



*September, 2024*



*The Dufferin-Peel CDSB  
theme  
for the 2024-25 school year  
is.....*

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION:**

***Pilgrims of Hope***



**School Hours:**

8:30am – 3:00pm

Recess: 9:53am and 1:54pm

Lunch 11:31am– 12:31pm

**Superintendent: D. Belchior-  
Demedeiros**

(905) 890-1221

**Trustee:**

**Bruno Iannicca**

(905) 890-1221

# St. Philip Catholic School

345 Fairview Rd., W., Mississauga, ON L5B3 W5 Phone (905) 306-8420

Board web site: <http://www.dpcdsb.org>

School website: <http://www.dpcdsb.org/PHILP>

**Principal:**

Mr. S. Stesky

Interim Principal: Mrs. C. Boulanger

**Administrative Assistant:**

Ms. J. Corvari

## Administrator's Message

**WELCOME BACK EVERYONE! BIENVENUE!**

It is with excitement and great anticipation that we welcome both new and returning students, staff, and families to another exciting school year at St. Philip Catholic School. My name is Mrs. Boulanger and I am happy to be serving as acting principal here at St. Philip School. I am a retired Dufferin-Peel CDSB principal with many years of experience working as an educator and administrator within the Board. I am here temporarily as we await Mr. Stesky's return at the completion of his current leave.

The staff has been hard at work planning, preparing curriculum materials, and creating faith-filled and welcoming learning environments for all our students. We thank our custodial staff, for their many hours of work over the summer - the school looks wonderful. Ms. Corvari has also worked countless hours to ensure that the 2024-25 school year will open seamlessly.

This year, we have approximately 256 students enrolled at the school. Please note that ***all staff assignments and student placements will remain tentative until the end of the first two weeks of school.*** In the event that the school has to be reorganized due to unpredictable enrolment trends, this will take place on **September 16, 2024.**

We are very much looking forward to working with all parents, students and staff throughout the upcoming year, as, together, we embrace the task of guiding students on the path of learning, achievement and growing in faith. As we move forward in the coming days and weeks, we welcome your input and involvement in the learning of your children. If you have any questions, feel free to contact your child(ren)'s teacher(s) or the office.

Our Lord has truly Blessed us with a beautiful building, a caring community and dedicated educators.

Welcome back to an exciting new school year and God Bless,

Mrs. C. Boulanger  
Interim Principal



## September's Virtue of the Month is...

**FAITH**

**What is Faith?**

It is holding to what you believe is important no matter what happens. Faithfulness is being like a rock in the midst of rushing waters. When you are faithful you can be counted on and trusted. Faith is needed when you have beliefs and principles that cannot be proven to others. If you are faithful to your belief, others see your values in the way you act.

**How do you practice Faithfulness?**

Being faithful means you keep your promises. To do a job faithfully means you do it with as much excellence and precision as you can. Listen to your heart when things come up to test your faith. Your faith gets stronger when your beliefs are tested and you still find that they are true.

**You are practicing the Virtue of FAITH when you...**

- Listen to your heart when your beliefs are tested
- Only make promises you can keep
- Keep your agreements
- Are loyal to your friends and family


**P.D. Day (Re-organization)**


**Monday, September 16, 2024**


# Policy & Procedures


## Attendance Line


*If your child is going to be absent from school, please report the absence through School Messenger*

**Options for Reporting Student Absences**

 **Web:** [go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca)

 **App:** SchoolMessenger

 **Phone:** 1-844-435-3440 (Toll-Free)



## Leaving School Grounds Student Sign-In, Sign-out Policy

Students are not permitted to leave school property without written permission from parents or guardians. This includes appointments and lunch. *Students are to sign-out and sign-in once they return to the school.* Parents/guardians are responsible for the conduct, safety and well being of students when they are given permission to leave school property.

### Lunch Routines

Please complete the form indicating if your child(ren) will be staying at school for lunch. Students should either return home or remain at school on a regular basis. Students who regularly stay at school for lunch will be required to bring a signed note each time they leave school grounds. Students who do not bring a note indicating a change will be required to follow their regular routine. Please impress the importance of returning directly back to the school on time.

### Forgotten Lunch

Please leave your child's forgotten lunch with your child's name on it, on the table outside of the office. Students will be permitted to come to pick up their lunch when the bell rings. Tags and pens are conveniently available for you to label your child's lunch. Please remember, that with the buzzer entry system, it may be easier to send lunch to school in the morning.

#### NEW THIS YEAR.....

In consultation with Mr. Stesky, the school will be piloting new lunch time routines.

**11:31am-12:11pm Outdoor Recess**

**12:11-12:31 pm Indoor Eating Period**

## Extra-curricular Activities & Excursions

Students will have the opportunity to take field trips and participate in a number of extra-curricular activities. Permission forms will be sent home to be filled out, signed and promptly returned to school.

**NO STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE ON A TRIP OR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY WITHOUT WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THEIR PARENT / GUARDIAN. VERBAL CONSENT OVER THE TELEPHONE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** No exceptions will be allowed. Teachers give ample notice for trip consent forms.

We encourage parents to support these educational opportunities by volunteering to assist and supervise these excursions. Remember, **only parents with current Criminal Reference Checks will be permitted to supervise field trips.** Parent volunteers are usually necessary on most trips. If possible, please try to volunteer as a trip supervisor.

## Freedom of Information & Protection Act

From time to time, throughout the school year, photographs of students participating in school based activities e.g. Sacramental Celebrations, graduation, written work, special award recognition, school teams, classroom activities, may be taken to be used in school and/or board publications. In case of accident, personal information such as: name, age, grade, address may be given to hospital, ambulance, police, firefighters in attendance. Should you prefer your child's photograph not to be used, or information not to be given, please indicate as such on the Media Consent portion of the Verification form.

### Visitors

All visitors, parents and volunteers coming into the school are expected to **report to the office upon arrival to sign-in.** For the safety of your child and others, staff have been instructed to request all persons not wearing a visitor's pass to return to the office to obtain one. Please remember that we are responsible for the safety of all our students and this is an expectation for all parents, visitors and volunteers at all Dufferin Peel schools.

## Safety

### Kiss and Ride

To ensure the safety of all students, parents are reminded that parking in the Kiss & Ride is illegal.

Parents are asked to park their vehicles on the street or parking lot and walk to drop off and pick up their child(ren) from the appropriate entry/exit door.

The following information is provided to ensure the safety of all students who will need to cross the driveway:

- adhere to the directional arrows marking one way only traffic
- drive carefully and slowly  
....WATCH FOR STUDENTS
- Drop students off in the Kiss N'Ride lane at the side of the school.

### Early Arrival

Students must remain outside of the school building until 8:30am. Teachers will be available to supervise students at 8:15am, and entry to the school will begin at the 8:30am bell.

### Bicycle / Scooter Safety

1. Walk bicycles on school property.
2. Lock bicycles in the bicycle racks
3. Obey all bicycle safety rules.
4. Roller blades and skateboards are not to be used on school property.



### Walkers

Please continue to instruct your child regarding safe passage to school; i.e. crossing streets at signed locations, walking with a buddy, and to always watch out for vehicles. Use sidewalks and avoid crossing or walking along the centre of the parking lot.

## Health

### Medication

On occasion, the school is asked to store and/or administer medication to students. A completed form must accompany each request for medication to be stored and given out by the school personnel. Ask the Office to supply you with the appropriate forms. **Anaphylaxis forms/ Asthma forms will be sent home in Student Packages. Please complete and return forms as soon as possible. This is necessary to update files annually and inform staff of student medical concerns.**

### **ALLERGY AWARENESS**

We have a number of children in our school who have severe life threatening allergic reactions to peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oils and any nut by-products.



Other life threatening allergens may include allergies to eggs, dairy, and flour products, sesame seeds and types of seafood if ingested by the student.



Please note that due to life-threatening allergies, parents are not permitted to send food to the school to be distributed to classmates i.e. birthday cake, cupcakes, Halloween candy, etc.

All edible products sent to school for distribution will be returned home with the student at the end of the day.



### ***No Child Without.***

Our school is involved in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's **No Child Without** program. There is no cost for students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday to join MedicAlert through this program. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis, then you should consider this program. A child's MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur.

<https://www.medicalert.ca/no-child-without-program>



## Services

### ***Student 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 enrolment is voluntary, the board encourages parents to take advantage of the inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports, excursions/field trips, or, if parents do not have dental insurance coverage."*

For more information contact <https://www.insuremykids.com>

*Parents alone have the right to insure their children.*

## Special Events

### ***Terry Fox Run***

This September, we will continue in the St. Philip Catholic School tradition to show our support of Terry Fox by having our Terry Fox Walk. Please donate to show our support of Cancer Research. More information will be sent home shortly. Our tentative date is Sept. 13th.

### ***Volunteers***

Volunteers play an important role in the life of any school community. At the school level, they help to enhance the learning opportunities made available to students. They can make a difference in the academic life of students as well as assist students with reading, writing, academic drills, educational games, reinforcement, and in other activities that help to improve a specific area of need.

Criminal Reference Check application forms and Declaration forms can be picked up at the office. Thank you for your support in helping our children.

### ***Open House***

Parents are invited to attend our St. Philip Catholic School Open House / Meet the Teacher evening. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your child's teacher informally as well as other members of the School community. We look forward to seeing you there. Details of time and date will be sent home once finalized.

### ***Parent Communication***

School Resources, Newsletters, Emails and/or Updates serve as communication between home & school. Various school events, procedures, reminders and other board, parish and community information that needs to be communicated will be provided in the communications. **Please be sure that the school has your current email address.**





## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FRONT DOORS LOCKED

You may be aware that a few years ago, through the province's Safe School Welcome Program, St. Philip Catholic School received a grant that provides for the installation of a front door speaker/buzzer/video monitoring system. The installation of this system allows us to pro-actively enhance the safety and security of students and staff by locking the front doors after classes begin. This change in access to our school requires a new access protocol that will apply to all visitors, including parents and guardians. The system has been installed and activated.

Under this system, visitors may gain entrance by pressing a buzzer mounted on the wall outside the building, beside the front door. The buzzer activates a two-way speaker and camera system. The Office will then be able to determine who is at the door, by observing on a video monitor. This will enable better regulation of visitor access to the school.

The following are also part of our school safety protocol:

All outside doors are locked and entry can be gained only through the front door.

All visitors, including parents/guardians must sign in at the office and wear a Visitor's badge.

Access during lunch time may be delayed depending on the availability of staff who are required to monitor the new system.

No students will be permitted to monitor the system.

The co-operation and understanding of parents/guardians will be an important factor in the success of our new protocol. In this regard, parents/guardians are encouraged to:

1. Arrive at school on time to allow children to enter with their classmates to avoid front entry lates and ringing of bell during prayers, O Canada and morning announcements (announcements will take place at 8:35am)
2. Send lunch with your child in the morning to limit traffic in through the front door at lunch time.
3. We respectfully request that you limit your visits to the school during the daytime in order to protect the instructional time and reduce interruptions.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation as we continue to implement the access protocol. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the office.



## AGENDAS

## PHOTO DAY

Photo day is Thursday,  
October 10, 2024

Retakes: Nov. 8th

DON'T FORGET YOUR SMILES!!!



## LUNCH DAYS

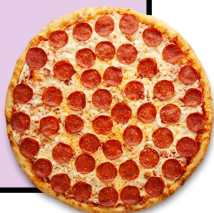
FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

PIZZA DAYS- Every Tuesday

TREAT DAYS- Coming Soon.....

Please complete order forms and submit to the office!!

ORDERS WILL BE SENT OUT AFTER  
THE REORGANIZATION DAY.



The St. Philip School Agenda is an important tool in helping students develop time management, organizational, and study skills. It also serves as a communication piece between the school and home. Thank you to families for supporting this initiative and devoting time to reviewing the agenda on a daily basis.

This year there will be no cost to parents for the agendas.

Students in grades 1-6 will receive agendas and students in gr. 7&8 will have access to digital agendas.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO CHECK YOUR CHILD'S AGENDA ON A DAILY BASIS FOR HOMEWORK AND NOTICES.



St. Grade	Philip Staff Member	List (Tentative)
JK/SK	M. D'Agunno(LTO– M. Nicdao)	
JK/SK	A. Coronado	
Grade 1	G. Grossi-Hrovat	
Grade 1/2	V. Brown / M. Porter	
Grade 2/3	V. deLemos	
Grade 4/5	V. Morgado	
Grade 5/6	T. Cox	
Grade 7/8	M. Cherepacha	
Grade 5/6EF	M. Iannucci (LTO T. Kapustynski)	
Grade 6/7EF	K. Parisotto	
Grade 7/8EF	L. Sasso	
SERC	D. Berlingieri	
FSL /Planning	G. Giannini (LTO TBD)	
SERT/ESL	S. daSilva	
Library/PT	R. Pilotti	
ERW	A. Stecka	
ERW	I Gudz	
ERW	N. Frangella	
DECE	I. Bettencourt	
Head Secretary	J. Corvari	
Head Custodian	S. Peczkowski	
Principal	S. Stesky / C. Boulanger	



## Catholic School Council

**PLEASE JOIN US!!!!**

Catholic School Council is an elected body that represents parents /school/ parish community in advising the principal and/or board on educational matters.

Parents who are interested in being on the Council should complete the Self-Nomination Form, available in the school office, and submit it to the office by **September 13, 2024@ 3:00pm.**

**WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE NEW PARENTS ATTEND!!**

If you would like a nomination form, please contact the school office and we would gladly send one home to you in your child's schoolbag.



## Dates to Remember

### September

3 First Day of Classes

16 PA Day (Reorganization Day)

13 School Council Nomination Forms due 3:00pm

13 (Tentative)Terry Fox Walk

Oct 10 Photo Day (Retakes November 8)



### CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The history of Catholic schools in Ontario since 1841 is one of dedication and perseverance in the face of financial hardship and adversity. Due to the commitment of the religious teaching orders, the bishops and priests, the teachers, parents, and students, our forebears have handed to us a great gift – a fully funded public Catholic school system.

The courts of Ontario and Canada have reinforced the rights of the Catholic school system with a number of judgments which affirmed the rights of separate school boards to:

- (a) have their guaranteed powers in the *Separate School Act* of 1863 improved,
- (b) receive equitable funding,
- (c) prefer Catholics when hiring elementary and secondary school teachers,
- (d) have their own buildings,
- (e) have an exclusive Catholic school community.

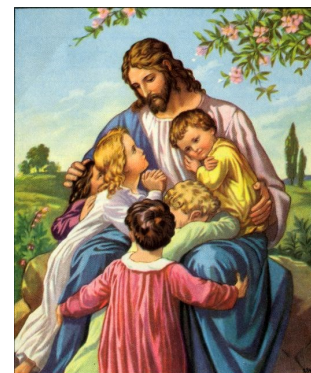
The integration of religious truths and values with life is one of the most significant elements that distinguish Catholic schools from other schools. This is a matter of crucial importance today in view of contemporary trends and pressures to compartmentalize life and learning and to isolate the religious dimension of existence from other areas of human life. The courts have recognized, over the years, that Catholic education is not a subject but rather a way to view the world that speaks to the interrelationship between faith, knowledge and action. The Catholic school is a unique setting within which this ideal can be realized in the lives of Catholic children and young people. In our Catholic schools this reality can and is lived out.

### STUDENT PACKAGES

Please complete and return any office forms included in the New School Year Student Package (Verification Sheet, Parent Consent forms, Physical Education forms, etc.) and return them to your child(ren)'s classroom teacher at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**MAY THE LORD BLESS ALL STUDENTS, STAFF AND MEMBERS OF THE ST. PHILIP SCHOOL COMMUNITY AS WE EMBARK ON THIS NEW SCHOOL YEAR.**



## POLICY ON PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board continues to acknowledge the value of the use of technology for learning. Therefore, students will be permitted to register and use personal electronic devices (PEDs) on board premises and/or at board sanctioned events for educational purposes, under the direction of staff and **only** with parent/guardian permission.

Consent forms regarding PED's and policy were signed and filed in the previous school years. If you would like to change your child's consent status please inform the teacher.

Please refer to the School Messenger email sent home by the Board for details regarding new Ministry regulations regarding PEDs.



## **PLEASE DO NOT STAND IN THE SCHOOL PLAY YARD BEFORE SCHOOL**

We kindly ask that parents remain off the pavement when dropping off their children in the morning.

The only adults on the pavement area should be the school staff or PLASP workers.

This request is made to ensure the safety of your children.

Thank you for understanding.



## **HEALTHY FOOD AND BEVERAGE POLICY**

The School Food and Beverage Policy contributes to improved education and health outcomes for all students. The School Food and Beverage Policy constitutes a comprehensive approach to the sale of food and beverages in schools province-wide. The implementation of this policy is another step in creating healthier schools in Ontario. It also reinforces the knowledge, skills, and attitudes regarding healthy eating that are developed through the various subjects and disciplines in the Ontario curriculum. For further information on the School Food and Beverage Policy, see Foundations for a Healthy School, at [www.ontario.ca/healthyschools](http://www.ontario.ca/healthyschools).

As part of our school's effort to promote healthy eating and to comply with the Ministry of Education's School Food and Beverage Policy, we will be working with students, parents, and the staff to improve the nutritional value of food and beverages for sale at our school. These changes will make it easier for students to choose healthy food and beverages and will help them practice what they learn in the classroom about healthy eating.



## **CUSTODY OF CHILDREN**

On rare occasions, we are faced with difficult situations in which non-custodial parents arrive at school asking to visit their child or to take their child home after school. We are best able to serve and protect students when we are made aware of legal custody arrangements, visitation rights and other special instructions. If legal custody matters affect your family, please ensure that our office and classroom teachers are aware of any custodial arrangements that may affect your child during school hours. Thank you for providing the school with your current arrangements.



PLASP operates Before and After School Programs for children up to 12 years of age, at St. Philip Catholic School.

Want to know more? See the PLASP staff at this school, or call the PLASP head office 905-890-1711, or visit their website at [www.plasp.com](http://www.plasp.com)

### Ideas for How You Can Help Your Child Get off to a Successful Start

The beginning of a new school year is the perfect time to set the stage for learning success. Here are some ideas that will help you get your child off to a great start:

- ☐ **Get a head start** by organizing the night before. You can review and sign the agenda, review forms, pack lunches, decide clothing to wear and place backpacks at the front door.
- ☐ **Establish consistent sleep routines** so that your child is rested for school in the morning.
- ☐ **Develop a morning routine.** When things are done in the same order each morning, they become automatic. For example: make bed, get dressed, brush teeth, and put on shoes.
- ☐ **Choose a consistent homework time and place.** Choose a time when your child will have energy and motivation to do school work. Creating a quiet spot with the necessary materials that are used at the same time each evening for homework helps develop good habits.
- ☐ **Encourage and support the use of the student agenda each day.** Taking time to review it, discuss it and sign it each night will keep you informed and assist your child in developing a lifelong organizational skill.
- ☐ **Set priorities.** Scheduling things like homework, family meals and free time on a calendar help organize time. Treat these times like appointments that must be kept



### NO DOGS PERMITTED ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

We would like to remind all dog owners to avoid bringing their pets on to school property. There are many students with allergies to animals as well as children who are afraid of dogs.

Thank you for your cooperation and support. We want to ensure that all our students feel safe in every respect when they come to school!



### ONCE AGAIN, WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!

IT IS GOING TO BE A FANTASTIC YEAR FILLED WITH CELEBRATIONS OF OUR FAITH, ACADEMIC SUCCESSES AND LOTS OF LAUGHTER.

LET'S MAKE ST. PHILIP SCHOOL A GREAT PLACE TO WORK, PLAY, AND PRAY!



Mrs. Boulanger