



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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G.R.O.W.L - WE GROW WITH RESPECT, OPENNESS, WISDOM, AND LOVE. WE ARE KODIAKS AND WE GROW!

"FOR WE ARE EACH RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR OWN CONDUCT." GALATIANS 6:5

MAY 2026

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As Catholics, we recognize and honour May as the month of Mary. Our virtue of the month is Responsibility. The Bible emphasizes the importance of responsibility, guiding believers on how to live in a way that honors God and serves the community. Mary, Jesus' mother, is an example for all mothers who want to excel in the responsibility of motherhood. As we celebrate Mother Mary, we would also like to celebrate all mothers in our community this Mother's Day, on Sunday May 10, 2026. Happy Mother's Day!

The York Catholic District School Board joins school boards across the province in celebration of **Catholic Education Week** and all those who contribute to the success of Catholic Education from May 3 - 8, 2026. We will highlight Catholic Education with our very own OLGC'S Got Talent! The theme for this year is "Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope: On the Path to Holiness". We showcase our God given talents to the parent community on Wednesday, May 6th at 10:30 am. Come join us!

Mental Health Week in Canada 2026 takes place from May 4 to May 10, 2026. Organized annually by the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), the 75th annual campaign focuses on the theme "Come Together, Canada: Stronger Connections, Better Mental Health," highlighting the importance of social connection in combating loneliness.

Mental Health and Catholic Education Week coincide each year, presenting a unique opportunity for educators to nurture both the spiritual and emotional well-being of students.

We look forward to celebrating Catholic Education Week, Mental Health Week, honouring our mothers, and observing the Victoria Day long weekend.

Yours in Catholic Education,

K. Quan King Thompson
Principal



Active School Travel

BIKE TO SCHOOL WEEK – June 1-5, 2026

Let's get rolling!

Celebrate active modes of transportation like cycling and wheeling along with other students and staff across Ontario during Bike to School Week – **June 1-5, 2026**. Bike to School Week is a free and fun week-long celebration for kids of all ages and abilities.



When cycling, remember to:

- Wear a properly fitting helmet. Every cyclist under 18 must wear a bike helmet.
- **Air Brakes Chain** – Check your bike tires, brakes and chain before you start riding.
- Ensure your bike has a working bell, white light or reflector at the front, and a red light or reflector at the back. For information and to learn more visit the [Government of Ontario's bicycle safety information](#).
- Cross at crosswalks, if there is one. Walk beside your bike when crossing the road.
- Watch for cars backing out of driveways and turning at intersections.
- Lock your bike in bike racks.
- Be visible and dress for the weather.

For anyone who can't walk or cycle to school every day, we encourage you to try choosing an active mode of travel two or three times a week, or consider parking and walking a block to decrease the pollution around your school.

Benefits of Biking to School:

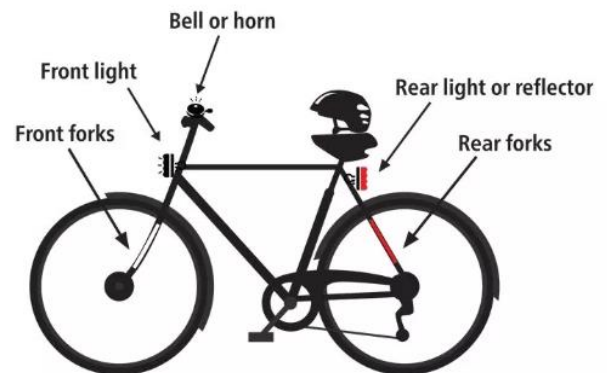
- Promotes physical and mental health
- Students arrive energized and ready to learn
- Improved safety in school zones
- Good for the environment
- Convenient, bicycling is often faster than sitting in traffic
- Good for the community, encourages social interaction
- Promotes life-long habits that foster independence and active lifestyles, preparing children for their future
- Just plain old simple fun!

CYCLING SAFETY FACTSHEET Be Seen — Be Heard — Be Safe

Did you know?

Ontario law requires that you equip your bike with:

- White reflective tape on the front forks and red reflective tape on the rear forks
- A white front light and a red rear light or reflector if you ride between 1/2 hour before sunset and 1/2 hour after sunrise
- A bell or horn that works



Every cyclist under 18 years of age must wear an approved bicycle helmet

Catholic School Council Updates

Thank you to our CSC members who continue to help improve student achievement and wellbeing at OLGC. Our next Catholic School Council will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 6:30pm in the library. The council will again hear updates from the principal, staff, students and committees. Please see the CSC Update of upcoming events below.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL
MAY UPDATE**

**OUR NEXT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY MAY 14TH
AT 6:30PM IN THE LIBRARY**

SOMETHING EXCITING IS COMING!!!!!!

Our Read-A-Thon launches May 6th
Watch for your child's registration link coming home next week!

Read-A-Thon
Helps my mind and my school
GROW!

SAVE THE DATE!!!

This year's FUN FAIR will be held on Thursday June 11th 5-8pm More info to follow, stay tuned!!!!!!

FUN FAIR

OUTDOOR PROJECT UPDATE !!!!!!!

OLGC has officially been approved to proceed with the construction of our outdoor classroom along with tree planting this fall !!!

THE LAST HOT LUNCH SESSION IS COMING UP...

* Munch-a-lunch will be open for ordering Monday May 11 - Sunday May 17

* The session will run from Monday May 25 - Friday June 19

Please note, the last week of school there will be no hot lunch program running...please ensure you pack your child(ren) lunch for that week!

Thank you all for your continued support!!

OLGC Presents SPECIAL SNACK DAY

May 7 Cheese & Crackers

June 15 Watermelon

June 22 Frozen treat

Helping to bring awareness to our students about healthy food choices

Interested in knowing more? Contact us at: snp4olgc@gmail.com

Appropriate Dress Code

As the weather gets warmer, we would like to remind everyone of the parameters of the appropriate dress code for our school. According to the York Catholic District School Board, Policy 219A Elementary Student Dress Code for Appropriate dress states that:

- i) All student attire must be in keeping with our Catholic teachings and beliefs, and reflect the value of modesty and the principle of the dignity of the human person.
- ii) Upper garments are to cover the midriff and shoulders.
- iii) Garments are to have solid fabric rather than mesh or netting.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and respectful Catholic school environment.

September Organization

We are beginning to plan the school organization for September 2026. ***If you are certain that your child(ren) will NOT be returning to OLGC, it would be appreciated if you could please send written confirmation to let us know.***

The process for formulating class lists for September will begin soon. After we determine the class organization, each student is individually discussed and placed according to a number of criteria. This is a process we take very seriously as it involves much thought and deliberation.

Given the parameters in which we have to work with determined by our registration numbers, ministry, and board directives, it is our goal to establish balanced classes, providing effective groups which will benefit all children. As a team, teachers who are sending students into the next grade meet to carefully consider learning styles, academic skills, social grouping, special education, ESL needs, as well as behavioural considerations. Creating the best and most effective groupings is a task that requires careful planning. At this time, we are uncertain as to which teachers will teach a specific grade since staffing decisions are subject to change and will not be finalized until late August.

Accepting parental requests for specific teachers are not permitted under Board guidelines, and would not be in the best interest of all children in the school as it could restrict school staff from informing what we consider to be the most ideal classroom groupings.

The teachers who have worked with the children this year know them and will make determinations based on each child's best interests. If you feel strongly that there are extenuating circumstances **not listed above**, please submit your request in writing, including the rationale for your request, to the Principal by **Friday, May 29, 2026**.

Written requests will be shared with the team of teachers generating class lists; however, this does not guarantee that your request can be honoured.

OLGC Yearbook 2025-2026

The yearbook committee continues to work on the 2025-2026 OLGC yearbook. They are working on including fantastic memories, school events, celebrations, teams and class portraits. The yearbook can still be pre-ordered via School Day until **Friday, June 5th, 2026**. This is the only time yearbook orders will be accepted. The cost is \$25.00. Additional yearbooks will not be ordered, there will be no extra yearbooks for purchase after this date. Yearbooks will be ready for pick up in September 2026. We thank the staff and students involved in creating the yearbook this year. We look forward to a great book of memories for 2025-2026!

Welcome to Kindergarten/First Impressions Meetings

We are excited to welcome new children starting kindergarten to our OLGC school community. We invite new parents and their child who have registered, to our Welcome to Kindergarten/First Impressions meeting on **Tuesday, May 12, 2026**. During the one-hour session, information will be shared on how to prepare for kindergarten. The kindergarten team will have an opportunity to meet your child and answer any questions you may have. We will have two sessions in the morning. An email has been sent to all families who have registered inviting them to one of two sessions starting at 9:30 or 10:30am. Families are asked to RSVP by Wednesday, May 6th so that we can prepare a welcome package for you. We look forward to meeting our newest members of the OLGC family!

Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week (CMHW) 2026 takes place from May 4 to 10, with National Child and Youth Mental Health Day on May 7.



This year, Children's Mental Health Ontario (CMHO) is aligning with the theme for Mental Health Week, "**Come Together**," which invites all of us to strengthen our connection to ourselves, to one another, and to our communities. At its core, this theme recognizes that connection is foundational to mental health and well-being.

Children's Mental Health Week is an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of connection, highlight the critical role of community-based mental health services, and call for action to build a more connected and responsive system of care for Ontario's infants, children, youth, and families. This year, we are also using this opportunity to strengthen advocacy for community-based care, highlighting its role in building connection and belonging.

May is Asian Heritage Month

The York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) recognizes May as Asian Heritage Month. The theme for Asian Heritage Month 2026 is: "**Honouring Asian Canadians: Stories that Built Canada**". This theme recognizes the essential contributions Asian Canadians have made to Canada's social, cultural, and economic life across generations. It highlights how individuals, families, and communities helped build the country—often while facing exclusion and systemic barriers—and affirms that their histories are a foundational part of Canada's national story. By centering the theme on lived experiences and community narratives, it supports learning, reflection, and a more inclusive understanding of who we are as Canadians. Let's take this month to learn about how Asian Canadian are helping to shape Canadian identity in the past, now and into the future.

Catholic Education Week



Every year, the Catholic community of Ontario engages in a week-long celebration of the distinct identity and significant contributions of Catholic education during Catholic Education Week. This year's celebration is entitled, "**Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope: on the Path to Holiness**" and will take place during the week of May 3 – May 8, 2026.

The five sub-themes for CEW explore ways to live out Pope Francis' call for each one of us to be Pilgrims of Hope: On the Path to Holiness. These sub-themes include:

- Monday: Peace be with you
- Tuesday: God loves you
- Wednesday: Christ saves you
- Thursday: The Holy Spirit lives in you
- Friday: Together on the journey

Catholic Education Week Mass - May 6, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

A major highlight of the week is the Catholic Education Week Provincial Mass on Wednesday, May 6. Celebrated by the Most Rev. Daniel Miehm, Bishop of Peterborough, the Mass will be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains in Peterborough starting at 11:00 a.m. All members of the YCDSB community are invited to participate virtually via the [Livestream Link](#).

We look forward to celebrating Catholic Education Week showcased through our OLGC's Got Talent Show. These will take place on Wednesday, May 6th at 10:30am. Parents are welcome to attend! Please sign in and out on the sign in/out sheets at the school. Thank you for your support and partnership in Catholic Education.

Prayer for Catholic Education Week

God of grace and love,
Strengthen and sustain us as we continue to journey as pilgrims of hope.
Guide us on the path to holiness with the light of your love.
Inspire us to serve joyfully in the love of Christ
through the beautiful examples of the saints.
As we journey together in faith,
may we experience the peace of Christ
through the presence of one another.
We pray that all young people in our Catholic schools
may believe, and become empowered by,
these three important Gospel messages: "God loves you!" "Christ saves you!" "The Holy Spirit
lives in you!"
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Date	Upcoming Events
May 4	Catholic Education Week begins, Junior Boys Basketball
May 5	Junior Girls Basketball, EG Firefighters Visit Gr. 1 classes
May 6	OLGC's Got Talent 10:30am, CSC Read-a-thon Begins, Catholic Education Week Province Wide Mass 11:00am
May 7	SNP Special Snack Day
May 12	Welcome to Kindergarten/First Impression Meetings AM
May 13	Gr.8's to Humber College
May 14	Gr. 7 Immunizations, CSC Meeting 6:30pm in the library
May 18	Victoria Day – No School
May 19	Gr. 3 EQAO E-assessments begin, Rugby Clinic
May 20	CSC Read-a-thon Ends, Grad Group Photo Day
May 21	Rugby Clinic

May 22	Rugby Clinic
May 26	Gr. 3 EQAO E-assessments end
May 27	Gr. 1's to Willowgrove Farm, Gr. 6 EQAO E-assessments begin
May 28	LSRCA Program for Gr. 5/6, 6, Wagstaff, Ms. Albanese's class to STREAM Centre
May 29	OLGC Track and Field Day

You may also visit us at <https://olgc.ycdsb.ca/> for important dates and events listed on the right-hand side under upcoming events

