



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

ISSUE #1 – SEPTEMBER 2024

HAPPY NEW SCHOOL YEAR!!

On behalf of the staff at Sacred Heart Catholic School, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all new students, families and all of our returning Stars! The newsletter is packed full of information of what we will be doing differently this year. I encourage you to read through the newsletter and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school by phone or e-mail.

We have planned for a successful start to the school year, and it will only be made better by your participation as we do what we can to make Sacred Heart Catholic School the best school it can be.

Looking forward to a great year,

Mr. J. Romeo

SACRED HEART PARISH NEWS

We will be celebrating our first School Mass of the year on Tuesday September 10, 2024 at 9:15 a.m. All questions about Sacraments are to be directed to Fr. Stuart at 905-295-4455.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE and SAFE ARRIVAL

Sacred Heart Catholic School and all schools throughout Niagara Catholic use the Safe Arrival program to manage student attendance reporting. The Safe Arrival program reduces the time it takes to verify student attendance making it easier for you to report your child's absence and easier for staff to respond to unexplained student absences. The Safe Arrival program allows parents to report their child's absence quickly and conveniently in one of three ways:

- 1) Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account using your email address. After logging in, select the Attendance tab to Report an Absence.
- 2) Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app (blue logo) from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). Use your new login information to access your account. Select Attendance to Report an Absence. If you would like to receive attendance notifications on your mobile device please enable Push Notifications in the Settings area of the app. The document Using the SchoolMessenger app will give instructions for using the App.

STAFF ASSIGNMENTS ***TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Fr. Stuart MacDonald

SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. D. Massi

PRINCIPAL

Mr. J. Romeo

SECRETARY

Mrs. D. Plyley

EARLY YEARS

Kindergarten – Mrs. C. Arsenault & Mrs. N. Duchesne (DECE)

Kindergarten – *LTO TBD to start the year (Mrs. Muraca on leave)* & Mrs. N. Aubin (DECE)

PRIMARY DIVISION

Gr. 1 – Mrs. K. Bender

Gr. 1/2 – Mrs. G. D'Amico

Gr. 2 – Mrs. E. Beswick



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Gr. 3 – Mr. N. CuvIELlo
Gr. 3/4 – Miss F. Muraco

Primary Team Member – Mrs. J. Marino

JUNIOR DIVISION

Gr. 4/5 – Mrs. J. Gullion
Gr. 5 – Mrs. A. Colavecchia

JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Gr. 6/7 – Mrs. M. Lococo
Gr. 6/7 – Mrs. A. Roberto
Gr. 7/8 – Mr. A. Capacchione
Gr. 8 – Mrs. A. Maloney

FRENCH (Gr. 4 -8)

Mme. Watson (Gr. 4 – 8)
TBD (Gr. 3/4 class)

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE

Mrs. M. Manders

ITINERANT ARTS TEACHER

Mrs. R. Gignac (each Day 4 & 5)

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL (PARENT COUNCIL) CORNER

We will be accepting nominations starting the week of September 9th. Nominations are completed by submitting your name (or the name of someone you would like to nominate) to sacred.heart@ncdsb.com.

Please know that all parents are welcome to attend any of our Catholic School Council Meetings. There is no experience necessary—just a desire to make Sacred Heart the best school that it can be. That can only be done with your input!!

Our first meeting will be on Tuesday September 24th at 6:00 p.m. and it will take place in the school library.

CHILD & YOUTHCARE WORKER

Ms. J. Botell (one day per five-day cycle)

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS

Mr. K. Alquizola
Mrs. K. De Souza
Mrs. J. Dow-Callahan
Ms. G. Kaur
Ms. M. Reyes Russi
Ms. R. Smith

LIBRARIAN

Mrs. J. Lee (*Day 1 – 5; every other week*)

CUSTODIAL STAFF

Mr. J. Rigon (AM)
Ms. L. Bray (PM)

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION (ORANGE SHIRT DAY)

Mon. Sept 30, 2024

Attention Families! To order orange shirts through Pegasus School Images – <https://teamandspiritwear.com/NCDSB-ORANGEDAY/shop/home>

Shirts are \$15 including tax. Families are encouraged to place their orders online through Pegasus School Images. A credit card is required. At the time of placing orders, parents/staff will be asked to select:

- 1) The Shirt Size
- 2) Quantity
- 3) Name of the School where the shirt is to be delivered.

4) All orders must be placed by midnight, Monday September 16 in order for all shirts to be delivered to schools on time.





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BELL TIMES

DAILY SCHEDULE	K - Grade 8
Duty Begins	8:35 - 8:45
Opening Exercises	8:45 - 8:55
Period 1	8:55 - 9:35
Period 2	9:35 - 10:15
Period 3	10:15 - 10:55
AM Nutrition Break (A)	10:55 - 11:15
AM Nutrition Break (B)	11:15 - 11:35
Period 4	11:35 - 12:15
Period 5	12:15 - 12:55
PM Nutrition Break (A)	12:55 - 1:15
PM Nutrition Break (B)	1:15 - 1:35
Period 6	1:35 - 2:15
Period 7	2:15 - 2:55
Dismissal	3:05

TERRY FOX WALK

On Friday, September 13th all students at Sacred Heart Catholic School will be participating in The Terry Fox School Day Walk. Donations are encouraged towards this worthwhile cause. On-line donations only please.



*This day will also be our first Alternate Dress (or Dress-down) Day. Students are encouraged to wear **Red** for Terry, a true Canadian Hero!!!*

ALLERGY ALERT

At the beginning of every school year, we remind all students and parents/guardians of our Board's Anaphylaxis Policy. At Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School 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 allergens that produce anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis requires immediate first aid response and immediate medical intervention. If your child requires a special plan to ensure their safety, please alert your child's teacher so we can ensure that we are doing all we can to keep your child, and all children, safe.

CELL PHONE USE IN SCHOOL & SOCIAL MEDIA ACCESS

To minimize distractions, students who bring their cell phones to school must have the phone stored out of view and turned off or onto silent mode during the instructional day. They may only use it if their teacher permits it for learning, for health or medical purposes, or to support special education needs. Outside of these times, students are expected to keep their phones turned off or on silent and have them stored away.



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NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Social media platforms on school networks and board devices will be disabled. This is intended to limit the number of interruptions in class and to benefit the mental health and well-being of students. Niagara Catholic already blocks access to some social media sites. Now all will be unavailable to students on the board network during the school day.

CIGARETTES, VAPING, OR NICOTINE, CANNABIS, OR ALCOHOL USE AT SCHOOL

To protect the health and well-being of students, the NCDSB will be installing sensors to detect vaping in schools. The Smoke-Free Ontario Act bans the use of any tobacco, nicotine, or e-cigarette (vape) on school property. Anyone under the age of 19 is prohibited from buying or possessing alcohol or cannabis. These substances, and any illegal drug, are prohibited on school property.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME & SCHOOL—QUESTIONS, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS

The Ministry of Education has given school boards new requirements on how to communicate with parents who have questions, concerns, or complaints. This information will also be shared on the Parents section of the Board website and school websites in time for the start of the new school year. The process is outlined below:

- Parents/guardians should expect a response to a concern within **two business days**.
- If parents have a question about a classroom-related matter, such as curriculum, homework, classroom behavior, or specific incidents, please contact the child’s teacher.
- If the parent cannot resolve the issue at the classroom level and/or have a question about school procedures, extracurricular activities, or safety concerns, please contact the school Principal.
- For issues unresolved at the school level or issues related to Niagara Catholic policies, procedures, resource allocation, or other concerns, please contact the Superintendent of Education assigned to Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School.

PAYING FOR ALL SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers the safest, fastest and most convenient way to pay for activities at school. It is a safe and easy way to pay for things like school trips and hot lunch days. Online payment will be the only way to pay for school activities this year.

You can register @ <https://ncdsb.schoolcshonline.com>. If you have questions or concerns, you are asked to please give us a call at the school.

ELEMENTARY STANDARDIZED DRESS CODE



As you are aware, Niagara Catholic has an Elementary Dress Code for students. Details regarding the Dress Code can be found on the Board’s website.

Highlights include the following:

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 or;
- Navy Blue Pants (Dress, Cargo, Denim, Kobe, Corduroy style permitted) or;
- Navy Blue Skorts or Dresses or



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- Navy Blue Walking Shorts or Capris or;
 - Grade 8 students have the option to wear grey secondary uniform pants. 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) or;
 - Navy Blue or White Polo shirt (short or long sleeve) or;
 - School designed spirit wear.
- Running shoes are the recommended footwear and socks must be worn.

NEW SPIRITWEAR PROVIDER!!



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

The direct link to our online page on BigBear's website is:
<https://www.bigbearspiritwear.com/sacred-heart-stars/>