



# ST. AGNES OF ASSISI CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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October 1, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we continue into second term, I would like to reiterate the necessary procedures when dropping off and picking up your child. Please review and take note of the following information.

-We ask parents/guardians who accompany their children to school to continue to park their cars in a safe location. **Do not park in the designated Accessible Parking Spaces.** Accessible Parking Spaces are reserved for visitors with disabilities/mobility issues and who hold accessible parking permits. Please do not park/temporarily park in these designated parking spots.

**-Regardless if the pylons are in place/not, vehicles are not permitted inside the bus loop at any time - (BUS LOOP located at front of main doors).** Vehicles must not enter the NO ENTRY side of the bus loop to access the main doors for late entry.

-Parents who are parking and then walking their child/children to the designated yard/area are advised to use the sidewalk/adjacent pathways instead of cutting across the drive through/'kiss n' ride lane or the parking lot (**this is extremely dangerous**).

-For those families that are **crossing La Rocca Avenue**, please use the Crosswalk and wait for the Crossing Guard. **Using a crosswalk greatly reduces the chances of an accident compared to crossing at an unmarked location.**

-Parents/guardians/visitors dropping off their child/ren are asked to either **walk** their child to school, **park** along the permitted adjacent routes/staff parking and walk their child/ren to the designated yard/area or to the main doors (during inclement weather days)

**-Parents/Guardians/visitors/pets are not permitted on school grounds.** All adults picking up and/or dropping off are to remain behind the fenced areas at all times. **- Do not enter the primary/junior/intermediate play areas.** Should you require any assistance, please speak to the teacher on duty. **Student safety is our number one priority.**

-Ensure that you use the drive through lanes for quick pick up/drop off (**do not park for extended periods**).

**- Be vigilant and careful when navigating through our parking lot at ALL times and when driving, please STOP at the designated STOP signs.**

## Tips for pedestrians of all ages

- Walk young children to school.
- Encourage children to always obey the crossing guards.
- Walk, don't run, when crossing the street.
- Pay attention to vehicular traffic while walking along or crossing roads.
- Turn ear buds off and do not look down at phones when crossing intersections.

- Obey all traffic rules and signals.
- Ensure you are visible to drivers and cyclists, and make eye contact once they have stopped before crossing.
- Cross at designated crosswalks, crossovers or controlled intersections.
- Be mindful of slippery conditions on sidewalks and roadways.

### **Tips for drivers and cyclists**

- Reduce speed in school zones, especially when slippery conditions are present, and be ready to stop at all times.
- Ensure to give yourself enough time to get to your destination.
- Expect the unexpected. Children may cross the street at the wrong place, run into traffic or ride a bike in front of a vehicle without warning.
- Stop for school buses and be aware of children running in front of or behind buses.
- Avoid U-turns in school zones.
- Do not pass other vehicles in a school zone.
- Obey the rules of the road, including posted speed limits.
- Abide by all parking and traffic regulations in school zones.
- Obey crossing guard signals and yield to pedestrians.
- Pay attention to the surroundings. Watch for and yield the whole roadway to pedestrians when approaching a pedestrian crossover. Failing to do so may result in fines of up to \$1,000 and four demerit points.
- Avoid distraction within the vehicle and ensure children are secured in a correctly installed child restraint seat.
- Ensure children exit by the passenger side of the vehicle.
- Keep fire routes and bus zones clear.
- Leave nine metres (or 29 feet) between the car and the crosswalks and/or stop signs when parking. Parking too close to these locations makes it difficult to see children when crossing the road.
- Avoid double parking in school zones.
- Watch for signs indicating "No Stopping" and "No Parking."
- Stay back 0.6 metres (or two feet) from private driveways to avoid upsetting residents.
- When cycling or using a micro mobility device, dismount before crossing the street (or the yellow painted in the school parking lot) - always dismount before crossing!

York Regional Police and City of Vaughan Bylaw Officers will provide increased presence around peak bell times where possible.

### **Our Community Members are Asked to Report Unlawful/Aggressive Driving:**

Unlawful driving: Should members of the community have any concerns with respect to speeding in the area, the community is encouraged to contact YRP and complete a Citizen Report Form to report dangerous or unlawful driver behaviour. The following link is provided for your reference: <https://onlinereporting.yrp.ca/communityconcerns.html>

Road Watch Program: Additionally, aggressive drivers can be reported to York Region Police under the Road Watch program at the following link: <https://onlinereporting.yrp.ca/RoadWatch.html>

**For Additional Information Please visit:** City of Vaughan I Transportation and Fleet Management Services [www.vaughan.ca](http://www.vaughan.ca)

We need your collective cooperation to make student safety a priority. Together we can continue making our wonderful school community safe for everyone.

Regards,

Patrizia Marazzi

Principal SAA CES