

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School

Principal: Mr. J. Romano Superintendent: Mr. D. Massi

Pastor: Fr. G. Schmidt

CSC Chair: Mrs. L. Rosano

October 2024 Newsletter

Thank the almighty,
for all that He gave in life,
for the food that you
eat, for the people you
greet, for the love in the
heart, for that wonderful
start. Thank the Lord
for everything, because
it is Thanksgiving Day!”

AUTHOR UNKNOWN



Monthly Reflection

“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?



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our first Catholic School Council Meeting was held on September 30, 2024. At the meeting, the following council will be formed:

Chair:

Principal/Secretary/Treasurer: John Romano

Teacher Representatives:

Sandra Salvo-Teutenberg, Lynn Cullen, Silvana Orsini

Non-Teaching Representative: Kristina Zahn

Community Representative:

Parent/Guardian Members:

Graduation Chair:

Alternate Lunch Chair:

Beautification Chair:

Fundraising Chair:

Spirituality Chair:

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUT WHEN OUR MEETINGS WILL BE HELD DURING THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.



We are a professional, Catholic learning community, working together to ensure the moral, spiritual and academic growth of our students.

- School Mission Statement

A place of many blessings

- School Motto

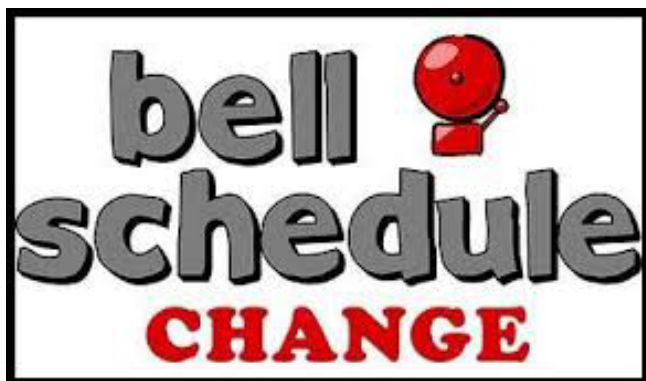
All meetings will take place at 5:30 p.m. at the school. New members are always welcome. CSC Minutes and by-laws can be found on our school website.



#dowhatyoucant

#dowhatyoucant

This year's unofficial school motto is #dowhatyoucant. Students will create and work on achieving personal and academic goals this year. One student from each class will be recognized and awarded the #dowhatyoucant award each month at our spirit assembly. Parents will be invited to join the assembly. Stay tuned!



NEW BELL TIMES FOR 2024-2025

A reminder that Kiss and Ride drop off is between 8:15 and 8:25 a.m.

Supervision begins at 8:15 a.m.

First Bell and Attendance is at 8:30 a.m.

First Lunch & Recess: 10:40-11:20 a.m.

Second Lunch & Recess: 12:40-1:20 p.m.

Kiss and Ride Dismissal is at 2:40 p.m.

Bus and walkers are dismissed at 2:50 p.m.

Paying for school items just got easier!
Sign up to get started today.

What is SchoolCash Online?

SchoolCash Online is an easy to use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees.
[Learn more](#)



Register

Sign In

Click Link Below



<https://ncdsb.schoolcashionline.com>



SchoolCashOnline
POWERED BY KEY GROUP

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

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

At St. Vincent de Paul, you will use School Cash Online to make lunch and snack purchases for your child. You will also make donations to various initiatives including our Terry Fox Walk, The Holy Childhood Walkathon, and our Fundraisers. School Cash Online is also used to pay for school trips and excursions. New families are encouraged to sign up today!

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. Please report your child's absence by: 8:15 a.m. the day of your child's absence at the absolute latest. There are 3 ways to report an absence:

Call the toll free number:

1-844-287-6287

Visit SchoolMessenger.ca

go.schoolmessenger.ca

Or use the SchoolMessenger app



SCHOOL
MESSENGER®



Niagara Catholic Virtual Learning Environment NCVLE

Log in to access digital resources, explore tools, and experience Technology-Enabled Learning.

Student Login

Students access using their [@niagaracatholic.ca](https://niagaracatholic.ca) account

Need help? [Watch this Video](#)

Forgot your password?

Please contact your classroom teacher

Staff Login

Staff access using their [@ncdsb.com](https://ncdsb.com) account

Guest Login

Access for users with a local login

[NCVLE Parent Support](#)

Access the
NCVLE
Here

NCVLE

All of our classrooms are connected using the digital platform NCVLE. Kindergarten - Grade 2 classrooms use the platform for announcements, reminders and practice homework/activities/websites.

Our students in grades 3-8 use the platform for completing and turning in assignments to their teacher. If you would like to stay up to date with the progress of your child, please visit their NCVLE classroom page. There you will be able to see assignments completed, due dates, announcements and much much more.

We no longer use communication books/agendas. Parents are encouraged to stay connected to the NCVLE, the school newsletter and calendar (posted to the board website: niagaracatholic.ca)

Parents can also log in to the NCVLE Parent Portal to view their child's report cards during reporting periods. First time users will need to sign up for a login/password to access documents in a safe and secure way.



CROSSING GUARD TIMES

Our crossing guards will be stationed on the corner of **Kalar Road and Thorold Stone Road** from **8:00-8:40 a.m.** in the morning and from **2:20-3:00 p.m.** in the afternoon. Please check the Niagara Region website 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. They 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! To access the website, please visit:

<https://niagarafalls.ca/city-hall/transportation-services/school-crossing-guards.aspx>





GREAT JOB JUNIOR GIRLS AND BOYS SOCCER TEAMS!

Congratulations to the members of our Junior Girls' and Junior Boys' Soccer Teams who participated in the Family of Schools Tournament at St. Paul High School/Mitchelson Park. Thank you to our coach Mr. Porga for coaching both of our teams. We are so very proud of you all Saints. Way to go! Team members of the girls team were: Aubrey B., Avery F., Malea H., Gabriella G. Alexa R., Isabella R., Penelope R., and Julie S. Team members of the boys team were: Nico M., Pablo A., Kegan R., Pio F., Gio F., Owen K., Luca P., Ben L., Nate A., Max W., Gianluca W., George P., Martin E., and Austin A. Thank you to all the parents who assisted with the driving and all those who came out to cheer us on! Thank you also to Mr. Keighan for hosting and convening the tournament.



Absent: Gianluca W. & John K.



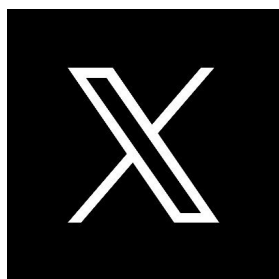
THANK YOU NF SOCCER CLUB AND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Thank you to Vince Stranges of the Niagara Falls Soccer Club for donating new soccer equipment for our students during the Canada Soccer in Schools initiative. Thank you also to Eddie Wright, Andrew Howcroft and Santana Gomes of the NF Nights of Columbus for BBQing during our Meet and Greet. We are so thankful to have so many community partners throughout the year. We are truly blessed.



SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

Stay informed and up to date on all the happenings at St. Vincent de Paul. Follow us on Instagram - svdpsaints and on X (formerly Twitter) @SVDPSaints.





TERRY FOX WALK SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

Congratulations to all staff, students and parents for a successful walk once again! Leading up to the walk, daily announcements were read about Terry Fox over the announcements. Classrooms participated in numerous lessons about Terry's life. Our day started off in the gymnasium with a brief prayer service, followed by a walk around the community. Special thanks to Ms. Cullen and Madame Lennox for leading our Terry Fox Walk. It was an amazing day as we grow ever closer to finding a cure for cancer. Thank you all for your generous donations through School Cash Online.



ORANGE SHIRT DAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

On September 30, 2024, St. Vincent de Paul observed Orange Shirt Day, and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. All students learned about the importance of this day in class through age-appropriate lessons. Thank you to all of the staff and students who literally made it a sea of orange at SVDP.

**EVERY
CHILD
MATTERS**

The National Day
for Truth and
Reconciliation
and
Orange Shirt Day

Please note that our monthly calendar and monthly newsletter can always be found online by visiting niagaracatholic.ca. Click on SCHOOLS. Then go to ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. Scroll all the way down and click ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (we are listed last). Our page will then load. You will then be able to click on either CALENDAR or NEWSLETTER.

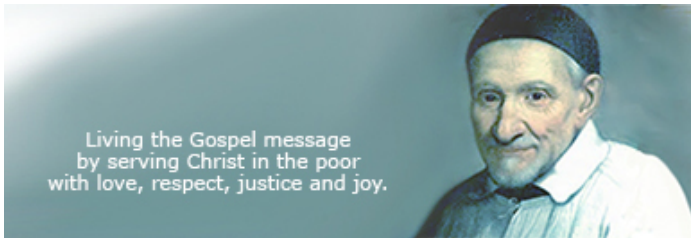
THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO ORDERED KRISPY KREME DONUTS!

Thank you to all the families who purchased Krispy Kreme Donuts. Donuts will be delivered to the school on October 7th. You can pick up your donuts in the main foyer of the school on October 7th from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Please do not come early as that will negatively affect our dismissal routine and parking lot space. Thank you to CSC Chair Mrs. Rosano for leading this initiative. All funds raised will go towards new technology for the school



Society of
Saint Vincent de Paul
Ontario Regional Council

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE



THANK YOU

For your donation

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE FOR THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Once again this year, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School will be hosting a Thanksgiving Food Drive for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The Food Drive will run from Tuesday, October 1st until Friday, October 18th. Thank you in advance to Miss O'Rourke, our library technician for leading this initiative. Donations can be placed in the boxes in the main foyer. To assist with the donations, Mr. Spiotti and Mrs. Mascia are having a Soccer Baseball Tournament on Thursday, October 10th during periods 6 and 7. In order to participate in the tournament, students in the Grade 6/7 and Grade 8 classes are asked to bring in an additional canned good. Thank you families for supporting our Food Drive for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. If you have any questions about this food drive, or the St. Vincent de Paul Society, please reach out to Miss O'Rourke at the school.



MASS WITH FR. GREG

Our next school-wide Mass will take place on Tuesday, October 15th in the gymnasium. Thank you to Mrs. Reich and our readers. Thank you also to Miss Orsini, Ms. Tham and our choir. Parents and grandparents are always welcome to attend mass with us. Thank you to Fr. Greg for being our spiritual leader.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE



THANKSGIVING LITURGY LED BY GRADE 6/7

Thank you to Mr. Spiotti and the students in the grade 6/7 class, who will be leading our Thanksgiving Liturgy at 12:00 p.m. on October 10th at 12:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.



SEPTEMBER WELLNESS WALL

Thank you to Miss Orsini and our Grade 1 class for September's Wellness Wall submission. We can be anything we strive to be. Our grade ones are reminding us to be unique, empathetic, authentic, respectful and generous, just to name a few. We look forward to our October Wellness Wall submission.



OUR LADY OF THE SCAPULAR CHURCH

OUR LADY OF THE SCAPULAR CHURCH SCHEDULE

DAILY MASSES

Monday: 9:00am
 Tuesday: 7:00pm
 Wednesday: 9:00am
 Thursday: 9:00am
 Friday: 9:00am
 Saturday: 9:00am

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm*
 Sunday: 8:00am
 Sunday: 9:30am
 Sunday: 11:00am

* Mass is live-streamed

CONFESSION

Monday: 8:30 – 8:45am
 Tuesday: 6:15 – 6:45pm
 Wednesday: 8:30 – 8:45am
 Thursday: 8:30 – 8:45am
 Friday: 8:30 – 8:45am
 Saturday: 8:30 – 8:45am
 Saturday: 9:30 – 10:30am
 Saturday: 4:30 – 4:45pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our Church is blessed to have Adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To become a committed adorer, please e-mail secretary@scapular.ca. For access after-hours, please contact the office.

HALLOWEEN DANCE AND PARADE

The Grade 8s are hosting a Hallowe'en Monster Mash Dance on October 31st for grades 1-7. Students will be invited to the gym to dance along to some great music with their classmates! Items including popcorn, juice boxes, glow bracelets and mystery bags will soon be available on School Cash Online. Proceeds will help support the cost of this year's grade 8 graduation. Our Halloween Parade of Costumes will take place immediately after announcements on October 31st around the perimeter of the school's backyard pavement area. Families are reminded to not send in candy or any food to share with classmates. A reminder that costumes should be suitable for school (no weapons, blood, gore, etc.). Makeup is preferred over masks.



OCTOBER SACRAMENT DATE REMINDER

Reconciliation & Communion
Preparation Night #1 Parent/Child

Our Lady of the Scapular Church
@ 7:00 p.m.





NIAGARA CATHOLIC

Standardized Elementary Dress Code

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.

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 skorts, skirts or dresses or;
- Navy walking shorts.

Only knee-length shorts, skirts or dresses are permitted. All clothing must be in good repair. Grade 8 students have the option to wear grey secondary uniform pants.



Shoes

For health and safety reasons, running shoes with a full back and closed toe are the recommended footwear. Parents/guardians should provide a pair of indoor shoes for physical education and indoor wear. Socks must be worn with the elementary standardized dress code pants or shorts at all times.

Nurturing **Souls** & Building **Minds**

Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter

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.