

# St. Denis Catholic School

May 2024



## Address

175 Carlton St.  
St. Catharines, ON  
L2R 1S1

## Principal

Mrs. Victoria Wegelin

## Phone/Fax/Email

P 905-682-4156  
F 905-684-9586  
E [st.denis@ncdsb.com](mailto:st.denis@ncdsb.com)

## St. Denis Bell Times



School Begins 9:15 a.m.  
Morning Recess 10:45 a.m. -11:00 a.m.  
Lunch 12:00 pm -12:40 p.m.  
Afternoon Recess 1:40 p.m. -1:55 p.m.  
Dismissal 3:25 p.m

## Principal's Message

Motherhood.... A Partnership with God  
A partnership with God is motherhood;  
What strength, what purity, what self-control,  
What love, what wisdom, should belong to her. Who helps God fashion an immortal soul.  
God took the fragrance of a flower....  
The majesty of a tree....  
The gentleness of morning dew....

The calm of a quiet sea....  
The beauty of twilight hour....  
The soul of a starry night....  
The laughter of the rippling brook....  
The grace of a bird in flight....  
The tender care of an angel....  
The faith of a mustard seed....  
The patience of eternity....  
The depth of a family's need....  
Then God fashioned from these things....  
A creation like no other,  
And when this masterpiece was through  
He called this simply....Mother.



May is one of the most beautiful months of the year. It is the time that we honour the Mother of Jesus - Mary. We look to Mary as a model of holiness for all people. During this month we honour all Mothers and Grandmothers! I wish every Mother the happiest Mother's Day!

May is a very active month at St. Denis Catholic School! As a school community, we are excited about all the events that are taking place!

Thank you as always for your continued and ongoing support!  
Yours in Catholic Education,  
Mrs. V. Wegelin  
Principal

## New Life Prayer



Lord God

We see signs of new life all around us as the days continue to grow longer.

Thank you for the buds and the blossoms; the grass and the warmth of the sunshine.

May we remember that you have created us and even if it doesn't quite feel like spring outside we can find newness of life through

your presence.

Please help us to notice the beauty around us; a child's smile, a work of art, an insect, a friend's embrace. May we also share beauty and life with those we meet.

Help us to glorify you as we promote peace, love and grace.

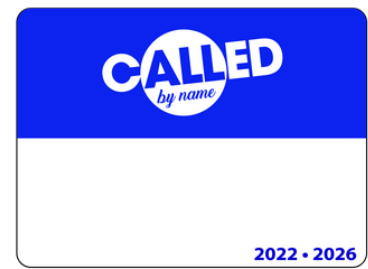
May we speak truth in love and forgive those who wrong us, by your strength.

We pray, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen

## Called By Name: Hear My Voice 2024

Let us focus on this thought - Jesus knows my name. And Jesus calls me by name. He doesn't just say, "Hey, you!" but He knows me. And he calls out to me by name. You aren't just a faceless name in a crowd of humanity. Jesus recognizes you. And you're precious to him. You matter so much to Jesus that he calls you by name, beckoning you to walk closer to him. To trust him more and to live and move and have your being in his unconditional love for you.



[May 2024 Calendar - Click Here](#)

## Monthly Award Winners - April 2024



Every month our teachers recognize a student in their class who has demonstrated excellence in a particular area based on one of the eight Catholic Graduate Expectations. These expectations are; A discerning believer, an effective communicator, a reflective, creative and holistic learner, a collaborative contributor, a caring family member and a responsible citizen. Congratulations to this month's recipients listed below.

Mrs. Lee's Class - Alina B.  
Ms. Schenck's Class - Logan V.  
Ms. Konieczny's Class - Martin S. & Amy P.  
Ms. DEttorre's Class - Grace D.  
Mrs. Foster's Class - Huntyr C.  
Mrs. Austin's Class - Tatiana T.  
Mrs. Jackson's Class - Emmett C.  
Mr. Sutton PTM - Martin S.  
Mr. Hasting's Class - Elijah K.  
Mrs. La Valle's Class - Alexa M.  
Mr. O'Connor's Class - Ava L.  
Miss MacSporran's Class - Pathrose A.  
Mr. Riddell's Class - Jacqueline G.  
Madame Bonin's French Class JR - Avaree T.  
Madame Bonin's French Class INT - Tunmise A.  
Mrs. Wegelin - Principal's Award - Devonte B.

**Congratulations to all winners! You are amazing!**

## Junior Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament

### Junior Girls and Boys Basketball Tournament

Our Junior Girls Basketball team participated in the Tier Two Tournament hosted at our very own school on April 17th, 2024. The girls went undefeated in the round robin portion of the tournament.

Although they lost against St. Anthony's in the championship game, the girls showed excellent sportsmanship, leadership and perseverance! Congratulations to all of the girls on the team: Tara E., Abbie B., Sophie E. Holly W., Olivia B., Grace G., Alexa M., Emily R., Dylan T., Layla L., Willow E., Avaree T., and Anna B. You are all MVP's!! Mrs. La Valle is so proud of each and everyone of you! GO SAINTS GO! Our thanks to the dedication and leadership of our amazing coaches!!



Our Junior Boys Basketball team participated in the Tier Two Tournament on April 18, 2024. The boys played some very difficult games in the round robin portion of the tournament. All of our players showed excellent offensive and defensive skills, sportsmanship, leadership and determination! Congrats to all the boys: Antun A., Brayden C., Aidan L., Isaac B., Santiago G. V.; Zachary S., Chase S. Johnny H., Makai M., Tatus T., Liam C., Keyshon W-B., and Corbin S. Many thanks to the amazing team coach Mr. O'Connor!

## St. Denis Chess Team

### Chess Tournament

Congratulations to all those Kings and Queens on our fabulous St. Denis Chess Team. On Wednesday, April 17th, 2024 members of the St. Denis Chess Team travelled to St. Mary Catholic School in Niagara Falls to take part in the Area Wide Chess tournament. Our junior and intermediate teams came out with checkmates left, right and center. It was just another impressive day for St. Denis Students! Congratulations to Gabriel A., Adam J., Santiago G., Peter Z., Santo B., Makai M., Covenant I-P, Rahila P., Ryza Fe E. , Aiden L, Gibson M., Rocco F, Maverick C.W., Marybella S., Jacqueline G., Kaidyn L., Pathrose A., Gabrielle G. , Ayden M., Atticus H., Ethan M., Edrick O, Tunmise A.



The teams put in an amazing performance. Both junior and intermediate teams did well overall. Our Junior team placed second and were able to move onto the next level meet which took place on Friday, April 26, 2024 at the Seaway Mall in Welland. With such a young team, the future of chess at St. Denis looks bright. Thank you to the team members for the all their hard work. There is so much to be proud of. Each and every student represented St. Denis with exemplary behaviour. Congratulations to all team members:

A special thanks also goes out to our dedicated coach Mr. Hastings!

## Lenten Fundraiser

This Lent the St. Denis Catholic School Community collected monetary donations for our St. Vincent de Paul Society in support of their good works. Thank you for your donations! As a school community we raised \$151.00. Thank you for your generosity!



God Bless.

# Congratulations!

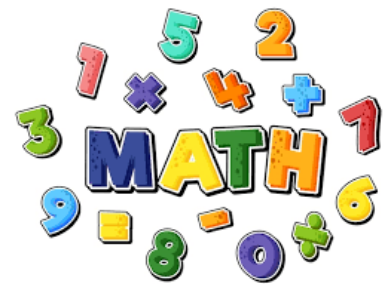
## Elementary Student Council Leadership Symposium

Congratulations to our three students who attended the Leadership Symposium at Club Roma Giselle M. V., Marybella S.G., and Ava L. proudly represented our school. We thank Marybella for her two years of service on this council and wish her all the best as she moves onto high school next year. Giselle and Ava will lead our students together next year.



## May is Math Month at St. Denis!

Every day we focus on Math at St. Denis but throughout the month of May, we will have an extra math problem to solve! The Student Senate will be posting a math problem on the Knowledgehook Award Board. Students will be encouraged to solve the problem and write down their answer on a paper with their name and class. They have to be ready to explain their answer! Make sure you submit your answer by Wednesday each week! Let's get ready to problem solve!!



## Catholic Education Week

**Theme: We are Called to Love**

**May 6, 2024-May 10, 2024**

As a Catholic Community, we see the link between our faith and mental health. This year's Catholic Education Week and Mental Health Week theme is, "We are called to love."



The theme for Catholic Education Week 2024 was inspired by the following considerations:

- With joyful anticipation of the Jubilee Year of 2025, we are inspired by Pope Francis announcing the theme of *"Pilgrims of Hope."* With open hearts of love, we can continue to *"fan the flame of hope"* for a bright future.
- On the fifth anniversary of Renewing the Promise, we celebrate that Catholic Education is centred on our Christian call to love. This love permeates how we live in the world and as we act with love, we build a better future. As Pope Francis stated in 2023, *"He wants us to be artisans of a new history, weavers of hope, builders of the future, peacemakers."*
- The theme of the synod, *"Enlarge the Space of Your Tent,"* invites us to listen in love, to be a healing presence to one another and to strengthen relationships.
- In his visit to Canada last summer, Pope Francis gave us hope for our continued work for Truth and Reconciliation. Through prayer and a commitment to love, stronger bonds are forming and a new way forward is emerging.

- Catholic Education Week comes at the same time as Mental Health Awareness Week. Through love and compassion, we continue to support each other's wellbeing. God is love and we are always called to live out this love.
- In our continued work for Equity and Inclusion in Catholic schools, a focus on love reminds us that all God's children are loved unconditionally.

There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week and Mental Health Week:

Day 1: As people of hope

Day 2: As people of faith

Day 3: As people of mercy

Day 4: As people of justice

Day 5: As people of joy

Every year, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) provides our Catholic schools with a resource kit to help schools prepare for Catholic Education Week. Using these resources, as well as School Mental Health Ontario's website and resources, we have prepared a series of activities, which will highlight how the students and staff at our school are being *Called to love* together.

We hope to see many of you during our school celebrations!

Many special activities will be happening this week at our school. To try to put a face on our faith, each teacher will designate one specific period during the week as a time where parents and or guardians will be invited into their classrooms to see Catholic Education in action, we hope you are able to join us.

**Monday, May 6, 2024-School Mass at St. Denis Catholic Church at 10:00 a.m. Where We See God Project submissions handed in on this day. You can send your picture to the email: [seegodproject.stdenis@gmail.com](mailto:seegodproject.stdenis@gmail.com). Submit your photo to win a family prize!**

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024-Family Day (Kindergarten-Grade 3) Parents/Guardians are invited to visit the school from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. for a small classroom lesson and activity to be completed.**

**Wednesday, May 8, 2024-Recycled Art Day (Grades 4-8) Students work will be on display for parents to view from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, May 9, 2024-One Act Comedy Plays by Intermediate students at 11:00 a.m. and at 2:00 p.m. in the school gym.**

**Friday, May 10, 2024-School wide celebration of the pictures from our "Where We See God" project. A prize will be given to a family who submits a photo for this project!**

**Mental Health Week**

Please click the button below to read the NCDSB Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy 2021 - 2024 as we focus on Mental Health the first week of May. Students are invited to participate in a Mental Health Contest at school.

## Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy 2021 - 2024

## NRPH May 2024 Newsletter - Click Here!

Niagara Region Public Health Monthly Newsletter

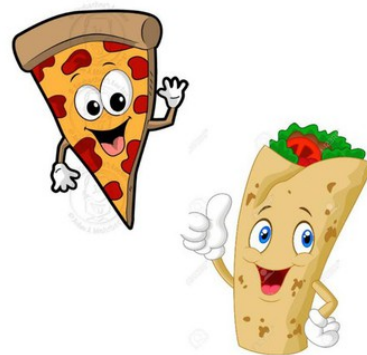
## Food Days for May 2024

Pita Day Orders due on **Monday, May 6, 2024.**

Pita Day - **Friday, May 10, 2024.**

Pizza Day Orders due on **Friday, May 17, 2024.**

Pizza Day - **Thursday, May 23, 2024.** (Please note that this date has been changed to Thursday due to the fact that Track and Field will be held on Friday, May 24, 2024.)



## Catch The Spirit Award Winner 2024



**Wednesday, May 8, 2024**

St. Denis Elementary School is very proud to announce that the recipient of the NCDSB "Catch the Spirit Award" is Anna-Rose Shaw in Grade 8. Throughout the years at St. Denis she has displayed outstanding qualities in the areas of catholic leadership, catholic faith, catholic school philosophy, family commitment, school community relations, involvement in activities and

academic excellence. Anna-Rose consistently displayed many of the gospel values through her community involvement and her relationships with peers, classmates, teachers and students within our school! Anna-Rose continues to grow academically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually in the St. Denis Catholic community. Congratulations, Anna-Rose! We are all very proud of you! Anna-Rose will receive this special award at the Student Excellence Awards held on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at Brock University.

## Catholic School Council Meeting

**Catholic School Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024**

A Catholic School Council meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. All members are welcome to attend!



## Krispy Kreme Fundraiser!! NEW to St. Denis!!

Orders-April 29, 2024-May 3, 2024

Pick Up-May 13, 2024



Orders for a dozen Krispy Kreme donuts will start on Monday, April 29, 2024 and will be taken until Friday, May 3, 2024. Hurry and get your orders in using School Cash Online!! You can order a dozen Krispy Kreme donuts for \$16.00. We can only take 150 orders! **First come first served.** Place your orders starting on Monday, April 29, 2024! Pick up your orders on Monday, May 13, 2024 at St. Denis Catholic School and enjoy your fresh Krispy Kreme donuts! You may pick up your order at the school starting at 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or you can indicate that you would like your child/ren to bring your order home with them after school. All money raised will support purchasing more technology for our students. Thank you for your continued support!

## Confirmation-Grade 8



### Grade 8 Confirmation

Sunday, May 19, 2024

Our Grade 8 students will be making their Confirmation on **Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.** at the Cathedral St. Alexandra Catholic Church in St. Catharines. Students are asked to wear their Sunday best. Each family will have their own pew to sit in the church. Thank you to Father Stephen, Miss MacSporran, and Mr. Riddell for assisting our students along their spiritual pathway.

## Kindergarten Parent Orientation for New Students!

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Kindergarten Parent Orientation

May 23, 2024

A very special meeting will be held for our new Kindergarten parents whose children will be experiencing the program for the first time this coming September.

This parent meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. in our school library.

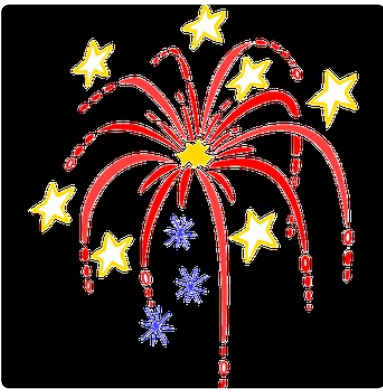
### Kindergarten Open House



## Friendly Reminder to Parents - Victoria Day!

Friendly Reminder to Parents:





There will be no school on **Monday, May 20, 2024** due to the Victoria Day Holiday. Please enjoy this special holiday with your loved ones.

## Track and Field Meet

**Track and Field Meet (Grade 4-8)**

**Friday, May 24, 2024**

Junior and Intermediate students have been preparing for this upcoming event. Students will be travelling to Niagara Olympic Club for this event by school bus. Students will need to bring a lunch, bring lots of water and sunscreen. More information will follow as the date gets closer.



## Intermediate Girls and Boys Soccer Tournament

### Intermediate Girls and Boys Soccer Tournament

**Intermediate Girls and Boys Soccer Tournament**

**May 28, 2024 - Girls - Mr. Riddell**

**May 29, 2024 - Boys - Mrs. La Valle**

Our Intermediate soccer teams will be attending a tournament at Pearson Park in St. Catharines. There is no rain date for these tournaments. All students will need to dress appropriately for the weather. More information will follow. Thank you to Mrs. LaValle and Mr. Riddell for coaching our awesome teams!



## EQAO - Grade 3 and Grade 6



**EQAO**

**E.Q.A.O.**

**May 27, 2024 - May 31, 2024 Grade 3**

**May 21, 2024- May 27, 2024 Grade 6**

Grade 3 and 6 students will be participating in the Provincial Assessments. Grade 3 and 6 students will be tested in reading, writing, and mathematics. Province-wide assessments provide information that parents, teachers and policy makers can use to help children learn more effectively. Working together, parents and educators can help ensure that students have a positive experience by discussing the assessment with them. Parents are asked to avoid interruptions in their child's attendance during the assessment. Scheduling of appointments during this time is not encouraged. We thank you for your support.

# St. Denis Eco School Update



## May - Eco School - School Ground Clean up

A Message from your Eco Schools Team:

### Recycled Art Show

In honor of Earth month, St. Denis invited all classes from kindergarten through grade 8 to participate in our April initiative. Each class was challenged to make their best recycled art work in efforts to bring attention to reducing, reusing and recycling. Students used recyclable materials such as paper products, cardboard, plastics, cans, etc. in order to transform these materials into a masterpiece. This month during Catholic Education Week (May 6-10) the art work from each class will be showcased for all staff, students, parents, and other community members to see.

### School Ground Clean up

School grounds and community clean up events make a difference. These actions, although small, have significant positive impacts on the environment and demonstrate the power of working together. In fact, if only 5% of Canada's population picked up 1kg (2lbs) of litter in one day, 1.4 million kg of garbage would not pollute our environment. St. Denis students will be participating in a School Grounds Clean Up campaign to demonstrate our commitment to creating a healthy and sustainable world. Teachers will take their students outdoors to pick up litter on the school grounds. Students will be provided with gloves and bags and will be informed of safe procedures for collecting and disposing of litter.

### Waste Free Wednesday

Finally, this month, we will continue with Waste Free Wednesday. The goal is to reduce the amount of garbage our school produces. Please bring lunches and snacks in reusable containers every Wednesday.

## Spring Cha-Ching Catholic School Council Fundraiser 2024



### St. Denis Catholic School Council Spring Cha-Ching Fundraiser!!

**THANK YOU!!**

The St. Denis Catholic School Council was very excited to be hosting the St. Denis Spring Cha-Ching Fundraiser last month. Thank you to all the families who supported and purchased tickets for our fundraiser. We are very excited to announce that we raised approximately \$3105.00 in two weeks. This money will be directed towards our Grade 8 graduation and supporting the purchase of technology in our school.

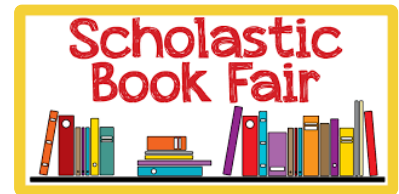
Thank you to **Burtnik Printing** for your donation to our raffle!

Thank you for supporting St. Denis Catholic School and we appreciate your generosity!

The St. Denis Catholic School Council

## Book Fair 2024

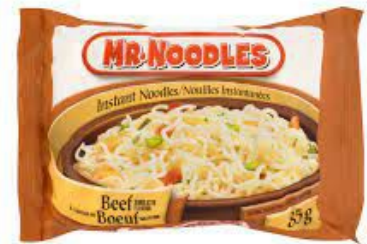
We would like to thank everyone who came out to support our school Book Fair! It was so much fun, and it was successful!!! Because of the success of the book fair, we get to put approximately \$1200.00 of books back into our Library! Way to Go St. Denis Community! Your support of our school library means so much and is greatly appreciated! Thank you to Mrs. Goulet for all of her hard work!



## The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

### North of 60 Project - Supporting our Northern Neighbours in Need

In 2010, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) took on the challenge initiated by Eileen Orysiuk and Sister Fay Trombley aimed at helping inhabitants of the Canadian Arctic in need. It all started in the community of Tuktoyaktuk, in the Northwest Territories. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Catharines Central Council along with the respective particular councils and parish conferences across our Diocese have been helping with the North of 60 Project Naujaat Nunavut, also known as "Repulse Bay" for seven years, since 2016. There are 40 families in need of help this year. At St. Denis we have been asked to help fill a 20 foot sea container to be sent out in September 2024. **Our school has been asked to donate Mr. Noodles Soup: Beef.** Donations may come to school now to the end of June. Thank you for your support!



## Kindergarten Registration

### Kindergarten Registration

#### Year 1 Kindergarten Registration



Registration will be held all throughout the school year.

Children who will be 4 years old by December 31, 2024 and who live within the St. Denis Catholic School's boundaries are eligible to enroll for Year 1 Kindergarten. Your child's Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate and proof of address are required at the time of registration.

Children who will be 5 years old by December 31, 2024 and who live within the St. Denis Catholic School's boundaries are eligible to enroll for Year 2 Kindergarten. Your child's Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate and proof of address are required at the time of registration. Only students who have not attended Year 1 need to be officially registered. Those students currently attending the Year 1 program will be automatically enrolled in the Year 2 class.

If you know of neighbors and/or relatives who live in our school community, please encourage them to visit St. Denis Catholic School and enroll their children in a Catholic School. Our flourishing community needs active support from its members.

## Student Nutrition Program (SNAC)

The SNAC Program will continue throughout the school year. Students are reminded to ensure that they have 2 healthy snacks and a lunch packed each day for school.



Thanks to Niagara Nutrition Partners for supporting us throughout the year!

## Register for School Cash Online



School Cash Online

Please click on the button below for instructions to register for School Cash Online. The easy, safe way to pay for school items and events.

**School Cash Online Registration Instructions - Click**

## Safe Arrival / School Messenger



PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL WITH ANY CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGES.

Please use the Safe Arrival system to report all absences and lates for your child.

You can report an absence by:

PHONE - 1-844-287-6287

ONLINE: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>

APP: SchoolMessenger

## NCDSB Dress Code



NCDSB Dress Code The following serves as a reminder for families as the warmer weather approaches and if dress code purchases are being made. Students must wear the elementary standardized dress code items properly and in compliance with the expectations throughout the school day and at all activities and events as representatives of the school and/or Board. It is the

expectation that students wear the elementary standardized dress code as a condition of attendance in an elementary school within the Niagara Catholic District School Board at a minimum, if the elementary student is not in compliance with the mandatory elementary standardized dress code, parents and guardians will be contacted to bring the required dress code items to school

At a minimum, every student is required to wear one (1) of the following items:

- Navy Blue sweat pants for students in Early Learning Kindergarten to Grade 3
- Navy Blue Pants (Cargo, Corduroy, Denim, Dress, Kobe styles permitted)
- Navy Blue Dresses or Skorts; or · Navy Blue Capris or Walking Shorts.
- Grade 8 students have the option to wear grey secondary uniform pants purchased through Board uniform suppliers. Pants, skirt or dress length must be appropriate and modest. Only knee length capris or shorts are permitted. All clothing must be in good repair.

At a minimum, every student is required to wear one (1) of the following items:

- Navy Blue or White Oxford shirt (short or long sleeve)
- Navy Blue or White Polo shirt (short or long sleeve); or
- School designed spirit wear polo shirt.

The elementary standardized dress code shirts, either polo or oxford must be buttoned in a respectable manner. Visible t-shirts worn under the elementary standardized dress code top must be either navy blue or white.

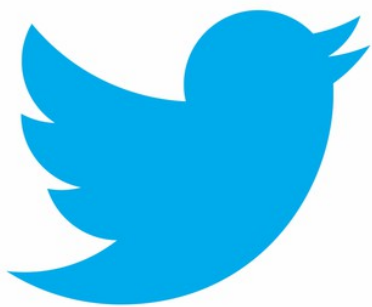
In addition, approved sweaters and hoodies embroidered and/or screened with the school logo are permitted to be worn as part of the elementary standardized dress code.

Running shoes are the recommended footwear with a full back and a closed toe. It is recommended that parents/guardians provide a pair of indoor shoes for physical education and indoor wear.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: <https://www.niagaracatholic.ca/policies-protocols-docs/policies/>  
(Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy)



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Niagara Catholic District  
School Board



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niagaracatholicdsb



**Victoria Wegelin**

Victoria is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

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