



St. Margaret Mary CES

30 Margaret Mary Rd. Woodbridge, ON L4L 2W8
905-851-3935 smm.ycdsb.ca @SMM_YCDSB

Dear Families,

Yesterday was the third Sunday of Advent. We light the pink or rose coloured candle which symbolizes the Advent rose, a time to pause in this season to give joy to others. This candle is also called the "joy" candle. Throughout this third week of Advent, we reflect on joy.

As the year comes to an end and a new one begins, we would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to our community for all of your support. We thank the students for their enthusiasm and hard work, the staff for their expertise and caring regard for our students. We thank you, the parents and guardians, for your partnership and support in everything that we do. On behalf of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Elementary School, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and joyful Christmas and we hope the New Year brings you the very best it has to offer.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. Snyder

Prayer

**Christ Our Light,
Shine in our lives in hope and promise.
Give us the right vision so that we remain attentive to this holy season.
Remind us to look for you in small acts of kindness and love.
We await your coming with wonder and awe.....
Amen**



Week at a Glance-December 16-20, 2024

Monday	December 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary Concert• Red, Green and White Day• Pizza Lunch 🍕• World of Robotics 11:15 am -12:15 pm (Last one)
Tuesday	December 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PJs and a Movie Day• Bar Burrito Lunch 🌮• Head Lice Check
Wednesday	December 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hat Day

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvey's Lunch 🍔
Thursday	December 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jingle Bells Day • X-Press Chicken 🍗
Friday	December 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Festive Sweater or Civvies Day • Cookie Sales 🍪 • MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!

LICE CHECK- DECEMBER 17th

To help with early detection and prevention, we are offering the option for parents to have their child undergo a lice check for a fee of \$3.00. These checks will be conducted by trained professionals through a company called Nitwits, and all results will be kept confidential. Payment of \$3.00 can be brought to school on Monday or Tuesday or paid via the link below. This is entirely optional, but we believe it will give you peace of mind and help us keep our school community as healthy as possible. If you are paying cash, please also complete this: [Google Form](#)
<https://www.school-day.com/pg/school/service/view/3037962>

HOLIDAY GREETINGS AND UPDATES FROM OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

We wanted to close out 2024 with a message of gratitude to our school community for your continued support in our CSC fundraising and community building efforts. See below for a few updates:

Christmas Market Success!

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the first annual SMMS Christmas Market earlier this month. It was so wonderful to see the school community come together during this time of year. We created memories, supported local small businesses and artisans, and raised funds for SickKids with the Santa photos taken throughout the night.

A special thank you to local businesses who donated services and products in kind, including Joe DiStefano Interior Designs - who created a beautiful backdrop of our Santa Photos, Woodland Beach Market, Fortinos Hwy 7/Ansley Grove, and Bright Pics.

Also, the event would not be possible without the commitment and support of Mrs. Snyder, SMMS Staff, Spirit Council, and the many parent volunteers who brought the event to life. So thank you!



We look forward to making this an annual tradition.

More to come in 2025!

We have lots of great initiatives, events and fundraising ahead in 2025, which we're excited to bring to the community:

New and extended hot lunch options for next term -- so stay tuned for an update and registration information next week.

- Skate Night & Bingo Night (save the dates to follow)
- Annual major fundraiser to kick off in February - we will share more details in the New Year.

Merry Christmas and we wish you a blessed and safe holiday break!

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL TEAM MESSAGE

December is an exciting time of year!

The first day of winter falls in December!

Start of School Christmas holidays!

Spending time with Family and Friends!

It's the start of the season of giving, sharing and loving!

December is also a great time to begin to enjoy the snow and cooler weather while wearing all your warm and cozy winter gear.

As the cold months approach us the time spent outdoors is often limited. When the cold weather hits it is common for parents to want their kids to stay indoors and for youth to not want to go outside. However, there are many benefits to being outdoors in the winter including:

- Encouraging creative play,
- Increase in exercise using different muscle groups
- Getting fresh air and avoiding illness from bacteria indoors
- Improving problem-solving skills and exposure to vitamin D.

Let's bundle up, get outside and be active! Active School Travel is simple and can easily be added into your daily routine!

- Walk and/or wheel to school or to the bus stop
- Park and walk a block to school
- If Active School Travel every day is a challenge, choose one or two days a week to try and make a change.



FAMILY LITERACY DAY INFORMATION

Family Literacy Day is held every January 27th to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. Since 1999, schools, libraries, literacy organizations, and other community groups nationwide have participated in the initiative.

The Family Literacy Day 2025 theme is ***Learn to be Green, Together!*** Make a pledge as a family to learn ways to be more green. Use less electricity, commute together, and reuse items. Being green together is a fun way to learn as a family while being kind to the environment.

ABC Life Literacy Canada has a variety of free English and French resources available.

To download, please click [English Version](#) or [French Version](#)

ABC Life Literacy Canada is hosting a virtual event with *Family Literacy Day* Honorary Chair Barbara Reid as part of Family Literacy Day celebrations. Open to everyone across Canada, the event will occur on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 4:30 pm ET.

Barbara will demonstrate using clay to create a picture and share unique techniques for making different things. The event will end with a Q&A. This event is ideal for children in grades 1 to 6 and their families. Register today, as spaces are limited. [Register Now.](#)

UPCOMING: (all important dates can be found on the SMM website):

- January 6- Welcome Back!
- January 6- Epiphany Liturgy 12:45pm
- January 9- Lunchtime Parent Paid Art Classes Begin (Registration information to follow)
- January 13- Coby the Magician Anti-Bullying presentation
- January 16- Ms. Velardi's class to STREAM
- January 16- CSC Meeting in the Library (6:30 pm)
- January 24- CIVVIES DAY
- January 27-30- Joyeux Carnival!!
- January 28- Rocks and Rings
- January 29- Rocks and Rings

