



## St. Angela Merici Catholic School

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### Friendly Friday Update # 4: Sept 30th - Oct. 4th

## Autumn Blessing



O God of Creation, you have blessed us with  
the changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months,  
may the earlier setting of the sun  
remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves  
remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air  
remind us that it is you who give us the  
breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us  
of the abundance we have been given and  
bounty we are to share with others.

May the dying of summer's spirit remind  
us of your great promise that death is  
temporary and life is eternal.

We praise you for your goodness forever  
and ever. Amen.



## Week at a Glance

Monday 30th	Tuesday 1st	Wednesday 2nd	Thursday 3rd	Friday 4th
<i>Truth and Reconciliation Day - Orange Shirt Day Safety Awareness Week</i>	<b>Happy Tuesday</b>	<i>Happy Wednesday</i>	<i>Area Cross Country Meet at Bruce's Mills Conservation Area</i>	<i>Gr. 7 Immunization Clinic Dance a thon Kick off Assembly</i>

### Looking Ahead:

- **October: Learning Disabilities Month**
- **October 7th - Thanksgiving Food Drive closes**
- **October 10th - Thanksgiving/Opening Mass, 1:30 pm**
- **October 14th - Thanksgiving Monday - Holiday**
- **October 21st - PA Day**
- **October 22nd - Int. Girls Sharelife Invitational Volleyball Tournament**
- **October 23rd - Int. Boys Sharelife Invitational Volleyball Tournament**
- **October 25th - Civvies Day**
- **October 29th - Photo Retake Day**
- **October 31st - Halloween Dance-a thon**

### Catholic School Council Update

Thank you to all the parents, guardians and community members who attended our election night and opening meeting last night. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our 2024-2025 St. Angela Merici CES Catholic School Council. Congratulations and welcome to all you all. Please see attached an official Introduction to our St. Angela Merici CES Catholic School Council, as well as a series of meeting dates scheduled throughout the school year. Parents and Guardians are always welcome to participate in meetings and initiatives.

### Thanksgiving Food Drive

Our **Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive** continues to run until Monday, October 7th. The class challenge is on to bring in the most food donations, supporting Vaughan Food Bank. Please see the attached flyer for a list of items most in need at this time of year.

## Safe and Caring School Environments

**National Truth and Reconciliation Day:** In recognizing the significance of National Truth and Reconciliation Day, students are invited to wear an **Orange shirt**, **Monday, September 30th.**

**Yearbook 2023-2024 Update:** The highly anticipated Yearbook 2023-2024 have arrived and have already been distributed. Anyone still interested in purchasing a yearbook, is asked to pay \$50 directly to the school, as there are extra copies available.

**Snack Shack** - We continue to sell Ice Dawgs for \$3.00 while supplies last. Thank you for your continued support.

**Safe Arrival:** Please continue to use our Safe Arrival System to report absences and lates. Before bell time for the current day, please call 1-855-856-7862 or online at: [go/schoolmessenger.ca](https://go.schoolmessenger.ca). As well, you may choose to use the SchoolMessenger App (blue icon) from the Apple App Store or Google Play store.

Students are strongly encouraged to arrive on time. Should your child arrive late, please use the entrance buzzer and a staff member will instruct you when to enter. Please have a pick-up plan in place in the event that your child is not feeling well and needs to be picked up. (see attached information card)

**LINK**

**SAM Spirit Wear:** **New Logos, New Designs and New Colour options!** Check out our new St. Angela Merici CES Spirit Wear Store offering a wide selection of clothing and accessory items. With the same flexibility of placing orders throughout the school year and knowing that deliveries will be made directly to the school, Parents/Guardians have the option of purchasing items with our new St. Angela Merici Knights logo or our Limited Edition 25th Anniversary design. Students will be permitted to wear all Spirit Wear purchased, including the Limited Edition 25th Anniversary items offered in Grey. Use the link to start shopping today: [SAM Spirit Wear Store 2024 - 2025](#)

## Continuous Improvement of Student Learning / Achievement

**CCAT Update:** **Board-Wide Screening** will take place in Fall 2024. Students in grade four will be given the Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test, Seventh Edition (CCAT-7), a test of thinking and reasoning skills. Parents will be able to request the results of the CCAT test after Christmas from their school principal. Please contact the school with any questions/concerns.

**EQAO Update:** The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) has released provincial, school- and board-level data from its 2023–2024 assessments, which marks the third consecutive year of the agency’s reporting on the student achievement results of its online provincial assessments. EQAO data provide an independent snapshot that shows whether students are meeting curriculum expectations in reading, writing and mathematics at key stages of their education. The results also provide additional insights into students’ attitudes and perceptions related to their learning. Our school results will be shared with the staff, parents of students who completed the Spring 2024 EQAO assessments, and the school community in future communication.

## Integration of Our Catholic Faith

**Faith Day 2024:** The amazing staff at St. Angela Merici CES had an opportunity to spend the day together deepening our faith, while also strengthening the bonds within our community of colleagues. It was a beautiful day, opening with a hike together as a SAM family, and closing with a Family of Schools Mass at St. Peter's Church. Together we reflected on the theme and message throughout the day: *We are Pilgrims of Hope*, a message we will continue to reflect on this new school year.



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**New Family Life Curriculum:** [FAQ for Parents -- The New Elementary Family Life Curriculum](#)

**September's Virtue of the Month:** **COURAGE**

**PA Day, Staff Faith Day is September 27, 2024: Pilgrims of Hope: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given to us."** (Letter on the Jubilee Year of Hope, February 11, 2022)

**Thanksgiving/Opening Mass:** Please join us **Thursday, October 10, 2024** for our Thanksgiving/New School Year Mass. All are welcome to attend this mass, which is scheduled to begin at 1:30 pm.

This Year's 2024-25 Catholic Education week will take place from **May 5 to 9, 2025.**