



The SFA Sizzler

Living Our Vision Everyday - December 2024 Newsletter



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Principal: R. Commisso

Vice Principal: T. Cameron

Head Secretary: T. Van Stokkum

Superintendent of Education - Mississauga South: D. Radic - (905-890-1221)

Catholic School Trustee - Wards 2 and 8: Herman Vioria - (905-890-1221)

St. Francis of Assisi School

2480 Thorn Lodge Drive, Mississauga, ON L5K 1K5

905-822-3183 www.dpcdsb.org/ASSIS

X (formerly Twitter) @DpAssisi

Email: St.FrancisofAssisiInfo@dpcdsb.org



St. Francis of Assisi Parish

2473 Thorn Lodge Drive
Mississauga, ON

Tel: (905) 822-8132

Fax: (905) 822-6620

<https://stfrancisofassisimi.archtoronto.org>

Pastor: Rev. Damian Ali

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM (English)

Sunday: 8:30 AM (English)

Please refer to the [Parish's events page](#) for upcoming community gatherings.

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Please check our [school website](#) for information about our Catholic School Council.

For any school council related inquiries or to propose agenda items, please send an email to:
assiscscinfo@educ.dpcdsb.org.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEE

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board

40 Matheson Boulevard West, Mississauga, ON L5R 1C5 | 905-890-1221

HERMAN VILORIA
TRUSTEE, MISSISSAUGA WARDS 2 & 8



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

What's Coming Up

Check back here frequently for updates!

Nov 30 Parent/Guardian Confirmation Meeting at Parish @ 11:00 am

Dec 1 🕯️ First Sunday of Advent: Hope

Dec 5 Poinsetta fundraiser delivery/ pickup from 3:00 - 6:00 pm 🌿

Dec 5 [Christmas Community](#) Engagement Event: hosted by DPCDSB's Black Community Advisory Council

Dec 6 Advent Mass @1:00 pm

Dec 8 🕯️ 🕯️ Second Sunday of Advent: Love 💖

Dec 10 Advent/Lenten Confessions 10:15am -11:30am (Gr 3 & 5) & 12:30pm – 2:30pm (Grade 8)

Dec 11 SFA's Christmas Mingle & Jingle: Hold the date / more information to follow

Dec 13 Rosary Apostolate 🙏

Dec 15 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ Third Sunday of Advent: Joy

Dec 16-20 Spirit Week (scroll to the heading below "Christmas at SFA" for details)

Dec 19 Movie Day - The Grinch 🎬 🍿

Dec 22 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ Fourth Sunday of Advent: Peace 🕊️

Dec 23 Christmas Holidays begin

Jan 6 School resumes after Christmas holiday

Jan 16 Catholic School Council Meeting in Library @ 6pm

Jan 17 Rosary Apostolate AM 🙏

Jan 20 PA Day: Term 1 Assessment and Evaluation of Pupil Progress

Feb 11 Term 1 Report Cards sent home digitally

Feb 13 Interview Evening

Feb 14 PA Day: Interview Day



Feb 17 Family Day (no School for Students)
Feb 21 Rosary Apostolate AM ☞
Mar 10-14 March Break
Mar 20 Grad Photos - Grade 8 and SK 📷
Mar 21 Rosary Apostolate ☞
Mar 26 Catholic School Council Meeting in Library @ 6pm
Apr 18 God Friday
Apr 21 Easter Monday
Apr 23 Easter Mass @1pm
Apr 24 Catholic School Council Meeting in Library @ 6pm
May 7 Dental screening FDK, Gr 2 🦷
May 15 Confession for Confirmandi @ 7pm
May 19 Victoria Day
May 29 Catholic School Council Meeting in Library @ 6pm
June 1 First Communion @ 4pm
June 6 Year End Mass @ 10:15 am
June 12 Holy Confirmation @ 7pm
June 27 Final day of school

Click for [DPCDSB Events](#)

🎄 CHRISTMAS AT SFA 🎄

Christmas Blessings To Our School Community

Dear Families,

As we approach the joyous celebration of Christmas, we would like to take a moment to extend our heartfelt blessings to each of you. In this season of love, hope, and peace, we are reminded of the gift of Christ's birth—the light that shines and brings joy to all. We are incredibly grateful for the vibrant, faith-filled community we have here at St. Francis of Assisi CES where our shared commitment to academic excellence is always rooted in love, compassion, and service to others. May this Christmas bring you the peace of Christ, the joy of family and friends, and the warmth of God's love that surrounds you always. We thank you for your continued dedication to our school and our mission, and we pray that the coming year is filled with grace, joy, and many blessings for all. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



In Christ's Love,
Rosanna Commisso & Tammie Cameron

Advent Mass

All are welcome to join our school community as we celebrate the Advent Season.

Date: December 6th

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: St. Francis of Assisi Parish



SFA'S Christmas Mingle & Jingle



Celebrate Christmas with SFA

Drop-in to any of the events below

***Pre-orders are required for the French Cafe**

Last day to order is Friday, December 6th, 2024 (see link below)
<https://dpcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/211690/146/False/True>

Activity	Location	Your Hosts
Christmas Just Dance 🎵	Room 208	Marasco/Figliola
Birth of Jesus Video/Colouring Nativity 🖍️	Room 206	Siemons/Agathos
Scholastic Book Fair 📖	Library	Timpson/McQueen
Ornament Making 🎄	Room 210	Zapasek/Nasato
Christmas Bingo 🎮	Room 103	Harty/Vasquez
Instagram Christmas 📱	Rooms 214-217	Intermediate Teachers Naughton/Toufeq/Lence/Da Silva
Gingerbread Craft 🍪	Rooms 111,112,113	Kinder team Wittemund/McLaughlin/Lewis/Ventura/Martinez
Christmas Karaoke 🎤	Room 108	Anthony/Savoia
French Cafe ☺️ <i>*Final day to order is Friday, December 6th/24</i>	Gym	Jaseliunas/Daly/Monte/Amoros
Craft Reindeer Pinecones 🦌	Room 104	Strk/Defina



Mingle and Jingle Drop-in Events 🎄🎵📖🎨

Please see the schedule for an outline of the family activities!

Download

1.5 MB

***Please note that the French Cafe requires pre-orders by Friday, December 6th!**

French Cafe Pre-order Link

Mitten Tree & Gift Card Drive



SFA'S Mitten Tree and Gift Card Donations Flyer 📄🔒

The Season of Giving

Download

691.6 KB

Alternative Gift Card Donation Method

In lieu of donating physical gift cards, families can opt to donate through School Cashonline. Instructions:

1. Access the link: <https://dpcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/4/146/false/true>
2. Under the "Honoree," indicate the name of child and
3. Under "Message," indicate "Christmas Gift Card."
4. Tax receipts are available through this donation method.

ShareLife Spirit Week

SFA Christmas Spirit Week *December 16 - December 20*

Monday December 16	Tuesday December 17	Wednesday December 18	Thursday December 19	Friday December 20
Winter Wonderland Day (Wear white, blue, silver, gold or sparkles) 	Christmas Hat / Silly Hair/ Hair Accessories Day  Proceeds from today's Tuck Shop will go to ShareLife	Advent Colours Day Wear Purple or Pink Bring a dollar donation for ShareLife 	Comfy Cozy Christmas Clothes  SFA Movie Day 	Christmas Sweater/Red and Green Day  

LUNCH OFFERINGS AT SFA 📍

📅 The list below includes a schedule of lunches previously purchased through SchoolCash Online for the weeks ahead. Please see below for details for December for those families who have purchased.

Weekly Schedule

- Tuesday: Subway 🍷
- Wednesday: Harvey's 🍔
- Thursday: Pizza 🍕
- Friday: Pita Pit

TUCK SHOP TUESDAYS 🍿🍪

Tuck
Shop

Calling all students!



Items will be for sale at lunch recess & will range from \$2.00 - \$5.00 / item. During Spirit Week, all proceeds will go towards ShareLife.

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: HOPE



In December, we celebrate the virtue of **Hope**.



Hope helps us to keep on working for a more peaceful world even when we feel discouraged.

Let us pray: God, you gave us the virtue of hope - God will be our strength in light in each day. As people who trust in the promise of God – to recognize and act according to what is good - through your son, Jesus. Amen.

A hopeful person is...

- inspired and inspires others
- optimistic
- one who seeks good things from life
- one who sees the good in the world

Moment of Reflection... *What kinds of things can you say to bring someone hope?*

PEOPLE OF HOPE...

- EXPECT THE BEST TO HAPPEN FOR EVERYONE
- HOLD ON TO THEIR DREAMS
- ALWAYS COUNT ON GOD TO HELP THEM IN TOUGH SITUATIONS
- TRUST THAT THINGS WILL WORK OUT IN GOD'S WAY
- LOOK FOR SOMETHING GOOD TO COME OUT OF PROBLEMS
- ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO LIFE'S BLESSINGS
- SET AND STICK TO THEIR OWN GOALS



HOPE



REMINDER: Prevalent Medical Conditions

All students with a *prevalent medical condition*: (Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Epilepsy), must complete a plan of care with the assistance of a physician. A plan of care is only required to be completed *one time and* when there are updates to the student's plan; including medication changes and protocol.

Students with any medication stored at school either in student backpacks or in the health room must complete the Authorization for Storage and Administration of Medications Form (GF 035) annually and submit it to the school office. Please see the attachment below.



GF035.pdf

Download

736.5 KB

Safe Arrivals - Reporting Student Absences 📞

There are **3 ways** to report your child's absence, late arrival or early departure:

1. Using the **Safe Arrival App** (download from Google or Apple Store)
2. Using the **SafeArrival website**, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home> .
3. Calling the toll-free number **1.844.435.3440** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

The above 3 options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

NOTE: For absences greater than five consecutive days, please call your child's school directly.

Remember to: Please report absences in advance using SafeArrival instead of sending notes or calling/emailing the school.

School Messenger

Morning Arrival 🕒

Students are welcome to arrive to school at **8:15 a.m.**

Please note that supervision is *not provided at the school prior to this time* in our school yards. To support student safety, students should not arrive before 8:15 a.m. Thanks for helping to keep our students safe!

Morning Attendance 🛎️🛎️

Thank you to our families for your support in establishing school routines. Your assistance in continuing to have children at school before 8:30am to begin their school day on time with their peers is appreciated and helps all children begin their day participating within the regular class routine.

Lunch Drop Off 🍞

Please ensure that your child arrives at school with all the items they need for the day. We realize that there will be occasions where students forget something at home. There will be a table located outside the office in the vestibule for the convenience of parents/guardians who are dropping off items so that entry to the office is not necessary.

Please label the item clearly with the CHILD'S NAME AND TEACHER.



If you plan on bringing your child's lunch in the morning, let your children know that you will be leaving the lunch on the table in the vestibule.

Please note, that in accordance with our safety protocols, we do not allow unknown individuals to drop off lunches. This includes UberEats, Skip the Dishes, or any other delivery. Thank you for your support and cooperation in this matter.

Outdoor Clothing 🧣🧥

As winter weather sets in, we would ask that students come to school prepared for recesses and time spent outdoors. Students should be equipped with warm layers, including jackets, hats, gloves, scarves, and winter boots to stay comfortable and safe during outdoor playtime. Please ensure that all clothing is labelled with your child(ren)'s name(s) to help students to organize their belongings. Backup socks and mittens can help to maintain students' comfort level throughout the school day.



If your family needs provisional assistance of winter gear, don't hesitate to reach out to the office. Let's keep everyone warm and active this winter season!

Indoor Shoes & School Footwear

Student safety is a priority at SFA.

Students **are required** to wear running shoes during physical education classes, active outdoor play or participation in sports at recess. At no time should students be barefoot, in sock feet or wearing Crocs to participate in sports or physical games/activities at recess. Crocs may be worn as indoor shoes but students **must bring** an alternative to participate in physical education.

All students should have indoor shoes during the winter months to keep our classrooms clean and dry.



WINTER WEATHER

2024-2025 Weather Related Bus Cancellations/System Closures Information

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL FUNDRAISER INFORMATION

Dominos Pizza Special Takeout Fundraiser

Your Catholic School Council (CSC) and Domino's have joined together to make dinners easier! Starting **Tuesday, December 3**, families can order one of three different specials for takeout or delivery and Domino's will give back \$5 from every order to our school!

This fundraiser will run every other Tuesday, so be sure to check out the SFA School Council Instagram for updates. Please see the flyer information below for more details!



DECEMBER 17, 2024

FAMILY PIZZA NIGHT

ORDER ANY OF THE SPECIALS BELOW AND **\$5 FROM EVERY ORDER**
WILL BE DONATED TO ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OFFER A:

1 LARGE
2-TOPPING PIZZA

\$11.99*

Offer code: SF1

OFFER B:

2 LARGE
2-TOPPING PIZZAS

\$22.99*

Offer code: SF2

OFFER C:

3 LARGE
2-TOPPING PIZZAS

\$33.99*

Offer code: SF3

Valid at 3405 Glen Erin Dr, Unit 3, Mississauga, ON
(905) 569-9900

Cals 180 - 220 per slice.

Valid for carryout and delivery. Delivery area is limited. Delivery charges apply.

While supplies last. Extra toppings available at an extra charge.

Not valid with any other offers or specials. Valid online and in-store.

**LOCALLY OWNED
• AND OPERATED •**



JANUARY 14, 2025

FAMILY PIZZA NIGHT

ORDER ANY OF THE SPECIALS BELOW AND **\$5 FROM EVERY ORDER**
WILL BE DONATED TO ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OFFER A:

1 LARGE
2-TOPPING PIZZA

\$11.99*

Offer code: SF1

OFFER B:

2 LARGE
2-TOPPING PIZZAS

\$22.99*

Offer code: SF2

OFFER C:

3 LARGE
2-TOPPING PIZZAS

\$33.99*

Offer code: SF3

Valid at 3405 Glen Erin Dr, Unit 3, Mississauga, ON
(905) 569-9900

Cals 180 - 220 per slice.

Valid for carryout and delivery. Delivery area is limited. Delivery charges apply.

While supplies last. Extra toppings available at an extra charge.

Not valid with any other offers or specials. Valid online and in-store.

**LOCALLY OWNED
• AND OPERATED •**



JANUARY 28, 2025

FAMILY PIZZA NIGHT

ORDER ANY OF THE SPECIALS BELOW AND **\$5 FROM EVERY ORDER**
WILL BE DONATED TO ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OFFER A:

1 LARGE
2-TOPPING PIZZA

\$11.99*

Offer code: SF1

OFFER B:

2 LARGE
2-TOPPING PIZZAS

\$22.99*

Offer code: SF2

OFFER C:

3 LARGE
2-TOPPING PIZZAS

\$33.99*

Offer code: SF3

Valid at 3405 Glen Erin Dr, Unit 3, Mississauga, ON
(905) 569-9900

Cals 180 - 220 per slice.
Valid for carryout and delivery. Delivery area is limited. Delivery charges apply.
While supplies last. Extra toppings available at an extra charge.
Not valid with any other offers or specials. Valid online and in-store.

**LOCALLY OWNED
AND OPERATED**

SFA's Christmas Poinsetta Fundraiser

🌿 Christmas is just around the corner, and what better way to celebrate than by brightening your home with beautiful poinsettias, while supporting our school's fundraising efforts!

This year, SFA's Catholic School Council is excited to offer stunning poinsettias in a variety of colours. Each purchase will help to fund materials and activities for SFA students.

Orders are being accepted until November 15th and flowers will be available for pickup after school on December 5th, 2024.

Spread the cheer and support our school—order your poinsettias today! For ordering details, please see the attached flyer.



Poinsetta Fundraiser Flyer.pdf

Flyer information and order Form

[Download](#)

24.2 MB



Eco News 🌳🌲🍃

"Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs"

–Canticle of the Creatures, St. Francis of Assisi

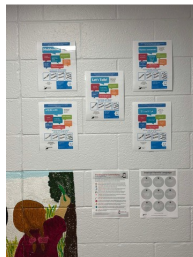
Promoting Wellness at SFA 👍

Our Bully-Free Pledges at SFA - Wellness Team

As part of the Wellness Team's ongoing commitment to fostering a positive and inclusive school environment, intermediate leaders have worked together to create an informative and educational week on Bullying Prevention and Awareness. Students have actively shared information on the announcements regarding anti-bullying practices and the importance of being an upstander. As a school, classes took part in an initiative titled, "Our Bully-Free Pledges" which encouraged students to co-create promises that they will hold each other accountable for as we all strive to create a safe and positive learning environment here at St. Francis of Assisi CES.



Anti-Bullying Bulletin Board



Anti-Bullying Posters



FALL TEAM UPDATES 🔥🏐🔥

Jr Girls' Volleyball

It was a short but fun season, winning top in our POD tournament and making it to the Family Tournament at IONA! Although we lost in pool play, the athletes played with heart, determination and enjoyed the experience throughout the games! Congratulations to Nya H., Karina K., Paige M., Ava P., Scarlett S., Leah B., Angelina C., Gabriella L., and Annika S.

Coaches: Mrs. Wittemund and Mrs. Figliola

Cross Country Team

Congratulations to all runners who participated in the Family Cross Country Meet in October. A special congratulations to our Grade 7 Girls' Team who won our Family of Schools Championship and brought home a banner to celebrate their tremendous win! Way to go Charlotte, Madeline, Sydney, Joanna, Elizabeth!!

Coaches: Mrs. McQueen, Mrs. Savoia and Mrs. Figliola



Intermediate Girls' Volleyball Team

The Intermediate Girls' Volleyball Team have had an amazing season! The team won the Mississauga Pod Tournament hosted at our school on November 26th. The girls advanced to the Family Tournament on December 3rd at St. Pauls' CSS and brought home the win and are now the Mississauga South Champions! The athletes advance to the Board Tournament on December 13th at St. Marguerite d'Youville CSS! Way to go Flames, SFA is super proud!

Coaches: Mr. Naughton and Ms. Toufeq



COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE 🙏

Board Games Wanted! 🎲 🎯

As we transition to colder seasons, our classes would like to prepare for potential recesses spent indoors. Donations of gently used board and card games for our students to play during indoor inclement weather recess are appreciated. If you have any games you would like to donate, please send them to the main office.



DPCDSB's EVENTS & REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Online Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year👉

Parents and Guardians can register for the 2025-2026 school year by completing the online Application Form and emailing supporting documents to the school.

Please refer to DPCDSB's [Registration](#) webpage for further information and instructional videos to support the online registration.

Entry Planning Evening For Students With Differing Abilities

Please see the attached flyer below for both in-person and virtual participation options.

Flyer & Registration Information

Gifted Identification Information Session

This session is open to all families who are interested in learning more about the Gifted Identification Process in DPCDSB. Please see the flyer regarding registration for the virtual session.

Registration Information for Virtual Session

Information For Secondary School Programs 🕒

See the link below to DPCDSB's webpage for information for Secondary School programs.

DPCDSB Secondary School Information Sessions Webpage

The Black Community Advisory Council's Second Annual Christmas Event

The Black Community Advisory Council is hosting its second annual Christmas event. Families and community members are invited to join us for crafts, treats and a read-aloud with local author Yolanda T. Marshall. Join us as we gather in community in the joy of the season. This event is open to all families within the DPCDSB Community.

Date: Thursday, December 5, 2024

Location: Cardinal Leger Secondary School

75 Mary Street, Brampton

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Registration: Due to capacity limits, we kindly invite all families to register no later than **Saturday, November 30, 2024** on the Google Form linked [here](#).

Digital Flyer: The flyer linked [here](#) can be shared with all DPCDSB families.

UPDATES FROM COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Transportation News for December 🚌



Only SFA students who are eligible for transportation may ride the bus to and from school.

Students are reminded to follow the Catholic Code of Conduct while riding the bus. All students must follow the expectations of the bus driver to maintain a safe experience for all students.

Any families eligible for bussing however will not be accessing transportation this year are asked to "opt out" via the STOPR website, this includes students with special education needs. This action will make available courtesy ridership for families where possible.

STOPR website and X (twitter) information:

STOPR encourages all parents to check out their website at stopr.ca for transportation procedures and eligibility policies & to follow them on X [@STOPRinfo](https://twitter.com/STOPRinfo) to receive important updates.

A Message From Peel Region: December 2024 Information



December 2024 School Health E-Blast

from Peel Public Health

Pertussis and Vaccination Reminder

There is an increase in pertussis (whooping cough) cases in Peel and Ontario. Parents and guardians should ensure that children are [up to date](#) with pertussis vaccination and all other vaccinations required for school.

For more information, please visit [Pertussis \(Whooping Cough\)](#).

Ho-Ho-Holiday Fun: Get Active and Beat Screen Time!

As we head into the holiday season, it's a good time to keep our children's online safety and health in mind.

25% of youth aged 12 to 17 reported being cyberbullied in the past year.

Cyberbullying has been linked to increased stress, lower self-esteem, and mental health challenges.

Having open discussions can help children navigate online experiences safely.

Setting limits to screen time and rules helps build healthy habits for the future. For your child's safety, look for apps that provide parental controls which can help block sites and enforce time limits.

Fun and Easy Activities for the Holidays:

Planning fun activities with your child can promote mental and physical well-being. This may include:

- Building a snowman or snow angels
- Going skiing or skating
- Family game night (puzzles, board games)

Tips for Healthier Holidays

Food plays a significant role during the holidays for many families. It can also provide an opportunity to enjoy a variety of foods, eat with others, practice food skills, and learn about cultures and food traditions. Here are some tips to make the holidays be both fun and healthier:

- 1. Include vegetables and fruits** when offering foods at celebrations and events, [Canada's Food Guide](#) recommends making half your plate vegetables and fruit. Try preparing or adding fresh, frozen, or canned vegetables and fruits with festive colours to the meal.
- 2. Serve water** instead of other drinks such as juice or pop that contain sugar at your celebrations. Try offering holiday inspired [infused](#) water with a cinnamon stick and chopped apple or pear and a drop of vanilla extract.
- 3. Enjoying your food** is an important part of healthy eating. Ways to enjoy your food can be through eating with others while sharing stories and adding a festive touch to your eating environment. Practicing [mindful eating](#) and using your senses can also help appreciate your meal.
- 4. Encourage cooking together** as the holidays can be a time where families can share and learn food skills, cultures, or traditions. Including children in food preparation can help them learn family recipes and try new foods. For more ideas on how to involve children visit: [Cooking with Kids of Different Ages](#).

Contact Us Peel Public Health – School Health Inbox

IMPORTANT INFORMATION & LINKS

Password Re-set Tool

You can now reset your password remotely by registering for the Password Reset Tool. You must know your old password to create a new one.

To reset your password remotely you must first register with the “Password Reset Tool”, which you can do by following one of these two steps:

Students: students.dpcdsb.org and select Password Reset

Staff: <https://account.activedirectory.windowsazure.com/PasswordReset/Register.aspx>

**Access to personal email/cell phone is required for registration.

Once you are registered, please follow the [Password Reset Instruction](#)

EQAO Results 2023-2024

Parent/Guardian access to Grade 3 and 6 EQAO results are now available.
Select the link below to access.

Parent/Guardian Access to Grades 3 and 6 EQAO Results 2023-2024



Thrive in Community - December 2024

The Thrive Newsletter is a monthly newsletter that has been created by The DPCDSB Mental Health and Well-Being Team

[Download](#)
5.6 MB

School Messenger

School Cashonline

2024-2025 School Year Calendar

DPCDSB Community Information Bulletin Webpage

Translate the SFA Sizzler



Don't forget to click on the Translate button on the top of this page to choose your language of preference. (Arabic, Spanish, Hausa, Portuguese, Tagalog, Polish, Italian, Hindi, etc.)



Rosanna Commisso

Rosanna is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

