

# **OUR SCHOOL**

Located in the Dickinsfield area, Sister Mary Phillips Elementary School provides a wide range of high quality programming meeting the academic, cultural and spiritual needs of its community. Enrolment is approximately 400 students from Pre-Kindergarten (EEP) to Grade 6.

Sister Mary Phillips offers a faith-based learning environment to students of any background and a level of instruction geared toward the highest academic standards. Instruction is primarily in English. We are a Leader in Me School and leverage this social, emotional and academic program to enhance the educational experience for students, staff and families.

Sister Mary Phillips has been recognized as one of the top 25 schools in Canada for its work in community engagement as well as winning the Garfield Weston Award for improvement in academics.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At Sister Mary Phillips School, we proudly live our motto, "Great love lives at Sister Mary Phillips School." Rooted in faith and guided by love, we are committed to nurturing a vibrant, inclusive community where every child feels seen, supported and inspired to grow.

Sister Mary Phillips was a member of the Sisters of Service. She dedicated her life to faith, education, and helping others. In her spirit, we value service to others as a vital expression of our Catholic identity and a foundation for building leaders.

Our school growth plan is anchored in 5 key pillars: Faith First, Wellness Matters, Future Ready Students, Learning for Life and Equity in Action. As a Franklin Covey Leader in Me School, we empower students with the principles of the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, helping students to become confident leaders both in and out of the classroom.

We believe strong family connections and meaningful partnerships are essential to academic success. Together, with families, staff and our community we foster a learning environment where each person can thrive.

With faith, love, leadership and service at our core, we look forward to continued growth and personal success for every learner.

Mrs. Tracy Brown-Warr







## **THEME 1: FAITH FIRST**



**STRATEGIES** 

Students at Sister Mary Phillips will develop a deeper understanding of our division's four core values through engaging with our faith theme "Live Like a Saint", connecting the lives of the Saints to the four core values.

- Develop a daily student recognition program based on the four core values with the theme of "Live like a Saint."
- Acknowledge four core values during Monthly Leadership Assemblies and through daily prayer during morning announcements.
- Explore faith permeation through a patron Saint program where each grade level team takes on a Saint to represent them and connect with their class.
- Conclude each prayer service with the invocation of our school Saints, fostering a deeper sense of unity with the communion of the Saints.

### **THEME 2: WELLNESS MATTERS**



Students at Sister Mary Phillips will foster deeper connections within our school and the broader community by offering a diverse range of extra-curricular activities. These opportunities will encourage student engagement, strengthen relationships, and promote a sense of belonging beyond the classroom.

- Establish a variety of after-school or lunchtime clubs that reflect student interests and provide opportunities for engagement, relationship-building, and community connection beyond the classroom setting.
- **STRATEGIES**
- Invite community members into the school to participate in and lead new and established clubs.
- Pilot student-led clubs (e.g., chess, drama, electricity, etc) with staff support
- Encourage parents and community members to lead one-time sessions based on their skills (e.g., cooking, carpentry, music).
- Implement a 2x10 strategy, engaging targeted students in two-minute daily conversations over a ten-day period to intentionally foster stronger relationships and enhance students' sense of connectedness within the school community.



## THEME 3: FUTURE-READY STUDENTS

## оитсоме 🛕

Students at Sister Mary Phillips School will cultivate responsibility for their actions, both in person and online, through a strong focus on digital citizenship and restorative practices. We will encourage service initiatives that promote empathy, leadership, and a sense of community. By integrating these approaches into our school culture, we will help students grow into ethical, compassionate, and engaged citizens.

 Engage in professional learning on restorative practices in order to inform next steps for integrating them into our school culture, discipline practices, and embed them into daily school routines.

#### **STRATEGIES**

- Develop a restorative practice team with one administrator and two additional staff members to explore restorative practices. This team will engage the rest of the staff in developing proactive and reactive strategies to address situations where harm may or has already occurred.
- Develop a reflection sheet and guided conversation process to resolve conflicts rather than defaulting to punitive measures.



### **THEME 4: LEARNING FOR LIFE**



Students at Sister Mary Phillips will improve their achievement in mathematics through focused attention on the results of the numeracy screener data to drive learning and guide growth.

- Closely examine student results and make intentional curriculum connections.
- Use the data to guide targeted small-group mathematics instruction.
- Design engaging learning tools and practice materials that help students revisit, strengthen, and apply concepts taught in whole-class lessons.

#### **STRATEGIES**

- Provide parents with access to resources and strategies to reinforce learning at home through a math fair.
- Communicate a "math strategy of the month" with parents to communicate classroom instructional strategies with families.
- Partner with division consultants to expand teacher knowledge, refine instructional practices, and strengthen curriculum delivery to ensure long-term student success and increase teacher efficacy.

### оитсоме В

Student at Sister Mary Phillips School will improve their achievement in literacy through focused attention on the results of the Acadience screener data to drive learning and guide growth.

- Closely examine student results and make intentional curriculum connections.
- Use the data to guide targeted small-group reading instruction.
- Design engaging learning tools and practice materials that help students revisit, strengthen, and apply concepts taught in whole-class lessons.

#### **STRATEGIES**

- Provide parents with access to resources and strategies to reinforce learning at home through a literacy fair.
- Communicate a "reading strategy of the month" with parents to communicate classroom instructional strategies with families.
- Partner with divisional consultants to expand teacher knowledge, refine instructional practices, and strengthen curriculum delivery to ensure long-term student success and increase teacher efficacy.



## **THEME 5: EQUITY IN ACTION**

OUTCOME A

Foster meaningful and sustained partnerships with community members from diverse cultural backgrounds, including Elders and individuals possessing traditional and local knowledge—such as trappers, dancers, storytellers, artists, and knowledge keepers of medicines, languages, and the natural seasons. These collaborative relationships will enhance culturally responsive learning, honour multiple ways of knowing, and strengthen connections between the school and the broader community.

- Create a list of potential community members who can engage students and staff in building their awareness of cultural diversity and backgrounds.
- **STRATEGIES**
- Connect and invite community members into the school and individual classroom, to support both curriculum outcomes as well as a deeper understanding of traditional/cultural history, knowledge, and practices.
- Create and implement a school wide diversity event such as a multicultural celebration.







Sister Mary Phillips School