

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September 2025

Welcome Back to School!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back! We're excited to begin another school year at Holy Name Catholic Elementary School and extend a special welcome to our new families joining the community.

We're proud of the dedication our staff has shown in preparing a welcoming and enriching environment for all students. At Holy Name, we're committed to nurturing your child's spiritual, academic, social, and physical growth, with our Catholic faith and Jesus at the heart of all we do.

Together, we build a strong Catholic community. Your continued support is deeply appreciated and essential to your child's journey.

We look forward to a joyful, rewarding, and faith-filled year ahead.

Yours In Catholic Education,

Holy Name Administration

PRAYER FOR PARENTS

Father of all, You have given us these children, and entrusted them to our care.
Help me with Your Heavenly grace to fulfill this sacred duty.
Teach us what to give, and what not to give; when to correct and when to let go.

Make us gentle, yet firm; considerate and watchful.
Grant that both by word and example we may lead them in the ways of true wisdom, holiness, and kindness, and that we may finally be admitted with them to the joys of our true home in heaven.

Amen

Important dates

Sept. 9: Terry Fox Run

Sept 11: Return Information Sheet

Sept 12: Pizza Day

Sept 16: Opening School Mass
at St. Kevin's 10 a.m.

Sept 18: Curriculum Night 6 p.m.

Sept 19: PD Day No School

Sept 23: Catholic School Council 6 p.m.

Sept 25: Rowan's Law Day Purple Shirt

Sept 26: Toonie treat day

Sept 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Orange Shirt Day

St. Kevin Parish Mass times

Saturday 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

School Entry

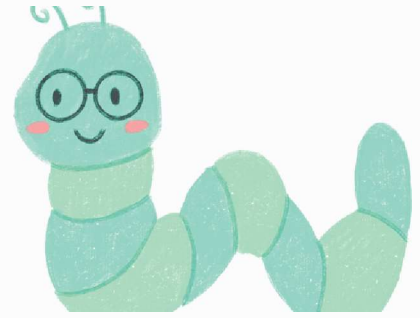
This year, on Tuesday, September 2nd, students will be outside on their assigned playgrounds prior to school starting. Supervision starts at 7:50 a.m. Students should not arrive before this time.

Dress Code

All students at Holy Name Catholic School follow the NCDSB Dress Code. Click text for additional details
Spirit wear can be purchased at Maddalena's Uniforms

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Medication at School

Students who require medication to be administered at school must submit the appropriate forms signed by a doctor prior to them being administered by staff. They are available at this link: [Administration of Oral Medication](#). Medication will be stored in a secure location and tracking sheets will kept in the vice- principal's office.

FIREDRILLS and LOCKDOWNS

Part of Niagara Catholic's Emergency Protocol is routine fire drills and lockdown drills. The drills are to practice proper procedures that are designed to keep everyone safe. We will be performing a minimum of 6 fire drills and a minimum of 2 lockdown drills per year to meet board requirements.



PARKING LOT AND BUS SAFETY

Please review bus safety rules with your child. We understand that your child may not take the bus to school on a daily basis, however, throughout the year, they will be riding a bus. It is important that our students understand bus safety especially in the parking lot at Holy Name.

For more information please visit

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/school-bus-safety>

We ask that you exercise extreme caution when driving in our very busy parking lot, especially during the morning and at dismissal at the end of the day.

Please use "Kiss and Drive" so your vehicle is not blocking the arriving buses. Parents are encouraged to use the East parking lot to pick up or drop off students. Please help us to continue to keep all children safe as it is our highest of priorities. Together we can continue to keep our children safe.

Reporting Student Absences

There are three ways to report an absence:

1. Call the toll free number: 1-844-287-6287
2. Go to the webpage: go.schoolmessenger.ca
3. Download the School Messenger App

Thank you for working with us to help keep our students safe!

Working Together

We are looking forward to another great school year!

Please continue to communicate with your child's teacher via emails, phone calls and meetings.

We are here for you and want to work with you to ensure student success.

OUR PARTNERS IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION



NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC
SECONDARY SCHOOL



ST. KEVIN PARISH



HOLY NAME INSTAGRAM

"WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF OUR NEW HOLY NAME SCHOOL INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT! FOLLOW US TO STAY CONNECTED AND SEE UPDATES, SCHOOL EVENTS, AND HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR STUDENTS' LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENTS."

FOLLOW US AT: @HNHAWKS1



HOLY NAME CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

UNDERSTANDING CHANGES AT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

Last spring, the Ministry of Education issued requirements for school boards to follow to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of everyone in our schools.

The revised PPM 128 addressed issues including the use of cell phones and vaping. PPM 170 outlines the Ministry of Education's expectations for communication between home and school.

All Niagara Catholic schools will continue to follow these Ministry of Education directives.

CELL PHONE USE IN SCHOOLS

When the new school year begins in September, the rules regarding the use of personal cell phones in class will continue.

Students who bring their cell phones to school must have the phone stored out of view and turned off or on silent mode during the instructional day. They may only use it if their teacher permits it for learning, for health or medical purposes, or to support special education needs.

If a teacher sees a cell phone that is not stored out of view, students will be required to hand in their device for the instructional day. The cell phone will be placed, by the student, in a secure storage area designated by the Principal.

If a student refuses to hand in their personal mobile device, the Ministry requires that the student be sent to the Principal's office. Consequences for failing to hand in their phone is at the Principal's discretion.

School boards are now required to disable access to social media platforms on school networks and board devices. This is intended to limit the number of interruptions in class and to benefit the mental health and well-being of students. Niagara Catholic already blocks access to some social media sites. Now all will be unavailable to students on the board network during the school day.

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CIGARETTES, VAPING, OR NICOTINE, CANNABIS, OR ALCOHOL USE AT SCHOOL

Another measure that came into effect last September to protect the health and well-being of students was the installation of sensors to detect vaping in schools.

The Smoke-Free Ontario Act bans the use of any tobacco, nicotine, or e-cigarette (vape) on school property. The changes to PPM 128 strengthen the enforcement of consequences for students who use or share cigarettes or other tobacco products, nicotine products, e-cigarettes (vapes) at school. Anyone under the age of 19 is prohibited from buying or possessing alcohol or cannabis. These substances, and any illegal drug, are prohibited on school property.

The rules require school boards to develop a policy to handle any prohibited items that are surrendered, if one does not exist already. The policy must comply with federal and provincial regulations. To ensure compliance with the provincial regulations Niagara Catholic's Facilities Services team began to install equipment to detect the use of cigarettes or e-cigarettes in schools. These expectations are outlined in the Board's Electronic Communications Systems Administrative Operating Procedures for students, and the Board's Code of Conduct AOP.

We ask parents to please speak to your children about these provincial rules and support your child's teacher(s) and principal in enforcing them.

QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, OR COMPLAINTS: UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS

Finally, the Ministry of Education has given school boards requirements on how we communicate with parents who have questions, concerns, or complaints. This guidance builds upon our established practice for resolving issues, including giving parents a timeline for a response. This is outlined in the process below. This information will also be shared on the Parents section of the Board website and school websites in time for the start of the school year.

Niagara Catholic's Multi-Year Strategic Plan prioritizes transparency in communication with families and stakeholders as a key priority. Our Complaints Resolution Policy, first passed in April 1998, addresses the steps families must take to resolve an issue at their child's school. PPM 170 ensures commitments the Provincial Government made in your child's education: A parent guide to our school system are fully addressed.

- Parents/guardians should expect a response to a concern or complaint within two business days. If an inquiry needs more time, you will be given an estimated time for a detailed response at the end the second day.
- If you have a question about a classroom-related matter, such as curriculum, homework, classroom behavior, or specific incidents, please contact your child's teacher.
- If you cannot resolve the issue at the classroom level and/or have a question about school procedures, extracurricular activities, or safety concerns, please contact the school's Vice-Principal or Principal.
- For issues unresolved at the school level or issues related to Niagara Catholic policies, procedures, resource allocation, or other concerns, please contact the Superintendent of Education assigned to your child's school.

In keeping with the Board's commitment to accessibility, parents and guardians have a right to expect information will be delivered in clear, easy-to-understand language.