



## NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the 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.

# April 2024

*Called by Name: You Are Mine*



Dear St. Elizabeth Families,

Spring is in the air!! The beginning of new life. We experience the season of Easter on a personal level. We celebrate nature's season of Spring and Easter as new life. Each day we continue along our Lenten journey, and the days grow longer and brighter let us recall that our new life comes from knowing Him, belonging to Him and worshipping Him.

*Corinthians 5:5:17: "...if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" NIV*

Easter Blessings,

Mrs. J. Mangiacasale  
Principal



*When Mary Magdalene found Jesus' tomb empty, she cried.  
She thought someone had taken Jesus' body away.*

*Jesus appeared to her, but she didn't recognize Him until He called her by name.*

*During the sad times of our lives, we call out to Jesus for help. And before we even say His Name,  
Jesus comes to comfort us, like He comforted Mary and brought her joy.*

*Jesus calls us by name because He knows us and loves us. May the Name of Jesus be ever on our lips.  
And may our hearts always be open to hear Him call us by name.*

### WE ARE ONE WITH THE RISEN CHRIST

Lord, we lift our hearts to you. As the dawn breaks,  
may we carry the unity we share into every  
moment knowing that we are one with the risen  
Christ.

Lord, we lift our eyes to you. As the sun rises,  
may this moment stay with us, reminding us to  
look for the beautiful colours of promise in your  
word.

Lord, we lift our prayers to you. As the dew air falls,  
may we breathe this morning in and know that like  
the earth, you sustain us, keep us and work within  
us always.

And so, we lift our voices to you. We celebrate the  
greatest day in history, when Jesus rose from  
death, defeated darkness and bathed the world in  
stunning resurrection light.

May we ever live to praise you!  
**Amen**



### PARENT'S GUIDE TO ONTARIO'S EDUCATION SYSTEM

The Ministry of Education is pleased to announce the  
launch of the *Parent's Guide to Ontario's Education  
System*.

This new resource will provide parents with helpful  
information that supports them to have a stronger role  
and actively participate in their children's education. The  
guide covers a number of subjects such as knowing how  
their child is doing in school, learning about suspension  
and expulsion processes, attending a school council  
meeting or parent involvement committee meeting, and  
knowing about specialized supports to help all children  
succeed.

This initiative is part of the government's recent efforts  
to increase transparency and accountability in our  
school system.

The full guide can be found at  
[www.Ontario.ca/educationguide](http://www.Ontario.ca/educationguide).

*We are proud to be a part of the Lakeshore Catholic Family of Schools.*



St. Elizabeth News

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Grade 2 students will receive their **First Holy Communion** on **Sunday, May 5th** at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. A special thank you to **Father Stanley and Mrs. Rossi** for preparing the students.



## SAFE ARRIVAL LATE ARRIVALS/ EARLY DEPARTURES

It is an expectation that parents/guardians will use the Niagara Catholic Safe Arrival system to report their child's late arrival or absence for part or all of the school day. This **includes early departures**. If you're planning on picking up your child(ren) before the dismissal time, **please report this early departure in the system**, so the student/teacher/school knows ahead of time. Often the class is elsewhere in the school (gym, library, recess), and if we are aware in the morning, there is less disruption to everyone. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

## NIAGARA CATHOLIC ACCESSIBILITY; AN EVENING EVENT IN SUPPORT OF ACCESSIBILITY AWARENESS

The Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Accessibility Planning Committee are pleased to invite parents, guardians, staff and community partners to a motivational evening featuring Niagara Catholic graduate, public speaker, and activist, Michael Jacques and disability advocate Charlene VanderGriendt, from The Rick Hansen Foundation.

Public speaker, activist, and author Michael Jaques, has written and self-published his book *Can't Read, Can't Write, Here's My Book* using speech-to-text technology. Michael is diagnosed with autism and an intellectual disability and shares his life experiences to help audiences understand accepting and belonging.

Disability advocate, Charlene VanderGriendt, from The Rick Hansen Foundation will discuss how to speak and interact inclusively. Students with disabilities will share their perspectives on building a culture of acceptance through taped video interviews. The words we use carry meaning and power.

This exciting free event will take place on **Monday, April 15th from 6:00- 8:00 pm** at The Holiday inn and Conference Centre (327 Ontario Street, St. Catharines) and includes light snacks, refreshments and door prizes.

Please click [here](#) for event and registration details.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



All parents/guardians are invited and encouraged to attend our CSC meetings. The next meeting will be **Virtual** and is on **Tuesday, May 7th at 6:00** If you are interested in attending the meeting, please email Mrs. Mangiacasale (Julie.Mangiacasale@ncdsb.com) so she can add you to the parent council email list. Thank you to council for all their ongoing support and continued efforts for our school.

## STANDARDIZED DRESS CODE

Reminder that students are expected to follow dress code expectations daily. We have provided a graphic below as a reminder of the colour and items of clothing that students can wear to school. Our Grade 8 Students are also able to wear their GRAD Hoodies!

All students can also wear St. Elizabeth Spirit Wear or Lakeshore Catholic Spirit Wear! Thank you for your continued support.



## SPORTS NEWS



Good luck to the **St. Elizabeth badminton team** as they travel to Lakeshore High School, on **Thursday, April 18th** to compete in the Lakeshore Family of Schools tournament.

Good luck to our chess team who will be competing in a **Chess Tournament on Wednesday, April 17th at St. Mary School in Niagara Falls!!**



## ECO NEWS

**Earth Day is on April 22nd.** Earth Day activities are a **Eco-Schools** great way to begin celebrating and caring for the Earth. During the week of **April 22nd**, students at St. Elizabeth School will celebrate Earth Week by participating in community/school yard clean up and activities that extend beyond Earth Day/Week, inspiring students to give back to the Earth throughout the year. Everyone is encouraged to wear a **green shirt on Monday, April 22nd.**



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS  
NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (NCPIC)  
MEMBERSHIP 2024-2025**



The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) supports the Mission of Catholic education and the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board by providing a communication link to parents/guardians, Catholic School Councils, the Diocese, the Director of Education, and the Board. The NCPIC promotes active parent/guardian engagement within all schools for the improvement of student achievement and well-being of all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

The NCPIC membership is made up of parents/guardians, community and student representatives, the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines or his appointed representative, principals, teachers, support staff, the Director of Education or designate, the appointed Superintendent of Education and Trustees. The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meets the on first Thursday of the month on a bi-monthly basis (or as noted) at the Catholic Education Centre from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Meetings are open to the public and are livestreamed.

**COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES**

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is seeking to appoint up to three (3) community representatives for the 2024-2025 school year to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. Interested parties are to complete and submit the Community Representative Form, along with a letter of recommendation supporting the nomination from the community agency, association, or organization addressed to *Danny Di Lorenzo, Chair of the Board no later than 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 1, 2024.*

**PARENT/GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVES**

To be eligible for election/appointment as a parent/guardian representative to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, a person:

- must be a parent/guardian of a student enrolled in a school of the Niagara Catholic District School Board;
- must reside within the jurisdiction of the Board;
- must support the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board; and
- must fully participate in the annual Commissioning Ceremony of NCPIC members.

Available parent/guardian positions for the 2024-2025 Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Membership are as follows:

Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Thorold/Merritton	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Niagara Falls	4 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
St. Catharines/Niagara-on-the-Lake	3 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Welland/Pelham	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives

Interested parents/guardians are to complete and submit the parent/guardian nomination form *no later than 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 1, 2024.* Nomination forms are available at the school and on the Board website. Please click on the link: [Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee](#).

**Please send nomination forms to:** Catholic Education Centre  
427 Rice Road  
Welland, ON L3C 7C1  
Attention: Yvonne Anderson  
or by email to: [yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com](mailto:yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com)

## Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter April 2024

### Connecting the Curriculum to Home

Your child might start learning about various parts of healthy human growth and development based on their grade and the [Ontario Health and Physical Education \(2019\) curriculum](#). One important topic that is covered is consent.



## Starting the Conversation of Consent: Connecting The Curriculum to Home

(Parents of Elementary aged students)

With our School Health Nurses

Our Public Health Nurses Jenn and Austin discuss how to start the conversation of consent, and how to connect the curriculum to home.

- **Watch here:** [Starting the Conversation of Consent - Connecting the Curriculum to Home](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about Puberty](#) – as your child starts learning more about human development, our school health team wants to support adults with answering some of those tricky questions.

### Niagara Ontario Health Team – Events Calendar

The [Niagara Ontario Health Team](#) created an events calendar tool to highlight the diverse activities happening in our region. This initiative highlights the importance of health and wellness. It also serves as a valuable link, connecting community members to resources available in Niagara.

The [calendar](#) makes it easier to find and explore new things to do. It also helps create meaningful connections in our community. Visit today to learn more about what is going on near you!



### Benefits of Risky Play



Did you know that letting kids [play freely outdoors](#), even if it involves a bit of risk, is super important for their growth and well-being? Learn about the benefits of exciting play that might seem a little risky, and how it can help kids develop better physically, mentally, and socially. Let's rethink how we see risks and explore how adventurous play can actually help kids stay healthier and happier in the long run. Join us in creating a world where every child has the chance to thrive!

For more information on what it is meant by risky play, check out [Active For Life webpage](#)



## Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter April 2024 ... Page 2

### Happy Oral Health Month!

Niagara Region Public Health Dental Program offers **FREE** dental clinics for children and youth 17 and under throughout Niagara.

Appointments are available for children in:

- Niagara Falls on Tuesdays
- Thorold on Mondays (afternoon and evening) and Wednesdays
- Welland on Thursdays

[Niagara's Mobile Dental Clinic](#) also travels around Niagara to various locations throughout the week.



All of our dental clinics offer free dental assessments, cleanings, fluoride and sealants. To book an appointment [contact the Dental Program](#) or [book a dental assessment online](#).



## Solar Eclipse Eye Safety

The infographic illustrates the phases of a solar eclipse: Partial Eclipse (Use filter), Total Eclipse (No filter), and Partial Eclipse (Use filter). It provides safety guidelines for each phase:

- Partial Eclipse (Use filter):**
  - NOT SAFE:** Ordinary sunglasses are not strong enough to protect your eyes. (Illustrated with three pairs of sunglasses)
  - SAFE:** Use specially designed solar eclipse glasses and viewers to block the sun's harmful rays. (Illustrated with orange eclipse glasses and an orange eclipse viewer labeled 'ECLIPSE VIEWER')
- Total Eclipse (No filter):**
  - NOT SAFE:** Wearing solar eclipse glasses to look through a camera, binoculars or a telescope will not protect your eyes. (Illustrated with a camera, binoculars, and a telescope)
  - SAFE:** Use only specially designed filters for lenses. (Illustrated with a camera, binoculars, and a telescope, with arrows pointing to filters being placed over the lenses)

Source: American Academy of Ophthalmology and American Astronomical Society

# LAKESHORE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

proudly presents...



# FERRIS BUELLER'S DAY OFF

*Adapted from the classic 80's film, written and Directed by JOHN HUGHES*

Wednesday May 1st  
Thursday May 2nd  
Friday May 3rd  
Saturday May 4th - 2024  
7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30pm)

Tickets \$ 20 - General Admission  
\$15 for Students

For tickets contact Nancy Bodis in Main Office at Lakeshore Catholic  
(905) 835-2451 or [nancy.bodis@ncdsb.com](mailto:nancy.bodis@ncdsb.com)

LAKESHORE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE  
150 Janet Street Port Colborne, Ontario