







Our Administrative Team and School Address

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 Viloria - (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

Our Parish

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)

Our Catholic School Council

Please check our <u>school website</u> for information about our Catholic School Council. For any school council related inquiries or to propose agenda items, please send an email to: <u>assiscscinfo@educ.dpcdsb.org</u>.

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 17

What's Coming Up ৯

Check back here frequently for updates!

Nov 4 Poinsetta Fundraiser purchase opens

Nov 5-11 Treaties Recognition Week

Nov 6 The 2024 Black Excellence Professionals Expo at Notre

Dame CSS

Nov 7 Photo Retake Day &

Nov 7 Bus Evacuation Safety Presentations FDK - Gr 3 📟

Nov 8 Rosary Apostolate

Nov 8 Indigenous Veterans Day

Nov 11 Remembrance Day Liturgy

Nov 12 Progress Reports Sent Home

Nov 12 Grade 7 Vaccination Clinic in Room 101 @ 1pm

 (please return consent letters to classroom teachers by <u>November 1, 2024</u> indicating consent/no consent)

Nov 14 Progress Reports Interview Evening

Nov 15 Poinsetta Fundraiser orders due

Nov 19 -22 Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

Nov 19 Christmas Photos With Santa Evening (see registration information below through the Catholic School Council)

Nov 20 Christmas Photos With Santa Evening (see registration information below through the Catholic School Council)

Nov 22 PA Day

Nov 23 First Reconciliation For Registered Students

Nov 25 Holy Confirmation registration is due to the Parish

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

Dec 5 <u>Christmas Community</u> Engagement Event: hosted by DPCDSB's Black Community Advisory Council

Dec 6 Advent Mass @1:00 pm

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 16-20 Spirit Week (info coming soon)

Dec 19 Movie Day - The Grinch @ @

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

Feb 14 Interview Evening

Feb 21 Rosary Apostolate AM @



Mar 20 Grad Photos - Grade 8 and SK &

Mar 21 Rosary Apostolate 3

Mar 26 Catholic School Council Meeting in Library @ 6pm

Apr 23 Easter Mass @1pm

Apr 23 Catholic School Council Meeting in Library @ 6pm

May 7 Dental screening FDK, Gr 2 ™

May 15 Confession for Confirmandi @ 7pm

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

Click for DPCDSB Events

CHRISTMAS AT SFA 🎄

SFA'S Christmas Mingle & Jingle





Mitten Tree & Gift Card Drive





SFA'S Mitten Tree and Gift Card Donations Flyer 雷伽參

The Season of Giving

Download 691.6 KB

Christmas 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	Advent Colours Day Wear Purple or Pink Bring a dollar donation for ShareLife	Comfy Cozy Christmas Clothes	Christmas Sweater/Red and Green Day
	Proceeds from today's Tuck Shop will go to ShareLife		SFA Movie Day	

Lunch Offerings at SFA 🖜

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

Weekly Schedule

- Friday, November 1: Pita Pit
- Tuesday, November 5: Subway 🖨
- Wednesday, November 6: Harvey's 🕮
- Thursday, November 7: Pizza 🔊
- Friday, November 8: Pita Pit
- Wednesday, November 13: Harvey's
- Thursday, November 14: Pizza 🔊
- Friday, November 15: Pita Pit
- Tuesday, November 19: Subway =
- Wednesday, November 20: Harvey's
- Thursday, November 21: Pizza 🔊
- Friday, November 22: Pita Pit
- Tuesday, November 26: Subway 🖨
- Wednesday, November 27: Harvey's ##
- 🔹 Thursday, November 28: Pizza 🥬
- Friday, November 29: Pita Pit

Tuck Shop Tuesdays!



Calling all students!

The Tuck Shop has returned to SFA this school year! ☺ ∰ Items will be for sale at lunch recess. Items will range from \$2.00 - \$5.00.

Virtue of the Month: Conscience

In November, we celebrate the virtue of *Conscience*. *Conscience* speaks to God's desire to help us to choose to be good people.

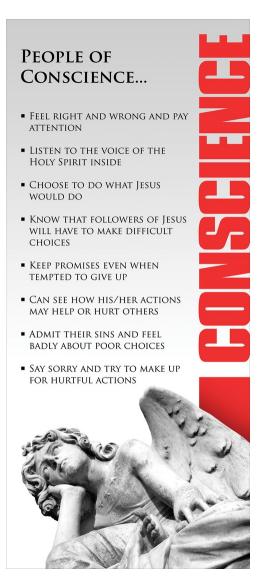


Let us pray ... for the grace and strength to be people of conscience-people who know the good and decent way to act and then choose to act that way.

A person of conscience...

- chooses to do the right thing, even when it is hard
- takes time to think and pray before making decisions
- knows that their actions and decisions affect all those around them
- thinks of others before themselves

Moment of Reflection... Can you think of a time when you struggled to make the right decision?



SCHOOL PROCESS INFORMATION 👀 🖜

Safe Arrivals - Reporting Student Absences 📞

There are <u>3 ways</u> 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 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.

Outdoor Clothing 2 1

As cooler weather continues to unfold, we would ask that students come to school prepared for recesses and time spent outdoors. Layered clothing (which may include sweaters, jackets, hats and gloves) is recommended so that students can adjust to daily temperatures. Please ensure that all clothing is labelled with your child(ren)'s name(s) to help students to organize their belongings.



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.

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.



DIGITAL REPORT CARD DELIVERY INFORMATION

As we approach the distribution of Progress Reports, please note that there will be an important change in how student Report Cards are shared. Beginning with the upcoming Progress Report on November 12th, SFA will be transitioning to an electronic delivery system. This means that your child's Report Cards will be sent directly to your child's registered DPCDSB student email account. This new process aims to provide families with quicker and more convenient access to your child's academic updates.

Families will receive a follow-up email from the school which will include instructions on how to access the report cards ONCE they have been sent digitally.

If you have any questions or require further assistance regarding the electronic delivery of progress reports, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or our school office at st.francisofassisiinfo@dpcdsb.org. Instructions can be located on the school's website.

Your cooperation and understanding are appreciated as we implement this new electronic delivery system.

WINTER WEATHER

2024-2025 Weather Related Bus Cancellations/System Closures Information

EVENT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

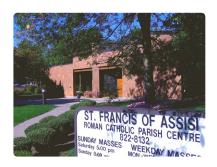
Sacramental Preparation 1



Registration for First Communion and Confirmation Preparation at St. Francis of Assisi Parish is now open. Please see the links below to register for important parent/guardian meetings.

First Communion registration was due by October 16th.

Holy Confirmation registration is due by November 25th.



First Communion Registration Link

Confirmation Registration Link

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 <u>Registration</u> webpage for further information and instructional videos to support the online registration.

The 2024 Black Excellence Professionals Expo

The Black Excellence Success Team (B.E.S.T) is hosting the 3rd annual Black Excellence Professionals Expo on **Wednesday**, **November 6**, **2024**, **at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary** School in Brampton, Ontario. Doors will be open to students, parents and guardians, and community members at 6:00 p.m. The Expo is an opportunity for Black students to meet Black professionals and mentors in a career-fair atmosphere. Students and families are invited to attend this event, which aims to build community and provide students with an opportunity to talk to professionals from a variety of fields. The evening will include Black professionals from various industries, a keynote speaker, interactive photo booths, a DJ and so much more.

Invitation: Please view the guest invitation.

Registration: Register at this <u>link</u>

All students and families are welcome. All guests are required to register to enter.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL FUNDRAISER INFORMATION

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 poinsettas 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

CashOnline Ordering Link

Christmas Photos With Santa 🚳 🎄

The SFA School Council is hosting an opportunity to capture Christmas Photos with Santa! Please see the event information and the details in the flyer below.

When: Tuesday, November 19th and Wednesday, November 20th

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Location: St. Francis of Assisi CES, Room 101

To register, please select your preferred date and click on the link below to register.

Tuesday November 19th

https://the-wedding-hive.studio.cloudspot.io/booking/v/be_xroUqpXkWhX6pyzzR9TVmy6cZdA Wednesday November 20th

https://the-wedding-hive.studio.cloudspot.io/booking/v/be_2NdsyrgUH7PNSweFDGXaz5KAi8UJ



SCHOOL CLUB UPDATES



Battery Blitz

From Sept 30, 2024 to October 31, 2024, St. Francis of Assisi CES Eco Team partnered with Earth Rangers and Recycle Your Batteries, Canada! to run a Battery Blitz!

During our Battery Blitz, students were able to collect and recycle used batteries. This was a very successful mission and students were able to fill several collection boxes at school to support our stewarship of the environment. As a School, we collected 362 kg/800 lbs of batteries! Way to go SFA!



"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"

Waste-Free Lunch Initiative

The Eco Team is excited to launch their Waste-Free Lunch initiative in November! We encourage everyone to pack a lunch that minimizes waste.

A waste-free lunch can include reusable food and drink containers, washable cutlery, and cloth napkins instead of prepackaged items

like single-use plastic bags, juice boxes, paper napkins, aluminum foil, and disposable utensils. By going waste-free, you're helping reduce the environmental impact caused by the transportation, production, and disposal of packaging.

Let's work together to tackle the first of the 5 Rs: reducing waste at our school! Thank you for your support!

Take Me Outside Day!

On October 23rd, our school celebrated "Take Me Outside Day!" Students had a fantastic time engaging in a variety of outdoor activities. They created beautiful nature mandalas, built simple machines using natural materials, constructed structures with sticks, and enjoyed cooperative gym games outside.



Take Me Outside is a wonderful non-profit organization that promotes nature connection and outdoor learning in schools across North America. They envision a future where every student spends time outside playing, exploring, and learning every day. Thank you for supporting our efforts to connect with nature!





The Wellness Team at SFA is committed to helping staff and students thrive each day. Student leaders have applied valuable knowledge from September's conference and have been working hard to create announcements focused on mindfulness ("Mindful Monday") and wellness ("Wellness Wednesday") each week.

From meditation exercises to prayers of gratitude, students have been practicing different habits that can help develop a positive sense of self.

Around the school, displays have been updated to highlight emotional regulation and self-care tips! The Wellness Team looks forward to sharing some exciting initiatives throughout the school year.



Self Care Checklist



Student Wellness TeamSFA's Student Wellness Team

Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week

During this week, messages created by the Wellness Committee have been shared over the announcements regarding bullying awareness and prevention. Ms. Caroleo, our school's Child Youth Worker will be engaging students with information about Cyberbullying during class-based presentations.

Fall Food Drive

Thank you to SFA's Youth Faith Ambassadors (YFA) for organizing the Fall Food Drive initiative. Thank you to our school community for the donations received and for supporting the Eden Food Bank. Your ongoing generosity is appreciated.

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.



INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR SCHOOL PROGRAMS (**)



DPCDSB Secondary School Information Sessions Webpage

DPCDSB's 2025-2026 French Immersion Program Virtual **Information Sessions**

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) will hold two virtual public information meetings for parents and guardians interested in enrolling their child(ren) in the board's Grade 1 French Immersion Program for the 2025-2026 school year.



The information sessions will provide parents and guardians with the following:

- · an overview of the French Immersion Program,
- · criteria for admission.
- · information about the online application process,
- · information about the random selection process (should the number of applications exceed the number of spaces available).

DPCDSB currently offers the Grade 1 French Immersion Program at eight school sites. Students registered in this Grade 1 program will spend 90% of their year learning in the French language. All subjects and activities in the French Immersion classroom, except for Religion and Family Life, will be delivered in French. In Grades 2 and 3, 70% of the instruction will be in French, with the proportion of English increasing to 50% in later years. This means that after at least 3,800 hours of French instruction by the end of Grade 8, students will be able to participate adequately in French conversations and develop intercultural awareness of French-speaking communities.

Virtual information sessions for parents/guardians will be held on two different evenings based on region of interest. We ask that parents/guardians attend *only one* of the following online sessions:

BRAMPTON & MISSISSAUGA

Our Lady of Providence C.E.S.

St. Angela Merici C.E.S.

St. Joachim C.E.S.

St. Pio of Pietrelcina C.E.S.

Monday October 28, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Join the meeting now

MISSISSAUGA

All Saints C.E.S.

Divine Mercy C.E.S.

St. Elizabeth Seton C.E.S.

St. Gregory C.E.S.

Wednesday, October 30, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Join the meeting now

Note about Microsoft Teams: For optimal access, use a computer device (desktop, laptop or Chromebook) or use the Microsoft Teams App.

Extended French Programs

Grade 4 parents/guardians who wish to learn more about Extended French or wish to enroll their child in a Grade 5 Extended French program for September 2025, are invited to attend an the following virtual parent evening session:

Virtual Extended French Information

Thursday, November 7, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Live Meeting #2 Link

Currently, the extended French Program is housed at St. Christopher CES for Mississauga South. Additional information is included in the flyer and attachments below. $\cap{4}$



EF Promotional Poster 2025-2026.pdf

Download

3.6 MB



EF Parent Guardian Information Letter 2025-2026.pdf

Download

545.6 KB

St. Martin CSS Grade 8 Open House & Regional Sport Program Info Session



Join the St. Martin CSS event to learn more about the programs, meet some of teachers & coaches, and tour the school building! More events are included on the flyer.

Event Flyer

DPCDSB EVENTS

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 <u>here</u> can be shared will all DPCDSB families.

CCCSC Parent Engagement Night

Please see the link below for event information.



CCCSC Parent Engagement Night CAS November 21.pdf

Please see flyer link for information regarding this virtual session.

Download 57.6 KB

UPDATES FROM COMMUNITY PARTNERS >>

Transportation News for November 🚐



Only SFA students who are eligibile 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 <u>stopr.ca</u> for transportation procedures and eligibility policies & to follow them on X <u>@STOPRinfo</u> to receive important updates.

A Message From Peel Region: November 2024 Information

National Addictions Awareness Week: November 24-30, 2024.

Peel Public Health recommends the below resources for parents and educators who are talking to youth about drugs:

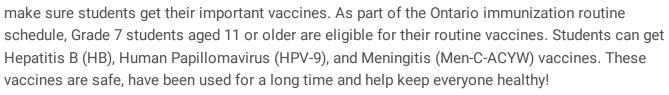
- <u>Conversations matter: Things you should know when talking to youth about substance use</u> (CAMH)
- Talking about drugs and alcohol (Government of Canada)
- Communicating about substance in compassionate, safe and non-stigmatizing ways (Government of Canada)
- Drug Free Kids Canada

The theme for NAAW this year is Forging Connections. By coming together, we can improve the lives of people who use substances.

Routine Vaccines for Students in Grades 7 - November 12th

Routine Vaccines for Students in Grades 7-12 - It Takes a Village

Every year, Peel Public Health teams up with schools and parents to



Vaccinations: A Shared Responsibility

Starting in the fall, vaccination clinics will be set up in schools to help students stay on track and get these vaccines for free The goal is to make sure all students get their vaccines before they complete Grade 8.

For Parents: Keeping Your Child Healthy



If your child is in Grade 7 or 8, check with their school to see when vaccine clinics are happening. You will also get an immunization **fact sheet and a paper consent form to sign.**

For parents of high school students, it's not too late! If your child missed these vaccines in elementary school, they could receive them for free. You can book an appointment at one of <u>Peel's community immunization clinics</u>. Remember, students 16 years or older must give their own consent for vaccines.

Want More Information?

For more details about the vaccines, visit the <u>Peel Public Health website</u> or at 905-799-7700. By working together, we can keep our students healthy and build a stronger community through vaccines.

Tips for Managing Screentime

Did you know?

Too much screen time increases your child's risk of becoming:

- Sleep-deprived
- Less school-ready
- Inattentive
- Aggressive
- Nearsighted (when objects farther away look blurry)

Tips for Managing Screentime:

- Encourage and participate in face-to-face interactions such as shared reading, outdoor play, board games, and crafts
- Turn off screens when not in use and avoid background TV use
- Model screen time use around children and minimize your own use during mealtimes and play

Reminder: All children 19 years of age or younger are eligible for an OHIP-covered eye exam by an optometrist each year.

Dental Screening At School

Peel Public Health provides free dental screening for kids in Peel elementary schools. What is a dental screening?

- A dental screening is a quick look in the child's mouth by a registered dental hygienist using a no-touch technique.
- · dental hygienist using a no-touch technique.
- A separate, sterilized mouth mirror is used for each child.
- A dental screening identifies children who may need dental care.

What happens after a school dental screening?

- A form with the results of the dental screening will go home with every child screened.
- If a child is identified with a dental condition requiring immediate dental treatment, an additional form will be attached for parents to fill in and return to Peel Public Health. Please read the form(s) carefully.

A dental screening can help increase access to free dental services for eligible children. Visit <u>peelregion.ca/dental</u> or call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700 to learn more.





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

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

