



# Loretto Catholic Elementary School

Final edition of June 2024



## School Information

Ms. L. Spadafora - Principal

Mrs. J. Hastings - Vice Principal

**Website:** <https://schools.niagaracatholic.ca/lorettocatholic/>

**Location:** [6855 Kalar Road, Niagara Falls, ON, Canada](#)

**Phone:** 905 356 4175

**Twitter:** [@LorettoFalls](#) **Instagram:** [lorettocatholicnf](#)

## Principal's Message

### June Prayer

Lord, we give this school year to you. We pray that each of my children have learned exactly what is right for them to learn. Help them to master new skills and increase in their love of learning.

Prepare them for what you have for them in their futures.

Amen

*Our Lady of Loretto, pray for us.*

We want to take a moment to mention a few of our staff members who will be leaving our school.

To Mrs. J. Hastings- Thank you again for all your support. We know she will be an asset to her new community of St. John Henry Newman.

Congratulations to **Mrs. Lafontaine and Madame Newport**, who are retiring this year. We wish them the very best and thank them both for their dedication to our Loretto Catholic students and families throughout their years at Loretto Catholic.

To our Long Term Early Childhood Educators, Mrs J.Thekkethala, working with our Kindergarten team and for caring for our youngest students. We wish you well at your next assignments.

To Ms. Triano, our Educational Assistant, thank you for working with our students and staff, we wish you the best at your new assignment.

**We would like to welcome** Mrs. Kelly our new Vice Principal. We are looking forward to having you join our HIVE.

## **Final Report card - Parent Portal**

Parents/Guardians can access their child(ren)'s report card through the Parent Portal the week on **June 24th**. Classroom placements will be finalized the week of August 26th. An email will be sent out to notify families of their child(ren)'s teacher along with a welcome letter.

The **Niagara Catholic Parent Portal can be accessed** (<https://niagaracatholic.ca/reportcards/>).

**Please select Loretto Catholic.**

Log in with your username (email account on file with the school) and your previously set password.

## **School Organization**

As we continue to plan for the 2024- 2025 school year and the specific organization of the school is tentative dependent upon any changes to our enrolment numbers. As well, due to our enrolment numbers, we know that combined classes are a reality for certain grades.

We will continue to follow the direction set in the past several years, and will not be accepting requests. As the experts in education, we will base all student placement decisions on what is in the *best interest of the entire student community at Loretto Catholic*. These decisions are made in good faith and based on, but not necessarily limited to, the following considerations: individual needs of students; academic strengths and needs; social and emotional needs of students; resource support requirements and personnel allocation; and classroom teacher strengths.

**How Parents can help with the transition to a different grade...**

Talk positively to your child about next year. If your child is with a different group of students discuss relationships and the excitement of making new friends.

**Class placements will be available through the Parent Portal the week of August 26th, 2024.**

**\*\*\*\*We will not be making any adjustments or changes to class lists or homerooms if needed until the end of September should enrolment increase or decrease. Any emails in regards to placement will not be reviewed until mid Septemeber.**

## **Balance Day for September 2024-2025**

As we continue to work together as a Catholic community of learners, this letter is to notify you that all Niagara Catholic elementary schools will be on a Balanced School Day schedule effective September 3, 2024. A Balanced School Day is a modified elementary school schedule designed to enhance learning, foster healthy habits, and encourage daily physical activity.

This schedule comprises three instructional blocks interspersed with two nutritional breaks of approximately 40 minutes, allowing 20 minutes for a nourishing lunch and an additional 20 minutes for indoor and/or outdoor physical activity.

**A typical Monday to Friday Balanced School Day at Loretto Catholic would be:**

- 845- 8:55 a.m. -Bell rings/Announcements & Attendance
- 8:55–10:55 a.m. – 120 instructional minutes
- 10:55-11:35 a.m. – 40 minutes nutrition/physical activity break
- 11:35-12:55 p.m. – 80 instructional minutes
- 12:55–1:35 p.m. – 40 minutes nutrition/physical activity break
- 1:35–2:55 p.m. – 80 instructional minutes
- 2:55-3:05 p.m. - Prayers/Announcements & Dismissal

### **Tips for Parents:**

How to Plan and Prepare for Nutritional Breaks Packing a nutritious meal for the Balanced School Day can be both enjoyable and straightforward. Here are some suggestions to help you plan a healthy lunch for your child:

- Divide a single lunch into two portions to ensure adequacy for each nutritional break.
- Wrap sandwiches individually or cut them in half.
- Separate fruits, vegetables, crackers, and cheese into labeled bags for each break.
- Consider providing two healthy drinks for each break.
- Avoid packing foods containing nuts or nut products to support our peanut-safe schools.
- Involve your child in planning and preparing their nutritional breaks.
- Ensure your child includes a balanced selection of healthy foods if they are responsible for packing their lunch.
- Aim to include items from three of the five food groups outlined in Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating for each break.

**To accommodate these changes, the school day will be extended by 10 minutes. As communicated by NSTS, our school day for September 2024 will begin at 8:45 and conclude at 3:05.**

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

### **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. If you have purchased a Lynx T-shirt in previous years, student can continue to wear them on Spirit Wear day and during gym class.

As in past years, a reminder that the Black Grad hoodies are reserved for the students in the current grade 8 graduating class.

As the warmer months have arrived, please be mindful that dress code remains in effect, collar shirts, appropriate length shorts(no short short), skorts, skirts (with shorts underneath), no tank tops or ripped waded jeans. **Sweaters remain as dress code.**

Thank you for your continued support.

### ***Big Bear Spirit Wear***

Families are able to purchase Spirit Wear through Big Bear Spiritwear - **please visit the website by clicking on the banner above with their name.**

We have launched our new Loretto Catholic Logo for our Spirit Wear.

Students may continue to wear existing spirit wear. Just a reminder that Spirit Wear T-shirts are not part of the daily dress code as collared shirts must be worn.

Please see the items below that are available throughout the year to purchase.

**\*\*To order- Link to Big Bear website- click schools- click Niagara Falls - click on Loretto Catholic**

School dress code is in effect. Collared shirt is either blue or white- no logos. Pants, skirts, shorts are blue. Denim is dark denim and in good repair, not faded or with holes.

All sweaters are blue unless they are Loretto Catholic Spirit wear which are blue and/or grey and have our school logo on it.

**Grad hoodies are reserved for our students in Grade 8 only.**

**Students must wear the appropriate graduating school year.**

## LORETTO LYNX 2023 SPIRITWEAR

**Gildan DryBlend 9.4 oz. 50/50 Jersey Polo**

Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Left Chest

Youth #8800B \$18.79  
Adult #8800 \$20.49

Available Colours: Navy & White

**Core 365 Dri-Fit 100% Polyester Polo Shirt**

Youth #88181Y Ladies' #78181 Adult #88181

\$27.50

Available Colours: Navy & White

**50/50 Pull-Over Hooded Sweatshirt, 13.0 oz.**

Printed with Full-Size Loretto Lynx Logo on Front

Youth #18500B \$32.49  
Adult #18500 \$33.95

Available Colours: Navy & Dark Heather

**50/50 Pull-Over Hooded Sweatshirt, 13.0 oz.**

Full-Size Embroidery & Appliqué Decoration on Front

Youth #18500B \$36.95  
Adult #18500 \$38.49

Available Colours: Navy and Dark Heather

**Dynamic Heather 2-Tone Lightweight Polyester Hoodie**

Printed with Full-Size Loretto Lynx Logo on Front

Youth #Y2047 \$64.95  
Adult #F2047 \$64.95

Available Colour: Charcoal Dynamic Heather/True Navy

**50/50 Full-Zip Hooded Sweatshirt, 13.0 oz.**

Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Left Chest

Youth #18600B \$38.95  
Adult #18600 \$42.49

Available Colours: Navy and Dark Heather

**ATC™ Mid Profile Twill Ball Cap**

Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo Front

100% cotton twill 6-panel Adjustable hook and loop closure

Youth Size Adjustable #Y130 \$14.49  
Adult Size Adjustable #C130 \$14.95

Coal Grey Navy

**Acrylic 12" Pom Pom Toque**

Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Front

#SP15 One Size \$14.50

Dark Heather/Navy

**Acrylic Beanie-Style Winter Toque**

Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Front

One Size #102 \$12.95 + tax

Charcoal Grey Navy

**Tax is NOT included in the Prices shown.**

Order On-Line at [www.bigbearspiritwear.com](http://www.bigbearspiritwear.com)

No Refunds or Exchanges on Decorated or Customized Products

Sizing Charts available at each product online | Delivery to your School option available

**New Design!**

6182 Dixon Street  
Niagara Falls, Ontario, L2G 2L6  
Ph: 905-357-7132

## Lynx Water Bottles

In September we will once again open School Cash online to sell our Loretto Lynx 24- ounce reusable Sports Water bottles with our Loretto Lynx logo on it as well as a spot to write your child's name on it. Water bottles are BPA-free sports bottle that's made with a polyethylene (PET) material that's phthalate-free, non-toxic and lead-free. It features a twist-on lid with push/pull drinking spout. Its translucent bottle colour matches its lid color. Bottles can be purchased through School Cash Online for \$8.00 each or 2 for \$14.00 from September to mid-June.



## Reusable Water Bottles & Utensils

Please ensure that your child comes to school each day with a reusable water bottle. This will not only help keep our children hydrated but will also help our environment. We ask that if your child needs a fork or spoon to eat their snacks or lunch that you please place one in their lunch pails.



Ms. Spadafora