

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 15 No. 9b

We are Westmount

September 14, 2021

‘School’ means students!



Left, five-year-old Borna marches to Roslyn School September 10 at 8:50 am with a large backpack, ready for the start of kindergarten. He was accompanied by his father (not pictured). Right, the crossing guard at Westmount Ave. near Roslyn Ave. September 10 at 9 am, “This is a very busy corner,” he said.

PHOTOS: RALPH THOMPSON.

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‘School’ means buses: large, small and smallest



Centre, a bus on Sherbrooke near Victoria September 9 in the afternoon; and, left and right, school transport in front of Roslyn School September 10 in the morning.

PHOTOS: RALPH THOMPSON.



## KELLS ACADEMY

### Looking ahead to the future

For a young student losing ground in class every day can be an ordeal. Feelings of puzzlement and frustration can give way to indifference or even anxiety. If unaddressed, the difficulties hinder their advancement and confidence, becoming particularly pronounced in times of transition such as from elementary to high school and high school to college.

For a parent, alert to both their child's struggles and their family's well-being, realizing that a school is unable or unwilling to match your child's individual way of learning is a moment of truth and choice.

At Kells Academy, each student is met with a welcoming and innovative academic environment that recognizes their uniqueness and offers a diversity of learning experiences to match their needs. Through elementary, middle school, high school and grade twelve, student life is built around respect and appreciation of the individual experiences and interests that each student brings to our community.

Using the latest pedagogical techniques based on scientific research, coupled with regard for the individuality and skill set of each child, Kells Academy offers its students not only a formal academic curriculum but also a range of vibrant extra-curricular programs that help the child explore and develop their interests.

This year, for instance, was one of the most successful in the school's history - despite all the challenges brought about by the global health crisis. The switch from classroom to online learning was immediate and smoothly executed as both teachers and students were already familiar with the digital platform. Kells' students competed in a number of virtual inter-school regional and national competitions and excelled in their performance. The various challenges that they faced revealed their resilience and grit and appears to have drawn out the best in them. From Science and Math to Debating, Robotics and Community Service, the teams won prizes and distinction in almost every competition that they participated.

***"Learning should not be a struggle, rather it should be the joy of discovery that lasts a lifetime."***

Irene Woods,  
Director

Looking to the future, Kells Academy remains dedicated to the ongoing pursuit of excellence in education within an inclusive and nurturing environment. We also remain fully committed to helping our students achieve their full potential. These principles on which the school was founded are the reasons for its success and good reputation and at the heart of all the ways that Kells Academy develops, encourages and empowers its students to stand their ground, learn and grow.



# Grade 12 at Kells

## *Your Fast Track To University*



The advantages of the 1-year Kells Academy Grade 12 program are well recognized.

Our students graduate with an Ontario grade 12 diploma (OSSD) and can apply to universities around the world, including Quebec.

Students can choose from four program streams:

- Science and Engineering
- Commerce
- Social Science
- Health Science
- Full-day, in-person classes from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Personalized attention, customized programs and smaller group settings
- Devoted staff provide guidance and support for the university application process.

Our school proudly partners with VHS (Virtual High School - Accredited by the Ontario Ministry of Education).

To attend our **Webinar: October 14, 2021, at 7:30 PM** please visit **[www.kells.ca](http://www.kells.ca)** for details.







THIS IS THE PLACE...

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For over 90 years St. George’s School of Montreal has been at the forefront of progressive education, liberating and developing the confident, self-aware and multi-faceted person within.

**Come see what you’ve been missing.**

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SEPTEMBER 23 & 25

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
OCTOBER 21 & 24

**REGISTER TODAY!**

[stgeorges.qc.ca/openhouse](http://stgeorges.qc.ca/openhouse)



L'École St-Georges de Montréal inc. is recognized by the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES) and awards the Ministry's Secondary School Diploma to students who successfully meet the Ministry's requirements.

**St. George’s School of Montreal:  
Leaders in Progressive Education**

Established in 1930 by a group of forward-thinking parents wanting to offer their children more than the traditionally prescribed educational format, St. George's has grown and evolved to be the leader in progressive education in Montreal.

Students from kindergarten to grade 11 are welcomed into a student-centred learning environment that puts them in the driver's seat. "We create a culture and a stage to welcome our students' voices and we use their feedback to shape and measure student progress as well as our own practices," says Michael O'Connor, Head of School.

The school's research-based pedagogy promotes diversity in all forms where the uniqueness of each student is at the heart of teaching and learning. "St. George's collaborative environment is made up of a community of life-long learners driven by internal motivation and a sense of empowerment. Our teachers are coaches and facilitators, guiding the student's learning journey," explains O'Connor.

Embracing the progressive education experience is the Core 5 program. "Core 5 is part of our curriculum, teaching resilience, having a constructive outlook, intrapersonal and interpersonal skills, dealing with the social world and

the digital age," says O'Connor. "It imbues our culture."

With a robust co-curricular offering – activities, clubs and programs that compliment academics – students quickly garner a strong sense of belonging and pride in their school. "Our students are excited to come to school to be immersed in experiences that they choose themselves," says O'Connor. Students learn by doing, and teachers play the role of coach and facilitator to support the student's journey through learning.

During the pandemic, students were still able to choose from a wide variety of co-curricular activities offered virtually. "That was a testament to our commitment to the social-emotional aspects of learning, as we didn't sacrifice social opportunities," says O'Connor. "Instead, we innovated and offered as many co-curriculars as possible right along with the academics."

The world is changing at an unprecedented



pace. As a progressive school, St. George's prides itself on its agility to constantly adjust by researching and implementing innovative practices in teaching and learning. "We don't chase innovation; we shape it," says O'Connor. "When you send your child to our school, their learning experiences will help them develop the mindset and intrinsic motivation for a successful and meaningful future. In essence, you are 'future-proofing' your child to be a confident contributor and a positive change-maker.

Come see what you've been missing.  
[stgeorges.qc.ca/openhouse](http://stgeorges.qc.ca/openhouse)

# The Advantages of a Sacred Heart Education

The advantages of **small class sizes** are obvious to students at The Sacred Heart School of Montreal, the city's only all girls English Catholic high school. "I like how close the students in each grade are with each other," says one student. "We are a very tight-knit school and, unlike many larger schools, I can recognize and likely even name every student who goes to Sacred," says another. It's not just the relationships with peers that grow stronger. Students benefit from the **low student-teacher ratio** of 6 students per faculty member, as well. "The teachers really make sure we understand what they're teaching and I feel very comfortable with them."

## Extra-curriculars for Everyone

At an all girls high school such as Sacred Heart, girls occupy every position on the sports teams, fill all the roles on student council, and make all the decisions in their leadership committees. A wide variety of extra-curricular activities means there is something for everyone, from the book worm to the jock, without forgetting the performer or the chef. Students from every grade are encouraged to participate, and there is room for everyone, in clubs such as these, to name a few:

- A dozen competitive sports teams
- Battle of the Books
- Show Choir
- Cooking Club
- Robotics Team
- And many more...

## The Sacred Heart Educational Experience

Founded in 1861, Sacred Heart's academic reputation often precedes it. The school's personalized academic approach builds students' confidence in their abilities and takes into account different learning styles. Students are taught time management and organizational skills; and with many options for academic support, every student's success counts.

- Full-time academic advisor available
- Personal counselors available Monday to Friday
- Supervised study periods
- 24/7 online tutoring with Paper (™)

## Sacred Heart Goals

As part of the global Sacred Heart Network of schools, with over 150 schools in 41 countries, The Sacred Heart School of Montreal commits to educating students to 5 key goals. They are: a personal and active faith in God; a deep respect for intellectual values; a social awareness which impels to action; building of community; and personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom.

Sacred Heart is hosting several online Admissions events this fall. There will be two in-person Open House events, exclusively for grade 6 students, on Tuesday, September 28: at 9 a.m. and at 5 p.m. A Virtual Open House, open to students in all grades, will be held on Tuesday, October 12 at 5:30 p.m. To learn more and sign up for these events, visit [www.sacredheart.qc.ca](http://www.sacredheart.qc.ca)

## In Students Own Words:

"It's a big Sacred Heart family and it feels like it is my home away from home. My teachers know me and I feel that I can easily communicate with them."

"The Sacred Heart School of Montreal is a space where everyone respects each other and is kind to one another."

"Sacred Heart is an amazing school. I feel very welcomed there. The teachers, principal, staff and students are so caring. We work very hard but also have tons of fun with different activities."

## Preparing Girls to Change the World



### Open House

Tuesday, September 28  
9 a.m. and at 5 p.m.

### Virtual Open House

Tuesday, October 12  
5:30 p.m.

To learn more and sign up visit  
[www.sacredheart.qc.ca](http://www.sacredheart.qc.ca)



## The Sacred Heart School of Montreal

[sacredheart.qc.ca](http://sacredheart.qc.ca)

3635 Atwater

Mtl, QC - H3H 1Y4

514-937-2845



The Sacred Heart School of Montreal is a private English high school for girls, from grades 7 to 11, leading to a Quebec Secondary School Diploma. Grade 12 also available.





# FIND YOUR YOU @TRAF



## Join us for Open House at Trafalgar School for Girls, October 7<sup>th</sup>

Future students and their families can choose one of three hour-long sessions: 4 pm - 5 pm - 6 pm  
We are encouraging small group visits with many opportunities for one-on-one discussions with students, faculty, alumnae, and other members of the Traf community.

**Register Today! [trafalgar.qc.ca](https://trafalgar.qc.ca)**

For more information on Open House and admissions

Contact Marsha Warmuth at 514.935.2644 | [admissions@trafalgar.qc.ca](mailto:admissions@trafalgar.qc.ca)

Trafalgar School for Girls is an English private school from Grade 7 to Grade 11, leading to the MEES Secondary Leaving diploma.

3495 Simpson Street, Montreal, Quebec, H3G 2J7





# Strength in Small Numbers

At The Priory, students are encouraged to explore their interests and discover their unique strengths and talents. The school's strength in small numbers provides students with a highly personalized learning experience.

*Join us*

## OPEN HOUSE

*In-Person & Virtual*

**Sunday, October 3**

**Wednesday, October 6**

**Schedule a personal visit today!**  
**[priory.qc.ca/openhouse](http://priory.qc.ca/openhouse)**

The Priory is a premier English-language co-educational independent school specializing in elementary education from Kindergarten to Grade 6.

**Certificate of eligibility not required**

3120 The Boulevard, Montreal, QC H3Y 1R9

514-935-5966 | [admissions@priory.qc.ca](mailto:admissions@priory.qc.ca)

[www.priory.qc.ca](http://www.priory.qc.ca)



# THE PRIORY SCHOOL

Happy Children Learn Best





# Proof of COVID-19 vaccination and the vaccine passport: Be well prepared

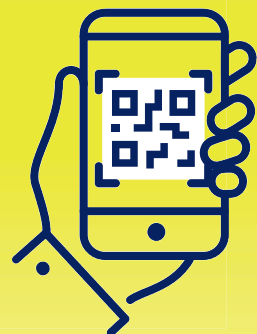


## Proof of vaccination

When you receive a vaccine in Québec, you are given proof of vaccination. It is usually recorded in your vaccination booklet or provided to you in paper format. This applies for all vaccines, including COVID-19.

Electronic proof of COVID-19 vaccination is also available. It shows the following:


- Your first and last names and date of birth
- Which vaccine(s) you received
- Where you were vaccinated
- A QR code
- If applicable, the positive result of your first COVID-19 screening test.



## How can I get my electronic proof of vaccination?

- 1 Go to [Québec.ca/proofvaccination](https://quebec.ca/proofvaccination) then click on the Self-service portal.
- 2 Enter the requested information to confirm your identity.
- 3 After identity confirmation, download your electronic proof of vaccination.

## The QR code in a nutshell

 The QR code is a two-dimensional code that includes lines, squares, dots, polygons or other geometric figures used to store information.

The digital information in a QR code can be revealed by scanning it with a Smart Phone, using a QR code app.

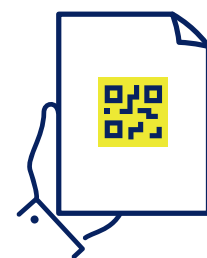
## The vaccine passport

The vaccine passport is an official tool. It confirms that the holder is adequately vaccinated against COVID-19. It relies on the proof of vaccination QR code.

Starting on September 1, the vaccine passport will allow people 13 years of age and over who are adequately protected against COVID-19 or are clinically contraindicated, to enter specified locations and take part non-essential activities where the risk of interpersonal transmission is high.

## How to use the vaccine passport

In order to enter a location where the vaccine passport is required, you need to show **proof of COVID-19 vaccination, including a QR code**. Your proof can be shown in any of the following ways:



**A printed on letter or business card size paper** (the QR code must be digitally readable and not altered in any way)



**A PDF on your mobile device**



**The VaxiCode app.**

**A piece of ID will also be required** when you show your vaccine passport, for compliance purposes.

## The VaxiCode and VaxiCode Verif apps

Two applications are available and can be downloaded free of charge from Google Play and the App Store.



**VAXICODE**

**VaxiCode is meant for individual use.**

**With it, you can:**

- Register your proof of vaccination containing a QR code
- Confirm your COVID-19 protection status in advance (green/red).
- Store all your family's QR codes in a single location to save time when doing an activity together.

Your personal information is protected by encryption when you register proof of vaccination in the VaxiCode app. VaxiCode does not have the ability to go online, and your proofs never leave the application, which acts as a secure wallet.



**VAXICODE Verif**

**VaxiCode Verif is meant for use by venue operators or activity managers.**

**With it:**

- The QR code on the proof of vaccination can be read
- The operators and/or managers can check the individual's protection status

This application only displays the name of the vaccine passport holder and a green or red colour indicator that confirms the individual's level of protection.

No other identification or medical information is displayed.

## How can I download the app and install my QR code?

- 1 Search **"VaxiCode"** on Google Play or the App Store from your mobile device and download the app.
- 2 Once VaxiCode is activated, follow the instructions on the screen.

More detailed information is available at [Québec.ca/vaccinationpassport](https://quebec.ca/vaccinationpassport)

## Any questions?

You can find complete information about the vaccine passport at [Québec.ca/vaccinationpassport](https://quebec.ca/vaccinationpassport)

If you need help, ask a friend or call **1 877 644-4545**.

Please call **1 877 644-4545** as soon as possible if your paper or electronic proof of vaccination information contains errors.

If you do not have Internet access and a printer, you can call **1 877 644-4545** to receive your paper proof of vaccination by mail. You can plasticize your printed proof if you so wish.

## REMINDER

**It is your responsibility to ensure the protection of your personal vaccination information. To avoid potential fraud:**

- Keep your proof of vaccination private, just like a one-time email or text message.
- We do not recommend that you share a picture of your proof of vaccination on social media.

## Not yet vaccinated?

There is still time. Vaccination clinics remain open. Learn more at [Québec.ca/COVIDvaccine](https://quebec.ca/COVIDvaccine)

[Québec.ca/vaccinationpassport](https://quebec.ca/vaccinationpassport)

**1 877 644-4545**



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♦ 55+ co-curricular and leadership options; many opportunities for trips and exchanges

♦ Acceptances to top universities worldwide

♦ Vibrant international community with 4,500+ alumni

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**OPEN HOUSE  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16  
REGISTER TO ATTEND!**



ACADÉMIE CENTENNIAL  
CENTENNIAL ACADEMY

[centennial.qc.ca](http://centennial.qc.ca)

# Centennial Academy

**Children don't fail. Schools fail children.**

Teens with learning challenges (ADHD, dyslexia, organizational issues, anxiety) often unnecessarily struggle in school. These students are intelligent, high achievers who require strategies, structure, and support to succeed.

**Centennial Academy** is the only independent, bilingual high school, where learning challenges are embraced and not shunned. Our sole mission is to help students become autonomous, resilient lifelong learners. More than 90% of our students graduate on time and go on to pursue higher education.

Through a supportive, inclusive, close-knit community, we help students regain their self-confidence and discover the joy of learning. We like to say, that we do more than teach – we change lives.

**Comprehensive learning founded on the premise: every child can succeed in school**

Neuroscience tells us that the teenage brain is malleable and primed for transformation. By instilling desirable, repeatable patterns, our students develop and internalize effective behaviours that allow them to take control over learning.

**"We create optimal learning conditions by removing obstacles. Learning is done at school – with no outside tutors. Students are provided 25 accommodations and strategies that enhance learning. At home, students review learning and parents focus on loving and supporting their teens – instead of stressing and worrying. Our comprehensive approach to learning is unique, proven and ideal of all learners." Angela Burgos, Head of School, Centennial Academy**

## **An optimal learning approach**

Centennial Academy uses Universal Design for Learning (UDL), a science-based framework to help struggling students overcome challenges. Students follow the same government curriculum, only broken down into manageable, coachable steps that

foster greater autonomy and comprehension. From grade 7 to 11, English and French students follow a structured learning path:

- Consistent, predictable routines
- Tailored textbooks for optimal learning
- Colour-coded books by subject for greater organization
- Highly trained teachers that prioritize interaction and in-class learning
- Emphasis on student engagement and understanding, over grades
- Methods that boost motivation and confidence

## **An academic experience filled with music, art, and athletics**

We provide students with wings to grow and room to explore, encouraging a sense of community and friendship. Our robust music, art and athletic programs allow students to develop their passions outside the classroom. Student art fills our hallways and classrooms. Student lounges encourage conversation and inclusion. Classrooms (average size of 15 students) are optimally designed for student engagement and learning.

## **Modern, downtown facilities**

Our new home nestled in a beautifully remote section of the Golden Square Mile provides students with lots of green space, an outdoor gym court, and even access to an Instagram-worthy reflection pond. Blending old-world heritage with new, modern amenities, our opulent surroundings leave a lasting impression on students and parents alike – providing a memorable and enviable high school experience.

## **Make the move, see the results**

Register to attend our in-person OPEN HOUSE on Saturday, October 16.

Discover how your struggling teen (current or future high school student) can achieve academic success and prepare for higher education. New students welcomed throughout the year.

**Register: [www.centennial.qc.ca](http://www.centennial.qc.ca)**





# At ECS, she is the entrepreneur of her own future!

*Join us!*

## VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

*Learn about our vision of education and our school culture.*

**Middle and Senior School (Grades 7 - 11):**  
Thursday, September 23rd, 5:00 - 6:30 pm

**Kindergarten and Junior School (Grades 1 - 6):**  
Tuesday, October 5th, 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Sign up for your  
session today  
and see our other  
Admissions events!

[ecs.qc.ca/events](https://ecs.qc.ca/events)



**MISS EDGAR'S AND MISS CRAMP'S SCHOOL**  
**ÉCOLE MISS EDGAR ET MISS CRAMP**

525 Mount Pleasant Avenue  
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ECS is an independent, English-language day school for girls from Kindergarten to Grade 11, leading to the MEES Secondary Leaving Diploma.

[www.ecs.qc.ca](https://www.ecs.qc.ca)

# Speaking the same language: LCC leverages IB Middle Years Programme to enhance learning for grades 7-10

Lower Canada College (LCC), a K-12 all-gender university preparatory school, takes pride in its century-old history of producing some of Canada's most esteemed leaders, but its approach to education is anything but dated. Currently, LCC is the only English high school in Quebec that offers both the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) for grades 7 through 10 and the IB Diploma Programme (DP) for grades 11 and 12.

According to June Takacs, an LCC science teacher who also serves as IB coordinator, the IB MYP's Approaches to Teaching and Learning (ATLs) provide a valuable framework for helping students become more creative, critical thinkers. "We facilitate inquiry-based learning that has students questioning and going deeper, not just sitting and absorbing information," she explains. "Ultimately, the IB programme gives us tools to help our students develop

lifelong skills that universities and companies are looking for."

When implemented effectively, the ATLs, which focus on developing thinking, communication, self-management, social and research skills, help mold students into an IB learner: a principled, thoughtful individual who makes a positive contribution to society. "The IB learner profile is a holistic picture of what we expect our students to become, and the ATLs provide a roadmap of how to get there," says Todd Hirtle, a math and science teacher at LCC.

In Hirtle's experience, there is no more effective way to encourage students to become risk takers and inquirers, two cornerstones of the IB learner profile, than creating an environment in which it's safe to fail. While many students are laser focused on getting the right answer, teachers like Hirtle are more concerned about how they arrived at that answer.

Julianna Neiss, an LCC grade 11 student, acknowledges that taking risks doesn't come naturally to her, but the opportunity to dive into practical, interesting projects makes each risk worth taking. She thinks back to the math class where she and her fellow students received a lesson on aerodynamics from a pilot before constructing cardboard models of planes that could fly an egg across the length of a gym. In another course, she accepted the challenge of repurposing a household object to minimize environmental impact. "This kind of hands-on work is what really gets us engaged," she affirms.

For other students, personal growth takes an entirely different form. Ari Sinyor, a grade 10 student, is comfortable stretching himself, but he has worked hard to become more open-minded, a core IB learner trait. "From the time I was in grade 7, I learned about adopting a growth mindset versus fixed mindset,"

he shares. These lessons came to fruition when he spent a good portion of grade 9 learning from home during the COVID-19 pandemic. "It was difficult to learn by looking at a screen all day, but having the IB rubric in front of me encouraged me to keep an open mind and persevere," he says. "I like the way the ATLs give teachers and students a common language for reaching our goals."

Whether students are building a model airplane or learning forensics through a mock crime scene investigation – an exercise Takacs runs in her science classes – the IB MYP gives them a shared vocabulary for identifying their unique strengths and challenges. "Ultimately, the IB MYP helps teachers and students alike think critically about who they are, what they do, and how they can improve," says Takacs. "We want our students to love the adventure of learning."



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### Grade 7 & Beyond

**Information Session**

**Series: Visit**

[lcc.ca/infoseries](http://lcc.ca/infoseries)

Grade 7

Application Deadline:

October 14

Ask us about  
financial assistance

**Lower Canada College**

[admissions@lcc.ca](mailto:admissions@lcc.ca)

514 482 0951

4090, avenue Royal  
Montréal (Qc) H4A 2M5

**lcc.ca**



LCC is an English coeducational K-11 school leading to the MEES Secondary Leaving Diploma / LCC est une école anglophone mixte de la maternelle à la 5e secondaire menant au DES du MEES.





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**#herstory**



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LET'S OPEN OUR HEARTS



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