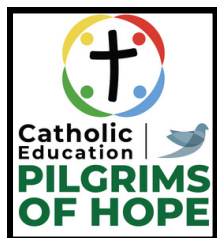


MARCH 28, 2025



FALCON NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL



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New I-STEAM Program!

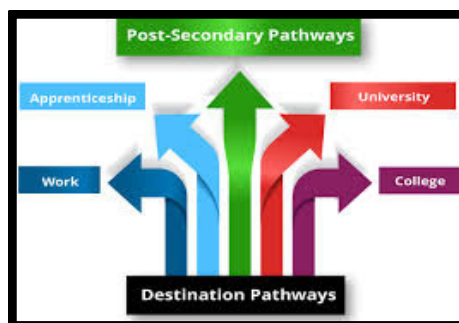
Classroom Activities

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Post-Secondary Pathways

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

From Principal Maloney

IG: @principal_maloney

This issue of Falcon News includes a number of examples that demonstrate how the St. Augustine Staff provide enhanced experiences for our students. Whether students are planning to go to University, College, Apprenticeship, or Workplace, our staff are here to support. Students can use **myBlueprint** as a tool to conduct self-assessments, to explore potential careers, educational requirements, and post-secondary pathways to various careers.

For students interested in the trades, St. Augustine is the only school in our Board that offers the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Program in **Construction**. In addition, this semester, we hired a **Transportation** Technology teacher to re-launch our SHSM Transportation Program. These programs are further enhanced through our Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) where students can earn their Level 1 Apprenticeship in their final semester of Grade 12 through co-operative education. Some students follow a pathway to college to enter the trades.

For students interested in **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math), we are introducing a brand new program for students that are innovative, creative, and enjoy STEM. You will see more information about this new program inside this issue. Our extra-curricular activities such as HOSA, The STEM Club, Math Contests, Chess Club, Investors Club, DECA, and many others, allow students to integrate their interests into competitive and collaborative experiences with their peers.

The pathway to a future career is not always clear. Teachers, Guidance Counsellors, and Administrators are here to support each of our students along their journey of self-discovery and growth.



EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW.

IMPORTANT DATES



April 1 P.E.A.C.E. Assemblies (Rescheduled from February's Snow Day)

April 2 World Autism Awareness Day (Blue Shirt Day)

April 8 & 9 OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test)

April 9 Day of Pink

April 17 Holy Thursday Liturgies

April 18 Good Friday - No School

April 21 Easter Monday - No School

April 22 Earth Day

May 28 Multicultural Night



NEW! I-STEAM Program

Limited Spaces Available for students
entering Grade 9 in September 2025

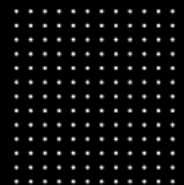
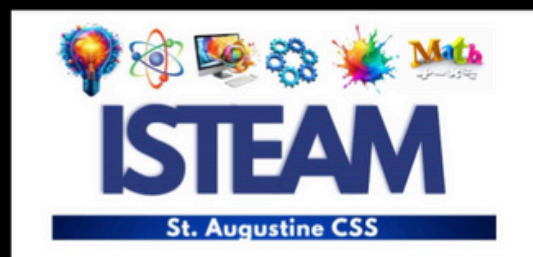
[I-STEAM Application Form](#)

✓I-STEAM:

Innovation – Science – Technology – Engineering – Arts – Math

The I-STEAM Program Objectives

- **Enhance Engagement:** Inspire students through hands-on projects and real-world applications that make learning interactive and relevant.
- **Promote Collaboration:** Encourage teamwork by integrating group projects that leverage diverse skill sets and perspectives.
- **Develop Critical Skills:** Focus on essential skills such as creativity, analytical thinking, and adaptability to prepare students for future careers.
- **Integrate Arts into STEM:** Highlight the importance of creative problem solving in the science, technology and engineering fields.



HOSA CONFERENCE 2025



On March 27th and 28th, St. Augustine's **HOSA – Future Health Professionals** Team competed in the Spring Leadership Conference at the Toronto Metro Convention Center. The event hosted over 200 schools, and the organization serves over 250,000 active members annually. Our students competed in *Clinical Nursing, Forensic Science, Sports Medicine, Medical Terminology, Dental Science, and CPR/First Aid*. All the students represented St. Augustine with dignity and pride. The team would like to recognize the following students that made it to round two. For Forensic Science: **Akreti Sharma, Kiana Carlee Monasterial, Heysha Makwana, and Kellyanne Noubissi**. For Sports Medicine: **Benedict Barkat, Irene Maria Joseph, Jubele Judemelki, and Caitlin Eunice Lajarca**. For CPR/First Aid: **Kangna Bhagat and Janvi Prajapati**. Congratulations to all the HOSA students, as well as our President **Alijah Xverious** and Vice-President **Akreti Sharma**. The team is excited to continue learning and applying their leadership skills for the next HOSA season.

Ms. Sargeson – Staff Advisor



Paint with Isaac: World Water Day – March 22



Students from Ms. Vassallo's ASPIRE Class participated in a virtual workshop with Ojibwe storyteller **Isaac Murdoch**. They followed him while he painted, "Red Feather Woman", and they created their own versions. During the workshop, he shared about the beautiful gifts that the water provides.



Youth Ordinandi Conference



On March 18th, nine students from St. Augustine attended the Ordinandi Youth Event at the Pearson Convention Centre. There were approximately 900 students from across Ontario in attendance. Students participated in faith building activities, heard witness talks from Sr. Lilia Consolata, and Deacon James Cyfko, who will be ordained to the priesthood in May. The highlight of the day was when took a photo with Cardinal Frank Leo, Archbishop of Toronto! Thanks to **Mr. Puigmarti**, our **Chaplaincy Leader** for accompanying our students.



Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Try A Trade Day



On March 6th, students from St. Augustine's **Construction and Transportation SHSM Programs** visited the **North American Trade School (NATS)** for the very first Try A Trade Day. NATS invited us into their beautiful new facility to show our students the opportunities they have in different trades. They provided demonstrations and engaged students in introductory activities involving a variety of skilled trades including: **HVAC, plumbing, welding and electrical**. Thanks to the staff at NATS for their time and hospitality. We hope this event will continue. Thanks to **Mr. Sansalone, Mr. Ramos** and **Mr. Rossi** for attending the event with our students.



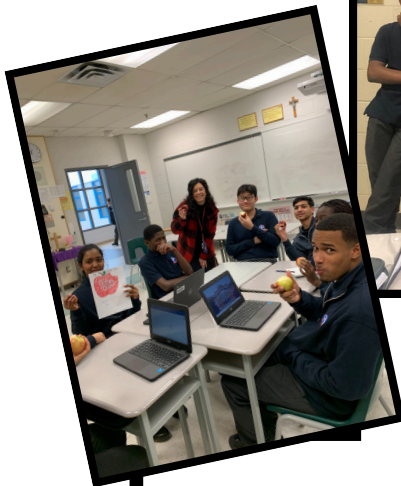


The Great Big Crunch

March 6 @ 1:00 p.m.



CRUNCH!



Thanks to **Ms. Ziemnicki** for organizing our GREAT BIG CRUNCH event! This initiative is designed to help students celebrate healthy food at school by synchronizing a crunch into an apple or another crunchy fruit/vegetable.



Congratulations!



**CONGRATS TO ALL OUR
PROVINCIAL COMPETITORS!**

...and a **HEARTFELT** congratulations to **CHRISTIAN BLACKWOOD**, who placed among the top 10 provincial competitors in DECA's **ACCOUNTING APPLICATIONS** event!

**Christian will now be representing
ONTARIO at DECA's
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION,
held in ORLANDO, FLORIDA this April.**

GOOD LUCK CHRISTIAN!



Best Wishes as you travel to Orlando next month!



EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW.

Congratulations!



Congratulations to the Two Award Winners!



Akreti Sharma and **Moises Calma**

achieved top scores in Canadian Senior Mathematics Contest and Canadian Intermediate Mathematics Contest, respectfully.

They scored **top 25% in Ontario!**

Thank you to all students who participated in this contest and represented St. Augustine with pride.



**Akreti Sharma with Ms. Avila -
Math Department Head**



**Moises Calma with Ms. Avila -
Math Department Head**



Raptors 905 Trip RAISE/ASPIRE Program

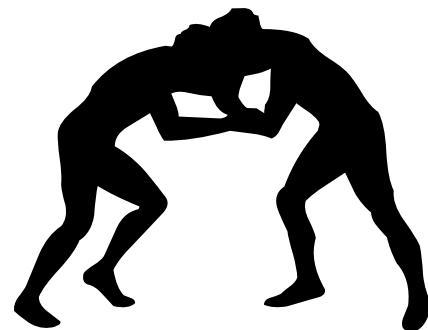
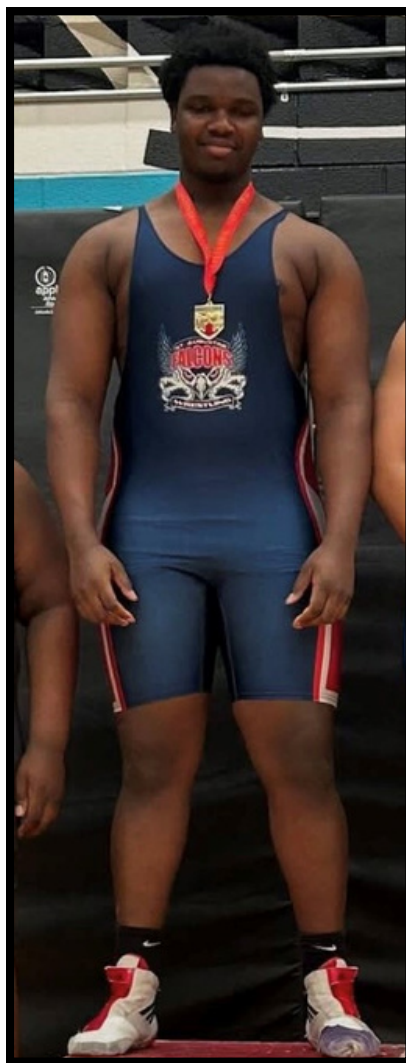
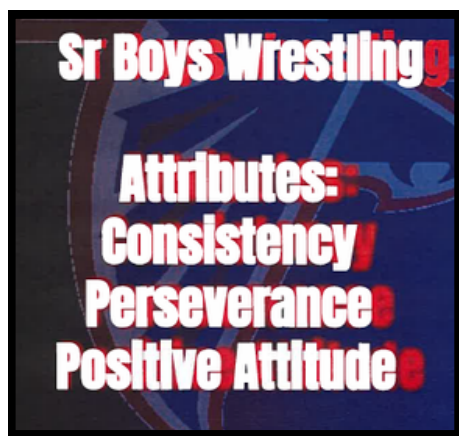


St. Augustine's RAISE Program focused on cultivating the virtue of kindness by cheering on the Raptors 905 at Paramount Fine Food Centre. St. Augustine students were welcomed into two private executive suites where they brought their school spirit, beautiful art, smiles and energy for their first Raptors 905 game. In his encyclical "Fratelli Tutti," Pope Francis emphasizes the dignity of every human being, calling for the active participation of all abilities in the community and urging a shift from indifference to love and inclusion (Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 2020, Par. 98). Thanks to **Mr. Silva** for organizing.



Congratulations!

FALCON ATHLETE OF THE MONTH



Praise Kanebi



EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW.

Table Tennis

FALCONS SOAR AT ROPSSAA PREQUALIFYING TOURNAMENT!



For the second consecutive year, the St. Augustine Falcons proudly competed in the ROPSSAA prequalifying tournament for Table Tennis, showcasing their growing talent and determination. Facing off against some of the top players from across the GTA, our Falcons delivered incredible performances that made history for our school. In a remarkable fashion, **Aaron Chen** achieved a 5th place finish in the Senior Boys Singles category, marking the highest finish ever for St. Augustine in this division. Adding to the Falcons' success, the dynamic duo of **Krish Chopra** and **Tristan Fernandes** secured an impressive 6th place finish in the Senior Boys Doubles category, demonstrating excellent teamwork and resilience. Congratulations to all of our athletes for their hard work and for representing St. Augustine with pride. **Go Falcons!**

Coaches: Mr. Ramos, Mr. Grecki, Mr. Sansalone & Mr. Strojek



Co-Ed Volleyball



St. Augustine's Co-ed Volleyball Team has made an impressive run to the semi-finals at the Mississauga Secondary School's Tournament, showcasing outstanding teamwork and athleticism. Their positive attitudes and unwavering sportsmanship were evident throughout the competition, as each player contributed to the team's energy and success. With continuous encouragement from teammates, they demonstrated the true spirit of collaboration, pushing through challenges and delivering an inspiring performance on the court. Their collective effort and determination have made them a formidable force in the tournament. Congratulations Falcons!





Thrive in Community

March 2025

Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being



DPCDSB THRIVE in Community Newsletter

The DPCDSB Mental Health and Well-Being Team has created a THRIVE Community Newsletter to be shared with staff and families each month.

A link to the March edition of the THRIVE newsletter is enclosed: [THRIVE in Community Newsletter – March 2025](#)



Self-Identification Option for Indigenous Families

If you are First Nation (Status Indian or Non-Status Indian), Métis and/or Inuit you can self-identify as Indigenous. You do not need to produce any documentation or proof of ancestry. Self-identification is voluntary and confidential.

“This has been really important for us because of the sense of community and the connection to other Indigenous families.” ~
Melanie Cormier, parent.

Self-identification will provide access to culture and language programs and monthly programming for students and families. Relevant information will be sent directly to you about upcoming cultural events and opportunities which help to build community and a sense of Indigenous pride in Dufferin-Peel.

To learn more about opportunities for Indigenous students and families please visit:

<https://www3.dpcdsb.org/students/indigenous-self-identification>



PARENTS/GUARDIANS GET INVOLVED!



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL:

2024-2025

CHAIR

L. Clark

TREASURER

A. D'Agostino-Ojar

CO-SECRETARIES

A. Cunningham & M. Vigneault

PARISH REPRESENTATIVE

T. Picardo

OAPCE REPRESENTATIVE

L. Clark

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

A. Kanakaraj, K. LaNave, V. Ojar,
P. Panesar, K. Porter-Oviedo



Dufferin-Peel
Catholic District
School Board

*Extraordinary Lives Start With
a Great Catholic Education*

*Get involved in
Your local CSC –
Catholic School Council*

VOLUNTEER

you can make a difference!



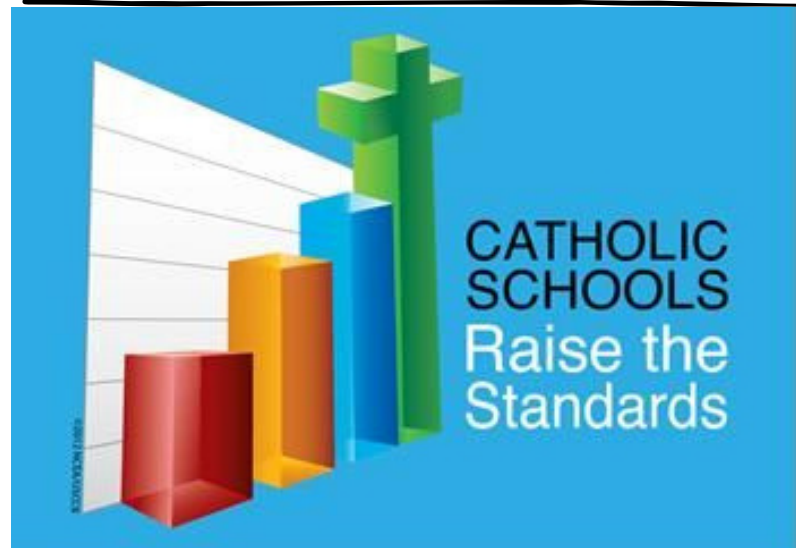
FUTURE MEETINGS:

Thurs. April 24
(Public Budget Consultation)

& Wed. May 14

@ 6:30 p.m.

**in the
School Library**



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REMINDERS



Save the Date

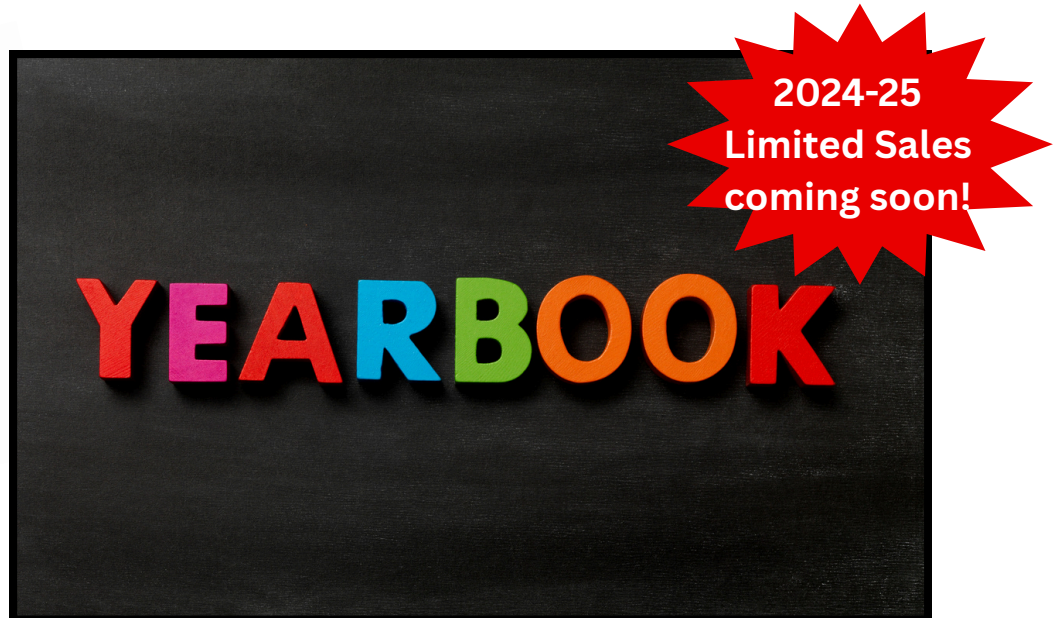
WED. MAY 28TH 5-8 pm

ST. AUGUSTINE'S 2ND ANNUAL
MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

Stay tuned for ticket sales



Falcon Design by
Daniela Frazao



2024-25
Limited Sales
coming soon!

YEARBOOK



REMINDERS

2025-26
ACTIVITY
FEES ARE
NOW DUE

2025-26 \$45 Activity Fee

Have you paid your Activity Fee???

- Your Activity Fee helps to fund **Student Council** activities, **Spirit Days**, **Special Events**, **Awards**, **Clubs**, etc.
- The Activity Fee is paid through **School Cash Online**
- If you do not pay your fee, you will be charged **\$10 to participate in Civvies Days**, **\$7 to participate in Spirit Days**, and other fees to participate in Special Events

Returning Students:

Parents need to log in to their child's profile on
<https://dpcdsb.schoolcashonline.com>
and everything requiring payment will be listed there.

New Students:

<https://dpcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/210280/146/False/True>



REMINDERS

Are you looking for a way to give to others this Lenten season?

Donate to our Toiletry Drive! The following items are accepted and can be placed in the bin outside the Chapel.

- Toothbrushes, toothpaste
- Soap, Shampoo, body wash conditioner
- shaving cream
- Deodorant

Deadline: April 11



WEDNESDAY APRIL 2ND IS


World Autism Awareness Day

**WEAR A BLUE TOP WITH YOUR UNIFORM
PANTS TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT !**


***FREE
EVENT ***



REMINDERS





OSSLT April 8th & 9th



Attention Students

- If you are a student in grade 10, 11, or 12 who has not yet completed the Literacy Test, you will be writing on April 8th and 9th during Periods 1 & 2
- Please check with your homeroom teacher to verify where you will be writing



Need Extra Help?

- Feel free to visit SST during your lunch or after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays

FALCON ATHLETICS

ATTENTION STUDENT ATHLETES:

IF YOU PLAYED FOR A SCHOOL TEAM AND HAVE NOT PAID YOUR TEAM FEE OR HAVE NOT RETURNED YOUR UNIFORM YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY INTRAMURAL SPORTS OR JOIN ANOTHER TEAM UNTIL PAID OR RETURNED.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS PLEASE SEE YOUR COACH



REMINDERS

DOWNLOAD NOW



My School Day

Quick Start for Students
and Parents

Fall 2024

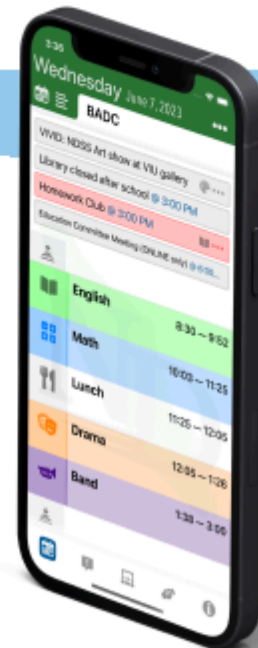
1. Download the app

You can find the app - *it's free to download!* - on the App Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android) by

- Searching in the store for "My School Day"
- Going to <https://myschoolday.app/download> in the browser on your phone
- Using the QR code at right.



Make sure to allow it to receive notifications when asked - the school will use them to send out important reminders, information and alerts.



2. Select your school

The first time you start the app you will need to select your school. Choose a province, school district, and finally your school from the lists provided, and tap "confirm". *This only needs to be done once.*

3. Follow channels.

Channels let the school administration and teachers send out information specific to your classes and activities, so you get only those notifications for your classes and those of interest to the entire school. To subscribe to channels:

- Tap on the "Classes" icon
- Tap "Follow Channels" in the menu
- Tap the checkboxes for the channels you are interested in
- Tap on the "Done" button.

Remember to check back regularly for new channels that your teachers may have added.



4. Enter your classes

Tapping on the classes icon also gives you an option to set up your timetable. Select that option and enter your class names and select colours and icons. You can also enter morning, lunch, and after school activities. When you tap on "Done", the app will fill in your timetable.

5. Access school information, links and files

The school and teachers will add links and files that provide resources to the school community such as course materials for remote learning, health advisories, and other school, district, and provincial information. To access these school-wide and channel-specific resources:

- Tap the Info icon at the right hand side of the tab bar:

Remember to check back regularly for new resources that your teachers may have added.





MONTHLY VIRTUE

MARCH 2025



Kindness is the act of loving and giving generously to others as God does. Our empathy for others is transformed into action, an action that extends beyond concern for ourselves.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

with

MR. PUIGMARTI



Pilgrims of Hope

This year's theme for Catholic Education Week is the same as the theme for the Church's Jubilee year, to be **Pilgrims of Hope**. There is a large colourful banner outside the Chapel which reflects this theme. I invite you to come and take a longer, reflective look, the next time you pass by.

For some of us, too often our use of the word hope relates to wishful thinking, having a positive approach or mere optimism. We hear hope used in ways like these: "I sure hope the economy will turn around soon... Here's hoping the Leafs win the Stanley Cup... my doctor hopes that they will get all the cancer..." These statements show the concerns of someone's heart. While these statements aren't wrong, they don't have a firm foundation.

True hope has its roots in God's promise to fill us with His hope, a supernatural one. Romans 15:13 says, "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

When we hope we make an act of faith and trust in God, His goodness and His promises to us as His beloved children. We don't trust in mere optimism or wishful thinking but instead in a person, and that person is Jesus. He is the reason for our hope.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Let Us Pray...

Let us pray, + sign of cross

Jesus, you are my hope. Help me to have a strong and confident trust in You, especially when I don't see the path clearly ahead of me. Jesus, I place all of my hope in You. Amen.

St. Augustine, pray for us.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Pilgrims of Hope Banner



ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL:
Sophia Maloney

VICE PRINCIPALS:
Teddi Lowie and Antony Pallotta

CHAPLAINCY LEADER:
Marc Puigmarti

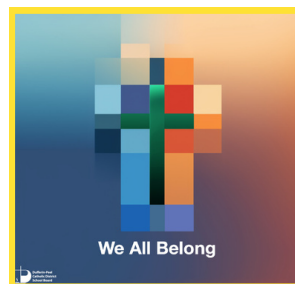
PARISH and PASTOR:
St. Jerome's Parish, Fr. James

CHAIR of the BOARD:
Luz del Rosario

DIRECTOR of EDUCATION:
Marianne Mazzorato

SUPERINTENDENT of SCHOOLS:
Brian Diogo

SCHOOL TRUSTEES:
Anisha Thomas (Brampton Ward 1, 3 & 4)
Darryl D'Souza (Brampton Ward 5, 6)



Extraordinary lives start with a great Catholic education.

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board



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