



🔥 THE SFA SIZZLER 🔥

Living our Vision Everyday -- September 2024

Check back for ongoing updates this month!

What's Coming Up at SFA

Check back here frequently for updates!

Sep 2 Labour Day
Sep 3 First Day of School
Sep 16 PA Day - Reorganization
Sep 18 Catholic School Council Meeting @ 6 pm in library
Sep 19 Well-Being Leadership Training for Int. Students – Blessed Trinity
Sep 25 BBQ and Open House – 5-7
Sep 26 Fall Photo Day - Individual, Class
Sep 27 Terry Fox Marathon of Hope
Sep 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Orange Shirt Day
Oct 4 Welcome Mass @ 1:00 p.m.
Oct 4 St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day
Nov 7 Photo Retake Day
Nov 12 Progress Reports Sent Home
Nov 23 First Reconciliation @ 11:00 a.m.
Dec 19 Movie Day - The Grinch
Mar 20 Photos - Grade 8 and SK



Click for [DPCDSB Events](#)

Our Team and Our Address



Meet our Team!

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 Vilorio -- (905-890-1221)

St Francis of Assisi School

2480 Thorn Lodge Drive, Mississauga, ON L5K 1K5

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

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://stfrancisofassisiarchdioceseoftoronto.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 [school website](http://www.dpcdsb.org/schoolwebsite) 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.

Virtue of the Month: Faith

In September, we celebrate the virtue of Faith.

Faith is the great virtue of believing in God and trusting that God is with us.



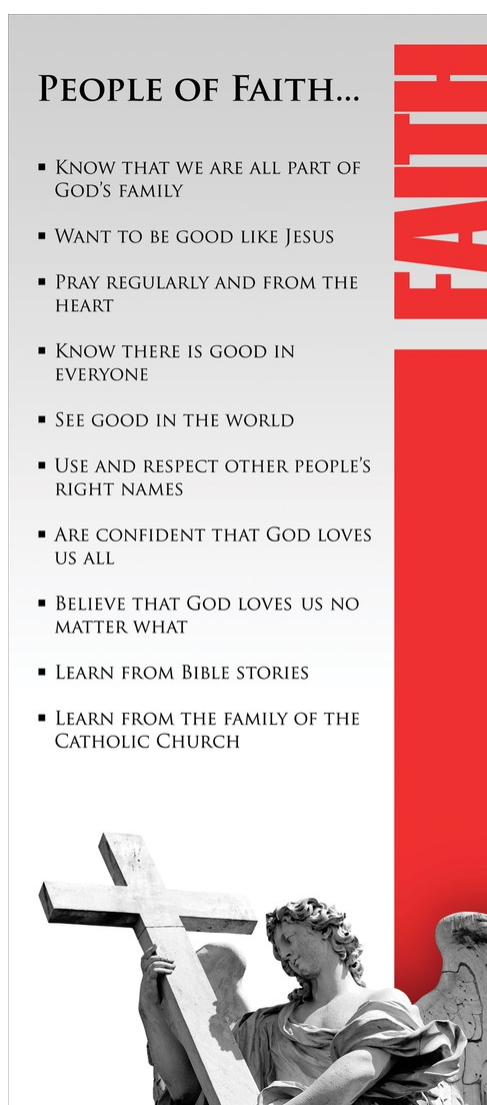
A faithful person believes that we are created, guided by and destined to be reunited with God.

A faithful person believes that God helps us to create a safe and caring school.

A Faithful person...

- prays whenever they can
- learns from Scripture stories
- assumes that there is good in everyone
- knows that we are all loved by God

Moment of Reflection... What can I do today to show my faith in God?



Principal's Message

Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

Welcome to a new and exciting year at St. Francis of Assisi CES! To those of you returning, welcome back! To students, families, and staff new to the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School community, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you all.



We are delighted to welcome Mrs. Tammie Cameron to our school community as our new Vice Principal. Mrs. Cameron brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to Catholic education. Her dedication to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment will be invaluable as we work together to achieve our goals. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to Mrs. Cameron and offering her your full support. We also welcome new staff members who will undoubtedly share their gifts and talents with our students and the community.

As we embark on a new academic year, we are reminded of the incredible journey of growth and learning that lies ahead. This journey is not just about academic achievements but also about nurturing our faith, values, and character.

Embracing Catholic Values

At the heart of our educational mission are the core Catholic values that guide us:

- **Faith:** Let us deepen our relationship with God through prayer, reflection, and participation in the sacraments.
- **Hope:** We approach each day with optimism and trust in God's plan for us.
- **Love:** We are called to love one another as Jesus loves us, showing kindness, compassion, and respect to everyone we encounter.
- **Service:** We are committed to serving others, especially those in need, following the example of Christ.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations

As we strive to embody these values, we also focus on the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, which outline the qualities we aim to develop in our students:

- **A Discerning Believer:** Someone who actively seeks to understand and live out their faith.
- **An Effective Communicator:** Someone who listens and speaks with respect, honesty, and clarity.
- **A Reflective, Creative, and Holistic Thinker:** Someone who thinks critically and creatively, making decisions that reflect their faith and values.
- **A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner:** Someone who takes responsibility for their own learning and growth.
- **A Collaborative Contributor:** Someone who works well with others, contributing to the common good.
- **A Caring Family Member:** Someone who nurtures relationships within their family and community.
- **A Responsible Citizen:** Someone who acts with integrity and contributes positively to society.

Prioritizing Student Well-Being

We recognize that student well-being is fundamental to academic success and personal growth. This year, we are committed to fostering an environment where every student feels safe, supported, and valued:

- **Mental Health:** We will provide resources and support for mental health, encouraging students to seek help when needed and promoting practices that enhance emotional well-being.
- **Physical Health:** We will emphasize the importance of physical activity, healthy eating, and adequate rest as essential components of a balanced lifestyle.
- **Social Well-Being:** We will create opportunities for students to build strong, positive relationships with their peers and teachers, fostering a sense of belonging and community.
- **Spiritual Well-Being:** We will nurture the spiritual lives of our students, helping them to find peace and purpose through their faith.

As we begin this school year, let us commit to living out these values and expectations in all that we do. Together, we can create a community where faith and learning flourish, and where each person is supported to reach their full potential.

May God bless our school community and guide us throughout this academic year.

Warm regards,
R. Commisso
Principal

Welcome to New Staff!

We are fortunate to welcome the following teaching and Support Services staff members to SFA:

E. Lewis: FDK Teacher (LTO)
S. Toufeq: Grade 7/8 Teacher
M. Monte: Educational Resource Worker
M. Caroleo: Child Youth Worker
J. Joseph-Thomas: Social Worker



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

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

Catholic Trustee Newsletter

DPCDSB Community Information Bulletin

Updates: Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year

As a publicly funded school board, DPCDSB must comply with the Ontario Ministry of Education's Policy/Program Memoranda (PPM). As per the updates to Policy/Program Memoranda (PPM) No. 128; Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct, the following is now in effect:

CELL PHONE USAGE

- Students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 must now keep their phones turned off or set to silent mode and out of sight for the school day, unless otherwise allowed by the educator during instructional time for a specific purpose.
- Students in Grades 7 to 12 must store their phones out of view and powered off or set to silent mode during instructional time, unless otherwise explicitly allowed by the educator

during instructional time for a specific purpose.

- Students who need to use their phones or other electronic devices for health and medical reasons, e.g., glucose monitoring, medication administration reminders, etc., or to support specific special education needs, may continue to use them during the school day following consultation with school administration.
- Contravention of these Ministry of Education expectations will be addressed according to the procedures outlined within DPCDSB's Catholic Code of Conduct.

ANTI-VAPING

- PPM 128 also includes a strict anti-vaping policy where parents and guardians are to be immediately notified if their children are found vaping on or within 20 metres of school property, and the vapes in a student's possession will be confiscated. There are immediate consequences for students caught with vapes, vaping, supplying vapes, or in possession of illegal substances as outlined within DPCDSB's Catholic Code of Conduct.
- The Ministry is also providing school boards with funding to install vape detectors as well as wrap-around supports for students to support learning, address addictive behaviours, as well as dedicated training for teachers and supports for parents on how best to manage this change. Additional information will be shared as available.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- PPM 128 identifies the removal of social media sites from school board networks. DPCDSB had previously removed these sites so there was no action required on this component of PPM 128.

For further information, please refer to the DPCDSB Community Information Bulletin webpage.

DPCDSB Community Information Bulletin Webpage

September 16, 2024 PA Day Bulletin

Multi-Year Strategic Plan Community Bulletin

Transportation News for September



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

Courtesy ridership is not available at this time.

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: Safe and Active Routes to School

Dear families,

Road safety is an important topic, especially coming back to school. To ensure a safe arrival, remember to:



- Choose active transportation (e.g., walking or cycling) whenever possible. This helps the environment too! If you live too far to walk the whole way to school, consider parking 5 minutes away to avoid traffic and get some bonus exercise into your day.
- Follow all road signs when driving and obey the school drop-off and pick-up rules.
- Stay clear of fire hydrants, driveways, crosswalks or the Kiss and Ride areas when parking.
- For those who ride a school bus, visit www.STOPR.ca for more information.

Please visit these links to learn more:

- [Safe school travel info sheet](#)
- [Walk and Roll to School Guide](#)
- [Family Cycling Handbook](#)
- Peel Region's [Active Transportation website](#)
- [Toronto and Region Conservation Authority \(TRCA\)'s website](#) has activities, videos, and an ArcGIS Storymap with information about active transportation in Peel Schools.

If you have any questions about the resources above, or would like more information, reach out to walkandroll@peelregion.ca.

We look forward to another excellent year of learning!

Peel Public Health Reminders

Morning Drop Off

☹️🚫 Thank you to our families for supporting students during their transition back to school. As students adjust to regular school routines, we would now request that parents/guardians refrain from entering the back pavement area with their child(ren). This measure will help students to build their confidence and to be more independent with school entry in the morning. The assistance of our families is greatly appreciated to establish school procedures.

Hot Weather Alerts🔥☀️

Throughout the fall, we may continue to enjoy the joys of hotter weather. As a reminder, we'd like to continue to prioritize safety during potential heat waves. Parents/guardians are encouraged to discuss the following with their children:



- **Stay Hydrated:** Drink plenty of water throughout the day, especially if you're spending time outdoors. Be sure to bring a reusable water bottle!
- **Sun Protection:** Use sunscreen with an appropriate SPF, wear hats, and seek shade to protect your skin from harmful UV rays.
- **Heat Awareness:** Be mindful of the signs of heat exhaustion and heatstroke. If you feel dizzy, nauseous, or excessively tired, move to a cooler place and seek help if necessary.
- **Outdoor Activities:** Wear appropriate gear for outdoor recess and be aware of your surroundings to avoid accidents.

Let's all do our part to make this warmer weather not only fun but also safe for everyone.☀️

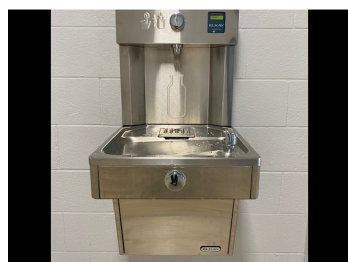
PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE HOT WEATHER PLAN BY CLICKING ON THE ATTACHMENT BELOW.



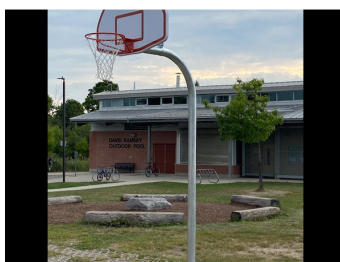
Hot Weather Plan.pdf

[Download](#)
594.6 KB

What's New In the Building



Intermediate Water Filling Station 🚰



Junior Basketball Net 🏀



Vape Detectors

Devices have been installed in washrooms in accordance with the Ministry of Education's PPM 128

Eco Team News

**"God made the heavens and the earth and it was good."
Genesis 1:1-31.**

ECO Team

At SFA, our Eco Team is taking great steps to promote good stewardship of our environment and care for all of God's creation. Our Eco Team will continue to plan ways to heighten awareness within our school community.

We encourage litterless lunches and reusable cutlery from home. To align with acts of stewardship, plastic cutlery is not available at school.

"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

Board Games Wanted!

We are still looking for gently used board games and card games for our students to play during indoor inclement weather recess. If you have any games you would like to donate, please send them to the main office.



International and Indigenous Languages Elementary Program Information



IIL Elem Flyer 2024 2025 V9.pdf

Download

335.1 KB

We Are Hiring Student Monitors



Do you have an hour to spare every weekday and would enjoy working with students? If so, SFA would love to hire you as a Student Monitor. The scheduled hours of work for elementary schools are 1.2 hours (72 minutes) per day to a maximum of 6 hours per week during the lunch hour period. The pay is \$15.50 per

hour plus vacation pay. If you are interested in this opportunity, we ask you to please contact the school office for a Hiring Package @ St.FrancisofAssisiInfo@dpedsb.org.

Student monitors must have a [Vulnerable Sector Check -Level 3](#) (\$35).

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 parents/guardians who are dropping off items.

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.

Lunch Offerings at SFA

🍷 Students will once again be able to enjoy lunches purchased through School Cash Online this school year. Please see below regarding weekly pizza days.



Pizza Days 🍷

Students can enjoy weekly pizza lunches on Wednesdays this school year by *pre-ordering slices* through School Cashonline.

- Orders will be received for 3 month intervals (October - December).
- Please note that additional slices will not be available for sale.

Tuck Shop Tuesdays! 🍪🍿



Coming soon!

The Tuck Shop was met with great enthusiasm of our students last year. Stay tuned for updates as the Tuck Shop will be returning to SFA this school year! 🍪🍿

St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day

SFA's patron saint is honoured on October 4th. Information regarding the life and accomplishments can be located on the website Catholic Online.



St. Francis of Assisi - Saints & Angels - Catholic Online

Founder of the Franciscan Order, born at Assisi in Umbria, in 1181. In 1182, Pietro Bernardone returned from a trip to France to find out his wife had given birth to a son. Far from being excited or apologetic because he'd been gone, Pietro was furious because she'd had his new son baptized ...

🔗 catholic.org

Important Links

School Messenger

[School Messenger](#)

School Year Calendar

2024-2025 School Year Calendar

School Cash Online

[Click here for School Cash Online](#)

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