

St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School



Phone: 905 734 4659

April 2025

"We are proud to be part of the Notre Dame Catholic Family of Schools"

Principal: Mr. Paul Moccia

Superintendent: Mrs. Kim Kinney

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We are officially in the season of Easter and are beginning to enjoy the freshness and renewed energy the spring weather brings. Spring also reminds us there is very little time left in the school year and we still have so much to do! We are a very busy school. The staff, students and parent community are working very hard to accomplish all of the goals that we set for ourselves. It takes many people working together to ensure our students have the best school community possible. Many committees and teams of energetic people have been formed to provide St. Augustine Catholic Elementary school with the wealth of programs and activities that our students enjoy.

As always, academics are at the forefront at St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School. The spiritual growth of our students is also vitally important. Our Grade 2 students are also preparing for the special sacrament of First Holy Communion. And our Grade 8 students are preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation.

I am so appreciative of the support and dedication of the St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School community. It is the students, staff and parents that make St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School, "a partnership to foster academic, social and spiritual growth according to the teachings of Christ."



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

The St. Augustine Catholic School Council is a very active group of community members working together to ensure our students receive the best education possible meeting the students' social, emotional, physical, academic and spiritual needs. The council does not do this alone. Many other parents volunteer their time to assist with council projects. The main focus of the

Catholic School Council is to partner in the improvement of student achievement. The role of the Catholic School

Council is to represent the parent community to input not only in school decisions, but also in decisions made by the Niagara Catholic District School Board. In order to make the entire St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School community aware of upcoming council discussions/decisions, please visit via www.niagaracatholic.ca, click elementary school, St. Augustine, Catholic School council, agenda/minutes for access. It is understood not all parents are able to attend meetings due to work or family commitments. Your voice can always be heard by contacting Mr. Moccia or any other council member.

Our next scheduled meeting is set to take place on Tues, April 15 at 3:30 p.m. in the library. All are welcome to attend.

CELBRATION OF SACRAMENTS at ST AUGUSTINE

First Reconciliation	April 5 @ 1:30pm
First Communion	May 3 @ 5:00pm
Confirmation	May 9 @ 6:00pm

ECO TIPS

Leave your car at home and choose an active trip to school. If you ride a bus, take part by walking to your bus stop. If you must travel by car, consider parking a few blocks away so you can walk part of the trip.

Students can wear green to celebrate Spring. Don't forget to dig out your umbrella and rain boots so you can walk whatever the weather.

Walking and rolling to school is a great way to be kind to the environment and our bodies and have fun.

Reducing vehicle use is one of the most important things you can do to reduce the risk of climate change. Pledge to make every day earth day and reduce your carbon footprint by walking, biking or taking your bus to school.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Please register your child for kindergarten. Remind friends and neighbours in our school community that registrations are still being accepted. All registrations will be done on-line and can be found by visiting www.niagaracatholic.ca.

UPCOMING PA DAY – FRIDAY, APRIL 4

There will be an upcoming Professional Activity Day for staff. **There will be no school for students on this day.**

EQAO: PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENT

Students in Grades 3 & 6 will participate in the Provincial Assessment during the time period of May – June. This annual testing provides the school board and school an overview of how students are mastering skills and understanding concepts in language and math. The 2 ½ day assessment provides percentages of students achieving at Level 1-3 and above.

The administration of the Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary and Junior Divisions (Grade 3 and Grade 6), Spring 2025, will be held in May and June. Specific dates will be communicated out once confirmed.

Stay tuned!

SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

As we continue to assess areas of concern surrounding student safety, we would like to offer the following reminders.

- Park only in designated areas – leave the bus zone free from vehicles. Do not leave your car idling.
- Drive slowly and cautiously in the parking lot.
- Do not leave students in the schoolyard unsupervised before or after school. Please refer to supervision schedules below.

Supervision ELKP to Grade 8

8:35 a.m.-8:45 a.m.

SAFETY REMINDERS

RIDING BIKES – With the warmer weather approaching, a number of students are riding their bikes to school. Students are reminded to bring a lock for their bikes to keep them from being stolen.

For safety reasons, students must **wear a helmet and walk the bike on school property avoiding the driveways. Do not bring scooters to school. We have nowhere safe to store them.**

ANAPHYLAXIS – We have some students with Anaphylaxis: a life-threatening condition caused by an allergic reaction to certain foods, insect stings, medications, products, etc. It can lead to a loss of life in as little time as five minutes, if not responded to immediately.

If a child has an allergic reaction, he/she must be given a needle injection (Epi-pen) immediately and rushed to hospital. As spring approaches, we remind our students those snacks are not permitted outside, so as not to attract bees. Also, we encourage students to keep our school **peanut-safe**.

EARTH DAY 2025 – APRIL 22
WE CAN MAKE CHANGE A HABIT!

Top 10 Things to Help the Environment

1. Smart Shopping - Buy what you need, not what you want. Buy used items.
2. Simple Savers- weather strip windows and doors, use aerators on faucets, replace incandescent light bulbs with fluorescent ones
3. Transportation Alternatives - Walk, cycle, car pool and use public transportation. Reduce idling
4. Food Choices- choose local and organic foods, eat less meat
5. Washing and Drying - Wash full loads of clothes in cold water and hang to dry
6. Heating and Cooling - For summer air conditioning, set your thermostat to 24°C or 25°C. For winter heating, set your thermostat to 19°C or 20°C. Install ceiling fans and programmable thermostats
7. Close to Home - Travel and work as close to home as possible
8. Bathroom Basics - Take short showers instead of baths, close water taps while brushing your teeth
9. Careful Cleaning - Choose natural, non-toxic cleaning products; make simple, natural cleaners with ingredients like vinegar, baking soda and water
10. Don't Discard - Donate, reuse and recycle items before throwing them into the trash. Harmful materials like chemicals, batteries, electronics, etc. should be taken to local hazardous waste depots or recyclers.

CHILDREN AND CONCUSSIONS

Physical activity is great for children, but there is always a risk when kids are involved in active play. Parents should be aware that a bump to the head, face or neck, or a blow to the body can result in a possible concussion. Concussions can be serious, and a person does not need to be knocked out to have a concussion. Some signs of a possible concussion include:

- Headache, dizziness, nausea or vomiting
- Trouble seeing or hearing
- Crankiness, sadness, nervousness or other changes in behaviour
- Confusion, forgetfulness or repeating the same thing

Help the child who was hurt to a safe place and get medical attention. If a concussion is diagnosed, the child should not attend school or participate in activities until told to do so by the doctor. Parents should alert the school and coach if their child has been diagnosed with a concussion before returning to school or other activities

NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLEMENT COMMITTEE
NOMINATIONS 2025-2026

The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee acts as an advisory committee to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the Board and school levels in order to build strong Catholic identity and community, nurture the distinctiveness of Catholic Education, and improve student achievement and well-being for all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board. The Niagara Catholic District School Board is seeking to appoint up to three community representatives and to fill the available parent/guardian positions on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee for the 2025-2026 school year.



Nomination
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