



# Alexander Kuska K.S.G. Catholic School

Alexander Kuska K.S.G. Catholic Elementary School  
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C. Moscato - Principal      F. Wood - Vice Principal  
K. Kinney - Superintendent of Schools



## Alexander Kuska K.S.G. Catholic School Mission Statement

*As a community of faith, the mission of Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary School is to work in partnership with the home and the parish to provide a Christ-centered learning environment which allows students to grow spiritually, to strive for academic excellence and to become responsible citizens with a love of learning.*



## Prayer for April

*Jesus, as we reflect on Your sacrifice we are reminded of Your staggering humility and the depth of Your love for Your people. You allowed Your creation to mock You and condemn You, even as You took our punishment on Yourself to save us. May we rejoice greatly that You came to us and bridged the gap that we couldn't, and may we learn to love others above ourselves. Amen.*

**Follow us on  
Social Media**



**@kuskaknights**

Speakers often ask, "Do you follow me?" to make sure you understand.

You can hear someone speaking, but to truly understand them, you have to listen. We often hear the words of Jesus in the Bible, at school, and during Mass. But are we taking the time to really follow what Jesus is saying? Jesus calls each of us to follow Him. Part of following Jesus means listening to His words, understanding His message, and living it out each day. What's one way you can follow Jesus more closely? How will you start building that habit today?

## ~~~ Niagara Catholic District School Board Mission Statement ~~~

*We are a Christ-centered Catholic community that celebrates diversity and fosters spiritual growth, inspiring all to reach their full potential in mind, body and spirit.*



# APRIL 2025



## HAPPENINGS

### Sacraments & Lent

#### Reconciliation

On Tuesday, April 1st at 6:30pm the Grade 2's will celebrate the sacrament of First Reconciliation.



#### Confirmation

On Monday, April 28th our Grade 8 students will participate in a Confirmation retreat as they prepare to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation on May 13th at 7:00 pm.



#### Stations of the Cross

On Holy Thursday (April 17th) students will walk through the Stations of the Cross, reflecting on Jesus' journey to the cross.

### Sacred Triduum

**Holy Thursday** – April 17th Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00pm Reception of Oils; Washing of Feet; Commissioning of Ministries  
Hours of Adoration to follow at 8:00pm

**Good Friday** – April 18th Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 12:00pm and 3:00pm  
Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm

**Holy Saturday** – April 19th Easter Vigil at 8:00pm  
Blessing of the New Fire and Paschal Candle  
Initiation of Catechumens/Candidates

### St. Kevin's Mass Times

**Saturday** - 5:00 pm

**Sunday** - 8:30am  
10:00am  
11:30am



**Palm Sunday - April 13th**  
8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm



**Easter Sunday - April 20th**  
8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm

*Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed.*  
*Isaiah 53:4-5*



# APRIL 2025



## HAPPENINGS

### Student Council

From Thursday, April 3, 2025 to Thursday, April 17, 2025, Kuska's Student Council will be holding a food drive supporting The Hope Centre in Welland. During this time we will be accepting non-perishable food items as well as essential personal care items.

Here is a list of items that they are in particular need of:

- Instant oatmeal packages
- Fruit cups OR cans of fruit
- Side dishes such as Hamburger Helper, Knorr Sidekicks, etc.
- Pasta
- Crackers
- Toothpaste
- Diapers: Sizes 5 & 6



### The Lamprey - An Invasive Species

On March 27th, students in Grades 2-6 had the opportunity to learn about the lamprey, an invasive jawless fish that lives in the Great Lakes.

Thank you to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission for their engaging and informative presentation!

And thank you to Mr. Bernardi who was brave enough to let the lamprey use him to demonstrate how their suction-style mouth attaches to their prey.





# APRIL 2025



## HAPPENINGS

### Purse Bingo Update

Kuska Purse Bingo Success!

The role of Catholic School Councils is to fundraise to support children's learning. Kuska's Purse Bingo on February 7th was an outstanding success! The event was sold out! Many Kuska staff, parents and community members were present and eager to yell BINGO! This event raised over **\$13,500!** This money will be used to create an outdoor learning area with permanent benches and picnic tables. This space could also be used for children to sit and enjoy during recess. Stay tuned for the ongoing updates about the project.



### Student Council Elections

Student Council elections for the Co-Chair position for the 2025/26 year will take place on Friday, April 25th.

Stay tuned for more information as our election approaches!



### Specialty Lunch Days



Wednesday, April 9



Wednesday, April 15



Wednesday, April 23



## REMINDERS

- **P.A. Day** - There will be no school for students on Friday, April 4
- **Good Friday & Easter Monday** - There will be no school on Friday, April 18th and Monday, April 21st



# APRIL 2025



## HAPPENINGS

### Eco Schools

We have several Eco Schools initiatives for the month of April!


#### **April is Repurpose & Recycle Month at Kuska!**

All month long, Alexander Kuska will be collecting *used batteries, empty ink cartridges, and end-of-use markers* to help reduce waste and protect the environment. These items can't be recycled through our regular blue bins, so we're working with trusted partners to make sure they're handled properly.



Students are encouraged to bring these items from home and drop them off in the labelled collection bins located around the school. Our Eco Team will be tracking how much we collect and celebrating our progress!



By working together, we can help keep these items out of landfills and give them a second life. Let's make April a month of action and care for our planet!   
#KuskaEcoTeam #KuskaCares #RepurposeRecycleReuse

For more information, please contact your child's teacher or the school office.


#### **Let's Fight Food Waste at Kuska!**

This April, Alexander Kuska is launching a *Food Waste Awareness Campaign* to help reduce avoidable food waste and protect our planet. Did you know that nearly 60% of food in Canada is wasted—and much of it is still perfectly good to eat?



Avoidable food waste happens when we throw away food that could have been eaten, like uneaten snacks or not using all the edible parts of fruits and vegetables. When food ends up in landfills, it creates methane gas, a harmful greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change.

To take action, students and staff will be learning about the impacts of food waste and taking a *school-wide pledge* to reduce it. We'll be encouraging simple habits like packing only what you plan to eat and using up all the edible parts of your food.




Together, we can build better habits and help Canada reach its goal of net-zero emissions by 2050!  #KuskaGoesGreen #FightFoodWaste #Project2050

# Earth Week 2025 at Alexander Kuska!

## Slogan: “Grow Green, Live Clean – Kuska Cares for Earth 2025!”


Get ready, Kuska! We’re celebrating Earth Week starting April 21st with a week full of action, learning, and care for our planet.

This year’s theme, “*Grow Green, Live Clean*,” highlights the small actions that make a big difference. Throughout the week, students and staff will take part in hands-on environmental activities that support climate change resilience, biodiversity, and our local ecosystem. Here's what's happening:

-  Planting flowering shrubs to support pollinators
-  Cleaning up litter from our school property
-  Planting gardens to beautify our space and promote sustainability

These events are more than just Earth Day celebrations—they’re part of a global movement to care for our planet and inspire change in our school community.

Let’s show that Kuska cares, not just on April 22nd, but all year long!  
#KuskaEarthWeek #GrowGreenLiveClean #EcoSchools #WeLoveThisPlanet

More details coming soon—stay tuned and get ready to dig in! 



ALEXANDER KUSKA +

**ECO CODE**

KUSKA+CARES FOR CREATION

*Keeping our school clean and green, we cherish the Earth as God's gift.*

*United in faith, we reduce, reuse, and recycle with purpose.*

*Serving as stewards of God's creation, we protect and nurture all living things.*

*Knowing that small acts lead to great change, we conserve energy and water daily.*

*Acting with love and respect, we grow a greener future for all.*

*"The Earth is the Lord's, and everything in it." – Psalm 24:1*

*This EcoCode serves as our commitment to environmental learning and action while reflecting Catholic values of stewardship, community, and responsibility.*





# APRIL 2025

## HAPPENINGS

**NEW!**

### Sora - The Student Reading App



We are excited to share about a new resource available for students - Sora!

Sora is a student reading app that allows students to access ebooks and audiobooks 24/7. It contains over 3,000 titles including comic books, graphic novels, and magazines. The app tracks reading stats, awards badges, allows students to highlight and take notes, and titles can be downloaded to allow for offline reading.

Follow the instructions or scan the QR code to access the app.

*Happy Reading!*



### Start Reading Today

#### On Your Device:

1. Download the free Sora app.



2. Tap "I have a setup code".
3. Type **ncdsbca**
4. Enter your **Google Credentials**.

#### In Your Browser

1. Visit [soraapp.com/library/ncdsbca](https://soraapp.com/library/ncdsbca)
2. Enter your **Google Credentials**.


#### Scan QR Code

1. Enter your **Credentials**.



#### Do More:

##### Add the Public Library

1. Click or tap .
2. Select Add Library.
3. In the search box enter **Your Public Library Name**.
4. Search Library. Click **Borrow or Place Hold** on any title.
5. Select **Your Public Library Name** from dropdown and login with your **Google Credentials**.



**Sora**  
Where students read

Borrow ebooks & audiobooks anytime, anywhere with Sora,  
where students read



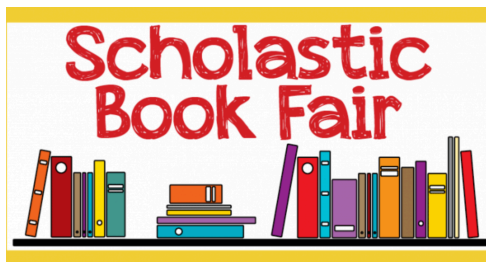
# APRIL 2025



## COMING UP

### Scholastic Book Fair

It is our pleasure to invite the Alexander Kuska Catholic School Community to take part in this year's Scholastic Book Fair. The proceeds will help fund our goal to replenish the library with new captivating literature. The Scholastic Book Fair will have a large variety of books to please everyone. Students and adults can make their purchases during the following dates and times:



**Tuesday, May 6th - 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, May 7th - 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, May 8th - 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

A student invitation flyer that represents only a sample of the many titles available at the Scholastic Book Fair will be sent home with your child(ren). A **Family Event Door Prize** will take place on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. This draw will give one of our lucky students and his/her teacher a chance to win \$25.00 worth of books for his/her home, and \$25.00 worth of books for his/her classroom.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support with this fundraising event, and look forward to seeing you at our FAIR!

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM SCHOLASTIC:**

We have been informed that Scholastic will **NO LONGER ALLOW** for **REFUNDS** or **EXCHANGES**.

**ALL SALES ARE FINAL!**



# 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](#).

