



January 2024 Newsletter

Prayer for a New Year

God, thank you for a new year. May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another. As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

Amen



*Happy New Year
to Everyone.*

*Glory to God in the
highest heaven and peace
to us on earth.*

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin the new year, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. I hope that the holiday season was a time of joy and relaxation for all of you.

As we return to school, I want to remind you of the important role that Catholic education plays in the formation of our students. Our goal is to provide a nurturing and challenging environment where students can grow in their faith, as well as in their academic and personal development.

I also want to remind you of the importance of partnership between home and school. Your support and involvement in your child's education is vital to their success. I encourage you to take an active role in your child's education by staying informed about school events and activities, volunteering your time, and communicating regularly with teachers.

Finally, I want to thank you for entrusting your child's education to us. We are committed to providing the best possible education for your child and we look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Warmest regards,

Mr. B. Dulcigno
Principal

Chair of the Board
Ms. Elizabeth Crowe

Trustee
Ms. Carol Cotton

Director of Education
Mr. Domenic Scuglia

Superintendent of Education
Ms. S. Wright

Principal
Mr. B. Dulcigno

Office Staff
Ms. K. Balsmeier

Pastor
Rev. Msgr. Vid Vlastic

The School Day:

Entrance: 8:55 a.m.

Recesses: 10:15 a.m. and 2:10 p.m.

Lunch 11:50 a.m. -12:50 p.m.

Dismissal: 3:25 p.m.

**To report students absences/lates,
please dial: 1-855-856-7862 or online at
<http://go.schoolmessenger.ca/>
before 8:30 a.m.**

Mission

With Jesus Christ as our model, we provide all students with a Catholic education rooted in equity, well-being and learning.

Vision

A recognized leader in Catholic education committed to inclusion, excellence and innovation that develops socially responsible global citizens.

Values

Catholicity

Fiscal Responsibility Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Integrity Respect

Excellence

Strategic Commitments

Catholic Faith
Equity and Inclusion
Student Achievement
Well-Being

Catholic Communities of Faith

The Virtue for December was HOPE

I will look to the future with trust in God. I will keep a positive attitude. I will prepare for Christmas by waiting with hope, faith, joy and love.

Congratulations to the following students for demonstrating this virtue:

Teachers	Students	Teachers	Students
Ms. Christidis/	Lorenzo C	Mme. Hodara	Atara G
Ms. Comert	Asher V		Angela M
	Giada V		
Ms. DeFilippis	Noah D	Mme. Mok	Elliott J
	Heaven V		Lance L
Ms. Pedron	Amalia D	Mme. Lu	Jean-Paul P-J
	Kayla D		Lucia G D
Ms. Lau	Joshua C	Mme. Rosolen-DeCoste	Caleb S
	Camille L		Damian C
Mr. Silva	Aitanose A	Mme. Riccelli-Cabral	Summer H
	Nolan A		Cassian L
			Madelyn C
Ms. Kilislian	Lisa G	Mme. Capano	Leo P
	Regan S		Clarisse L
			Patrick L
Ms. Ofilan	Anson W	Mr. Yu	Brandon W
	Ethan C		Valerie C
	Filip B		Bryant S
	Jayden W		



Catholic Communities of Faith

January Virtue of the Month Unity

January is devoted to the Catholic virtue of Unity. Students are encouraged to demonstrate the attributes of unity in their daily actions and words with one another.

- I will make everyone feel welcomed and appreciated.
- I will take some time to learn about the similarities and differences in my community.
- I will empower people with my words, not put them down by calling them names.

A prayer for Unity

*God of harmony and unity,
You want us all to work together to
build your kingdom.
May our ears hear your voice clearly
May our eyes see your beauty in all
May our understanding break down walls of
fear and prejudice.
May we make our school
a place of friendship
a place of belonging
a place of welcome.
where everyone feels safe.
where everyone has a place
where all are united in You, dear God.*



SACRAMENT DATES

Sacrament dates have been determined:

First Holy Communion: Sunday, May 26 @ 3 pm

Confirmation: Sunday, June 9 @ 3 pm

Christmas Concert Thank you

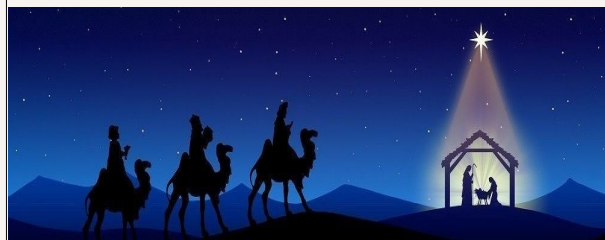
Our school community would like to extend congratulations to our staff and students for sharing their talent with us during our Christmas Concerts.

On December 13th our families were treated to a variety of great songs and some dancing, too, all of which helped us celebrate Advent and the Christmas season. Thank you to our amazing students!

We are also grateful to our wonderful staff for the countless hours spent preparing students and providing them the opportunity to share their vast talent and energy with us all! A special thank you as well to our Intermediate students for all their hard work creating the décor for our stage. Lastly, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all the parents for attending our Concert. Thank you for your continued support.



The Epiphany of the Lord



Safe and Caring Schools



Picking up Students from the School Yard at Dismissal

The school yard is off limits to parents, guardians, and visitors during school hours from 8:40 a.m.—3:25 p.m. Parents and guardians who pick up their child(ren) from the primary and junior school yard at dismissal **MUST** wait behind the fence and **NOT** in the school yard until the dismissal bell rings at 3:25 p.m. We ask parents not to gather in the school yard before 3:25 p.m. as classes may be held outside and this causes distraction and it is not safe for the students. We thank you for respecting the children’s outdoor learning time and we appreciate your cooperation and diligence in this matter.

Also, please ensure that your children are picked up promptly at 3:25. While we understand there are, at times, extenuating circumstances that may cause you to be late, these should be only be very rare occurrences.



REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents are required to call the SAFE ARRIVAL LINE at 1-855-856-7862 or visit go.schoolmessenger.ca to report their child’s absence.

All absences must be reported prior to 8:30 a.m. the day of the absence. Parents must obtain a confirmation number or email, or the absence has not be recorded properly.

All absences, including vacations, early leaves from school for any reason, illness, late arrivals, appointments etc., should be recorded through the Safe Arrival Line.

Students are encouraged to be on time for school. Late arrivals cause disruptions to classes that are already in session.

If your child’s absence has not been reported, the system will call you to verify that your child is not at school and you will need to punch in the appropriate absence code.

School Bus City

- Please be sure to check the status of your child’s bus on School Bus City
- <https://bp.schoolbuscity.com/>



Cold Weather and Indoor Recess

If the weather is extremely cold and is at or exceeds minus 17 degrees Celsius with the windchill factor, or it is stormy and icy, an indoor recess routine is followed.



Safe and Caring Schools

INCLEMENT WEATHER ROUTINES

In the event that school transportation is cancelled due to inclement weather and/or poor road conditions:

- **Schools will remain open**

For Parents/Guardians with children in Elementary Schools:

- Please use the **Safe Arrival System** to report if your child(ren) is absent due to inclement weather. Students who are unable to attend due to buses being cancelled, must still be reported absent using the Safe Arrival System.
- **Hot Lunch programs at all YCDSB Elementary Schools are cancelled on inclement weather days.**
- Please exercise discretion in deciding whether to send your child to school on inclement weather days.
- The decision to cancel school transportation service is **region-wide**, meaning all school buses, vans and taxis are not operating.
- Schools are open and parents/guardians can make alternate arrangements to transport their children to and from school.
- As school transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will not operate in the afternoon.
- Tests, quizzes, excursions, school programs, co-curricular activities, evening presentations, workshops, as well as parent meetings are cancelled on inclement weather days and will be rescheduled.
- Permits are cancelled on inclement weather days.
- All Continuing Education Courses scheduled during the day and evening are cancelled on inclement weather days. This includes: ESL, Secondary, and Adult Interest Courses.
- Before and After Programs in schools make every effort to remain open in inclement weather. However, the decision to open or to close early is up to the discretion of the Child Care Operator.

SNOWY DAYS, WINTER DRESS, AND ILLNESSES

Winter weather has arrived! Students must be properly dressed for the weather conditions and they need to wear boots and snow pants if they want to play in the snow. Junior and Intermediate students who do not wear boots to school on snowy days will remain on the pavement area and will not be permitted on the field. **We ask that students come to school in the mornings with all their winter gear: snow pants, hats, scarves, boots and waterproof gloves, all labeled with their name.** Please ensure that your child has a change of clothes, extra socks, and an extra pair of gloves at school.

Children who are too sick to go out for some fresh air at recess are too sick to attend school. A child who is ill should not be at school. If your child needs to stay in for recess a doctor's note is required. We appreciate your support in this matter.

If the weather is extremely cold (-17 degrees Celsius with the windchill factor) or stormy and icy, an indoor recess routine is followed.



STUDENTS MUST HAVE INDOOR SHOES

In order to keep our school clean, as well as assist in maintaining a healthy environment, we are asking that all students have a pair of shoes with non marking soles that are to be kept at school. Please label your child's indoor shoes with their name.

Important Dates and Events Coming Up...

Lunar New Year

Saturday, February 10, 2024

Happy Lunar New Year to all who celebrate!

May this year of the Dragon bring you strength, courage, good fortune and prosperity.



Bell Let's Talk Day Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Be a part of a movement for **CHANGE** by taking one or more of the following actions on Bell Let's Talk Day:

- Choose a mental health organization to learn about or support
- Help a friend struggling with their mental health by learning how to support them
- Ask about how your school, workplace or community is creating change for mental health
- Nurture your own well-being by practicing and learning mental health strategies
- Get involved in a mental health initiative or organize an event to support mental health
- Engage in conversations about mental health to fight stigma



New Winter Term Hot Lunch Program Begins January 30th

We are excited to offer new hot lunch options for the winter term. This will be in conjunction with our Wednesday Pizza lunches.

Tuesdays—Panera Bread

Thursdays—Olde Village Bistro

Order details will be sent in the coming days. All ordering will be online through My Hot Lunchbox.



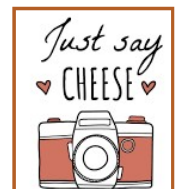
Raptors 905 School Game Wednesday, March 27, 2024

We are pleased to announce that we have planned an excursion to the Paramount Fine Foods Centre to watch a Raptors 905 basketball game versus the Motor City Cruise for our Grade 5, 6, 7, and 8 students. We were able to secure court-side seats for the game which will be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024. Details for the excursion will be sent home in the coming days.



ATTENTION GRADE 8 GRADS! Grade 8 Graduation Photos Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Save the date and get ready to say cheese, Grade 8 Grads! You will need to wear a white collared shirt and your smile!



January 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<p>1</p> <p><i>Happy New Year!</i></p>	2	3	4	5
<p>8 <i>Welcome back!</i></p> <p>Kindergarten Registration begins for Sept. 2024</p>	9	10	<p>11</p> <p>Fire Safety Presenta- tion– Gr. 3 CSC Meeting at 6:30</p>	12
15	16	17	<p>18</p> <p>Dairy Farmer Presenta- tion Gr. 1-3</p>	<p>19</p> <p><i>PA Day</i></p>
22	23	24	<p>25</p> <p>French Immersion Lot- tery Junior Boys V-ball Tournament</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Junior Girls V-ball Tournament</p>
29	<p>30</p> <p>Fire Safety Presenta- tion– Grade 4</p>	31	1	<p>2</p> <p><i>PA Day</i></p>