



September 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back, Tigers!

We are excited to welcome our new Grade 7 students and reconnect with our returning Grades 8 and 9's. We hope you had a wonderful summer and look forward to a great school year ahead.

Please note that homerooms and option classes have been carefully scheduled based on enrollment and academic needs, and changes will not be made. PowerSchool will go live this weekend, where you can view your child's homeroom and courses.

Orientation Days

To ensure a smooth start, we are holding separate orientation days for each grade:

Grade 7 Orientation – Wednesday, September 2

- Full-day orientation (8:19 a.m.–2:54 p.m.)
- Enter through the **West Foyer doors**
- **Please bring a lunch**
- Staff will be available to guide students to their homerooms
- Homeroom lists posted in the foyer
- Students will:
 - Learn about the school and routines
 - Set up lockers
 - Participate in team-building activities
 - Meet staff
- Day concludes with a school opening celebration with St. Matthew's Parish

Grade 8 & 9 Orientation – Thursday, September 3 (half day)

- Enter through the **West Foyer doors** and go directly to homerooms
- **No Grade 7 students attend this day**
- Homeroom changes will not be made

Regular Classes Begin

Friday, September 4 – All students (Grades 7–9)



Important Dates to Remember (2026–2027)

September

- Sept 2: Grade 7 Orientation (no Gr. 8/9)
- Sept 3: Grade 8/9 Orientation (no Gr. 7) – Half Day
- Sept 4: All students – Regular classes
- Sept 16: Cirque Kalabante (FI students)
- Sept 23: Meet the Staff (6:00 p.m.) + AGM-School Advisory meeting+ Gradebook Pilot information Evening
- Sept 24: JumpStart Music Field Trip (p.m.)
- Sept 28: Terry Fox Run (p.m.) <https://schools.terryfox.ca/137329>
- Sept 29: Orange Shirt Day
- Sept 30: No school – Truth & Reconciliation Day-Federal holiday

October

- Oct 6: Picture Day
- Oct 7: Riverwatch Field Trip (Grade 8)
- **Oct 8: PD Day – No school (St. Cecilia Professional Dev. Day)**
- Oct 9: Thanksgiving Liturgy at 12:30 p.m.
- **Oct 12: Thanksgiving – No school**
- **Oct 19: Referendum Vote – No School**
- Oct 14–15: Drumheller Trip (Grade 7)
- Oct 20–21: SAC Casino (volunteers needed)

November

- Nov 4: Picture retakes
- Nov 4: Parent Engagement – New Gradebook Pilot information session at 6:00 p.m.
- Nov 5: Feeder Volleyball Tournament
- **Nov 11–15: Fall Break – No School**
- Nov 16: Parent Evening hosted by SAC – Topic is Anxiety
- Nov 25: Demonstration of Learning Evening

December

- Dec 17: Full day (Friday schedule)
- Dec 18: Half day (Thursday schedule)
- Dec 18 – Jan 4: Christmas Break

January

- Jan 4 School Re-opens
- Jan 21 Fine Arts Showcase
- Jan 18: Parent Evening hosted by SAC - Topic is Cyberbullying & Social Media
- Jan 27: Science afternoon events at school



- Jan 28: Grade 6 Orientation (a.m.) + Open House Evening starting 5:30 p.m. Accelerated Program and 6:30 p.m. Regular English and French Immersion program
- **Jan 29: PD Day – No School**
- Jan 29: Report Cards

February

- Feb 1: Semester 2 begins
- Feb 9–10: Band Trip to Camp Nakauma
- **Feb 15: Family Day – No School**
- Feb 16–18: Grade 9 Immunizations
- Feb 17: Demonstration of Learning
- **Feb 24–26: No School (PD + Teachers' Convention)**

March & April

- Mar 6, 11, 13: ASM Entrance Exams
- **Mar 25 – Apr 4: Spring Break**
- Mar 30 – Apr 5: Quebec Trip (Gr. 8 & 9 FI)

April

- Apr 19: Parent Evening hosted by SAC
- Apr 24: Badminton Tournament
- **Apr 29: PD Day – No School**

May

- May 19: Track & Field Day
- **May 20–24: Victoria Day Long Weekend**

June

- June 1–22: Provincial Exams
- June 23: Make-up Exams
- June 23: Grade 9 Farewell St. Charles Church 5:30-8pm
- June 24: Awards
- June 25: Fun Day
- June 28: Last Day of School and Year End Celebration

Website

Visit our website for updates and important information:

[Home - St. Cecilia Catholic Junior High School](http://stcecilia.ecsd.net)

Option Selection

Please ensure your child has selected their option classes:



- Grade 7 Options – Fill out form [Grade 7 Options Selection](#)
 - Grade 8 Options – Fill out form [Grade 8 Options Selection](#)
 - Grade 9 Options – Fill out form [Grade 9 Options Selection](#)
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School Supplies

A supply list is available. You may purchase supplies from any vendor or use the optional online service:

[School Start Supplies](#)

Steps:

1. Click **Parents Shop Here**
2. Select **Purchase School Supply Kits**
3. Choose Province, City, and School
4. Select your child's grade

Reminder: Students must change for Physical Education (indoor shoes and gym clothing required).

New Curriculum Update

St. Cecilia will pilot the new junior high curriculum and assessment model in 2026–2027, preparing for full implementation in 2027–2028. More information will be shared during parent engagement sessions and at our Meeting the Staff evening on September 23 at 6:00 p.m. For further information please refer to our website in the student handbook page 14.

School Spirit Wear

Our Tigers Apparel Store opens mid-September! Show your school pride and purchase your gear! One School. One Roar. Watch Instagram for updates and new designs.

Terry Fox Run

September 28

We are proud to participate, along with 10,000 schools nationwide in celebrating Canadian Icon Terry Fox in the 45th Anniversary of the Terry Fox Run. Please consider supporting this important cause:

[School Fundraising Page](#)

Quebec Trip (Grades 8 & 9)

Students in French Immersion programming are invited to participate in an extraordinary experience exploring Quebec and Montreal while practicing their French Language skills in an authentic setting.

Quebec Trip Meeting: September 14 at 6:00 p.m. (Library)

Welcome to Our New Staff!

- Ms. S. Dellota (EA)
- Ms. Faroun (EA)
- Mr. A. Ghebre (Teacher)
- Mr. M. Skeljo (Teacher)
- Mr. A. Stewart (Teacher)
- Mrs. T. Salvador (Teacher)
- Mr. J. Leatherdale (Teacher)
- Mrs. C. Szaszkievicz (Assistant Principal)

We are pleased to extend a warm welcome and TIGER Roar to our new administrator, Mrs. Christine Szaszkievicz. Mrs. Szaszkievicz joins our team with extensive teaching experience and expertise in inclusive education.

Welcome aboard to all our TIGER team and welcome back to our returning staff members

Homeroom Teachers

7A	Ms. Stewart	8A	Mr. Skeljo	9A	Miss Hughes
7B	Mr. Nordstrom	8B	Mr. Ghebre	9B	Mr. Cauti
7C	Mr. Kraemer-Darby	8C	Miss Cowie	9C	Ms. Hauth
7D	Mr. Tagne	8D	Mr. Leatherdale	9D	Mr. Angotti
7E	Miss Santiago			9E	Mrs. Tetreau
7H	Miss Crowley	8H	Mr. Brown	9H	Ms. Breidenbach
7F	Mlle Martin	8F	Mlle Razkalla	9F	Mr. Boychuk
7G	Mlle Salvador	8G	Mlle Fagan	9G	Mlle. Mangieri

Administration

- Mrs. N Funaro (Principal)
- Mr. C. Nzeugang (Assistant Principal)
- Mrs. C. Szaskzkiewicz (Assistant Principal)

Administrative Support Staff

Mrs. A MacDonald	Mrs. K. Gorman-Bowman	Mrs. A. Kraemer
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Additional Teaching Staff

Mrs. Borrelli – ELA/Foods lab	Mr. Drebit Athletic Director	Mlle. Fagan EAL designate	Mrs. Mazzotta Instructional Coach
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Student and Family Support

Family School Liaison Social Worker (FSLW)	Natasha B.
Emotional Behavioral Specialist (EBS)	Katie M.
Therapeutic Assistant - Behaviour Therapy(TABT)	Pearl N. Kaitlyn I.
Educational Assistants	Veronica H. Juliet C. Sheila D Maysaa F.
School Resource Officer	CST K. Hope

Custodial Staff

Head Custodian	Mr. D.Tan
Senior Custodian	Mr. A.Dutton
Evening Custodian	Mrs. A Mekdega

We look forward to a wonderful school year! Please read the Weekly Newsletter for the most current information about our School and connect with us on Instagram as we post weekly live messages about cool things happening at St. Cecilia.

ONE SCHOOL, ONE ROAR! Welcome Back Tigers!



Mrs. N. Funaro



Regular Day

8:19.....First Bell
 8:24 – 8:26.....Prayer
 8:26 – 9:14Period 1
 9:16 – 10:04.....Period 2

10:04- 10:12 Announcements/Locker Break

10:12 – 11:00Period 3
 11:02 - 11:51.....Period 4

11:51 - 12:26.....Lunch

12:26 – 12:31.....Call In
 12:31 – 1:14Period 5
 1:16 – 2:04Period 6
 2:06 – 2:54Period 7

Dismissal.....2:54 pm

Thursday

8:19.....First Bell
 8:24 – 8:26.....Prayer
 8:26 – 9:14Period 1
 9:16 – 10:06.....Period 2

10:06 – 10:14.....Locker Break

10:14 - 11:04Period 3
 11:06 – 11:56.....Period 4

Lunch Break Procedure

11:51	Morning Dismissal
11:51 – 12:07	Lunch
12:08 – 12:26	Outdoor Activities
12:31	Afternoon Classes Begin

PROGRESS REPORTS

ECSD continues to work toward academic success for every student. To this end, parents can view ongoing reporting of student progress within PowerSchool. This allows parents to track their child's academic growth throughout the school year.

Parents can keep informed about their child's learning progress. Throughout the year teachers will enter students' marks as they assess curricular outcomes. They will also provide assignment information and offer feedback, when needed.

Progress summary reports are available online at the end of January and June. There are two reporting terms each of which include a demonstration of learning:

Note: As part of St. Cecilia School's commitment to supporting meaningful assessment and reporting practices, we are piloting a reporting model that does not use percentage grades. Beginning in the fall of 2026-2027, student achievement will be communicated through an overall Level of Achievement rather than a percentage grade. In addition, report cards will include Levels of Achievement for each curricular learning outcome, providing more detailed information about what students know, understand, and are able to do.

	Dates
Reporting Term 1	September - January
Reporting Term 2	February - June
Final Report Card	Year-End

	Dates
Student-led Conferences	November 25, 2026
Student-led Conferences	February 17th, 2027

Each learning outcome will be assessed using our updated Levels of Achievement, shown below:



Levels of Achievement (LOA)	What This Means for Student Learning	Traditional Percentage Representation (%)
Standard of Excellence (SE)	Your child: - understands learning very well - uses learning in new ways - goes beyond expectations	91-100%
Proficient Standard+ (PR+)	Your child is at the Proficient Standard and is starting to demonstrate areas of excellence.	81-90%
Proficient Standard (PR)	Your child: - understands the learning - uses skills correctly - is meeting expectations	71-80%
Acceptable Standard+ (AS+)	Your child is at the Acceptable Standard and is starting to demonstrate areas of proficiency	61-70%
Acceptable Standard (AS)	Your child: - understands much of the learning - uses skills in familiar situations - is working toward expectations	51-60%
Beginning Standard+ (BE+)	Your child is at the Beginning Standard and is starting to demonstrate areas within the Acceptable Standard.	41-50%
Beginning Standard (BE)	Your child: - is starting to understand the learning - is learning to use new skills - is developing understanding - is beginning to meet expectations	31-40%
Not Yet Meeting the Standard (NYMS)	Your child: - is in the early stages of learning - is working to develop skills and understanding - has not yet met expectations	30% and below