. We will endeavour to keep the best interest of your child in mind if a new class placement is required.



**CombinedGrades PamphletSeptember 2024 (1).pdf**

[Download](#)

100.8 KB



**2024-2025 Elementary School Organization Plans Parent Letter (1).pdf**

[Download](#)

197.9 KB





## MEDICAL

If your child has a medical condition, please ensure that the school is aware of it by submitting the proper forms and medication as soon as possible. A Plan of Care will be created for your child. This Plan will be shared with teachers and staff members that interact with your child on a regular bases.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that all medications and forms are updated for any student who requires medication to be administered at school. If your child requires medication, please have the necessary forms completed and return them, along with any medication, to the office as soon as possible. Please call the school for the proper forms to be sent. Please remember to check the expiry dates of all medication before bringing them to school.

## CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has developed a Concussion Policy and Guidelines for students who have been diagnosed with a concussion by either a medical doctor or nurse practitioner. School staff cannot diagnose a concussion. Anytime a student reports to the office with a head injury, the parent/guardian will be contacted and the incident will be entered into the school's "Documentation of Head Injuries" log. This is precautionary only, and we ask that you check your child when he/she gets home for any signs of a concussion or illness. A brochure containing information about

Concussions is provided upon pick up of the student or when they go home for the day. This is a precautionary measure and for information purposes.

## 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 your child participates in sports, excursions/field trips, or if parents do not have dental insurance coverage. Enrollment in writing is required.

There are two options for enrollment:

1) Complete the traditional form and mail it in.

or

2) Apply online to Reliable Life at <https://insuremykids.com/>



## Open House September 19/2024

We will have our open house this year on Thursday, September 19. Parents and children will be invited to come to the school **from 5:30pm to 7:00pm** to drop in and visit their child's classroom and meet the teacher.

## NEWS FROM ST. ANNE'S PARISH

We are very blessed to have Fr. Suresh Xavier as the pastor at St. Anne Church. We look forward to working with him and we know that he is strongly committed to the faith and spiritual development of our students. **There are 2 forms** that the church has asked us to give to our community as it deals with communion and confirmation.



Please visit the church's website for more information <https://stannesbr.archtoronto.org/> or email the church at [stannesbr@archtoronto.org](mailto:stannesbr@archtoronto.org)

tel:9054531303

**Mass Times:** Monday to Saturday 9:15 am/Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm Sunday: 8:00am, 10:am & 12:00pm



**Grade 7 Confirmation.docx**

[Download](#)

14.1 KB



**Grade 2 communion.docx**

[Download](#)

14.0 KB

### Upcoming school Dates

September 3- First day of school

September 16-PA Day

September 19- Picture Day/Open House

September 20- Terry Fox Run

September 30- Orange Shirt Day



## New Board forms that will be coming home with your child



**GF067.pdf**

[Download](#)

156.8 KB



**GF068.pdf**

[Download](#)

210.1 KB

## Book Fair Sept. 16-20



### Get ready!

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way. Choosing their own books inspires kids to become lifelong readers. AND-as always-every purchase at the Fair benefits our school. Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more!

[bookfairs.scholastic.ca](https://bookfairs.scholastic.ca)



#### Phone

[905-453-4472](tel:905-453-4472)



#### Email

[St.JoachimElementaryInfo@dp.cdsb.org](mailto:St.JoachimElementaryInfo@dp.cdsb.org)



#### X (Formerly Twitter)

[@StJoachimDPCDSB](https://twitter.com/StJoachimDPCDSB)



2024-2025 School Year Calendar FINAL (1).pdf

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189.3 KB



IIL Elem Flyer 2024 2025 V9.pdf

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343.7 KB



Thrive in Community - September 2024.pdf

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3.6 MB



# THE TERRY FOX RUN

for cancer research



**Joe Lise**

Joe is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

