

Virtue of the Month: *Self-Control* OCSGE of the Month: *I Am a Team Player & I Have Responsibilities*

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

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>

Term 1 Reporting

Reports Cards for Term 1 will be sent home for all students on February 11th. Parent-Teacher-Student conferences will occur on February 13th & 14th. Information was recently sent to families via School Messenger.

Unsure About When to Keep Your Son/Daughter Home Due to Illness?

At this time of year, we often deal with the increased presence of viruses within our school community and beyond. Parents/Guardians are reminded that if you are uncertain about whether or not your child is well enough to attend school, you may use the provincial self-assessment tool available at: <https://www.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>. It is important to remember that if your son/daughter does come to school they will be expected to participate in all daily activities, including recesses. Thank you for your attention to this information as 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.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2025-2026 IS UNDERWAY!

We are currently accepting registrations for Kindergarten for the 2025-2026 school year. Parents/Guardians are strongly encouraged to register early to ensure that we are aware of the number of students who will be attending our school next year. The registration process can be completed entirely online. Please visit: <https://www3.dpcdsb.org/schools/register-for-school/kindergarten-registration> for more information. Families who would prefer to register in-person at the school are asked to please call us at 905-792-2251 to make an appointment to register. Families needing before and after school care are asked to contact PLASP via: <https://www.plasp.com/>.

A Focus on Mental Health!

From January 21st to January 24th, our school focused our energies on supporting positive mental health and well-being through various activities. Using resources from School Mental Health Ontario, each day of the week had a theme to support and uplift the entire school community. The activities were specific to classroom community needs and aligned with the theme of the day. The week provided a much-needed opportunity to further build the positive, safe and health school climate at Georges Vanier School.

A Look Ahead – January / February 2025

Please note the dates of various upcoming events below.

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

January 30th – Exploring Indigenous History Day (Gr. 4-8) / **Virtues Assembly: Respect @ 2:45pm**

February 11th – Term 1 Reports distributed

February 13th – Grade 8 Graduation Photos / **Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences (evening)**

February 14th – **P.A. Day: Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences (daytime)**

