



ST. PATRICK NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

Welcome back!

I am blessed to be with you as Principal of this wonderful school community!

It's a joyous moment as our school family reunites for another year of growth, faith, and shared experiences.

In our Catholic tradition, we find purpose and guidance. As we step into this new school year, let us carry the lessons of the past while embracing the opportunities of the present. Together, we'll cultivate both minds and hearts, nurturing academic excellence and spiritual depth.

Our teachers are ready to inspire and guide, and our staff is dedicated to providing a safe and enriching environment. With the support of our parents, we'll continue to flourish as a community rooted in faith and love.

May this year be one of discovery, friendship, and grace. Together, let's make it a memorable chapter in the story of St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School!

Blessings,
Ms. Romano

WELCOME



Welcome Back to all returning staff and students!
And a special welcome to all new students and staff!

2024-2025 School Staff

Kindergarten: A. Damiano, A. Lubocki

Grade 1: JM Villegas

Grade 1/2: A. Johnstone

Grade 2/3: S. Szick

Grade 3/4: T. Zitano

Grade 4/5: R. Pasco

Grade 6/7: T. Basilone

Grade 7/8: E. Curcio

ERT: C. Russell

PTMs: J. Gustyn, K. Golia, S. Valovich

FSL: L. Lennox

EAs: A. Rombough, A. Potter

Itinerant Arts: R. Gignac

ESL: S. Ciocca

Library: L. Frascino

CYW: K. Cardamone

Caretaker: P. McGeen

Secretary: M. Roma

Principal: M. Romano

bell schedule

CHANGE

8:50-9:05 Morning Entry
9:05-9:15 First Bell, Prayer, Announcements
9:15-9:55 Period 1
9:55-10:35 Period 2
10:35-11:15 Period 3
11:15-11:35 Recess 1
11:35-11:55 Lunch 1
11:55-12:35 Period 4
12:35-1:15 Period 5
1:15-1:35 Recess 2
1:35-1:55 Lunch 2
1:55-2:35 Period 6
2:35-3:15 Period 7
3:15-3:25 Prayer, announcements
3:25 Dismissal



To help ensure student safety, when dropping off students in the morning, please park in the lot at Huron Street or along the fence line on First Avenue. Students will then walk through the yard to the front door in the morning to enter the building. Kindergarten parents will be permitted to walk their children to the Kinder Gate.

As always, however, students arriving late to school must be dropped off near the front of the school and enter through the front door and check in with the office.

At the end of the day, all teachers will direct classes through the yard to the gate at the parking lot at Huron Street. All pick ups and walkers will exit this way. Only bus students will be exiting the front door to the bus loading zone.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support.



Our school motto for the 2024-2025 school year is **#dowhatyoucant.** Ask your child about the video that inspired it all and join us in doing what we can't!

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

Report your Child's Absence



The Niagara Catholic Safe Arrival system is accessible to parents/guardians to report their child's late arrival or absence quickly and conveniently.

There are 3 ways to report an absence:

Call the toll free number:
tel: 1-844-287-6287

Visit SchoolMessenger.ca:
go.schoolmessenger.ca

Or use the SchoolMessenger app.

Why Use SchoolCash Online?

Convenient Make secure payments 24/7 from the comfort of your home

Easy To Use Online shopping with various payment methods

Safe Your child won't be carrying cash or checks to and from school

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

ncdsb.schoolcashionline.com

How Does This Work?

It's simple! Just follow the 4 easy steps to make payments. Then see your payment history and receive receipts via email.

OUR DRESS CODE COLOURS

Tops

At a minimum, every student is required to wear one of the following:

- Navy or white Oxford shirt (short or long sleeve) or;
- Navy or white collared shirt (short or long sleeve) or;
- School-designed spirit wear

The elementary standardized dress code shirt must be plain (no logos or advertising) and buttoned in a respectable manner. Visible t-shirts worn under the elementary standardized dress code top must be either navy blue or white.



Bottoms

At a minimum, every student is required to wear one of the following:

- Navy sweat pants (Kindergarten - Grade 3) or;
- Navy pants (capri, cargo, denim, kobe or corduroy) or;
- Navy shorts, skirts or dresses or;
- Navy walking shorts.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE AND SPIRIT WEAR

bigbearspiritwear.com

- Niagara Catholic has a standardized dress code for students in all of our Catholic elementary schools. All students wear navy blue bottoms and navy blue or white shirts.
- The elementary standardized dress code shirt must be plain (no logos or advertising) and buttoned in a respectable manner. Visible t-shirts worn under the elementary standardized dress code top must be either navy blue or white.



Our Catholic School Council will meet about 4 times a year. We will be having our first Meeting/Elections on October 7 at 5:00pm at the school. Please consider joining.



Follow us!

- Instagram:
@stpatricknf
- X (formerly twitter):
@stpatsNF



Join us for our
Meet the Teacher Night
at the school on
September 24 from 6-7pm.



Jesus said, “Let the little children
come to me, and do not hinder
them, for the kingdom of heaven
belongs to such as these”.

~Matthew 19:14



Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter

September 2024

Eyes Ready for the School Year!

Proper vision is important for a student's learning and social development. A full eye exam by an eye doctor (optometrist) is the best way to ensure a healthy eyes and good vision.

The [Eye See...Eye Learn®](#) program is for students in junior and senior kindergarten to have a full eye exam (covered by OHIP) with a [participating optometrist](#). If a child needs glasses, they will receive a free pair



donated by _____

Plastic Plus, Modern Optical Canada and the participating optometrist. For children aged 19 and under, OHIP covers the cost of a complete annual eye exam and any follow-up assessments that may be required.

A yearly eye exam is recommended – [find an eye doctor near you](#).

For more information, please visit <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/schools/vision-screening.aspx>

Safely Packing Lunches

1. Clean

- Wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap and water before preparing any
- ~~make~~ Make sure you sanitize countertops, utensils and any lunch boxes or lunch bags. For surfaces and lunch boxes/bags: mix 2.5 ml (1/2 tsp) of bleach with 1 L (4 cups) of water. Apply to surface and let stand briefly.
 - o Rinse with clean water and air dry or use a clean
 - o towel.
- Wash raw fruits and vegetables before eating

2. Keep Cold Food Cold

- Meat, chicken, seafood, eggs, and dairy products must stay cold to stay safe. Use frozen packs to keep food at or below 4°C (40 F). Use an insulated lunch bag and
- place freezer packs between foods that need to stay cold. Refrigerate the night before to get your lunch bag off to a cool start.

3. Keep Hot Food Hot

- Hot food must stay hot at above 60°C (140°F). Use insulated containers and keep them closed until ready to eat or take your food cold and reheat it



For more information visit

https://www.niagararegion.ca/living/health_wellness/food-safety/default.aspx

Grade 7 Immunization Campaign

Niagara Region Public Health's school-based vaccination clinics will begin in September for the following publicly funded routine school vaccinations:

- Meningococcal
 - Single dose
 - Required for school attendance under the Immunization Act of School Pupils
- Hepatitis B (HB)
 - 2 or 3 dose series – depending on age and health history
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
 - 2 or 3 dose series – depending on age and health history

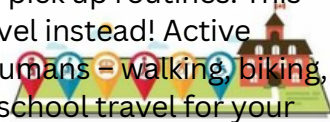


Parents/legal guardians of grade 7 students will receive an information package and instructions

on how to submit their completed consent form. Parents/legal guardians must complete the consent form whether their child is receiving all, some, or none of the vaccines. More information will be provided through your child's school.

Active School Travel

Back to school means restarting morning drop off and afternoon pick up routines. This year take the stress out of driving and consider active school travel instead! Active school travel is any mode of transportation that is powered by humans – walking, biking, and scootering for example. There are several benefits of active school travel for your children:



- More people walking means fewer cars and cleaner air around the school
- Kids who walk, bike, or roll to school arrive alert and ready to learn
- Active transportation to school counts towards daily physical activity needs for your children. And much more!

To help build confidence and participate in active transportation safely, consider

reviewing the

resources below:

- [Blue the Butterfly](#) – a pedestrian safety video for families
- [Cycle Safety Virtual Bike Rodeo](#) – education and training for safe cycling featuring skills like putting on a helmet, using hand signals, and doing shoulder checks