



St. Teresa of Calcutta Chronicle



St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Elementary
Part of the St. Francis Family of Schools

FEBRUARY, 2024

THE LENTEN SEASON



Although the Lenten season often seems to be cold and the landscape barren, we need to look with hope to the promise of Easter and the Spring season that comes with it. Lent is a wonderful season during our liturgical year to share the concepts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving with our children.



ASH WEDNESDAY



Ash Wednesday begins the Season of Lent, a season in which we are especially called to conversion and renewal as we journey toward Easter. The season of Lent will begin on **Wednesday February 14th 2023** which is Ash Wednesday. Students will be receiving Ashes that day at school.

“Actions speak louder than words. Let your words teach, and your actions speak.”
– St. Anthony of Padua

VALENTINES DAY



This year as directed by the NCDSB and to observe Ash Wednesday, we will be celebrating Valentine’s Day on **Tuesday February 13th** as part of our Kids Helping Kids Week, students will be participating in individualized Valentines Classroom Celebrations within their own grades. Students are able to bring in Valentine’s Day cards to distribute to their classmates. Any baked snack items brought in by students will be returned home. Students are encouraged to wear any clothing that is either red, pink or white.

NATIONAL SWEATER DAY



National Sweater Day is observed on Thursday February the 1st. Students are encouraged to wear sweaters on that day (Dress Code Bottoms). The idea behind this day is to conserve energy by encouraging people to wear layers of sweaters and other warm clothing instead of turning up the heat. Sweater Day also helps raise awareness about climate change. It is a great opportunity to demonstrate how together everyone can be a part of the much-needed solution to global warming.

INTERMEDIATE SCIENCE FAIR



On Tuesday February 13th our Intermediate students will be displaying their ‘Scientific Knowledge’ by participating in our St. Teresa of Calcutta Science Fair here at the school. Students will be presenting their experiments all around the school and explaining their work to both judges and younger students.

PA Day

Friday, February 16th, 2024 is a Professional Activity Day. There will be no school for students as staff will be involved in math workshops all day. Enjoy the long weekend.

FAMILY DAY

Monday, February 19th, 2024 is Family Day. Celebrating *Family Day* is important to us because it is a chance to stand in unity with families in our community who share in the challenges, struggles and successes that come with family life. *Family Day* is an opportunity to celebrate our commitment to our family and our values.



SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday, is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent – the 40 days leading up to Easter – was traditionally a time of fasting and on Shrove Tuesday, Christians went to confession and were “shriven” (absolved from their sins). On **Tuesday February 13th** the students of St. Teresa of Calcutta school will be observing this important Christian day. Pancakes will be distributed to the students on that day. Please keep in mind this will be a snack and a lunch is still required. I would like to thank **Sunset Grill on 4th Ave.** for making the pancakes for our school on that day.



KIDS HELPING KIDS

Niagara Catholic's 25th Annual **Kids Helping Kids** fundraiser will take place from February 12th - 16th, 2024.

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 participation in events such as Superhero/Jersey Day, PJ Day and Red, White & Pink Day.



We will have three out of dress code days:

Monday, Feb. 12th: Superhero/Jersey Day;
Tuesday, Feb 13th: Red, White and Pink Day;
Wednesday, Feb. 14th: Wacky Socks/Hair;
Thursday, Feb 15th: Pajama Dance Party;

Tuck Shop items will be sold **all week** starting on Monday Feb 12th 2024. Half of all proceeds this week will be donated to the **Kids Helping Kids Fund.**

Donations to the **Kids Helping Kids** fundraiser can also be made in **School Cash Online.** Thank you for supporting!

Anyone who wants to support the Foundation with a direct donation will receive a tax receipt for donations of \$20.00 or more. VISA and MasterCard are also accepted by calling the foundation office, 905-735-0247 extension 210. Donations may be made online at www.nfce.org. Thank you for your Catholic school community's support for this year's fundraiser.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Our system-wide Registration and In-person Open House for Kindergarten will take place on **Thursday February, 6th, 2024 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 2024.

Full Day Early Learning
Kindergarten Program



We are very excited to have more students join our St. Teresa of Calcutta 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.

BASKETBALL

We have our intermediate girls and boys basketball teams participating in the St. Catharines Large School Intermediate Basketball tournament hosted here at St. Teresa of Calcutta School (Boys). The tournament will be taking place on **Friday February 9th (Boys) and Monday February 12th (Girls)**. Good Luck to both of our teams! Thank-you to Mr. Kwinecki, Mrs. O'Connor, Ms. Leslie & Ms. McDonald for coaching. In addition to this tournament, our students will also be participating in an 'Invitational' tournament on January 29th, 30th & 31st afterschool.



FOOD DAYS

During the 40 Days of Lent, we will be moving our 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.



MATHLETES



On February 5th our school will be hosting the Intermediate Mathletes competition. There will be 32 schools competing. St. Teresa of Calcutta will be entering a Co-ed grade 7 & 8 team. We look forward to a great day of Math-A-Matical competition! Good Luck to all of our Mathletes!

ELEMENTARY TERM 1 REPORT CARDS

Term One Reports will be made available to parents through the Maplewood Parent Portal the week of **February 11th, 2024**.

The Report Card will reflect achievement of curriculum expectations, development of learning skills and work habits from September - February. Interviews can occur in person, virtually or by telephone at the request of the parent or teacher. Please feel welcome to request an interview with your child's teacher to discuss areas of growth and next steps to improve their learning in term two.

PINK SHIRT DAY

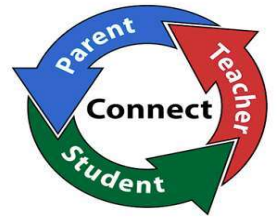
Pink Shirt Day
Wednesday
February 22nd

**KINDNESS
IS ONE SIZE
Fits All**

The theme for Pink Shirt Day 2023 is 'Be Kind & Lift Each Other Up'. We encourage all students to wear pink on **Wednesday February 28th 2024**. Today our diversity is becoming more visible than ever as people continue to embrace their cultures, identities, and true selves in more open and direct ways; making the need to Lift Each Other Up and have greater acceptance, respect, and inclusion for everyone so important.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Our council meetings will usually be the last Tuesday of the month, at 6:00pm virtually – if any parents would like to participate or volunteer or have any comments or questions please contact the school and speak to Mr. Morawek. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 23rd at 6:00 pm**. Everyone is welcome.



EXTRA CLOTHES



As the weather gets colder and the students begin to play in the snow parents are reminded to send extra standardized dress code clothing to school especially for the children in the Kindergarten and primary levels. This will avoid inconveniencing parents when it becomes necessary to find dry clothes. All students are expected to have an indoor pair of shoes to wear in the halls and classrooms. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

MATH CORNER

Board Games are a great way to have fun as a family and learn Math! Here are a list of great Family Math Board Games:

- Mathopoly – a clever take on the classic board game Monopoly – which is also a great game!
- Equate – making equations can be a fun, challenging game!
- Pay Day – family finances is fun in Pay Day! Get paid and decide how to spend your money!

“A lot of scientific evidence suggests that the difference between those who succeed and those who don’t is not the brains they were born with, but their approach to life, the messages they receive about their potential, and the opportunities they have to learn.” (Boaler, 2016)

“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.”



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

