

Virtue of the Month: *Respect*

OCSGE of the Month: *I Care & I Have a Voice*

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

Pink Shirt Day

We encourage all students to wear a pink shirt to school on **Wednesday, February 26th** as we continue our anti-bullying initiatives!

Student Sign-in/Sign-out via the Main Office

For the safety and security of our students, we kindly remind parents/guardians that late arrival to and/or early departure from school must be done through the Main Office. Parents/Guardians must contact the Main Office to arrange for late arrival or early departure. This includes a requirement for parents/guardians to enter the school to sign their child(ren) in/out. Further, please do ensure the office is aware of all late arrivals/early departures by using the School Messenger app or by calling the school directly.

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/>.

Basketball @ GVANI

Recently, both our Junior Boys and Junior Girls basketball teams played in the Family of School mini-tournaments at St. John Henry Newman School. Both teams displayed excellent skill and teamwork in their respective competitions. We congratulate both teams for their athleticism and sportsmanship! Very shortly, tryouts and practices will begin for our Intermediate Basketball season. Please stay tuned for permission forms to review and ensure they are returned to the school promptly. We look forward to cheering on our #VanierVikings and wish them continued success with their athletic endeavours!

A Look Ahead – February 2025 / March 2025

Please note the dates of various upcoming events below.

February 24th – Catholic School Council Meeting @ 6:00pm

February 26th – Rosary Apostolate Visit (AM) / Pastoral Visit (AM)

February 27th – Virtues Assembly: Kindness @ 2:45pm

March 4th – Shrove Tuesday / CCCCAT Meeting @ 3:45pm

March 5th – Ash Wednesday Liturgy @ 10:15am / Lenten Retreat (PM)

March 10th to 14th (inclusive) – MARCH BREAK

Lenten Liturgy & Retreat

On Wednesday March 5th, we will gather as a school community to celebrate liturgy together at 10:15am in our school gym in observance of Ash Wednesday. In the afternoon, our entire school will participate in a school-wide retreat to focus on our faith during this important season of Lent. Students will be moving to various classrooms throughout the afternoon and have opportunities to pray, reflect and gather in community as we strengthen our connection to Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.