

Virtue of the Month: *Hope*OCSGE of the Month: *I Am A Believer***School Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS: Parents/Guardians are reminded of the importance of consistent and regular punctuality and attendance for their children. **Please ensure you create a routine that allows for students to present and on-time at school each and every day!**

SCHOOL MESSENGER: Did you know that our School Messenger tool is a convenient, safe and secure tool that parents/guardians have access to for reporting student absences and receiving school communications? If you would like more information about this web-based program and app, please visit: <https://www3.dpcdsb.org/parents/absence-reporting>

School # 905-792-2251

Principal: Mr. Birkenbergs

Secretary: Mrs. Gill

Superintendent:

Mr. Diogo

Trustee: Mr. Xaviour

School Parish:

St. John Fisher

Pastor: Fr. Liborio Amaral

CHRISTMAS BREAK

The last day of classes for 2024 is **Friday, December 20th, 2024.**

Parents/Guardians please note there are NO classes scheduled from December 21, 2024, to January 5, 2024 (inclusive).

Student Screening for Illnesses

As we move through a time of year with increased presence of viruses within our school community and beyond, we want to take this opportunity remind parents/guardians that it is recommended to screen your child(ren) prior to them attending school when any symptom of illness appears. **Please ensure that you are following the updated screening tool which is available at:** <https://www.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>. Thank you for your cooperation and we work collaboratively to keep everyone in our school community healthy and safe!

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Now that that winter weather is here, please ensure that your child(ren) come to school daily prepared for outdoor activities. Students will be outside a minimum of 70 minutes per day at recesses and may also engage in additional outdoor learning in their classes. We request that parents/guardians ensure that students have additional layers to ensure comfort during outdoor times. This includes jackets, hats, mitts/gloves and appropriate outdoor footwear. In addition, all students must have a suitable pair of indoor shoes available on a daily basis.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Our school has been truly overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community! With our recent Catholic School Council chocolate fundraiser, we were able to raise over \$6000 which will be put directly back into the school for student programming and events. Through our Christmas Open House and Christmas Cards initiatives, families donated over \$350 which will be forwarded directly to ShareLife. Finally, our Angel Giving Tree has resulted in a multitude of hats, socks and mittens, as well as over \$250 in gift cards to support families in our community. Thank you for showing the true meaning of the season and providing hope to those in our community! Your support will make everyone's Christmas merry and bright!!!

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK: December 16 to 20, 2024

Starting on **Monday, December 16th** through to **Friday, December 20th**, our school will be hosting a **Christmas Spirit Week!** We encourage all our students to participate in the daily events throughout the week. Please see the schedule of events below.

Let's Celebrate Christmas Spirit Week		
Date	Theme	Notes
Monday December 16	Christmas Colours Day	Wear Christmas colours (red, white, green)
Tuesday December 17	Christmas Sweater / Shirt Day	Show off your favourite Christmas sweater or shirt!
Wednesday December 18	Christmas Character Day	Dress as your favourite Christmas character!
Thursday December 19	Deck Yourself for Christmas Day	Dress in your Christmas best and accessorize!
Friday December 20	Christmas Comfy & Cozy Day	Kerchief and cap for a long winter's nap!

A Look Ahead – January 2025

Please note the dates of various events happening in January 2025 below.

January 6th – Classes Resume @ 9:00am sharp!

January 8th – Rosary Apostolate Visit

January 15th – Pastoral Visit

January 20th to 24th – Mental Health & Well-being Spirit Week

January 20th – P.A. Day (no school for students)

January 27th – Catholic School Council Meeting @ 6:00pm

MERRY CHRISTMAS