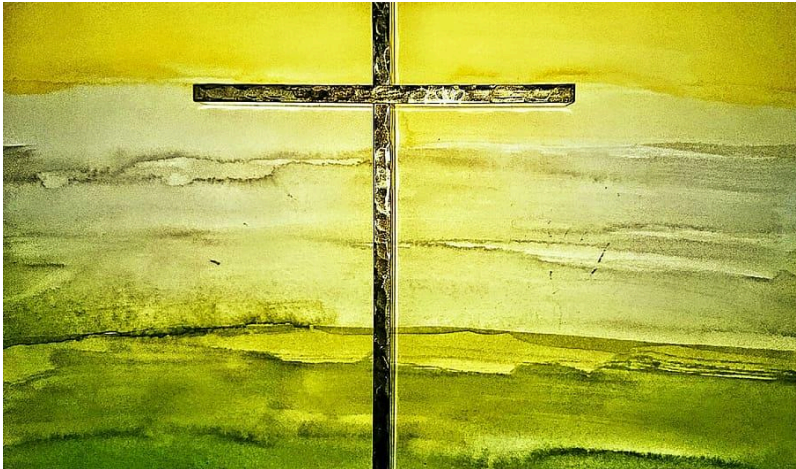




St. Angela Merici Catholic School

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Friendly Friday Update # 2: Sept 15th - 19th



Heavenly Father,

We come before you, at the end of this week, with gratitude in our hearts for the many blessings you have bestowed upon us.

The virtue upon which we reflect throughout YCDSB during the month of September is courage. Lord, give us the courage to face difficult situations and decisions with wisdom and grace. Like Terry Fox, we can call on the virtue of courage in the face of fear or pain or grief. This gift of courage is always there for us if we are able to let go and let God be our source of strength.

As we prepare to embrace the weekend, we ask for your guidance and protection over our families. We offer this prayer, knowing that with your guidance, we can nurture the courage needed to continue this educational journey together.

Amen

Week at a Glance

Monday 15th	Tuesday 16th	Wednesday 17th	Thursday 18th	Friday 19th
Happy Monday	Happy Tuesday	School Photos - Dress Code Catholic School Council Closing mtg, Election & Opening Meeting 2024-2025	Open House/Corn Roast, 5:30 - 7:30 pm	Civvies Day - Red/White Terry Fox Walk

Looking Ahead:

- September 25th - Rowan's Law Day - Purple Shirt Day
- September 26th - Faith Day/PA Day
- September 29th - October 3rd - YCDSB Safety Week
- September 30th - YCDSB National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Day - Orange Shirt Day
- October 1st - Learning Disabilities Awareness
- October 8th - Cross-Country Meet @ Bruce's Mills
- October 9th - Thanksgiving/Opening School Year Mass - 10:40 am
- October 13th - Thanksgiving Monday - Holiday
- October 14th - Vaccination Clinic, Gr. 7
- October 29th - School Photos - Retakes
- October 31st - Halloween Day

Safe and Caring School Environments

Important Information About Eye Exams for Young Learners:

Back-to-School Reminder: Book Your Child's Eye Exam

Did you know that vision problems can affect learning, reading, and classroom participation? Children often don't realize they have vision issues. That's why a comprehensive eye exam is recommended before school starts. Eye exams are covered by OHIP for all children and can help ensure your child is ready to succeed this school year. Book an appointment with your local optometrist today!

The CNIB and Vision Loss Rehabilitation Canada have created a digital pamphlet, available in both [English](#) and [French](#), that provides information on the importance of early comprehensive eye exams and how families can book an appointment.

Safe and Caring School Environments

[York Region's Helmet Safety Campaign](#)

York Region is currently running a helmet safety campaign aimed at increasing awareness and encouraging safe practices among cyclists, including e-bike users, inline skaters, skateboarders and scooter/e-scooter riders.


Throughout August and September, we have been promoting this campaign through our [website](#), digital advertisements, social media, road signage and posters at community centres. [York Region Helmet Safety Campaign Poster](#)

[By Your Side- Parent/Caregiver Learning Hub:](#)

School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO) is excited to share with you the launch of By Your Side, a new toolkit and learning hub designed to support parents/caregivers in engaging in meaningful mental health learning.

By Your Side was co-created by Ontario parents/caregivers and school mental health professionals. Extensive consultation with key stakeholder groups informed resource development. We know that parents and caregivers want their children to be physically and mentally healthy, and already have many effective tools and strategies in place.

By Your Side recognizes the expertise of parents and caregivers and offers resources to support and strengthen mental health and well-being in every family.

 PDL series_BYs for parents caregivers (Recorded Slides) (1).mp4

[Bus Loop and Kiss and Ride Procedures:](#)

Our goal at St. Angela Merici CES is safety for all students, staff, and community members. Our Kiss and Ride, Parking Lot, and Bus Loop are very busy at entry and dismissal times and we recognize that most people are following our safety protocols, but we require everyone's cooperation.

Please review some safety protocols and school routines:

[KISS AND RIDE:](#)

Thank you to parents and guardians for your efforts to use SAM's Kiss and Ride effectively before and after school. You are reminded that this area is not intended for parking or stopping, but rather designated for drivers to pull in, unload safely, pick up safely, and drive through. There should not be anyone parked in our Kiss and Ride. For student safety, there is absolutely no double parking in the parking lot. Parents, please continue to use street parking where appropriate if you wish to accompany your children to/from the playground or kindergarten pen. We encourage parents of K- 3 only to use the Kiss and Ride.

Also, we remind parents to be aware that there are walkways at the entrance of the parking lot and in the Kiss and Ride located near the Kindergarten gates on the East side of the school. Please DO NOT block these walkways.

Our collective efforts will make a real difference to the efficiency of drop offs and pickups, and most of all, keep our students safe!

Safe and Caring School Environments

PARKING LOT

Parents, if and when using the school parking lot, you cannot double park. This is a safety concern.

Also, only those drivers with a valid accessible parking permit are permitted to park in our handicap parking spaces. Please do not park in these spaces if you do not have a valid handicap parking permit.

Thank you for respecting these parking safety rules.

BUS LOOP/FIRE ROUTE

We respectfully remind our community not to park or idle in our bus route, entry or exit. **Absolutely no parking or drop off in our bus loop.** This area is for buses and emergency vehicles. If your child is late, then please use the Kiss and Ride and your child will walk to the front doors or park on Martin Grove Road and they can use the walkway/pathway to the front doors.

We would ask for your cooperation in supporting our traffic plan, and we appreciate your patience in dropping off and picking up your children.

Food and Drinks in the Playground: We kindly ask that students do not bring food or drinks into the school yard when arriving in the morning. Thank you for your 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](#)

September Snack Shack: *We will continue to offer the Snack Shack this week. Throughout the week, students will be invited to choose from a variety of chips for just \$2.00 each, while supplies last.*

Corn Roast/ Open House Night 2025

St. Angela Merici celebrates our 25th Anniversary. To kick off this milestone anniversary, year of celebration, Parents and Guardians are invited to a Corn Roast Social and School Open House, **Thursday, September 18, 2025.** While the delicious roasted corn catered by **MrCorn** will be available the entire evening, 5:30 to 7:30 pm., the opportunity to visit classrooms and meet the amazing staff of St. Angela Merici CES will be from 6:00 pm. to 7:00 pm. We hope all families will come to socialize, tour the hallways and spend some time visiting the classrooms which your children will call home for the next school year. Please see the flyer attached for more information.

Safe and Caring School Environments

SAM Spirit Wear UPDATE: Thank you for your patience with the SAM Spirit Wear Store. I received an update from their IT team regarding the launch of the site. It seems that they ran into a technical issue and that is the cause for the delay. Their technician and I are working on setting up the site and troubleshooting any issues. We hope to be able to open for orders soon.

School Photos - Pack your smile for our **School Photo Day, Tuesday, September 17th, 2025.** Please see the attached poster for additional information.

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

Continuous Improvement of Student Learning / Achievement

Student Voice: 🌟 **What is Student Voice?**

It's a monthly meeting where our students, across the grades, get to share their thoughts, suggestions, and ideas about what they'd like to see at school. Whether it's about school spirit, clubs, events, or just making school life better for everyone – all voices matter.

 **When?**

Student Voice meetings will take place **once a month** during a lunch hour.

 **Where?**

Meetings will be held in our Library Learning Commons!

 **Why Join?**

Because change starts with all voices, especially our students! This is an opportunity to be heard help make decisions and work with other students and staff.

Everyone in Gr. 1-8 is welcome – even if it is just to listen at first. Let's work together to make our school the best it can be!

Continuous Improvement of Student Learning / Achievement

Homework Policy # 313: Homework is a relevant, purposeful out-of-class learning activity undertaken in partnership between school and home, which supports learning in an effective, intentional manner directly connecting the student's school program to the learning expectations outlined in the Ontario Curriculum. Please see [Policy 313](#) attached for your records.

Integration of Our Catholic Faith

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

PA Day, Staff Faith Day is September 26, 2025

Thanksgiving/Opening Mass: Please join us **Thursday, October 9, 2025** for our Thanksgiving/New School Year Mass. All are welcome to attend this mass, which is scheduled to begin at 10:40 am.

This Year's 2025-26 Catholic Education week will take place from **May 4 to 8, 2026.**