



SACRED HEART SPECTATOR

Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary
Proud Member of the Saint Michael Catholic High School Family of Schools



Principal: Mr. J. Romeo
Superintendent: Mr. D. Massi

School Secretary: Mrs. D. Plyley
Parish Priest: Fr. Stuart MacDonald

Summer Break Edition

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We want to again thank all our families this year for your support. We wish you all a safe and fun filled summer, a time with your loved ones to relax and rejuvenate.

We look forward to another great year together with a fresh start with all our returning families as well as welcoming our new ones.

We take this opportunity to thank ALL Sacred Heart Staff members for their dedication and service to your children, our students. They are truly a dedicated and caring group of educators!

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



We thank Mrs. Thomas and Ms. V. two of Long-Term Educational Assistants who were with us this year. Thank you for their hard work and dedication to the students and classes you worked with!

Congratulations to Mrs. Prohaszka and Mrs. Cardamone, two members of our phenomenal Educational Assistant team. Mrs. Prohaszka has accepted a new role working out of the board office in our Student Support Services department and Mrs. Cardamone is moving on as a Child and Youth Care Worker in our board! We will miss them both but know they are moving on to work with and support even more students and staff in Niagara Catholic Schools! Your impact on Sacred Heart students and staff will be long lasting, it will not be forgotten and we wish you all the very best!

We wish Mr. Lewis well as he makes the move to a new school! Over the years, Mr. Lewis has served Sacred Heart students and families in different roles within our school and has had a positive impact in many lives of our students both present and past. As he takes his talents to his new school community, we thank him and wish him all the very best. Mr. Lewis, we will try to keep the SHL running as best we can but know it won't be exactly the same and we definitely know the announcements will NEVER be the same. All the best!

FINAL REPORT CARD

Parents/Guardians will be able to access their child(ren)'s report card through the Parent Portal as of Wednesday June 26, 2024 (a paper copy was sent home as well)

The Niagara Catholic Parent Portal can be accessed (<https://niagaracatholic.ca/reportcards/>). Please select Sacred Heart Catholic.

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



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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 most grade levels.

We will continue to follow the direction set in the past several years. We will base all student placement decisions on what is in the best interest of the entire student community at Sacred Heart 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 unless there is a reorganization of our classes in mid to late September should enrolment increase or decrease and we lose or gain a classroom.***

BALANCE DAY FOR SEPTEMBER 2024-2025

Sacred Heart will be entering into our third year as a Balanced Day Schedule school. 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.

There will be one slight modification for the 2024-25 school year as we will be shifting our largest learning block to the morning instead of the middle block. This will not impact the start or end times of our school, those will remain the same. The morning nutrition break will be affected. Please see below...

A typical Monday to Friday Balanced School Day at Sacred Heart 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



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SPIRITWEAR PROVIDER!!

Please note that Bigbear Spiritwear will be supplying Spirit wear and dress code items that will be available for sale via their website.

****To order go to - <https://www.bigbearspiritwear.com/> - click schools- click Niagara Falls - click on Sacred Heart Stars**



2024 BACK TO SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

In mid-August, Niagara Student Transportation Services (NSTS) will post preliminary back to school transportation arrangements for each student enrolled, if they meet policy eligibility for transportation, including bus route numbers, stop locations and times. Finalized Transportation information will be available in late August.

Please visit www.nsts.ca and sign-in to the secure parent portal to get your child's student transportation information. To sign-in to the portal you will need your child's Ontario Education Number (OEN) which can be found on their report card. While signed in, please subscribe to the delay and cancellation module for direct and timely emails regarding student transportation that impacts your child's bus route.

Please complete the Opt-In to Transportation form in the parent portal to notify NSTS if you intend to have your child(ren) ride the bus. If you have Opted-In your child(ren) for student transportation this school year (2023-24), there is no need to Opt-In again for the new school year (2024-25). You can also Opt-Out of Transportation if you do not intend to have your child(ren) ride the bus.

Eligibility information is also available through the portal, including pedestrian directions if your child lives within the non-transported zone of the school and is not eligible for bus service. Changes to home, pick-up or drop-off addresses must be made through your child's school. During the summer you may notify NSTS of address changes so we can ensure a bus stop is available for your child to start the school year; however, NSTS is not authorized to change student address information. With the availability of the secure parent portal, NSTS will not mail student transportation notices (except for kindergarten students or new students to the system who do not have an OEN to sign-in to the portal).

Please contact NSTS if you have questions regarding your child's transportation arrangements.

Phone: 905 357-6787

Website: www.nsts.ca

Email: general@nsts.ca