

DEFENDERS

SEPTEMBER 2025

Safe Arrival

To report your child absent please use one of the three methods listed below:

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

1-844-287-6287

will allow you to report your child absent without creating an account. 3800 Wellington Rd., Crystal Beach, ON. (905) 894 - 3670

Principal: Mr. K. Lococo Superintendent: Mr. P. Rocca School Secretary: Mrs. C. Cook
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Cesar Derit

A proud member of the LAKESHORE Catholic High School Family of Schools

WELCOME BACK

Dear Families and Community Members,

It is with great joy and anticipation that I welcome you to a new school year at St. George! Whether you're returning or joining us for the first time, we are thrilled to have you as part of our vibrant school community.

At St. George, we believe that every child is a unique learner, and we are committed to nurturing their curiosity, creativity, and confidence. Our dedicated staff works tirelessly to create a safe, inclusive, and inspiring environment where students feel valued and empowered to grow—academically, socially, and emotionally.

We also recognize that education is a partnership. Your involvement—whether through volunteering, attending events, or simply supporting learning at home—makes a tremendous difference. Together, we can build a foundation that helps every child thrive.

As we embark on this exciting journey, I invite you to stay connected, ask questions, and share your ideas. Our doors are always open, and we look forward to a year filled with learning, laughter, and meaningful moments.

Welcome to the St. George family!

Sincerely,

Ken Lococo,

Principal

SCHEDULE

Morning Supervision: 8:55 a.m. (Student will **NOT be supervised** on Property Prior to 8:55 a.m.) Student Entry and Morning Announcements (9:10 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.)

 Period 1: 9:20 a.m.—10:00 a.m.
 Period 5: 12:40 p.m.—1:20 p.m.

 Period 2: 10:00 a.m.—10:40 a.m.
 Recess: 1:20 p.m.—1:40 p.m.

 Period 3: 10:40 a.m.—11:20 a.m.
 Nutrition: 1:40 p.m.—2:00 p.m.

 Nutrition: 11:20 a.m.—11:40 a.m.
 Period 6: 2:00 p.m.—2:40 p.m.

 Period 4: 12:00 p.m.—12:40 p.m.
 Period 7: 2:40 p.m.—3:20 .m.

 Buses/Dismissal: 3:20 p.m.—3:30 p.m.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The Kindergarten Exterior Entrance Doors are Scheduled to be replaced throughout the 2025-2026 School Year as part of the Boards Capital Projects. Please be mindful of construction vehicles when on site. Your cooperation is appreciated.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

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/

ELEMENTARY STANDARDIZED DRESSCODE



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 https://example.com/here.

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.

ANAPHYLAXIS AWARENESS

All classroom at St. George are <u>peanut</u>, <u>tree nut</u>, <u>sesame</u>, <u>seafood</u>, <u>coconut kiwi</u>, <u>pears and egg safe classrooms</u>. No peanuts, peanut products, tree <u>nuts or raw/cooked</u> eggs are <u>allowed</u> at <u>any time</u>. We have many students with life threatening allergies to peanuts, peanut products and/or eggs. Please ensure that your child has thoroughly washed their hands after eating peanuts, peanut products or eggs for breakfast/lunch at home.

We must make every effort to ensure we do not contaminate our learning environment for these students. Please respect the safety of all students. Remember how you would want your child protected by their school community if your child had a fatal allergy.

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.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ST. GEORGE SPIRITWEAR

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 <u>St. George Defenders direct link.</u>



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SCHOOL TRIPS

In accordance with the Safe Schools Act, all volunteers must be approved by the school principal.

The principal is authorized by the Board "to assign to a person who volunteers to serve without remuneration such duties in respect of the school as are approved by the Board and to terminate such assignment as required". (Safe Schools Act, 2000)

Before volunteering in Niagara Catholic schools, all approved school volunteers (persons having direct and/or regular contact with students, supervising students, and/or participating in approved overnight educational field trips) must:

- I. complete and submit the Volunteer Application Form (Appendix A)
- 2. provide an original Police Vulnerable Sector Check
 - ☐ An original Police Vulnerable Sector Check will be required at least once every five (5) years.
 - □ Approved volunteers will be reimbursed for a Police Vulnerable Sector Check required by the principal and/or the Board. Any additional requirements as a result of the Vulnerable Sector Checks will be the responsibility of the volunteer.
 - ☐ When a Police Vulnerable Sector Check is on file and renewal is not required, volunteers must complete and submit an Annual Offence Declaration (Appendix B). The annual offence declaration will stand as a legally binding doc ument, in accordance with Regulation 521/01, as amended by Regulation 322/03.

CELL PHONE USE IN SCHOOLS

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.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

MEDICATION

For safety reasons, no child is to bring any form of medication to the school. If medication is necessary there is a form that must be filled out by your Doctor to indicate dosage, instructions, etc., and the prescription container clearly labelled with the names (child, parent, doctor), phone numbers and must be left at the office. Please contact the school to address individual student needs in this regard.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE PROTOCOL

Please be mindful that even though winter season has ended, it is important to remind all of our parents of the Emergency School Closing Protocol. The Niagara Catholic District School Board will make every attempt to keep schools open during periods of inclement weather. Only in exceptional circumstances will schools be closed part way through the day. In these rare cases, we will follow the procedure and prior information collected regarding the picking up of your children. If your contact information or pick-up arrangements have changed, you are asked to please contact Mrs. Cook at the office so the necessary updates can be made. Announcements concerning school closures or cancellations will be made on all local radio stations beginning at 6:00 a.m.

You can also check the Board website at www.niagaracatholic.ca as well as the board's social media accounts.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please be mindful of vehicles entering and exiting our parking lot area. It is extremely important that speed while in school area be minimal due to the amount of students in and around the area. We understand that mornings can be hectic, and time is of the essence. However, the safety of our students, staff, and visitors must remain our top priority.

We kindly remind all drivers to adhere to the following guidelines to ensure a safe environment for everyone:

Travel at 30 km or less

Be Vigilant

Follow Traffic Markings

Park in Designated Areas

NIAGARA REGION PUBLIC HEALTH NEWSLETTER

Please use the following link to access the information from Niagara Region Public Health aimed at parents of school aged children.

Access the Newsletter from Public Health Here.



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ST. GEORGE NEWS

2025-2026 ST. GEORGE TEAM

OFFICE STAFF

Mr. K. Lococo Principal

Mrs. C. Cook Administrative Assitant
Mrs. M. Claxton Educational Resource Teacher

Mrs. M. Salvati Librarian Mr. T. Byng Custodial Mr. D. Guerrero Custodial

TEACHING STAFF

Kindergarten Mrs. T. Scholtens (Classroom Teacher) and A. Essaian (ECE)

Kindergarten Mrs. M. Heaton (Classroom Teacher) and Mrs. J. Thekkethala (ECE)

Grade One Mrs. S. Farnan Grade One/Two Mrs. C. Connor Grade Two/Three Mrs. A. Maroney Grade Three/Four To Be Determined Grade Four/Five Mrs. T. Lamorie Grade Five/Six Mrs. T. Carver Grade Six/Seven Mr. C. Bonazza Mr. S. Morales Grade Seven/Eight Grade Eight Mrs. C. Frey

French Mrs. F. Baldo-DeLuca
PTM Mrs. L. Amato
PTM Mrs. C. Battersby
PTM Mr. J. Gomez Jimenez

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT TEAM

Mrs. A. Duquette Mrs. T. Garrett Mrs. C. Turcin Mr. R. Lanteigne

CENTRAL STAFF

CYW Mrs. E. Annunziata
Itinerant Arts Mrs. M Venneri
ESL Mrs. A. Cottringer
MLL Mrs. A.M. Ventresca

FIRE DRILL & LOCKDOWN DRILL

Please be advised of the following practice drills will be occurring on the dates listed below:

First Fire Drill Practice Wednesday September 10, 2025
First Lockdown Practice Thursday September 18, 2025