

**24-09-24 St. Ann Catholic Elementary School
Principal's Report**



Catholicity

N.C.D.S.B. Theological Theme 2022-2026: *We continue through our theological theme entitled "Called by Name". This will be year three, of the four-year theme, that will carry us through to 2026. The sub-theme of year three is "Follow Me." We look forward to sharing this theme with our staff, students, and families!*

Sacraments and Masses: *Fr. Jasek has reached out to the families of all grade Two and Eight students in their sacramental year. Confirmation for our Grade Eight students will be on Saturday, November 9th, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Mass. First Reconciliation for our grade two students will take place on Wednesday, November 20th, 2024, following morning recess. First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. Finally, we celebrated our opening of School Mass on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. Special thanks to Mr. Hall's Gr. 3-4 class for coordinating this Mass.*

Student Achievement

The Science of Reading: *Our Kindergarten and Primary Classes are involved in the evidence-based Science of Writing program to improve the way that we teach reading at St. Ann School. We will provide updates throughout the year and have data to present at future meetings.*

Building Thinking Classrooms: *Our Junior and Intermediate classes will be engaged in professional development around building Thinking Classrooms to increase engagement and learning in our classrooms this year.*

E.Q.A.O.: *We await the E.Q.A.O. data from the Spring of 2024. We will provide an update and analysis of the results upon receiving them.*

School Climate

Fall Fair: *We are excited to be hosting our annual Fall Fair again this year. The Fair will take place on Friday, October 4, 2024. The students will be invited to bring their entries to the gymnasium in the morning. Classes will be called down to view the entries after the judging is completed. Parents/Guests are welcome to visit after 2:00 p.m.*

Terry Fox Walk: *On Friday, September 27th, we will take part in the annual Terry Fox Walk for Cancer Research. All classes will participate in the walk as we work together to raise money for cancer research. Thank you for your continued support!*

Student Council: *We elected our Intermediate Student Council last week. We completed our first meeting this week and the students look forward to serving their school. Junior Council will start up next month and will have ECO-school responsibilities this year.*

Orange Shirt Day: *On Monday, September 30th, 2024, St. Ann Catholic Elementary School will recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. An email message will be sent out to remind and invite everyone to wear an orange shirt in the spirit of the day.*

St. Ann Sports & Clubs: *The St. Ann Intermediate Girls,' Junior Girls' and Boys' Soccer teams will compete at the Family of Schools Soccer Tournaments in October. Also, our Cross-Country team is preparing for their meet next month, and our Choir has started preparing for our first Mass! Finally, Chess club has started and runs during afternoon recesses in Mr. Hall's classroom.*

2. Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Report - none
3. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report - none
4. Catholic School Council Financial Report – **Mr. Ward spoke to the financials and will bring a hard copy next meeting.**
5. OAPCE Report - none

F. STAFF REPORT -none

G. SUBCOMMITTEE SIGN UP

1. By-laws/Policy
2. Community Outreach
3. Fundraising – **After table conversation, it was decided that we will do another Trivia Night this year. A date for the event will be discussed further and selected at our next meeting.**
4. Graduation

5. Hot lunches
6. Safe Schools

H. AGENDA ITEMS-

1. St. Ann Educational Foci for 2024-25 – Ward

Mr. Ward outlined the 2024-25 School foci as being two-fold – 1. Ensuring that all students feel safe and secure. 2. Academic Programs will be at the forefront of all decision making. Further, Numeracy, Literacy, and Thinking will be the Program foci for this year.

2. Family Advent Mass – Saturday, December 7th – 5:00 p.m. – social afterward?

Mr. Ward introduced that we will be hosting a Family Advent Mass on Saturday, December 7th at 5:00 p.m. at St. Ann Parish. The students will serve as the Choir, the Ministers of the Word, the Altar Servers, and the Gift Bearers. It will be a wonderful way to embrace the triad of School-Home-Church.

3. Gingerbread House Night – After table conversation, it was decided that we will host our Gingerbread Night in the school Gymnasium after our Family Advent Mass, on Saturday, December 7th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

4. Grade Eight Graduation Date – Once a date is secured, an update on Graduation will occur at a later meeting.

5. Future Meeting Nights – After table discussion, it was decided that future meetings will be in person on Tuesday evenings.

6. Ad hoc items

- a. Breakfast program was discussed. We currently have a grab and go snack program, in which is coordinated by Mrs. Davis and the intermediate students, which fits within the Nutrition budget.
- b. Joy Week was discussed. Mr. Ward explained that he would be in favour of having a Christmas themed out of dress code day and some seasonal (Advent/Christmas) activities during scheduled Arts time, it would not be at the expense of valued Numeracy/Literacy time.
- c. Confirmation Gowns were discussion and their value was questioned. Mr. Ward stated that he would speak to Fr. Jasek and get back to the group about the merits of using gowns or not in the future.

- I. **NEXT MEETING** – Our next meeting will be October, 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the school library.

- J. **CLOSING PRAYER** – Ward

- K. **ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Ward thanked everyone for their time, and called for adjournment at 7:32 p.m.