

St Joseph Phoenix News

FEBRUARY 2024

Principal's Message

I hope everyone has had a great start to 2024! We have had a wonderful start to the new year at school and February promises to keep the momentum going. We will be celebrating Black History Month in February and we have many exciting and informative lessons and activities planned. Many of these will happen in your child's classroom, over announcements and around the school. We are really kicking it off with a speaker coming in from the Salem Chapel in St. Catharines to discuss Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad to Freedom as it pertains to the Niagara Region.

We also have our Kids-Helping-Kids campaign going on for 2 weeks in the middle of the month with lots of fun activities planned. Also, within this busy month, we have some mental health initiatives that will be taking place. There is a Pink Shirt Day at the end of the month to recognize anti-bullying and, as you can see in the newsletter, we have an ambitious Push-Up Challenge throughout the month to raise funds and awareness for mental health. Last but not least, we have Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent on the 14th, thus we will celebrate Valentine's Day on Tuesday, February 13th.

Lots going on! Should be a fun month creating all kinds of memories. I look forward to sharing this time with your children. God Bless.

T. Atkinson



School and Bus Cancellations

With the winter weather upon us, please check the board website, social media platforms and local radio and television for updates about closures and cancellations due to weather.

2000 Push-Up Challenge

Mental Health is such an important topic these days. It is very impressive how it continues to be a topic of discussion that is more and more open and accepting. I see the challenges and struggles with mental health at every school I've been at and I have also seen the effects on my own family. It is an issue, even a crisis, that is something I am very passionate about and always looking for ways to support associations that address mental health.

The National Mental Health Society has created a *Push-Up Challenge*. The goal of the challenge they put forth is for individuals to sign-up and do 2,000 push-ups in the month of February! I jumped onboard and signed up and thought I could use some support from the students in completing this challenge. I now have 19 friends committed to doing 100 push-ups a day with me! We will be doing our 100 push-ups every school day during our afternoon recess. There are 20 school days in February, so it works out perfectly to 2,000. We have a school goal of 30,000 push-ups!! If you are looking to support our efforts in raising funds and awareness for mental health, please access the link or QR code below where you can make your donation. This is not available on School Cash On-line as it is not a school activity. We thank you in advance for your support in our efforts!

Sincerely,
The Push-Up Team



[The Push-Up Challenge Donations Here](#)



Initiative

In an effort to align St. Joseph school with ECO-Friendly habits, we are launching a schoolwide ECO-Schools initiative to reduce consumption and limit unnecessary items filling our landfills. With Valentine's day approaching, we are especially mindful that many students hand out cards along with toys/trinkets to their classmates. While the intentions are positive, the reality is that the items given to peers end up in our landfills shortly after they are received. Knowing this, St.

Joseph's Eco Team is launching this initiative to encourage us to consider our consumption habits.

Starting with Valentine's Day and moving forward, students will always be welcome to bring in and distribute cards, but no other items will be distributed. This will apply to all future holidays.

We thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation with this extremely important initiative! Our planet thanks you as well!



Niagara Catholic's 25th Annual Kids Helping Kids fundraiser will take place from February 13-24, 2023. This year's event will 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 Creative Hair Day. Kids Helping Kids is open to students attending in-school and students in our virtual schools. Donations to the Kids Helping Kids fundraiser can be made @ <https://ncdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>. 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. To find more about the Niagara Children's Centre, please visit their website: <https://www.niagarachildrenscentre.com/>

CLICK ON THE PDF BELOW TO SEE THE LIST OF happenings at St. Joseph Catholic School.

Kids Helping Kids 2024.pdf

[Download](#)

438.5 KB

We will be selling raffle tickets 3 for \$2 for a chance to win Marty the Valentine Monkey! All proceeds from this raffle will go to our Kids Helping Kids fundraiser.



**Thursday,
February 8th
9:30 am to 6 pm**

KINDERGARTEN

**OPEN
HOUSE**

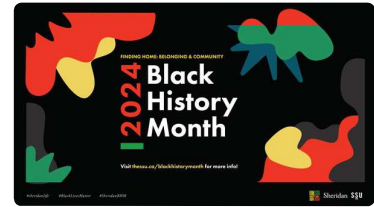


Black History Month

During the month of February, Canadians are invited to participate in Black History Month festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present.

The theme for Black History Month 2024 is **Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build.**

Black History Month is an opportunity for all Canadians to learn about the many contributions Black Canadians have made to Canada. On February 5th we have a presenter from the Salem Chapel in St. Catharines, doing a presentation on the Underground Railroad to freedom.



BT Corner

Blessed Trinity has reached the half-way point of the year with our students' completing exams and getting ready for the beginning of Semester 2. During exam week we were very happy to host the Family of Schools Boys and Girls Basketball tournament.

Congratulations to all the students who participated – we hope everyone had a great time.

We would like to thank all of the parents and future Thunder who came out to our very successful Open House on January 18th. It was very exciting to see a packed house and the energy of our incoming Class of 2029.

Throughout the rest of January and into early February a representative from our Student Services Department will be visiting each Grade 8 class to help the students make their course selections for next year. The deadline for selecting and submitting courses, returning Course Selection Sign-off sheet and payment of Grade 9 Activity Fee of \$55 is **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH.**

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.



Holly Humphreys

Holly is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

