



ST. PAUL CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

“Omni Cum Corde - Everything with Heart”

815 Atwater Avenue, Mississauga ON , L5E 1L8

Phone: 905.278.3994



@stpaulcss1

Website: <https://www.dpcdsb.org/PAULS>

Email: [st.paulinfo@dpcdsb.org](mailto:st.paulinfo@dpcdsb.org)



@StPaulCSS1



**Principal:** Peter Cusumano

**Catholic School Trustees:**

**Vice Principal:** Tiziana Klin

Bruno Iannicca (Mississauga Ward 7)  
Mario Pascucci (Mississauga Wards 1&3)

**Superintendent:**  
Dulcie Belchior

**Catholic School Council Co-Chairs:**

**Parish:** St.Dominic's,  
Father Terence Dias

Kyla Lepore  
Sophia Michelle Puesta Nucci

## In this Issue...

Principal's Comments

Chaplaincy Highlights

Student Support  
Services

Academic Resource  
Department

International  
Baccalaureate

Library Learning  
Commons

Wolverine Athletics

Student Voice

Classrooms at a Glance

Student Life

## IMPORTANT DATES & UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, February 19** - Family Day (No School)

**February 26-March 1**- Grade 12 Graduation Photos

**Wednesday, February 21** - Peel Catholic Guild Lenten Initiative

**Wednesday, February 28** - Pink Shirt Day

**March 10 - March 19** - March Break Europe Trip

**March 11 - March 15** - March Break

**Friday, March 31** - Good Friday (No School)

**Monday, April 1** - Easter Monday (No School)

**Monday, April 8** - PA Day (No School)

**Wednesday, April 24** - Catholic School Council Meeting #4

**Thursday, April 25** - Semi-Formal - Le Treport

**May 6 - May 10** - Catholic Education Week



# PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS

---

Dear St. Paul CSS Community,

As we welcome the start of semester two, our students are settling into their new classes, making new acquaintances, and exploring new concepts, ideas, knowledge, and skills. Congratulations and welcome to Vice Principal, Ms. T. Klin; we are blessed to have such a caring and committed Catholic school leader join our St. Paul community. Term 1 final progress reports were sent home on Tuesday Feb. 13th; parents/guardians are encouraged to communicate with classroom teachers if they wish to discuss their student's semester one achievement results. Student success and well-being are our priority; our guidance counsellors continue to meet with students to discuss program pathways, course selections for 2024-2025, post-secondary applications, career exploration, and community volunteer opportunities. Our Student Services Department support staff are available to offer students and their families support throughout the school year. We encourage families to contact the school via email [St.PaulInfo@dpcdsb.org](mailto:St.PaulInfo@dpcdsb.org) or by telephone (905) 278-3994, to connect with school staff.

As we welcome Black History Month, our students and staff are busy organizing a variety of school-wide initiatives to recognize and celebrate Black stories, contributions, and achievements. All students are encouraged to join our many social justice and student wellness clubs including: Black Student Association and Alliance, Diversity Committee, GSA, Equity Student Council, and Mental Health Champions. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our great staff for their commitment to serving our learners through diverse, engaging, classroom instruction and by supporting a variety of co-curricular activities and student leadership experiences. Our students continue to excel academically and exemplify our Catholic virtues through community outreach, charity, and servant leadership. Our school motto: "Everything With Heart", guides our decisions, practices, and behaviour.

Throughout the season of Lent, we are reminded of Jesus' unconditional love for us. We are called to treat each other with care, kindness and dignity. Through the leadership of our school chaplain, Mr. Byrne, and members of our school Chaplaincy Team, our entire St. Paul community will be participating in a Cereal Box Drive and celebrate Easter mass with Fr. Terry at St. Dominic's Parish.

With support from our Student Support Services staff, our STP Wellness and Diversity Committees continue to promote diversity, inclusion, and wellness through the upcoming National Act of Kindness Day "kindness rock painting" event, Anti-Bullying Pink Shirt Day, Lots of Socks Down Syndrome Awareness Day, Autism Awareness Blue Shirt Day, and Action for AccessAbility and Inclusion Red Shirt Day. We will also be hosting our annual STP Culture Fest in May, as we celebrate the rich cultural diversity at St. Paul. STP Leadership Crew is planning our annual Mental Health and Wellness Day scheduled for end of May where our entire school community will take part in a variety of wellness activities throughout the day.

Creating a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment is demonstrated through our commitment to ensuring all learners are represented, included, and heard. We live the Gospel through the many school and community-based activities supported by our wonderful staff. St. Paul will be welcoming our elementary feeder schools to our annual PowerME Up event in the Spring. Our staff and student leaders will be facilitating a number of experiential learning workshops for our future Wolverines – this event will certainly be enjoyed by all participants -- more information to follow.



## PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS

---

Our EcoClub is, once again, aligned to receive platinum recognition for its tremendous efforts and dedication to preserving our environment. Our students recently took part in National Sweater Day and our Annual Easter Plant Fundraiser is currently being organized. A number of our Winter school teams and student-athletes are currently competing in ROPSSAA events including hockey, basketball, volleyball, and swimming. We also introduced a winter Indoor Intramural Co-Ed Soccer League this year, providing our students with another outlet to get involved and lead healthy, active lives. Thank you to the many coaches and staff volunteers who offer their time to support our students at St. Paul. Our Wolverines are blessed to have such committed and caring staff who support their co-curricular involvement.

Congratulations to student Joseph Barbosa on being elected as our 2024-2025 DPCDSB Student Trustee Nominee. We wish Joseph well as he prepares for the board level student trustee elections on Feb. 21st. Our STP semi-formal will be taking place in late April; staff are busy finalizing venue details and will be seeking the help of student volunteers to assist with the planning. Grade 12s are reminded to schedule their graduation photos commencing on Feb. 26th. We look forward to celebrating our St. Paul CSS 2024 Graduates with their families and staff on Thursday June 27th.

Thank to our Catholic school Trustees, Bruno Iannicca and Mario Pascucci, for your continued support and advocacy. We are also grateful for the support from our STP Catholic School Council members and Fr. Terry at St. Dominic's Parish. Our students and staff are blessed to have such strong advocates and supporters of Catholic education.

Wishing our students and their families a restful Family Day Weekend ahead.

Sincerely,  
**P. Cusumano**  
Principal



## VICE PRINCIPAL THANK YOU & WELCOME

### Mr. McWilliam



We would like to thank Mr. McWilliam for his four years of dedication to the St. Paul C.S.S. community. Words cannot describe how grateful we are for your support and care towards our students, families and staff. We wish you the best of luck at St. Francis Xavier C.S.S.

### Ms. Klin

We would like to welcome Ms. Klin as our new Vice Principal to the St. Paul C.S.S. community. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to supporting our St. Paul C.S.S. students and families.





# CHAPLAINCY HIGHLIGHTS

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER MESSAGE FOR LENT 2024

Before we know it, Lent will be here. As Providence would have it, Ash Wednesday begins on February 14 this year, a date fixed in the imaginations of many as a time to celebrate Cupid's proverbial arrow of love. This year, Valentine's day can also be an opportunity for us to reflect on the arrow of God's Divine love for us, received into our "hearts" at the moment of our baptism. Ash Wednesday calls us once again to remember God's merciful love for us by renewing in us the perennial practice of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.


Over the past several weeks I have been reading a beautiful book that can, perhaps, serve as a helpful entry point into our experience of Lent this year. It is written by an author who has experienced profound brokenness in his familial relationships, mental illness, homelessness and the rejection of many in our society.

Tyler Dunlop's life exemplifies the "desert" that is Lent. His personal experience of prayer, fasting and almsgiving gives voice to the darkness of our fallen human condition and the light of Christ that "draws straight with crooked lines".

During Lent, St. Paul will be taking the opportunity to PRAY, FAST and SERVE. Please stop by the Chapel for a moment to come closer to Christ, drop by my office for a friendly conversation and donate to our drive for those in need.

In Christ,

Shane Byrne  
Chaplain



**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14TH - THURSDAY MARCH 28TH**

**MY LENTEN PROMISE**

**What can you do during Lent?**

Lent is a time prepare us for the coming season of Easter. Traditionally people have sacrificed something during Lent, for example sweets. It can also include sacrificing screen time or bad habits. But Lent can also be a time to take something on to make us better, for example pray a decade of the rosary every day, read the Bible daily, reconnect with God now. The best promises are those that are attainable and measurable. For example, I plan to pray in the chapel 3 times a week, I plan to limit my screen time. The choice is entirely up to you!

**My Lenten Promise for 2024!**

—

**This Promise is between me and God.**

—

**It's to make me better, and those around me as well.**

—

**It can be tough**

—

**But the sacrifice is worth it**

—

**LORD, DURING THIS LENTEN SEASON I PROMISE TO:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





# STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

## Guidance Counsellors

**Guidance Department Head** - Ryan Costigan - Grade 10, 11 & 12

Rosa Caldarelli - Grade 9's

Anne Marie Miki - Grade 11 & 12 IB

*We're here  
for you.*

## Do you need an appointment with Student Services?

Scan your Guidance Counselor's QR code [below](#) to request a meeting (Semester 2, 2023-2024)

Ms. Caldarelli  
Grade 9



Mr. Costigan  
Grade 10-12



Ms. Miki  
Grade 11&12 IB



Scan Me!

## Student Success Teachers

Marilena Di Carlo

Vince Iannicca

## Special Education Resource Teachers (SERT)

**Academic Resource Department Head**  
- Rosa Caldarelli

Stacy Bhola-Ramkissoo

Megan MacDonald

Tiago Ortega

Randy Sanabria

Vesna Sudac

## Support Staff

Zainab Virjee - Child and Youth Worker

Shannon Paul - Social Worker

Michelle Lowry - Mental Health Support Worker

Dr. Irene Rukavina - Psychologist

Victoria Kret - Dixie Bloor

Neighbourhood Centre, Settlement Worker

**Student Services Google Classroom:** 4ycec6g

## Community Resources

Kids Help Phone - <https://kidshelpphone.ca/>

School Mental Health Ontario - <https://smho-smso.ca/>

Wheretostart - <https://wheretostart.ca/>

## St. Paul C.S.S. Support Team 2023-2024



Mr. Costigan  
GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR  
GRADE 10, 11 & 12

Guidance



Ms. Caldarelli  
GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR  
GRADE 9, 11 & 12 (IB)

Guidance & Rm 113



Ms. Virjee  
CHILD & YOUTH WORKER

Guidance



Ms. Di Carlo  
STUDENT SUCCESS TEACHER

Guidance & Rm 112



Mr. Byrne  
CHAPLAIN

Chaplaincy Office



Ms. Paul  
SOCIAL WORKER

Guidance



Ms. Lowry  
MENTAL HEALTH  
SUPPORT WORKER

Guidance



Ms. Kret  
SETTLEMENT WORKER

Guidance



Tuesday, Wednesday (alt)  
& Friday

Monday (alt) & Thursday

Monday & Tuesday

---

## ACADEMIC RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

One semester down, one more to go!

The ARD department is so proud of all our students for their efforts during the semester and through exams. As the new semester begins, the Resource Room is once again open for business during all periods. Students with an IEP are invited to use the space when needed for assessments or as a quiet space to work. Students are requested to connect with their teachers to access required accommodations. Our Special Education Resource Teachers for this semester are:

Grade 9: Ms. Sudac  
Grade 10: Mr. Sanabria  
Grade 11: Ms. MacDonald  
Grade 12: Ms. Caldarelli

Remote Learners  
Grade 9-11: Mr. Ortega  
Grade 12: Ms. Bhola-Ramkissoon

For any students who require assistance regarding their IEP, students/families are invited to contact their SERT.

**ELL Resource:** The Resource Room is also open to all our English Language Learners (ELL). Please connect with your teachers regarding accessing supports and connect with Mr. Zitnansky during Period 4 for ELL Resource.

Wishing you all a fabulous semester 2!

## INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE



### Applications for Grade 9 Pre-IB Programme (2024-25 School Year)

Thank you to all families who applied for the Grade 9 Pre-IB Programme for next year. We are excited to welcome you all in the fall. If you missed the deadline, good news! We are accepting applications for any interested grade 8s. Visit the IB Program page on the St. Paul website to learn more: <https://www.dpcdsb.org/PAULS/guidance-courses/i-b-program>.

### IB Learner Profile Spotlight

As IB learners we strive to be caring.

We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and the world around us.



Over 160 countries offer the IB Programme!



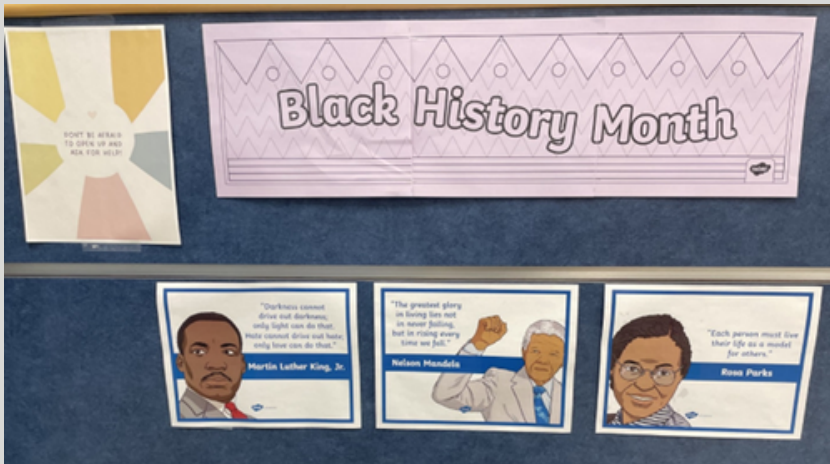
# LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS

## Find out what's new in the STP LLC!

The next chapter...

February is off to a great start in the Library Learning Commons (LLC). Edita T. created a colourful 2SLGBTQIA+ display on behalf of the STP GSA. These hand-selected books are sure to be valuable reads to start off the semester.

In recognition of Black History Month, students will find biographies about influential Black Canadians and Americans throughout the library space. Special thanks to our new library technician, Ms. Isha Manzoor, for creating these amazing displays.







St. Paul was excited to launch the *Intramural STP Soccer League* in 2023! This recreational league welcomed 52 students across eight teams who played 26 games for their chance to capture the coveted “St. Paul Cup.” Intramurals provides students of various skill levels an opportunity to play on a team with their friends. Teams were able to receive their own team shirt and participate in school athletics in a fun, uncompetitive environment.

Juan Miguel FC were the eventual winners, capturing the first ever STP Soccer League title thanks to the leadership of Golden Boot winner, Anthony Branka, who scored 14 goals! Students and staff look forward to facing off next year for their chance to lift the “St. Paul Cup.”



## Wolverines can swim!

Your St. Paul swim team participated in the Pre ROPSAA swim meet on December 13, 2024 and as usual, made a big impact. Coaches Krpan, Miki and Virjee are proud of the team’s dedication to their early morning practices and dry land training. It is all paying off.

“Just keep swimming, just keep swimming”



# ST. PAUL STUDENT VOICE

---

**STP athletics** is one of the reasons students feel St. Paul as a welcoming and positive community. Whether you've been playing sports for years, or new and learning how to play, St. Paul's athletics is a safe place where anyone can come in and try out for a sport without any judgment. We build teamwork, friendships, and encourage school spirit. STP athletics is for everyone and develops skills and perseverance for all students! - **Kasenia Fusca**

As one of the **Mental Health and Well-Being Champions** at St. Paul, it is amazing to work with the students and teachers of the **YES4MH and Diversity Committee** to support the mental health of students. Some of the activities this year have included collecting students created positive affirmations and words of support that were linked into a kindness chain. We also organized activities such as Christmas ornament painting and Bully Awareness Week friendship bracelets during student lunches to support well-being and friendship.

In preparation for semester 1 exams, Mental Health Champions and students from YES4MH assembled self-care kits that were distributed to each STP student. These kits contained resources to support stress-relief and calming activities, such as tea sachets, bubble wrap, an inspirational bookmark and a sensory fidget. Many students found these to be useful in helping to manage their emotions during exam week.

Resources created by Mental Health Champions across the DPCDSB and by the St. Paul Diversity/YES4MH Committee continue to be released throughout the year, and can be found on the St. Paul social media pages. On a personal note, I am grateful to have the opportunity to work with support staff at St. Paul, the YES4MH Committee and Mental Health Champions from across DPCDSB to support students' mental health and well-being, while ensuring that our school community is one where students feel safe and cared for, and can live out our motto of "everything with heart". Students can look forward to participating in more events in Semester Two, including St. Paul's annual Mental Wellness Day! - **Edita Treacy**

St. Paul's is a fantastic school that has provided me with many opportunities to get involved. For example, this year I signed up for the **France-Italy March Break tour** and get to experience French learning first hand across Europe with my friends. This is just one example of how students can get involved at STP!

I have also been volunteering my Friday mornings to assist the swim team in their dry land training was part of the cross country team. Getting involved and being supported by experienced and thoughtful coaches/staff is motivating for me. - **Jenna De Brito**



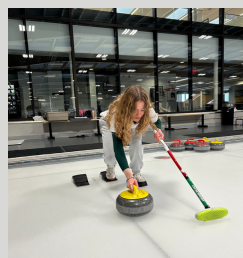


# STP CLASSROOMS AT A GLANCE...



What do you get when you mix  
sociology and literature?  
A human parade float, of course!  
Ms. Williams' Grade 10 Pre-IB English class

Mr. Vicars's Grade 12 Physical  
Education class learning how to  
play Squash at the Ontario Racquet  
Club in Mississauga and learning  
how to curl at Chinguacousy Curling  
Club in Brampton



Attending the  
masquerade ball with  
Romeo and Juliet!!  
Ms. Di Carlo's Grade 9  
English class

Mr. Krpan's Grade 10  
Careers Class

## Technological Studies

As we navigate this digital landscape, the importance of technology courses for developing minds and the hands-on skills cannot be overstated. Technology courses offer a unique opportunity for individuals to explore and understand the tools, software, and processes. These courses not only provide theoretical knowledge but also emphasize practical application, foster critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving abilities.

One of the key benefits of taking technology courses at St. Paul's is the focus on hands-on learning. Through interactive projects, experiments and simulations, students gain valuable experience working with technologies. Through hands-on activities allow learners to apply theoretical concepts in real-world scenarios, honing their skills and building confidence in areas such as television broadcasting, woodworking, and food and nutrition.

St Paul students get the opportunity to nurture a growth mindset, encouraging them to embrace challenges, learn from failures, and persist in the face of adversity. By engaging in hands-on projects, students develop resilience, adaptability, and a willingness to experiment—a crucial mindset for success in today's dynamic job market.





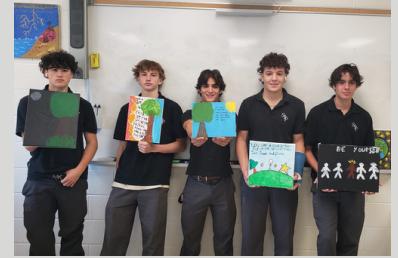
# STP CLASSROOMS AT A GLANCE...



Mr. Vicars's Kinesiology class at the University of Waterloo for KIN Lab Days. They engaged in a day of hands on laboratory experiences including an Anatomy Cadaver Lab, Max VO2 testing, measuring ECG, and neuromuscular connections.

Students reading classic and contemporary plays, analyzing meaning and interpreting them through art!

Ms. Vono's Grade 12 College English class



Ms. McHenry's Grade 10 Business students hosted a Bake Sale in Semester 1 and raised a total of \$1,151.00! All proceeds were donated to The SickKids Hospital. Thank you to teachers and students who supported this cause and event.



Grade 9 CPT time: robots created from recycled materials!

Ms. MacDonald's Grade 9 English class



Multi-media Grade 12 CPTs!

Ms. Bentivoglio's Grade 12 University English class



English excursions at STP!  
The Rose Theatre in Brampton to see 'Hamlet' & The Shaw Festival Theatre to see 'A Christmas Carol'

# ST. PAUL STUDENT LIFE

## Terry Fox Annual Event

On Wednesday, September 27th, the students and staff of STP participated in our annual Terry Fox Event! Students had a wonderful time outdoors commemorating a Canadian hero! A special thank you to all families who donated through Student Cash Online. A collective school donation of \$1,500.00 was made to the Terry Fox Foundation.



## Annual St. Paul Christmas Fundraiser

During the month of December, St. Paul participated in its annual Christmas Fundraiser. It was a successful event that raised funds for local families for the Christmas season. Thank you to all who organized, donated and participated! STP truly lives by our school motto - Everything With Heart.



Our Grade 9 Visual Art students spent the semester learning and experiencing Indigenous Art.

Drama and Visual Arts students organized a **Christmas Coffee House**, where they showcased their work and talents through a **Visual Arts Gallery and performance of Christmas in the Land of Oz**. The proceeds from ticket sales were over \$700 and went towards our Christmas fundraiser, supporting families within our school community. Thank you to all parents who came out to support. Senior students have already started preparing for our Spring Show and hope to see you there!



**Pulse TV** is up and running and showcasing student talent in our morning news.

The 2022-2023 Yearbook is here! Relive memories and have your friends sign it.

