



St. Jerome School
790 Paisley Blvd W.
Mississauga, Ontario
L5C 3P5

Tel (905) 273 3836 Fax (905) 273 9539

Newsletter January 2017

Happy New Year!

Wishing everyone in our community every happiness for 2017!

Prayer for the New Year

*Give us the kindness to hear with compassion,
to offer support, loving comfort and care.
Give us the courage to do what is needed,
the wisdom to choose what is right and most fair.
Give us the vision to see what is possible.
Give us the faith that we will pave the way
for a present that's hopeful,
and a future that's peaceful.
Giving us the healing to bring joy to each day.
Amen*

THIS YEAR 2017

*Mend a quarrel. Seek out a forgotten friend.
Dismiss suspicion, and replace it with trust.
Give a soft answer. Share a treasure.
Manifest your loyalty in word and deed.
Keep a promise. Find the time.
Forgo a grudge. Forgive an enemy.
Apologize if you are wrong.
Try to understand. Appreciate.
Be gentle. Laugh a little.
Laugh a little more.
Examine your demands on others.
Express your gratitude.
Gladden the heart of a child. Have faith.
Take pleasure in the beauty of the earth.
Conserve energy.
Remember to be kind to one another.
Speak your love. Speak God's LOVE!*

Mississauga South Family of Schools

Trustee:

B. Iannicca
905 270 0536

Superintendent:

D. Finegan-Downey

Principal:

A. Aquino

H. Secretary:

M. Vritsios

Parish Priests:

Fr. Joyson Pottackal
St. Martin of Tours
905 279 5742

Catholic School

Council Chair:

M. Fleese

Web-site:

www.dpcdsb.org/jerom

Faith Life



VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: Self-Control

God wants us to do what we know and feel is right.

A person with self-control.....

- Is patient
- Knows how to wait his/her turn
- Can calm him/herself down and think before reacting to situations
- Knows how to avoid physical aggression
- Can think things through

Self-Control helps us to resist the temptation to do something that we will regret. It also helps us to resist the temptation to do something that will harm ourselves or others. Each time you exercise self-control, you grow stronger in the Lord and invite peace to settle over your life.

Grade 2 First Communion

The rite of enrolment for First Communion will be at any of the following masses: Saturday, February 11 at 5:00 pm, Sunday, February 12th at 8:00 am, 10:00 am or 12:00 pm, Saturday, February 25th at 5:00 pm or Sunday, February 26th at 8:00 am, 10:00 am or 12:00 pm. The celebration of the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be the following masses: April 29th at 10:30 am, April 30th at 2:00 pm or May 6th at 10:30 am. You must be registered with the church to receive First Communion this year.

Grade 7 Confirmation

The Grade 7 Confirmation this year will be held at St. Martin of Tours Parish on Tuesday, April 25th at 7:00 p.m. You must be registered with the church to receive Confirmation this year.



Student Information

It is most 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. If there have been any changes, please ensure that we have your most current information.

Reporting Head Injuries

Even when it may appear to be insignificant, we inform parents of **ALL** head injuries at school which are reported to us. We do this in recognition of the potential danger of any injury involving the head area. We are not intending to alarm you, rather to keep you informed. Please remind your child to let a staff member know if they bump/injure their head at school.

Around the School

Attendance

Late and absent students **MUST** be reported to the office. Please call our attendance line (this line is available 24 hours a day) at 905 273-3836, push "one" and leave a message. It is often very difficult to reach parents in a timely fashion and as always, the safety of your child is of our utmost concern. Remember to always inform the office if any of your contact numbers change. It is vital that our contact records are accurate at all times. We must always have the most current information in case your child needs you during the school day. We thank you for your continued support in this matter.

PED Policy (Personal Electronic Devices)

It is the Board policy that all personal electronic devices (PEDs), must be off and out of sight on school property or during school-sanctioned activities such as retreats, field trips, sport events, etc. PEDs are allowed for educational purposes at the discretion of the classroom teacher and under the direct supervision of the classroom teacher. The school is not responsible for loss and/or damages.

Indoor Shoes/Change of Clothes

Please ensure that your child comes to school prepared to go outside for recess and lunch hour breaks. It is the expectation that each child comes dressed appropriately to go outside to enjoy the weather and get some fresh air and exercise. If your child is prone to getting wet during recess, please send a change of clothes, especially socks and sweat pants. Please ensure that your child brings a pair of indoor shoes to school. Please label the shoes for our primary students. Running shoes are preferred because they are safe and can also be used for gym. Please ensure that the shoes have non-marking soles. We appreciate your continued support!

School Safety

Parents are welcomed to the school throughout the year, however, for the safety of all children, parents and visitors **will now be required to ring the door bell at the front door for entry, and must sign in at the office and receive a visitor's sticker each and every time** you visit the building. Visitors are not entitled to go to the classrooms as this is a disruption to student programming. Since the hallways are busy during pick up times, siblings and parents are asked to arrange with your child, a meeting place **outside** of the school. Messages and deliveries (keys, lunches, etc.) are handled through the office. **Please remember to most students in the school, you are a stranger! We also ask that parents do not enter the school yard during school hours as this is also a safety issue. Safety continues to be our primary area of focus!**

Parking on School Property

If you are choosing to park in the school parking lot, please park **only in designated parking spaces**. We ask that you do not double park or park along the back fence. For the safety of our staff and students please be careful when pulling out of parking spots and ensure that your child does not run in the parking lot or between parked cars. If your child is in grade 1 or higher, we ask that you use the Kiss N Ride when dropping off your child in the morning, allowing kindergarten parents to use the parking lot. If you are parking on school property please turn your car engine off when you are parked, we are an idle free zone. We thank you for your continued support.

Kiss 'N Ride

PLEASE NOTE THAT CARS ARE NOT TO USE THE BUS LANE AT ANY TIME. Parents are also asked to use our proper Kiss 'N Ride lanes and not to pull into the school lanes. This is especially important this year as we begin to offer Full Day Kindergarten classes.

Parents please do not leave your car unattended in any of the Kiss 'N Ride lanes at any point in the school day, most especially at lunch time. If you are dropping off a lunch for your child please park your car in a designated parking spot or on the street. Please note that if you are using the Kiss 'N Ride you should not be getting out of your car to help a child exit, you should not pop open your truck to retrieve knapsacks, and all students must exit from the right passenger side of the car for their safety. We ask that parents use extra caution when using our Kiss 'N Ride lanes in the winter months. Please drive safely and take your time. Our focus is always to keep all of our students safe.

School Yard Safety

Just a reminder that student supervision begins at 9:00; students must not be dropped off at the school before this time.

Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at our school from Monday, February 6th to Thursday, February 9th.

The Book Fair hours are:

Monday	9:30 to 3:30
Tuesday	9:30 to 3:30
Wednesday	9:30 to 3:30
Thursday	9:30 to 8:00

Sorry, the Book Fair is going back on Friday so it will not be open at all on Friday. Family Draw Ballots will be given to every student as they visit the Book Fair. The Draw will be held Thursday and the winner will receive \$50 worth of books for themselves and their class! Thank you for your support!

Full Day Kindergarten Registration 2017-2018

Registration for FDK for the 2017-2018 school year, will take place at St. Jerome School on the following days:

Tuesday, January 24, 2017	7 p.m. to 9 p.m. *
Wednesday, January 25, 2017	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Thursday, January 26, 2017	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Friday, January 27, 2017	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

* Snow Date:

Wednesday, January 25, 2017	7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
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Criminal Reference Check

In compliance with Ministry directives, a Criminal Reference Check is **mandatory** if you wish to volunteer your services in the school, transport students and assist on trips. Copies of the Criminal Reference application forms are available in the office. An annual declaration is required for all valid Criminal Reference Checks that are on file in the school office. A Criminal Reference Check is mandatory this year if you plan to volunteer for both in school and out of school activities.

Website

Parents are encouraged to visit our website! The site is **www.dpcdsb.org/jerom**. Please take the time to check it out. All school information and parent information is on the site and updated regularly. All previous and current newsletters are on the site. Our web-site is another excellent tool to keep parents connected to what is happening at school.

Report Cards and Interviews

The report card for Term 1 will be going home on Tuesday, February 7th, 2017. Interviews will take place on the evening of Thursday, February 9th, 2017 and on Friday, February 10th, 2017. Forms will be sent home soon to schedule an interview time. Confirmation of the interview time will be sent home with your child's report card. It is our hope to see all parents during this interview cycle.

Leaving At Lunchtime

Parents please be advised that **ALL** students must have written permission from a parent/guardian to leave the school at lunch. Verbal permission (over the phone) will not be accepted. A signed and dated note with a parent/guardian signature is required for each occurrence. The note must come to the office and students are required to sign out and to sign back in when they return for afternoon classes.

Catholic Education Week 2017

The theme chosen for the upcoming 2017 Catholic Education Week is: Walking Forward Together

- Walking Forward Together with God
- Walking Forward Together with Our Families
- Walking Forward Together with Others
- Walking Forward Together with Creation
- Walking Forward Together in Hope

As we embark upon this new school year filled with promise and hope, we remember that we are all on a life journey of faith where Jesus reveals himself to us.

Information Session to Support the Transition of Children with Differing Abilities into Kindergarten 2017

On Wednesday, January 11, 2017 the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board will be hosting a Kindergarten entry planning and information session for families of children with differing abilities. It will take place at the Catholic Education Centre Room 301 at 40 Matheson Boulevard West from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The snow date is Monday, January 16, 2017. For more information, families can visit the board website at www.dpcdsb.org or call the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board at 905-890-1221.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Please consider helping our wonderful team! Your time is truly appreciated and is valued by all our staff and students! Our next council meeting will be Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Cold Weather

With the arrival of colder weather, students are reminded to dress appropriately (hats, mitts, boots, etc.) and to wear all clothing that they came to school in when they go out for recess. We recommend that clothing is labelled for our primary students, so that we can easily identify who owns what. During the winter season it is generally accepted in Dufferin—Peel that when the wind chill factor drops below – 25 C, students should not go outside for recess.

Cold and Flu Season

Please use discretion in keeping your children home to recover if they are ill. A child who is coughing, wheezing, etc. is not in a state to learn and will only infect others. If a student is sent to school, it is assumed that they will participate in all aspects of the school day, including **outdoor recess**. We do not provide individual indoor supervision. We also remind parents to dress students for our weather conditions. We will be having outdoor recess, weather permitting, as much as possible. At all times, we follow the Board guidelines for inclement weather. The students enjoy going out, especially if they have their snowsuits, boots, hats and mittens.



Snowballs

When the cold months arrive and snow on the ground is plentiful, we all like to play in it and with it. Throwing snowballs and sliding on ice is fun. However, as much fun as it is, snow and ice can be very dangerous when lots of people are in a small area. Our school yard is a small area where approximately three hundred thirty students have recess. In order for our school to be as safe as possible, the school rule must be that snow stays on the ground. There will be no snowballs, kicking of snow or any other activity with snow or ice that could be harmful.

Extended French Information Night

Grade 4 parent(s)/ guardian(s), who wish to enroll their child in a Grade 5 Extended French class for September, 2017 are invited to attend an information meeting at:

School: St. Philip School (905-306-8420)

Address: 345 Fairview Road West

Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m.

At the present time, the above mentioned school is the designated centre for our area. Applications will be accepted at that centre until 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 21, 2017.

Dates to Remember Mark your Calendar



January 9	Back to school
January 23	PA Day - no school
January 25	Immunization Clinic grade 7 and 8
February 3	Term 2 begins
February 7	Term 1 Report Cards go home
February 9	Interview Evening
February 10	PA Day –no school
February 15	Catholic School Council 6:30 pm
February 20	Family Day –no school
February 28	Shrove Tuesday
March 1	Ash Wednesday
March 8	Lenten Mass 10:00 am at school
March 13-17	March Break

Planning Ahead:

PA Days:

Jan 23, Feb 10, May 12, June 12, June 30

March Break:

Monday, March 13 to Friday, March 17, 2017 inclusive

Twitter

Help us spread the word! Dufferin-Peel is on Twitter! For the latest board information.

Inclement Weather

When weather conditions are bad, parents are asked to listen to the local radio stations/television stations for announcements of transportation services being withdrawn and/or possible school closures.

The message usually takes the following form:

1. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board buses serving St. Andrew, St. Benedict and St. Peter elementary schools and R.F. Hall Secondary School are cancelled today. This message does not affect us at St. Jerome.
2. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board buses and The Peel District School Board buses in the Town of Caledon and the County of Dufferin are cancelled. This means that all runs listed under #1 above plus all schools in the Town of Caledon and all school runs that begin in the Town of Caledon. This message does not affect us at St. Jerome.
3. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and The Peel District School Board buses are cancelled. This means that **ALL** transportation services provided, including buses, vans and taxis have been **cancelled for the entire day**. Students dropped off by parents, when transportation is cancelled, must be picked up by parents or have other arrangements in place for their return trip home. The school cannot give permission for children to be driven home by someone other than the parent/guardian.
4. The schools and offices of both The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and The Peel District School Board are closed. This means that **ALL** Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and Peel District School Board schools and offices are closed to all students and staff.

The Dufferin-Peel web-site home page will also have this updated information. You may also go to www.stopr.ca for daily cancellations or delays.