



Weekend Update: Sunday, November 5, 2023

The highlight of last week had to be the return of our annual Dance-A-Thon for Halloween! The costumes were amazing, and the students all had so much fun dancing the morning away! The Mercy “Magicians” were all dressed up as idioms and the students had fun trying to guess which figure of speech our costumes represented. We had “holy cow”, “raining cats and dogs”, “under the weather”, “don’t judge a book by its cover”, “slow and steady wins the race”, and the “big cheese” just to name a few! I want to thank all our families for your generous donations during the dance-a-thon; at last check we had raised close to one thousand dollars!

This week we will honour Treaty Recognition Week. We will have daily reflections during the morning announcements and classes will participate in activities, workshops, and activities also related to what it means to be treaty people and the responsibilities that go along with it. We will commemorate Indigenous Veterans Day as well as Remembrance Day also throughout the week. On Wednesday, November 8th we welcome Warrant Officer P. Pavlovic to join us for two Remembrance Day assemblies, one at 9:00 for the Primary students and then at 9:50 for the remaining classes. Parents are welcome to join us. The assemblies will have us gather in prayer and reflection. Our choir will also perform at the Assemblies. Thank you to all the teachers who have supported this presentation including Mme. Dougherty and Mlle. Hinterhoeller.

It is hard to believe that we have turned the page at the end of another month of this school year. As we make our way into November, we have many exciting activities to look forward to including a new Fundraiser we are commencing tomorrow in partnership with Terra Cotta Cookies. More information will be sent home tomorrow. We are offering families the opportunity to purchase cookie dough from Terra Cotta Cookies that you will be able to have handy during the holiday season. Once again, all proceeds from our fundraiser will go directly back to the school including for the completion of our front mural project which we are very close to beginning!

Have a wonderful week!

Leslie Marchand, MEd

November’s Virtue of the Month: Conscience

Therefore, I do my best always to have a clear conscience toward God and all people.

(Acts 24:16)

God helps us to choose to be good people.





Staff Directory:

Leslie Marchand	Principal
Serita Pereira	Head Secretary
Jennifer Cahill	FDK Teacher
Hui Zhang	DECE (LTO)
Heather Maxwell	Grade 1 Teacher
Caroline Loiacono	Grade 2/3 Teacher
Trish Fang	Grade 3/4 Teacher
John Galbraith	Grade 5 French Immersion Teacher
Michelle Murphy	Grade 5/6 Teacher
Colleen Dougherty	Grade 6 French Immersion Teacher
David MacSporran	Grade 6/7 French Immersion Teacher
Gianni Protomanni	Grade 7 Teacher
Madeleine Hinterhoeller	Grade 7/8 French Immersion Teacher
Paola D'Agostino	Grade 8 Teacher
Sara Petruccelli	SERC Teacher/Planning Time
Elaine Romaniuk	Sanctuary Program Teacher
Katie Box	Special Education Teacher/ESL
Heather Langley	Core French/ Planning Time Teacher
Mena Pandullo	Teacher Librarian/Planning Time
Lyla Colavecchia	Planning Time Teacher (LTO) (Every other Friday)
Lia Pedroso	Planning Time Teacher (LTO) (Every other Thursday)
Ashley Galvao	Education Resource Worker
Sylvia Caruso	Education Resource Worker (Sanctuary)
Kellie Donaher	CYW (Mon, Wed, and alternating Friday's)
Jamie Brassard	CYW Sanctuary Program (Tues, Thurs, and alternating Friday's)
Maria Papadogianis	Social Worker (Wednesday)
Margaret Russ	MHSW (Sanctuary)
Jason Kotsopoulos	School Psychologist
Cheryl Suh	Speech and Language Pathologist
Tony DiRenzo	Head Custodian
Lynce Buhian	Night Custodian

Scholastic Book Fair:

We are very excited for the return of our Scholastic Book Fair. All students will have the opportunity to visit the library to browse and make a "wish list" of items they would like to purchase. Parents will have the chance to come to school to make purchases on Wednesday from 3:15 to 4:15.

Appropriate dress for the weather:

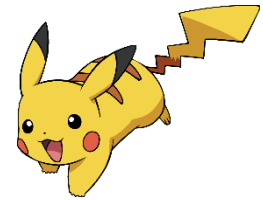
Students spend 70 minutes outside each day, they will be much more comfortable if they are warm and dressed for the conditions.

Trustee Newsletter:

Attached with the Weekend Update, please find your Catholic Trustee, Brea Corbet's, November Newsletter.

Non-Essential Items at School

Just as a reminder, we ask that students refrain from bringing non-essential items to school like toys, and trading cards. These items can be a distraction from learning and can also create conflict between students if they go missing. I thank you all for supporting this from home.



Cellphone Communication

This is just a reminder that cell phone communication is not permitted during the school day. If you need to connect with your children, please contact the school and we will support this communication. Students responding to text messages on their phones during class time provides a significant distraction from learning.

We understand that many children have phones to let their parents know that they have arrived at school safely; the recommendation is that they inform you they are present, and then put their phones away.

We also remind parents and students that taking pictures, and recording video of students or teachers during the school day is prohibited, ESPECIALLY when there is no consent. Please refer to the attachment in the Weekend Update email for further clarification. This communication was sent out by the Board last week.

Kiss and Ride:



Parents who are driving their children to school are asked to drive their children up to the front of the school so staff supervising the Kiss and Ride are present to assist children exiting cars and making their way to the sidewalk. Please avoid pulling over to drop children off at the entrance to the parking lot, as this significantly backs up traffic. If you wish to park and walk your children to their entrance, you are welcome to do so.

Students are dismissed at 3:15. Primary students may be picked up on the school grounds for parents who have walked or parked the car. All students being picked up by car are asked to walk around to the front of the school to line up on the sidewalk and wait for their ride. No students will be picked up past the gate near the rear parking lot.

All our Kindergarten students are to be dropped off and picked up at their gate at the front of the school.

Student Attendance

Ensuring that students are present in school is a major factor predicting success and achievement. It is also an obligation under the Education Act that parents send their children to school. We thank you for ensuring that your children regularly attend. If your child is going to be absent for some time, please continue to reach out to the school and classroom teacher to discuss.

Water Bottles:

As we are a Platinum Eco School, we remind students to bring a reusable water bottle to school each day. We have water filling stations for their bottles to be refilled but we do not have any disposable cups for students to fill.

Reporting Student Absences

Student absences should be reported by parents/guardians for each student in our school through the Safe Arrival system in School Messenger. There are three ways to access the program:

Web: www.go.schoolmessenger.ca

App: SchoolMessenger

Phone: 1-844-435-3440 (toll free)

Student absences not reported will trigger phone calls to confirm the absence each morning. If you need assistance, please contact the school.

Student Lunches



Please make sure your children come to school with their lunch. Our intermediate students (grade 7 and 8 only) may bring a note to sign-out for lunch. Please ensure the note is dated with the appropriate date. Students can then go out to eat but are asked to not bring food or drinks back to school. Students will not be able to go back to their class until the bell rings again at 12:56 to signal the start of our afternoon classes.

Allergens:

We know that students all have lots of yummy Halloween candy at home from Trick-or-Treating last week. We remind families that we are an allergy aware school. Please continue to make sure you are sending your children to school each day with lunches and snacks that are free from allergens including **Nuts, Tree nuts, Pumpkin, and Seafood**. We have many children in our school who have serious allergies to these allergens, some of whom are airborne allergies. Information about the specific allergens in your children's classes will also be sent home in a letter and indicated on the classroom door. We thank you in advance for your attention to this as you pack lunches.

Catholic School Council

Our next Council Meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 20, 2023**, at 6:30 pm. All are welcome!

News from Merciful Redeemer Parish:



Please remember to visit the Parish website <https://mercifulredeemermi.archtoronto.org> for all the latest information including the weekly bulletin.

Upcoming Events:

Please click on the following link to access the 2023-2024 School year calendar: [2023-2024 School Year Calendar](#)

Monday, November 6, 2023

Terra Cotta Cookies: Cookie Dough Fundraiser begins (more info will be sent home)

Scholastic Book Fair this week!

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Remembrance Day assemblies (AM)

Book Fair Buying for parents from 3:15-4:15

Thursday, November 9, 2023

Junior trip to the Rose Theatre (Wizard of Oz)

Loyola Open House (PM)

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

REVISED DATE: Progress Reports go home

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Morning Star School Rosary Program

Ms. Raposo (Gonzaga CYW) to see Grade 8 students

Gonzaga Open House (6-8 PM)

Thursday, November 16, 2023

Picture Re-Takes

REVISED DATE: Parent-Teacher Interviews

Friday, November 17, 2023

Mississauga North Intermediate Flag Football Tournament @ OLMCY

Monday, November 20, 2023

Bus Safety Assemblies in AM

Thursday, November 23, 2023

Gonzaga Band performs at OLMCY at 1:00

Friday, November 24, 2023

PD Day

We Remember

*We remember the many brave men and women
who have given their lives
through the history of our country
to protect us from danger and harm.
We remember all those who sustained injury
in mind and/or body in the course of their
service.
We salute all those who served in the military.*

- Author Unknown

