



St. John Bosco Catholic Elementary School

"Faith, Service & Academic Excellence"



Part of the Lakeshore Catholic Family of Schools

Phone: 905.835.1930
SEPTEMBER 2024

WELCOME BACK!

The staff of St. John Bosco Catholic School would like to extend to all our students and parents, a warm and heartfelt welcome back! With the combined efforts of parents, students, and staff alike, together we can collectively make our 2024-2025 school year, vibrant, nurturing and productive.

The basis of Catholic Education is the interrelationship of home, Church and school. By working together we can provide the best Catholic education for our children. As a community of Christian believers, we ask God's blessings on our students, staff and families and all who touch our St. John Bosco Catholic Community. May our school always be primarily a place of Catholic faith, truth, wisdom and good will. The staff and I look forward to working with such an enthusiastic, and dedicated community.

Mrs. Sandel
Principal

A PRAYER FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Jesus

At the beginning of this new school year, teach us to be
your hands and your feet where we are;
teach us to love as you love us;
At the beginning of this new school year,
help us to know and live our FAITH,
so that you may be honoured and glorified through our
actions, words, thoughts and deeds.

AMEN

SPECIAL WELCOME!

A special welcome to our new members of our school staff. We are extremely happy to have them all with us this year.

SCHOOL DAY

TIMETABLE FOR 20242025 School Year

Time/Use	Minutes
Supervision Before School (8:40-8:50)	10
Bell 8:50am	10
Period 1 (40 minutes)	40
Period 2 (40 minutes)	40
Period 3 (40 minutes)	40
Nutrition Break Outside (20 minutes)	20
Nutrition Break Inside (20 minutes)	20
Period 4 (40 minutes)	40
Period 5 (40 minutes)	40
Nutrition Break Outside (20 minutes)	20
Nutrition Break Inside (20 minutes)	20
Period 6 (40 minutes)	40
Period 7 (40 minutes)	40
3:00 - 3:10 (Homework/Announcements)	10
3:10 Dismissal Bell	

NCDSB MISSION STATEMENT

*"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."*

SCHOOL STAFF

Mrs. Wilcox	ECE
Mrs. Giammarco	Kindergarten
Mrs. Levesque	Kindergarten
Mrs. Pentzek	ECE
Mr. McArthur	ERT
Mrs. Tommasini	Grade 1
Mrs. Farnan	Grade 2
Mrs. Gaspari	Grade 2/3
Ms. Jacobi	Grade 4/5
Mr. Morello	Grade 5
Mrs. Zutt	Grade 6/7
Mr. Mastroianni	Grade 7/8
Madame Free	FSL/PTM
Mrs. MacPherson	PTM
Mrs. Ashby	PTM
Mr. Starrs	ARTS Teacher
Mr. McArthur	ERT
Mrs. Spada	ESL
Mrs. Bisson	EA
Mrs. Fowler	EA
Mrs. Jukosky	EA
Ms. Lewis	EA
Mrs. Redwood	EA
Mrs. Armenti-Sadonoja	CYW
Mrs. Trasatti	Librarian
Mrs. Stuart	Caretaker
Mrs. Nicoll	Cleaner
Mrs. Berardelli	Secretary
Mrs. Sandel	Principal
Father P. Walton	Priest
Mr. Joe Zaroda	Superintendent

ST. JOHN BOSCO CREED

That all students of St. John Bosco Catholic School be equally accepted by each other. We have a right to be treated fairly and a responsibility to treat others with respect. We can make a difference by loving and caring for each other.

We believe:

It is important to respect each other's opinion and viewpoints in what we say and in what we do. We have a right to make appropriate choices and in the responsibility to accept the choices of others. We should be equal in each other's eyes.

We believe: should learn in a non-violent school setting. We have the right not to be threatened physically or emotionally, touched in a harmful way, nor talked about unkindly. We have the responsibility to avoid fighting, gossiping, using bad language and spreading rumors. We can keep our school a happy, inviting and safe place.

We believe:

That our school property should be kept clean and maintained in useful condition. We have the right to safe, clean equipment and property, and the responsibility to clean up after ourselves and handle equipment appropriately. We are the creators and keepers of our environment.

We believe:

We can assist good teaching practices and improve the conditions of our learning. We have the responsibility to keep from disrupting other students and cooperate as attentive learners. We have the right to a good Catholic education.

We believe:

That as students of St. John Bosco Catholic School, we must commit to our school, our staff and each other to continue to be a successful and proud place. With God as our Leader, we recognize that we represent the future. Most of all we believe in being thankful for what we have.

OFFICE and SCHOOL ARRIVAL/ LEAVING PROCEDURES

St. John Bosco Catholic has an intercom / surveillance system that allows us to increase student, staff and community safety. While ensuring student safety is the foremost objective, we also want to maintain community access to the school. Please sign in at the office when arriving.

- Any student arriving after 9:00 a.m. must report to the office. Attendance is taken promptly at the start of the academic day. Please ensure you report your child(ren) absence through School Messenger.
- All students are encouraged to remain at school during lunch period. Parents wishing to take their child off site at lunch must sign their child out at the office. If your child goes home for lunch, please ensure classroom teacher has been

notified in writing. With Parent Permission, Grade 7 & 8 students will be able to go out for lunch. A note signed by parent allowing permission to walk to a restaurant must be given to the classroom teacher every time they go. If a student is consistently late or safety is in jeopardy, this will be discussed further with parents.

- We no longer are using agendas to communicate. Please ensure you communicate with the classroom teachers via ncvle/notes...etc. This way both the teacher and office can stay informed. Also, a reminder to use the attendance portal to call in all absences and early dismissals.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation. We believe these procedures will assist us in providing a safe and productive learning environment.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY

Information to Follow

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS/ NCVLE

Please communicate with your child's teacher with any questions or classroom concerns you may have. A quick call/e-mail can alleviate anxiety. Please communicate with your teachers through NCVLE.

TRANSPORTATION

The parent portal will open before school with transportation arrangements. NSTS will share further information.

BULLYING / SOCIAL MEDIA

Over the years, there has been a growing concern over school bullying across the country, province and communities. This is a complex social issue that involves all community members and can have serious negative implications for all involved.

As educators, we continue to be cognizant and sensitive to arising situations. We have gathered a great deal of resources on the topic and endeavour to be proactive in reducing bullying. Through social

skills programs such as Lion's Quest, Roots of Empathy, Fully Alive and our Religious Education program, we have made great progress at educating students on the many forms of bullying. The Niagara Catholic District School Board has developed a Bullying policy that can be found on the board website at www.niagaracatholic.ca

What can make the concept of bullying rebellious at times is the distinction between actual bullying and single breakdown in student relationships. We find that through open and honest discussion and ownership on the part of students involved we can distinguish the extent of the behaviour.

Cyber-bullying is yet another form of inappropriate behaviour that has seen a rising frequency. We ask that parents closely monitor their child's use of the computer/cell phones.

In the event of any form of bullying, the school will enforce appropriate consequences that may include school suspension.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE/ SOUP DAY

Fall is a season when we celebrate the harvest and give thanks to our God for all the wonderful things He provides. It is also a time when we, as the St. John Bosco Catholic community, come together and show our generosity for those who struggle to feed themselves and their families. Classroom collection of canned goods will begin on Monday, Sept. 25th and will continue until Thanksgiving. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

We will also continue with our new tradition "Stone Soup Day". Details to follow!!

INDOOR SHOES

Every child should have indoor shoes that can be left at school. These should be labeled with the child's name. Indoor shoes will be worn every day inside the classrooms and, if they have white rubber soles, can also serve as gym shoes. This provides for the comfort, safety and well-being of our students as well as the cleanliness of the school.

If you require assistance with providing your child(ren) with indoor shoes, please call the teacher/office for assistance. This information will remain confidential.

ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Catholic School Council is an excellent vehicle for parents and community members to become more greatly involved in the school. All parents may attend council meetings. A member of the community can either nominate parents or self nominate should they wish to serve on the council in an executive role or member of council.

Our first school council meeting will be on Tuesday, October 8th at 6:30p.m. at the school. Elections will be held for the upcoming year.

NUTRITION PROGRAM

Our Nutrition Program will begin mid September. All students will have access to the program.

LATES/ABSENCES

Please ensure you use the Safe Arrival Program. If you need assistance, please call the office.

VOICEMAIL

Due to the school's fast paced day, callers may get the voicemail recording. Please leave your name, number, and the time of your call and a brief reason for your call. **If the message is urgent, please continue to phone until someone answers.** Calls will be forwarded to the appropriate staff member.

LATES/ABSENCES

Please ensure you use the Safe Arrival Program. If you need assistance, please call the office.

MEET AND GREET/ BOOK FAIR

Our St. John Bosco Meet and Greet is October 3rd. This is a great opportunity for parents to meet with classroom teachers for a general overview of the school year. Our Book Fair will also be held this evening. Details to follow! Refreshments will be served.

MEDICATIONS IN SCHOOL

Parents should be aware of the strict guidelines established by the Niagara Catholic District School Board for medication in schools.

1. The medication must be in the container prepared by the pharmacist and the label must include: the name of the doctor, student and the name and strength of the medication.
2. The school must have written request from the physician indicating the frequency and dosage of the prescribed medication (this form is available at the school office.)
3. The school must have written permission from the parent or guardian to administer the medication (this form is available at the school office.)
4. Deliver prescribed medication directly to the school office. Please do not send them with the child.

N.B.: Contagious/infectious diseases, e.g. Chicken Pox or Fifth's Disease, must be reported to the school immediately.

ALLERGY ALERT

At the beginning of every school year we remind all students and parents/guardians of our Board's Anaphylaxis Policy. At St. John Bosco Catholic we have Emergency Guidelines which clearly state what medical procedures must occur for those students who have various life-threatening medical conditions.

We are reminding all students and parents/guardians that we have students in our school who are known to have a potentially life-threatening allergy called Anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a severe life-threatening form of allergic reaction. It may begin with severe itching of the eyes or face, a sense of constriction in the throat, then other symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea and difficulty with breathing may develop. This may lead to coma and death.

Foods such as peanuts, other nuts, fish, shellfish, eggs, milk, and wheat as well as insect stings from bees and wasps, latex products and medication are the most common allergies that produce anaphylaxis.

Anaphylaxis requires immediate first aid response and immediate medical intervention. If your child has severe allergies, please provide this important information to the classroom teacher. **We ask all parents for your cooperation in keeping our school a "nut-free" environment.**

DRESS CODE POLICY

*Students are reminded of our board dress code and the requirement is to be in full compliance daily.

*Grad Hoodies may now be purchased directly through Maddelena's on-line portal. Maddelena's website is open if you would like to order.

VALUABLES AT SCHOOL

Children should not bring to school expensive articles of clothing, jewelry, toys, etc. Occasionally things get ripped, stolen, and broken. At times it can be very difficult to determine who is at fault and to assess blame. Therefore, we ask that all of these items be left at home. **The school will not be held responsible for any damage to these personal items.**

LOST AND FOUND

All student possessions should be labeled with their names in order to provide for easy identification if lost. A "Lost and Found" box is available and can be checked on a regular basis by students.

CELL PHONES

As we continue to foster a safe and positive learning environment for all students, I would like to remind you of the new regulations regarding cell phone use that have been implemented in Ontario schools. To minimize distractions and maximize learning, cell phones are only permitted during instructional time when they are being used for educational purposes as directed by the teacher/principal. Outside of these times, students are expected to keep their phones turned off and stored away unless needed for documented learning needs and/or health related requirements. We kindly ask for your support in reinforcing this policy with your children and encouraging them to focus on their studies during school hours.

If a student is in possession of a phone outside of the parameters set above, they will be asked to hand their phone into the teacher/staff member and placed in a safe area. Parents will then be contacted.

Your cooperation is essential in helping us maintain a healthy and respectful school environment. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these rules, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Thank you for your understanding and support.

HOT LUNCHES

We will be offering Hot Lunches. Information will be sent home in September via School Cash On-line notifications.

SCHOOL MASSES

We invite you to join us, as a community, in celebration of our Catholic Faith by participating in our School Masses. Starting in October, our students will take turns attending Mass at St. John Bosco Parish. All are welcome!

SCHOOL CASH

Please ensure you are registered for school cash on-line. <https://ncdsb.schoolcashionline.com>

LUNCHES/ECO

We are an eco-friendly school. Please encourage your children to bring litter less lunches. Students will not have access to a microwave or utensils.

NEWSLETTERS ONLINE

Parents are kept informed of school, school board, and local activities through our monthly newsletter which is located on the Niagara Catholic Website under our school. If you require a hard copy of the newsletter we will kindly send one home to you. Please advise your child's teacher or call the school.

Accessing Our Online School Newsletter:

From the board's website

www.niagararcatholic.ca

CLICK on the following tabs:

-SCHOOLS

-ELEMENTARY

-ST.JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY

-NEWSLETTER