



St. Patrick Catholic School

June Newsletter 2025

Registered Families will receive weekly updates through school messenger.

Contact the school if your email, phone or address has changed.

St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School Port Colborne

Principal: Mrs. MK Kalagian

Secretary: Mrs. D Handley

Superintendent: Mr. J Zaroda

Website: niagaracatholic.ca

School location: 266 Rosemount Ave Port Colborne, Ontario

Phone: (905) 835 1091



Welcome to St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School

Checklist Check Transportation Details for your child at NSTS <https://www.nsts.ca/>

Register for Safe Arrival to receive school messages and report your child's attendance

<https://niagaracatholic.ca/safearrival/>

St. Patrick Church Pastor Fr. Wes 905-834-6426 parishstpatrick@gmail.com

Register for School Cash Online to make purchases from the school

<https://ncdsb.schoolcashionline.com/> Have your dress code ready to go (see below)

Please visit our school website anytime for links to School Cash Online and School Messenger/Safe Arrival

Some staff changes

Here is some bittersweet news. Our beloved kindergarten teacher, **Mrs. Allen**, will be leaving our school at the end of this term to begin a new chapter at another school. Mr. Allen has been a cherished part of our community, and his dedication, warmth, and creativity have left a lasting impact on our students and staff alike. She will be greatly missed, and we wish her all the best in her new role.

At the same time, we are pleased that **Mrs. Gillespie**, will be taking over the kindergarten class. Mrs. Gillespie brings a wealth of experience and a joyful, nurturing approach to teaching. We are excited to have her join our kindergarten team and are confident that she will continue to provide a supportive and enriching environment for our students.

Camp Medeba

Our Grade 7 and 8 students are heading to Camp Medeba for their end of year class trip. They will be gone from Monday June 2 to Thursday June 5.

June is National Indigenous Heritage Month in Canada

What is National Indigenous Peoples Day?

Friday, June 20 is National Indigenous Peoples Day. This is a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. The Canadian Constitution recognizes these three groups as Aboriginal peoples, also known as Indigenous peoples. Although these groups share many similarities, they each have their own distinct heritage, language, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs. In cooperation with Indigenous organizations, the Government of Canada chose June 20, the summer solstice, for National Aboriginal Day, now known as National Indigenous Peoples Day. For generations, many Indigenous peoples and communities have celebrated their culture and heritage on or near this day due to the significance of the summer solstice as the longest day of the year. (CIRNAC)

Message from our Catholic School Council

On Thursday May 29th our Catholic School Council meet for the last meeting of the year. We are grateful to this Council for all their work this past year. We will celebrate the last week of school with Play Day on Wednesday June 25. CSC will be providing at Free Hotdog lunch with watermelon

to all students. We will have a fun day full of exciting games and activities. It will be an out of dress code day but please wear hats, sunglasses and sun screen to protect you. We will also treat all the students to a FREE pizza lunch on the last day of school so no lunches!!! This may be more of a treat for the parents LOL!

Creating Equity and Inclusiveness

Our Niagara Catholic Mission, Vision, and Values guide us to encounter souls and open minds, to celebrate diversity as we foster spiritual growth, and to embrace the virtues of integrity, faithfulness, justice, compassion, stewardship, accountability, and community.

We celebrate the beauty, dignity, and uniqueness of all people and support students and staff wherever they are on their personal journey.

By flying the Progress Pride flag at our schools and sites, Niagara Catholic is creating a visible symbol of acceptance and safety for our students who identify as part of the LGBTQ2S+ community, and for their families and allies. Knowing that their school is a safe and accepting place contributes to the mental health and wellbeing of our students.

We believe in creating a culture of equity and inclusiveness in our schools by celebrating the richness and diversity of our students, staff, and our families. This is embodied in our Strategic Plan, which speaks to the power of empathy, equity, inclusivity, and belonging. With these guiding principles in mind, and recognizing and respecting that many of our students, staff, and families are part of the LGBTQ2S+ community, Niagara Catholic will once again fly the Progress Pride flag at all schools and sites throughout June.

Student Senate

Our student senate will continue to sell popcorn every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for \$2.00 a bag. There different flavours like: salt and vinegar, dill pickle, cheddar and sweet and salty. Bring your toonie to buy a bag. Popsicles, Freezies (\$1.00) and ice cream sandwiches (\$2) have also been added in the warmer weather.



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Dress Code Required for all Students

Niagara Catholic Elementary students wear a dress code. The details can be found at Niagara Catholic website under policies. Please make sure your child has a navy or white polo shirt (must have a collar) and navy bottoms - not black (pants, skirt and dark jeans). Students can wear any type of shoes; we do recommend a second set of shoes for indoor use. If your child arrives to

school out of dress code we may provide the student with items to wear for the school day. If you need assistance with dress code items, please notify the school.



Order Dress Code and Spirit Wear items from Goods Sports Excellence

<https://goods.gearware.com/Shop/Store.aspx?>

[sid=1&ssid=9B9304633347DBA9D92A545851A3529FFDDE4A61](https://goods.gearware.com/Shop/Store.aspx?sid=1&ssid=9B9304633347DBA9D92A545851A3529FFDDE4A61)

Colin Gillespie

Goods Sports Excellence

goods_sporting@yahoo.ca

School Cash Online

We endeavor to be a cash and cheque free school which means all school purchases are done through SCHOOL CASH ONLINE. Please make sure you are signed up today.

<https://ncdsb.schoolcashionline.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 in no time you will be able to make payments online



Parent Portal

What is the parent portal and what is it for? The Niagara Catholic Parent Portal allows parents access to information regarding their child including report cards, alternative report cards and timetable and your child's classroom teacher for the following school year. How do I login to the parent portal? Use this helpful guide and follow the instructions. <https://cdn.niagaracatholic.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Niagara-Catholic-Maplewood-ParentPortal-Instructions-Sept-2020.pdf>

Allergy Aware School - Nut Safe-Anaphylaxes

Within our school community, there are several students who have a life-threatening allergy (anaphylaxis) to foods, predominantly to peanuts and tree nuts (e.g. almond, cashew, hazelnut, pistachio). The best way to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to these students is to respectfully ask for the co-operation of the parents/guardians within this school community to

avoid sending peanut butter or products with peanuts listed in the ingredients. There is a wide range of nutritious foods available to pack for your child. Visit <http://www.eatrightontario.ca> for suggestions. For more information on anaphylaxis, visit <http://www.anaphylaxis.ca> or <http://www.aaia.ca> We are working hard at preventing accidental exposure. It is also important that we have common routines throughout the entire school There are many shared areas (washrooms, fountains, gym, library, computers, etc.) students could come in contact with allergens. The teachers will explain the importance of the following health and safety routines to the students in their classrooms:



1. Wash your hands with soap and water before and after eating.
2. Do not bring food that contains peanuts/tree nuts.
3. Do not accept food from other students especially if you have food allergies.
4. Snacks are not permitted outside in the schoolyard.
5. Dispose of all food waste properly

Aggressive or hostile behaviour or language toward, staff, students or our community helpers will not be tolerated. While we welcome feedback, concerns and opinions it is the expectation that all staff, students, parents, guardians and community helpers communicate their needs and concerns with one another in a respectful and peaceful manner whether through email, on the phone or face-to-face. Adherence to this expectation is vital in order to create a community which can solve problems and help one another achieve success.



Mary Kay Kalagian

Mary is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters