

St. Denis Catholic School

October 2024



Address

175 Carlton St.
St. Catharines, ON
L2R 1S1

Principal

Mrs. Victoria Wegelin

Contact

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St. Denis Bell Times

School Begins 9:10 a.m.
First Break 11:20 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
Second Break 1:20 p.m. -2:00 p.m.
Dismissal 3:30 p.m.

[St. Denis October 2024 Calendar-Click Here!](#)



Principal's Message

The month of October brings many festive holidays and occasions, the most important being the holiday of Thanksgiving. This is a day we give thanks to the Lord our God for all of the things He has given us. It gives us time to reflect upon the people,

relationships, talents and events for which we are thankful. In celebration of Thanksgiving, St. Denis Catholic School will be gathering for a prayer service on Thursday, October 10th at 10:30 a.m. to praise the Lord and to pray for the needs of others, in hope that all of God's wonderful gifts will be shared fairly in our world.

On behalf of the staff of St. Denis Catholic School, I would like to wish the families of our community a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours in Catholic Education,
Mrs. V. Wegelin
Principal

Giving Thanks

For all blessings that are ours,
For all our food, for lovely flowers,
Give Thanks!

For trees that give us fruit to eat,
For winter cold and summer heat,
Give Thanks!

For Mother's love and Father's aid
For all the wonders God has made,
Give Thanks!

For friends and toys with which to play
For restful night and joyous day,
Give Thanks!

May the almighty and merciful God
Bless and protect the
St. Denis Catholic
School Community.
Amen



Called By Name 2022-2026

Niagara Catholic District School Board Theological Theme
"Called My Name: Follow Me" Focus

Let's focus on this thought - Jesus knows my name! And Jesus calls me by name. He doesn't just say, "Hey, you!" but He knows me. And He calls out to me by name. We aren't just faceless names in a crowd of humanity. Jesus recognizes each one of us and we are precious to Him. You matter so much to Jesus that He calls you by name, beckoning you to walk closer to Him, to come and follow Him. As we begin this school year may we reflect on what it means to be known by Jesus and answer His call to come follow Him!



Thank you St. Denis!!

Terry Fox Update



On Friday, September 27, 2024, students participated in our annual Terry Fox Walk to raise money for cancer research and recognize the 43rd anniversary of Terry's "Marathon of Hope". This is an activity in which students from across Canada take part, in support of the legacy of a true Canadian hero. A heartfelt thank you to our whole school community, together we raised \$384.00 for Terry! You can still donate to Terry up to October 3, 2024. Thank you for your very generous donations!

Niagara Region Public Health Newsletter

Student Information Verification Forms

Thank you to all families for returning your Student Information Verification Forms so quickly to the office! It truly was a record year in terms of the forms coming back so quickly!

We are very excited to announce the following classroom winners!

Primary- Grade 1/2 Mrs. Konieczny

Junior- Grade 4 Mr. Hastings

Intermediate- Grade 8 Mr. Riddell



Each of these classes will be receiving a pizza lunch! Congratulations!

Student Nutrition Program (SNAC)

We are once again excited to be offering this program at St. Denis Catholic School! Our school will be receiving a grant to provide healthy snacks to our students. This year the program will be a grab and go program with all of the snacks being prepackaged and delivered to the classrooms in the morning as a mid-morning snack at the first nutrition break.



World Teacher's Day

October 5, 2024

Please keep in your prayers all those who have been blessed with this special vocation. Let them continue to be positive role models for our children. May God bless all of our Educators.



Thanksgiving Liturgy



October 10, 2024

Our Thanksgiving Liturgy will be held on Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.. **There will be no school on Thanksgiving Monday which is October 14, 2024.** May we all be thankful for the many blessings in our lives.

P. A. Day

October 11, 2024

A Professional Activity Day has been planned for day, Friday, October 11, 2024. The staff of St. Denis will be involved in professional learning on this day. There will be NO school for children on this day.



Dental Screenings

October 15, 2024

Niagara Region Public Health Dental Program will be offering dental screening to grades JK, SK, 2, 4 and 7 on October 15, 2024.



A registered dental hygienist will take a quick look in the child's mouth using a sterilized dental mirror and light. The Healthy Smiles Ontario program may financially assist children who do not have access to dental care.

If you do not want your child(ren) to take part in the dental screening, you **MUST** complete the online School Dental Screening Opt-Out Form or call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 each school year.

JK/SK students will be receiving a fluoride varnish on this day as well.

If your child(ren) is not in one of the grades listed above, they may have the opportunity to participate in the dental screening. If you would like your child to be screened, please complete the [School Dental Opt-In Form](#).

Monthly Award Winners - September 2024

Every month our teachers recognize a student in their class who has demonstrated excellence in a particular area based on one of the eight Catholic Graduate Expectations. These expectations are; A discerning believer, an effective communicator, a reflective, creative and holistic learner, a

collaborative contributor, a caring family member and a responsible citizen. Congratulations to this month's recipients listed below.



Mrs. Lee's Class -Theo R.
Ms. Schenck's Class -Dominic D.
Ms. D'Ettores's Class -Nathan W., Lorne H.
Ms. Konieczny's Class -Devin B., Kiara C.
Mrs. Foster's Class -Danny K., Elena O.
Mrs. Jackson's Class -Skylee C.
Mr. Biamonte's Class -Isabella V., Tatiana T.
Mr. Sutton's PTM -Asia J.
Mr. Hasting's Class -Dahlia L.
Mrs. La Valle's Class -Covenant I-P.
Mr. O'Connor's Class -Dylan T.
Miss MacSporrán's Class -Tara E.
Mr. Riddell's Class -Elizabeth R.
Mme Bonin JR -Leia C.
Mme Bonin INT -Silvana S.G.
Mrs. Biletski - Music - Kali C.
Mrs. Wegelin - Principal's Award -Brayden C.

Congratulations to all winners! You are amazing! Shine on!

Eco School Information



October 14-October 18, 2024

**Waste Reduction Week and Waste Free Lunches
October 14, 2024-October 18, 2024**

During this special week we are asking for families to try to reduce the amount of garbage that we create from our lunches.

Also, just a friendly reminder to bring a reusable water bottle to school.

We continue to be aware of how we can help keep our school environment clean.

A few friendly reminders: Reusable bottles and sandwich containers for snacks and lunch; Reducing electricity by turning off classroom lights and computer monitors; Recycling items in appropriate classroom bins.

Waste Free Wednesday

This month, we are bringing back Waste Free Wednesday. Sustainability is important at St. Denis School. In light of this we are consciously making an effort to reduce the amount of trash and recycling our school is producing. We would like to encourage all families to pack a waste-free lunch. Making this green step with your child may take some work in the beginning, but every small step can become a daily habit and leave a lighter footprint on this earth.

IWALK Month

October is #IWALK (International Walk to School) Month, when students around the globe participate in walk-to-school events and celebrate commuting on foot. We are supporting the movement by encouraging our school community to walk or bike to school!

Thank you to Mrs. Jackson and Mr. Biamonte for organizing this on behalf of our school!



Every Little

Bit Makes

A Difference

Holy Childhood Walk 2024

October 17, 2024

Each year, the Holy Childhood Association invites everyone to become missionaries for Christ by sharing their time and love with needy children in the developing world. The Holy Childhood members set an example for all of us by fulfilling three promises:

1. to pray daily for the well-being of children around the world,
2. to learn about these children, and
3. to make small personal sacrifices to help feed, clothe and educate needy youngsters.

During the past 30 years, our Catholic schools have raised over \$530,000 to help the children of the Third World. These monies came in the form of pledges for the Holy Childhood Walkathon. This year the funds raised will support projects throughout Africa, India and Asia.

St. Denis Catholic School will be conducting a prayer service and walk Thursday, October 17, 2024. The rain date for this walk will be on Friday, October 18, 2024. Students are asked to donate a small amount to this very worthy cause using School Cash Online. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Poinsettia Orders

October 21, 2024-November 4, 2024

This year the St. Denis Catholic School Council will be selling poinsettias from **Monday, October 21, 2024 to Monday, November 4, 2024**. We will be selling poinsettias in 6" (red/white/pink) and 10" (red/white) pots. All poinsettias will come with a decorative cover. We will also be selling porch pots that come in 10" pots, arranged decoratively that have an assorted winter greens (cedar/pine/etc) as well as some decorative red dogwood branches and a sinamay bow.



All orders may be placed using School Cash Online by **Monday, November 4, 2024**.

All plants will be delivered on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 and available for pickup between 12:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. All funds raised supports our Grade 8 graduation.

Thank you for your support!

Picture Day

October 29, 2024

All students will be having their photo done on this day. Students are reminded to bring their best smile! If your child for some reason misses this special day, retakes will be done on **Monday, November 25, 2024**.



Halloween

October 31, 2024

We will be celebrating the spirit of Halloween on this very special day. At this time, students may wear their costumes the entire day to celebrate Halloween. We are discouraging the use of Halloween masks. They are encouraged to decorate their face to match their Halloween costume! Lots of pictures will be taken throughout the day. **Please remember that treats do not need to be sent in with your child. We have numerous children that have life threatening allergies. The SNAC program will hand out a nutritious and fun treat! Fun activities are planned for this day such as a Just Dance Party for all grades in the gym! Classes will be called down to have some fun dancing with their friends! A parade will be held at 9:35 a.m. for Kindergarten -Grade 6 students. Grades 7 and 8 will be participating in a dance in the afternoon in the gym. More information will be coming about this special day!**



St. Denis Catholic School Athletics!

Our **Intermediate Soccer** has started at St. Denis Catholic School. Thank you to Mr. Riddell and Mrs. LaValle for coaching our teams! **The tournaments will be held on Monday, October 1st, 2024 for the boys team and Tuesday, October 2, 2024 for the girls team.**



Girls Team: Josephina A., Leucile C., Tara E., Ciara F., Annalise J.M., Rylee K., Abby L., Shyla L., Elizabeth M., Giselle M. V., Silvana S. G.
Boys Team: Joshua A., Atticus H., Murtaja M., Edrick O., Ayden M., Luca L.P., Isaac O., Zachary S., Chase S., Adam J., Anton A., Santiago G.

We are very excited that **Junior Soccer** has started at our school. Thank you to Mrs. LaValle and Mr. Biamonte for coaching our awesome teams. Tournaments are taking place on **Wednesday, October 9th for the girls team and Thursday, October 10th for the boys team. Go Saints Go!**

Girls Team: Victorine I., Dahlia L., Avaree T., Piper B., Scarlett C., Layla L., Emily R., Grace G., Isabel S., Alexa M., Eva W.

Boys Team: Vicente G. V, Milton C.V., Chris L., Gabriel A., Elias H., Luqman D., Samuel C. S., Jacob W., Covenant I.P., Drew B., Rocco F.

We wish all the best to our **Cross Country** Team under the direction of Mr. Hastings. Our Cross Country Meet will be held on **Tuesday, October 8, 2024** at Southward Park in Grimsby. **The NCAA Cross Country Tournament for qualified runners will be held on Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024 at Fireman's Park in Niagara Falls. Go Saints Go!!**

Cross Country Runners: Eva S., Alexa E., Nelly P., Tatiana T., Dahlia L., Emmitt C., Cohen L., Benson S., Drew B., Avere T., Abrielle P., Eva W., Anna B., Miya K., Covenant P., Jacob W., Tatius T., Santo B., Andrew T., Gabrielle G., Chris L., Luqman D., Elias H., Layla L., Alexa M., Ryza F. E., Grace G., Rahila P., Valeria R., Tara E., Nailah M., Dexter C. W., Makai M., Adam J., Issac B., Chase S., Shyla L., Giselle M. V., Elizabeth M., Pathrose A.

Food Days

Pita Day and Pizza Days

We are happy to announce that every month we will be offering Pita Days and Pizza Days. Parents can place orders using School Cash Online. Please adhere to the deadlines to ensure that your child will receive their lunch order.

October Food Days:

Pita Day-Friday, October 4, 2024

Pizza Day-Friday October 18, 2024



Niagara Ice Dogs Hockey Game

October 15, 2024-Niagara Ice Dogs visiting!

November 7, 2024-St. Denis Students attending the game!

On **Tuesday, October 15, 2024** the Niagara Ice Dogs Hockey team will be visiting our school. A ball hockey game will be played against some of our staff and students. **Students are invited to wear their Niagara Ice Dogs attire on this day!**



St. Denis Catholic School has been invited for a pre-game skate on **Thursday, November 7, 2024** from **5:00 p.m.-5:50 p.m.** at the Meridian Centre Arena in St. Catharines. Students are invited to participate in this family skate free of charge! **Just a reminder that helmets must be worn by all participants 14 years of age or younger during the pre-game skate.** For the safety of all skaters, horse play is NOT allowed. Skates are NOT permitted to enter the arena seating area during the Ice Dogs game. Following the pre-game skate, all skates must be removed from the arena.

After the pre-game skate, join St. Denis Catholic School in supporting the Ice Dogs! Tickets for the **Niagara IceDogs vs Erie Otters can be purchased for \$18.00 each.** Please order tickets using School Cash Online by **Friday, November 1, 2024.** No tickets will be able to be purchased at the

school after this date. A parent must purchase a ticket and attend with each child/group of children.

We are also excited to announce that students in Grade 3-8 may tryout for a school choir that will have the opportunity to sing the national anthem at the start of the game. If your child is interested in singing, they must have a ticket ordered for the game. Students will return to their seats with their parents/guardians after the national anthem is sung. More information will be coming.

St. Denis Catholic School Council

Our School Council is looking forward to an exciting year! Plans are underway for various activities which will help enhance the educational experiences of our students. This will promote a very positive and proactive partnership within our wonderful community. Congratulations to the members of our School Council!

Chair: Mr. Burtnik

Council Members: Mrs. Bartlett, Mr. Boyko, Mr. Egbedeyi, Mr.

Huckins, Mr. Humble, Mrs. Iorio, Mrs. Janes, Mrs. James, Mrs. Locke, Ms. Pitt, Mrs. Rakonjac, and Mrs. Wadeson.

Teacher Rep: Mrs. Lee

Staff Rep: Mrs. Korsmit

If you are interested in helping out, please contact the school. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the school library.



Student Aware Program



All Niagara Catholic schools will be using a new software program titled, "Student Aware."

This program enables us to monitor student internet traffic while using Board internet devices. The "Student Aware" program will be identifying and notifying school staff when students access online websites related to suicide, violence, abuse and/or other dangerous activities. When high-risk incidents are identified, school staff and administration will investigate the occurrence and respond accordingly to support student mental health and well-being.

Parking Lot Safety Information

As we continue to ensure our parking lot is a safe and secure area for our students to enter and exit the school, we appreciate and request your diligence when picking up your children. School staff will continue to supervise the parking lot area in addition to the playground, however, drivers are required to be extra cautious when picking up, especially during peak traffic times.

The school front and church parking lots are very busy and congested during these times and our students can be hidden behind vehicles.

Church Parking Lot Area: When dropping your child off on the side of the school next to the church, please pull up to the yellow lined area to unload your children. Parents can stay in their vehicles, the children can walk across the yellow lines to the sidewalk and walk down to the playground area. This will allow for better flow in the morning hours when it is busy. Do not pull up and leave your vehicle unattended to drop off your child. This is unfair to other parents who are waiting to drop off their children and it clogs up the parking lot. If you are walking your child through the parking lot, please ensure that they are close to you and not running ahead. There are numerous vehicles that may not be able to see our students so please take precautions.



Please remember to not park in the handicap parking spots unless you have an authorized card to do so. Please do not park in front of the garbage bin or fence gate where signs are posted for no parking allowed. Kindly use precaution at all times.



Safe Arrival / School Messenger

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL WITH ANY CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGES.

Please use the Safe Arrival system to report all absences and lates for your child.

You can report an absence by:

PHONE - 1-844-287-6287

ONLINE: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>

APP: SchoolMessenger



NCDSB Dress Code

NCDSB Dress Code The following serves as a reminder for families as the warmer weather approaches and if dress code purchases are being made. Students must wear the elementary standardized dress code items properly and in compliance with the expectations throughout the school day and at all activities

and events as representatives of the school and/or Board. It is the expectation that students wear the elementary standardized dress code as a condition of attendance in an elementary school within the Niagara Catholic District School Board at a minimum, if the elementary student is not in compliance with the mandatory elementary standardized dress code, parents and guardians will be contacted to bring the required dress code items to school.

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
- Navy Blue Pants (Cargo, Corduroy, Denim, Dress, Kobe styles permitted)
- Navy Blue Dresses or Skorts; or · Navy Blue Capris or Walking Shorts.
- Grade 8 students have the option to wear grey secondary uniform pants purchased through Board uniform suppliers. Pants, skirt or dress length must be appropriate and modest. Only knee length

capris or shorts are permitted. All clothing must be in good repair.

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)
- Navy Blue or White Polo shirt (short or long sleeve); or
- School designed spirit wear polo shirt.

The elementary standardized dress code shirts, either polo or oxford must be buttoned in a respectable manner. Visible t-shirts worn under the elementary standardized dress code top must be either navy blue or white.

In addition, approved sweaters and hoodies embroidered and/or screened with the school logo are permitted to be worn as part of the elementary standardized dress code.

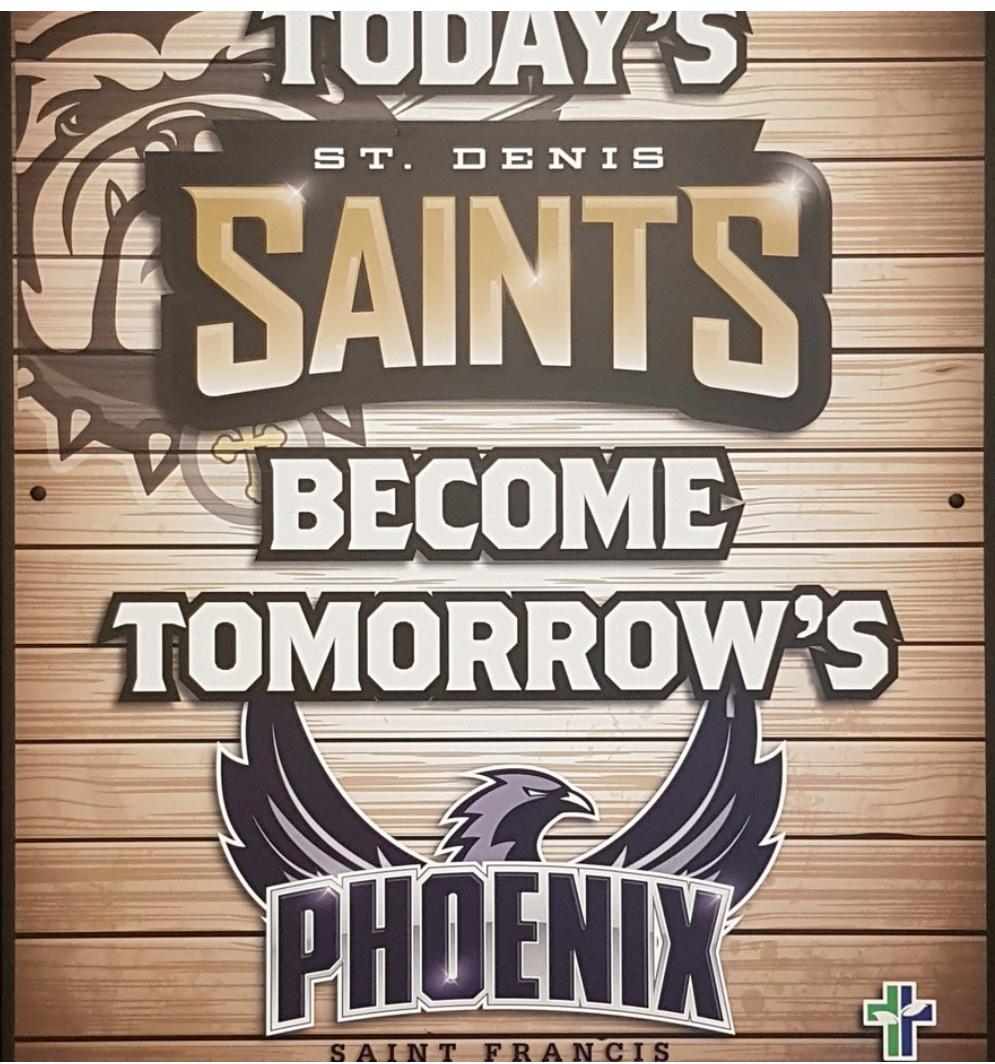
Running shoes are the recommended footwear with a full back and a closed toe. It is recommended that parents/guardians provide a pair of indoor shoes for physical education and indoor wear.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: <https://www.niagaracatholic.ca/policies-protocols-docs/policies/>
(Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy)

St. Denis Spirit Wear - Available Now!

We are very pleased to let you know that Big Bear Spiritwear will once again be our spirit wear provider and will be supplying our school with customized school dress code "gear". Families are able to order single items or many as they would like online at www.bigbearspritwear.com. Finished product are delivered to the school and delivered to your child. Please use the button below which will assist you with your ordering.





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Victoria Wegelin

Victoria is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters