



St. Ann September Flyer

St. Ann Catholic Elementary is part
of the Notre Dame Catholic Family of Schools



SEPTEMBER, 2025

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the staff at St. Ann Catholic Elementary School, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new students, families and all of our returning Stallions!

The basis of Catholic Education is the interrelationship of Home, Church and School. By working together we can provide the best Catholic education for our children. As a community of Christian believers, we ask God's blessings on our students, staff and families of the St. Ann Community.

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. The academic, spiritual, and social development of all of the students are always at the forefront of our decision making at St. Ann Catholic Elementary School.

I look forward to working with you throughout the year. My door is always open if you have any questions or concerns. Have a wonderful school year. God bless you and your family.

Looking forward to a great year,

Mr. S. Ward



BELL TIMES

Opening Bell	9:05 a.m.
Nutrition Break	11:15 – 11:35 a.m.
Recess	11:35 – 11:55 a.m.
Nutrition Break	1:15 – 1:35 p.m.
Recess	1:35 – 1:55 p.m.
Dismissal Bell	3:25 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL PLOWING MATCH AND EXPO 2025

The International Plowing Match & Rural Expo (IPM) is an annual showcase of agricultural excellence that aims to teach about agricultural practice and allow students a closer look at farming in its many forms. This year Niagara is hosting this amazing event and our school is going to secure tickets to the event. The experience promises to be interactive and informative and will engage students of all ages throughout their day at the Match.

We are booked to go on Wednesday, September 17, 2025. Grades 1-8.

Parents/Guardians are welcome to join us for this event.

More information and cost will be posted at School Cash On-line in early September.



MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

This year we will be having our Meet the Teacher Open House and B.B.Q. on Thursday, October 2, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This evening will provide an opportunity for families to visit the school, meet the staff, and learn more about the exciting year of learning that is planned for our students! Mark your calendar and make plans to join us.



TERRY FOX WALK/RUN

On Friday, September 26th all students at St. Ann Catholic Elementary School will be participating in The Terry Fox School Event. More information will be forwarded as we approach the event date.



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION (ORANGE SHIRT DAY)

Phyllis Webstad, who attended a residential school in British Columbia in the 1970s, started Orange Shirt Day in 2013. Phyllis was initially excited to go to school and went shopping with her granny to pick out a new outfit for school; she chose a bright orange shirt. That shirt was taken away from her when she arrived at the residential school and never returned to her. On September 30th Canadians wear an orange shirt to demonstrate the commitment to reconciliation and opening and continuing the dialogue about residential schooling. The slogan for Orange Shirt Day is "Every Child Matters".



STUDENT ATTENDANCE and SAFE ARRIVAL

The Safe Arrival program reduces the time it takes to verify student attendance making it easier for you to report your child's absence and easier for staff to respond to unexplained student absences. The Safe Arrival program allows parents to report their child's absence quickly and conveniently in one of three ways:

- 1) Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account using your email address. After logging in, select the Attendance tab to Report an Absence.
- 2) Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app (blue logo) from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). Use your new login information to access your account. Select Attendance to Report an Absence. If you would like to receive attendance notifications on your mobile device please enable Push Notifications in the Settings area of the app. The document using the SchoolMessenger app will give instructions for using the App.
- 3) The toll-free number 844-287-6287 will allow you to report your child absent without creating an account.

PHOTO DAY

Tuesday, September 23rd, *Pegasus School Images* will be in to take student photos. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER

Nominations are completed by submitting your name (or the name of someone you would like to nominate) to the school. 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 St. Ann the best school that it can be. Our first meeting will be on Monday, September 22nd, at 6:00 p.m. in the school library. There will be a virtual link provided if necessary. All are welcome!



SCHOOL BUS SAFETY RULES

Here are some Bus Safety tips to keep in mind as we begin the 2024-25 school year

At the Stop	Be 5 to 10 minutes early, and stand on the inside of the sidewalk/ shoulder away from the roadway.
When the Bus Arrives	Line up in a straight line, remember to keep your social distance, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the doors to open, and never touch the outside of the bus.
Getting on the Bus	Get on the bus one at a time, keeping social distance, go directly to your assigned seat and get settled.
Riding on the Bus	Sit with your back to the back of the seat and your bottom to the bottom of your seat with your school bag on your lap, and use your quiet speaking voice so that the bus driver can concentrate on driving.
Getting off the Bus	Stay in your seat until the bus comes to a complete stop, only get off the bus at your school or at your bus stop, look for your parent/ guardian before you get off the bus if that is your routine, and always tell the bus driver if you do not see your parent/ guardian at the bus stop waiting for you if that is your routine or if you missed the stop.
Crossing in Front of the Bus	Watch and wait for the bus driver to signal to you to cross the road once it is safe to do so.

ALLERGY ALERT

At the beginning of every school year, we remind all students and parents/guardians of our Board's Anaphylaxis Policy. At St. Ann Catholic Elementary School we have Emergency Guidelines which clearly state what medical procedures must occur for those students who have various life-threatening medical conditions. We are reminding all students and parents/guardians that we have students in our school who are known to have potentially life-threatening allergy called Anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a severe life threatening form of allergic reaction. It may begin with severe itching of the eyes or face; a sense of constriction in the throat, then other symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea and difficulty with breathing may develop. This may lead to coma and death. Foods such as peanuts, other nuts, fish, shellfish, eggs, milk, sesame and wheat as well as insect stings from bees and wasps, latex products and medication, are the most common allergens that produce anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis requires immediate first aid response and immediate medical intervention. If your child requires a special plan to ensure their safety, please alert your child's teacher so we can ensure that we are doing all we can to keep your child, and all children, safe.



GRAD HOODIES

Once again this year, our Grade Eight students will be offered the opportunity to purchase a Grad Hoodie for \$42.00. These hoodies will have the students' names embroidered on the hood and can be worn any day as part of the Grade eight dress code.

RECESS ROUTINES AT ST. ANN

Just a reminder to all staff, students, and parents, that the play areas during recess breaks are the blacktop and field areas only. There will be no exploration into the forest or tree line areas. Mr. Ward will be present during recess breaks to ensure that everyone understands and follows the rules. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

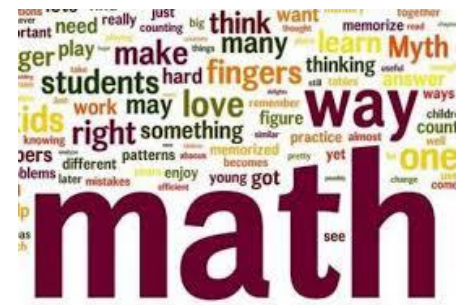
PAYING FOR ALL SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers the safest, fastest and most convenient way to pay for activities at school. It is a safe and easy way to pay for things like school trips and pizza days. On-line payment will be the only way to pay for school activities this year. You can register @ <https://ncdsb.schoolcshonline.com>. If you have questions or concerns, you are asked to speak with Mr. Ward.



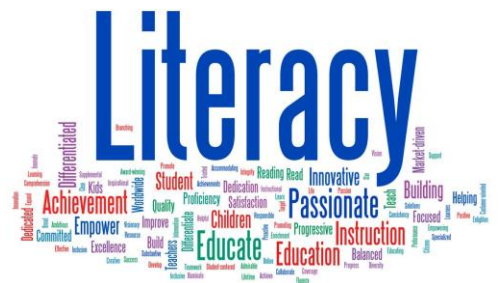
MATH CORNER

Did you have a favourite game or puzzle as a child? Why did you like it? Looking back, what do you think you learned from it? People have engaged in playing games and solving puzzles for thousands of years. Games and puzzles continue to provide important opportunities for children to experience playful learning. Games and puzzles based on logical thinking are often linked to mathematics. Out of school, they are considered recreational. In school, games and puzzles often provide opportunities for students to practice skills. Within mathematics, they tend to focus on computation, with the goal of increasing fluency. Games and puzzles are included in many mathematics curriculum resources, and teachers might offer them as a choice, as an independent activity or as a rotation during instructional time. Engaging in games and puzzles at home are wonderful ways to enjoy time together as a family!



LITERACY CORNER: WHAT IS PHONEMIC AWARENESS?

Phonemic awareness is the ability to manipulate individual sounds in our language. (ex: taking the word cat and being able to say the sounds c-a-t.) If we can teach children to play with sounds, and then teach them the letters that go with those sounds, it will help them become successful readers! To build your child's phonemic awareness, play with sounds! 1. Say the sounds in a simple word (mat, top, etc) and ask them to put the sounds together to tell you the word. 2. Do the reverse! Tell your child a word, and ask them to tell you the sounds. 3. If your child is struggling to do this out loud, use blocks, chips or coins to represent each sound. Have them touch a block for each sound in the word.



“Called By Name: Go and Make Disciples”

“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through its charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

