

# St. Denis Catholic School

November 2024



## Address

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

## Principal

Mrs. Victoria Wegelin

## Phone/Fax/Email

P 905-682-4156  
F 905-684-9586  
E [st.denis@ncdsb.com](mailto:st.denis@ncdsb.com)



## St. Denis Bell Times

Morning Supervision Begins - 9:00 a.m.  
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.

[November 2024 Calendar - Click Here](#)

## Principal's Message

November begins with a double feast in remembrance of those who have died - All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. In memory of the relatives and friends who have passed away, the St. Denis School Community will be offering special intentions during morning prayers and gospel readings. On November 11th, students and staff will be commemorating Remembrance Day by holding a prayer



service virtually in memory of those who fought so valiantly in wars of years gone by. We remain thankful to our soldiers for their willingness to fight for freedom and peace.

As partners in education, let us actively encourage our students to seek peaceful solutions to problems. Let us model for them our active and observable commitment to settling things without aggression. Let us help them learn that it is possible and very important for nations of the world to work collaboratively to find peaceful solutions.

I would also at this time like to thank the entire St. Denis School Community for your generosity in helping so many in our world. Our recent fundraiser for the Terry Fox Run and the Holy Childhood Walk has shown an outpouring of your kindness for those who are in need.

Yours in Catholic Education,  
Mrs. V. Wegelin  
Principal

## **In Flanders Fields**

In Flanders Fields  
By Lt. Col. John McCrea of Guelph,  
Canada, died on January 28, 1918, on active service in France.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row  
That mark our place, and in the sky  
The larks still bravely singing fly.  
Scarce heard amidst the guns below,  
We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow  
Loved and were loved and now we live  
In Flanders fields.  
Take up our quarrel with the foe.  
To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die,  
We shall not sleep though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

The poppy is a plant that thrives on broken soil such as is found after a battle. It became the blood-red symbol of Remembrance for those who died.



## **Called by Name-Follow Me 2024-2025**

“My sheep hear my voice” (John 10:27)

Jesus calls us His sheep. He is our shepherd. Like a shepherd cares for his sheep, Jesus cares for us. Like a shepherd searches for a lost sheep, Jesus helps us to repent and come back to him when we get lost through sin. But there is another way that we are like sheep. You see, sheep are

completely dependent upon their shepherd. Without a shepherd it is very easy for sheep to be separated from the flock and to get into danger. Jesus reminds us that He is here to help us. He wants to keep us safe from everything that might lead us away from Him. We need Him more than a sheep needs its shepherd. When we rely on Him, we are able to do more and be more than we ever thought was possible. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we trust in You!



## Student Nutrition Program (SNAC)



Niagara Nutrition Partners

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. Thank you to Mrs. Foster, Ms. Covello and Mrs. DeCicco and the student helpers for offering this great snack to all of our students.

## Treaties Recognition Week

**November 4-8, 2024**

In responding to the Truth & Reconciliation Calls to Action, beginning in 2016, the Ontario government designated the first full week of November as **Treaty Recognition Week**. Treaty Recognition Week is a time to recognize the importance of treaties as legal documents that are shared between sovereign nations.



Treaties are not a thing of the past. They continue to play an important part in all our lives today. Each morning, Niagara Catholic reads the Land Acknowledgement in all our schools. Within that Land Acknowledgement there is reference to the Dish With One Spoon wampum agreement, and the Upper Canada Treaties.

## Poinsettia Fundraiser

**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!**

# Catholic School Council Meeting

**November 5, 2024**

A Catholic School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

This meeting will be held in the school library. If you would like to attend, please contact the school for further information.



## International Inuit Day



**November 7, 2024**

This date has been designated Inuit Day to celebrate the history and lives of Inuit, as well as recognition of the creation of the Inuit Circumpolar Council representing approximately 160,000 Inuit from all four countries.

## Niagara Ice Dogs

**October 15, 2024, 2025-Niagara Ice Dogs visited our great school!**

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

On **Tuesday October 15, 2024** the Niagara Ice Dogs Hockey team visited our school. An exciting ball hockey game was played against some of our staff and students. Students were invited to wear their Niagara Ice Dogs attire on this day! It was a close game 12-10 for the Niagara Ice Dogs!



St. Denis Catholic School has been invited for a pre-game skate on **Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 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.

## Indigenous Veterans Day in Canada

**November 8, 2024**

This day is recognized as Indigenous Veterans Day in Canada. Indigenous people from Turtle Island have fought on the frontline of every major battle Canada has been involved in dating back more than 200 years to the War of 1812.

It is estimated that 12,000 First Nations, Métis and Inuit men and women served as part of Canada's military in World Wars I & II as well as the Korean War.

Please take a moment to acknowledge the contribution of all the brave men and women who served to keep Canada and the world a safe place for us to enjoy today.



## Remembrance Day Liturgy



**November 11, 2024**

Our Remembrance Day Liturgy will be held virtually on Monday, November 11, 2023 at 10:40 a.m.. Thank you to Mr. Hastings Grade 4 class for organizing this event for our entire school.

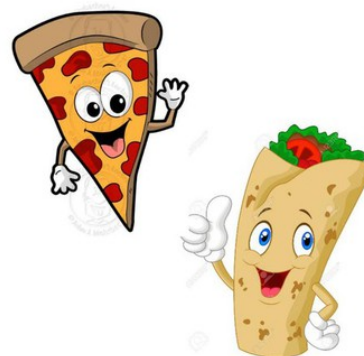
## Food Days for November 2024

Pita Day Orders due on **Friday, October 25, 2024.**

Pita Day-**Friday, November 1, 2024**

Pizza Day Orders due on **Friday, November 8, 2024.**

Pizza Day-**Friday, November 15, 2024.**



## Elementary Progress Reports

**November 12, 2024**

Parents will be able to access the Parent Portal on the NCDSB website at [www.niagaracatholic.ca](http://www.niagaracatholic.ca) to receive their child's early progress report. This report focuses on two distinct aspects of student achievement: (1) achievement of curriculum expectations, and (2) development of learning skills. The report has sections for reporting on the student's achievement of the curriculum



expectations in three subjects in the curriculum, and a separate section for reporting on the student's development of the learning skills required for effective learning. The learning skills identified on the report card can be demonstrated by the student in subject areas and in other behaviours at school. **Interviews will be held at the school on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. to discuss your child's progress. Parents may register in advance for a time slot to meet with your child's**

**teacher. It will be open from Nov.1st - Nov. 15th to sign up. A confirmation slip will be sent home on Nov. 18th.** This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and students to set learning goals for a successful year. We encourage all parents to have a discussion with their child's teacher in regards to their academic progress.

[Please click here to access the online booking system.](#)

## Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week



**November 18-22, 2024**

Ontario has designated a week in November as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week to promote safe schools and positive learning environments.

During Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week 2024, teachers will be engaging their students in activities that support inclusion of all people in our Catholic school community.

St. Denis Staff thank all our parents/guardians and family members for helping us by discussing with your children the importance of being a good friend and of including all friends when at work and especially at play.

Kindness has never been more important than right now. It's a time where kindness can break down barriers and brighten the lives of those around us! That's why 'Reach Out' is this year's theme! As a school, we continue to encourage students to report to an adult staff member whenever there is a situation that makes them feel unsafe. All reported incidents of bullying are addressed on an individual basis with students and their parents.

## Grade 8 Graduation Photos and Photo Retakes!



**November 25, 2024**

On Monday, November 25, 2024 our Grade 8 students are invited to have their graduation photos taken. Boys are encouraged to wear a white collared shirt. Everyone will need to bring their best smile!

**If your child needs to have a picture retake done, or missed their photo on our last photo day, please contact the office so we can add your child's name to our list of students who need retakes.**

## Saint Francis Catholic High School Open House

**Thursday, November 28, 2024**

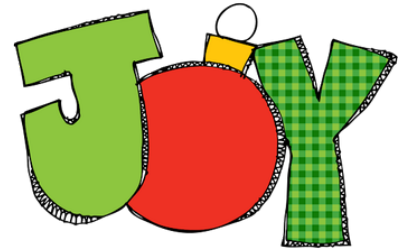
Our Grade 8 students are invited to visit and tour Saint Francis Catholic High School. This special night will begin at 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Parents are invited to join their child at this Open House!



## Joy Day!

**Thursday, November 28, 2024**

Our students will be decorating their classrooms on this date. We are asking our students to dress in their favorite red and green outfits. Spread the joy to all!!



## P. A. Day!

**Friday, November 29, 2024**

The day's focus for the entire staff will be on improving student achievement. **There will be no school for children on this day.**



## Twelve Days of Christmas Raffle!!

### 12 days of Christmas



### 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: J. Burtnik

Council Members: C. Bartlett, P. Boyko, S. Egbedeyi, S. Huckins, B. Humble, M. Iorio, K. Janes, C. James, C. Locke, M. Rakonjac, C. Pitt, T. Wadeson

Teacher Rep: Mrs. Lee

**We are currently planning our Twelve Days of Christmas fundraiser! More information will follow shortly! Tickets will be sent home on Monday, November 11, 2024 and will need to be returned to the school by Monday, November 25, 2024. All proceeds raised from this fundraiser will support all of the students at our amazing school! Thank you in advance for all of your support for our great school!**

## Monthly Award Winners - OCTOBER 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.



OCTOBER 2024

Mrs. Lee's Class -**Ester J. , Mattias S. E.**

Ms. Schenck's Class -**Levi E.**

Ms. D'Ettoire's Class -**Alina B.**

Ms. Konieczny's Class -**Sierra B., Joaquin G. S.**

Mrs. Foster's Class - **Mikayla S.**

Mrs. Jackson's Class -**Yehor C.**

Mr. Biamonte's Class -**Alieya M. L., Redd C.**

Mr. Sutton PTM Class -**Shein S.**

Mr. Hasting's Class -**Nelly P.**

Mrs. La Valle's Class -**Scarlett C.**

Mr. O'Connor's Class -**Rahila P.**

Miss MacSporrans -**Santiago G. V.**

Mr. Riddell's Class -**Josie A.**

Mrs. Bonin's French Class -**Mattias S., Ava L.**

Mrs. Bilechi's Music Class -**Giovanna C. V.**

Mrs. Wegelin - Principal's Award -**Hudson C. G.**

**Congratulations to all winners! Keep Shining!**

## Sports News!

### Intermediate Girls Soccer

On Wednesday, October 2, 2024 the Intermediate Girls Soccer team competed in the NCAA Soccer Tournament in Welland. The girls played impressive games and displayed incredible sportsmanship on the field. They ended up winning their Tier competition! Congratulations goes out to: **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.** Thank you to Mr. Riddell for coaching our great team!



### Intermediate Boys Soccer

On Tuesday, October 1, 2024 the Intermediate Boys Soccer team competed in the NCAA Soccer Tournament in Welland. The boys played well against their competition and displayed excellent sportsmanship! We are very proud of the team who did their best in every game! They all represented St. Denis well on the field! Thank you to Mrs. LaValle for coaching our great team! The players are: **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.**

### Junior Girls Soccer

A big congratulations to the Junior Girls Soccer Team on a job well done at the NCAA tournament on October 9, 2024. The girls played well, demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and phenomenal team spirit! Thank you to the following members of the team: **Victorine I., Dahlia L., Avaree T., Piper B., Scarlett C., Layla L., Emily R., Grace G., Isabel S., Alexa M., Eva W.**



The girls are congratulated for playing your absolute best and representing St. Denis! Mrs. La Valle is so very proud of each and everyone of you! Thank you to Mrs. La Valle for being our awesome coach!

### Junior Boys Soccer

Congratulations to the St. Denis junior boys soccer team who dedicated many days of practice leading up to the soccer tournament. The boys worked as a team on the field and communicated effortlessly with one another. Mr. Biamonte is very proud of every single player for their efforts. Thank you to the following junior boys for their hard work: **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.** Thank you to Mr. Biamonte for coaching our awesome team!!

### Cross Country Meet

On Tuesday, October 8, the members of the St Denis cross country team traveled to Grassie in to take part in the area wide cross country meet. What beautiful Fall day to compete with their area wide peers. The following runners took part in the meet: **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.** St Denis runners showed a great deal of sportsmanship and pride, it was great to see! These runners left everything on the course and they should be very proud of their efforts as I know we are. Just another impressive day for St. Denis students. Congratulations to all our cross country team members on a successful running season. Way to go Saints! Thank you to Mr. Hastings for being an awesome coach!

## Upcoming Sports!

**Friday, November 15 2024**-Boys Junior Triple Ball Tournament

**Monday, November 18, 2024**-Girls Junior Triple Ball Tournament

We are excited to have teams competing in these tournaments! Thank you to Mrs. LaValle and Mr. Biamonte coaching our great teams!

Our Intermediate volleyball teams will be competing the last week of November. The Intermediate Girls Volleyball Tournament will be held on **Tuesday, November 26, 2024** and the Intermediate Boys Volleyball Tournament will be on **Wednesday, November 27, 2024. Go Saints Go!** Thank you to Mr. Riddell and Miss MacSporrán for coaching our great teams!



### St. Denis Spirit Wear - Available Now!

This year Big Bear Spritwear will 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](http://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.



## Order St. Denis Spirit Wear - Click Here



School Cash Online

### Register for School Cash Online

Please click on the button below for instructions to register for School Cash Online. The easy, safe way to pay for school items and events.

## School Cash Online Registration Instructions - Click



### Dressing for Cold Weather

With the arrival of cold weather, parents are reminded to send children to school dressed for the weather. Warm hats, mitts, scarves, boots, heavy coats and snow pants will allow your child to enjoy the outside comfortably during recesses. Extra pairs of socks and pants tucked into backpacks also come in handy. Please ensure that your child has a pair of indoor shoes to wear

inside the school.

### Emergency School Closing

As the winter months approach, we would like to take this opportunity to let our parents know the procedure that will be followed.

If bus transportation is cancelled in the morning, the children **will not** be picked up after school at the end of the day. If you drive your child to school on the day transportation is cancelled, it is your responsibility to pick up your child at the end of the day.

When transportation services are cancelled, **only the school remains open**, and it is the responsibility of the parent to determine whether or not it is safe for a student to walk to and from school.

In inclement weather, listen to your local radio station for announcements. CJRN (Niagara Falls) 710 AM, CKTB (St. Catharines) 610 AM, SPIRIT (Welland)

Procedures Relating to Inclement Weather AFTER the School Day Begins:

- A) Transportation is cancelled and the school is kept open.
- B) Transportation is cancelled and the school is closed.



At this point, the safety of our children is our prime concern. The school will attempt to contact you by phone should an emergency closing be necessary **after children have arrived at school.** This will be done solely for the purpose of informing you that classes have been cancelled. The option, you as a parent, have chosen on the Emergency School Closing Form will apply to all emergency dismissals.



## Eco School Information

### Wednesday Waste Free Lunches

Every Wednesday, 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.

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



## 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)



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niagaracatholicdsb



**Victoria Wegelin**

Victoria is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters