



Holy Spirit Catholic Elementary School

315 Stone Road, Aurora, ON L4G 6Y7
Telephone: (905) 713-6813 • Fax: (905) 713-6744

December 5th, 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

A reminder that beginning on Monday, December 6th, 2021 our **dismissal time for all students will be 2:55 pm**, as mentioned in last week's parent communication. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please take an opportunity to review the images and information below for more details on our upcoming week and important school events taking place at Holy Spirit CES. Have a blessed Sunday evening.

Picture Retake Day/Graduation Photos

Our Grade 8 Graduation Photographs as well as our photo retake day will take place on Tuesday, February 22nd, 2022. More information will follow closer to the date.

Holiday Heroes Luke 4:18 Christmas Campaign

Please see the letter attached below or in the email for details on how you can help our Luke 4:18 Committee deliver some holiday cheer to those in need in cooperation with York Regional Police.

Visitor Drop-Off Information

According to the York Catholic District School Board Re-entry plan, parents/guardians are **not** allowed to drop off lunches/snacks during the school day. Students should bring their lunch with them or they can go home for lunch. We kindly remind parents to please ensure that students also have an extra pair of clothing, a water bottle, extra masks and are dressed appropriately for the weather.

Extended Absence Forms

If you are planning a vacation near or during the Christmas holidays where you are leaving the country, please be advised that unvaccinated students will require a quarantine period of 14 days upon their return to Canada. If this will result in your child missing 15 or more days an extended absence form must be completed prior to your departure. Please notify your classroom teacher as well as the main office for more information.

Christmas Music Class Videos Update

This year, while following our Covid-19 protocols as per the YCDSB re-entry plan, our Kindergarten and Primary classes will be participating in a Christmas song initiative. Classes will be recorded singing a Christmas song this week as part of their music class. The class video will be shared in your child's Google Classroom. If you would not like your child to be recorded, please let your child's teacher or the office know by the end of the day on **Monday, December 6th, 2021** if you have not already done so.

We ask that once the video is shared that parents do not take pictures or videos of the recording. To protect the privacy of all of our students no videos or pictures should be posted to any social media.

St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Drive

Please see the letter attached below for information on how you can support St. Vincent De Paul this holiday season.

YCDSB Mental Health Team Webinar: Surviving the Holidays

December is the month of hope. As we enter Advent and prepare to celebrate Christmas, there is a lot of planning and organization that help make the holidays a special time. For some, the holidays can become another stressor.

Join us and the York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee on December 9 at 7:00 pm for “Surviving the Holidays: The Most Wonderful Stressful Time of the Year” (presented by Pine River Institute’s Center for Family Initiatives).

Together we will learn how to cultivate peace and wellness over the holidays so we can focus on what is really important; preparing our hearts for the coming of Jesus and spending time with the people we love. Learn about expectations vs. reality, managing stress in children, and yourself, and navigating difficult family dynamics.

Register for the workshop [here](#). Merry Christmas to all our YCDSB families!

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. A. Modica

Principal

anthony.modica@ycdsb.ca



Dear Holy Spirit Families,

The Luke 4:18 Committee has chosen to support the Holiday Heroes campaign for our school Christmas initiative. Holiday Heroes is organized by the York Regional Police and is celebrating its 25th year of helping families in crisis and need within our community. All donations will help the families in our region. We have chosen to focus our support on children ages 9-12. This age group, also referred to as tweens, can often be overlooked during this holiday season.

Since many of our committee members are experienced tweens we have come up with a list of items that we would like as gifts. Please keep in mind that the campaign has asked for **new and unopened items to be donated**. To stay warm we like: **hats, mitts, and fuzzy socks**. To keep ourselves busy we like: **cards, puzzles, crafts, Lego, board games, and fidget toys**. These are some of our ideas, but please feel free to donate any new or unopened toy/item.

If you would like to participate in our Christmas initiative, you can bring one of these items to school on **Monday, December 13th**. There will be boxes set up in front of the school, at the side doors, and at the back so that your child can put the item in before they enter the school. Thank you for your support with this initiative.

Merry Christmas!

Luke 4:18 Committee



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul - Our Lady of Grace Conference
15347 Yonge Street
Aurora, Ontario L4G 1N7

Dear Parents,

In past years, your child's school has sponsored special activities to raise money for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Program at Our Lady of Grace Parish. Many individuals and families in our community continue to struggle during these uncertain times. These neighbours in need include single parent families, the working poor, people on social assistance, and individuals who are dealing with various physical disabilities, addictions or mental illness. These are people of all ages and from all backgrounds, who have fallen on hard financial times, and are looking for some extra help during the holiday season.

Due to public health safety measures, we are continuing with a simplified Christmas Program this year. We will be providing families with President's Choice gift cards, which will allow them to purchase food, clothing, toiletries or toys, depending on their needs.

Any amount you choose to donate will help to spread the joy and magic of Christmas to those in our community who need our help. Donations raised during the Christmas season also allow us to sustain our programs throughout the year, providing families with food vouchers, fresh food baskets, and other financial assistance.

- Donations can be dropped off at Our Lady of Grace Parish. Please make cheques payable to **Society of St. Vincent de Paul (OLG)**. Tax receipts will be mailed out for donations of \$20 or more as long as a full name and address is provided.
- Interac e-transfer donations can be made via olgssvp@gmail.com. Please assign a simple security question that we will be able to decipher. If you would like a receipt, please email your name and address to the same email address.
- Credit card donations can be made via Canada Helps.org. Tax receipts will be issued directly to you by Canada Helps. [Canada Helps donation link](#)

We wish you a blessed Advent and Christmas season and thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Sincerely,
Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Our Lady of Grace conference

**The Mental Health Team, together with the
York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee,
invite you to:**

Surviving the Holidays:

The most ^{stressful} ~~wonderful~~ time of the year?

Presented by
Pine River Institute's Centre for Family Initiatives

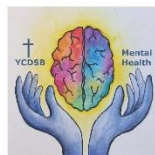
Thursday, December 9th
7:00-8:00 p.m.

Everyone needs a break after the year we've just had, yet for many of us, the holidays become another stressor, rather than a time for us to relax and enjoy time with family. Expectations of yourself and others can create tensions in the family, and poor sleep, diet, and lack of routine, can escalate the anxiety felt around the home.



Presenter:
Amanda Lamb
CFI Director

Recognizing that things may look different this year, we can cultivate peace and wellness over the holidays so we can focus on what is really important, spending time with the people we love. Learn about expectations vs. reality, managing stress in children, and yourself, and navigating difficult family dynamics.



[Register here](#)