



St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic High School

2026-2027 Student Handbook

Doing the ordinary with extraordinary love.

Principal: Peter Parente

Vice Principals: Karen Brockest, Michelle Bulger and Harvey Wu

Main Office: 905-787-1407



Act I: Our Foundation

Faith &
Community



Act II: The Blueprint

Daily Rhythms



Act III: Shared Commitments

Standards &
Expectations



Act IV: The Guardrails

Progressive
Discipline



Act V: Flourishing

Extracurricular
Life



Act VI: Operational Details

Procedures



Principal's Welcome

Welcome to a culture of caring and success. We invite you to nurture your skills in the classroom and get involved.

The Little Way

Modeled on St. Theresa of Lisieux, our patroness, we believe in doing the ordinary with extraordinary love. This should be evident in the way we speak, act, and think daily.

Our Mission

We are inspired by the spiritual beliefs and Little Way of St. Theresa of Lisieux to strive for personal excellence as life-long learners within our Christ-centred Catholic school community.

St. Theresa of Lisieux Administration



MR. PARENTE
Principal



MR. WU
Vice Principal
(A-He)



MS. BROCKEST
Vice Principal
(Ho-Pen)



MS. BULGER
Vice Principal
(Per-Z)

MAIN OFFICE

MS. MASSARO - **Head Secretary**

MS. ACETO - **General Secretary**

MS. BUGEJA - **General Secretary**

MS. COOPER - **Guidance Secretary**

MS. FIORINI - **Attendance Secretary**

MS. JOHNSTON - **SIS Secretary**

MS. SOUSA - **Bursar**

Chaplaincy Message

A call to live lives filled with compassion, hope, joy, and love. The chapel is a sacred space always open for quiet prayer. The Chaplaincy team is available for counseling and building the Kingdom of God.



Our Parishes

St. Mary Immaculate
Catholic Church

St. Andre Bessette

Father Henri Nouwen C.S.

St. Charles
Garnier C.S.

St. Mary
Immaculate C.S.

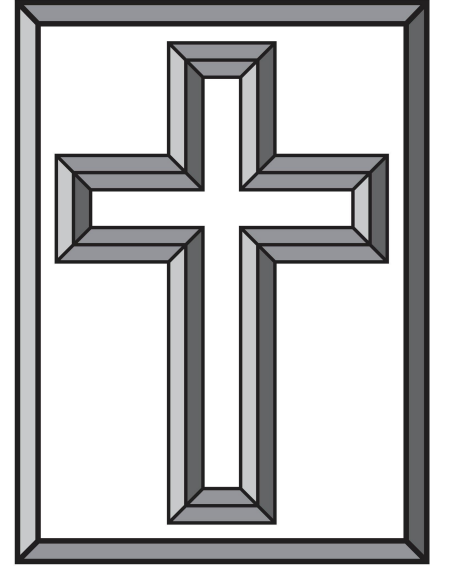
St. Marguerite
D'Youville C.S.

Our Associate Schools

Elementary

St. Anne
C.S.

School Prayer



O Little Theresa of the Child of Jesus,
Please pick for me a rose from the heavenly gardens
and send it to me as a message of love.

St. Theresa, help me to always believe as you did, in
God's great love for me, so that I might imitate your
"Little Way" each day.

Amen.

St. Theresa, pray for us



YCDSB Land Acknowledgement



Todd Jamieson
YCDSB Knowledge Keeper

We are gathered on the ancestral lands and waters of all Indigenous Peoples, who have left their footprints on Mother Earth before us.

We respectfully acknowledge, those who have walked on it, those who walk on it now, and future generations who have yet to walk upon it.

We pray to the Creator for strength and wisdom that all may continue to serve as stewards of the earth.



STL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With gratitude we gather together and share these lands and waters upon whose village site our school has been built. This is the land of the Wendat People.

Our school is a community that wants to continue to learn how we can be braided in knowledge, to become stronger together than when we walk apart.

Let us commit to walking the path of listening and learning hand in hand. In the language of the Wendat people we offer thanks - tiawenhk.

tea-a-waah-hek
(THANKS)



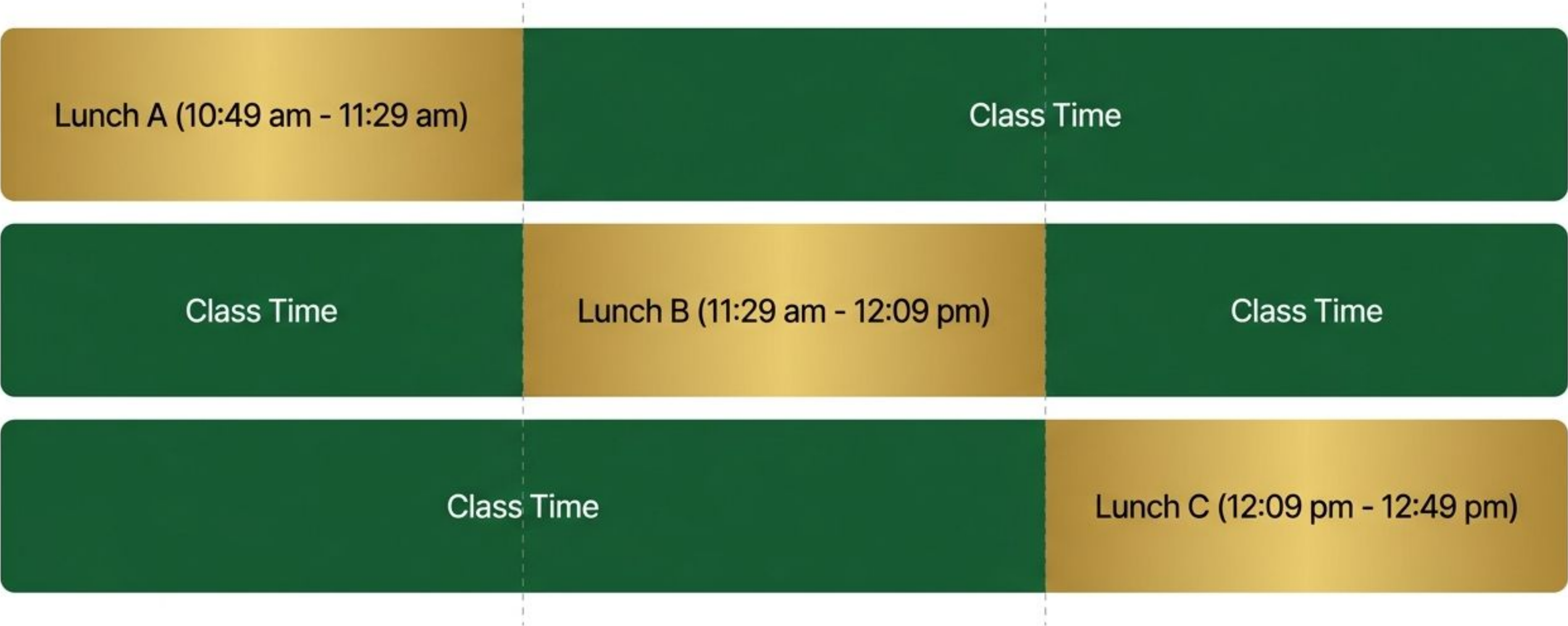
St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic High School | Daily Schedule

230 Shaftsbury Avenue, Richmond Hill Ontario L4C 0E8 | 905-787-1407

Time	Activity	Details/Rotation
8:05 am	Warning Bell	O'Canada / Prayer
8:10 am - 9:24 am	Period 1	
9:30 am - 10:43 am	Period 2	
10:49 am - 12:49 pm	Period 3	Week 1: Period 3 / Week 2: Period 4
12:55 pm - 2:08 pm	Period 4	Week 1: Period 4 / Week 2: Period 3

Midday Block Lunch Rotations

10:49 am – 12:49 pm (Period 3 on Week 1 / Period 4 on Week 2)



Our Patron Saint

St. Theresa of Lisieux, was a French Carmelite nun who lived from 1873 to 1897. She died at just 24 years old, but her life and teaching have inspired people throughout the world.

Theresa called herself a “little flower” in God’s garden. She believed that, just as every flower has its own place and beauty, every person has a unique place in God’s plan. She did not believe that holiness required doing great or extraordinary things. Instead, she sought to trust God and love Him in the simple circumstances of everyday life.

She called this approach her “Little Way”: a life of trust, humility, and love. Thérèse believed that even the smallest choices, struggles, and acts of love could bring us closer to God when they are offered to Him with a trusting heart.



Our Patron Saint

Theresa wrote, “My vocation is love.” Her life reminds us that we do not have to be extraordinary to make a difference. We are called to grow where God has planted us, to recognize the dignity of others, and to bring love into the world through the way we live each day.

In 1997, Pope John Paul II declared St. Thérèse a Doctor of the Church, recognizing the importance of her spiritual teaching. She is also the patron saint of missions.

As a school community who possess St. Theresa as our namesake, we strive to follow her Little Way: to trust in God, grow where we are planted, and discover that our everyday choices can become a way of living our faith.



Chaplaincy

Catholic education is concerned with the formation of the whole person: mind, body, and spirit. As a Catholic school, we believe that faith cannot be separated from learning. Jesus Christ is at the heart of who we are and permeates every aspect of school life. Our faith shapes the way we understand knowledge, relationships, human dignity, service, and our responsibility to one another. Chaplaincy provides opportunities for students to encounter Christ through prayer, liturgy, retreats, service, reflection, and community. While our school community is distinctly Catholic, Chaplaincy is a place where all are welcomed and treated with dignity and respect. Students of all backgrounds and faith experiences are invited to participate, ask questions, reflect, and contribute to the spiritual life of our community.

Our chapel is a sacred space at the heart of our school. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the chapel, reminding us that Christ is truly present among us. Students and staff are welcome to enter the chapel for prayer, quiet reflection, or simply to spend time in the presence of Jesus. We ask that the chapel be treated with the reverence and respect appropriate to a place where the Blessed Sacrament is present.

Our hope is that every student will know that they are valued, supported, and called to become the person God created them to be.

The Letter of Commitment

Signed by all students entering Grade 9

Student Responsibilities

- Attend classes regularly and punctually.
- Adhere to the Code of Conduct and Uniform Requirements from bell to bell.
- Allow others to learn without disruption.
- Work diligently and cooperatively.



Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

- Ensure regular attendance (reporting absences via phone before 8:30 a.m.).
- Support the school's uniform and disciplinary policies.
- Communicate effectively with teachers and administration regarding student progress and well-being.

15 Steps to Student Success



Pillar 1: Mindset & Goals

- Believe in yourself
- Set personal and academic goals
- Make good choices consistent with your values
- Always try your best



Pillar 2: Active Learning

- Be in school on time daily
- Be organized with an agenda
- Manage time well
- Take good notes & review course materials
- Study smart ahead of exams
- Set personal and academic goals



Pillar 3: Community & Support

- Know your Code of Conduct
- Get involved in school activities
- Get help when needed from a trusted adult
- Plan and prepare for the future



PYRAMID OF STUDENT INTERVENTIONS – SUMMARY OF “BIG 5”

1. Absenteeism:

3 days: Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution)
Teacher documentation

5 days: Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution)
Parent/guardian contact (teacher documentation)

8 days: Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution)
Parent/guardian contact (teacher documentation)
Parent communication "8 Absence Letter" to be mailed home
Referral to Student Support Team & Project PASS (via V.P.)

3. Punctuality:

Late to Class:

First 3 Lates: Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution) Teacher documentation

5th Late: Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution)
Parent/guardian contact (teacher documentation/assigned consequence)

8th Late: Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution)
Parent/guardian contact. Referral to V.P.

Subsequent Occurrences: Referral to V.P. 1-Day Suspension

4. Skipping Classes:

First Occurrence:

9/10 : Conference with student and parent (problem solving/conflict resolution)
11/12 : Conference with student and/or parent (problem solving/conflict resolution)
Teacher documentation / (teacher assigned consequence, inform VP)

Second Occurrence:

Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution/ assigned consequence)
Parent/guardian contact (teacher documentation)
Referral to Student Support Team & Project PASS (via V.P.)

Third Occurrence: Referral to V.P. 1-Day Suspension

2. Disobedience/Lack of Cooperation/Class Disruption:

First Occurrence: Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution)
Parent/guardian contact (teacher assigned consequence)

Second Occurrence: Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution)
Parent/guardian contact (teacher assigned consequence)

Third Occurrence: Conference with student (problem solving/conflict resolution) Parent/guardian contact
Referral to Student Success Team & Project PASS (via V.P.)

5. Uniforms:

Referral to V.P.



DGN  KILTERS

UNIFORM APPAREL • SCHOOLS • CLUBS • TEAMS

ST. THERESA OF LISIEUX CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



SHORT SLEEVE POLO
WHITE



LONG SLEEVE POLO
WHITE



SHORT SLEEVE UNISEX
COTTON GYM T-SHIRT
BLACK



LONG SLEEVE UNISEX
COTTON GYM T-SHIRT
BLACK



PHYS.ED PULLOVER HOODY
BLACK



UNISEX QUARTER ZIP
HUNTER GREEN



MEN'S DRESS PANTS
BLACK



LADIES' DRESS PANTS
BLACK



GIRLS V-NECK T-SHIRT
BLACK



UNISEX ROUND NECK T-SHIRT
BLACK

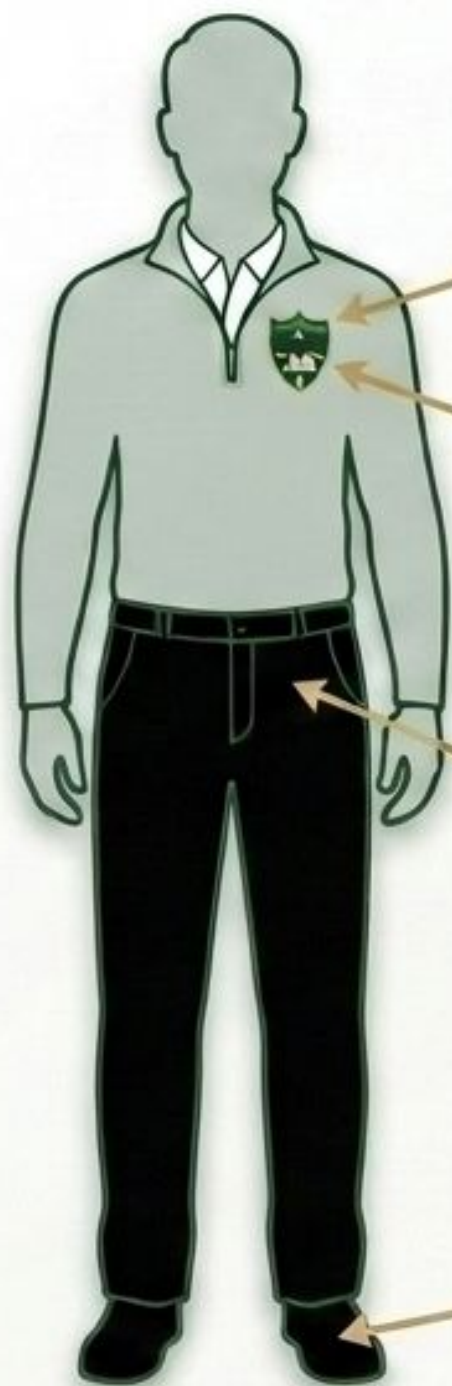


UNISEX GYM SHORTS
BLACK



UNISEX SWEATPANTS
BLACK

Our Distinct Identity (DGN Kilters Only)



Top Layer

Forest green DGN Kilters quarter-zip with STL monogram. (No other sweaters permitted).

Base Layer

White DGN Kilters golf shirt (long/short sleeve). Must be worn and visible under the quarter-zip. (No t-shirts visible underneath).

Pants

All black dress pants with school logo.

Shoes

Must be all black, no other colours or logos permitted, laces are black and soles also. Boots, sandals, open weave, open back/toe, exaggerated platforms, coloured laces are not permitted.

The Uniform Code

Enforced strictly from 8:10 AM to 2:15 PM (including lunch)

Headwear

- ✓ Hijabs must be black, white, or forest green.
- ✗ No hats, kerchiefs, or decorative headbands.

Top

- ✓ White DGN Kilters monogrammed golf shirt. Forest Green quarter-zip sweater (Golf shirt must be visible underneath).
- ✗ Must **NEVER** be tied or cinched.

Bottom

- ✓ Black DGN Kilters dress pants worn at the waist.
- ✗ Legs must **NOT** be tucked into socks or rolled up.

Footwear

- ✓ Solid black dress shoes only. * Including shoe laces and logos
- ✗ **NO** boots, sandals, uggs, open toes/back, or coloured laces.



NON-COMPLIANCE:

Results in being sent home or held in the the office until proper uniform is delivered.

Navigating Attendance

What if I am...?

Absent?

Parent must enter the absence on safe arrival.
Unexcused absence = Truancy.

Leaving Early?

Parents report absence to Safe Arrival. Student comes to office before school starts to obtain a dismissal slip.

Ill at School?

Student reports to the main office where a parent will be called to pick up the child up. Students are NOT to linger in washrooms.

Family Vacations?

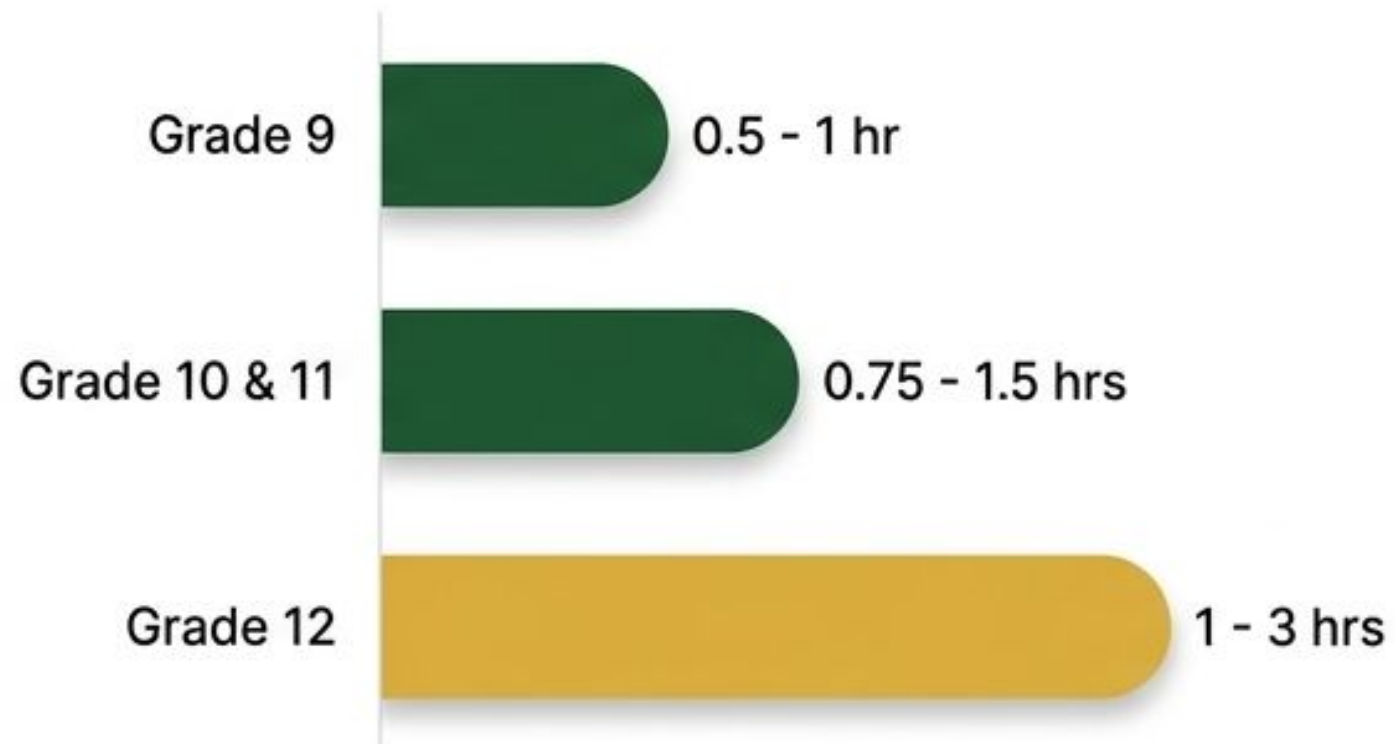
Highly discouraged during instructional time. Requires an Extended Absence Form is required 1 week prior to departure, signed by teachers, parents and VP. Complete/submit all missed evaluations on the day of return. Skipping class to avoid evaluations will result in a mark of zero.

Attendance and Participation Criteria

Level	Grade Range	Approximate Number of Unexcused Absences / Semester		Participation and Contributions
4	80% - 100%	2 or fewer	0 - 2.5%	The student consistently : • participates in class discussions and contributes ideas • asks relevant questions • respects the contributions of others and demonstrates positive leadership • contributes to fostering a positive classroom culture
3	70% - 79%	2.5 - 4.5	2.5% - 5%	The student generally : • participates in class discussions and contributes some ideas • asks relevant questions • respects the contributions of others • contributes to fostering a positive classroom culture
2	60% - 69%	5 - 7	5% - 7.5%	The student occasionally : • participates in class discussions and sometimes contributes ideas • asks relevant questions • respects the contributions of others • contributes to fostering a positive classroom culture
1	50% - 59%	7.5 - 9	7.5% - 10%	The student infrequently : • participates in class discussions and rarely contributes ideas • asks relevant questions • respects the contributions of others • contributes to fostering a positive classroom culture
Below Level 1	Less than 50%	More than 9	more than 10%	The student does not : • participate in class discussions or contribute ideas • ask relevant questions • respect the contributions of others • contribute to fostering a positive classroom culture

Academic Expectations & Integrity

Expected Homework Hours per Night



ZERO TOLERANCE: Academic Integrity

Plagiarism and Cheating result in an immediate mark of ZERO. This includes:

- ⚠ Copying work
- ⚠ Unauthorized materials in exams
- ⚠ Cyber-plagiarism (copy/pasting from the internet without citations)
- ⚠ Ghostwriting (parents/tutors doing the work)
- ⚠ Sharing your work with someone who copies it.

The 5 Learning Skills:

👤 Works Independently | 📅 Organization | 💡 Initiative | 👥 Teamwork | 🧠 Work Habits
Evaluated as: **E** (Excellent), **G** (Good), **S** (Satisfactory), **N** (Needs Improvement)

Safe Schools & Zero Tolerance Policies



Smoke-Free Ontario Act

Vaping and smoking are strictly illegal anywhere on or near school property. Fines range from \$305 to \$5,000. Enforced by York Region Health Tobacco Enforcement Officers.



Bullying & Harassment (Policy 223)

Zero tolerance for physical, emotional, verbal, or electronic bullying. Added to the list of infractions resulting in suspension.



Weapons

Possession, trafficking, or threatening to use a weapon—including replicas and imitations—will warrant severe consequences and police involvement.



Search & Seizure

Lockers are school property on loan (must use Dudley locks). The school reserves the right to search lockers and desks without notice.



Schools should be a safe, welcoming, and inclusive space where every student feels respected, supported, and valued. We want our students to know that they belong, that they have people they can turn to, and that they can learn and grow in an environment where they feel safe and cared for. Incidents that go against our Code of Conduct, such as, including bullying, cyberbullying, extortion, theft, hate incidences or the use of discriminatory language, are not tolerated.

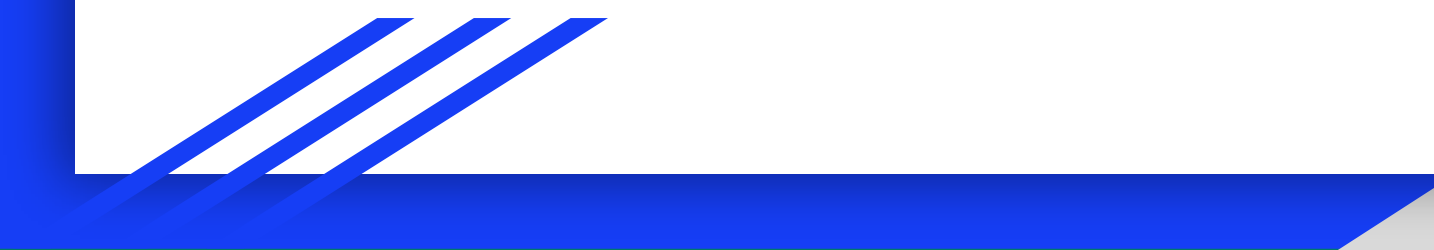
Parent/guardians and students are expected to review the following YCDSB Policies and Ministry of Education Memorandums.

Policy 202- Safe Schools - Student Discipline

Policy 223 - Bullying Prevention and Intervention

Policy 617 - Code of Conduct

PPM 128 - Provincial Code and School Board Code of Conduct



The “Bell to Bell” Mandate (PPM 128)

8:05 a.m.

2:15 p.m.



Rule: Between 8:05 a.m. and 2:15 p.m., personal mobile devices must be Off and Invisible. They cannot be left on desks or ringing/vibrating in pockets.

Exceptions (Only with explicit teacher approval):

1) Directed educational purposes

Exceptions (Only with explicit teacher approval):

2) Health/medical monitoring

Exceptions (Only with explicit teacher approval):

3) Special educational needs support

Need to contact your child? Parents must call the Main Office for emergencies, not text the student.

Day-to-Day Operations



Announcements

Updates must be provided through the school calendar, through the teacher advisor.



Assessments & Evaluation

Mid-terms in Nov/Apr; Finals in January and June. Formal exams take place Jan 26-Feb 1 and June 21-25 (mandatory dates to be available). Do not book vacations during exams.



Assemblies & Masses

Mandatory attendance. Must be in full uniform and enter/exit in an orderly manner following teacher directions. Missing an assembly is considered truancy.

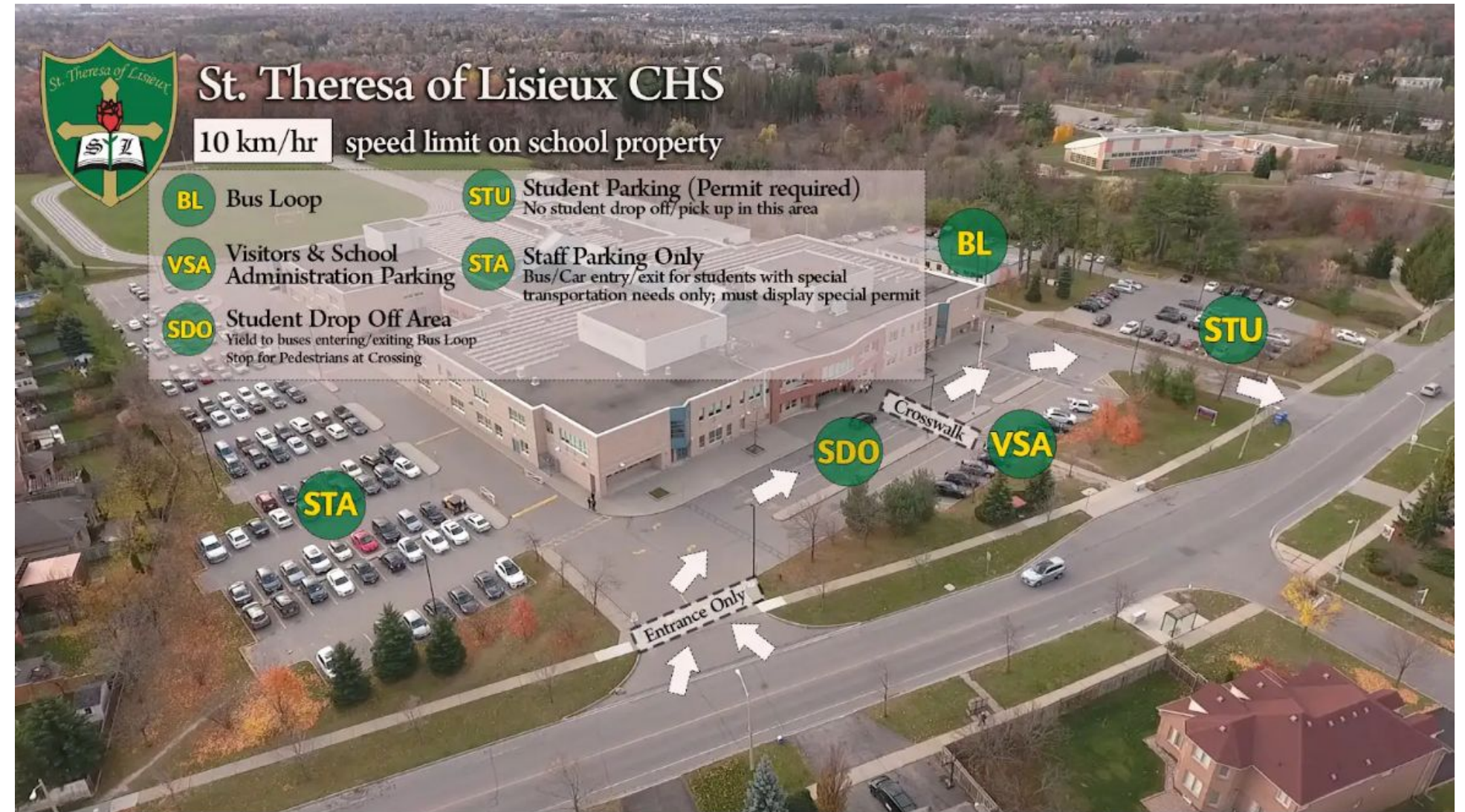
Parking Lot Safety

Please observe the following diagram if you choose to drive your child to school. Please consider the following items before driving your children to St. Theresa. Utilizing the options will relieve congestion and allow for safer entry and exit to our school building.

1. Check to see if you are eligible to receive busing by typing your address into schoolbuscity.com
2. Check the [York Region Transit](http://YorkRegionTransit.com) School Route website for YRT routes that serve our school.
3. If you live in the neighbourhood and/or live within walking distance of the school, consider having your child walk to school (after having reviewed all safety precautions with them).
4. Arrive early in the morning in order to avoid traffic.
5. See below for some additional points reviewed with students at their Grade level assemblies last week.

Additional points to consider:

1. Please do not pick your child up in the student parking area.
2. Please allow staff to exit the staff parking lot when they have to leave early to coach or lead extra-curricular activities.
3. Please do not pick up/drop off on Shaftsbury Ave. Richmond Hill by-law/parking enforcement will be present to issue tickets for those who fail to comply.



The Extracurricular Ecosystem



Councils (9 total)

Plan school-wide events (e.g., Athletic, Chaplaincy, Student).
Elected executives.



Competitive Clubs

Represent STL externally (e.g., DECA, HOSA, Model UN, Robotics).



Major/Minor Clubs

Major clubs run events;
Minor clubs are drop-in interest groups.



Sports Teams

Fall, Winter, and Spring
YRAA competitive seasons.



The “Rule of Three” Balance

Maximum per Season



3 Extracurricular activities total.
*Example: 1 council, 1 team, 1 club per season
(councils run during all 3 seasons)*

Executive Limit



Max 2 executive positions per season/year
(1 Pres + 1 VP, or 2 VPs).

Participation Caps

- Max 1 **Council** per year.
- Max 1 **Competitive Team** per year.
- Max 1 **Major Sport** + 1 **Minor Sport** per season.

Academic Prerequisite: Students must maintain strong attendance and learning skills (no more than 5 ‘Needs Improvement’ marks).

Official Extracurricular Constitutions & Forms



Council Constitution

[READ HERE](#)



Club Constitution

[READ HERE](#)



Athletic Constitution

[READ HERE](#)



New Clubs Proposal Form

(Accepted September only)

[READ HERE](#)

[EXTRACURRICULAR CONSTITUTION](#)

The logo consists of the letters 'A' and 'P' in a bold, sans-serif font. The 'A' is blue and the 'P' is green. They are positioned to the left of the main text.

Advanced Placement & AP Prep

MATHEMATICS

Functions
Calculus and Vectors

CANADIAN AND WORLD STUDIES

Geography and History

AP[®]

SCIENCE

Biology, Chemistry, Physics

ENGLISH

20 AP-PREP and AP Courses are approved and offered at YCDSB.
The letter "Y" in the course code denotes AP.

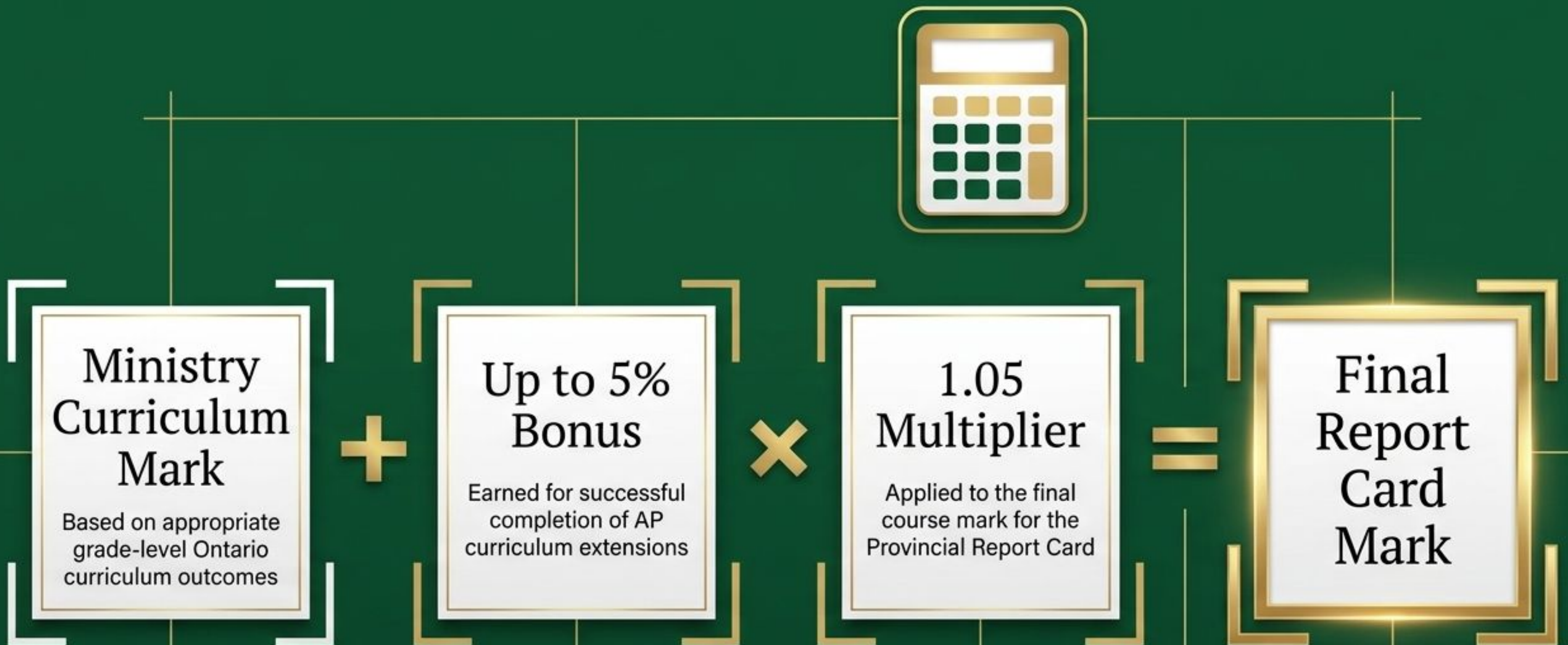
Grades 11 & 12: Specialized Expansion

Grades 9 & 10: Mandatory Core

Students must enroll in **ALL 4 AP-PREP** courses (Math, English, Science, Geography/History).

Students must enroll in **AT LEAST ONE AP** course to maintain their PACE/AP student status.

Preparation culminates in writing the digital AP College Board exams in May.



YCDSB examinations parallel the structure of regular Destreamed/University level courses, ensuring fair evaluation under Growing Success, 2010.

The STL Blueprint



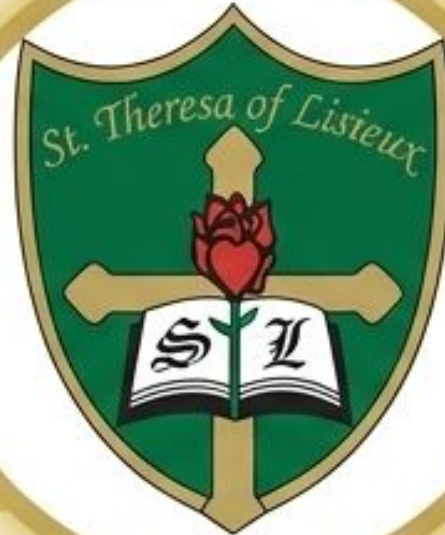
Faith

Live the “Little Way” daily.
Do ordinary things with
extraordinary love.

Academics



Strive for the **Honour Roll** (79.5% average in 8 credits for Gr 9-11; 6 credits for Gr 12). Exhibit **zero tolerance for cheating.**



Character

Respect the “Big 5” matrix.
 Wear the uniform with pride. 
Protect the safe school environment.



Community



Join a club or a Lions athletic team.
 Support mental wellness for
 yourself and your peers. 

Achieving Academic Excellence: YCDSB Honour Roll & Ontario Scholar Guide



Honour Roll Requirements

Calculated based on the top **YCDSB** courses taken during the school year and previous summer



Night School



Summer



e-Learning



International Programs



Saturday

Broad Course Eligibility



Students must obtain at least 480 marks across their **top six Grade 12** courses.

Required Top YCDSB Courses by Grade

Grade 9 & 10



Top 8 Courses

Grade 11



Top 7 Courses

Grade 12

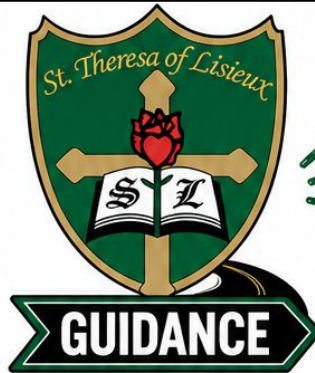


Top 6 Courses



Ministry Approved Courses

Only the top six Grade 12 Ministry approved courses are used for this designation.



HOW TO BOOK GUIDANCE Appointments



Appointments with your Guidance Counsellor can be booked online from our Guidance webpage.



YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

Counsellors are sorted by student's last name.

A – Fom	 Mr. J. Villeneuve joey.villeneuve@ycdsbk12.ca
Fon – Li	 Ms. C. de Souza cynthia.de.souza@ycdsbk12.ca
Lia – Sel	 Ms. C. Sabatini claudia.sabatini@ycdsbk12.ca
Sen – Z	 Ms. T. Emmanuel tanya.emmanuel@ycdsbk12.ca



PARENTS: If you would like to book an appointment for your student, please contact our Guidance Secretary, **Heather Cooper** at Ext. 85598.

RULES FOR BOOKING APPOINTMENTS



K12 EMAIL ACCOUNT
Only appointments made with your K12 email will be accepted.



PERSONAL EMAIL ACCOUNT
Appointments made with a personal email will be automatically **DELETED**.



ONE TIME SLOT ONLY
If you book more than ONE available time slot, your appointment will be cancelled.



PARENTS
We do not book appointments for parents here. Parents can call the Guidance Secretary, **Heather Cooper** at Ext. 85598 if they would like to speak with a counsellor.



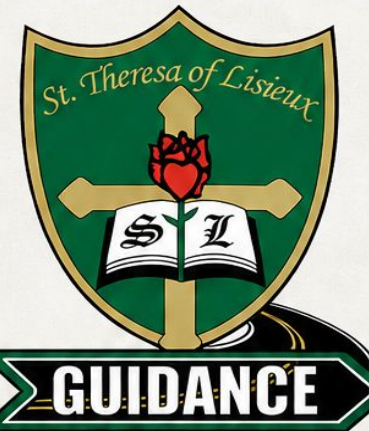
CHOOSE YOUR TIME SLOT
Do not book appointments when you have a scheduled quiz, test, or evaluation. These appointments will be cancelled.



DESCRIPTION
Under description, please indicate the purpose of the appointment (personal, pathway, course change etc).



Please follow these guidelines so we can support all students and make sure every appointment is meaningful and successful!



GUIDANCE Reminders



STAY INFORMED

Keep yourself informed by regularly checking:

- the Guidance website
- your grade assigned Google Classroom
- your YCDSBK12 emails



PAY ATTENTION TO DEADLINES

Pay close attention to all deadlines.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Regularly review your credit counselling summary on **myBlueprint** to ensure you are on track for graduation, and are not missing any required courses.



IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all graduation requirements are met.



WE ARE HERE TO HELP.

Please come and see us!

WE CARE



WE SUPPORT



WE GUIDE



ST. THERESA of LISIEUX
— CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL —

GRADE 12

Students – Community Involvement
40 HOURS DEADLINES

Please be aware of the following important deadlines
for Community Involvement 40 Hours:



MINISTER'S CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Grade 12 students who wish to receive the **Minister's Certificate of Recognition for Community Involvement** must ensure that all **Community Involvement Hours** are completed and submitted, with the required signatures, to the Main Office by **FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2027.**



Hours received **AFTER** this date will not be eligible to receive a Certificate.

THE CERTIFICATE HAS 3 LEVELS:



BRONZE
50 – 99
HOURS



SILVER
100 – 199
HOURS



GOLD
200+
HOURS



OSSD GRADUATION REQUIREMENT – FINAL DEADLINE

Students completing their Community Involvement 40 Hours to fulfill the OSSD graduation requirement must have all hours completed and submitted, with the required signatures, to the Main Office by **FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2027.**



Please do not wait until the deadline!

Make sure your hours are completed, properly signed, and submitted to the Main Office **well in advance** of these dates.

Financial Literacy Graduation Requirement



A new mandatory milestone required to earn the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

Applies to all secondary students who entered Grade 9 in the 2025–2026 school year or later (current grade 9 and 10 students)

Effective Date: 2026–2027 school year through the Careers Studies Course (GLC201)

Goal is for secondary learners to learn essential skills to navigate a complex, modern financial landscape safely.



Current Grade 12s Only: Class of 2027



What do you need to graduate from a Catholic Secondary School

30 CREDITS

Students are expected to take Religious Studies in each grade

4 credits in Religious Studies

Students must earn the following compulsory credits to earn the Ontario Secondary School Diploma:

- 4** credits in English* (1 credit per grade)
- 3** credits in mathematics (at least 1 credit in Grade 11 or 12)
- 2** credits in science
- 1** credit in Canadian history
- 1** credit in Canadian geography
- 1** credit in the arts
- 1** credit in health and physical education
- 1** credit in French as a second language
- 0.5** credit in career studies
- 0.5** credit in civics and citizenship

Plus one credit from each of the following groups:

- 1** additional credit in English or French as a second language, or a Native language, or a classical or an international language, or social sciences and the humanities, or Canadian and world studies† or guidance and career education or cooperative education**
† Grade 11 Religious Studies meets this requirement!
- 1** additional credit in health and physical education or the arts, or business studies, or cooperative education**, or French as a second language
- 1** additional credit in senior science, technological education computer studies, or French as a second language (Grades 9 - 12), or cooperative education**

In addition to the compulsory credits, students must complete:

- 8** optional credits***
- +** 40 hours of community service
- +** the provincial literacy requirement
- 2** online learning requirements****

*A maximum of 3 credits in English as a second language (ESL) or English literacy development (ELD) may be counted towards the 4 compulsory credits in English, but the fourth must be a credit earned for a Grade 12 compulsory English course.

**In Groups 1, 2, and 3, a maximum of 2 credits in French as a second language can count as compulsory credits, one from group 1 and one from either group 2 or group 3.

***A maximum of 2 credits in cooperative education can count as compulsory credits.

****May opt-out of this requirement.



Current Gr 9-11 Students



What do you need to graduate from a YCDSB Secondary School

30 CREDITS

Students are expected to take Religious Studies:

4 credits in Religious Studies

Students must earn the following compulsory credits to earn the Ontario Secondary School Diploma:

- 4** credits in English ^{1,2}
- 3** credits in Mathematics (Gr. 9, Gr. 10 and 1 credit in Grade 11 or 12)
- 2** credits in Science
- 1** credit in Canadian History
- 1** credit in Canadian Geography
- 1** credit in the Arts ²
- 1** credit in Health and Physical Education
- 1** credit in French as a Second Language
- 0.5** credit in Career Studies
- 0.5** credit in Civics and Citizenship
- 1** credit in a Grade 9 OR 10 Technology course

Plus one credit from the following STEM group:

- 1**
 - Business Studies
 - Computer Studies
 - Cooperative Education
 - Mathematics (in addition to the 3 compulsory credits)
 - Science (in addition to the 2 compulsory credits)
 - Technological Education (in addition to the 1 compulsory credit)

In addition to the compulsory credits, students must complete:

- 9** Optional credits ²
- +** 40 hours of community service
- +** Provincial literacy requirement
- +** Financial literacy requirement (excluding current Gr 11 students)
- +** 2 Online learning courses ³

1.A maximum of 3 credits in English as a second language (ESL) or English literacy development (ELD) may be counted towards the 4 compulsory credits in English, but the fourth must be a credit earned for a Grade 12 compulsory English course.

2. The following apply to compulsory credit selections.

• Grade 11 English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis and Inuit Voices course may be used to meet the Grade 11 English compulsory credit requirement.

• Grade 9 Expressions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultures course can be used to meet the compulsory credit requirement in the arts.

• May include up to 4 dual credit courses

3. May opt-out of this requirement.





SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR
YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Revised Sept 1, 2026

2026 - 2027

SEPTEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
			E/S	E/S		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	M	1st day of school				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	M					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	E					

NOVEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
				E/S		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	B	B	B	B	B	
27	28	29	30	31		
	B	B	B	B		

JANUARY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
				B		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
				E		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		EX	EX	EX	EX	

FEBRUARY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	EX	S	R			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	M					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	B	B	B	B	B	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				M		
28	29	30	31			
	M					

APRIL 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	S					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	M					
30	31					

JUNE 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
		OD			E	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	EX	EX	EX	EX	EX	
27	28	29	30			
	R	S	E/S			

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS

E/S September 2 & 3, 2026
E October 26, 2026
E/S November 20, 2026
E January 15, 2027
S February 2, 2027
S May 3, 2027
E June 4, 2027
S June 29, 2027
E/S June 30, 2027

MANDATORY HOLIDAYS

Labour Day: September 7, 2026
Thanksgiving: October 12, 2026
Christmas Break: Dec. 21/26 to Jan 1/27
Family Day: February 15, 2027
March Break: March 15 to 19, 2027
Good Friday: March 26, 2027
Easter Monday: March 29, 2027
Victoria Day: May 24, 2027

LEGEND

B	Board Approved Holiday	EX	Exam Day (Grades 9 to 12)
M	Mandatory Holiday	R	Exam Review Day
E/S	Elementary/Secondary PA Day		
E	Elementary PA Day		
S	Secondary PA Day		
OD	Ontario Day (Instructional Day)		



Your Journey Begins Here.

We are all capable of greatness. Rise to the occasion this year, embrace your community, and live the 'Little Way.'

Let's make this an extraordinary year at St. Theresa of Lisieux.