

What's New

- [Elementary Remote-Only Learning Option for 2025-2026](#)
- [Secondary Remote-Only Learning Option for 2025-2026](#)
- [Nominate a DPCDSB Distinguished Alumni](#)

Board Highlights

The following items were received or approved by the Board at its February 25, 2025 meeting:

Pastor's Remarks:

- Video Presentation by Monsignor Shiels - Peace - The Jubilee Year

Awards & Presentations:

- 2024 Dr. Arthur Wood Award: Principal Julie Lavalle
- 2024 Wilde Wood School Safety Zone Awards:
 - Principal Tara Persad and St. Raphael C.E.S.
 - Principal Kelly-Ann Marsi and St. Margaret of Scotland C.E.S.

Delegations:

- Emily Vajda - Pride Flag
- Dawn Krol - Pride Flag

Updates/Information/Reports:

- Motions Recommended by the Audit Committee, February 4, 2025 and the Administration and Finance Committee, February 4, 2025

[Link to Recording](#) / [Link to Agenda](#)

March Virtue of the Month: Kindness

Kindness is the act of loving and giving generously to others as God does. Our empathy for others is transformed into action, an action that extends beyond concern for ourselves.

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City of Mississauga recognizes DPCDSB schools for promoting safety

On February 5, Mississauga City Council, on behalf of the Mississauga School Traffic Safety Action Committee, awarded the 2024 Dr. Arthur Wood Award to Julie Laval, Principal of St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School. Two DPCDSB elementary schools also received the 2024 Wilde Wood School Safety Zone Award including St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Elementary School and St. Raphael Catholic Elementary School. The Mississauga School Traffic Safety Action Committee recognizes schools that promote active transportation and traffic safety in and around school zones.

Dr. Arthur Wood Award

Julie Laval, Principal of St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School, is this year's recipient of the Dr. Arthur Wood Award for her efforts in promoting active school travel. In 2022, St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School was chosen as one of three Mississauga schools to pilot the City's School Streets project. Julie Laval led her school in championing this program where the street in front of the school was closed to traffic during school dismissal time for a three-week period. This helped provide a safe space for students and encouraged them to walk or bike home from school. Under her leadership, St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School has continued to run a strong School Walking Routes program. In 2024, they took part in the program to help promote active transportation.



Wilde Wood School Safety Zone Award



St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Elementary School under the leadership of Principal Kelly-Ann Marsi

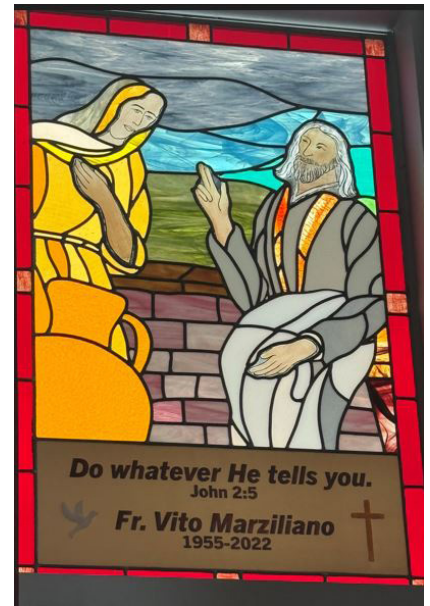
- Engaged in the City's School Walking Routes Program to promote active travel to school.
- Enrolled students in additional pedestrian and bike safety education through Peel Children's Safety Village.
- Demonstrated commitment to promoting active and safe school travel.



St. Raphael Catholic Elementary School under the leadership of Principal Tara Persad

- Promoted active school travel with student ambassadors.
- Organized Kiss and Ride to keep traffic moving efficiently and to ensure student safety.

Learn more about [school walking routes](#), [the crossing guard program](#), cycling and the [Mississauga School Traffic Safety Action Committee](#).



On February 12, a special stained-glass window dedication and memorial mass was celebrated by Father Fraser McLaren at Cardinal Ambrozic Catholic Secondary School, on the third anniversary of the passing of our beloved brother, Reverend Father Vito Marziliano. Staff, students, parishioners and members of the Marziliano family were in attendance, as we celebrated the extraordinary life of Fr. Vito, bringing together the true meaning and connection between school, parish, and home. The stained-glass window artist, Nick Bruzzese, Art teacher Ms. Renata Iarusci and students in Cardinal Ambrozic's Stained-Glass Window Club worked hard on this piece every week for three years and were able to witness its installation, as well as the unveiling of the fruits of their labour. Just as Jesus showed love and mercy toward the Samaritan woman at the well, Father Vito exemplified the same compassion to all those he encountered and always reminded us to "Do whatever He tells you," (John 2:5). We are grateful for the years of service and the love that Father Vito shared with our school community, and we will continue to think of him and share heartwarming stories of him, each time we look at this very beautiful stained-glass window, in our Chapel.



St. Hilary Catholic Elementary School was so proudly represented in the annual Mary Matthews Public Speaking Competition this month. Jana Moso won first place for her presentation on "Growing Up is Difficult". Shining Au also performed exceptionally well when presenting her ideas on "Embracing Failure" and Alecia Ravindran wonderfully shared her thoughts on "Fear". The literary skills, the presentation and the thoughtful approach to two very sensitive subjects were presented in a way that demonstrated maturity and confidence beyond their years. Both of these young ladies are going to go places in the future. The courage, intellect and insight presented by both Jana and Shining was remarkable. Congratulations ladies and thank you to the Mary Matthews speaking competition committee for providing our young students with the opportunity to engage in this wonderful skill building competition. Special mention to our divisional winners Mwansa, Precious and Kirsten. We look forward to the Regional Finals later this month!



Members of the Knits and Crafts Club at St. Marguerite d'Youville Catholic Secondary School have been diligently working over the past few months to knit scarves for the school's upcoming donation drive. Grade 12 students Abi Akinwale and Mamme Serwaa Frimpong established the club last fall and initiated a knitting project titled "Warm the Streets." Club members met weekly to support one another, particularly those who were new to knitting. A total of sixteen scarves were knitted, all of which will be donated. It has been a rewarding experience for club members, knowing that their hard work will help keep those in need a bit warmer this winter. *"For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life."* Ephesians 2:10



St. Andre Bessette Catholic Elementary School is blessed to have such a wonderful partnership with St. Patrick Parish. Father Fraser stopped by at the end of the day to wish our students a good weekend as they left the school. It was a lovely surprise and a nice way to end our week.



At St. Hilary Catholic Elementary School Mr. Tremblay's class took a moment to celebrate 60 years of the red maple leaf as Canada's Flag. In 1996 Prime Minister Jean Chretien proclaimed February 15 as Flag Day. Students created 60th anniversary flags. The class learned about the history of flags in Canada and the story behind the flag we now have. Go Canada Go!

Upcoming Events

March

National Social Work Month

Irish Heritage Month

Persian Heritage Month

Hellenic Heritage Month

March 3-9 - Black Mental Health Week

March 3-9 - Social Work Week

March 3 to 9 is Social Work Week in Ontario, and across Canada, March is National Social Work Month. This March, we invite you to celebrate this incredible profession, and learn how social workers are meeting Ontarians where they're at, when it matters most.

March 5 - Ash Wednesday

"Fasting" (i.e., the consumption of one full meal or two partial meals with no "snacks" in between) applies to those between the ages of 18 - 59. "Abstinence" is the avoidance of all meat on this day (most specifically for those who are 14 years of age and older). Lent is a time to discipline ourselves and to intentionally refrain from our indulgences or things we are too dependent on. We also recognize Lent as a time for works of mercy, of service to those who are in need of our care, love and charity. Let us continue to commit ourselves to the work for the needs of our church, the world and members of our community encountering various challenges around us.

March 6 – DPCDSB International Women's Day Conference

Secondary students will attend a conference hosted at the Mississauga Convention Centre to celebrate the achievements and contributions women have made to society.

March 6 - Brampton, Malton, Caledon, and Dufferin Dance Event

The 17th Annual Brampton, Malton, Caledon, and Dufferin Dance Event will take place on March 6 at The Rose Theatre in Brampton from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Elementary school dance teams from across the Brampton North East, Brampton East/Caledon/Dufferin/Malton & Brampton West Families of schools will showcase their talents in a variety of dance styles. This event is an opportunity to celebrate the creativity and dedication of our students.

March 6 & 26 - EQAO LIVE webinar series for parents and guardians

EQAO staff will discuss math questions that Ontario students encounter when they participate in Ontario's large-scale assessments in Grades 3, 6 and 9. During the webinar, EQAO staff will show how these math questions help assess the skills students are learning in their math classes. EQAO staff will also share valuable insights from the past three years of assessment results, which can help parents and guardians support their children's math learning. The webinar is offered on two dates, March 6, and March 26. Webinar Registration Links: [Thursday, March 6, 2025 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.](#) / [Wednesday, March 26, 2025 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.](#) *Note that this is an EQAO event, not a DPCDSB event.

March 7 – World Day of Prayer

"Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action" is the motto of the World Day of Prayer movement. The World Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Friday of March. It is an invitation for Christians to pray together ecumenically for the concerns of our world, our country, and community. It is sponsored by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada and its international counterparts around the world.

March 8 – International Women's Day

March 13 & 14 - March Break Sugarbush Family Event

DPCDSB families are invited to visit our sugarbush and learn from the many Indigenous cultural teachers who will be here to share their knowledge. Time: 11 am – 2:30 pm Location: Silver Creek Outdoor Education Centre, 13500 Fallbrook Trail, Georgetown. [More Information](#).

March 17 – St. Patrick (Memorial)**March 19 – SOLEMNITY of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Principal Patron of Canada and declared Patron of the Universal Church in 1870**

“But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 1:20)

March 19 - Brampton West Chess Tournament

Guardian Angels Catholic Elementary School will be hosting the Brampton West Chess Tournament on Wednesday, March 19, 2025. Schools that are interested in entering the tournament, please email the name of the school and divisions entering to Jiries.nimer@dpcdsb.org by March 5, 2025. Each school can register 3 teams (1 per division). Each team will consist of 6 players (5 players with 1 alternate for a total of 6 players). The tournament will begin at 9:00 am and end by 2:15 pm. Please arrive by 8:30 am-8:50 am. Students are required to bring their own lunch and water bottle. Location: Guardian Angels C.E.S., 62 Heatherdale Dr., Brampton.

March 20 - Brampton North / Caledon / Dufferin Chess Tournament

St. Cecilia C.E.S. will host the BNCD chess tournament on Thursday, March 20. Please arrive by 8:45 am. Start time is 9:15 am and will end around 2:00 pm. Students are required to bring their own lunch. Location: 10 Brickyard Way, Brampton.

March 21 - Brampton South / Malton Chess Tournament

St. Cecilia C.E.S. will host the BSM chess Tournament on Friday March 21. Please arrive by 8:45 am. Start time is 9:15 am and will end around 2:00 pm. Students are required to bring their own lunch. Location: 10 Brickyard Way, Brampton.

March 21 – World Down Syndrome Day**March 21 - International Day for the Elimination of Discrimination****[March 25 – DPCDSB Board Meeting](#)****March 26 - Parent Reaching Out Event: Community Supports and Services Information Session**

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee invites all families of students with a developmental disability, autism, or physical/medical diagnosis to attend the Parent Reaching Out event: Community Supports and Services Information Session. This event will be an evening virtual presentation from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Presenters from the Special Education and Learning Services Department, the Child Development Resource Connection Peel (CDRCP) and Info Peel will share information about community supports and services, service coordination, funding options and respite care. Please refer to the [Information Session Flyer](#) for registration and information.

March 27 - DPCDSB Elementary Skills Competition

This year's annual Elementary Skills Competition event will be held at St. Raymond Catholic Elementary School. Successful elementary student competitors will move forward to represent DPCDSB at the provincial event on May 5 at the Toronto Congress Centre.

For a complete schedule of events, visit the [DPCDSB Events webpage](#).

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