

Catholic School Improvement Learning Cycle 2016 – 2017

Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the staff of Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School, celebrate spirituality and diversity through achieving, believing and caring in an inclusive Catholic environment.

We, the parents of Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School, in partnership with staff and students, are dedicated to our children's spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social and physical development in a secure environment, at home and in class. Working together, we attain success by educating students to their full potential.

We, the students of Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School, act and learn as a Catholic community. We demonstrate our love for God by respecting each other and by trying to meet the expectations of our parents and teachers.

Our mission is to provide a Catholic education which develops the spiritual, intellectual and physical capabilities of each individual to live fully today and to meet the challenges of tomorrow, thus enriching the community.

MOTTO

Achieving, Believing, Caring

CATHOLIC FOCUS

Our Lady of Mercy School is a JK-8 elementary school located at 5820 Glen Erin Drive in the west section of the City of Mississauga. Our school motto:

"Achieving, Believing and Caring," reflects our goal in working together with the families, the parish and the community to create a rich faith learning environment. As a faith community, we strive to live out the gospel values in our daily life at school and welcome the support of our Catholic community in enriching our Catholic values and traditions. Our involvement in the Board's Virtues program aligned to the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations allows us to embed the virtues and expectations each month while embracing all of these

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traits throughout our school day. Our partnership with Merciful Redeemer Parish has created a strong faith life in our school community and supports many of our faith related activities including daily prayer, dedication to the rosary, liturgical celebrations, the sacraments, retreats and community service. Our Lady of Mercy School strives to be a caring community that stresses safe play, tolerance and acceptance of others, self-discipline, responsible citizenship and respect for our environment. The school follows the Board's Catholic Code of Conduct which provides specific guidelines for student behaviour and appropriate progressive disciplinary action.

Parents at Our Lady of Mercy School continue to be active partners both as volunteers and community members. Community support plays an important part in achieving school goals and enriching the learning environment.

In support of the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board's Catholic Board Improvement Learning Cycle, Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School is further committed to:

- Deepening the understanding, appreciation and practice of the Catholic Christian lifestyle, with Jesus as role model;
- Aligning a school-wide approach to Catholicity, whereby all educational practices are implemented through a Catholic lens;
- Developing students who are fully alive in Christ, not only in terms of knowledge and skills, but in terms of values, attitudes and actions.
- As a diverse educational community responding to God's call, Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School fosters and nourishes an inclusive atmosphere rooted in tradition and scripture while:
 - Being authentic witnesses to our Catholic Faith;
 - Being responsible stewards of God's grace in the world;
 - Respecting human dignity;
 - Modelling all learners after Jesus, as ministers of compassion

DUFFERIN PEEL'S STRATEGIC SYSTEM PLAN CORE PRIORITIES

CATHOLICITY

How does the school community model, celebrate and nourish gospel values in the teaching and learning of our Christ-centered programs and services?

- * Virtues education and liturgies
- * Sacred space in all classrooms and common areas
- * Gospel readings and reflections over the announcements daily

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- * Environmental focus-renewal and stewardship
- * Monthly Virtues Assemblies
- * Focusing on importance of Family and Community
- * Supporting and attending events in the community through Erin Mills Connects Committee (Teachers, Families in the Community)
- * Christmas and Thanksgiving Food Drives, Toys for Tots (Peel Police)
- * Learning Environment

CATHOLIC LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Summary of the school's most recent (2015-2016) EQAO Primary Assessment Performance

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| • Reading | 83 % of students at or above Provincial Standard |
| • Writing | 74 % of students at or above Provincial Standard |
| • Mathematics | 70 % of students at or above Provincial Standard |

Summary of the school's most recent (2015-2016) EQAO Junior Assessment Performance

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| • Reading | 96 % of students at or above Provincial Standard |
| • Writing | 87 % of students at or above Provincial Standard |
| • Mathematics | 60 % of students at or above Provincial Standard |

Describe how the school fosters the continuous development of all through a caring, safe and inclusive environment.

Progressive Discipline Procedures

Bullying Prevention Program

Focus on Students Well-being presentations and activities - Boys & Girls Night, presentations

Support Staff who work closely with staff and students

PALS

Police Education Sessions

Youth Faith Ambassadors

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

How does the school demonstrate that it values the involvement of community through partnerships and collaboration?

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Recreation centre, , Peel Police Youth Education Program, Region of Peel Health, PLASP, Newcomer Centre/Settlement workers, Peel Fire Department, Early Literacy Program, High School - St. Aloysius Gonzaga, School Resource Officers, Trustee, Student teachers and co-op student.

PARISH – HOME – SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS

Describe how the school demonstrates strong partnerships and collaboration among Parish, Home and School are based on mutual respect rooted in our lived Catholic Faith.

Active participation with Mercifyl Redeemer Church including liturgical celebrations

Parish news included on school website/newsletter as available

School Sacramental preparation (encourage parents/guardians to be part of sacramental preparation)

Support parish initiatives: Share Life

Parish Representative on School Council

Meeting with Fr. Vid at the beginning of each school year

Pastoral Plan shared with the community

STEWARDSHIP OF THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Describe how the school is committed to healthy and safe learning and working environments that enhance well-being, engagement and achievement.

Through the delivery of curriculum e.g., geography, science, religion, family programs that foster 'respect for life' and stewardship of resources

Through the purchasing of learning resources that reflect the diversity within the school

CCCCAT to review positive school climate survey, set direction and engage in school-wide activities

Follow Health and Safety procedures

TECHNOLOGY

How is the school committed to a responsible approach in addressing the technology needs of our learners in a global context?

Follow Board PED policy as students are encouraged to bring their own device

Technology Committee to look at school needs as well as staff professional development opportunities

Various technology platforms to suit different grade levels and student needs

Access to technology to all students

SEA Claims for diverse learners

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Ipads for students with special needs

SACREDNESS OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

How does the school encourage the respectful and sustainable environmental practices of reducing, reusing and recycling?

Recycling program

"Green" initiatives throughout the year (Big Crunch, Big Gulp, Eco-Fest)

School-wide recycling program

Through the delivery of curriculum e.g., geography, science, religion, family programs that foster 'respect for life' and stewardship of resources

Through the purchasing of learning resources that reflect the diversity within the school

Earth Day

Photocopy reduction plan

Water bottle filling stations

Participation in ECO schools certification

Bike racks

Use of DP Cloud at meetings