

### **Alexander Kuska K.S.G. Catholic School**

Alexander Kuska K.S.G. Catholic Elementary School 333 Rice Road, Welland ON, L3C 2V9 905-735-4471 C. Moscato - Principal F. Wood - Vice Principal K. Kinney - Superintendent of Schools



#### Alexander Kuska K.S.G. Catholic School Mission Statement

As a community of faith, the mission of Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary School is to work in partnership with the home and the parish to provide a Christ-centered learning environment which allows students to grow spiritually, to strive for academic excellence and to become responsible citizens with a love of learning.



### Prayer for June

Lord, thank You for another wonderful year! Thank You for all the laughs, great memories, growing friendships, and of course all of the learning that has taken place this year. We ask that You keep us all safe over our summer vacation, and bring us back to school rested and ready for a new year in September. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## Follow us on Social Media



@kuskaknights

When Jesus says "Come, follow me," He's doing more than just asking us to walk with Him. He is asking us to become a part of something bigger. Imagine you're invited to join an adventure where you learn new things and grow in ways you never thought possible. Following Jesus means we get to learn from Him how to be more loving, forgiving, and courageous. It's like being part of a great story where each of us has a special role. As we follow Jesus, we discover our own strengths and talents and find joy in helping others. So, when we hear His invitation, it's a chance to embark on an exciting journey of faith and make a real difference in the world!

~~~ Niagara Catholic District School Board Mission Statement ~~~

We are a Christ-centered Catholic community that celebrates diversity and fosters spiritual growth, inspiring all to reach their full potential in mind, body and spirit.





### **HAPPENINGS**

### **School Masses**



On Wednesday, June 11 all Kuska students will travel to St. Kevin to celebrate mass together and mark the end of another great year.

On Thursday, June 19th the Grade 8's will travel to St. Kevin's (along with the Grade 8's from all Welland Catholic schools) for a Graduation mass at 10:00am.



### St. Kevin's Mass Times

Saturday - 5:00 pm

**Sunday** - 8:30am 10:00am

11:30am



### **Sacraments**

Last month, the grade 8's celebrated their Confirmation and the grade 2's their 1st Communion. Congratulations to all these students on marking these milestones!.



The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to You; the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Numbers 6: 24-26





### **HAPPENINGS**

### **End of Year Field Trips**

Each grade has something special planned to end the year with fun!. A couple trips took place at the end of May, but many more are still to come in June:

| Grade   | Trip Date | Location                           | Grade           | Trip Date  | Location                         |
|---------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| Kinder  | May 30    | Safari Niagara                     | Grade 5         | June 9     | Parkway Social -<br>Bowling      |
| Grade 1 | June 23   | Cineplex @ Seaway<br>Mall - "Elio" | Grade 6         |            |                                  |
| Grade 2 |           |                                    | Grade 7         | May 23     | Toronto (Jays Game<br>& the ROM) |
| Grade 3 |           |                                    | Grade 8         | June 16-18 | Ottawa                           |
| Grade 4 | June 10   | Parkway Social -<br>Bowling        | End of the Year |            |                                  |

### **Graduation**

The graduation ceremony for our Grade 8 class will be **Monday**, **June 23rd at 5:30pm** at Notre Dame.

#### Students are asked to arrive no later than 5:00pm.

Following the ceremony, graduates will enjoy an evening of fun at Parkway Social.

A big congratulations to our graduating class! We are so proud of all you have accomplished during your time at Alexander Kuska, and pray God's blessings on you as you continue your education!



### **Specialty Lunch Days**



Wednesday, June 11



Wednesday, June 18



Wednesday, June 25





### **HAPPENINGS**



### **National Indigenous History Month**

June is National Indigenous History Month. During this month, take time to recognize the rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples across Canada. To commemorate this month, students will participate in learning experiences related to this important subject.

### **EQAO**

Congratulations to our Grade 6's for completing EQAO last week!

Grade 3's are up next! They will be writing in early June:



Grade 3 EQAO: June 2-5

Please keep this in mind when booking Appointments, vacations, etc.

### **Kindergarten Orientation**

Join us on Tuesday, June 10 at 5pm for a Kindergarten orientation evening! If you or someone you know has a



new student starting kindergarten here in the fall, this orientation session is for you. Please note that this session is for parents only.

We hope to see you there!

# Scholastic Book Fair Update

A special thank you is extended to the Alexander Kuska School Community for their generosity in supporting our Scholastic Book Fair. It was a great success totaling \$11,150.00! The Alexander Kuska School Library will receive 50% of this profit back in new books.

Also, Mrs. Bosnich would like to extend a sincere thank you to all the parent, student and staff volunteers for their devoted help and enthusiasm during this year's Book Fair event.

A big thank you to Mrs. Bosnich for all of her hard work organizing and running the Book Fair!

### **McDonald's Night Update**

It was great to see so many of our families at McDonald's night!

A big thank you to Mme. Purdie and Mrs. Dyson for volunteering their time to help out, greet our families, and clean tables.

McDonald's has donated 10% of their sales between 5-7pm that evening, for a total of **\$410.08**.

Thank you for your support of our school!







### **HAPPENINGS**

### **Kuska Family BBQ**





Join us on

### **Thursday, June 5th**

at 5:30 for our annual Kuska family BBQ!

We hope to see you there!





### BITTERSWEET GOODBYES



Mrs. Wood will be moving on to a new school community in September. She will be the new Vice Principal of St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School.

Mrs. Wood has been an integral part of the Alexander Kuska community, bringing compassion, thoughtfulness, and steady leadership to every situation. Her kind and caring approach has left a lasting impact on students, staff, and families alike. Whether navigating challenges or celebrating successes, Mrs. Wood has always led with empathy and grace.

While we are incredibly sad to see her go, we know she will bring the same heart and excellence to her new school. We thank Mrs. Wood for her years of service and commitment to Alexander Kuska—we will miss her deeply and wish her all the very best.

We hope you will join us in wishing a very happy retirement to Mrs. Fabiano! She has been teaching for 27 years, with 26 of those years being right here at Alexander Kuska. She has been an integral member of the Kuska family, and leaves a remarkable legacy here at Kuska and in the lives of all of her students. We are very sad to see her go and will miss her greatly, but are excited for her as she begins this new chapter. Congratulations Mrs. Fabiano!





Mrs. Mullins will be moving to St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School in September. She has been teaching here at Alexander Kuska for 15 years, and has left an incredible mark during that time. Her infectious smile, love for her students, and ability to bring people together have made her an invaluable member of the Kuska family. We will certainly miss her, and know that St. Kevin has gained a wonderful teacher! We wish you all the best at your new school Mrs. Mullins!

Mrs. Bartok has been the music teacher here at Alexander Kuska for a total of 10 years (the last 7 consecutively) and will be moving on to a new group of schools the fall. She has brought much joy and passion during her time here and has worked hard to create special moments for our students, including the annual musical performances and Christmas choirs. We will miss her bright smile and joyful presence! Thank you for all you have done here at Kuska Mrs. Bartok! Your new schools are lucky to have you.



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### LOOKING AHEAD

### 2025/2026 Class Placements

Our staff have been meeting to discuss and create student groupings for next year. Students will be placed with others with whom they will be most successful. A great deal of time and effort is spent determining the composition of classes. When organizing class groupings, attention and diligence is required by the classroom teachers, resource teacher, vice principal, and principal. A variety of factors are seriously considered when establishing classes. Creating a successful learning environment for all students is a goal we aim to achieve. Some of the criteria considered include: abilities, individual needs, behaviour, work habits, age, learning styles, class size, and gender balance.

Please note that requests for specific classroom teachers will <u>not</u> be considered.

**HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?** Talk positively to your child about next year. If your child is with a different group of students, please discuss relationship building and new friendships.

### <u>Dates to Remember</u>

- P.A. Day There will be no school for students on Friday, June 6
- Last Day of School The last day of the school year is Friday, June 27!





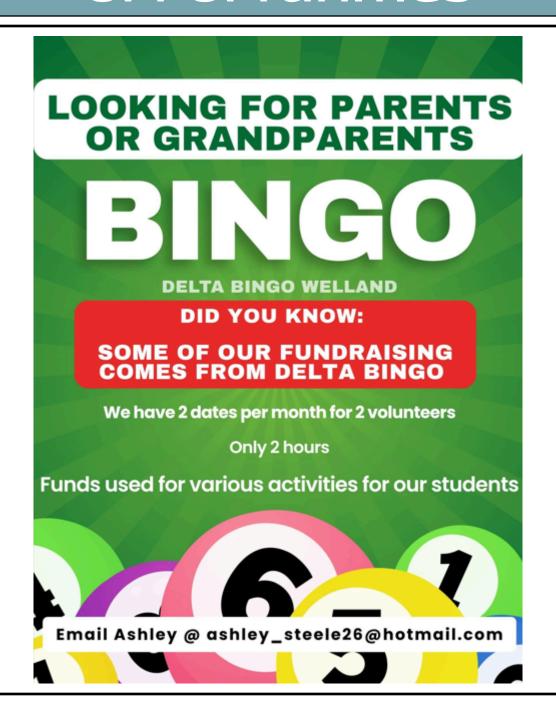
#### **Back to School**

- The school will be closed from July 1 to August 22. The main office will reopen the week of August 25.
- Class assignments for next year will be available on the Parent Portal on August 28.
- School will resume on Tuesday, September 2.





### **OPPORTUNITIES**



## Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter June 2025

#### **Things that Bite!**

Ticks, mosquitos, and rabid animals can be a greater risk as the weather warms up.

 Mosquitoes transmit the <u>West Nile virus</u> to humans after becoming infected by feeding on the blood of infected birds, which carry the virus. To learn how to protect your family, visit <u>Reduce the Risk of West Nile Virus - Niagara Region</u>.



- The blacklegged (deer) tick can transmit <u>Lyme disease and other tickborne diseases</u> to humans after becoming infected by feeding on the blood of small animals which carry the disease. To learn how to protect you and your pets, visit <u>Protect and Prevent Ticks - Niagara Region</u>.
- <u>Rabies</u> is transmitted through saliva from bites and scratches, entering an open cut or wound, or from saliva contacting a mucous membrane, such as those in the mouth, nasal cavity, or eyes. To <u>reduce the risk of rabies</u>, it's best to avoid contact with wild animals such as raccoons, skunks, and bats.

For more information and free tick identification, individuals can visit <u>e-tick</u>. General tick information can be found on our <u>Niagara Region Public Health website</u> or by contacting a Duty Officer directly at 905-688-8248 ext. 7590.

#### **Head safety – for bikes and other wheels**

With warmer weather and summer break just around the corner, more kids will be outdoors taking part in activities, such as biking, skate boarding or roller blading. A <u>properly fitted and correct helmet</u> can cut the risk of a serious head injury by up to 85%. This means four out of five brain injuries could be prevented if every cyclist wore a helmet.

- Bike <u>helmets</u> should be replaced after five years or a crash where the cyclist has hit their head
- It's not safe to use a <u>second-hand helmet</u>
- Baseball hats, big hair clips and headphones should never be worn under a helmet

The human skull is just approximately one centimeter thick, so it is important to remind children to always protect their head when being active. To make sure a helmet fits right, follow the 2V1 Rule (image courtesy of <u>Parachute Canada</u>)



#### **Make Immunizations Part of Your Summer Checklist!**

As you prepare for the new school year this summer, remember to check if your child's immunizations are up-to-date. If you are unsure, talk to your health care provider or <u>contact the vaccine team</u> at Public Health. Staying up to date with routine vaccinations helps protect your child from preventable diseases.

If your child needs to get caught up on vaccines, you can:

- Make an appointment with your health care providers
- Visit a walk-in clinic (call ahead to confirm vaccine availability)
- Check availability of Public Health vaccination clinics. Call 905-688-8248, extension 7425 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.)



#### Don't forget to report your child's vaccines to Public Health!

Every time your child receives a vaccine, it must be reported to Public Health. Doctors, child care facilities, and schools don't do this for you.

The fastest and most convenient way to report vaccines (except COVID-19 and flu shots) or request records is through **Immunization Connect (ICON)**, a secure online system for tracking and reporting immunizations.

For more information on vaccines needed for school, visit: **Baby, Children and Youth Vaccinations** 

#### **Bike to School Week 2025**



Walking or biking to school is a great way to help kids stay active, healthy, and focused throughout the day and get them out in their communities! Regular physical activity boosts mood, improves fitness, and supports learning by helping kids concentrate better in class. It also helps create safer, less congested school zones by reducing traffic and pollution.

From **June 2–6**, families across Ontario are encouraged to participate in **Bike to School Week!** Invite your child to ride with friends or family, and join in creating a healthier, happier community. To learn more, visit the **Bike to School Week** webpage and see how your school can get involved!