



St. Patrick Chronicle

St. Patrick Catholic Elementary is part of the Lakeshore Family of Schools

Principal: Mrs. M. Kish Superintendent: Mr. P. Rocca

MARCH, 2026

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH CONNECTION

As we enter a new month, we are grateful for the many opportunities to grow in faith together. Our parish has planned several meaningful activities that will help our students and families deepen their connection to our school's spiritual life. Throughout the month, we look forward to celebrating, learning, and praying as a community, strengthened by the guidance and support of our parish team.



We encourage all families to participate in the parish events and liturgical celebrations as you are able. These moments of shared faith enrich our school community and remind us of the blessings we experience when we walk together in Christ.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. We look forward to a wonderful month filled with faith, fellowship, and community spirit.



SOUP SUNDAY



Come and join us for our annual Soup Sunday Luncheon on Sunday March 1, 2026 after the 11 am Mass.

Cost: Adults- \$15/person AND children under 12- \$5

Includes a variety of soup, focaccia bread and Italian bread, assorted desserts, tea, coffee and lemonade. Tickets will be sold at the door.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON



Sunday March 15, 2026 at 12 noon. Come and join us to celebrate our Parish's Patron Saint

Cost: Adults: \$30

Children (14 - 6): \$10

Children 5 and under: Free

Includes: Cabbage, Corn Beef, Potatoes, Irish Stew, Gluten Free Irish Stew, Rye Bread, Dessert, Coffee, Tea and Pop.



Ticket sales begin next weekend available after Masses at the back of the church or in office. Deadline to purchase will be March 8.

**ST. PATRICK'S ELEMNTARY SCHOOL:
UPCOMING FUNSRAISERS TO SUPPORT
STUDENT LEARNING and ENGAGEMENT**



As we continue to focus on creating rich, engaging, and meaningful learning experiences for all our students, I am pleased to share information about a few upcoming fundraising initiatives taking place at our school.

These efforts play an important role in supporting enhanced learning opportunities, updated classroom resources, and school-wide activities that contribute to a vibrant, connected school community. Your participation—whether through volunteering, contributing, or helping spread the word—makes a significant difference and is always deeply appreciated.

Over the next two months, we will be launching some school fundraisers designed to further support student learning and engagement. These initiatives will help us continue to replenish and update classroom technology, strengthen our experiential learning programs, and provide additional resources that directly enrich students' daily educational experiences.

KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUTS



We are excited to announce that our **Krispy Kreme Fundraiser** will launch on **March 9!** Each dozen is **\$15.00**, and all orders will be placed through **SCHOOL CASH ONLINE**. The ordering window will remain open until **April 2**.

Please consider selling to friends, neighbours, and extended family—**every box sold helps support student learning and engagement**. As a fun bonus, **our top seller will receive a special prize!**

Thank you, as always, for your enthusiasm and support. Together, we continue to make great things happen for our students.

BACKROAD BARBEQUE COMPANY



In **May** our school will be collaborating with one of our valued community partners, **Backroad Barbecue Company**, to launch a convenient **online store** for our families. Through this partnership, you will be able to purchase a selection of delicious **frozen goods**—perfect for the long weekend, those endless June barbecues, and summertime fun with family and friends.

A portion of all sales made through the online store will be donated back to our school plus 15% of sales on the day of the fundraiser pickup. This is a wonderful way to enjoy great local products while giving back to our community. We thank **BACKROAD BARBECUE COMPANY** in advance for supporting the students of St. Patrick School.

DONATIONS TO ST. PATRICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Over the past few weeks, several parents have kindly asked how they might support student learning at our school. We are grateful for this generosity and the ongoing partnership we share in helping our students thrive.

If families are in a position to do so, we would greatly appreciate monetary donations to help us continue enhancing learning environments across the school. Contributions will directly support:

- **Replenishing technology** in each classroom (**ongoing cost currently need 10 new chromebooks**)
- **Purchasing new sporting equipment** for physical education and outdoor play
- **Pickle ball Nets/Paddles & Balls- Approx. \$600.00**
- **Replacement of Current Badminton Nets: \$400.00**
- **Cornhole Beanbags (2 sets): \$40.00**
- **Adding games and hands-on learning materials** for our primary classrooms

These resources make a meaningful difference in students' daily learning experiences and help ensure they have the tools they need to grow, explore, and succeed.

If you are able to donate or know a business wishing/willing to donate, contributions can be made through **School Cash Online** by selecting our school as the destination. We are deeply appreciative of any support—big or small—as it all contributes to enriching our students' school experience.

We are also pleased to share that **any monetary donation of \$500 or more will be recognized on a special plaque displayed in our school**, honouring the generosity and commitment of families who help enrich our students' learning experiences. This recognition is our way of expressing gratitude for the meaningful impact these contributions make in supporting our school community.

How to Donate to the School

Donations can be made online at: <https://ncdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee>
Click on **MAKE A DONATION** (top right) - Tax receipts will be issued electronically

Please make sure that you:

1. Select a Fund Destination – select St. Patrick CES, Port Colborne. (Careful there are 2 St. Patrick Schools)
2. Select Add to Cart (Bottom right hand corner)
3. Select Continue (Bottom right hand corner)
4. Select Payment Method and select Continue
5. Confirm Billing Address if Paying by Credit Card and Select Continue
6. Review Your Order and Select Complete Your Order
7. Print your Income Tax Receipt for Tax Purposes (A donation receipt will be emailed to you upon completion of your cart checkout)

The funds will be returned to the school through the foundation. With these funds, we will support our fundraising efforts.

SPRING SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES



As we welcome the arrival of spring, I'm excited to share some upcoming improvements to our school grounds that will help enhance play, creativity, and outdoor learning for our students. My goal will be to refresh our tarmac area with newly painted outdoor games and activity outlines to encourage active play and support skill-building during recess. In addition, our existing soccer nets on the field will be repainted to brighten the space and ensure they remain safe, inviting, and well-maintained for student use.



KLEENEX BOXES We are reaching out with a small (and slightly sniffly!) request. Since January, our school has gone through **108 boxes of Kleenex**, and our little munchkins are very much in need of more. If you happen to have an extra box or two at home and are able to spare them, we would be incredibly grateful.

Please send any donations to **Mrs. Handley, our school secretary**, and we will make sure they get distributed to classrooms in need.

THE EASTER SEASON



As February comes to a close, the community of St. Patrick Catholic continues to journey through Lent, and as the Easter season comes to an end, we will continue to learn about the virtue of Hope. Hope unites us with the risen Christ for it gives us the ability to trust in God's promises... no matter what obstacles we personally encounter or see in the world today. Hopeful people pray and work unceasingly for peace and justice as stewards of the earth. Hopeful people live the Gospel with joy. God Bless.

SHROVE TUESDAY

On Tuesday February 17th 2026 students received pancakes for a snack. Once again, I would like to thank **STACKED on West Side Road** who provided the pancakes to our students for a nominal fee.



KIDS HELPING KIDS



Throughout our Kids helping Kids week drive, the staff and students at St. Patrick have collected \$350.00 which will be sent directly to the KHK foundation. Thank you for your continued support.

MARCH BREAK

Our March Break is March 16th to March 20th. Students return to school on Monday, March 23rd, 2026. If you are planning on taking a vacation earlier or will be away later, please ensure that you report the dates on the Safe Arrival System.



WORLD WATER DAY

In celebration of World Water Day, during the month of March, schools across Canada are invited to take part in The Great Gulp. What is a Great Gulp? It's when the whole school comes together to take a synchronized drink of tap water from a reusable bottle, glass, or mug, in regions where tap water is safe and accessible. As a school on Friday March 13th, we will come together to take a great gulp at 11:30 a.m. The ECO Team will make an announcement so the entire school can take a great gulp together.



CHESS



Throughout the month of February all students from Grades 4 to 8 have been actively playing chess and participating in 1 v 1 matches. The St. Patrick teams are set to represent our school on Wednesday March 25th at the NCDSB Chess Tournament taking place at St. Mary's School in Niagara Falls. Good luck teams!

GREEN AND GOLD DAY



To kick off the March Break holiday, students will be encouraged to wear Green and/or Gold on Friday March the 13th. Although we are not here during St. Patrick's Day maybe a little Green and Gold will bring good luck to all during the break!

MOVE CLOCKS FORWARD

On Sunday March 8th we Spring Forward as Daylight Savings Time Ends. Please remember to turn your clocks ahead on Saturday night before you go to bed.



JR./INT. BASKETBALL



As we conclude our Intermediate Basketball season, we are gearing up for Jr. girls and boys basketball coming up in March. Practices and tryouts will begin shortly at the school. Good Luck to all of our Athletes!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Our system-wide Registration and In-person Open House for Kindergarten took place on **Monday, February 2nd, 2026 from 9:00 – 6:00 p.m.** at the school. Any families that have children who will be 4 years old as of December 31, 2024 are encouraged to visit our website to register as soon as possible to ensure proper staffing is in place for the new school year. Please share this information with any friends, family and/or neighbours who have a child that is ready to start school in September 2026.

Full Day Early Learning
Kindergarten Program



We are very excited to have more students join our St. Patrick Family and the extended Family of Niagara Catholic.

For registration, you are reminded to bring in the child(ren)'s:

- Birth Certificate;
- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate and/or Baptismal Certificate of the child(ren)'s parents and/or guardian (if applicable);
- Proof of Residence within school boundaries; for example, a utility bill.

If applicable, original Landed Immigrant/Permanent Residence documentation, and the passport of the country of origin, indicating the date of entry into Canada.

FOOD DAYS (REMINDER)

During the 40 Days of Lent, we will be moving our **FRIDAY** food days to **Thursdays**. We want to continue to offer all of the food options to our students while at the same time observing 'No Meat' on Fridays. Thank-you for your continued support during our students Lenten Journey to Easter.



DRESS CODE

Just a reminder to parents that St. Patrick Catholic School has a dress code which consists of a collared shirt (blue or white), dark blue bottoms (pants or skirt). A blue hoodie on cold days for in the classroom or any St. Patrick Spirit wear. We have noticed that a number of students lately have been wearing black bottoms, light pants or blue or white t-shirts among other things. Students will be asked to change if not in dress code attire and a call home may be required. If you need any assistance with the purchase of dress code items please contact the school and we will be able to assist you.

CLEAN GREEN ECO TEAM



Our Clean Green Eco Team has been busy making posters and educating their peers about the small actions they can take to reduce climate change. They will be awarding the class with the most litter-less lunches the 'Golden Garbage Can' award. Please continue to participate in this worthwhile initiative to help reduce single use plastic and waste at our school.

REUSABLE WATER BOTTLES

The St. Patrick Catholic community continues to think green!!! Our school community has two hydration stations that provide refreshing filtered water. We encourage all students to bring in their own reusable water bottle labeled with the student's name. Thank you for thinking GREEN!!!



March is Nutrition Month

Fruits and veggies are not only absolutely delicious but they are nature's fast food! Ready to eat and most come in their own "to-go" packages, produce makes the perfect snack for kids to grab and go. They need minimal to no preparation and buying ones in season means you can save some money and shop smarter.

Think you can't get much produce on a tight budget? Here are some tips to make shopping for produce more easy and affordable:

- Don't shop when you're hungry and carry a list. You'll be more likely to stick to your budget and nutritious food choices.
- Look for washed and bagged salads, baby carrots, celery hearts, broccoli and cauliflower crowns, cherry tomatoes, and shredded cabbage in your grocery store
- Buy fresh produce, like peaches or bananas, in varying degrees of ripeness to allow for some ripening towards the end of the week
- Canned and frozen vegetables can be convenient choices
- Spend most of your time in the produce, bread, meat and dairy sections
- Use store flyers to help you find specials
- See more at: <http://www.halfyourplate.ca/produce-is-affordable>



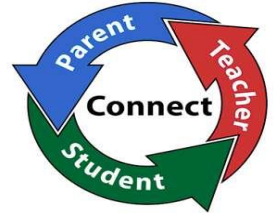
Get inspired with recipe ideas from **Cookspiration** and serve up a nutrition tip a day with **eaTipster!**

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Download on the App Store

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next school council meeting is scheduled for **Monday, April 13th at 5:00 pm**. If any parents would like to participate/volunteer or have any comments or questions please contact the school and speak to Mrs. Kish. Everyone is welcome.



BENEFIT GALA

The Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education's Annual Benefit Gala committee looks forward to welcoming guests to this year's event on **Thursday, March 5, 2026**. Details and ticket information are available on the Niagara Catholic District School Board Website.

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!



“Sowing the Seeds of Christ: Mass, Mercy, Mission.”

“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.”

