

St. Denis Catholic School

April 2025



Address

175 Carlton St.
St. Catharines, ON
L2R 1S1

Principal

Mrs. Victoria Wegelin

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St. Denis Bell Times



School Begins 9:10 a.m.
First Break 11:20 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
Second Break 1:20 p.m. -2:00 p.m.
Dismissal 3:30 p.m.

Principal's Message

Worship as we Journey Through Lent

Easter is the most significant Feast Day of the Church when we recreate the sacrifice of Jesus, the Paschal Lamb, and His Glorious Resurrection on Easter morning.

We take this opportunity to begin again, in hope and faith and the fresh light of spring. May Easter bring each of us a happy heart and may our spirits rejoice in the joy of the risen Lord. Remember that whenever we see a cross, let it always be a symbol of life...Life Everlasting.



What better way to celebrate Christ's Resurrection and our call to new life than to learn more about creation, ecological justice, and stewardship throughout this month. At St. Denis Catholic School, we are especially proud of our Eco-School team and their many initiatives like litterless lunches, participating in Earth Hour and recycling, which promotes the entire school community's

responsibility to care for God's gift of creation.

April is a month to reflect upon and celebrate the importance of Catholic Education. The students and staff of St. Denis Catholic School are praying and helping others who are in need. As a school community, the St. Vincent de Paul Society appreciates our monetary donations during Lent to assist those in need.

April is a very active month at St. Denis Catholic School! As a school community, we are excited about all the events that are taking place!

Thank you as always for your continued and ongoing support!

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. V. Wegelin

Principal

New Life Prayer

New Life

Lord, it is Spring, and You have performed a glorious miracle of rebirth on the earth. We thank You for the bountiful beauty that Spring brings to us all.

All living creatures speak Your name ever so gently, giving thanks to You. Lord, You are the only one being to hear these praises. During this rejuvenation, we are truly blessed, and we feel Your presence all around. Lord, send Your rays of hope down upon us, so that we may open our eyes and see the new beginning of Spring Life.

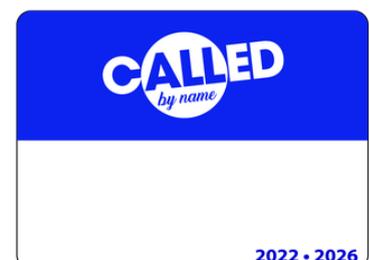
Fill our hearts and minds with joy and peace.

Amen



Called By Name: Hear My Voice 2025

When Mary Magdalene found Jesus' tomb empty, she cried. She thought someone had taken Jesus' body away. Jesus appeared to her, but she didn't recognize Him until He called her by name. During the sad times of our lives, we call out to Jesus for help. And before we even say His Name, Jesus comes to comfort us, like He comforted Mary and brought her joy. Jesus calls us by name because He knows us and loves us. May the Name of Jesus be ever on our lips. And may our hearts always be open to hear Him call us by name.



[April 2025 Calendar - Click Here](#)

Monthly Award Winners – March 2025

Every month our teachers recognize a student in their class who has demonstrated excellence in a particular area based on one of the eight Catholic Graduate Expectations. These expectations are; A discerning believer, an effective communicator, a reflective, creative and holistic learner, a collaborative contributor, a caring family member and a responsible citizen. Congratulations to this month's recipients listed below.



MARCH

Mrs. Lee's Class -**Yakout D. and Aaron A.**
Ms. Schenck's Class -**Miranda S.G.**
Ms. Konieczny's Class - **Bastian P.V. and Kali C.**
Ms. DEttorre's Class -**Lisan T.**
Mrs. Foster's Class -**Amy P.S. and Elijah S.**
Mr. Biamonte's Class -**Giovanna C.V.**
Mrs. Jackson's Class -**Rachel J.**
Mr. Sutton PTM -**Kiara C.**
Mr. Hasting's Class -**Milan D.**
Mrs. La Valle's Class -**Leia C.**
Mr. O'Connor's Class -**Luqman D.**
Miss MacSporran's Class -**Adam J.**
Mr. Riddell's Class -**Elizabeth M.**
Mme Bonin's French Class JR -**Rafaela L.**
Mme Bonin's French Class INT -**Santiago G.V.**
Mrs. Zanon-**Gibson M.**
Mrs. Wegelin - Principal's Award -**Michael I.P.**

Congratulations to all winners! You are amazing!

Lent – A Time for Giving! Fundraiser for St. Vincent de Paul Society

During **Lent** we are called on to perform acts of kindness towards those less fortunate.

Almsgiving is defined as donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes it as “a work of justice pleasing to God.”



This Lent the St. Denis Catholic School Community is collecting monetary donations for our St. Vincent de Paul Society in support of their good works.

Thank you to all who have donated funds on School Cash Online for our Lenten St. Vincent de Paul fundraiser!

We continue to collect funds until Wednesday April 30, 2025. We will send these funds to Fr. Stephen and the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Denis.

THANKS AGAIN!!

God Bless.

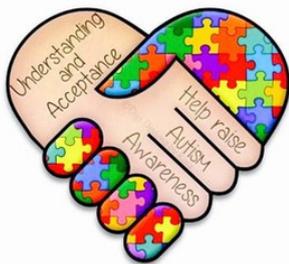
CPR Training-Grade 7 Students

April 1, 2025

Heart Niagara will be visiting our school to administer the Healthy Heart Schools' Program. This program has been designed to complement the Ontario Health and Physical Education curriculum and raises awareness of the importance of eating well, being physically active, and avoiding tobacco products. The students will be taught awareness of the signs and symptoms of heart and airway emergencies and how to respond in case of an emergency. Heart Niagara is a non-profit agency.



World Autism Day



World Autism Day

April 2, 2025

World Autism Awareness Day will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2025. In order to continue to support this event Autism Ontario is inviting all schools across Ontario to celebrate World Autism Awareness Day! Students **have been invited to wear blue shirts as part of their "civvies" attire on April 2nd** to help raise awareness

in support of initiatives to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism around the world.

P. A. Day



April 4, 2025

A P. A. Day will be held on Friday, April 4, 2025. This is a very special day as the staff of St. Denis will be participating in professional development. **There will be no school for students.**

Manie Musicale Reveal Video



April 9, 2025

Students in French class have been participating in the Manie Musicale. This international competition was created by teachers as an engaging way to explore French musicians, music and culture from around the world.

St. Denis Catholic School Council Spring Cha-Ching Fundraiser

March 31, 2025-April 11, 2025

The St. Denis Catholic School Council is very excited to be hosting the annual St. Denis Spring Cha-Ching Fundraiser! **This fundraiser started in the month of March. Students were sent home tickets to sell for \$5.00 in books of five tickets starting on Monday, March 17, 2025. Tickets can be sold and returned by Friday, March 28, 2025.**



On Monday, March 31, 2025 we will start drawing a ticket a day for 10 days! The last day of the draw will be on Friday, April 11, 2025. Every day someone will win \$100.00!! Prizes will be given to students who sell the most tickets in each division-primary, junior and intermediate. All funds raised will assist the purchase of more technology for our students and assist with the Grade 8 graduation.

Thank you for your ongoing support!! Spring Cha-Ching!!!

Thank you for supporting St. Denis Catholic School and we appreciate your generosity!

The St. Denis Catholic School Council

Brock's Vision Screening Program

April 14-16, 2025

A vision screening clinic will be held at our school.

We are pleased to offer the Brock University Vision Plus vision screening program at St. Denis from April 14-16, 2025. Vision Plus is committed to improving access to vision care, education, and support for children and families. As part of this program, Vision Plus will be providing a free vision screening to all children at the school. Participation in this program is entirely voluntary.

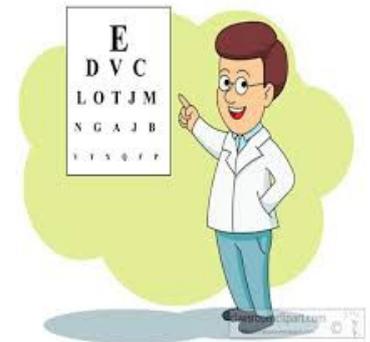
Why is this important?

- Healthy vision is critical to a child's academic success.
- More than 80% of what a child learns in school comes through vision.
- 1 in 4 children may need help to see clearly.
- Children may not realize they have vision problems, making regular check-ups important.

Vision Screening Details:

Vision screening involves a series of short and simple activities to check if a child may be having issues with their vision. These screening activities will check for:

- Near and far sightedness
- Lazy eye (amblyopia)
- Power between the eyes and focus
- Depth perception



Vision screening will be conducted by trained volunteers from Brock University and is **NOT** a substitute for a comprehensive eye exam with an optometrist, who is an eye doctor. It is recommended that children have regular eye exams to determine the health of their eyes. This is all done **FREE** of charge. Parents are encouraged to take advantage of the service. **If you do not want your child to participate in the vision program, a letter will be sent home with your child to sign and Opt-Out of the program. Please fill out this form and return it to your child's teacher by April 3, 2025.**

Tim Hortons Foundation Camps

April 15-16, 2025

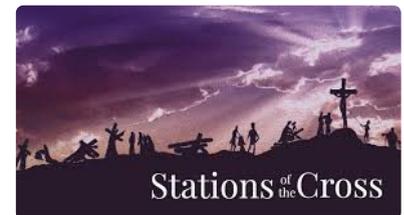
Tim Hortons Foundation Camps, a leader in delivering quality programs, has provided over 325, 000 opportunities for youth to gain skills they need to pursue their education, contribute to their communities, find meaningful jobs and lead fulfilling lives. This program is being offered to Mr. O'Connor's grade 6 class and to Miss MacSporran's grade 7 class. This is a six week program that focuses on leadership development, in a hands-on active environment. We are excited to offer this **FREE** of charge to our students in these two classes.

Tim Hortons
Foundation Camps

Stations of the Cross

April 17, 2025

During Holy Week the students of St. Denis staff and students will be celebrating the Stations of the Cross on Thursday, April 17, 2025. Thank you to Miss MacSporran and Mr. Riddell and the intermediate students for organizing this for our school.



Easter Holidays



Friendly Reminder to Parents - Easter Holidays

Friendly Reminder to Parents:

There will be no school on **Friday, April 18, 2025** for Good Friday and on **Monday April, 21, 2025** for Easter Monday. We will see you on **Tuesday, April 22, 2025!**

Earth Day at St. Denis

April 22, 2025

Earth Day School Ground Clean Up

Earth Day is a special time at St. Denis, a time to remember our love of this planet and all of God's creation. School grounds and community clean up events make a difference. These actions, although small, have significant positive impacts on the environment and demonstrate the power of working together. St.



Denis students will be participating in a School Grounds Clean Up campaign on April 22nd to demonstrate our commitment to creating a healthy and sustainable world. Teachers will take their students outdoors to pick up litter on the school grounds. Students will be provided with gloves and bags. Students will be informed of safe and proper procedures for collecting and disposing of litter. Together we can make a difference!

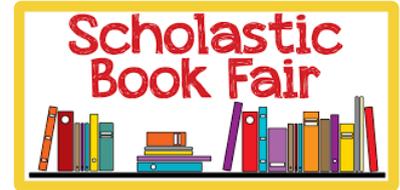
Thank you to Mrs. Jackson and Mr. Biamonte and the St. Denis EcoSchool Team!

Book Fair

April 28, 2025 - May 1, 2025

A Scholastic Book Fair will be held at our school in the library from Monday, April 28, 2025 to Thursday, May 1, 2025. Students may purchase books when their class visits the fair. The Book Fair hours are 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. except on Thursday where it will

end at 12:00 p.m. This is a great way to promote reading to our students. Your participation in our Book Fair is a key part in helping us to obtain new resources for our library. Thank you for your support! Thank you as well to Mrs. Goulet for organizing this for our school.



Food Days for April 2025

Pita Day Orders due on **Monday, April 7, 2025.**

Pita Day-**Thursday, April 10, 2025.**

Pizza Day Orders due on **Tuesday, April 22, 2025.**

Pizza Day-**Friday, April 25, 2024.**

Please remember that during Lent our food days are on Thursdays.



Important Dates to Keep in Mind!



Grade 8 Confirmation

Our Grade 8 students will be making their Confirmation on **Sunday, June 1, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.** at St. Denis Catholic Church. Thank you to Father Stephen, Mr. Riddell and Miss MacSporran for preparing our students for this important step in their faith journey.

Grade 2 First Communion

Grade 2 students will be making their First Communion on a Sunday that has been selected in advance with Father Stephen. Please contact St. Denis Catholic Church for more information.

EQAO Grades 3 & 6

Our Grade 3 & 6 students will be taking part in the Provincial Assessment from **May 7, 2025 to June 11, 2025.** Students will be tested in reading, writing and mathematics. Province-wide

assessments provide information that parents, teachers and policy makers can use to help children learn more effectively.

Parents can help ensure that students have a positive experience in the assessments.

· Discuss the assessments with your child. These EQAO assessments help all students to learn and do their best work.

· **Try to avoid interruptions in your child's attendance during assessments. Parents are asked to avoid arranging appointments during this period to accommodate testing schedules. More information will be sent home.**

Grade 8 Graduation

Our Grade 8 Graduation will be taking place on **Thursday, June 19, 2025**. Please mark this important date in your calendar. More information will follow as this date gets closer.



NCPIC - Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee

Please see the link below for information regarding NCPIC membership.

Included in the link is the self nomination form.

A great way to be involved in your child's education.

[Parent Involvement Link](#)

Junior Basketball Tournament

Junior Girls Basketball Tournament

Our Junior Girls Basketball Team participated in the St. Francis Family of Schools tournament held at St. Denis on Tuesday, March 4th, 2025. The girls defeated St. Ann's and St. James but unfortunately lost to St. Teresa of Calcutta. The girls dedication and hard work were on display the entire day. Congratulations to the following members: Layla L., Emily R., Alexa M., Grace G., Anna P., Ryza Fe E., Isabel S., Avaree T., Eva W., Victorine I-P, Tatiana T. and Dahlia L. Thank you to Mrs. LaValle for coaching our team!



Junior Boys Basketball Tournament

The St. Denis School community is incredibly proud of the junior boys basketball team for showcasing exceptional sportsmanship, dedication, and hard work throughout the season. Their determination on and off the court was awesome. The boys demonstrated the values of teamwork and perseverance, and we celebrate their growth and commitment to the game of basketball. They had a great season! The team consisted of Alfred S., Elias H., Luqman D., Gabriel A., Liam L., Myles G., Chris L., Kingston M., Hunter D.H., Tatius T., and Xandre S.. Thank you to Mr. O'Connor for coaching our team!

Go Saints Go!

Junior and Intermediate Chess Tournament

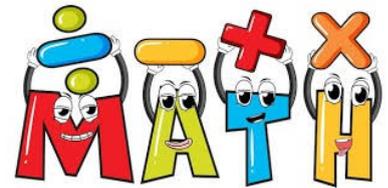
On Tuesday, March 25, 2025 members of the St. Denis Chess Team traveled to St. Mary Catholic School in Niagara Falls to take part in the Area Wide Chess Tournament. Our junior and intermediate teams came out with checkmates left, right, and center. It was just another impressive day for St. Denis students.



The teams put in an amazing performance. Both junior and intermediate teams did well. The junior team placed third overall after finishing first in the round robin. The intermediate team finished in fourth place overall. With such a young team, the future of chess at St. Denis looks bright. Thank you to junior team members Gabriel, Petar, Santo, Rahila, Milton, Marko, Emmett, Mattias, Vicente, Drew, Alfred, and Cohen L., and the intermediate team members Santiago, Isaac, Pathrose, Adam, Chase, Makai, Zack, Timothy, Ayden, and Cohen V. for all their hard work. There is so much to be proud of. Each and every student represented St Denis with exemplary behaviour. Thank you to Mr. Hastings for coaching our team! Great job everyone!!

Intermediate Mathletes Tournament

Congratulations to Tunmise A., Adam J., Giselle M. V., and Chase S. who represented our school at the Mathletes Tournament held at St. Teresa of Calcutta. On this day the team supported each other and worked together to solve challenging math problems within a given time frame. Our St. Denis team came in second place! This is the best result we have ever had for our school in this competition! Congratulations! Go Saints Go! We are very excited that our team will be moving onto the Mathletes Final Tournament held on April 22, 2025 at St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School.



Thank you to Miss MacSporran for coaching our great team and to Mrs. Zanon for taking our team to the competition.

Parking Lot SAFETY Reminders



PARKING LOT SAFETY REMINDER

Just a reminder to all parents, when dropping off or picking up your children, **please ensure you park your car in a parking spot rather than pulling up and letting your children out.** We have many safety concerns and want to ensure that all of our students are safe at the busy times of the day. **Parents of primary children should be escorting them across the parking lot to a safe area within the school playground. Please only park in the handicapped parking area if you have the required accessible parking permit.**

We appreciate your cooperation with this request.

Kindergarten Registration

Year 1 Kindergarten Registration

Registration will be held all throughout the school year. Children who will be 4 years old by December 31, 2025 and who live within the St. Denis Catholic School's boundaries are eligible to



enroll for Year 1 Kindergarten. Your child's Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate and proof of address are required at the time of registration.

Children who will be 5 years old by December 31, 2025 and who live within the St. Denis Catholic School's boundaries are eligible to enroll for Year 2 Kindergarten. Your child's Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate and proof of address are required at the time of registration. Only students who have not attended Year 1 need to be officially registered. Those students currently attending the Year 1 program will be automatically enrolled in the Year 2 class.

If you know of neighbors and/or relatives who live in our school community, please encourage them to visit St. Denis Catholic School and enroll their children in a Catholic School. Our flourishing community needs active support from its members.

Student Nutrition Program (SNAC)



Niagara Nutrition Partners

We are once again excited to be offering this program at St. Denis Catholic School! Our school will be receiving a grant to provide healthy snacks to our students. This year the program will be a grab and go program with all of the snacks being prepackaged and delivered to the classrooms in the morning as a mid-morning

snack.

Our SNAC Program will continue daily throughout the month.

Register for School Cash Online



School Cash Online

Please click on the button below for instructions to register for School Cash Online. The easy, safe way to pay for school items and events.

[School Cash Online Registration Instructions - Click](#)

Safe Arrival/SchoolMessenger



PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL WITH ANY CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGES.

Please use the Safe Arrival system to report all absences and lates for your child.

You can report an absence by:

PHONE - 1-844-287-6287

ONLINE: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>

APP: SchoolMessenger

NCDSB Dress Code



NCDSB Dress Code The following serves as a reminder for families as the warmer weather approaches and if dress code purchases are being made. Students must wear the elementary standardized dress code items properly and in compliance with the expectations throughout the school day and at all activities and events as representatives of the school and/or Board. It is the

expectation that students wear the elementary standardized dress code as a condition of attendance in an elementary school within the Niagara Catholic District School Board at a minimum, if the elementary student is not in compliance with the mandatory elementary standardized dress code, parents and guardians will be contacted to bring the required dress code items to school.

At a minimum, every student is required to wear one (1) of the following items:

- Navy Blue sweat pants for students in Early Learning Kindergarten to Grade 3
- Navy Blue Pants (Cargo, Corduroy, Denim, Dress, Kobe styles permitted)
- Navy Blue Dresses or Skorts; or · Navy Blue Capris or Walking Shorts.
- Grade 8 students have the option to wear grey secondary uniform pants purchased through Board uniform suppliers. Pants, skirt or dress length must be appropriate and modest. Only knee length capris or shorts are permitted. All clothing must be in good repair.

At a minimum, every student is required to wear one (1) of the following items:

- Navy Blue or White Oxford shirt (short or long sleeve)
- Navy Blue or White Polo shirt (short or long sleeve); or
- School designed spirit wear polo shirt.

The elementary standardized dress code shirts, either polo or oxford must be buttoned in a respectable manner. Visible t-shirts worn under the elementary standardized dress code top must be either navy blue or white.

In addition, approved sweaters and hoodies embroidered and/or screened with the school logo are permitted to be worn as part of the elementary standardized dress code.

Running shoes are the recommended footwear with a full back and a closed toe. It is recommended that parents/guardians provide a pair of indoor shoes for physical education and indoor wear.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: <https://www.niagaracatholic.ca/policies-protocols-docs/policies/> (Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy)

St. Denis Spirit Wear

Big Bear Spiritwear will be our spirit wear provider and will be supplying our school with customized school dress code "gear". Big Bear Spiritwear is a board approved supplier located in Niagara Falls. Families are able to order single items or many as they would like. Finished product are delivered to the school once every few weeks and the timeline for filling an order is 7-10

business days (sometimes less). Please use the button below which will take you directly to the St. Denis Catholic School Ordering page at Big Bear Spiritwear.



[Order St. Denis Spirit Wear - Click Here](#)



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Victoria Wegelin

Victoria is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

