



Sacred Heart Spectator



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E-Mail: sacred.heart@ncdsb.com

Board Website: www.niagaracatholic.ca

Principal: Mr. J. Romeo

School Secretary: Mrs. D. Plyley

Superintendent: Mr. D. Massi

Parish Priest: Fr. Steve Collins

Fr. Stuart MacDonald (on sabbatical)

September 2025

HAPPY NEW SCHOOL YEAR!!

On behalf of the staff at Sacred Heart Catholic School, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all new students, families and all of our returning Stars! I encourage you to read through the newsletter and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school by phone or e-mail.

We have planned for a successful start to the school year, and it will only be made better by your participation as we do what we can to make Sacred Heart Catholic School the best school it can be.

Looking forward to a great year,
Mr. J. Romeo



SACRED HEART PARISH NEWS

There will be a letter being sent home via School Messenger during the first week of school from Fr. Stuart MacDonald, parish priest at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church.

Please note an important piece of information is that Fr. Stuart will be on sabbatical from Sept 2025 through to the end of June 2026. During his absence Fr. Steve Collins will be the parish priest.

We will be scheduling a meeting towards the end of September (exact date and time TBD) for parents of students interested in registering for Sacraments for the 2025-26 school year.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL PROTOCOLS

At Sacred Heart, we work cooperatively with families in order to provide a safe, inclusive, and healthy educational environment for all students. We recognize that students who are at risk because of medical concerns such as **allergic reactions, diabetes, epilepsy, intolerances, asthma and/or seizures** require an intervention plan for their needs to be met and to reach their full potential at school.

If your child requires a specific plan of care, please contact the school at your earliest convenience so we can ensure his or her safety while in our care.

SACRED HEART PARISH MASS TIMES

- **Saturday:** 5:00 p.m.
- **Sunday:** 11:00 a.m.

SACRED HEART ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Follow Sacred Heart on Instagram to get the latest updates: **@sacredheartniagara**

Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary

A proud member of the Saint Michael Catholic High School Family of Schools



Sacred Heart Catholic



START OF SCHOOL YEAR 2025-26

STAFF ASSIGNMENTS 2025-26 ****Tentative & Subject to Change****

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Fr. Steve Collins
(Fr. Stuart MacDonald on sabbatical)

SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. D. Massi

PRINCIPAL

Mr. J. Romeo

SECRETARY Mrs. D. Plyley

EARLY YEARS

Kindergarten—Mrs. L. Muraca & Mrs. N. Aubin (DECE)
Kindergarten—Mrs. E. Allen & Mrs. N. Duchesne (DECE)
Kindergarten—Mrs. C. Arsenault

PRIMARY DIVISION

Gr. 1/2 – Mrs. K. Bender
Gr. 1/2 – **TBD** (Mrs. G. D'Amico currently on leave)
Gr. 2 – Mrs. E. Beswick
Gr. 3 – Miss M. Muraco
Gr. 3/4 – Ms. A. Perry

Primary Team Member (PTM)

Mrs. J. Marino (K—Gr. 3)
Ms. H. Matthews (one period of Kinder P&P)

JUNIOR DIVISION

Gr. 4/5 – Mrs. J. Gullion
Gr. 4/5 – Mrs. A. Colavecchia &
Ms. H. Matthews (one period)

JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Gr. 6/7 – Mrs. M. Lococo
Gr. 6/7 – Mrs. A. Roberto
Gr. 7/8 – Mr. E. Curcio
Gr. 7/8 – Mrs. A. Maloney

FRENCH (Gr. 4 -8)

Mme. Watson (Gr. 4/5 – 7/8 classes)
Mrs. A. Colavecchia (Gr. 3/4 French Teacher—one period)

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE

Mrs. M. Manders

ITINERANT ARTS TEACHER

Ms. A. Dwumaah (Music)

CHILD & YOUTHCARE WORKER

TBD (one day per five-day cycle)

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS

Mr. K. Alquizola
Mrs. J. Dow-Callahan
Mrs. D. Lauder
Ms. K. Pizzicarola
Ms. L. Skeoch
Ms. R. Smith

LIBRARIAN

Mrs. J. Lee (Day 1 – 5; every other week)

CUSTODIAL STAFF

Mr. J. Rigon (AM)
Mr. T. McGarry (PM)



Sacred Heart Catholic



ON THE CALENDAR

PA DAY – Friday September 19, 2025

Friday September 19, 2025 is a professional activity day. There is no school for students on this date.



TERRY FOX WALK—2025

On Friday, September 12th all students at Sacred Heart Catholic School will be participating in The Terry Fox School Day Walk. Donations are encouraged towards this worthwhile cause. The Terry Fox Foundation has set up school specific websites to streamline the donation process. You can find Sacred Heart's [here](#) **this day will also be our first Alternate Dress (or Dress-down) Day. Students are encouraged to wear Red for Terry, a true Canadian Hero!!!**



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION (ORANGE SHIRT DAY)

Tues. Sept 30, 2025

Attention Families! To order orange shirts through Pegasus School Images – [Pegasus Order Form](#) Shirts are \$15 including tax. Families are encouraged to place their orders online through Pegasus School Images. A credit card is required.

At the time of placing orders, parents/staff will be asked to select:

- 1) The Shirt Size
- 2) Quantity
- 3) Name of the School where the shirt is to be delivered.
- 4) **All orders must be placed by midnight, Monday, September 15, 2025** in order for all shirts to be delivered to schools on time.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL (PARENT COUNCIL) CORNER

We will be accepting nominations starting the week of September 8th. Nominations are completed by submitting your name (or the name of someone you would like to nominate) to sacred.heart@ncdsb.com. Please know that all parents are welcome to attend any of our Catholic School Council Meetings. There is no experience necessary—just a desire to make Sacred Heart the best school that it can be. That can only be done with your input!!

Our first meeting will be on Tuesday September 23rd at 6:00 p.m. and it will take place in the school library.

HOT LUNCHES & MILK PROGRAM

Hot lunches this month (orders are processed via School Cash Online):

Sub Day – Thursday Sept 11, 2025 (orders are due Sept 8)

Pizza Day – Thursday Sept 18, 2025 (orders are due Sept 15)

Swiss Chalet Day – Thursday Sept 25, 2025 (orders are due Sept 18)



****Our Milk program will begin in October, more information to follow.**

SPECIAL SHIRT DAYS & DRESS DOWN DAY FOR SEPTEMBER

During the month of September here are the days that will be reserved for different coloured shirts as well as our Dress Down Day for September

Fri. Sept 12—**Dress Down Day for month of September**. Encouraged to wear Red for Terry Fox Day

Wed. Sept 24—Purple Shirt Day (Concussion Awareness) **REGULAR DRESS CODE BOTTOMS**

Tues. Sept 30—Orange Shirt Day (See order info above) **REGULAR DRESS CODE BOTTOMS**



Sacred Heart Catholic



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SACRED HEART SPIRIT WEAR

Please note that Bigbear Spiritwear will now be supplying Spirit wear and dress code items that will be available for sale via their website. Please access [Sacred Heart's](#) direct link.



ELEMENTARY STANDARDIZED DRESS CODE



The Niagara Catholic DSB has a Standardized Elementary Dress Code in place for students in elementary schools. All students are to wear navy bottoms and navy blue or white shirts. For more detailed information, please view the NCDSB flyer [here](#).

CELL PHONE USE IN SCHOOL & SOCIAL MEDIA ACCESS

To minimize distractions, students who bring their cell phones to school must have the phone stored out of view and turned off or onto 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. Outside of these times, students are expected to keep their phones turned off or on silent and have them stored away.

Social media platforms on school networks and board devices will be disabled. 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.

"21st CENTURY LEARNING"

21st Century learning refers to developing learning, literacy and life skills in our students as part of the classroom experience. In order to fully prepare them for modern work environments, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication skills will be emphasized during classroom activities. Teachers will ensure that students have all the required learning tools necessary for them to be successful.

STUDENT CONSENT FORMS

Each year students have the opportunity to join in many learning activities here at school or on educational field trips. The school is asking that parents complete the following consent forms ([found on School Cash Online](#)), to ensure the school has the necessary information to keep your child/children safe.

Parent Consent - Student Personal Information (all K-8 students) - This form allows us to know parent preferences when it comes to using a child's information (ie. images, etc) in school publications such as social media posts, class photos and the school yearbook.

NCDSB Athletic Participation /Acknowledgement of Risk Form (Gr. 4-8 students only) - This form explains risks associated with participation in activities happening on school property and allows parent to indicate preferences regarding a child's participation in day-to-day activities (ie. intramurals, sports team tryouts, etc).

Educational Field Trips and activities happening off school property will have a separate consent form sent home.



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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SCHOOLCASH ONLINE PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

As activities and educational field trips are being scheduled for our students, we ask that parents sign up for our convenient payment program, SchoolCash Online. This is an excellent way to pay for student activities without sending money to school.

To register, please go to:
<https://ncdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

SCHOOL MESSENGER - SAFE ARRIVAL

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school each and every day. School Messenger allows parents to report their child's absence quickly and conveniently using the **mobile app**, a **website**, or an **interactive toll-free phone line** to report an absence, late arrival or early departure, in advance. This process allows the school to verify student attendance and notify parents of an unreported student absence efficiently.

If your child is marked absent and the absence hasn't been explained in advance, our SafeArrival system will contact you to get a reason for the absence. Calls will continue until you choose an option to explain your child's absence.

PLEASE use the following information to report your child's absence: mobile app, online at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home> or by calling 1-844-287-6287. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

STUDENT AWARE INTERNET FILTER

This is just a reminder to families that all Niagara Catholic schools use a software program called "Student Aware". This program enables schools to monitor its student internet traffic while using Board internet devices. The "Student Aware" program will be identifying and notifying school staff when students access online websites related to suicide, violence, abuse and/or other dangerous activities that could be injurious to themselves and/or others. When high-risk incidents are identified, the occurrence will be investigated and school administration will respond accordingly to support student mental health and well-being.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME & SCHOOL—QUESTIONS, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS

The Ministry of Education has given school boards new requirements on how to communicate with parents who have questions, concerns, or complaints. This information will also be shared on the Parents section of the Board website and school websites in time for the start of the new school year. The process is outlined below:

- Parents/guardians should expect a response to a concern within **two business days**.
- If parents have a question about a classroom-related matter, such as curriculum, homework, classroom behavior, or specific incidents, please contact the child's teacher.
- If the parent cannot resolve the issue at the classroom level and/or have a question about school procedures, extra-curricular activities, or safety concerns, please contact the school 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 Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MISSION

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

JUSTICE ♦ COMPASSION ♦ STEWARDSHIP ♦ ACCOUNTABILITY ♦ COMMUNITY ♦ INTEGRITY ♦ FAITHFULNESS



September 2025