



October 2024



St. Christopher Catholic Elementary School

Proud member of the Dennis Morris Catholic High School Family of Schools

D. Smolders, Principal

L. Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Schools

33 Woodrow St., St. Catharines, ON, L2P 2A1



I HAVE EVEN CALLED YOU BY YOUR NAME (ISAIAH 45:4)

Do you feel left out sometimes? Lonely or sad? That's ok, because God is always with you and He knows exactly what you are going through. No matter what challenges you face, or seemingly impossible situations you get into; God will never leave you. He will make everything good for you and you can soak in His divine light. God calls each one of you by name. Jesus knows you by name! What a privilege! And what a comfort to those of us who place our faith in Christ! God loves us more than we can imagine. He has sworn never to let us go. Do you hear Him calling you?

D. Smolders
Principal

A LOOK AHEAD

- 1 - Int Boys Soccer
- 2 - Liturgy of the Word at St. Thomas Aquinas
- 8 - Picture Day
Denis Morris Visit for Grade 8s
- 9 - Denis Morris Football Game for Grade 8s
Jr Girls Soccer
- 10 - Jr Boys Soccer
- Swiss Chalet Hot Lunch Day
- 11 - PA Day (No School)
- 14 - Thanksgiving (No School)
- 15 - Cross Country
- 24 - Pizza Hot Lunch
- 31 - Halloween

MONTHLY PRAYER

This month's prayer will be the Glory Be. It will be part of our morning announcements and you are encouraged to make this prayer part of your daily routine with your family.

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

The first meeting of the St. Christopher Catholic School Council took place on **Monday, September 30**. The Catholic School Council meets 4 times each year and is an important advisory body to the school. The purpose of a school council is, through the active participation of parents, to improve student achievement. If you have any questions, please contact the office to schedule a meeting with the principal.

SPIRIT WEAR ORDERS

Big Bear Spirit Wear, a board approved supplier for spirit wear items, offers a wide range of dress-code approved items through their online store at: <https://www.bigbearspritwear.com/>. Students are allowed to wear the spirit wear items to school and these are a worthwhile purchase as the cooler weather approaches. **Please label all clothing items that come to school so that we can return all misplaced items to the correct person.**

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Sunday - 10:00 am

Pastor: Reverend Chad Grennan



If you are considering having your child baptized or would like them to make any other missed sacraments, please call the parish main office at: 905-687-6971



@st.christopherces

HALLOWEEN

We are excited for Halloween and to see all the creative costumes at St. Christopher this year. All students are invited to wear a school appropriate costume to school on Tuesday, October 31. **Students are not permitted to wear masks, gory/bloody costumes or bring any toy weapons as part of their costume.**

We are inviting families to the school at 9:30am for a Halloween Parade to see their child and their friends. Weather permitting, parents can gather on the back tarmac and the students will process by. Following the parade, students can change into orange and black out of dress code clothing if they wish.

As with everything we do here at school, we need to adhere to the anaphylaxis and nutrition policies. **Therefore, no treats can be distributed between students at school. Thank you for working to keep all students safe.**

ANAPHYLAXIS

St. Christopher Catholic Elementary School promotes a healthy, allergy aware environment for the safety of our children. Parents are requested to not pack any foods that contain or may contain nut or peanut products in their children's lunch. Please give our children with anaphylaxis the same consideration that you would wish for your child's protection.

If you have a child with anaphylaxis to any allergens, please contact the office immediately so that we can work together to keep your child(ren) safe.

Additionally, at no time are students allowed to share food amongst themselves. This includes during special event days, such as birthdays and Halloween. We respect and want to adhere to the dietary choices each family makes for their own child/ren. If your child comes to school with food items to distribute to classmates, they will be held in the office and sent back home with your child at the end of the day. We greatly support your cooperation with this.

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 a written request from the physician indicating the frequency and dosage of the prescribed medication (this form is available at the school).
3. Deliver prescribed medication directly to the school office. Please do not send them with the child.

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

St. Christopher Catholic Elementary School can be found on Instagram **@st.christopherces**. Please follow us to see what fun and exciting things your children are getting up to while at school.

We take student safety and privacy very seriously and only images of students for whom parents have given consent will be used on our social media account. If you would like to update your consent go to your account in School Cash Online.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please drive with caution in the parking lot and near the school. We have many students who are being dropped off and picked up at the same time. They are all at varying places on their learning journey and may not always remember to look both ways before stepping out into traffic. Please exercise extra caution when driving in the school parking lot.

We would greatly appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that your child arrives at school on time each day and staff are on duty at 8:20 am.

CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

The Niagara Catholic District School Board recognizes concussions as a serious injury which requires appropriate follow-up measures to reduce the risk of potential additional injury. Concussion awareness, prevention, identification and management are a priority for the Board. The implementation of the Board's Concussion Administrative Operational Procedures is another important step in creating healthier schools in the Niagara Catholic District School Board

If staff, in communication with the school principal, suspects head trauma or a concussion might be possible based on signs and symptoms reported by the student, they are required to complete the appropriate documentation, call home and send home a copy of the documentation.

Medical doctors and nurse practitioners are the only healthcare professionals in Canada with licensed training and expertise to diagnose a concussion; therefore, all students with suspected concussions should undergo evaluation by one of these professionals.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

St. Christopher continues to move forward using the School Cash Online System and we require all families to make online payments for their children when paying for things like pizza days, field trips, etc. If you have not already done so, please register for an account at: <https://ncdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>



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DONATIONS TO THE SCHOOL

Parents and guardians who would like to make a financial donation to support the many learning and extra curricular activities happening each day at St. Christopher Catholic elementary school are able to do so at any time through <https://ncdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>. Once logged in, you will see a button in the top menu that says Make a Donation. By clicking here, you are able to select the donation amount and the Destination (St. Christopher CES). Once submitted, you will be immediately sent an official receipt for tax purposes.



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