



Loretto Catholic Elementary School

October 2024



School Information

Ms. L. Spadafora - Principal

Mrs. M. Kelly - Vice Principal

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

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

Phone: 905 356 4175

Instagram: [lorettocatholicnf](#)

Principal Message

Thanksgiving prayer

Dear Lord, on Thanksgiving Day, we bow our hearts to You in prayer. We give You thanks for all You have done, mostly for the gift of Jesus Christ, Your Son. For beauty in nature, in which we see Your Glory, for joy and health, friends, and family. Our Lady of Loretto, pray for us
Amen



Transitions and New classes

We would like to extend a special thank you to all our students and families for their support during the transition of a new class. We have reduced many class sizes both to comply with Ministry standards but most importantly for the academic success of our students. We will continue to do our best to support our students during this transition.

We would like to welcome Mrs. vanReissen into our Gr 3/4 class.

These are the new classes made based on receiving a new teacher.

Gr 2/3- Mrs. DeProphetis

Gr 3/4- Mrs. van Reissen

Gr4- Mrs. Pillitteri

Gr.5 Mrs. Pasto

Gr 5- Mr. Gentilcore

October calendar is at the bottom

Communication

Loretto Catholic is rooted in Catholic and Christian values. Our goal is to create a safe, kind and loving environment for all who work, learn, and assist with our school community.

Aggressive or hostile behaviour or language toward, staff, students or our community helpers will not be tolerated. While we welcome feedback, concerns and opinions it is the expectation that all staff, students, parents, guardians and community helpers communicate their needs and concerns with one another in a respectful and peaceful manner whether through email, on the phone or face-to-face. Adherence to this expectation is vital in order to create a community which can solve problems and help one another achieve success.

Morning Entry - Class entrances through specific school doors

Front Kinder Play area - Kinders only in gated area- escorted to class by staff at the bell

Front doors- late students after the bell only

Side front doors- Gr 1 and GR 1/2 students

Primary doors in back of school- Grade 2 to Gr 6/7

Portables - Gr 7FS and Gr 7C

Portable with ramp - Gr 8M and Gr 8A

Balanced Day - new this year

A Balanced School Day is a modified elementary school schedule designed to enhance learning, foster healthy habits, and encourage daily 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 break (20 mins eating/20 mins 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**

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

CSC Open House/Meet the Teacher Night

Thank you to all our families who were able to come and join us. It was a wonderful success. Lots of new faces and friendship were made.

Catholic School Council

The Loretto Catholic School Council (CSC) is already busy planning and getting organized for this year. Our first meeting was held on Tuesday, September 24th at 6:00, elections were held. We would

like to thank and introduce our:

Members for 2024-2025

Mrs. G. Griffiths- & Mrs. L. Romeo Co - Chairperson

Mrs. A. Tiller, Mrs. E. Allen, Mrs. T. Stransky, Mrs. A. Malvaso, Mrs. M .Dieroff, Mrs. S Zufelt,
Mrs. O. Romanoff, Mr. M. Hurteau,

Our teacher rep. is Mrs. Mancuso

We are looking forward to many school community events and fundraisers to help the school and to create great memories together.

Meetings are posted on the monthly calendar.

Student Senate/Council 2024-2025

Congratulations to all our student candidate!! Well Done!

Congratulations to our 2024-2025 Student Council and Senate:

Edwin J., Mia N., (Gr 6B) Austin McL & Ava M. (Gr 6/7M),

Kiana L., Ava H. & Matteo M. (Gr 6/7G), Seclia I. & Adelyn M.(Gr 7FS),

Farah R. & Sophia B. (Gr 7C), Caden M., Andrew L., Tadiwa M. (Gr 8M),

Bryce M., Emily T. & Madalyn C. (Gr 8A),

Senate Members – Eleora M.(Gr 8M) & Addie G. (Gr 7FS)

Parent volunteer/Chaperones

Parents/Guardians interested in volunteering to chaperone (be responsible to supervise children) on school trips/excursions are asked to have an up-to-date (within the last 5 years) vulnerable sector check through Niagara Regional Police. The original must come to school and we will make a copy to place in our files. If you submitted a check last year , you do not need to re submit.

Anaphylaxis

At Loretto Catholic, we continue to have several students with Anaphylaxis - a severe life threatening condition caused by an allergic reaction to certain food products (i.e.) peanuts, dairy, medications, latex products, inhalers, and insect bites from bees or wasps. Residue on any surfaces can trigger a severe allergic reaction. Anaphylaxis requires immediate action through medications or an EPI- PEN. We ask that students continue to work on ensuring products from home are nut-free as well as any other allergies lists in each class which teachers will inform them of.

If your child has allergies that the school is unaware of, please call and speak to your child's classroom teacher and we will send home the forms to be completed and have on file.

Parking Lot Safety

Just wanted to take a moment to thank all our families who are following the **Kiss'n Ride process both before and after school.**

We are asking parents to only use the front area designated as a Kiss'n 'Ride- to not park and leave your car or exit your car in this area. Student(s) exit the car only with their belongings and cross with the supervisor to the school property.

We also ask that parents do not park in front of the stop signs along the exit path as this blocks traffic and flow.

We have supervision staff who are helping students so they can walk to their entrances both at the front and back of the school **before 8:45 a.m.** Once the bell goes, students must enter through the front doors.

We ask that cars proceed **slowly** as we have had a few very close calls with students. Cars need to **STOP** and check that the crosswalk is clear where students and families are walking to cross.

Should parents want to park- then please use the side entrance at the KSD side and enter through the back gates after 8:35.

Families are asked not to park on the side of Loretto Catholic where the gate and portables are at any time as this is an Emergency Lane, as well we have been asked not to use the Avondale Parking lot as a pick up zone.

Your support and assistance in ensuring our students' safety are very important to all of us.

Project Share - Thanksgiving Food drive

On average, 350 pounds of emergency food is distributed each hour to families in need at Project Share. This amounts to over 800,000 pounds of food each year. **From Monday, September 23rd to Monday October 8th.** Loretto Catholic will be participating in a school wide collection of canned goods and nonperishable food items. Please send in any items to school with your child and they can add it to the special bins we have set up in the front foyer. These items will be collected by Project Share.

Halloween Dance a thon

On **Thursday October 31** we will be hosting our **Halloween Dance a thon**. We will be using both Pledge-a-lopers and School cash online for donations.

We will be selling Halloween themed glow items as well as snacks. All items will range from \$1.00- \$5.00.

Theme- Black and Orange &/or appropriate costumes- Students are to be dressed appropriately (no crop tops, no pjs, short shorts etc, no masks/or face painting, gore, gruesome, weapons and/or blood that may scare our younger students who have not experienced this event at school with this many students.



Student Council will be DJ and helping with organizing and running the event along with our CSC.

Please be mindful that students are not sharing or bringing in snacks or treats to share. We have many allergies and want everyone to be safe. Throughout the week after Halloween, do not send in treats that have nuts or nut products.

Fresh From Farm Initiative

Families are able to purchase Ontario grown fruits and vegetables. Please review the school cash online for the variety and options that are available starting **Oct 7th- Oct 21st**. Pick up will be at Loretto Catholic. Pick up date and time will be shared closer to the date.



Big Bear Spiritwear link

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 **FRESH** 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 collar 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.

LORETTO LYNX 2023 SPIRITWEAR

<p>Gildan DryBlend 9.4 oz. 50/50 Jersey Polo</p> <p>Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Left Chest</p> <p>Youth #8800B \$18.79 Adult #8800 \$20.49</p> <p>Available Colours: Navy & White</p> 	<p>Core 365 Dri-Fit 100% Polyester Polo Shirt</p> <p>Youth #88181Y Ladies' #78181 Adult #88181</p> <p>\$27.50</p> <p>Available Colours: Navy & White</p> 	<p>50/50 Pull-Over Hooded Sweatshirt, 13.0 oz.</p> <p>Printed with Full-Size Loretto Lynx Logo on Front</p> <p>Youth #18500B \$32.49 Adult #18500 \$33.95</p> <p>Available Colours: Navy & Dark Heather</p> 
<p>50/50 Pull-Over Hooded Sweatshirt, 13.0 oz.</p> <p>Full-Size Embroidery & Appliqué Decoration on Front</p> <p>Youth #18500B \$36.95 Adult #18500 \$38.49</p> <p>Available Colours: Navy and Dark Heather</p> 	<p>Dynamic Heather 2-Tone Lightweight Polyester Hoodie</p> <p>Printed with Full-Size Loretto Lynx Logo on Front</p> <p>Youth #Y2047 \$64.95 Adult #F2047 \$64.95</p> <p>Available Colour: Charcoal Dynamic Heather/True Navy</p> 	<p>50/50 Full-Zip Hooded Sweatshirt, 13.0 oz.</p> <p>Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Left Chest</p> <p>Youth #18600B \$38.95 Adult #18600 \$42.49</p> <p>Available Colours: Navy and Dark Heather</p> 
<p>ATC™ Mid Profile Twill Ball Cap Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo Front</p> <p>100% cotton twill 6-panel Adjustable hook and loop closure</p> <p>Youth Size Adjustable #Y130 \$14.49 Adult Size Adjustable #C130 \$14.95</p> <p>Coal Grey Navy</p> 	<p>Acrylic 12" Pom Pom Toque</p> <p>Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Front</p> <p>#SP15 One Size \$14.50</p> <p>Dark Heather/Navy</p> 	<p>Acrylic Beanie-Style Winter Toque</p> <p>Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Front</p> <p>One Size #102 \$12.95 + tax</p> <p>Charcoal Grey Navy</p> 

Order On-Line at 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!
LORETTO CATHOLIC LYNX



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Niagara Falls, Ontario, L2G 2L6
Ph: 905-357-7132
www.bigbearspiritwear.com

New information/updates from of Ministry of Education

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

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. 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.

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.

School Cash online

Payment for School Activities- School Cash Online

Parents/Guardians are asked to sign up for our convenient payment program - SCHOOLCASHONLINE. This is an excellent way to pay for student activities/lunches without sending in money to school.

To register, please go to:



SchoolCashOnline.com: Welcome

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 Saves Time Manage your school expenses and view payment history in one place

schoolcashonline.com

Lynx Water Bottles

We will continue 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 bottles that are 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. We will begin selling as of mid September until late May.**



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.

Lunch and Special Treat Days

Thank you to all our families for your support throughout the year for the lunch days. We will continue to use the Little Caesar, Pita Pit, Swiss Chalet, popcorn, and ice cream.

Leaving School Grounds

Any student who wishes to leave the school grounds during the school day for any reason is required to be signed out by a parent/guardian in the main office. Students will not be permitted to leave school grounds for lunch unless picked up by a parent/guardian.

If a change in dismissal routine is to occur, a signed note from the parent is required EACH TIME. This will help us ensure your child is safely dismissed from school. Texts from parents, office phone/cell phone usage will not be a regularly accepted form of permission and will only be considered in the case of an extenuating circumstance.

Niagara Nutrition Partners

Thank you to our Niagara Nutrition Partners for all their support this year. Each class has a bin and tongs filled with delicious and nutritious food items such as yogurt tubes, fruits, fruit bars, and individually baked goods. These items vary from day to day. All students are welcome to pick a snack to compliment their own snacks.

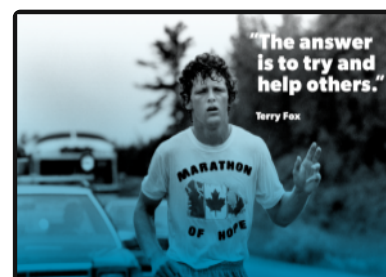


We also want to thank our families for donating to this great cause so we can continue to sustain and help maintain it throughout the year.

Please continue to help by donating through School Cash Online.

Terry Fox - September 13, 2024

On Friday, September 13th all students participated in The Terry Fox School Event. Students showed their support by wearing White and Red. Our community raised just over \$600.00. Thank you to all our families!!



Items Left At School

We know it is the season when we have many student belongings at school like hats, mittens, sweaters, coats, indoor/outdoor shoes and boots at school. Often items are not labelled and it is hard to know who they belong to. We do have a lost and found for students to check in the vestibule in the main entrance to the school. Unfortunately, should items go missing and/or are lost when students have left them at school a reminder that we, the school, are not responsible for any lost items or items left at the school. We will do our best to help our students find their items. We ask that items are all labelled as many items are similar or from the same stores.

Toys at School

We remind all our students and parents that although toys are fun to play with during recess times, it is difficult to keep track of whose toys belong to whom. Often students bring and play with their toys during class time. We ask that you please consider not sending toys or labelling the toys and speaking to your child about when is an appropriate time to use them.

Although students are encouraged **not to trade** playing cards of any kind i.e. Pokémon, we are not responsible for traded, lost or misplaced cards.

Thank you for your support

Pets on School Property

Parents, we kindly ask that your pets do not come on to school property at arrival and dismissal. Many of our areas are already congested with families at pick up and some of our families and students are a little uncomfortable.

We appreciate your support.

Niagara Falls Crossing Guard information

Families are asked to check the site often for changes in services such as shift time changes, additions or removals of locations, and service interruptions due to inclement weather or staff shortages. We will always try to post changes in services by no later than 7:30am and 2:00pm, but sometimes last-minute issues arise, so check and check often!

Niagara Region Public Health School Health

October 2024

Don't Be Scared by Cavities this Halloween!

Keep your child's smile BOO-tiful this Halloween!

Here are some tips to help keep teeth healthy:

- Brush teeth twice a day for two minutes using fluoridated toothpaste
- Floss once a day
- Stay away from sticky, starchy and hard candy
- Limit sugary drinks. Drink water after eating tasty treats to rinse away sugar that may be stuck on your teeth.
- Book a FREE dental appointment at Public Health's dental clinics by calling 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 or [live chat with us](#).

To learn more on how to keep your family's teeth healthy, visit www.niagararegion.ca/dental.

Help Keep the Classroom Germ Free – Stay Home When Sick

Fall brings the 'unofficial' start of respiratory illness season. This means that viruses that affect our respiratory system (for example our lungs and throat) begin to spread more often.

Help keep the classroom germ free by keeping your child home if they are sick. If your child is sick, they should stay home from school until:

- They have no fever, without the use of fever reducing medication **and**
- Their symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours or 48 hours if they have nausea, vomiting and / or diarrhea **and**
- They don't develop any new symptoms

Each year, different respiratory viruses can be spreading in our community at the same time. These viruses can have similar symptoms. This means it can be hard to tell what you are infected with based on just symptoms alone. For more information on, visit [Managing Illness - Exclusion periods](#) and our downloadable resource [Respiratory Illnesses: Protect Yourself and Others](#).

By keeping your child at home when they are feeling sick, you are actively helping to prevent the spread of infection and disease among the entire school community.

WALKTOBER

As the rush of the new school year starts to settle down, consider walking, biking or rolling with your child to school.

Join families across Niagara and the world in celebrating October's [International Walk to School Month](#) (Walktober). Kids who walk or bike to school arrive alert and ready to learn. If you live too far away to walk or wheel to school, try driving to a location near your school and walk the rest of the way. Using active transportation helps reduce congestion at your school.

This Walktober, enjoy [#ActiveSchoolTravel](#) and leave the car at home more often
[@NiagaraParents](#) [@OntarioAST](#) [@NiagaraSTS](#)
Mental Illness Awareness Week 2024

This year, [Mental Illness Awareness Week \(#MIAW\)](#) is from October 1-7. Mental Illness Awareness Week is an annual national public education campaign designed to help open the eyes of Canadians to the reality of mental illness.

Mental Illness and Stigma:

Stigma is when people think badly of someone because of a certain characteristic or trait they have, which is seen as negative. This often happens because people don't fully understand things like mental illness. Stigma can lead to unfair treatment, which can be on purpose or by accident.

Some of the harmful effects of stigma can include:

- Hesitancy to get help or treatment
- Lack of understanding by family, friends or others
- Fewer opportunities for work, school or social activities
- Bullying, physical violence or harassment
- The belief that you will never succeed at certain challenges or that you can't make things better for yourself

You can help reduce stigma by educating yourself, being aware of your attitudes and behaviours and choosing your words carefully when you talk about mental illness and substance use disorders.

Helpful Resources:

- [Addressing Stigma](#)
- [Canadian Mental Health Association: Stigma and Discrimination](#)
- [Words Matter \(CAMH\)](#)

Annual Memorial Forest Vigil:

The [Memorial Forest](#) seeks to reduce the stigma around mental illness and promote a greater understanding and compassion from the community as a whole. Each year, a Memorial Forest Vigil is held during Mental Illness Awareness Week to provide an opportunity to share stories of hope and success as told by individuals and family members living with mental illness.

We are a proud member of the Saint Michael High School Family of Schools



SAINT MICHAEL
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
8699 McLeod Rd, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6S5

Please click on the banner above to link to St. Michael HS



Loretto Catholic Elementary School



@LorettoFalls



October 2024



lorettocatholicnf



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Supervision begins at 8:35 a.m., we ask that student not enter grounds prior to this time. Students are to enter using grade/class specific doors only.		Learning Disability Awareness Month		Please continue to report your child(ren's) absences and late arrivals using the school messenger/safe arrival app for smart phones or online absence. 1-844-287-6287 or https://go.schoolmessenger.ca		
Mass- 9:00 a.m., 11:00a.m., 5:00p.m. St. Thomas More 	Sept 30 Day 4 Project Share Food Drive until Oct 8th 	1 Day 5 	2 Day 1 PH HPV/Meng/HepB (Gr7) vaccination in gym 	3 Day 2 World Teacher's Day Int. Soccer Boys Cave Springs 5 & 6 Trip Bus presentations 	4 Day 3 Spirit Wear Day Int. Soccer Girls 	5 5:00 pm Mass St. Thomas More
6 Mass- 9:00 a.m., 11:00a.m., 5:00p.m. St. Thomas More 	7 Day 4 	8 Day 5 Project Share Ends 	9 Day 1 Thanksgiving Mass @ 10:00 STM Cross Country @ Queenston Heights 	10 Day 2 Cross Country Rain date 	11 PA Day 	12 5:00 pm Mass St. Thomas More
Fire Prevention Week October 6th-12th: Learn to planning exit routes						
13 Mass- 9:00 a.m., 11:00a.m., 5:00p.m. St. Thomas More 	14 Happy Thanksgiving 	15 Day 3 November Lunch orders are available through school Cash online 	16 Day 4 St. Michael Football game—Gr 8's Walking over—pm 	17 Day 5 Cave Springs Gr 7's Field Trip 	18 Day 1 Holy Childhood Walk 	19 5:00 pm Mass St. Thomas More
20 Mass- 9:00 a.m., 11:00a.m., 5:00p.m. St. Thomas More 	21 Day 2 Walk to School Day 	22 Day 3 Cross Country Board Meet @ Fireman's Park 	23 Day 4 Bd Cross Country Rain day November Lunch orders close through school Cash online 	24 Day 5 Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day 	25 Day 1 Black and Yellow—Out of dress code 	26 5:00 pm Mass St. Thomas More
27 Mass- 9:00 a.m., 11:00a.m., 5:00p.m. St. Thomas More 	28 Day 2 Reminder to please check School Cash online for all school trips, Athletic form and media consent to be completed. 	29 Day 3 	30 Day 4 	31 Day 5 Halloween Dance a thon Black & Orange 	Nov 1st All Saints Day 	Nov 2nd All Souls Day

Loretto Catholic Elementary School is proud to be a part of the St. Michael Catholic Family of Schools



Ms. Spadafora