



NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.

January 2025

Called by Name: Come Follow Me



St. Elizabeth NEWS

Dear St. Elizabeth Families,

Happy New Year to you all and a very warm welcome to 2025!

The New Year is not only about new beginnings, but also about making new friends, filling our lives with new hopes, and starting the year with new enthusiasm. It is also about wishing good intentions and greeting everyone we meet.

The New Year is a time to be thankful and grateful to everyone in our lives; the time to move ahead with a clear heart and mind.

Mrs. J. Mangiacasale
Principal

“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?.



CONFIRMATION

An information meeting will be held with Father Stanley on Sunday, January 12th, immediately following the 10am mass for candidates and parents who are to receive their confirmation.



A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Eternal God,

You gave us the greatest gift:

the gift of life.

In the coming year,

help us use it wisely.

May we grow in generosity,

kindness and forgiveness,

hope, faith and love.

Amen.



We are proud to be a part of the Lakeshore Catholic Family of Schools.

INCLEMENT WEATHER/ BUS CANCELLATIONS

As the winter months approach, we would like to take this opportunity to review the procedure:

1. If bus transportation is cancelled in the morning, it means that the children will not be picked up 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 your child up 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 your child to attend school.

If your child is not coming to school, please report the absence using Safe Arrival System. If the entire system is shut down, we will call, email and text your family using School Messenger by 6am to advise you it's a snow day. You do not need to report your child's absence from school, as schools are closed.

Niagara Catholic communicates decisions about bus and/or school cancellations by 6 a.m. You will find the information in the following places:

- **Niagara Catholic District School Board website at www.niagaracatholic.ca** – a red banner appears on the main page when buses and/or schools are cancelled.
- The Board's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) pages

If your child is staying home due to a bus cancellation or a school closure, they will have the opportunity to participate in **asynchronous learning from home**. [Click here](#) for Kindergarten, Primary, Junior, Intermediate and Secondary literacy, numeracy, and other subjects for students to keep up with work if that is what you choose to do. **Please note that participating in this work is voluntary**, and should be considered as revising or reach-ahead work, rather than teacher-led new learning.

2. Procedures Relating to Inclement Weather AFTER the School Day starts: In this case either:

- a) Transportation is cancelled and school is kept open.
- b) Transportation is cancelled and the school is closed.

The safety of our children is our primary 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 Form will apply to all emergency dismissals.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



All parents/guardians are invited and encouraged to attend our CSC meetings. The next meeting is on **Tuesday, January 7th at 6:00 p.m.** **This meeting will be Virtual.** Thank you to council for all their ongoing support and continued efforts for our school and a special **THANK YOU** to Mrs. Duliban for picking up our lunch day orders.



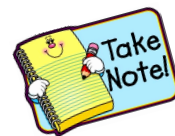
10 DAYS OF GIVING

On behalf of the St. Elizabeth Staff and Catholic School Council, we'd like to offer a **heartfelt THANK YOU** for all your kindness shown in support of our 10 Days of Giving. We appreciate your generosity not only at Christmas, but all year long. We also want to thank Shawn at the Wainfleet Fire Department for picking up and distributing the items to the community.

ECO NEWS RE-USEABLE WATER BOTTLES & UTENSILS



We'd like to remind all students to bring a re-useable water bottle and utensils to school on a daily basis. Having these items at school on a daily basis is imperative in promoting the sustainability of the environment. We have currently depleted our disposable cups and utensils, therefore we will not be replenishing these items. **Please help ensure that your child has the necessary re-useable items for their snacks/lunch as well as a re-useable water bottle.** Thank you for your support.



THINGS HAPPENING THIS MONTH.....

- January 8 - Pizza Lunch
- Milk resumes - January 10
- January 13 - February food orders on schoolcash
- January 15 - Meatball Sub Lunch
- January 17 - PA Day - No School for Students
- January 22 - Pita Lunch
- January 26 - February food orders due today
- January 29 - Archie's Sub Lunch

Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter January 2025

Grade 7 Vaccines Catch Up

Niagara Region Public Health has completed all fall school-based immunization clinics for the following publicly funded [routine school vaccinations](#):



- Meningococcal
- Hepatitis B
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

Grade 7 students who missed their school immunization clinic can receive these vaccines through the following options:

- **Niagara Region Public Health vaccination clinics** – book an appointment at a community clinic by calling the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 ext. 7425
- **Family doctor or Nurse Practitioner**– Contact your health care provider to discuss vaccine availability. If you do not have one, you can check with a local walk-in clinic.

Wintertime Well-Being

As the weather changes and days get shorter, many people, including children and youth, may feel more anxious, depressed, or tired. It's essential to be mindful of our emotional well-being. Beat the winter blues and check out these simple activities to boost your and your child's mood.

- [8 feel good tips to boost your mood](#)
- [100 Fun Activities to Boost Your Mood](#)
- [Stress relief activities for kids](#)

Help Keep the Classroom Germ Free – Stay Home When Sick

As general guidelines, keep your child home from school if:

1. They have a fever above 38° Celsius or 101° Fahrenheit within the past 24 hours
2. They have had episodes of vomiting or diarrhea within the past 24 hours
3. They are not well enough to participate in class

By keeping your child home when sick, you help prevent them from spreading whatever infection they have to others.



Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter January 2025

Snow Safety for Kids

Embrace the thrill of tobogganing this winter, but remember, safety comes first! Whether your child is racing down the slopes or enjoying a leisurely ride, follow these snow safety tips to make [the most of winter adventures:](#)

1. **Gear Up:** Wear appropriate winter gear such as gloves, and sturdy boots to provide protection from the cold.
2. **Choose Safe Hills:** Opt for designated tobogganing hills that are free from obstacles like trees, rocks, or traffic. Avoid hills with steep inclines or crowded areas.
3. **Follow Etiquette:** Be mindful of others on the hill. Encourage your child to wait their turn and choose a clear path to avoid collisions. Respect the space and safety of fellow tobogganers.
4. **Think Safety:** Help your child to sit facing forward on the toboggan with their feet first. Remind tobogganers to hold on firmly and avoid standing or kneeling during the ride.
5. **Stay Visible:** If tobogganing in the evening, ensure visibility. Wear bright colours and consider adding reflective elements to clothing.



[Remember, tobogganing is all about having fun, but safety ensures that the enjoyment lasts throughout the winter season. So, bundle up, find a safe hill, and make lasting memories with your child and friends in the winter wonderland!](#)

[Visit Niagara Families](#) for places your child can toboggan.



**REUSE.
REDUCE.
RECYCLE.**

Plastic bags and other plastic garbage thrown into the ocean kill as many as **1,000,000** sea creatures a year! Ever heard of the **Great Pacific Garbage Patch**? It's twice the size of Texas and is floating somewhere between San Francisco and Hawaii. It's also **80 percent plastic**, and weighs in at **3.5 million tons** dosomething.org

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

Children who will be four years of age by December 31, 2025, are eligible to enroll in the Kindergarten. Please supply the following documents for your child:

- Birth
- Baptismal Certificates (if applicable)
- Proof of Address (e.g. utility bill/lease agreement/tax statement)
(actual copies of all documents will need to be seen by office administration)

Students currently attending first year Kindergarten will be automatically enrolled in second year of September 2025.

Parents/Guardians are asked to register their child online at www.niagaracatholic.ca. If you know of any eligible neighbours, friends or relatives, please encourage them to contact us at St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School, and enroll their children in a catholic school. Our flourishing community needs active support from its members. Registrations will be accepted at any time throughout the year, however, early registration helps with the necessary planning and preparation for your child. An open house for parents will be held on Wednesday, February 5, 2025.

Refer to the Niagara Region [Onelist](#) for childcare registration.



The Niagara Catholic District School Board is proud to offer parents and students the opportunity to enroll in a French Immersion (FI) Program. This program is designed specifically for students whose first language is not French. French Immersion in the Niagara Catholic District School Board is an **optional** program.

All 5 French Immersion Catholic Elementary Schools will accept registrations for Grade 1 along with Kindergarten for September 2025.

Listed below are the designated elementary schools that provide the French Immersion Program:

- Notre Dame Catholic Elementary, Niagara Falls – Begins in Kindergarten
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary, Niagara Falls - Begins in Kindergarten
- Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary, St. Catharine's - Begins in Kindergarten
- Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary, Welland – Begins in Kindergarten
- St. John Catholic Elementary, Beamsville – Begins in Kindergarten

Transportation

All students enrolled in the French Immersion Program will be provided with transportation to their local Family of Schools designated French Immersion School site in accordance with the Board's Transportation of Student Policy #500.2. Designated Family of Schools French Immersion schools can be located at the following link www.niagaracatholic.ca.

French Immersion On-line Open Pre-Registration

- On-line open pre-registration window for students **new** to French Immersion in September 2025: **Monday, January 13th, 2025 at 7:30 a.m.** through to **Friday, January 31st, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.**
- Pre-registrations outside of this window will **not** be considered.
- There are a limited number of spots available for students wishing to enter the French Immersion Program.
- Pre-registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Each pre-registration will receive a time-stamp.
- Please visit www.niagaracatholic.ca and click the first thumbnail-Registration. Then, click the **Let's get you registered!** link at the bottom of the page.
- An account must be created first through edsembli CONNECT to access the registration forms. This account can be created ahead of time.

Selection Process

In accordance with the Board's Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy #301.1, there are a limited number of spots available for students entering the program. Eligible spots will be determined on a first come, first serve basis for each elementary French Immersion school site. Applicants will receive notification by **Monday, March 3rd, 2025** to inform them if their children have been placed in the French Immersion program **OR** if their children have been placed on the school's waitlist. Applicants who have not received notification by **March 3rd, 2025** are to contact the elementary French Immersion school site directly.

