



SEPTEMBER 2025



Called by Name: Go and Make Disciples

Dear St. Elizabeth Families,

Welcome to a brand new school year at St. Elizabeth Catholic School! Whether you are joining us for the first time or are a returning member of our community, we are so happy to have you as part of our St. Elizabeth Saints family. I hope you all enjoyed a joyful and restful summer. My name is Mrs. Pozzobon, and I'm delighted to introduce myself as the new principal of this vibrant and faith-filled school. It's an honor to join such a dedicated staff and supportive community, and I'm looking forward to meeting each of you and working together to support our students in their learning and growth.

At St. Elizabeth, we believe that Catholic education is rooted in the strong partnership between home, Church, and school. When we work together, we create the best environment for our children to learn, grow in faith, and thrive. We ask for God's continued blessings on our students, staff, families, and all who contribute to the life of our school. We're also thrilled to welcome Mrs. DiDonato to our teaching team this year! She joins a passionate and caring group of educators: Mrs. Ens, Mrs. Dayboll, Mr. Parisi, Ms. Habjan, Mme. Kish, Mrs. Valente, Mrs. Moreau, and Mrs. Scodellaro. We are all excited to walk alongside your children in their academic and faith journeys.

Please take a moment to review the information below to help with a smooth and successful start to the school year. Here's to a year filled with faith, learning, and community. We look forward to an amazing journey together!

Yours in Catholic Education,
Mrs. Pozzobon

Prayer to Begin the School Year

Loving God,

Thank You for the gift of a new school year —
a fresh start full of hope and promise.

Bless our students, staff, and families as we
return to St. Elizabeth School.

Guide us to learn with open minds, serve with
kind hearts, and grow in faith each day.

Help us to treat one another with respect,
patience, and love, just as St. Elizabeth did.

May this year be filled with joy, discovery, and
your constant presence.

Amen.



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION (ORANGE SHIRT DAY)

Orange Shirt Day is the story of Phyllis Webstad, an Indigenous woman who shared her experience at an Indian Residential School through the children's book, *The Orange Shirt Story*. By participating in Orange Shirt Day, we recognize the harm done to generations of children by the Indian Residential School system in Canada. The first Orange Shirt Day occurred on September 30th, 2013 as Chief Fred Robbins saw Phyllis' story as a way of bringing together Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Since that time, Orange Shirt Day has grown into a national awareness among schools, businesses, and communities.

In June 2021, the Federal Government of Canada designated **September 30th** as the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation. While this addresses Call to Action #80 of the Truth and Reconciliations *94 Calls to Action*, it coincides with an established day that was created by Survivors of Indian Residential Schools. As a Board we can acknowledge the Federal statutory day, but for school and student activities, for the present time, it remains "Orange Shirt Day" as a way of respecting the grass root Indigenous movement.



We are proud to be a part of the Lakeshore Catholic Family of Schools.



St. Elizabeth NEWS



BUS TRANSPORTATION - NSTS



Please refer to the Niagara Student Transportation Service website (nsts.ca) for information on Back to School Transportation for your child(ren).

Parents/guardians **MUST** notify NSTS that they intend to use transportation in order to receive service. **Students that Opted-In in the previous school year are automatically Opted-In for this school year. Also, if you DO NOT intend to use transportation, please OPT-OUT or contact NSTS.**

Please sign-in to the parent portal and complete the Opt-In or Opt-Out of Transportation Form. NSTS will also receive your Opt-In or Opt-Out intention over the phone, 905-357-6787, or via email, general@nsts.ca.



ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES & SAFE ARRIVAL

It is an expectation that parents/guardians use the Niagara Catholic Safe Arrival system to report their child's late arrival or absence for part or all of the school day.

The Niagara Catholic Safe Arrival system is accessible to parents/guardians quickly and conveniently in one of three ways:

1. Telephone: Toll free number (1.844.287.6287)
2. Parent Portalwebsite:
<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home>
3. Free Smartphone App, "Safe Arrival"

UNREPORTED LATES/ABSENCES

If a student's late arrival or absence is unverified, parents/guardians will receive an automated communication by phone (home and mobile numbers), and/or text message/e-mail as provided and established in the Parent Portal, seeking verification of the late arrival or absence. Parents/guardians may then indicate the reason for the late arrival or absence through the automated system call-out. If the system does not receive a response from parents/guardians, the school secretary will contact as listed in the student information system the parents/guardians and/or emergency contact(s) to verify a student's absence.

PAPERLESS!

Most communication between home and school will be delivered electronically. You will be emailed important information through our School Messenger system and can access the school newsletter and calendar on our school website: <https://schools.niagaracatholic.ca/st-elizabeth>. There will not be paper notes sent home, so please check your emails regularly for information.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



Parents/Guardians are invited and encouraged to attend our first CSC meeting of the 2025/2026 school year on **Thursday, September, 11 at 5:30 p.m at St. Elizabeth School.**

If you are interested in attending the meeting, please email Mrs. Pozzobon (cindy.pozzobon@ncdsb.com) so she can add you to the parent council email list.

2025-2026

ST. ELIZABETH STAFF

Principal:	Mrs. Pozzobon
Secretary:	Mrs. Scodellaro
Librarian:	Ms. Golding
Kindergarten:	Mrs. Ens
DECE:	Ms. Valente
Grade 1/2:	Mrs. Dayboll
Grade 3/4:	Mr. Parisi
Grade 5/6:	Mrs. DiDonato
Grade 7/8:	Mrs. Habjan
FSL:	Mme. Kish
Itinerant Arts:	Ms. Bartok
Educational Asst:	Mrs. Moreau

MEET & GREET SOCIAL

Families are invited to attend a "meet & greet" social on **Thursday, September 17th, from 4:30 - 6:00 pm.** Come out for a casual gathering to meet your child's teacher and the rest of the St. Elizabeth staff. We look forward to seeing you again and meeting all of our new Saints family members.



DRESS CODE POLICY

Niagara Catholic has a standardized dress code for students in all of our Catholic elementary schools. All students must wear navy blue bottoms and a navy blue or white collared shirt. See more information below. We will have spirit days, themed days, and "out of dress code" days throughout the year that will be noted on our school calendar. Students are also permitted to wear their St. Elizabeth spirit wear items, and grade 8 students can wear their grad hoodies and Lakeshore spirit wear. No other logos will be permitted.

SPIRIT WEAR & GRAD HOODIES

Spirit wear can be ordered through Big Bear Spiritwear through our board website by clicking on schools, St. Elizabeth. Orders are open all year round with free delivery to the school. You can Google Big Bear Spiritwear and click on Schools / Wainfleet/ St. Elizabeth Saints to choose items, or copy and paste the following link into a browser: [Spirit wear - Big Bear](#)





STUDENT NUTRITION PROGRAM

This year, the Niagara Nutrition Partners program will begin on **Wednesday, September 10th**. Bins of snacks will be made available to the students with such items as fruit, crackers and granola bars. All items are nut free. All students are eligible to participate in this "no charge" program.



TUCK SHOP

Tuck Shop Fridays Are Back!

Our Tuck Shop is a fun in-school treat program run by our Student Senators and Student Council, which can be pre-ordered through SchoolCash Online.

Tuck Shop treats are delivered safely to classrooms every Friday to those students who order. If there's a holiday on Friday, deliveries will take place on Thursday instead.

This year, the Tuck Shop will officially begin on Friday, September 26, 2025, and will run every Friday for the entire school year.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to low participation, we will not be offering the Milk Program this year. Thank you for your understanding and continued support!

LUNCH DAYS

Weekly Lunch Days Are Coming Soon!

We're excited to let you know that our weekly lunch days will be returning every Wednesday, starting Wednesday, September 24, 2025.

Families will be able to pre-order lunches through SchoolCash Online. Please note that orders must be placed before the deadline—late orders cannot be accepted once the online window closes.

This year, we'll be offering a variety of student favourites, such as pizza, subs, and pitas. Plus, we'll be adding some special food days throughout the year—so stay tuned for more delicious details coming soon!

Thank you for your continued support!

STUDENT INFORMATION

We will be sending home a Student Information Sheet on the first day of school. Parents/Guardians are asked to update the information and return back to the school by **Monday, September 8th**. It is essential that the school has up-to-date information recorded for every student. Please notify the school immediately of any changes in address, home, cell, email addresses; alternate emergency contact name and numbers, custody or medical concerns.

TERRY FOX SCHOOL RUN/WALK



Terry Fox represented the best that Canadians have to offer. He was an example of courage, humility, determination, and perseverance. From a young age he exemplified these attributes that made him an inspiration for not only Canada, but the entire world. Terry's personal experience and research led him to a simple conclusion – more money was needed for cancer research. And so, in the modest but motivated style that would prove to be his trademark, Terry started training and planning for his cross-Canada run to raise funds for cancer research. He dipped his artificial leg in the Atlantic Ocean on April 12th, 1980 and proceeded to unite Canadians in a way never before, nor since, seen. The only thing that could have stopped Terry from reaching the Pacific Ocean did. Cancer returned in his lungs and he was forced to stop on September 1st, 1980 after having run 5,373 kilometers.

This year, St. Elizabeth School will take part in our annual Terry Fox School Walk on **Monday, September 15, 2025**. To recognize this day, students are being asked to **wear red and white**.

On-line donations will be accepted throughout the month of September at <https://schools.terryfox.ca/103166>

SCHOOLCASH ONLINE

We are a cash and cheque free school which means all school purchases are done through SCHOOLCASH ONLINE. Please make sure you are signed up today. <https://ncdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

What Is School Cash Online?

School Cash Online is an easy to use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. Now, with a few clicks, you can pay for your child's yearbook, class trips and so much more from your own home. All you have to do is register an account, attach your children and then you will be able to make payments online.



CHURCH CORNER

We are pleased to have Father Stanley as our spiritual leader and look forward to celebrating **our first school mass on Wednesday, September 3rd at 9:30 am** at St. Elizabeth Parish.

St. Elizabeth Expectations

ALLERGY ALERT

As we begin a new school year, we'd like to remind families that we have students with life-threatening allergies (Anaphylaxis) at our school. Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that can be triggered by foods like peanuts, tree nuts, fish, shellfish, eggs, milk, sesame, and wheat, as well as insect stings, latex, and some medications. It requires immediate medical attention.

To help keep everyone safe, we kindly ask:

- Please **do not send food to share** for birthdays or special occasions. If food or treats are brought in, it will be sent home with your child.
- **Do not allow children to share food** at lunch or snack times.
- If your child has ANY medical condition, please inform their teacher and Mrs. Pozzobon so we can have the right safety plan in place and proper documentation can be completed.

We follow our Board's Anaphylaxis Policy and Healthy Schools guidelines to promote both safety and healthy habits.

Thank you for helping us keep St. Elizabeth a safe and caring place for all!



Niagara Catholic Elementary Standardized Dress Code

As part of Niagara Catholic's Dress Code Policy, students are expected to follow these guidelines: (Copy and paste the following link in you browser)

<https://docushare.ncdsb.com/dsweb/Get/Document-1981986/302.6.10%20-%20Elementary%20Standardized%20Dress%20Code%20Policy%20AOP.pdf>

Bottoms (Navy Blue):

- Sweatpants (Kindergarten to Grade 3 only)
- Dress pants, cargo pants, denim, Kobe, or corduroy pants (all grades)
- Skorts or dresses
- Walking shorts or capris
- Grade 8 students may wear grey secondary uniform pants

Tops

- White or Navy Collared shirts (short or long sleeve)
- St. Elizabeth ONLY spirit wear polo shirts, sweatshirt or t-shirt
- Sweater and hoodies must be navy or white—St. Elizabeth logo ONLY or logo free
- Grade 8 ONLY—Can wear Lakeshore spirit wear tops
- All shirts, pants, hoodies and sweaters must be logo-free.**

Thank you for your support as we work together to follow the standardized dress code and keep things consistent across our school community!

DRESS CODE

BOTTOMS



Sweatpants
(Kindergarten to
Grade 3 only)



Dress pants,
cargo pants,
denim, Kobe or
corduroy pants



Skorts
or dresses



Walking shorts
or capris

TOPS



White or Navy Collared shirts
(short or long sleeve)



St. Elizabeth ONLY spirit wear
polo shirts, sweatshirt or t-shirt



Sweaters and hoodies must be
navy or white—St. Elizabeth lo-
go ONLY or logo free

Grade 8 ONLY—Can wear
Lakeshore spirit wear tops

**All shirts, pants, hoodies and sweaters
must be logo-free.**

Cell Phone Policy

Cell Phone Use at School

Continuing this September 2025, the provincial rules under PPM 128 will be in effect regarding student use of personal mobile devices during the school day.

Students who bring a cell phone or mobile device to school **must keep it turned off or on silent mode and stored out of sight during instructional time** such in their backpack in their locker. Devices may only be used if:

- A teacher permits it for learning purposes,
- It is required for medical or health-related needs,
- It is used to support a student's personalized educational needs.



If a student's cell phone is seen during instructional time without permission, the student will be asked to place their phone in a secure storage area designated by the principal for the remainder of the school day.

In cases where a student refuses to follow these expectations, they will be referred to the principal, and consequences will be determined at the principal's discretion, in line with Ministry requirements.

Additionally, all school boards in Ontario are now required to block access to social media platforms on school networks and devices to help reduce distractions and support student mental health and well-being. While Niagara Catholic already blocks access to some sites, this update means all social media platforms will now be unavailable during the school day on board devices and Wi-Fi.

Thank you for helping us create a safe, focused, and respectful learning environment for all students.

Respectful Interactions

At St. Elizabeth, we are proud to be a community rooted in Catholic and Christian values. Our goal is to create a safe, caring, and respectful environment where everyone; students, staff, parents, and community members feels valued and supported.

We believe in the importance of open, respectful communication. If you ever have questions, concerns, or feedback, we encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher or to Mrs. Pozzobon by phone or email. Working together and supporting one another helps us all grow and succeed.

To help keep families informed, we will share important updates through:

- Monthly newsletters and calendars
- School Messenger
- Cash Online (for items such as field trips and food days)
- Instagram—Join us at elizabethsaints53



Instagram

elizabethsaints53

We kindly remind everyone that respectful communication is expected at all times. Aggressive or disrespectful behaviour — whether in person, on the phone, or online — toward staff, students, or community helpers will not be tolerated. By working together in kindness and understanding, we can build a strong, loving school community.

Thank you for helping us make St. Elizabeth a safe and welcoming place for everyone!