

What's New

- [2025-26 Secondary School Information Sessions - November 2024](#)
- [2025-2026 Extended French Program Information Sessions - November 5 & 7](#)
- [Travel for Credit - Photography in Italy \(Grades 11 & 12\) - March Break 2025](#)

Board Highlights

The following items were received or approved by the Board at its October 22, 2024 meeting:

Pastor's Remarks:

- Monsignor J. Shiels Video Presentation: Prayer

Updates/Information/Reports:

- Chair's Year End Address
- Presentation: Local Government Week (October 20-26, 2024)
- Response to OCSTA 2025-2026 Education Funding Feedback
- Revised Policy 24.00: Access to Elementary Regional Programs of Choice
- Revised Policy 6.90: Tax Support
- Revised Policy 9.03: Progressive Discipline
- Motions Recommended by the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee

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

Upcoming Board Meeting: November 19, 2024 (Organizational Meeting)

For a complete calendar of Board and Committee meetings, agendas and minutes, visit the DPCDSB [Board Meetings webpage](#).

November Virtue of the Month: Conscience

Conscience is the voice of God within us. A developed conscience helps us make decisions that support truly loving relationships.

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On September 27, two Communications classes at St. Marguerite d'Youville Catholic Secondary School celebrated National Tree Day. In many parts of Canada, community planting events were held. Our students joined forces to plant a Japanese Maple tree in the school garden. Ms. Bacic and Mr. O'Gorman led their students in learning about the trees as a part of the forest ecosystem. Additionally, planting trees in the neighborhood and around the schools improves landscape and health of the environment. The tree must be cared for; therefore the students have prepared a watering schedule to ensure the tree stays healthy and has proper care.



On October 4, St. Hilary Catholic Elementary School participated in the Journey of Hope. The entire school participated in a wonderful Marathon of Hope in Memory of Terry Fox. It started with an animated story outlining Terry's wonderful story of life. Terry was like every other young boy until his life changed with his cancer diagnosis. Terry did not let this disease stop his love of living. Terry turned devastation into opportunity. His inspiring story led us through the week and especially on October 4, on our Journey of Hope Day. St. Hilary raised \$1,500 for cancer research. Terry's legacy lives on in DPCDSB.



Students at Father Michael Goetz Catholic Secondary School commemorated the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with a week-long event and a reading from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action. A striking display of orange ribbons and student-led artwork was showcased, and students engaged in hands-on activities exploring Indigenous culture in the foyer. They also learned about the significance of Orange Shirt Day and the importance of wearing orange to honour the survivors of residential schools and promote awareness of Indigenous experiences in Canada.

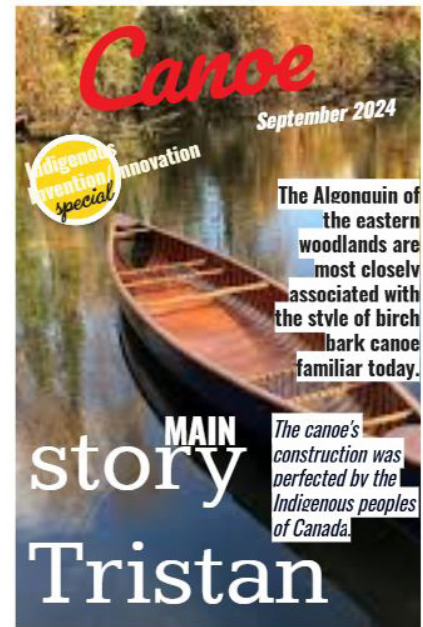
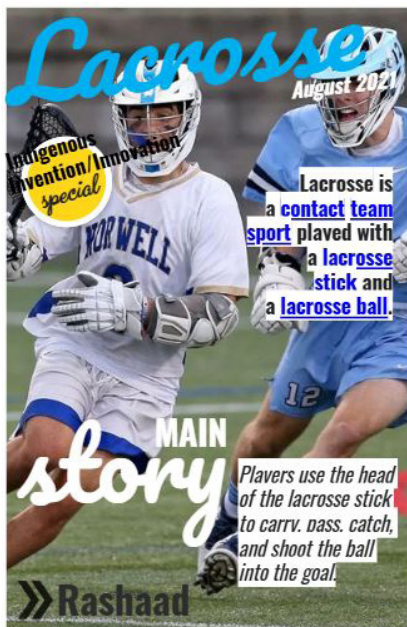


“We’re Arts & Culture SHSM and this is what we say, ee dance and sing, we draw and play, we act and say hooray!” This year’s cheer was a great way to send off 50 students new to Philip Pocock Catholic Secondary School’s Arts & Culture SHSM to YMCA Cedar Glen for the group’s first Certification Trip. This September, the overnight excursion provided many opportunities for students to focus on the virtues of faith and empathy among one another. While on this trip, students completed certifications in Customer Service, Leadership, and Personality Inventory. Aligned with DPCDSB’s Catholic Board Improvement Learning Cycle and the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, workshops focused on developing effective communication skills, building respect, encouraging the importance of being a life-long learner and collaborative contributor, and to thrive and excel in life’s challenges. Two great days to make new friends, bond with teachers, and appreciate nature - Pocock students definitely made life-long memories while on this trip.



On October 23, Ms. Malatesta’s Religion class and Ms. D’Agostino’s Drama class at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Secondary School attended a presentation about The Covenant House, a non-profit organization that services youth, ages 16-24, who are homeless, trafficked or at risk. Ms. Lau, the speaker for Covenant House’s presentation titled “Before You Run,” discussed youth issues/challenges, coping strategies for stress, support resources and social responsibility (our duty as

humans to show compassion and care to one another). She discussed factors that contribute to youth homelessness, such as family matters/breakdown, child abuse and neglect, mental health issues, drug addictions, bullying, trafficking/exploitation, and stress. She even pointed out a fact mentioned previously in class: 1 in every 5 students will experience a mental health issue in their lifetime. 6,000 youth experience homelessness on any given night in Canada and 50% of young people state that mental health was the reason they had to leave home. The presentation connected to the Grade 10 Religion curriculum, stressing concepts such as stewardship and volunteering, the common good, social justice teachings such as care for the poor and the Catholic Graduate Expectation (7e) promoting equality, democracy, and solidarity for a just, peaceful, and compassionate society.



As part of their commitment to celebrating Truth and Reconciliation week at St. Andre Bessette Catholic Elementary School students in the SERC class learned about Indigenous inventions such as moccasins, canoes and lacrosse. They used a variety of technological tools to read, write, and publish their learning. One of their favourites was the posters they created using Book Creator.

Upcoming Events

November is:

Albanian Heritage Month
Lebanese Heritage Month

Hindu Heritage Month
National Adoption Awareness Month

November 1 – Solemnity of All Saints

This feast honours all the saints of the Church, known and unknown. The occasion provides an opportunity to reflect on the nature of sainthood and to celebrate the exemplary faithfulness of holy men and women of every place and time whose lives and deeds continue to inspire us.

November 2 – The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

Happy are those who have died in the Lord. Let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them.
(Revelation 14:13)

November 3 – Thirty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time

November 4 – Memorial of St. Charles Borromeo

November 5 & 7 – DPCDSB's 2025-2026 Extended French Program Information Sessions

DPCDSB will hold two online public information sessions on November 5 and 7 for parents and guardians interested in enrolling their children in the DPCDSB Extended French Program for the 2025-2026 school year. The information sessions will provide an overview of the Extended French Program and application process. For more information, visit the [Extended French webpage](#).

November 5-11 - Treaty Recognition Week

The first full week in November is marked as Treaties Recognition Week. This is an opportunity to recognize and understand the importance of treaty education and to help everyone in Ontario learn about treaty.

November 5-11 - Veterans' Week (National)

November 6 - Take Our Kids to Work Day

This year's Take Our Kids to Work Day is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6, 2024. Take Our Kids to Work Day is an annual program in which Grade 9 students are hosted by parents, friends, relatives, or volunteers at workplaces across the country every November. The program supports career development by helping students connect school and the world of work. Spending a 'day in the life' of a profession or workplace is a fun and fascinating way to explore the world of work, think about career options, and make informed educational decisions.

November 6 - 2024 Black Excellence Professionals Expo

The Black Excellence Success Team (B.E.S.T) is hosting the 3rd annual Black Excellence Professionals Expo on November 6, 2024, at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School (2 Notre Dame Avenue, Brampton). Doors will be open to students, parents and guardians, and community members at 6:00 pm. The Expo is an opportunity for Black students to meet Black professionals and mentors in a career-fair atmosphere. The evening will include Black professionals from various industries, a keynote speaker, interactive photo booths, a DJ and so much more. [Registration Link](#) / [Event Flyer](#)

November 7 - International Inuit Day

This is a day to recognize the vibrant culture and rich history of Inuit communities in Canada and around the world.

November 8 - Indigenous Veterans Day

Did you know that November 8th is marked as Indigenous Veterans Day? For over years, Canadians have set aside the 11th Day of November to remember the sacrifices of soldiers who fought for Canada and the British Commonwealth in global conflicts that took place in foreign lands. Most Canadians are not aware of the contributions made by Indigenous Warriors in those military campaigns, nor of the crucial role they played during the War of 1812 -- the only war ever fought on Canadian soil.

November 9 – Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

November 10 – Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 11 – Remembrance Day

Canadians pause today in silence to remember those who died in war and to pray for the victims of aggression and inhumanity throughout the world. This is a day to pray for peace, to consider what we are doing as individuals, as a community and as a nation to bring God's peace into the world.

November 11 – Memorial of St. Martin of Tours

November 12 – Memorial of St. Josaphat

November 16 – Christmas Around the Corner Market at St. Vincent de Paul C.E.S.

Please join St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School as they host "Christmas Around the Corner" Market on Saturday November 16 at St. Vincent de Paul C.E.S. at 665 Willowbank Trail in Mississauga from 10 am to 2 pm. Home décor, jewellery, baked goods, personalized bags, stationery, greeting cards, mirror decals, personalized gifts, environmentally friendly products, wreaths, silicone baby products and lanyards, and much more. Free entry. Prizes. [More Information.](#)

November 17 – Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - World Day of the Poor

In 2017, Pope instituted the World Day of the Poor so that *"throughout the world Christian communities can become an even greater sign of Christ's charity for the least and those most in need."* - Message of his Holiness, Pope Francis, First World Day of the Poor, 19 November 2017

November 17-23 - Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week Activities

Ontario has designated the week beginning on the third Sunday of November as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week to help promote safe schools and a positive learning environment. During Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week (November 17-23, 2024), DPCDSB students, school staff, and parents are encouraged to learn more about bullying, specifically cyberbullying, and its effect on student learning and well-being. The DPCDSB Well-Being, Safe Schools, and Technology Education Departments are offering a selection of resources and activities for Grades K-12.

November 18-22 - Canada History Week (National)

November 21 – Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Any Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name." (Luke 1:46-49)

November 22 – PA Day (Elementary & Secondary)

November 22 – Memorial of St. Cecilia

November 23 - Holodomor Memorial Day (National)

November 24 – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe - World Day of Youth

"Young People must say to the world: It is good to follow Jesus! You bring us the joy of faith and tell us that we must live the faith always with a young heart." - Message of his Holiness, Pope Francis

November 25 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (International)

November 28 – St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic Secondary School Honour Roll Academic Awards Ceremony

The St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic Secondary School community will gather to honour the achievements of its students at the Academic Awards Ceremony on November 28 at 7:00 p.m. The evening will highlight and acknowledge the students who have exemplified the Catholic Graduate Expectations through hard work and dedication during the 2023-2024 school year. Location: St. Aloysius Gonzaga C.S.S., 2800 Erin Centre Blvd., Mississauga.

November 30 – Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle

Andrew is known as the first disciple of Jesus. Later, when Jesus chose his apostles, Andrew was among the Twelve.

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

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