



OUR LADY OF FATIMA

October, 2024

439 Vine St., St Catharines, ON, L2M 3S6
Telephone: 905 935 4343 Fax No: 905 935 3943



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



PRINCIPALS CORNER

Dear Parents

I wanted to offer special a heartfelt thanks to all of you for your enduring patience and resiliency in our efforts to transform the beginning of the school year into a success. I know things have been very challenging as we were confronted with a variety of transitions, which has imposed a tremendous amount of adaptation on the part of everyone, but I feel we are now finally moving forward in the right direction. I can assure you unequivocally that these are not decisions which emanate from within, but we are tasked with the obligation of conforming to these changes due to operational requirements and protocols that transcends down from the Ministry of Education, particularly with respect to class allocations and organizational structure.

As we begin the month of October, you will infer from our calendar that there are numerous events/activities taking place ranging from various sports competitions to the celebration of Thanksgiving and Halloween. This year we will be hosting our annual Halloween parade where students will be encouraged to dress in their favourite costume attire, or they can have the choice of simply wearing black and orange while they walk in the parade. Parents may visit the school to observe the festivities and join in the fun.

Primarily due to your collaboration, we have been able to establish and maintain a well-organized "kiss and ride" program that enables our students to safely access and depart from school. I know it gets crowded at times in the parking lot, but your patience and cooperation has been instrumental in helping us to adopt and maintain safe routines. Unfortunately, at times there are still incidences where vehicles are being left unattended, abled bodied people parking in handicap zones and people stopping for extended periods of times in the bus and transit lanes that

contributes to unnecessary congestion.

We all share the same goal which is the health and welfare and overall safety of our students and school community. I am confident that we can come together to improve this situation which will empower us to avoid having to utilize bylaw parking enforcement to rectify the problem. I trust you understand the saliency of these issues and our desire to enhance our "kiss and ride" program is motivated out of a genuine concern for the safety of everyone and is not meant to be punitive in nature.

Our Catholic School Council will be facilitating our first inaugural meeting of the year in October which has yet to be scheduled, but we will be communicating through messenger if you would like to join our Catholic School Council for the 2024-2025 calendar year. In early October, our students will be attending our "Opening Mass" at St. Alfred's Parrish and we are confident that they will represent our community extremely well. I wanted to take this opportunity to encourage your participation and support for our upcoming Thanksgiving



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Food Drive. In the past, Our Lady of Fatima Community has been able to accrue a significant amount of donations that has served the needs of people in our community.

We look forward to continuing to communicate with you as the year proceeds along, and I encourage you to access our website under the schools tab at niagaracatholic.ca to stay informed of various events and extra-curricular activities documented in our monthly calendar and newsletter.

Yours in Education,

Theo Dagenais



HALLOWEEN

We will be celebrating Halloween on Thursday, October 31st. Students are invited to wear their costumes to school or orange and black.

Please be mindful when sending your child to school in their costume. We ask for safety

reasons that there are no masks, and that all costumes are appropriate.

The students will be showcasing their costumes in a parade. Parents are invited to attend. More details of the events of the day to follow.

Students will also receive pizza for lunch. Kindergarten to Grade 3 will receive 2 pieces of pizza each. Grades 4-8 will receive 3 pieces of pizza each. You can go onto schoolcash online to select if your child would like cheese or pepperoni.

FOOD DAYS



Pita day is Thursday October 4th.



Sub day is Thursday, October 10th.



Pizza day is Thursday, October 17th.

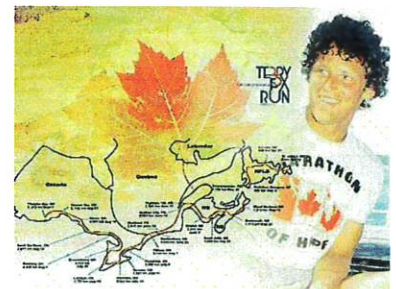


Antipasto day is Thursday, October 24th.



TOONIE TUESDAY

We will be starting Toonie Tuesdays on Tuesday, October 1st. If you send your child to school with \$2.00 they will be able to purchase a treat. This month we will be starting out with popcorn and ice cream.



TERRY FOX RUN DAY

Our Terry Fox run was a huge success! All the students enjoyed participating and our school raised a total of \$426.00. Thank you all for your contributions.



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FUNDRAISING

As an ongoing fundraising initiative for our school, Manhattan's restaurant located at 405 Vine Street has offered to give 5% of purchases back to the school. Every time you order from the restaurant, please mention Our Lady of Fatima and 5% of your bill will be donated to our school.



FOOD DRIVE

Our school is once again holding a Thanksgiving Food drive to support the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank at St. Alfred Church. The food drive will run until Oct. 7.

The community will appreciate any food items you can send in, but please ensure the items are **non-perishable**.

Ongoing needs include: Peanut Butter, Cheez Whiz, cereal, tuna, canned vegetables, Kraft Dinner, soup, pasta and pasta sauce, canned beans, and canned stews/chili.

This is a great social justice opportunity for your child to feel good about giving to others in our local community!



SPIRIT WEAR

It's the perfect time of year to order those spirit wear hoodies with the cooler weather coming. All orders can be purchased directly through

<https://www.bigbearspiritwear.com/>

At the top of the page click on Schools, Elementary Schools, then select Our Lady of Fatima.

They offer a variety of options to purchase and deliver directly to the school.



BINGO VOLUNTEERS

Our Bingo volunteers help our school to receive contributions raised from Delta Bingo. The funds received are used for so many things that benefit our students including technology, school trips, Christmas events, treats and special days.

We are looking for more dedicated volunteers who are able to donate their time for our Bingo program. Please call the school for more information.