

# St. John XXIII Catholic School Newsletter

## September 2025



### Principal

M D'Souza

### Secretary

J. Cusack

### Superintendent

D Radic  
905-890-1221

### Parish

Pastor: Fr. Felix  
St. Martin of Tours  
1290 McBride Ave.  
Mississauga, On .  
L5C 1M8  
905-279-5742

### School Council Co-Chairs

L. Nava  
L. Pacheco

### School Hours

Grades FDK- 8  
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### St. John XXIII School

915 McBride Ave.  
Mississauga, On.  
L5C 1M1  
905-279-9478

### Website

<http://www.dpcdsb.org/JHN23>

### Follow us on Instagram

Here is the instagram link:

<https://www.instagram.com/st.johnxxiii23/>



Dear Parents/Guardians,

#### Principal's Message:

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! I am pleased to be appointed as principal here at St. John XXIII School. Thank you to the staff, students and parents for such a warm and supportive welcome. We look forward to an exciting and active school year, full of opportunities for all students to flourish and meet their full potential. Welcome to all new families who are joining our school community this year. Thank you to Mrs. Cusack and our custodians who worked so hard to prepare for the school opening. I look forward to working with all parents, students and staff in the coming year, as together we embrace the task of guiding students on the path of learning and achievement and well-being. As a community, we can be successful when we all work together to establish positive relationships that are co-operative and trusting. We work as a triad with home, school and St. Martin of Tours Parish and share in common goals and Gospel Values. The St. John XXIII staff is committed to working with all its partners to continue supporting each child in their quest for knowledge, happiness, well-being and spiritual development.

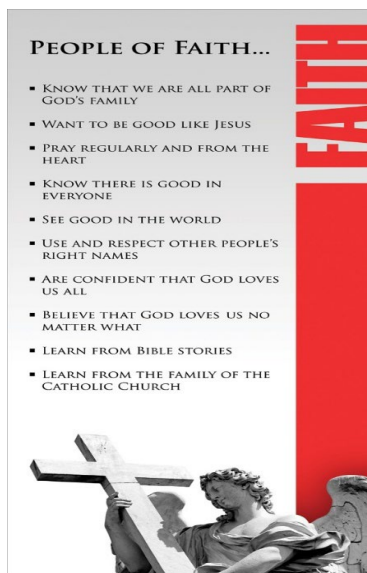
Wishing Best wishes for a wonderful school year.

Mrs. Maryann D'Souza

Principal

"If we love one another, God lives in us." 1 John 4:12 Si nous nous aimons les uns les autres, Dieu demeure en nous. (1 Jean 4, 12)

## September Virtue



### FAITH COMMUNITY

Our first school Mass: Thanksgiving and Feast Day will be on **Friday, October 3rd @ 10:30AM** in the church. Our opening mass is a reminder of the importance of partnership between the church, home and school as we all move along our faith journey.

All are welcome to attend.

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

#### First Communion- Registration

Family to attend Registration Form and Baptism Certificate with \$50 to be handed in. **Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 7:00pm**

#### Sacramental Preparation: Communion

8 Sessions 8:45am - 10:15am

Session begins with morning mass at 9:00am: October 4, 25, November 8, 22, December 6, January 10, 24, February 7, 2026

#### 2026 Rite of Enrolment

Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 pm or Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> @ 8:00 am, 10:00 am or 12 noon



### Reconciliation

Wednesday, April 15, 2026 @ 10:00am

**2026-First Holy Communion** Sunday, April 19, 2026 @ 2:00 pm

### Enrollment Ceremony: Confirmation

Family to attend. Registration Form and Baptism Certificate with \$50 to be handed in. **Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 7:00pm**

### Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation

8 Sessions 8:45am - 10:30am. Session begins with morning mass at 9:00am: October 18, November 1, 15, 29, December 13. January 17, 31. February 21, 2026

**Rite of Enrolment** Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 pm or Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 am, 10:00 am or 12 noon

### Reconciliation & Rehearsals

Saturday, March 7, 2026 @ 9:00 am

**Confirmation:** Monday, April 13, 2026

### **Catholic Graduate Expectations:**

Distinctive expectations for graduates of Catholic schools are determined and shaped by the vision and destiny of the human person emerging from our faith tradition. Catholic education views human life as an integration of body, mind, and spirit. Rooted in this vision, Catholic education fosters the search for knowledge as a lifelong spiritual and academic quest.

### **The Graduate is expected to be:**

1. **A discerning believer** formed in the Catholic Faith community who celebrates the signs and sacred mystery of God's presence through word, sacrament, prayer, forgiveness, reflection and moral living.

**2. An effective communicator** who speaks, writes and listens honestly and sensitively, responding critically in light of gospel values.

**3. A reflective, creative and holistic thinker** who solves problems and makes responsible decisions with an informed moral conscience for the common good.

**4. A self-directed, responsible, lifelong learner** who develops and demonstrates their God-given potential.

**5. A collaborative contributor** who finds meaning, dignity and vocation in work which respects the rights of all and contributes to the common good.

**6. A caring family member** who attends to family, school, parish, and the wider community.

**7. A responsible citizen** who gives witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life.

#### PARISH INFORMATION:

t: [905.279.5742](tel:905.279.5742)  
e: [stmartinoftoursmi@archtoronto.org](mailto:stmartinoftoursmi@archtoronto.org)

#### MASS TIMES Weekends:

Sat.: 5:00 p.m.  
Sun.: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,  
12:00 p.m.

**Weekdays:** 8:30a.m.

#### Pastoral Team

Fr. Felix, O.Carm Pastor



#### YARD SUPERVISION

Please do not send your child/children to school before **8:45 a.m.** Students are supervised in the yard from 8:45 to 9:00 am. To ensure your child's safety, we appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter.



#### SCHOOL HOURS

**Morning Bell:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Morning Recess:** 10:23 a.m. - 10:38 am  
**Lunch / Recess:** 12:01 – 1:01 p.m.  
**Afternoon Recess:** 2:24 - 2:39 p.m.  
**Dismissal:** 3:30 p.m.

Students are to make their way home at the end of the day. **No playing in the school yard.**

#### DRESS CODE



Our school is committed to standards of neatness, cleanliness, modesty and are respectful of human dignity and inclusion. Students are expected to dress in attire suitable for the occasion and appropriate to the school environment. Your assistance and support are greatly appreciated.

Flip Flops/Crocs are not recommended as they pose a safety hazard. Running shoes are best for outdoors.



#### STUDENT INFORMATION

It is important that we have up to date records of your address, phone numbers, and emergency contacts in the event that the school must contact you regarding your child. Please inform the office or your child's teacher if any information changes throughout the year.

#### STUDENT ABSENCE AND ARRIVAL TIME

Parents/Guardians are required to report their child's absence, late arrival or early departure using one of these three methods: **Toll Free SchoolMessenger Phone Number 1 (844) 435-3440**  
**SchoolMessenger website:** [go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca)

**SchoolMessenger App (blue icon)** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. Future absences can be reported at any time using this system. For more information on how to report an

absence using SafeArrival, visit:  
<https://www.dpcdsb.org/parents/absence-reporting>

## STAFFING



September 2025 school organization is based on projected enrolment established through the School Board.

Based on enrolments within our boundaries during the first two weeks of September, we may need to reorganize the classes. **Please note that your child's classroom assignment is tentative until new enrolments or withdrawals are completed during this time frame.** If your child's placement or classroom teacher changes, you will be notified. Only those students affected by reorganization will be moved. We ask for your continued support and cooperation.

## MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT & BBQ

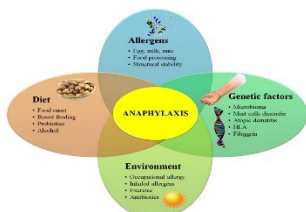
**Wednesday September 24<sup>th</sup>.** All parents/guardians will have an opportunity meet their child(ren)/s teacher/s. The evening will begin at 4:30 pm with our school BBQ (more information to follow). Parents/guardians may visit their child's class from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

## STORAGE AND ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Parents are responsible for ensuring that all medication and forms are updated annually for any student who requires medication to be administered at school. If your child requires medication, please have the necessary forms completed and return them, along with any medication, to the office as soon as possible.



## MEDICAL ALERT-ANAPHYLACTIC SHOCK-NUT ALLERGIES



Please be aware that there are students in our school with a severe life-threatening food allergy (anaphylaxis) to all **TREE NUTS, PEANUTS and SESAME**. This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to certain allergens and can result in death within minutes. Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, please send lunches and snacks to school with your children that are free from peanuts or nut products. We ask that you do not send in food products for the whole class to celebrate birthdays or social occasions. A donation of a book or game to the classroom is a safe alternative to food products and will be enjoyed so much longer by the children. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any concerns or questions. We thank you for your co-operation and attention to this health watch.

pa day

## REORGANIZATION: ACTUALIZING CATHOLIC SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS (CYCLES)

**Monday, September 15, 2025**, is a Professional Activity Day. Students do not attend school on this day.

Principals will lead staff in reorganization if, and as required by that school community. Teachers will have the opportunity to collect, and review required curriculum materials for newly assigned grades. In addition, staff will meet divisionally, and as a school team, to ensure school organization is structured to develop and actualize the Catholic School Improvement Plan.

## VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL

Parents/guardians are asked to book an appointment if you need to come into the school building.



## JHN23 CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Welcome back, JHN23 Family! We're excited to be back for another great year!

**The date of the first meeting is Wednesday, October 8, 2025**

### Elections and Term of Office

Elections in September ensure that even parents who are new to the school community, such as those with students starting in FDK, or those whose students are entering JHN23school for the first time, will be able to participate in the election of their representatives on the school council. This provision also gives them the opportunity to be considered for election as parent members of their school councils.

The term of office continues to be a one-year term. This enables members to consider, on an ongoing basis, their involvement on their school councils. Should they find a change in their personal situations or circumstances, they may find that they are no longer able to continue with the commitment they made. It is important to note, however, that the regulation does not restrict the number of times that a member can be re-elected.

School Council nomination forms will be sent electronically on September 9th to all the school community. **Please submit your nomination form electronically by September 25<sup>th</sup>. To**

[st.johnxxllinfo@dpcdsb.org](mailto:st.johnxxllinfo@dpcdsb.org)

### TOONIE FOR TERRY/TERRY FOX WALK



Again, this year we are proud to participate in the Annual Terry Fox Walk/Run for Cancer research. JHN23 staff and students will be supporting Terry

Fox's legacy as we walk in an effort to support

cancer research. Details regarding the class walks which will take place on **Friday October 26th** will be sent soon with the donation link.

### PLASP UPDATE

The Peel After School Program will run again this year. If you would like more information, please call 905- 890-1711

### SCHOOL AGENDAS



School agendas have been ordered for children in FDK to Gr 8 to assist your child in organizing his/her time. The teachers will be reviewing the importance of the agenda with their students. Your child is responsible to record their homework, upcoming projects/assignments, important dates, and teacher notices in their agenda. We are asking that you check your child's agenda on a daily basis to keep informed.

### CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

On rare occasions, we are faced with difficult situations in which non-custodial parents arrive at school asking to visit their child or to take their child home after school. We are best able to serve and protect students when we are made aware of legal custody arrangements, visitation rights and other special instructions. If legal custody matters affect your family, please ensure that our office and classroom teachers are aware of any custodial arrangements that may affect your child during school hours.



### FIRE DRILLS/LOCK DOWN PROCEDURES

We are required to conduct three fire drills in the fall and three in the spring. We are also required to practice two **lock down drills** during the year and one Shelter in Place. Lock down drills involves students moving away from the classroom door to a location within the classroom away from windows. Lights are turned off and the doors are locked. These practices are to ensure that students and staff are prepared in case we should need to go into lock down. Lock down would be initiated by police and Board security personnel.



### TEXTBOOK POLICY

Textbooks are the property of the school and are loaned out to students with the expectation that they will be returned at the end of the school year in good condition. The teachers keep a record of each textbook that students are given. Please help to keep our costs down by encouraging your child to take proper care of them. There will be a replacement cost to the student if the textbook is damaged, lost or not returned at the end of the school year.

### STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The Board takes every precaution to provide a safe learning environment for students, but accidents can and do happen. Some families have private accident insurance which can respond to costs arising from injuries. However, many families do not.

As required by the Education Act and the Ministry of Education, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board annually provides parents with information about cost-effective student accident insurance coverage via your child. Although enrollment is voluntary, the board strongly encourages parents to take advantage of the inexpensive insurance coverage, especially if their child/children participate in sports,

excursions/field trips, or, if parents do not have dental insurance coverage.

Parents alone have the right to insure their children. An acknowledgment form(GF401) was sent home. It must be signed and returned to the school to ensure an awareness that the board does not provide insurance and that you have received the insurance brochure. ***It is a requirement for the participation in Gym classes, excursions and/or extra-curricular activities.***

ONLINE @ [INSUREMYKIDS.COM](http://INSUREMYKIDS.COM)

OR CALL 1-800-463-5437



### PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT JHN23

Bringing your own electronic device is now recommended for learning.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board acknowledges the value of the use of technology for learning. Students are permitted to register and use personal electronic devices on board premises and/or board sanctioned events for educational purposes, under the direction of staff and only with parent/guardian permission. Students are required to adhere to the student "Personal Electronic Device Used with WI-FI Network Student Agreement" (GF 337) and the "Network User Application and Agreement".



**Please be advised that the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board will not be responsible for any cost incurred through the use of personal data plans.**

Devices are to be used responsibly and should not interfere with learning; their use must comply with the Catholic Code of Conduct, board policies and procedures. Any personal communications (i.e., phone calls, text messages, etc.) will continue to be directed through the main office. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in a loss of PED privileges and/or any other consequences deemed necessary by school administration. The school principal may authorize limited acceptable uses of personal electronic devices during school-sanctioned activities for a specific designated purpose outside of instructional spaces and/or in common areas.

Students are responsible for the safety and security of PEDs at all times and the Board assumes no responsibility for lost, damaged or stolen devices. PEDs may be used only with permission from a staff member.

Students need to be diligent about safely storing their PEDs. **St John XXIII School is not responsible for lost, stolen and/or damaged PEDs**

Students are to keep their personal information private (e.g., age, address, phone numbers, usernames, passwords).

Students are to use good judgment in accessing material on the internet, and report concerns. The Catholic Code of Conduct and academic integrity apply to the use of technology when students are accessing information. It is the student's, and/or parent/guardian's, responsibility to address normal and reasonable security measures such as maintaining anti-virus

protection and security patches for software for the protection of those sharing the wireless network. Students should not expect privacy with respect to any of their activities when using the board's wireless network and agree to and accept that access and/or wireless network activity may be monitored in order to identify usage patterns, security issues, etc. Photos, videos or images of an individual/group are not permitted to be taken without expressed consent. No school and/or board data can be stored on a PED. Inappropriate use of board technology and/or PEDs may result in confiscation of the PED, discipline, suspension or termination of these services, or police involvement.

### SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS



The school photographer will be edge imaging. Picture day is scheduled for **Tuesday September 23rd**, individual and class pictures. Picture re-take day will take place on **November 7th**.

### HELPING OUR CHILDREN LEARN

We believe that parents/guardians are the primary teachers of their children. Our goal is to educate every child well and to maximize student achievement and well-being. We will provide ongoing resources through the board and school websites to enable parents and guardians to be better informed and to participate fully in their child's education.



### Get up to date with all student immunizations:

- See your health care provider to receive your childhood immunizations (e.g., measles, polio) and report them online to Peel Public Health
- Book an immunization appointment at a Peel Public Health school or community clinic to receive:
- Hepatitis B, meningococcal and human papillomavirus vaccines for students in grade 7-12
- COVID-19 vaccines for children 6 months to under 5 years and booster doses for student 5-18 years of age

### SCHOOL CASHONLINE



Don't forget to get yourself set up on School CashOnline as we are no longer able to accept cash payment.

Please follow the link below to register online - it takes less than two minutes!

<https://dpcdsb.schoolcashionline.com>

You will need your child's name and date of birth. Use of student number is optional. Should you encounter any difficulties, you can use the parent help desk at 1 (866) 961-1803 or the support link on the school cash online website.

**PAY WITH:** Credit Card or Debit Card

1. Create Your Profile:

Go to

<https://dpcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/> and click on "Get Started Today".

2. Confirm Your Email:

Check your inbox for the email confirmation and click on the link inside.

Sign in with your new login details.

3. Add a Student

Click "Add Student" and fill in the required fields with your child's details:

1. School Board name
2. Select a school
3. Legal First Name
4. Legal Last Name
5. Birth Date (Month/Day/Year)



**September 30th** is annually recognized as Orange Shirt Day, highlighting the damage the residential school system did to the well-being of Indigenous children. Equally, it serves as a healing journey for the survivors and a commitment that every child matters.



### What is the Terry Fox Run and why is it important?

The annual runs are important in remembering Terry Fox and giving funds to a very important cause. "The Terry Fox run in our communities and our schools is our bread and butter and that's how we raise money for cancer research," says Heather MacKenzie Provincial Director for Manitoba and Saskatchewan of the Terry Fox Foundation. Participating in the Terry Fox Run means we are able to follow in the



footsteps of a true Canadian hero. Terry was an average guy who never gave up on his dream, and it's that example that motivates and compels us to finish what he started.

### **KISS & RIDE**

Thank you to JHN23 community for keeping with our kiss & ride rules. Students always exit on the right side of the vehicle. Please do not park your car in the kiss & ride, if you wish to do so you may park in a parking spot or on the street. Thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter.



- September 2**-School Year begins.
- September 15**- Reorg Day, No school for students
- September 16**- 1<sup>st</sup> Communion registration at church
- September 16- October 9**- Cash online for Terry Fox donations
- September 23**- Picture Day
- September 23**- Confirmation registration at church
- September 24**- School BBQ 4:30 - 5:30 PM, Meet the teacher 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM
- September 25**- School Council nomination forms due
- September 26**- Terry Fox Walk
- September 29**- Terry Fox Walk (rain date)
- September 30**- Truth & Reconciliation Orange Shirt Day. Onkwehonwe Games



- October 3**- School Opening Mass @ 10:30 AM at church. All are Welcome.
- October 3**- 1<sup>st</sup> pizza day
- October 8**- School Council elections & meeting @ 6:00 pm
- October 9**- Thanksgiving Liturgy @ 11:00 AM
- October 10**- PA Day
- October 13**- Happy Thanksgiving
- October 23**- Virtue of Faith & Empathy assembly @ 10:40 AM
- October 31**- Happy Halloween

### **Follow us on Instagram**

<https://www.instagram.com/st.johnxxiii23/>



Instagram