



Year-End Newsletter 2025

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD 

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE - HELLO SUMMER!

The end of June has arrived and we are preparing to part ways with students, staff, and parents for the summer. It has been a year filled with challenges and events that have brought us closer together as a Catholic School Community. On behalf of staff, thank you to all parents and guardians for their ongoing support throughout this year and always throughout our time here at St. John Catholic School. We could not offer such an enriching faith-based education to our students without the ongoing effort and unwavering support that you all continue to give.

Here at St. John, we recognize and greatly value the connection between the home, school, and Catholic parish as this is an integral part of who we are as living and joyful disciples of Jesus Christ. So this summer, let's put ourselves into the hands of the Lord, and pray that God will bless us and our families during the wonderful months of summer.

As our Grade 8 students begin a new chapter in their Catholic educational journey, we would like to remind them of the **Three "S's" of Success**: **"Smiling, Searching, and Striving."** This is the model for school life at St. John Catholic Elementary School and will continue with you at Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School.

Motivation, determination, and commitment will be paramount in fulfilling your goals as Catholic secondary school graduates. It is the obstacles which you strive to overcome with a positive attitude that will determine your success. So always remember, the highest reward for a person's work is not what they get for it, but what they become because of it. Best wishes to all of you and God bless!

As we near the summer holiday, we as a staff wish our students and their families a safe, enjoyable, and blessed summer vacation.

I look forward to seeing and working with each and every one of you next year as the Principal of St. John Catholic School.

Please continue to stay safe, be well, and take care of yourselves.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. D. Forte
Principal

FAREWELL, AU REVOIR, & GOD BLESS!

We wish a very fond farewell to the staff members who will be leaving St. John Catholic School: **Ms. Nardilli, Ms. McDonald, Mrs. Vien, Miss. Giancaterino, Ms. Dwumaah, Miss. Dahl, Ms. Burnison, Miss. Burke, Mr. Viscek, & Mrs. Azevedo.**

Best wishes and much success in your future endeavors in Catholic Education. May God bless each and every one of you and continue to hold you in the palm of His hand.

RETIREMENT: MR. HAUBER

We congratulate **Mr. Peter Hauber** as he prepares to retire from the education profession. Over the years, this wonderful person has provided so many students with the love and support they needed to maximize their potential to learn in the classroom setting. Although we are sad to see Mr. Hauber go, we wish him well as he begins a new chapter in his life: one that is filled with relaxing days and calming sunsets. God bless you, Mr. Hauber! You will be dearly missed by the St. John Catholic School Community!

YEAR-END PRAYER

God of wisdom,

We thank you for all the gifts you have given us throughout this school year.

We praise you for giving us life, for saving us in Christ, and for choosing us to be your people.

As we come to the end of this school year, we voice our gratitude for the good things you have done in us, and we praise you for all who have shared in the work of this school.

We ask you to bless them in your love and give them refreshment and peace. Amen

A SUMMER BLESSING

May you walk with God this summer in whatever you do and wherever you go.

May you talk to God this summer and every day and in every situation.

May you talk with God everyday. Amen.

TENTATIVE STAFF LIST 2025-2026

Mr. D. Forte	Principal
Mrs. M. Binfield	Teacher
Mrs. E. Bennie	Teacher
Mrs. S. Di Tomasso	Teacher
Mrs. D. Carbonara	Teacher
Mrs. M. Berecz	Teacher
Mr. J. Carbonara	Teacher
Mr. S. Apa	Teacher
Mme L. Swindley	Teacher
Mme A. Francella	Teacher
Mme B. Walsh	Teacher
Mme S. Remillard	Teacher
Mme C. Kinach	Teacher
Mme N. Tayler	Teacher
Mr. M. Maiorano	Teacher
Mrs. K. Cargnelli	Teacher
Mr. L. Stranges	Librarian
TBD	Child & Youth Worker
Ms. N. Badder	Early Childhood Educator
Mrs. T. Bock	Educational Assistant
Mrs. K. Ippolito	Educational Assistant
Ms. A. Iannazzo	Educational Assistant
Mr. D. Stockwell	Caretaker

We are proud to be a part of the Blessed Trinity Family of Schools



ONLINE REGISTRATION

Throughout the Summer months, online registration remains open through [edsembli](#). If your child is presently attending St. John, there is no need to re-register. ***When you register, please remember to submit your child's Baptismal Certificate, Birth Certificate, and Proof of Address (current utility bill) in order to complete the registration.*** In addition, please check the [Transportation Eligibility](#) section of the Niagara Student Transportation Services website to ensure that St. John is your child's home school, based on your current home address.

HAVE YOU MOVED OR ARE YOU MOVING?

To any families who have recently moved or will be moving in the near future, please confirm that St. John is your home school at portal.nsts.ca/eligibility. In keeping with Niagara Catholic's home school focus, we encourage all families to ensure that children are enrolled in their home school. This will allow students to establish and maintain meaningful relationships with other students who live in the heart of their community.

NIAGARA STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES (NSTS)

In August, Niagara Student Transportation Services (NSTS) will post specific back to school transportation arrangements for each student enrolled, including bus route numbers, stop locations and times. Please visit www.nsts.ca and sign-in to the secure parent portal to get your child's student transportation information. To sign-in to the portal you will need your child's Ontario Education Number (OEN) which can be found on their report card.

PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Families are advised that the school had used a portion of its School Generated Funds to purchase **10 additional Chromebooks** for the 2025-2026 school year. The devices are scheduled to arrive over the summer to be inventoried and distributed to classrooms for September to support student learning and engagement. The school continues to work toward a goal of one device for every one student in grades 1 through 8.

In addition, please know that during this past school year the school purchased **one 75 inch interactive TV** (installed in Room 113) and **one mounted LCD projector** (installed in Portable 1). The school will continue to work toward replacing non-functional Smartboards and LCD projectors with interactive TVs or mounted projectors as we move forward.

A sincere thank you is extended to our families for supporting our school fundraisers and lunch days here at St. John!

God bless!

NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

The next school year will begin on **Tuesday, September 2, 2025**. For those students who get dropped off and picked up at the school, it is very important that parents or guardians ensure that their child arrives at school and is picked up on time each day.

STUDENT ABSENCES & LATE ARRIVALS

Upon our return to school in September, it is essential that all student absences and late arrivals are called into the [Safe Arrival Program](#) by 8:30 am via phone (1-844-287-6287), website or app. These are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You are also able to input future absences in advance if you are aware of an upcoming appointment or vacation. ***Board and Ministry policy dictates that we must investigate any unreported absences. This can involve calls to places of employment, the emergency numbers provided to the school and, in some cases, the police.***

DRESS CODE & SPIRIT WEAR

The [Niagara Catholic Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy](#) is in effect for all students when they return to school on **Tuesday, September 2, 2025**. For a friendly reminder when purchasing dress code items please see the [Elementary Standardized Dress Code Flyer](#).

TERM 2 REPORT CARDS

Please be advised that Term 2 Ontario Provincial Report Cards will be made available in the [Niagara Catholic Parent Portal](#) the **week of Monday, June 23**. This reporting period reflects learning that has occurred since the commencement of Term 2 on February 1. Ongoing communication with your child's educators will provide additional information pertaining to their progress.

CLASSROOM PLACEMENTS FOR 2025-2026

Please be advised that, due to ongoing changes in teaching staff throughout the Board, the name of your child's classroom teacher for the 2025-2026 school year will appear in the [Niagara Catholic Parent Portal](#) in late August / early September.

KINDERGARTEN FAMILY ORIENTATION EVENING

Thank you to all those who attended our Kindergarten Family Orientation on May 22.

Those who were unable to attend are invited to click on the hyperlink to access the [St. John Kindergarten Family Orientation Slideshow](#). The slideshow contains essential information on our Kindergarten Program. Parents can navigate the slideshow at their own pace by clicking, tapping, or swiping each slide.

We thank you for your interest in St. John Catholic School and look forward to working and growing with you and your children as followers of Christ!

2025-2026 GRADE 8 GRAD HOODIES

Parents of students who will be in Grade 8 this September are asked to please visit the [Maddalena Uniforms website](#) if they would like to purchase a Grad Hoodie for their child for the 2025-2026 school year. Orders are to be placed directly online through the website.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL (CSC) CORNER

The Catholic School Council thanks our students and their families for their support this 2024 - 2025 school year. Also, the CSC would like to express our gratitude to the individuals and companies that made our activities and events a success.

We would like to thank the following for their contribution to our Family Fun Night, whether it be through sponsorships, donating a raffle prize, and/or volunteering time:

- *Kelsey's Winona Crossing*
- *Dr. Nick, Fraccaro Dental Group*
- *Sensei Riley and Grimsby Dojo*
- *Kendra at Kinetic Elements*
- *In Bloom Dance Studio Beamsville*
- *Billy Dhillon at Snapbooth*
- *Sunshine Smoothies*
- *Funnel Cake Dream*
- *Party Time Niagara*
- *Niagara Inflatables*
- *The Town of Lincoln*
- *Parents that donated raffle prizes, volunteered, and connected with sponsors – we thank you!*

Thank you to our fundraising partners of the 2024 - 2025 school year, Niagara Fresh and Krispy Kreme Donuts.

Next, we would like to thank our school secretary, Mrs. Vien, for all of her assistance this year and our principal, Mr. Forte for his time, support, and hard work alongside the CSC to make these events happen in the school year.

Finally, a big thank you to all members of our St. John Catholic Student Council for their time, hard work and dedication. They volunteered their time and resources at our Scholastic Book Fair, Christmas Advent Mass, Family Fun Night, and more. Thank you to: *Meaghan Anderson, Dan Belford, Sara Chirico, Candace Manning-Rutledge, Iyanuoluwa Obadeyi, Marnie Odell, Sarah Pekaruk, Priscilla Prias-Molina, Alyshia Tuomi, Taylor Venneri, Mme. Swindley, and Mrs. Bennie.*

Lynn Dudok (Chair) & Breeann Staibano (Co-Chair)

CLASS ORGANIZATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Parents are asked to please trust the professional judgment of our staff to make good pedagogically sound decisions regarding your child's class placement for September 2025.

Parents are encouraged to talk positively and hopefully to their child about next school year. If a child is with a different group of students, parents would find it beneficial to discuss the value of new friendships and fresh starts.

Please know that careful thought is always given to student placement in the various classes. Guidelines that we consider may be one, some, or all of the following:

- ✓ *Learning style*
- ✓ *Social needs*
- ✓ *Work habits*
- ✓ *Special program needs*
- ✓ *Behaviour*
- ✓ *Gender balance*

In all class situations, present and receiving teachers (if possible) meet with the Principal and Education Resource Teacher to make the final decision.

We are looking forward to another wonderful school year with the support of our wonderful parent community.

ST. JOHN 'EcoSchools' INITIATIVE

We are excited to announce that St. John Catholic Elementary School has received its 'EcoSchools' certification for the 2024-2025 school year, and this year we achieved another **GOLD** rating! 

A big thank you goes out to the entire St. John Catholic School community for their participation in and support of our 'EcoSchools' activities. A special shout out to our St. John Eco Team for all their hard work in organizing and leading our 'EcoSchools' activities and initiatives this year.

Thank you as well to Mme Swindley and Mr. Viscek for all their hard work in leading the St. John 'EcoSchools' initiative this past school year. God bless!

BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

Teachers and students have wrapped up the second semester and completed final exams. We wish both our students and all the elementary staff and students a wonderful summer.

We are preparing for next year. At this time, we are starting to put together timetables for all of our students, including our newest grade 9 students. We are also preparing our Orientation Day, which will be in the last week of August before school starts. More information will be sent over the summer with details. All of our current grade 8's who will be coming to BT in September should plan to be attend the Orientation Day, where they will receive their schedule, locker, tour the school, and have some fun with our grade 11 and 12 Thunderstruck-Link Crew leaders.

Please contact Blessed Trinity – Mr. John Cino – 905-945-6706 Ext. 2330 or Mrs. Rose Bianco Ext. 2312, if any Grade 8 parent has any questions.

**MME WALSH - JOURNEY TO PERU**

In July, Mme Walsh will be part of a delegation of 11 members of the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace - Caritas Canada on a solidarity visit to partner groups in Peru. These organizations support individuals affected by poverty, climate change, and environmental damage - which can be the result of irresponsible mining practices. We kindly ask the St. John Catholic School community to keep Mme Walsh and the entire delegation in their prayers as they live out their discipleship as followers of Christ through this spiritual endeavour. We wish Mme Walsh a safe and enriching journey, and ask God to bless her and keep her in the palm of His hand while on her journey and always!