



St. Joseph NEWS

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

April 2025

We are all called by name to grow with God!



April Reflection:

In Mark's Gospel, we read about Jesus and the rich man, who asked what he had to do to inherit eternal life. The rich man explained that he had kept all the commandments, but "Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me'" (Mark 10:21). The rich man chose not to follow Jesus because he loved his many possessions. Our hearts were made for God. In order to follow Jesus, we need to set aside the things that take His place in our hearts. Jesus wants to be the King of our whole heart, not just part of it. Like his call to the rich man, Jesus asks each of us to let go of everything that gets in the way of us following Him. Take a moment today to pray and ask Jesus to reveal any areas of your heart that need His healing touch and to help you fully entrust them to Him. By identifying and surrendering these parts of our hearts, we allow Jesus to transform us from within.

With the changing of seasons, spring reminds us that there is very little time left in the school year, with still so many things to do and learn, and so many accomplishments to celebrate. Our faith and learning journey is renewed in the optimism that comes with spring blooms and growth.

As March came to an end we continued to focus on helping children live their faith with the same open arms of Christ during the Lenten season. As a school community, we will prepare for Easter by doing good deeds and practicing our faith more deeply. Throughout the weeks leading to Easter and especially during Holy Week, many of our Catholic traditions come to life: the Lord's Supper and the washing of the disciples feet on Holy Thursday; Stations of the Cross on Good Friday; celebrating the Lord's Resurrection at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday; and a communal Eucharistic Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. As a school family we continue to strengthen our relationship with Jesus, through prayer, almsgiving and sacrifice. Thank you to our two, three, five and six students, and to Ms. Perry and Ms. Hay, for leading us in prayer and reflection through the Stations of the Cross, sharing in the sorrow and joy of Jesus' journey, and His gift to all of us, everlasting life.

Wishing our families a Blessed Easter, **Mrs. Walsh**



Dear Father, thank you for Your continual renewal, refreshing, and restoration. We pray that this season will be one of growth life. Grow us just as You grow the flowers, vegetables and fruits of this season.

In Jesus' Holy name we pray, Amen



April 2025



Get Your Glow On Dance Party Fundraiser Friday, April 25, 2025

On Friday, April 25th, students will enjoy a fun-filled **DANCE PARTY** as our biggest fundraiser.

Everyone has a chance to not only have fun but **WIN TOO!** How do you win??

1. **Collect pledges!** Each person who donates and makes a \$10 pledge will be entered into a draw to win one of 3 prizes: Gift Certificate for Rizzo's House of Parm, Gift Certificate for Social Graces Market and Cellar and/or Gift Certificate for Stevensville Garden Centre. Don't forget to record names on the pledge sheets provided to keep track of everyone who donates so that they have a chance to win. **Please return these sheets to the school by April 22nd.**

ALL money is submitted through SchoolCash Online.

2. **For the family that collects the most pledges**, each student in that family will be able to choose to be a staff member for the day (ANY staff member!), each student will enjoy a free lunch and the entire family will win an **overnight accommodation at The Americana with 6 waterpark passes.**
3. **MANY incentive prizes** to be won that have a retail value from \$5 - \$300 (last year over 80 incentive prizes were given out). EVERY donation gets entered in the draw AND **for every \$10 donation** students will be entered into a draw to win. Prizes include: crafts, games, sporting equipment, tech items and so much more!! The grand incentive prize is a **flaming red, Bluetooth Hoverboard with an additional kit to turn the hoverboard into a Go Kart!**





Learning Disabilities
Association of Niagara Region

Agency Highlight:

Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region

Website: <https://ldaniagara.org/>

What they do: LDANR provides resources and support to Individuals who are affected by learning disabilities within the Niagara Region. The bulk of the agency's work is focused on direct-support programming for children and youth, focusing on academic and social-emotional domains. LDANR has a parent social group to offer support to caregivers of children and youth with LDs. It offers our one-to-one and small group programs on a seasonal basis and the SLAM Summer Camp each summer in St. Catharines and Niagara Falls or Thorold.



Agency Highlight: Community Living Welland Pelham

Website: Home - Community Living Welland Pelham (clwp.ca)

What they do: CLWP believes that everyone should live in an inclusive caring community, where all people belong and have equal opportunity to participate effectively. CLWP offers advocacy, programs and services for children, youth and adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities and their families in Welland and Pelham. CLWP has partnerships with other community organizations to support inclusive childcare, after-school and summer programs, independent adult employment and living, and family support services, including respite and advocacy. Check out the CLWP website for more information on how to access programs and service or to become involved.

Lakeshore Catholic High School Presents...

MAMMA MIA!



May 1, 2025 - 7pm
May 2, 2025 - 7pm
May 3, 2025 - 2pm & 7pm
May 4, 2025 - 2pm

Tickets \$20 (\$15 Students)
Ticket available via:
SCHOOL CASH ONLINE
or by contacting Nancy Bodis
nancy.bodis@ncdsb.com
or (905) 835-2451 or visit
www.lakeshorecatholic.ca

Music and Lyrics by : BENNY ANDERSSON & BJORN ULVAEUS
Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International MTI



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (NCPIC) MEMBERSHIP 2025-2026



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](#).

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



From Public Health

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/>

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.

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](#).

