

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School



39 Sunset Blvd.,
Brampton, ON
L6X 1X1

www.dpcdsb.org/OLFAT

Phone 905-459-4737
Fax 905-459-6088

Principal:

A. Fiore

Head Secretary:

M. Francia

School Council

Chair:

Heather Coelho

Superintendent:

V. Varano

Trustee:

Wards 1, 3 & 4: Anisha
Thomas

Parish:

St. Anne's
Fr. Suresh Xavier -
Pastor
Rev. Jobin Thomas
Associate Pastor
905-453-1303

School Hours:

Entry: 8:30 a.m.

Lunch: 11:32-12:32

Recess:

Morning: 9:54-10:09
a.m.

Afternoon: 1:55-2:10
p.m.

End of Day: 3:00 p.m.

In Flander's Fields



In Flanders fields the poppies blow
between the crosses, row on row,
that mark our place; and in the sky
the larks still bravely singing, fly
scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders's fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
the torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
we shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders's fields.

Lt.-Col. John McCrae

Dear Fatima Families,

The month of November calls us to reflect and "remember" with All Saint's Day, All Soul's Day, and Remembrance Day. We are blessed to live in a country where freedom is a way of life. Many Canadians have made sacrifices so that we can enjoy this freedom. Soldiers continue to work today to help keep the peace in countries around the world and to fight for those people who do not enjoy the privileges that we do as Canadians.

In the month of November, with the changing of the weather and the changing of the leaves, we are often longing for warmer and calmer days. November is a great time to reconnect with family and friends, relishing being cozy inside with loved ones and to see this time as a gift, an invitation to slow down and reflect on our many blessings.

Continue to be well, God bless and stay safe.

A. Fiore
Principal

November 2024



Our Faith



THE VIRTUE PROGRAM

The virtue for the month of November: **CONSCIENCE**
God has given us the ability to know the right and decent way to act and then to act that way. We trust that the common Spirit we share inspires us and guides us to make good decisions if we allow our conscience to be well-informed. Conscience is the voice of God within us. As we develop our conscience, we will learn to make decisions that encourage and support truly loving relationships. Our conscience reminds us how to act towards other people and how to be a good friend. It is a daily challenge to examine our lives and ask: Who or what guides my conscience to help me make the right decision?

A person of Conscience...

- ***Chooses to do the 'right thing' even when it is hard***
- ***Takes time to think and pray before making decisions***
- ***Knows that their actions and decisions affect those around them***
- ***Thinks of others before themselves.***

Our daily prayer for November:

Let us now pray...for the grace and strength to be people of conscience-people who know the good and decent way to act and then choose to act that way.

Amen

All Saints Day Prayer (Lit. of the Hours)

Father, All-Powerful and ever-living God,
today we rejoice in the holy men and women
of every time and place.
May their prayers bring us your forgiveness and love
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

ALL SOULS' DAY

All Souls' Day is a day for commemoration of all the faithful departed, those baptized Christians who are believed to be in purgatory. It is observed on November 2. November is the month where we devote our prayers to our loved ones who have passed away. Every day while we pray as a school, we will pray for all the souls we remember in our hearts.

HALLOWEEN DANCE

Thank you to our Catholic School Council who organized our Halloween Dance. The students had a great time dancing with their peers. We look forward to many more exciting events taking place at our school.

EXTENDED FRENCH MEETING DATES

WINTER COATS

Thanks to the Knights of Columbus for the very generous donation of winter coats and snowsuits. If you need a winter coat for your child/children, please contact the office at 905-459-4737 and we will be happy to assist you.



TREATIES RECOGNITION WEEK: NOV 3 - 9, 2024

Treaties Recognition Week helps students, faculty, staff, and the public learn about treaties from diverse Indigenous perspectives and encourages greater understanding of the importance of treaties

in Ontario. Treaties negotiated in Ontario over the past 250 years are the foundation of the relationship between governments and Indigenous peoples. They represent a mutual commitment to building a prosperous future for everyone. Historical treaties are important to the ongoing relationship between the Crown and First Nations and are still relevant today. By building understanding of these agreements, we are moving towards reconciliation with Indigenous people. This helps create equitable and respectful relationships, enabling a better way forward together.

Each year, students learn why treaties matter to all Ontarians. Indigenous speakers visit classrooms and [video stories](#) are shared in schools across the province.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

As Remembrance Day approaches, we reflect on the passing of many souls who have left our life and entered God's heavenly kingdom. We dedicate this month to those loved ones who have gone before us. On Remembrance Day, we also remember those courageous souls who have lost their lives to provide a better life for all of us. They gave their lives for our freedom so that we may live in peaceful times. Let us pray to God to bring us peace in our heart, family, school, community, city, country, and this world so that we may all live in harmony with each other. To visually recognize this important day, we are asking all staff and students to wear red, white and/or black to symbolize the colours of our country as well as the poppy.

TIPS TO PREVENT THE FLU

It's flu season and we want to make sure students stay as healthy as possible. Getting the flu shot this year is more important than ever, to reduce the chance of having an illness that can be confused for

COVID-19. Influenza (flu) spreads easily from one person to another and Peel Public Health has some tips to help reduce the risk of catching the flu and spreading it.

Get your annual flu shot: The flu shot is your best defense against the flu. The flu virus changes frequently so you need to get the vaccine every Fall. There are many locations across Peel where you can get your flu shots by appointment only:

- Family Doctors' offices
- Walk-in clinics
- Pharmacies

Remember to physically distance and wear a mask at the clinic to help protect yourself and others.

Be sure to contact your healthcare provider to book an appointment, as walk-ins are not accepted due to COVID-19 safety measures.

Keep children home when they're sick: If your child develops flu-like signs and symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, and fatigue), keep them home from school. Contact your health care provider if symptoms are severe.

Practice good hygiene: Help your child get into the habit of covering their nose and mouth with a tissue when they cough or sneeze and throw tissues in the trash. Cough or sneeze into a sleeve or elbow if they don't have a tissue. They should also avoid touching their eyes, nose, or mouth. This is how germs are spread.

Wash your hands: Encourage your child to wash their hands often with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, especially after they cough or sneeze.

For more information, call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700 or visit www.peelregion.ca/flu.

SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Supervision begins at the school at 8:15. For your child's safety, please do not send your child earlier as there is no one to supervise them.

School Begins: 8:30 am
Recess: 9:54 am-10:09 am
Lunch: 11:32 am - 12:32 pm
Recess: 1:55 pm-2:10 pm
Dismissal: 3:00 pm



ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION

It is important for students to be at school on time and ready to work. When students are late, they miss important information and routines. We realize that throughout the year there will be times when a child is sick and will have to miss school. If your child is late or absent, please use Safe Arrival: The Safe Arrival website is: <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>

Or you can call the toll-free number **1-844-435-3440** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available **24 hours/day, 7 days a week**. Future absences can be reported at any time. **Students who will be absent or late should be reported to SafeArrival BEFORE 8:30am for a same-day absence/late.**

Elementary Progress Reports

Interview request forms will be sent home on Wednesday November 1st. Teachers will indicate whether an interview is needed. Interviews will need to be booked online. Parents may also request an interview. Progress Report Cards will be distributed on **Tuesday, November 12** with interview details. Interviews are on **Thursday, November 14**, from 3:30 – 8:00 p.m.

CHANGE IN WEATHER

We have been noticing the coming of the colder weather and we remind you that children need to dress appropriately. We recognize that temperatures

can change throughout the day and suggest that children come dressed in layers.

During the winter season, many parents are concerned about school policy on outdoor recess. It is generally accepted that when the wind chill factor drops below -25°C , students should not go outside for recess. Dufferin-Peel C.D.S.B. policy uses a wind chill of -20°C as the determining temperature for modified recesses. At Our Lady of Fatima, students will remain inside when the wind chill is reported at -25°C or lower and we will modify the duration of lunch recess when the temperature reaches -20°C . As always, ensure your child is prepared for the extremes of Canadian weather.

BAD WEATHER PLAN (applies to all students)

Student Transportation of Peel Region is responsible for deciding whether busses will be cancelled or not in each of the 3 zones in our school board on days of heavy snow or freezing rain. OUR LADY OF FATIMA SCHOOL belongs to ZONE 2. All parents should check the board website for the yellow banner when bad weather is anticipated. Decisions are made by 6:30 am. There are two possible scenarios. One, all schools and offices are completely closed. Two, busses are cancelled but schools and offices are open. Please note, if busses are cancelled, it is for both morning and afternoon runs.

A CHANGE OF CLOTHING

With the cold and wet weather come wet socks, pants, etc. We encourage parents to send an extra pair of socks, pants, etc. especially for the younger children. If they do get wet, they will have a change of clothing and we will not need to interrupt your work schedule.



DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

In no time at all the colder weather will be upon us, so we ask that you dress your child appropriately for the weather. It is easier to layer and then remove items of outer wear than not having sufficient outdoor clothing. We encourage all students to come prepared with appropriate outdoor clothing especially hats, gloves, or mittens.

INDOOR SHOES



We would like to remind parents to send an extra pair of shoes to school with their child/ren. The muddy weather is upon us, and the extra pair of shoes would help to reduce the tracking of outdoor mud into the classrooms.

PEDS POLICY

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board acknowledges the value and use of technology to support learning. The revisions to the Personal Electronic Devices Policy (PEDS) on school property permits students to register and use PEDS on board property and/or at sanctioned events for educational purposes under the direction of school staff. Students shall use technology in accordance with the expectations of behaviour outlined in the Catholic Code of Conduct and other board policies. PEDS Forms and Network User Agreements must be signed for each student wishing to bring in and use a personal device at school. While cell phones are permissible, they are not to be used during the school day. If you need to reach your child, please contact the office and the message will be relayed.

HOMEWORK

Please be advised that teachers at Our Lady of Fatima School will adhere to the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board policy on *Homework – Kindergarten to Grade 12*. In particular, the policy states that homework shall not be assigned to students in kindergarten. Homework in the early grades (Grades 1-3) shall more often take the form of reading, playing, discussing, listening, viewing, and interactive activities such as building and cooking with the family. In later grades (Grades 4 to 6) homework may take the form of independent work, with a maximum of 40 minutes per day, and a maximum of 60 minutes per day on average for intermediate students.

A summary of the policy can be found in your child's agenda (Grades 1 to 6).

We continue to ask for your support as we promote good work habits at home for our students and ask that you help in the following ways:

- monitoring daily homework and ensuring that your child(ren) complete all tasks to the best of their ability;
- providing a consistent time and location for daily homework.

TRANSPORTATION



The distance criteria for transportation eligibility must be more than:

- 1.0 kilometre for Kindergarten and Grade 1
- 1.6 kilometres for Grades 2-4
- 2.0 kilometres for Grades 5-8

All Kindergarten and Grade 1 students who take the bus are required to be met by a parent or guardian when disembarking from the bus after school.

All bus information for the current school year is posted on the front windows of the school. Transportation eligibility is determined via the Board Bus policy. Information regarding this policy as well as current route information is available through the STOPR website: <https://www.stopr.ca/>

You may also contact the Transportation Department via the following contact numbers:
Transportation: 905-890-6000 Special Education
Transportation: 905-890-636. To determine if your son or daughter is eligible for transportation, please visit <https://businfo.stopr.ca/Eligibility.aspx?Page=School>
You can also receive up to date information by following StopR on Twitter @STOPRinfo

To receive updates on whether your child's bus is running late, please subscribe to STOPr at <https://businfo.stopr.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>

BUS SAFETY

If your child rides the bus daily, it is important that they are aware of the safety rules on the bus.

Students are required to:

- Listen to the Bus Driver at all times and report any problems or injuries to him/her
- Go directly to their seat and remain seated during the entire bus ride
- Do not eat, drink, swear, fight or chew gum on the bus
- Do not put arms out the window, or throw items or garbage out the window
- If any damage to the seat of bus is caused, students will be held responsible
- Be at least 5 minutes early at your bus stop to ensure that you don't miss the bus

Improper conduct on the bus will be dealt with at the Office. Repeated or serious incidents can result in busing privileges being suspended or removed. Please review these rules with your child. Taking the bus is a privilege, not a right.

HEAD INJURIES – PROCEDURE CHANGES



The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has a Concussion Protocol in place. All students sent to the office who experience a head injury will receive a **Concussions Are Serious** pamphlet to take home. Parents and Guardians are encouraged to review the pamphlet. All head injuries are logged and reported to parents and guardians directly. We ask that all parents and guardians please notify the school as soon as possible if your child sustains a concussion as a result of a school incident or as a result of an activity outside of the school day. Parents and

guardians are encouraged to direct any concerns and questions to the Main Office.

MEDICAL ALERT – SABRINA’S LAW (ANAPHYLAXIS)



Sabrina’s Law is an Act to protect anaphylactic pupils in publicly funded schools in Ontario. Named “Sabrina’s Law” in honour of an Ontario student who died following an anaphylactic reaction in 2003, this law requires that every school board establish and maintain an anaphylaxis policy.

If your child has a severe allergic reaction to peanuts, peanut by-products, bee/wasp stings etc., please let the school know as soon as possible. It is essential that the information you provide us with is accurate and up to date. There are various forms which need to be completed by you and your family doctor if it is necessary to store and dispense an EPI-pen or any other medication at school.

We continue to have students with severe, life threatening allergies to certain foods, such as peanuts and nuts. This is a medical condition that may cause severe and life-threatening reactions to certain allergens within minutes. Although this may or may not affect your child’s class directly, we require your continued cooperation in sending foods to school with your child that **are free from peanuts, nuts or their by-products**.

Please do not send food products to be shared in your child’s classroom (including doughnuts and/or timbits, which are not nut-free).

It is important for the safety of your child, that we have up to date information regarding any life-threatening conditions. If your child uses an epipen or inhalers, it is important that we are provided with them when they arrive at school. Ideally, we

would like to have an epi-pen or inhalers in the office. If students are keeping them 'on them', they must be worn in a fanny pack so that they are not accessible to others. If you need to complete forms, please contact the office.

MEDICATION

Please note that school staff cannot dispense medication of any kind without the proper authorization and a properly labeled container, (i.e. prescription bottle/asthma or original over the counter container).

Parents are responsible for ensuring that all medication and forms are updated for any student who requires medication to be administered at school. Forms are available at the school office or from your child's teacher. Please check and note expiry dates on all medication. If you have any questions regarding the storage and administration of medication, please contact the school.

HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Your participation in your child's school life is fundamental to his or her educational success. Effective and on-going communication between home and school takes a variety of forms and operates on a variety of levels. Should you have any concerns regarding your child's progress or issues in the classroom, please do not hesitate to call and leave a message for your child's teacher with some times that are convenient to reach you. Please do not let problems fester. A quick phone call or note in your child's agenda asking the teacher to call you can help put your mind at ease.

TOYS AND VALUABLES

Students should not bring toys, valuables, or items of importance to school. The school cannot assume responsibility for valuables brought to school.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

It is vital that we can contact you during school hours, should an emergency arise. We have on record telephone numbers for home, work, and an

emergency contact person. In order to keep our records up to date, please ensure that the office has updated information by returning the Student Verification Sheet provided by the teacher earlier in the year. Please contact the office anytime during the school year if any information changes.

CHILD SAFETY

The Child and Family Services Act compels educators to report any issues that may compromise a child's welfare. If a staff member suspects any issue that may affect a child's safety, then Children's Aid Society (CAS) must be contacted. It is our **Legal Obligation** as employees of the school to report any suspicions directly to the Children's Aid Society. It is not the role of educators to investigate. That is CAS' role. CAS, not the school, informs parents directly of the issue.

VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS

We greatly appreciate volunteers in our schools and often encourage parents to volunteer of their time. However, due to the pandemic, visitors, volunteers, and parent/guardians will not be permitted in school or on school property with the exception of pick-up and drop-off areas. Parents cannot enter the school unless they have an approved appointment or to pick up a sick child. Anyone entering the school throughout the day will be required to complete a COVID self-assessment tool prior to entering the building. However, volunteers would be much appreciated for the kiss and ride mornings to help guide families to use the kiss and ride safely. Please call the school if you are available to help. Thank you.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE



All money collected for the school will be done using school cash online. If you haven't registered already, please take an opportunity to sign-up for School Cash Online. It's an easy way to pay and participate. Go to <https://dpcdsb.schoolcashionline.com/> to sign

up. Due to COVID-19, staff will not be able to handle cash.



PHONE MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS

To minimize disruptions, we do not relay phone messages to students, **except in case of an emergency**, in which case the student is brought to the office and given the message. We trust you will understand the need for this policy.

ADULTS IN THE PLAYGROUND

Thank you to all who support our efforts to provide a safe learning environment for our students by cooperating with school policies related to safety and security.

Unfamiliar or unidentified adults are not permitted on school property! It is our policy that all visitors (parents, guardians, guests etc.) **MUST** report to the office to seek permission to enter the school. **Only Our Lady of Fatima staff, students, and supervisors are allowed in the playground!** It is not possible for our supervisors to recognize all parents, so we ask for your support in following this policy.

NO DOGS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

In the interest of student safety, we remind you that dogs are not permitted on school property. A dog's behaviour and response around strangers can be unpredictable. Although dogs can be good pets for some people, they can be scary to some and pose an allergic risk to others. Dog droppings can pose not only a nuisance, but a health and safety hazard for all as well. Therefore, dogs must not be exercised on school property or brought to school when dropping off or picking up.

2025-2026 EXTENDED FRENCH INFORMATION SESSION DETAILS

Grade 4 parents/guardians who wish to learn more about Extended French or wish to enroll their child in a Grade 5 Extended French program for September 2025, are invited to attend an information meeting at one of the following virtual parent evening sessions:

EF School Region	Session Date & Time	Meeting Information
BRAMPTON, CALEDON & DUFFERIN Holy Family (Caledon/Bolton) St. Andrew (Orangeville) St. Anne (Brampton West) St. Jean Brebeuf (Brampton East) St. Monica (Brampton Central)	Tuesday, November 5, 2024 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Extended French Information Session, #1 Microsoft Teams Live Meeting #1 Link
MISSISSAUGA San Lorenzo Ruiz (Miss. Central) St. Christopher (Miss. South) St. Philip (Miss. Southeast) St. Rose of Lima (Miss North Central) St. Therese of the Child Jesus (Miss. North) St. Thomas More (Miss. East)	Thursday, November 7, 2024 7:00 p.m.	Virtual Extended French Information, Session #2 Microsoft Teams Live Meeting #2 Link

Parents of students in grade 4 who may consider enrolling in the extended French program are invited to join the virtual information meeting on Tuesday, November 5.

The meeting link is: Virtual Extended French Information Session #1
[Meeting Link](#)

Our Lady of Fatima

Toll-Free Number	1-844-435-3440
SchoolMessenger App	https://go.schoolmessenger.com
SafeArrival Website	https://go.schoolmessenger.com

Mark Your Calendar...

<u>Nov. 1</u>	<u>All Saints Day</u>
<u>Nov. 2</u>	<u>All Souls Day</u>
<u>Nov. 8</u>	<u>Acadience Screening taking place</u>
<u>Nov 8-9</u>	<u>CCAT Testing for Grade 4's</u>
<u>Nov. 11</u>	<u>Remembrance Day Service @ 10:40</u>
<u>Nov. 12</u>	<u>Progress Report Cards Sent Home</u>
<u>Nov. 14</u>	<u>Parent/Teacher Interviews</u>
<u>Nov. 15</u>	<u>Rosary Apostolate</u>
<u>Nov. 18</u>	<u>School Council Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.</u>
<u>Nov. 22</u>	<u>PA Day</u>
<u>Dec. 1</u>	<u>First Sunday of Advent</u>
<u>Dec. 4</u>	<u>Immunization Clinic @ Fatima</u>
<u>Dec. 23 to Jan. 3</u>	<u>Christmas Break (inclusive)</u>

OLOF School Council Cookie Dough Fundraiser

NOVEMBER 4 TO 29

\$15 per box

40 pre-portioned dough
drops with 12

FLAVOURS TO CHOOSE
FROM!

100% peanut, nut, gluten
free, and vegan

To Order Online Go To:

<https://fundraising.terracottacookies.com/current-fundraisers/ourladyoffatima/brampton/>



Terra Cotta
COOKIE CO.
Since/Depuis 1984



Cookie pickup will be
Mon Dec 9 at 3pm