

St. Padre Pio Catholic School

770 Napa Valley Drive

Woodbridge, Ontario

L4H 1W9

Tel: 905-893-7082

School Website: <https://spp.ycdsb.ca/>



September 28th, 2026

Interim Director of Education

Ms. J. Sarna

Catholic School Trustee

Ms. M. Barbieri

School Superintendent

Mr. T. Laliberte

Pastor(s)

Rev. George Parayil

Rev. Nicetus Tairo

Principal

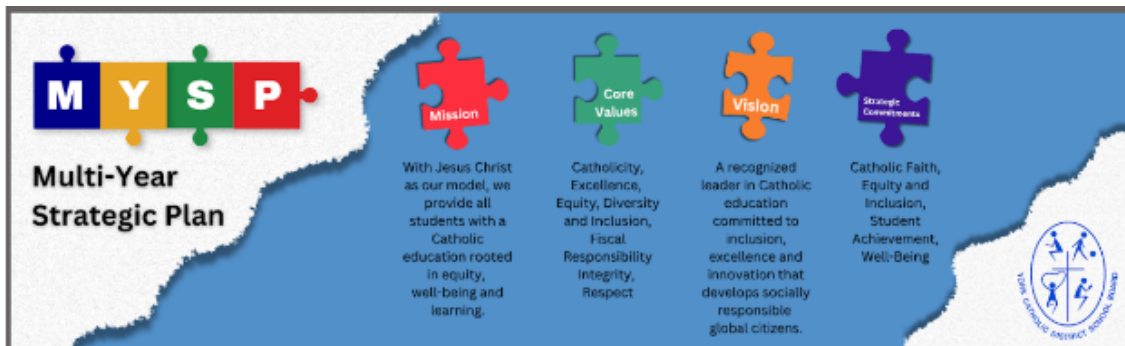
Mr. A. Modica

Senior Secretary

Ms. A. Bosco-Bonifacio

General Secretary

Ms. C. Recchia



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Thank you to our Grade 4 class for a lovely liturgy. Our choir did a beautiful job, along with our technology team and media club. We look forward to our Thanksgiving Mass in October.

As a reminder, please do not park on the right-side of the Kiss and Ride when dropping off students in the morning to keep the flow moving. Thank you to everyone for their cooperation.

We also want to wish Ms. Medeiros all the best as she embarks on a new journey. Her support of our students at St. Padre Pio has been greatly appreciated.

Please take a look at the information below about our upcoming weeks together at St. Padre Pio CES.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. A. Modica

Principal

To report student absences and lates,

call 1-855-856-7862

or visit

go.schoolmessenger.ca

Our **School Day:**

8:15 - Supervision Begins

8:30 - Classes Begin

9:50-10:05 - AM Recess

11:25-12:25 - Lunch

1:45 - 2:00 -PM Recess

3:20 - End of Day

CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF FAITH

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING: FIRST COMMUNION



For those students in **Grade 2** who will be receiving the sacrament of First Holy Communion, St. Padre Pio Parish will be hosting a Parent Information Night on **Tuesday, September 29th, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.**

Please note that the school does not have any information on the First Communion date. This will be shared at the meeting.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING: CONFIRMATION

For those students in **Grade 7** who will be receiving the sacrament of Confirmation this year, St. Padre Pio Parish will be hosting a Parent Information Night on **Thursday, October 1st, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.**

Please note that the school does not yet have the Confirmation date. This will be shared at the meeting.



VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: COURAGE

In September, we celebrate the virtue of courage. Announcements, classroom, and library lessons focus on our virtue of the month. New this year is our Virtue Steps, which remind students of our virtues along with the Catholic Graduate Expectations. Please see the poster below for details.



YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Grades K-4

CATHOLIC VIRTUES

A virtue is the power or attitude to do good.

A Christian virtue is based on the message of Jesus, leading us to become more like God.

Virtues are many, but all our virtues are rooted in the seven traditional virtues..

A PRAYER FOR COURAGE

Loving God, we belong to you.
You are our light, our hope, and our strength.

Teach us to place all our trust in You.
Help us to find the courage we need to love with open minds and hearts.

May we always feel your Spirit within and around us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



VIRTUE COURAGE

Key Words: FORTITUDE

Courage as a virtue means being strong in times of difficulty. In the Catholic Church, courage is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.



"We shall steer safely through every storm as long as our heart is right, our intention fervent, our courage steadfast, and our trust fixed on God."

-St. Francis de Sales

MODELS OF COURAGE

Some Saints Who Model this Virtue:

- Saint Marguerite d'Youville
- All the martyrs (saints who died because of their faith in Jesus)

Others Who Model this Virtue:

- those who act as champions for the rights and dignity of others

Scripture Passage:
Storm on the Water

(Matthew 14: 22-27)



WHEN WE MIGHT NEED THIS VIRTUE:

- when things are new (new class, new neighbourhood, new school year, etc.)
- when we see bullying happening
- when we are asked to do things that are unkind or which don't feel right e.g. pressure from friends to share answers for school work, participate in unsafe behaviour, exclude others, etc

"I WILL" STATEMENTS

- I will stand up for what I know is right and just, based on the Word of God.
- I will face challenges, fears and difficulties with fortitude.
- I will trust God.



SEPTEMBER: COURAGE

INCLUSION, EQUITY & WELL-BEING

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

This Wednesday, September 30th, students will have a free civvies day and are encouraged to wear orange in support of our National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.



ROSARY APOSTOLATE

Beginning on October 20th, St. Padre Pio will be welcoming volunteers from St. Padre Pio Parish and the Rosary Apostolate to our classrooms. Volunteers will teach students how to pray the rosary. Please note that all volunteers will have a Vulnerable Sector Screening and will work in cooperation with the classroom teacher. Classes are run based on the age of the students.

Kindergarten: 15 Mins.

Primary: 20 Mins.

Junior and Intermediate: 45 Mins.



We look forward to working with the Rosary Apostolate throughout the year.

ST. PADRE PIO THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Beginning Monday, our Student Leadership Committee will be collecting canned goods for the Vaughan Food Bank. Non-perishable food items will go a long way for families in need this Thanksgiving season. We ask that all items be sent in to your child's classroom on or before **Wednesday, October 7th, 2026.**

Thank you in advance for your consideration.



SPP
Student Leadership
Presents
Our Annual

Thanksgiving

Food Drive

Padre Pio taught
us to care,
This Thanksgiving,
let's choose to share.

**All donations support
the Vaughan Food
Bank.**

Starts on

Monday, September 28th

Ends

Wednesday, October 7th

Items needed:

**Non-perishable items,
cans, pasta, etc**



SAFE & CARING SCHOOL COMMUNITY

SAFETY WEEK: October 5th - 9th, 2026

The York Catholic District School Board has a primary responsibility and goal to ensure a safe learning environment for all of our students and staff in our school community.

As part of our safety initiative, St. Padre Pio, along with all other schools in the York Catholic District School Board, will be practicing a variety of safety procedures with students and staff.

The week of October 5th - 9th has been designated as "Safety Awareness Week" for the YCDSB. During this week, we will be rehearsing a variety of emergency school procedures to acquaint students and staff with the precautionary steps to take in the event of such things as a warning of severe weather, or an intruder. In addition, throughout the year we will hold practice drills to acquaint students with various emergency protocols. Teachers will review these procedures with students in class prior to our practice drills.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the school.

Thank you for your support.



BEFORE AND AFTER CARE END OF DAY

To help support student safety, we kindly ask that at the end of the day, families leave the schoolyard area promptly. Our Before and After Care program uses the pavement and field for physical activity, and this would greatly assist in keeping all of our students safe. Thank you for your consideration.

BUS PLANNER PARENT PORTAL USER ACCOUNT

To improve access to important student transportation information and enhance the experience of the families we serve, Student Transportation Services of York Region (STSYR) launched the [Parent Portal](#) user account through Bus Planner Web in June 2026.

The Parent Portal user account provides families with convenient and secure ways to:

- Access their child's or children's transportation information, including
- Transportation eligibility;
- Bus route number(s);
- Pick-up and drop-off times and locations; and
- The school bus service provider.
- The ability to register for email notifications regarding service delays or cancellations.
- The ability to Opt-Out of transportation if transportation services are not required.
- Utilizes multi-factor authentication to enhance security and help protect your personal information.

Please see the link below for instructions on how to join:

[Web Parent Portal User Account Instructions](#)



CHILD VISUAL HEALTH INFORMATION

What a comprehensive eye examination is:

- Comprehensive eye exams are full visual health assessments performed by optometrists (eye doctors) to monitor the development of the eye and identify or diagnose any eye health conditions.
- Optometry eye exams are free (every 12 months) for children and youth aged 0-19 with a valid Ontario Health card. Your Ontario Health card also covers necessary follow-up appointments with an eye doctor.
- For more information on eye exams please visit the [Canadian Association of Optometrists](#).

The importance of routine comprehensive eye examinations:

- Regular eye exams are critical for monitoring a child's eye development and health. Vision issues can affect your child's learning by impacting their ability to see the classroom board or learn to read.
- Children often do not report vision loss or visual changes, as they may not know what normal vision should be, and are very good at compensating if only one eye sees well. This is why an eye exam is so important to ensure your child is seeing normally in both eyes.
- Early detection of vision issues allows for effective treatment before vision loss becomes irreversible. Children grow and change quickly, so they require eye exams every year.

How often a child should see an optometrist:

- The [Ontario Association of Optometrists](#) recommend children routinely visit an eye doctor as children do not always know when they are not seeing as well as they should be. Plan for routine visits at:
 - 6 months of age
 - 2-3 years of age
 - Annually after age 3

How to find an optometrist:

- To find an eye doctor, please check the [College of Optometrists webpage](#) or contact [Health811](#). You do not need referral from a family doctor to see an eye doctor.
- Please check your [local public health unit](#) for additional information on vision screening services in your region.

LAST CHANCE TO PICK UP OUR 2025-2026 YEARBOOK

YEARBOOK

There are a limited number of extra yearbooks available for purchase on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like one, please contact the main office. The cost of each yearbook is \$50.

These yearbooks will only be available for purchase until **Friday, October 9th, 2026.**

TERRY FOX WALK 2026 DONATIONS UPDATE

Thanks to the generous donations of our St. Padre Pio Families, we have raised \$1013 for the Terry Fox Foundation. This includes in-person and online donations. Congratulations to all as we reached and surpassed our goal of \$500.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

September 2026

Tuesday, Sept. 29th

First Communion Parent Meeting at St. Padre Pio Parish (7:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, Sept. 30th

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation:
Orange Shirt Day

CSC Meeting: 7:00 p.m.

October 2026

Thursday, Oct. 1st

Confirmation Parent Meeting at St. Padre Pio Parish (7:30 p.m.)

Monday, Oct. 5th

Safety Week Begins

Monday, Oct. 12th

Thanksgiving