



# St. Margaret Mary CES

30 Margaret Mary Rd. Woodbridge, ON L4L 2W8  
905-851-3935 [smm.ycdsb.ca](http://smm.ycdsb.ca) @SMM\_YCDSB

Dear Families,

As Catholics, we know that December is about slowing down and preparing our hearts and souls for the coming of Christ. Ironically, it can sometimes be one of the most frantic times of the year. We begin a new liturgical year on Sunday, December 1st, the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of patient and prayerful waiting for the coming of Jesus. During the month of December, we celebrate the Christian virtue of Hope. We encourage students to never give up hope and to maintain a positive attitude, and to look for the brighter side of situations. We look to the future with trust in God and keep a positive attitude. Ultimately, we prepare for Christmas by bringing hope to others, celebrating those with whom we live, and serving our communities

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. Snyder

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### **Our Advent Prayer** 🙏

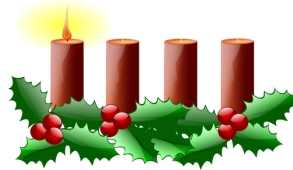
God's hope to direct me.

God's love to surround me.

God's joy to warm me.

God's peace to comfort me.

Bless our Advent journey to Christmas with light and patience. Amen



## **Week at a Glance-December 2-6, 2024**

<b>Monday</b>	December 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pizza Lunch 🍕</li><li>• World of Robotics 11:15 am -12:15 pm</li></ul>
<b>Tuesday</b>	December 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bar Burrito Lunch 🌮</li><li>• <b>CHRISTMAS MARKET 6 pm to 9 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>Wednesday</b>	December 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Harvey's Lunch 🍔</li><li>• Ms. Marini's class trip to STREAM</li></ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	December 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intermediate Trip to Raptors 905 game</li><li>• X-Press Chicken 🍗</li></ul>
<b>Friday</b>	December 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cookie Sales 🍪</li></ul>

### **December Virtue:**

In the month of December, we focus on the virtue of HOPE. As a school community, we reflect on the following statements:

- With God’s grace, I will never give up hope;
- I will maintain a positive attitude and look for the brighter side of situations.
- I will look to the future with hope in God
- I will keep a positive attitude
- I will prepare for Christmas by waiting with hope, faith, joy and love

Students are encouraged to demonstrate these monthly virtues in their daily actions and words with one another.

**Kiss and Ride Reminders**

Thank you to parents and guardians for your continued efforts using our Kiss and Ride before and after school. Please be reminded that this area is not for parking. It is designated for drivers to pull in, have their child/children independently unload safely and drive through. For safety, please do not pass the vehicle in front of you.

**Dress Appropriately for the Weather**

The cold winds of Winter may be soon upon us. Students need coats/jackets, mitts/gloves, a hat, a scarf and boots. Please label each item. Students are expected to go outside for all recesses. Please ensure that your child(ren) have a pair of indoor shoes and an extra pair of socks in their knapsacks. Once the snow arrives, students will only be allowed on the field if they are wearing snow pants and boots.

**Healthy Snack**

We will be taking a “pause” on our Healthy Snack program until the New Year. That said, if a child forgets their snack at home or is without one, the office will always have something healthy on hand

**Holiday Heroes Campaign**

St. Margaret Mary is participating in the [28th annual Holiday Heroes Campaign](#) by York Regional Police. We are collecting donations beginning immediately. Suggested items are: new toys or clothing, non-perishable food items, hygiene products, and other essentials for those in need. This year, consider collecting gift cards and transit tickets as well. Gift cards allow people to buy exactly what they need, such as groceries or essential items. **We will be collecting donations until December 4th.**

In addition to the above, each division is sponsoring a family within the St Margaret Mary Parish/School Community:

Kindergarten	Primary (grades 1, 2, 3)	Junior (grades 4, 5, 6)	Intermediate (grade 7, 8)
Teenage Girl, 7 year old boy	12 and 9 year old girls	10 year old girl and 8 year old boy	6 year old Boy

**Grade 6 Bracelets for Make a Wish**

A few students in grade 6 have been making bracelets with the intention of raising money to donate to the Make a Wish Foundation. On Monday, they will be selling Rainbow Loom Bracelets for \$1.00 and Clay Bead Bracelets for \$2.00. The materials have been graciously donated from their families.

**UPCOMING: (all important dates can be found on [the SMM website](#)):**

- December 12- Advent Mass at 9:30 am in the Large Gym
- December 16- Primary Christmas Concert (Details to follow, but it will be during the school day)
- December 20- Civvies Day
- December 20- Last day before the Christmas Break!



