



St. Mark Catholic

Home of the Mountain Lions

A Member of the Blessed Trinity Family of Schools



An Easter Prayer

Christ the Lord is risen

And, as all the world rejoices,

Singing of his glory

With such joyful hearts and voices,

May you find that Easter brings you

Peace and faith and hope anew,

And may these blessings fill your heart

With joy the whole year through.



FIELDING
ESTATE WINERY

**St. Mark School
Fielding Estate Winery Fundraiser**

Ordering can be done online through School Cash Online from **March 17th to April 7th.**

It's a great time to order your wine and cider for Spring and the Easter season. All monies raised will go to support technology in the classrooms.

***Order pick-up will be Wednesday,
April 16th from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.***

CELEBRATING CULTURE AND DIVERSITY



What: Open discussion forum to celebrate and explore diversity and culture at St. Mark and to create future action plans
Who: Any parents/guardians of St. Mark students
Why: To foster a school climate where everyone feels valued, respected, and included
Where: St. Mark school gymnasium
Format: Doors open at 6:00 for light snacks/beverages
Welcome address by Rich Alderson (Administrator Candidate)
Small group discussion based on 3 guided topics
Large group discussion to contemplate findings and action plans

Please RSVP to: richard.aldersonncdsb.com by April 30th, 2025

THURSDAY, MAY 8TH
6:00PM-7:30PM

Student Attendance

As we progress throughout the rest of the school year, we would like to take a moment to emphasize the importance of regular school attendance and the responsibility that comes with it. There have been many absences during this school year, and it is difficult to get your child caught up.

Consistent attendance is crucial for your child's academic success and overall development. When students attend school consistently, they benefit from:

- **Continuous Learning:** Each school day is filled with valuable lessons and activities that build upon previous knowledge. Missing even a single day can disrupt this learning process. Students are expected to attend class regularly. Regularly means attending school 90% of the time during the school year. If a student missed 10 or more days during Term One, then they have missed too much time. The goal is to be at school for 90% of the days. If someone is absent for 10 days or more during Term 1 and 20 days or more by the end of Term 2, then their attendance rate is less than 90%.
- **Punctuality:** Our school day begins at 8:40am and Period 1 classes begin at 8:50am. If your child is late, they miss valuable instruction time. If lateness becomes a habit, then they are constantly missing valuable lesson time from that Period 1 subject.
- **Social Development:** School is not just about academics; it's also a place where students develop social skills, build friendships, and learn to work collaboratively with others.

- **Routine and Discipline:** Regular attendance helps students establish a routine, which is essential for developing discipline and time management skills.
- **Academic Performance:** Each lesson taught builds on the previous one. Regular attendance ensures that students don't miss out on important concepts and information, making it easier to understand and retain knowledge. Being present at school helps students stay up-to-date with the curriculum, making them better prepared for assignments, projects, and tests.

We understand that there may be times when your child is unable to attend school due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances. In such cases, it is important to follow these steps to ensure minimal disruption to their education:

- **Notify the School:** Please inform the school/classroom teacher as soon as possible if your child will be absent. All student absences must be reported through our School Messenger/Safe Arrival system. This helps us keep accurate attendance records and ensures that teachers are aware of the absence. If your child is going away on a vacation, please let your teachers know ahead of time so we can be proactive with assignments that they will miss.
- **Catch Up on Missed Work:** Encourage your child to catch up on any missed assignments or lessons. Most teachers post a lot on the NCVLE, it is your child's responsibility to check what has been posted and to gather any missed handouts when absent from school.

Your support and cooperation are vital in ensuring that your child receives the best possible education. Together, we can help them develop the skills and habits necessary for a successful future. We thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Event Information

Grade 8 Graduation - Save the Date!

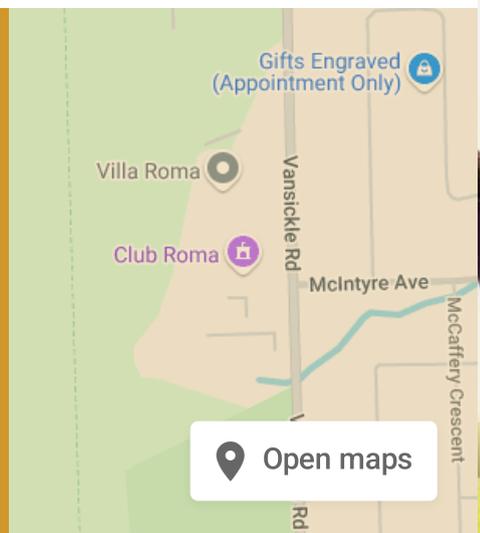
Save the date for our Grade 8 Graduation!
More information and details on graduation will be communicated to families in May.

When?

Thursday, Jun 19, 2025, 05:00 PM

Where?

Club Roma, Vansickle Road, St. Catharines, ON, Canada



Classroom Organization for 2025-2026

Plans are in the preliminary stages for the 2025-26 school year. Our Beamsville community continues to grow, and we are awaiting approval from the board office on the number of classes and teachers required for the 2025-2026 school year. Many situations unfold from now until the beginning of a new school year. As experts in education, we will base all student placement decisions on what is in the best interest of the entire student grade-level community at St. Mark. These decisions are made in good faith and based on, but not necessarily limited to, the following considerations: individual needs of students; academic strengths, weaknesses, and needs; social and emotional needs of the students; special needs; resource support requirements and personnel

allocation; and classroom teacher strengths. **Due to the size of the school and anticipated changes including teacher placement, no requests will be taken this school year.** We ask that you trust the decisions that our staff make regarding your child's placement for next school year.

Kindergarten Registration Time!

On Thursday, February 4th, we had our Kindergarten Registration Open House. A very big thank you to our amazing office staff and Kinder team for the information shared with new families. If you know of families who are moving into the area, please have them visit: <https://niagaracatholic.ca/registration/elementary/#> to register today!



Nutrition Break Reminder

This year our school board moved to a balanced day for all Niagara Catholic schools. This means that the students have two 40 minutes breaks in the day to eat and have recess. We are finding that a number of students are eating all of their packed food during the first nutrition break, not leaving any food for the second break. We kindly ask that you talk to your child and remind them that the food they bring is to be split between the two breaks. If they are hungry, it might be advantageous to send more food with your child.

Around the School in March

Grade 7 & 8 Trip to Chicopee Tube Park

On March 3rd our grade 7 and 8 classes enjoyed a fun day at Chicopee Tube Park in Kitchener. It was a beautiful sunny day and everyone had a great time enjoying multiple runs for the day.



Shrove Tuesday March 4th

We would like to thank all of the parent volunteers who came to help cook and serve pancakes for our students. The event ran like clockwork and students really appreciated the treat.



Congratulations to our Vex Robotics Teams!

St Mark participated in the Skills and Drills Robotics Competition on March 19th at St. Michael. Our 2 Intermediate Teams did really well, Robo Rockets came in 4th and Robo Thunder came in 10th. A big thank you to Miss Sirianni and Mr. Costantini for their time and coaching.



Rocking our socks on World Down Syndrome Day!



What's Happening in April

World Autism Day - April 2, 2025

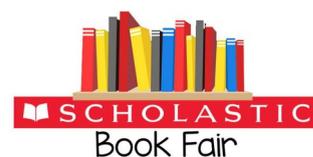
On Wednesday April 2nd, 2025, we will be recognizing World Autism Day. Students are encouraged to wear their blue dress code clothing to celebrate this day!

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Scholastic Book Fair March 31st - April 3rd

St Mark will be having our Annual Scholastic Book fair starting Monday, March 31st and ending Thursday, April 3rd.

Students will have the opportunity to attend the book fair with their class during the day. We will also have 2 evenings available for families to come on Wednesday, April 2nd and Thursday, April 3rd from 4pm-6pm.





The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) supports the Mission of Catholic education and the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board by providing a communication link to parents/guardians, Catholic School Councils, the Diocese, the Director of Education, and the Board. The NCPIC promotes active parent/guardian engagement within all schools for the improvement of student achievement and well-being of all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

The NCPIC membership is made up of parents/guardians, community and student representatives, the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines or his appointed representative, principals, teachers, support staff, the Director of Education or designate, the appointed Superintendent of Education and Trustees. The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month, on a bi-monthly basis (or as noted) at the Catholic Education Centre from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Meetings are open to the public, livestreamed and recorded.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is seeking to appoint up to three (3) community representatives for the 2025-2026 school year to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. Interested parties are to complete and submit the Community Representative Form, along with a letter of recommendation supporting the nomination from the community agency, association, or organization addressed to **Danny Di Lorenzo, Chair of the Board no later than 4:00 p.m., on Friday, May 16, 2025.**

PARENT/GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVES

To be eligible for election/appointment as a parent/guardian representative to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, a person:

- must be a parent/guardian of a student enrolled in a school of the Niagara Catholic District School Board;
- must reside within the jurisdiction of the Board;
- must support the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board; and
- must fully participate in the annual Commissioning Ceremony of NCPIC members.

Available parent/guardian positions for the 2025-2026 Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Membership are as follows:

Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln	1 position	Parent/Guardian Representative
Thorold/Merritton	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Niagara Falls	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
St. Catharines/Niagara-on-the-Lake	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Welland/Pelham	1 position	Parent/Guardian Representative

Interested parents/guardians are to complete and submit the parent/guardian nomination form **no later than 4:00 p.m., on Friday, May 16, 2025.** Nomination forms are available at the school and on the Board website. Please click on the link: [Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee](https://www.niagaracatholicparentinvolvementcommittee.com).

Please send nomination forms to: Catholic Education Centre
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1
Attention: Yvonne Anderson
or by email to: yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com

Niagara Region Dental Screening at St. Mark from April 8th - 11th (all grades)

Niagara Region Public Health
Dental Screening



Dental screenings are done by a registered dental hygienist

Why

- To keep your child healthy by identifying dental needs
- Connect eligible youth to dental services through the Healthy Smiles Ontario program. Dental screenings are performed in keeping with the Public Health Standards under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

Who

- All students will be screened
- Students previously identified with urgent dental concerns may be screened

IMPORTANT: Please contact us IACH year if you DO NOT want your child(ren) to participate in the dental screening by phone at 905-888-8248 or 1-888-905-6074 ext. 7392 or complete our online School Dental Screening Opt-Out Form.
If your child switches schools during the school year, it is your responsibility to notify us.

What

- Dental screenings consist of a quick look in the mouth using a sterilized dental mirror for each child
- This screening does not replace your child's regular visits with a dentist
- You will receive a report of your child's dental screening results and recommended services (dentings, dental sealants or fluoride varnish).
- If your child has an urgent dental concern you will be contacted by a Public Health dental professional.

Where

- Dental screenings are done at your child's school or at Public Health's dental clinics.

If your child has a dental problem (cavities, pain or infection), please contact the Dental Program to make an appointment. You do not have to wait for the school screening visit.

Your family may also be eligible for the Canadian Dental Care Plan. Learn more about free Dental Programs and Services for your family.



Do you have this card?

If yes, this card gives your child FREE dental care! Please call your dental office or Niagara Region Public Health Dental Program 905-888-8248 or 1-888-905-6074 ext. 7399 or live chat!

DID YOU KNOW? Fluoride is not added to Niagara's drinking water. Public Health recommends fluoride treatment to help reduce the risk of cavities in children.

Notice about Collection of Personal Health Information: All personal health information collected and used is kept confidential and may be disclosed only as permitted under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) and the Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004 (PHIPA). Information is collected under the Health Protection and Promotion Act for the purpose of assisting you under the Dental Program. You have the right to view and correct this information, or withhold or revoke your consent usually without affecting the services provided here. If you have any questions about our policy, please contact the Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 905-888-4225 ext. 3778 for information.

niagararegion.ca/dental





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Blessed Trinity Corner

Our Blessed Trinity staff and students earned a well-deserved March Break, and both are back refreshed and energized to tackle the rest of Semester 2. Our spring sports are getting revved up with tryouts and signups for boys' and girls' soccer, girls' rugby, boys' baseball, girls' softball, track and field and much more. A reminder to our incoming Thunder to get involved once you get here.

April is another busy month at Blessed Trinity. Here are just a few of the events that will be taking place in April:

- Celebrating Holy Week with a school Mass
- All student will be participating in the University of Waterloo Compass Survey
- We will officially reach the middle of Semester 2 and parents will be invited to make appointments for Parent/Teacher Conference night on April 24th

Lastly, throughout the month of April, a member from our Student Services Department will be visiting the Grade 8 students with Course Verification forms to ensure students have selected the courses they want for Grade 9. This will be an opportunity for students to make any changes to their course selection.

Please contact Blessed Trinity – Mr. John Cino – 905-945-6706 Ext. 2330 or Mrs. Rose Bianco Ext. 2312, if any Grade 8 parent has any questions



Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter April 2025

Connecting the Curriculum to Home

Your child might start learning about various parts of healthy human growth and development based on their grade and the [Ontario Health and Physical Education \(2019\) curriculum](#). One important topic that is covered is consent.

Starting the Conversation of Consent: Connecting The Curriculum to Home

(Parents of Elementary aged students)

With our School Health Nurses

Our Public Health Nurses Jenn and Austin discuss how to start the conversation of consent, and how to connect the curriculum to home.

- **Watch here:** [Starting the Conversation of Consent - Connecting the Curriculum to Home](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about Puberty](#) – as your child starts learning more about human development, our school health team wants to support adults with answering some of those tricky questions.

Happy Oral Health Month!

The Niagara Region Public Health Dental Program offers **FREE** dental clinics for children and youth 17 and under throughout Niagara.

Appointments are available at the following locations:

Office Location	Day and Time
Niagara Falls Public Health Office 7835 McLeod Rd	Mondays 11:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Niagara Region Headquarters 1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way	Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Welland Public Health Office 200 Division Street	Thursdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



[Niagara's Mobile Dental Clinic](#) also travels around Niagara to various locations throughout the week.

All of our dental clinics offer free dental assessments, cleanings, fluoride and sealants. To book an appointment [contact the Dental Program](#) or [book a dental assessment online](#).

Let's Talk Vaping

Even for elementary students, there's a good chance that kids have been exposed to vaping—whether at school, through friends, on social media, or in movies and TV shows. From one parent to another, learn the basics about vaping in just 12 minutes.



<https://www.notanexperiment.ca/parents/>

Be Safe for Niagara

It can be overwhelming to try to navigate mental health supports in Niagara. With the [Be Safe app](#), you can get the help you need, when you need it most. Be Safe is a free mobile app that offers information and links to mental health, addiction and suicide prevention resources in Niagara. It helps support you through the process of reaching out when life feels overwhelming.



The Be Safe App in Niagara:

- Allows users to create a digital safety plan
- Informs users about mental health and addiction resources in Niagara
- Helps you be prepared if you find yourself in a crisis

For more information, please visit <https://besafeapp.ca/>

You can download the app on the [App Store](#) or [Google play](#).



St. Mark Catholic

April 2025

A Member of the Blessed Trinity Family of Schools						
		Day 4 1	Day 5 2	Day 1 3	4	5
		SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR				Mass: St. Helen Church 5:00 p.m. First Reconciliation @ St. Helen
				PIZZA		
6	Day 2 7	Day 3 8	Day 4 9	Day 5 10	Day 1 11	12
		DENTAL SCREENING FOR ALL STUDENTS				
				Confession Grade 3-8 PIZZA		
13	Day 2 14	Day 3 15	Day 4 16	Day 5 17	18	19
 	HOLY WEEK					
			3pm Fielding Wine Pick Up Shawarma by	PIZZA		
20	21	Day 1 22	Day 2 23	Day 3 24	Day 4 25	26
 	Easter Monday No School 			PIZZA	Out of Dress Code Wear Bright Colours! Vex Competition @ St. Mark	
27	Day 5 28	Day 1 29	Day 2 30			
	Federal Election Polling Station @ St. Mark 					



April 2025 Calendar.pdf

Download

1.6 MB



St. Mark Catholic

Mrs. J. DeCoff

Principal

Ms. A. Villella

Vice-Principal

Email: st.mark@ncdsb.com

Website: <https://schools.niagaracatholic.ca/stmark/>

Location: [4114 Mountain Street, Lincoln, ON, Canada](#)

Phone: [905.563.9191](tel:905.563.9191)

Twitter: [@StMark_Catholic](https://twitter.com/StMark_Catholic)



Jennifer DeCoff

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