

## Mary Fix Catholic School

486 Paisley Blvd. West Mississauga, Ontario L5B 2M4

Phone: (905)270-3140, Fax: (905)270-3475

October 2, 2024

## Dear Parents and Guardians:

Today, four unknown adults, who appeared to be intoxicated, entered onto our school property and verbally accosted two of our school staff before leaving. Some of our students witnessed the incident. Peel Regional Police attended and remained on site for a time to monitor the area, however the individuals did not return.

In view of today's incident, I have instructed staff to be extra vigilant when on yard duty. Additionally, we took the opportunity to remind our students about personal safety and security, the importance of not engaging with strangers, always being aware of their surroundings, as well as adhering to traffic signals and signs.

We appreciate the important role that parents and guardians play in helping us reinforce this message. In this regard, I would like to share some helpful personal safety tips that police have provided to us in the past and ask that you review and discuss these tips with your children.

- Remind your child never to walk alone always walk with a buddy or in a group.
- Teach your child never to go anywhere with a stranger, take anything from a stranger, or talk to a stranger.
- Develop a "what if" game for your children to get them thinking of how they would respond if they felt threatened or afraid.
- Teach your child how and where to get help in case they become separated from you or lost.
- Your child's body is private. Teach your child that no one may touch the area their bathing suit covers. If someone does or tries to touch them, they should advise you immediately.
- Teach your child to talk to you immediately when someone does anything that makes them uncomfortable. Listen when they try to tell you about something that bothers them.
- Cross only at marked crosswalks or traffic lights; don't cross in the middle of the block or between parked cars.
- Make sure drivers see you before you cross. If the driver is stopped, make eye contact before you step into the road.
- At a traffic light:
  - o Cross when traffic has come to a complete stop.
  - o Begin to cross at the start of the green light or "Walk" signal, where provided.
  - O Do not start to cross if you see a flashing "Do Not Walk" symbol or the light turns yellow. If you already started to cross, complete your crossing in safety.
  - Never cross on a red light.



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• Watch for traffic turning at intersections or turning into and leaving driveways.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Discussion of the above tips will help reinforce the message we shared today. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

C. Sforza Principal

Copy to: Bruno Iannicca, Catholic School Trustee, Mississauga Ward 7