



September 2024

St. Patrick C.S.

5607 HIGHWAY #7 L3P 1B6 905-294-1571

WEBSITE: <http://spm.ycdsb.ca/>

TWITTER: @StPatrickCES

YCDSB Chair
Elizabeth Crowe

TRUSTEE
Frank Alexander

PRINCIPAL
K. Pellegrini

SECRETARY
M. Cadieux

CSC CO-CHAIRS
D. Carmichael, J.Keeping

SUPERINTENDENT
L. Sawicky

PASTOR
Father D. Barber



Welcome to a New School Year

Welcome Back! We are looking forward to beginning an exciting new school year! As we journey together this year we give thanks to all our families at St. Patrick.

We extend a warm welcome to all our returning students and to all those new to our school community. We are thankful for the efforts and hard work of our teachers, EA's, ECE's, secretaries and custodians. They have been hard at work preparing their classrooms and the school in anticipation of our students' return. We look forward to working closely with Fr. Dominic Barber, Fr. Janil Joseph, Fr. Szymon Sorbian and the Parish Team at St. Patrick Church. With their help and guidance we hope to continue strengthening our school, home and church partnership. We are truly blessed with a vibrant and supportive parent community.

It is fitting as we begin a new school year that we reflect on the theme for Catholic Education Week 2025: "We are Pilgrims of Hope ." God bless us all as we prepare to launch into another year of growth in faith, hope and love.

A Prayer for the New School Year

Lord, our God,

We come together with hearts full of gratitude and anticipation as we begin a new school year, embracing the possibilities, challenges, opportunities and blessings it holds.

Let us pause to acknowledge the gift of God's grace, that it shall illuminate our path for this upcoming year.

The beginning of a new year gives us an opportunity to express our gratitude for the lessons we have learned, and to prepare our hearts for the path that lies ahead.

Let us open our minds and hearts to receive the Lord's wisdom, guidance and love as we embark on another school year journey together.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Multi-Year Strategic Plan

Mission Statement

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

Vision Statement

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

Core Values



Strategic Commitments

Integration of Our Catholic Faith

Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

Effective Use of Our Resources

Engaging Our Communities

St. Patrick CES Staff 2024-2025

Thank you to our wonderful staff who make a difference in the lives of our children.

Mrs. K. Pellegrini	Principal
Mrs. M. Cadieux	Secretary
Ms. Fera	FDK
Ms. Kurian	ECE
Ms. D'Ingillo	Gr. SK/1
Ms. Montini	Gr. 2
Mr. Vieira	Gr. 2/3
Ms. Brennan	Gr. 3/4
Mr. Dionne	Gr. 4/5
Ms. Frisina	Gr. 5/6
Ms. Botelho	Gr. 6
Ms. Berardi	Gr. 7
Ms. Rizza	Gr. 8
Mr. Brennan	Gr. 8
Ms. Pellegrino	Teacher Librarian LTO
Mr. Fiore	Core Resource Teacher
Ms. Gomez-Fernandes	Core Resource Teacher
Ms. Henry	Itinerant Physical Education Teacher
Mlle. Nazar	French as a Second Language Teacher
Msr. Francey	French as a Second Language Teacher
Dr. Davis	Itinerant Music Teacher
Ms. McGuire	English as a Second Language Teacher
Ms. Duffin	Special Education (Hearing)
Ms. Gould	Student Education Intervenor
Ms. Green	Student Education Intervenor
Ms. Griffiths	Student Education Intervenor
Ms. Hronis-Tirpkos	Educational Intervener
Ms. Lamanna	Educational Assistant (LTO)
Ms. Mutharasan	Educational Intervener
Ms. Onibudo	Educational Intervener
Mr. D'Agostino	Head Custodian
Ms. Barcnas	Custodian Night
Ms. Branov	Lunch Time Supervisor
Ms. D'Cunha	Lunch Time Supervisor
Ms. Nolasco	Lunch Time Supervisor
Ms. Spano	Lunch Time Supervisor
Ms. Tham	Lunch Time Office Support Worker



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

At St. Patrick CES we are blessed with an amazing Catholic School Council. We are looking forward to working in collaboration with our CSC to enhance all aspects of learning at St. Patrick.

Information regarding the Catholic School Council Elections process will be sent to families by a schoolmessenger email.

The first CSC Meeting will take place on September 23rd at 6:00 pm. All are welcome!

HOT LUNCHES

Volunteers are needed to help with hot lunches on a weekly or occasional basis.

If interested, please contact Victor at lai.vic@gmail.com



SCHOOL AGENDAS

Again this year, St. Patrick CES will be using Agendas as a communication and organizational tool for students, teachers and parents.

The Student Agenda is a wonderful tool to help students develop their organizational skills and for a means of communication between the home and the school. Students from Jk to Grade 8 will continue to use the agenda books designed specifically for YCDSB students. Please refer to the agenda for information related to overall Board and school operations. Agendas have been distributed to students on the first day of school to JK to Grade 8 students. The cost of the 2024/2025 School Agendas is \$8.00 to be paid on School Day, Cashless Schools. (Bambora)

If you are interested in becoming a school crossing guard, please contact Staffing Services at 905-737-1600 to apply.



SAVE THE DATE SEPTEMBER 19, 2024



**You are invited to: St. Patrick CES
Open House
And BBQ
Thursday September 19, 2024**



**St. Patrick BBQ
5pm-6:30 pm
Open House
6:30-7:30 pm**

Parents are invited to attend Open House at St. Patrick CES!
This is an excellent opportunity to visit the classroom
and meet the teachers.



Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

SAFE WELCOME PROCEDURES

PEDICULOSIS

The York Catholic District School Board recognizes concerns related to pediculosis (head lice) at the school and community level. Pediculosis (head lice) are not a public hazard, as they do not cause illness, but they are a nuisance.

To prevent pediculosis (head lice) from becoming a problem at our school we all need to work together. Please check your child's head on a regular basis for lice or nits. If you do find lice or nits, you must contact the office so that we can notify other parents in your child's class to keep a special watch for any signs of head lice.

A student's readmission to school is contingent upon the Parent/Guardian submitting a completed and signed "Pediculosis Treatment Form" communicating to the Principal that treatment for pediculosis (head lice) has been administered.

More information on the identification, treatment and prevention of pediculosis (head lice) from the Canadian Pediatric Society (<http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/headlice>) and Toronto Public Health (toronto.ca/health) is available on the school's website. A hard copy of the information posted on the school's website will be provided by the Principal if requested by the Parent/Guardian.

SAFETY AWARENESS - THE PROTECTION OF ANAPHYLACTIC STUDENTS

The YCDSB continues to help protect anaphylactic students, students with life threatening allergies. Protecting anaphylactic students from exposure to life threatening substances creates a major challenge to all elementary schools.

As **outlined in the policy** parents are asked to inform the school of such allergies and are required to fill in **S15** and **S15a** forms which are available in the office. Each form must have a passport size picture attached so that the student is easily identifiable to staff. Parents are asked to ensure that students for whom Epi-Pens are prescribed have two Epi-Pens at school. One Epi-Pen **must be worn by the student in a fanny pack at all times, this includes on the bus, on excursions, and all other school related activities/sports** and the other Epi-Pen must be stored in the school for emergency use only.

The following are proactive strategies we will be implementing at St. Patrick CES to help keep all our students safe.

- We will continue with our "allergy safe" school environment via food restrictions. Students will be informed of and reminded that they are not to share food - **no food sharing rules**. The school environment includes entire school grounds, buses and other modes of transportation, school trips, before/after school/weekend programs, and school sanctioned events involving pupils.
- We will prohibit food outdoors to minimize exposure to insects
- We will continue to communicate regularly to the entire school community that we are an "allergen safe" school via newsletters, and posting of "allergy safe" signs throughout the school.
- We will take special precautions for celebrations, by planning activities that are **not food oriented**. Parents may send in small birthday tokens such as pencils or book markers etc. **Please do not send in cakes, cupcakes, Timbits etc.**
- Special communication and instructions will be given to individual classrooms where students with allergies are enrolled regarding allergens in that classroom and through the classroom to the community regarding specific allergens.
- We will continue to ensure that all products sold through the school for fundraising or otherwise are allergen free.
- We will continue to ensure that permit holders, visitors and all school staff are aware of these precautions.



York Catholic District School Board

Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1

Tel: 905-713-1211, 416-221-5051, 1-800-363-2711

Fax: 905-713-1272 • www.ycdsb.ca

(This letter was previously sent to all families in August)

Dear Families of the York Catholic District School Board,

I hope you had a blessed summer. Our staff are excited to journey with your child through another great school year beginning next week.

Today, I want to share some brief information about new rules that will be introduced in all our schools this year. In June 2024, the Government of Ontario issued a new policy requiring school boards to take extra steps to ban students from vaping and using cell phones in school.

The York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) is committed to promoting the health, well-being and academic success of all our students, who are beloved children of God.

As such, the York Catholic District School Board will introduce new measures in our schools at the beginning of this school year:

- During the instructional day, students will turn off their cell phones or set them to silent and ensure they are out of sight, unless an educator approves their use for an educational purpose
 - The YCDSB's wifi network will block social media platforms
 - As a pilot project, vape detectors will be installed in select YCDSB washrooms
- In the coming days, you will receive an email from the principal of your child's school with more specific details about how these rules will apply to cell phone use.

To help prepare students for these new rules, I would appreciate families discussing these matters with their children before the first day of school. It's a perfect opportunity to demonstrate to your child that we are working in partnership to create a safer and less disruptive experience in their classrooms.

Thank you again for your support of your child's school. We look forward to seeing you next week.

Yours in Catholic Education,

John De Faveri
Interim Director of Education



National Day of Truth & Reconciliation
ORANGE SHIRT DAY– SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

September 30th is Orange Shirt Day. On September 30, all Canadians are invited to wear an orange shirt to honour Indigenous people and to show a commitment to the idea that every child matters. September 30th is a time for remembering -- to recall Canada's Residential Schools and their sad effects on Indigenous families and cultures. It is a time for healing -- to celebrate the beautiful gifts of Indigenous cultures. It is a time for hope -- for us to walk forward together as children of God's loving family. On September 30th we focus on healing. Every time we welcome someone as they are, we are helping to heal. Every time we show friendship, inclusion and kindness, we are helping to heal. Every time we stand up for the dignity of someone's culture and identity, we are helping to heal.

God our Creator, you heal broken hearts with your love, and call us to share this love with one another. Open our hearts, that we might learn to walk with one another -- as Indigenous peoples, peoples of settler origin and newcomers -- along your healing path.

Give us the courage to see you...in every human face, in every language and culture, in every gift of creation. Make us stewards...of one another's dignity, of one another's safety, of one another's lands, of one another's rights to a cultural identity, as unique peoples...as gifts to the human family...as your beloved children. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We close in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

On Monday September 30, 2024 students and staff from across the York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) will commemorate Orange Shirt Day. Staff and students are encouraged to wear orange to acknowledge the impact of the residential school system, raise awareness and honour Indigenous communities, to promote reconciliation.





PARKING LOT SAFETY

The front driveway is used for staff parking and is only accessible to vehicular traffic . In the morning, you may use the front driveway to drop off your child(ren). This is a 'drop-off' area only. Please do not leave your car unattended or stop for a prolonged period of time. Proceed in a single line of traffic along the curb. We ask that students depart the vehicle on the curb side. However, this is not always possible so, for safety reasons, do not pass other vehicles in the "kiss & ride" area. If you wish to park, please use the parking lot of the church. School buses drop off children along the fence, by the church. Keep all gates and fire routes clear at all times. Please refrain from parking along the fence at both entrances at start and dismissal times. Do not stop in the driveway. We recommend you park in the spaces provided then walk your child to the gate. In the afternoon, the front driveway is reserved for buses only. All other vehicles are prohibited from entering this area. Smaller buses will also be loading along the fence by the Kindergarten yard. Do not stop in the driveway between the church and school. If you wish to park, we recommend you park in the spaces provided at the front of the church then meet your child at the gate. Please also use extreme caution when parking or picking up your child on Drakefield or Bakerdale Roads. Only park in designated parking spaces and be mindful of no parking zones, as you may be ticketed. Encourage exercise by walking your children to and from school. This eases traffic congestion, reduces the impact on the environment and improves overall personal fitness. If we exercise caution and patience we can ensure a safe arrival and dismissal for all students.

Please note that the speeding limit on Hwy # 7 has been designated as a school zone and the speed limit has been lowered to 40 km/h.

Thank you for driving cautiously in the school driveway. Vehicles are not permitted to park or stop along the fence where the busses are dropping off students.



*3rd
annual*

YOU'RE INVITED TO
ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

FAMILY FUN FAIR

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2024
10:00AM-1:00PM

5633 HIGHWAY #7, MARKHAM ON
AT BACK PARKING LOT


BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC CHAIRS!



St. Patrick Catholic School

September 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3  Back to School	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Open House And BBQ 5:00-7:30 pm	20 Terry Fox Run At St. Patrick CES 10:30 am	21
22	23 CSC Meeting At 6:00 pm	24	25 Rowan's Law Day	26	27 PA Day	28
29	30 National Day of Truth And Reconciliation 