

February Newsletter

St. Ann Catholic School

St. Francis Digital Open House

The St. Francis digital open house for our Grade 8 students will take place February 4th. See Below

Future Phoenix,

Don't blink as the future is about to become reality very shortly. You will become Phoenix instead of Future Phoenix. This has been far from a perfect year but we are rolling with it and we hope you enjoyed our Virtual Grade 8 Day provided by our staff recently. The pre-recorded video was produced specifically for you. We appreciate your grade 8 teachers playing along with us in an attempt to provide not only a thoughtful overview of life at Saint Francis but also some humour and fun. I am emailing you to remind you of our **Virtual Open House taking place Thursday, February 4th** or one week from this Thursday. You will be able to visit us at this pre-recorded premiere on Youtube that can be found either by visiting this link <https://youtu.be/-dHNtJjLLYs>, our website or all of our social media platforms (instagram and twitter).

I would also like to stress that **immediately following the pre-recorded video**, we ask that you and your parents visit us for

LIVE chats with our staff via Microsoft Office TEAMS (similar to zoom) meetings from **7:30 - 8:30 pm** . You and your parents can navigate to these LIVE chats by visiting <https://www.stfrancisphoenix.com/phoenixopenhouse/> . This is your launch pad to **LIVE virtual discussions** with our staff. Click on the Subject Chat Room you would like to visit. We have a specific TEAM meeting available to students so you can chat with other students. We will have students available in the "Student Culture" TEAM meeting. Our goal is to create an opportunity for you to wander through our departments virtually, just like you would at our Grade 8 OPEN HOUSE. You are welcome to come and go to any subject area TEAM meeting from 7:30 - 8:30 pm on that night.

Another key piece of information includes Course Selection. The Student Services team has begun their **COURSE SELECTION** process with the **Grade 8 Associate Schools**. These visits will now be done virtually through the Grade 8 teacher's **GOOGLE MEET**. A team member will be going through a very in-depth course selection process regarding levels of study, elective choices and high school diploma expectations (see attached).

[Grade 9 Course Selection Information](#)

This year we will be following the same process that we have in past years, but we will modify if needed as we wait to determine the return to school date. All course selections should be completed by the end of February. Your child's teacher will discuss more specific deadlines based on their planning.

For parents and students from **public elementary schools**, the same registration package is available via our banner on our website frontpage at <http://www.stfrancisphoenix.com> . On the Course Selection Form, we have a link to a google form that will allow you to forward your contact information to us so that we can connect with you to ensure you are also supported through this process. Please feel free to forward this information to interested students and parents.

This is the process for course selection:

1. Course Selection Presentation to GRADE 8 students (see chart below)
2. “Grade 9 Course Selection Form” will be given to GRADE 8 teachers this week (see slide 18)
3. GRADE 8 teacher will fill out teacher recommendation for all compulsory classes [ENGLISH, GEOGRAPHY, MATH, SCIENCE and FRENCH (French teacher input)]
4. “Grade 9 Course Selection Form” will some be sent home to parents to work through “Parent Request” area of the compulsory courses and sign front and back of form (\$55 Activity Fee has already been inputted into SCHOOL CASH online at associate schools)
5. GRADE 8 teachers will work with students to enter “Parent Request” in MYBLUEPRINT.
6. Course selections will transfer from MYBLUEPRINT into Saint Francis scheduling software to begin the scheduling process.

** Parents are asked to please take the grade 8 teacher's recommendation into consideration when determining "Parent Request". Selections can be changed at a future date if needed.

On behalf of our staff we welcome you to Saint Francis and look forward to working with you on a pathway to SUCCESS! Please reach out anytime through our contact page on our website if you have any questions or concerns: <https://www.stfrancisphoenix.com/staff/>

Thank-you and we look forward to seeing you at our Open House on Thursday, February 4th at 7:00 pm at <https://youtu.be/-dHNtJjLLYs> and then <https://www.stfrancisphoenix.com/phoenixopenhouse/> at 7:30 pm.

Jim Whittard

Principal

KIDS HELPING KIDS

February 16 - 26



Niagara Catholic's 23rd Annual **Kids Helping Kids** fundraiser will take place from February 16-26.

This year's event will once again jointly support the Niagara Children's Centre, as well as the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education.

Kids Helping Kids is a fun, informal fundraiser, which supports these causes through paid participation in events such as Jersey Day, Hat Day and Crazy Hair Day. Kids Helping Kids is open to students attending in-school (if schools reopen by February 16) and students in our virtual school. Students who were attending in-person will participate virtually if schools do not reopen before the fundraiser begins.

Donations to the **Kids Helping Kids** fundraiser can be made in School Cash Online.

For further information about the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education please contact Jim Marino, at 905.735.0240 ext. 210 or jim.marino@nfce.org. Find out more about the Niagara Children's Centre [here](#).

St. Ann Schedule:

Tuesday, Feb. 16th - Crazy Hair Day

Wednesday, Feb. 17th- Jersey Day

Thursday, Feb. 18th- Pajama Day

Friday, Feb. 19th- Superhero/ Princess/ Prince/ Star Wars/ 80's Day

SEAC

Next meeting is February 3rd.

NCPIC

Next Meeting is March 4th.

Shrove Tuesday

If we are back in school, there will be no Pancakes in school this year.

Ash Wednesday

There will be no school wide celebration. Teachers will recognize the beginning of Lent in their classrooms

Black History Month

February is Black History Month. This will be a focus in classrooms this month.

Policies under review:

The following Governance Policies are currently being reviewed as part of the [Establishment and Cyclical Review of Policies Policy \(100.5\)](#) review process.

To be considered, all submissions must identify the specific Governance Policy and include your name, phone number, address and affiliation with Niagara Catholic.

Anonymous or pseudonymous submissions will not be considered

- [Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy \(302.6.8\)](#)
- [Student Expulsion Policy \(302.6.5\)](#)
- [Employee Workplace Harassment Policy \(201.7\)](#)
- [Employee Workplace Violence Policy \(201.11\)](#)

Please submit your feedback to [Jennifer Pellegrini](#) by March 8, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.