



CANADIAN MARTYRS NEWS



JANUARY 2024



NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Happy New Year everyone and welcome to our first newsletter of 2024! We hope that you had a peaceful and revitalizing holiday, and that you rejoiced in the birth of Jesus. A new year is a chance for a new beginning and to make resolutions to be better versions of ourselves.

Family Literacy Day on January 27 helps to remind everyone to continue to read to and with your child(ren) and engage in fun literacy activities that will not only sharpen reading skills, but also strengthen your family relationships and encourage lifelong learning. The theme for Family Literacy Day 2024 is "Let's have a family party!" Celebrate 25 years of *Family Literacy Day* and learning together as a family by having a party! Make food, sing songs, and play games. The possibilities for learning are endless – and it's fun when you do it together. Please go to abclif literacy.ca for suggested resources and activities.

I pray that 2024 will be an amazing year for all of us.

Yours in Catholic Education,
Mrs. L. Incaviglia, Principal
Ms. W. Wilson, Vice Principal

A New Year's Prayer

God of this New Year, we are walking into mystery. We face the future, not knowing what the days or months will bring to us or how we will respond.

Be love in us as we journey. May we welcome all who come our way. Deepen our faith to see all of life through Your eyes.

Fill us with hope and an abiding trust that You dwell in us amidst all our joys and sorrows.

Thank You for the treasure of our faith life. Thank You for the gift of being able to rise each day with the assurance of Your walking through the day with us.

God of this New Year, we praise You.

Amen.

Source: Unknown



REFLECTION

Our theme this school year is "Called by Name: Hear My Voice." And while our theme is about God's call to us, it should also serve as a reminder of our call to Him. Each day God says to us, "let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet" (Song of Solomon 2:14). God doesn't want to talk at us; He wants to have a conversation with us. Have you given Him the pleasure of hearing your voice yet today?

TERM 1 REPORT CARDS

Report Cards for Term 1 will be made available in the Niagara Catholic Maplewood Parent Portal on **Monday, February 13, 2024**. Please be advised that parent-teacher conferences for this term will be at the request of the teacher and/or parent(s). Teachers will be making a request to the parents of students for whom they feel an interview would be necessary. After the Report Cards are made available, parents may also request an interview by contacting the teacher to arrange a convenient time.

TOY DRIVE FOR COMMUNITY CARE

A heartfelt thank you to the Canadian Martyrs Community for all the kindness shown in support of our Toy Drive for Community Care.

On behalf of the staff at CM, we appreciate your generosity not only at Christmas, but all year long. May God bless you.

ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES

Parents are kindly reminded to only park in the accessible parking spaces if they have a **valid permit displayed in the front window** of their vehicle. We thank everyone for respecting this expectation and for their ongoing cooperation.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Our next Catholic School Council meetings will take place on Monday, February 27, 2024 and Monday, April 22, 2024 at 6:00pm in the library.

PA DAY

A reminder to all families that **Friday, January 19, 2024** is a **PA day**; therefore, there will be no school for students.

GOD BLESS YOU ON YOUR FAREWELL

We would like to thank secretaries Mrs. Dellaire-Pavelich and Ms. Valliere, and ECE Miss Biamonte for their hard work during their time at Canadian Martyrs this school year. We wish them all the best as they begin new opportunities in January 2024.

We are proud to be a part of the Holy Cross Family of Schools.



Canadian Martyrs Night at the Ice Dogs



VS.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 11TH, 2024

7:00PM

MERIDIAN CENTRE

1 DAVID S HOWES WAY, ST. CATHARINES, ON

ON JANUARY 11TH, THE ICEDOGS ARE EXCITED TO HAVE CANADIAN MARTYRS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ATTEND THE GAME, AS WELL AS PERFORM THE NATIONAL ANTHEM!

BEFORE THE GAME, STUDENTS, STAFF, AND FAMILY WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SKATE ON THE MERIDIAN CENTRE ICE FROM 4:50-5:50PM. HELMETS ARE REQUIRED FOR AGES 14 AND UNDER



The cost of each ticket is \$16. Tickets can be purchased through School Cash Online until January 8th. Get your tickets today!!!

French Immersion 2024-2025

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is proud to offer parents and students the opportunity to enroll in a French Immersion (FI) Program. The French Immersion Program is designed specifically for students whose first language is not French. French Immersion in the Niagara Catholic District School Board is an optional program. The entry point for September 2024 is Kindergarten Year 1 at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary, St. Catharines.

All students enrolled in the French Immersion Program will be provided with transportation to their local Family of Schools designated French Immersion School site in accordance with the Board's Student Transportation Policy #500.2.

French Immersion On-line Open Pre-Registration window for students new to French Immersion in September 2024 is Monday, January 15th, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. through to Friday, February 2nd, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. Pre-registrations outside of this window will not be considered. There are a limited number of spots available for students wishing to enter the French Immersion Program. An account must be created first through Edsempi to access pre-registration forms. Pre-registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Each pre-registration will receive a time-stamp. Please visit www.niagaracatholic.ca and click the French Immersion banner or "Register Now" then, click the French Immersion tab for information about the program. Additional pre-registration details will be posted on this site as they become available. Please check the site before the pre-registration window opens.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURE

Parents picking up their child(ren) will continue to meet their child(ren) at the **East field** during dismissal. Please know that parking spaces in our parking lot are limited; therefore, parents are encouraged to arrive early (approximately 2:40 - 2:45) and park at the Church that is next door to the school as there is ample space there. Parents are reminded to please **use the sidewalk** when walking to and from the East field, regardless of whether they parked their vehicle at the school or Church next door. Please know that walking across the **parking lot, especially with children, is not advised** as this presents a great concern for safety with vehicles coming in and out. In addition, once the snow arrives and the parking lot is plowed, there will be snowbanks along the edge where the East field and parking lot meet. Again, we remind families to **please be safe and utilize the sidewalk**. We thank everyone for their continued support and flexibility and for working with the school as we endeavour to keep everyone safe. Please know that we will communicate with families via School Messenger should the dismissal procedure need to be adjusted in any way to account for the challenges of winter.

INDOOR / OUTDOOR FOOTWEAR

Parents are reminded to send a pair of indoor shoes with their child to school. This will help to keep our school clean. We thank everyone for their cooperation with this matter.



Dental Screening

Niagara Region Public Health Dental Program will be providing [Dental screening](#) to all grades on January 10, 11 & 12, 2024.

A registered dental hygienist will take a quick look in the child's mouth using a sterilized mirror and light. Staff will be wearing a mask, eye protection, gloves and performing hand hygiene between each student.

The [Healthy Smiles Ontario](#) program may financially assist children who do not have access to dental care.

If you do not want your child(ren) to take part in the dental screening, you MUST complete the online [School Dental Screening Nonparticipation Form](#) or call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 each school year.