

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School

Principal- Mrs. R. Araujo Vice-Principal- Mrs. M. Kish

Proud to be a part of the Blessed Trinity CSS Family of Schools



January, 2025 NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs. Araujo and Mrs. Kish

Happy New Year to all of our wonderful families. We hope that it was a special time for all and that everyone took time to embrace the beauty of the season. A new year is a time for renewal and a time to reset. Set some goals for yourselves individually and as a family. Continue to take time to reset and pause to enjoy the little things we usually take for granted.

Merciful God, continue to guide us and be the beacon of light that shines when our light is dimmed. Help us to make good choices and wise decisions. Remind us to choose kindness, love one another and keep the spirit and beauty of Christmas alive and burning in our hearts all year long.

Here's to an amazing 2025!

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. R. Araujo- Principal

Mrs. M. Kish- Vice-Principal

Faith Matters

In the Gospel of Matthew we hear Jesus teaching his disciples saying, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven".

Jesus called the disciples, as He calls each of us, to follow Him by living the Beatitudes. Jesus IS the Beatitudes. Looking at Him you see what it means to be poor in spirit, gentle and merciful, to mourn, to care for what is right, to be pure in heart, to make peace, and to be persecuted. This is why he has the right to say, "Come, follow me!"

[Special Education News and Info](#)



Agency Highlight: Autism Niagara or Autism Ontario South Region Website: South Region

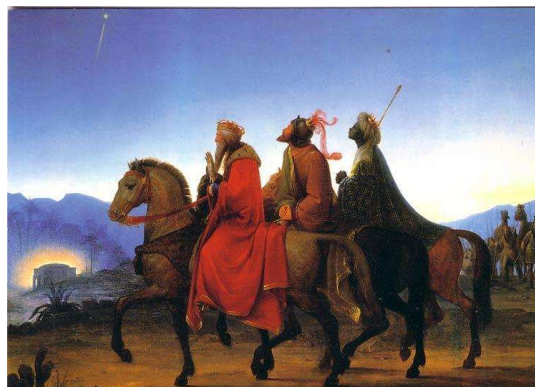
What they do: Autism Niagara/Autism Ontario South Region is a reliable source of information and support for all community members who have a connection to autism, including families, children, adults, caregivers, support workers, and teachers. Autism Niagara offers quality programs and activities for autistic children, youth, and adults, and resources webinars and/or training workshops that promote advocacy, provide support, and offer the latest news in autism research. Autism Niagara/Autism Ontario South Region strives to work with community partners to promote and enhance autism acceptance and advocacy. Check out the agency's website for more information on how to access services or to get involved in fundraising events throughout the year.

[Dressing for the Outdoors](#)

Please be reminded that students will be going outside if it is -15 C or warmer. Please ensure that they come to school dressed for the weather including proper gloves, hats and scarves. Proper footwear is also essential. Boots are not to be worn in the classroom. Please send in a pair of indoor shoes for them to wear in the school. Walking around in socks is a safety concern and is therefore not permitted. Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

[The Feast of the Epiphany](#)

Epiphany is celebrated 12 days after Christmas on the 6th of January (or January 19th for some Orthodox Church who have Christmas on the 7th of January) and is the time when Christians remember the Wise Men (also sometimes called the Three Kings) who visited Jesus. The precious gifts which the Magi brought to the Lord this day are threefold, and they are signs of divine mysteries. By gold the power of the King is signified, by frankincense His great priesthood, and by myrrh the burial of the Lord.





[Our Lady of Fatima INSTAGRAM PAGE](#)

Please follow us @olf_grim to get a glimpse into activities and events that are happening at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School. Please continue to follow us.

[Inclement Weather and School/Bus Cancellations](#)



With the winter weather upon us, please check the board website, social media platforms and local radio and television for updates about closures and cancellations due to weather.

Colder weather is on the way. Please ensure that your child comes to school well prepared to participate in all activities, especially outdoor recess. All children should have hats, scarves, gloves, warm coats and boots. Please label your child(ren)'s belongings as many have similar apparel and cannot always identify their belongings.

Please be aware that we do not have the facilities nor the staffing to supervise students who have parents requests asking for their child(ren) to remain indoor at recess times. If you feel that your child is not well enough to go outside, it would be best for you to keep your child(ren) at home.

On extremely cold days, we may limit the amount of time the students spend outside. We obtain our weather information from the Environment Canada Weather Information and follow the Niagara Catholic District School Board guidelines. When the temperature is below a certain threshold (with wind chill) we will not be going outside. I have attached an excerpt from the NCDSB protocol within this email. With the exception of these occasions, it is our expectation that all students will go out for recess. Health officials indicate that fresh air is beneficial as long as students are dressed properly.

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER LISTEN TO YOUR LOCAL RADIO STATION FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS & CHECK THE NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD & NTS WEBSITE.

AS WELL, we would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/guardians the procedures when it comes to "Inclement Weather".

1. If bus transportation is cancelled in the morning, it also follows that 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 then your responsibility to pick the child up at the end of the day.

2. When only transportation services are cancelled, the schools remain open, and it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to determine whether or not it is safe for the student to attend school.

3. Procedures relating to Inclement Weather after the school day starts:

Transportation is cancelled and school is kept open; Transportation is cancelled and school is closed. At this point, the safety of our children is our prime concern. The school will attempt to contact you by telephone should an emergency closing be necessary after the children have arrived at school. This will be done solely for the purpose of informing you that classes have

been cancelled and the school will be closing and that parents/guardians need to make arrangements to attend at the school to pick up their child(ren).

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME??? Please keep your child at home and away from others if he/she has any of these symptoms:

- **Fever;**
- **Diarrhea;**
- **Sore Throat;**
- **Rash;**
- **Vomiting;**
- **Frequent coughing and/or sneezing;**
- **Yellow or green discharge from nose, ears or eyes.**

Contact your family doctor for a diagnosis. Your doctor will advise you about care and treatment. For more information please contact the Infectious Disease Program at (905) 688-8248 ext. 7330 or 1-800-505-6074 or www.niagararegion.ca.

WASH YOUR HANDS Clean your hands to prevent the spread of germs and reduce your risk of getting sick.

Wash your hands after;

- Coughing or sneezing;
- Blowing your nose;
- Using the washroom;

- Playing with pets;
- Playing outdoor;
- Before preparing meals and eating.

Use warm water and soap, lather and scrub for at least 15 minutes. Have children sing the ABC song, so they scrub for long enough. Alcohol-based sanitizers are safe for children and can be used when you do not see any dirt.

BT Corner

A representative from our Student Services Department had begun doing presentations to all of our grade 8's focusing on the courses they will be choosing and taking at BT next year. Those presentations began in December and will continue throughout early January. An early plug for our Grade 8 Open House that will take place on January 16th at 6:30 pm.



The poster features the word "OPENHOUSE" in large, bold, 3D letters filled with images of the school building. Below it, the date and time "Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 6:30 pm" are written in a dark blue font. A paragraph of text invites the audience to join the Blessed Trinity family, tour the state-of-the-art facility, hear from faculty members, and explore co-instructional opportunities. At the bottom, there are logos for AP CollegeBoard, SHSM (Specialist High Skills Major), NUSTEP (Niagara University), and the Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School logo. The school's name, address, and website are also listed.

OPENHOUSE

Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Join our Blessed Trinity family; tour our state of the art facility; hear from our faculty members about our innovative programs and explore our extensive co-instructional opportunities

AP CollegeBoard
Advanced Placement Program

SHSM
SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR

NUSTEP
NIAGARA UNIVERSITY

BLESSED TRINITY
WESTERN ONTARIO CATHOLIC EDUCATION BOARD

NIAGARA CATHOLIC
WESTERN ONTARIO CATHOLIC EDUCATION BOARD

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