



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School

Principal- Mrs. R. Araujo

Vice-Principal- Mrs. M. Kish

Proud to be a part of the Blessed Trinity CSS Family of Schools



May, 2025 NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs. Araujo and Mrs. Kish

The month of May is upon us. Two months left in the school year and we are preparing to bring this year to a close. With the weather changing and the sun shining for longer periods of time in the day, we can't help but feel restored. This is the power of Easter and the rebirth. This month we pay special tribute to Mother Mary who is a constant source of hope, love and faith in our lives. We continue to ask for her blessings to guide us down the right path.

What are you thankful for? What are some of the blessings in your life? When we see the good, we feel good about ourselves and about others. Challenge yourself and one another to always see the good and ask our blessed Mary to guide us in this and in all of life's challenges.



Faith Matters- May

When Jesus says "Come, follow me," He's doing more than just asking us to walk with Him. He is asking us to become a part of something bigger. Imagine you're invited to join an adventure where you learn new things and grow in ways you never thought possible. Following Jesus means we get to learn from Him how to be more loving, forgiving, and courageous. It's like being part of a great story where each of us has a special role. As we follow Jesus, we discover our own strengths and talents and find joy in helping others. So, when we hear His invitation, it's a chance to embark on an exciting journey of faith and make a real difference in the world!

Preparing for the Spring Weather

Parents with the spring weather upon us please remember the following tips:

- send a water bottle with your child so they can stay hydrated
- put sunscreen on your child in the morning as we are unable to apply it for them at school
- send a hat to shield them from the sun
- remind them to be mindful of ticks when playing in the grass



Class Placements for September 2025-2026- IMPORTANT PLEASE READ

In the weeks and months ahead we will begin organizing our school for the upcoming school year. Teachers and support staff will dialogue and determine where each child needs to be placed to best meet their needs and ensure success. Similar to last year, we are providing parents with the opportunity to place their requests in for their children. **ALL REQUESTS WILL NEED TO BE MADE VIA THIS GOOGLE FORM-**
<https://forms.gle/vAa6kDsKkX41mCob8>

Please do not provide this information to the classroom teacher or via email. All class placement requests will be centrally located. If you are having difficulty accessing the link, please email the school.

We are asking that parents limit their requests to TWO per child. There is no option to NOT be placed with a teacher. We feel that all of our teachers are qualified staff members who have only the best interests of your children in mind. We hope you understand. However, you can ask to be placed with a certain teacher.

All requests must be made using the Google form no later than May 31, 2025. Any requests made after this date will not be entertained. Please understand that creating class lists for this size of a school is a huge undertaking and one that we take very seriously. It is very difficult to make changes last minute as it affects many other classes, teachers and students. Your understanding is anticipated and appreciated.



Kindergarten Open House- May 22, 2025- 4-5:30 pm

We welcome all of our new Kindergarten students on May 22, 2025 from 4 to 5:30 pm to visit the classrooms and see their new learning space. Parents will have an opportunity to view a brief presentation and then tour the school as well. We can't wait to meet our newest students.



The Month of Mary

During the Month of May we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. Without Mary giving birth to Jesus, all the events that followed: Jesus' life, death, and resurrection wouldn't have happened. So, it's believed that May (when nature is showing signs of life) is the ideal month to honour the woman who gave life to our Savior.



BT Corner



April was another very busy month at Blessed Trinity. Our winter sports came to an end and our spring sports started up. On any given day at BT, you can find some or all of the following sports practicing or beginning their spring seasons on our new turf field (for the first time in the spring season):

- Soccer
- Track and Field
- Boys and Girls Lacrosse
- Rugby
- Flag Football
- Girls Softball
- Boys Baseball

Other events that took place in April were the Junior Formal for our grade 9 and 10 students; the Waterloo Math Contest and all of our students took part in the Compass Survey created every year by the University of Waterloo.

Lastly, all of the Grade 8's who will be attending Blessed Trinity in September should have received Student and Course Verification forms to have one last look that they have chosen the appropriate courses for next year and that all of their biographic information is correct.

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.

Blessed Trinity Special Education Expo

Date: Thursday June 5 2025

Time: 1:30pm to 5:00pm

Location: Blessed Trinity Cafeteria - 145 Livingston Ave - Grimsby

Details: The Special Education Department at Blessed Trinity is hosting its first ever Transitions Expo.

This is a vendor style event for families of current Special Education students at Blessed Trinity (grades nine to age twenty-one) as well as prospective Special Education students from our family of schools in grades five through eight. Students and families will have an opportunity to meet, chat, network and gain information from local organizations that may be of benefit to them currently or in the future. Some organizations in attendance will be Niagara College, Mohawk College, Community Living Grimsby/Lincoln, Mainstream, Contact Niagara, Red Roof Retreat and more!

We invite you to join us in our school cafeteria on Thursday, June 5th, 2025 from 1:30-5:00 pm. Refreshments and snacks will be served, courtesy of the Blessed Trinity Culinary Program.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Dustin Wiley, Program Chair of Special Education at 905-945-6706 extension 3322 or at dustin.wiley@ncdsb.com.

We look forward to seeing you there!

****Please note-** there will be a therapy dog present on the day of the event.



Flag Football

This year our Intermediate Students will be participating in the 2nd annual Invitational Flag Football Tournament taking place on Tuesday May 20th 2025 for the boys and Thursday May 22nd for the girls. Thank-you to Mr. Lettieri and Mr. Puma for coaching.



Mathletes Champions

Congratulations to our Intermediate Math Team for their outstanding performance in the NCDSB Mathletes competition! Our intermediate team placed 2nd overall. The team consists of Colin.V, Santino R., Sasha P. and Michael G. Thank-you to Mr. Ciccone for coaching.



Krispy Kreme Fundraiser

We are excited to announce that we are launching a fundraiser with the support of the OLF Catholic School Council. We will be selling Krispy Kreme (Original Glazed) donuts (by the dozen) with all the proceeds going towards the following initiatives:

- Technology (Chromebooks and Smart Boards)

You will be able to purchase a dozen (Original Glaze) donuts using School Cash Online starting tomorrow. A dozen donuts is \$15.00. The last day to order is Thursday May 22. Orders will be delivered on Wednesday June 4 to the school. Parents will be responsible for picking up the orders prior to 4:30 pm that day.

Please note that we are capped at 500 dozen. Once we reach that amount, we will not be able to accept any additional orders.

We thank you in advance for your anticipated support of this fundraiser.



This year's Catholic Education Week theme is, "*Pilgrims of Hope.*"

The theme for Catholic Education Week 2025 was inspired by the following considerations:

- In February of 2022, Pope Francis announced that the theme for the upcoming 2025 holy year would be "Pilgrims of Hope." "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given to us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. (from Vatican News, a short video on the history of the Jubilee/Holy Year:
<https://x.com/VaticanNews/status/1783768498885275868>)
- The Holy Father asks us to focus prayerfully on the bonds that unite our whole human family, to reflect on the rampant poverty in our world, and to think about the plight of the many refugees forced to leave their homes. He also summons us, as stewards of Creation, "to contemplate the beauty of creation and care for our common home."

- A pilgrimage is a spiritual journey of movement toward a goal, often lived together with others – and that certainly describes Catholic education. Hope – one of the three theological virtues – is grounded in our Easter faith in Jesus’ resurrection and renewal; this is what enables us to be builders, dreamers and leaders in Jesus’ name. Pope Francis invites us to keep moving ahead in faith, in joy, and in hope, as part of a pilgrim people. Even in challenging times, our eyes are focussed on the future.

There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week:

- Day 1: By honouring human dignity / Honorent la dignité humaine
- Day 2: By caring for creation / Prennent soin de la création
- Day 3: By responding to the poverties in our world / Luttent contre les pauvretés
- Day 4: By serving in solidarity / Servent en solidarité
- Day 5: By living as peacemakers / Vivent en artisans de paix

Every year, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association (OCSTA) provides our Catholic schools with a resource kit to help schools prepare for Catholic Education Week. Using these resources, as well as our own developed activities, we have prepared a series of activities, which will highlight how the students and staff at our school are being *Pilgrims of Hope* together.

We hope to see many of you during our school celebrations!



Victoria Day

Monday, May 19th, 2025 is Victoria Day. This is an opportunity to enjoy a long weekend with our family and friends.



EQAO News for Grade 3 and 6

This year EQAO will once again be completed electronically. The schedule is indicated on the May Calendar. We have much more flexibility with this new format and the assessment itself is much shorter than in previous years. We hope this will alleviate any worry or stress that may be associated with writing EQAO. You can prepare your child by encouraging them to do their best and reminding them that these assessments are to give us a better idea of how we can program to meet the needs of our students. If you have any further questions about EQAO, we encourage you to visit www.eqao.com.



[May is Better Hearing and Speech Month](#)

Throughout the day you talk to family, friends, and colleagues. You use your hearing and speech all the time. You probably take them for granted. Imagine not being able to communicate simple thoughts like "Thank you" or "Tell me a story." For many Canadians with speech and language disorders, this is reality. For them, words don't come easily. But when is the last time you really thought about it? May is Speech and Hearing Month, the perfect time to communicate some important information about hearing and speech.

One in 10 Canadians has a hearing, speech, or language problem, a condition that makes it difficult to communicate with others. Anyone, of any age, can have or develop an impairment of the ability to hear, speak, or understand effectively. At any time, illness or accidental injury can impair your ability to hear and talk. Treatment to eliminate or minimize communication problems is available.

Speech, language, and hearing disorders are treatable and early detection is a major contributor to speedier recoveries, shortened treatment periods, and reduced costs for individuals and society alike. Early detection of communication disorders is vital! If you suspect a hearing, speech, or language problem, contact a communication specialist such as a Speech-Language Pathologist, Communication Disorders Assistants or Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. A listing of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists is available by contacting the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario (CASLPO) at 1-800-993-9459 or visit www.caslpo.com. To learn more about the importance of early detection and intervention of communication disorders, and the role of speech-language pathologists, audiologists and communicative disorders assistants visit www.asha.org/public, Speech-Language & Audiology Canada (SAC) www.maymonth.ca or <https://identifythesigns.org>.

Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter **May 2025**

Vision Health Month

Visual health is an important part of a child's overall health and well-being. Proper vision is important for a child's movement and coordination, independence, play and learning. If left untreated, vision problems may become serious and prevent a child from reaching their full potential.



A yearly eye exam is **FREE** – the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) covers the cost of an eye exam every 12 months for children up to the age of 19 with a valid OHIP card. [Find an eye doctor near you.](#)

Also, contact an eye doctor if you see **ANY** of these signs:

● Squinting or holding objects close to the eyes	● One eye that turns out or in
● Blinking often	● Rubbing, tearing, itchy or burning eyes
● Turning or tilting the head to the side often	● Reporting blurry or double vision
● Covering or closing one eye	● Reporting headaches, nausea or eye strain

For more information on vision screening, please visit <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/schools/vision-screening.aspx>.

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Do you have a little one starting Kindergarten?



Public Health works in partnership with teachers, support staff, students, and parents to build a healthier school community.

Check out our [School Health webpage](#) for some important links and supports:

- [Childhood illnesses and diseases of public health significance](#)
- [Non-reportable illnesses and exclusion periods](#)
- [Dental screening](#)
- [School-aged vaccines](#)

Parents and legal guardians of junior and senior kindergarten registrants and students new to Ontario are asked to report their vaccinations to [Public Health](#).

Head Lice



Students are now back into the swing of things and spending lots of time with friends and classmates during school and after school. Lice can spread regardless of a student's age. Head lice are spread by direct head-to-head contact or by sometimes sharing items like combs, brushes, hats, pillows, etc. Anyone can get head lice, it's not a sign of poor personal hygiene or an unclean environment.

Check out School Health's new webpage on head lice for more information: [Head Lice - Niagara Region, Ontario](#)

May is Rabies Awareness Month

During Spring, wildlife activity increases and so does the potential for rabies exposures. Rabies is a serious and fatal disease that affects the brain and spinal cord of mammals, including humans.

To prevent rabies, avoid any contact with wild animals, especially those that appear sick. Although they may seem cute, do not feed wild animals and most importantly, make sure to have your pets vaccinated.



For more information visit

https://www.niagararegion.ca/living/health_wellness/disease-prevent/rabies.aspx