A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

O Lord, as the years change,
may we find rest in your eternal changelessness.

Help us to meet this new year bravely, in the faith that,
while life changes all around us, you are always the same,
guiding us with your wisdom and protecting us with your love,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.”

Amen

P.A. DAY
MONDAY, JANUARY 22

NO CLASSES
FOR STUDENTS

Virtue of the Month: Self Control

God has given us the ability to choose. We are able to control how we react to what happens around us. Through prayer and concentration, we can get better at controlling our reactions. We can get better at showing self-control. Self-control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that we will regret.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We hope that you have enjoyed a very restful and peaceful Christmas break with family and friends. As we enter into the next part of this school year, we look forward to our continued partnership with you in the spiritual, academic and social development of your children. On behalf of our staff, we wish to thank you for your ongoing support with the various activities here at St. Hilary School.
St. Hilary Feast Day Mass

The St. Hilary Feast Day Mass will be celebrated on Friday, January 12th at 9:15 a.m. in the school gymnasium. All are welcome!

Sacramental Preparation Events and Key Dates

First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation:

Jan. 17 at 9:30 a.m.: First Reconciliation

April 28 at 10:00 a.m.: First Holy Communion Mass

Confirmation:

May 3 at 7:00 p.m.: Confirmation Mass

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is “Black History Month”. As part of our focus this month on the Catholic virtue of RESPECT, we recognize, highlight, and celebrate the gifts that our rich cultural and racial diversity enable us to experience and enjoy.

Toys for Tots Advent Fundraiser

We wish to thank the community of St. Hilary for your support during the Advent season. We had many opportunities to give to those less fortunate and, once again, our school community was extremely generous. The Gr. 4 and 6/7 classes organized a fundraiser to raise money for “Toys for Tots”. They raised $880.00 after two weeks of selling candy canes! The proceeds were used to purchase toys which were donated to needy children. Special thanks to First Student Bus Company for donating the bus for this trip. Many thanks to Mrs. Dias and Mrs. Paniconi for your time and work with the students.

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Program

St. Hilary School organized a social justice initiative inviting families to contribute cash donations toward the purchase of gift cards for The St. Vincent de Paul Society for distribution to families in need within the St. Francis Xavier Parish community. We thank all of our families for your generous support and for sharing in the true meaning of Christmas with our brothers and sisters.
Mrs. Dias and Mrs. Paniconi's classes raised $880 for Toys For Tots. Students shopped at Square One and busses were donated by First Student Canada. What an amazing feeling to give needy children a wonderful Christmas! @HilaryDPCDSB

Thank you for supporting our food drive. We were able to provide a substantial amount of food to families in our community.

Dress for the Weather

Now that colder weather is upon us, please ensure that your children come to school dressed warmly to participate in recess activities. When weather conditions are severe, we may reduce the outdoor playtime, or have indoor recess entirely. Fresh air and exercise are vital components for successful learning, so we will endeavour to have children play outside whenever possible. Help your children come to school appropriately dressed with scarves, hats and mittens on those really chilly days! For health reasons and to help keep the school clean, we ask all students to have indoor shoes. Younger children should also have a spare change of clothing at school or in their backpacks.

TRANSPORTATION CANCELLATION AND SCHOOL CLOSURES

During the winter months inclement weather may cause disruption of bus transportation and regular school operations. A decision to cancel school transportation and/or to close schools is usually made by 6:00 a.m. and will be announced on the following radio and television stations:

- VIRGIN RADIO FM99.9
- CFNY FM102.1/AM640
- CFRB AM1010
- FM Z103.5
- CHIN FM100.7/AM1540
- GLOBAL NEWS
- CHUM AM1050
- CJCL AM590
- EZ ROCK FM97.3
- FM93.1
- CBC99.1
- CTV
- CFTR AM680
- CHFI FM98.1
- CJBC (FR) AM860
- FM Q107
- CITYPULSE
- CANADA AM

EXTENDED FRENCH INFORMATION MEETING

Grade 4 parents/guardians who wish to enroll their child in a Grade 5 Extended French class for September, 2018 are invited to attend an information meeting at:

**School:** San Lorenzo Ruiz

**Address:** 100 Barondale Drive, Mississauga—L4Z 3R1 (905-501-0400)

**Date:** Thursday, January 18, 2018

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.
Parents in the School

Teaching your child in a safe and happy environment is our goal. With this in mind there is a Visitor Identification Program in place at St. Hilary. All non-staff must report to the main office for identification and to state their business. During school hours, no one is permitted to visit classrooms or loiter in the hall. All parents/guardians are reminded that they should enter the school through the main front door and proceed to the office to sign in.

We attempt to keep classroom disruptions to a minimum so that students can get on with the business of learning. Please note that all students are dismissed from their regular doors and should meet their parents/guardians at these doors.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

We continue to thank all our parents and guardians who drive to the school to drop off or pick up students as they follow these simple guidelines:

- Do not back up your car once you enter the parking lot.
- Park in a designated parking spot first, if one is available.
- Continue to use only the Kiss ‘n Ride lane in the front parking lot.
- Please continue to not park your car in the Bus Lane.

Never leave your car unattended in the drive thru lanes

Idle Cars in the Parking Lot

An important note to parents; vehicles should not be left running in the school parking lot. Idling wastes fuel, damages vehicle engines and sends harmful gases into the air. Children are particularly susceptible to the effects of air pollution because they breathe more per pound of body weight than adults do. School pickup and drop-off zones are one of the top places where children stand amidst exhaust fumes. We caution parents not to leave running vehicles unattended due to the potential risks this poses for students.

Indoor and Outdoor Shoes

We ask that students bring a pair of indoor shoe that can be worn inside of the school and left in the classrooms. Removing outdoor shoes upon entering the building helps keep our school environment healthy, clean and safe.

Hands-off Policy

In order to ensure the comfort and safety of all, we expect students to adhere to the “Hands-off Policy” at the school. “Play fighting” is also not permitted. Every student has been made aware of the importance of these rules. Please assist us by reviewing these expectations with your child. This will help to make our school environment a safe, healthy and positive place for all of our students.
Parent Evening to Support the Transition of Children with Differing Abilities into Kindergarten

There will be an information session for parent(s)/guardian(s) of children with differing abilities including vision, speech, hearing, autism, physical/medical and/or developmental delays who are transitioning to Kindergarten in September 2018. The information session will be held at the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board -- Catholic Education Centre, Room 301 on Thursday, January 25th 2018, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Reading to Young Children: A Head-Start in Life

The research sets out to explore the connections between parents reading to their young children and their child’s later reading and other cognitive skills. Key Findings: The frequency of reading to children at a young age has a direct causal effect on their schooling outcomes regardless of their family background and home environment.

* Reading to children at age 4-5 every day has a significant positive effect on their reading skills and cognitive skills (i.e., language and literacy, numeracy and cognition) later in life.

* Reading to children 3-5 days per week (compared to 2 or less) has the same effect on the child's reading skills at age 4-5 as being six months older.

* Reading to them 6-7 days per week has the same effect as being almost 12 months older.

* Children read to more frequently at age 4-5 achieve higher scores on the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests for both Reading and Numeracy in Year 3 (age 8 to 9).

* These differences in reading and cognitive skills are not related to the child’s family background or home environment but are the direct result of how frequently they have been read to prior to starting school.

This research is a result of a partnership arrangement between the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research.

Grade 3 & 6 EQAO Assessments

Grade 3 and 6 students will work on EQAO Assessments in reading, writing and mathematics from May 3 – June 5, 2018.

When scheduling appointments, please keep these dates in mind.
## IMPORTANT DATES

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 12</td>
<td>Fun Lunch</td>
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<td>January 12</td>
<td>St. Hilary Feast Day Mass: 9:15 a.m.</td>
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<td>January 15</td>
<td>Catholic School Council Meeting: 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>January 15</td>
<td>FDK Registration 7-9 p.m.</td>
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<td>January 15–18</td>
<td>X Movement</td>
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<td>January 17</td>
<td>First Reconciliation: 9:30 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church</td>
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<td>January 18</td>
<td>Grade 7,8 Vaccines Round 2</td>
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<td>January 22</td>
<td>P.A. Day. No School for students</td>
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<td>January 25</td>
<td>Grade 5 class trip to Peel Safety Village</td>
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<td>January 26</td>
<td>Harvey’s Fun Lunch</td>
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<td>January 29</td>
<td>Grade 3 trip to Pioneer Village</td>
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<td>February 1</td>
<td>See/Hear Clinic</td>
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<td>February 1,2</td>
<td>Watershed on Wheels</td>
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<td>February 7</td>
<td>Marc Tardif Magician All Grades</td>
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<td>February 8</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews: In the evening</td>
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<td>February 9</td>
<td>P.A. Day. No school for students. Parent/Teacher Interviews: During the day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>Intermediate Soccer Tournament Brampton       Catholic School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>February 14</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Liturgy</td>
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<td>February 19</td>
<td>Family Day-school is closed</td>
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<td>February 20</td>
<td>Scientist in the School Grade 5</td>
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