

St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School



Phone: 905 734 4659

May 2025

"We are proud to be part of the Notre Dame Catholic Family of Schools"

Principal: Mr. Paul Moccia

Superintendent: Mrs. Kim Kinney

St. AUGUSTINE: A School where we "build minds and nurture souls"

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We are in the very busy season of spring at St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School. May begins with the celebration of Catholic Education Week. Niagara Catholic elementary and secondary schools will be participating in Catholic Education Week with the theme of **"Pilgrims of Hope"**, in conjunction with Mental Health Week, with the theme, "Unmasking Mental Health" from **Monday, May 5, 2025 to Friday, May 9, 2025**. This is an opportunity to highlight the connection between our Catholic faith and mental health and wellness with our students. While we strive to provide a wide variety of opportunities for students, we continue to keep our focus on our "partnership to foster academic, social and spiritual growth according to the teachings of Christ."

On behalf of the St. Augustine staff we would like to thank all of you in your support of us and with Catholic Education.

CELBRATION OF SACRAMENTS at ST AUGUSTINE

First Holy Communion will be taking place on **Saturday, May 3 at 5:00 p.m.** and Confirmation will be taking place on **Friday, May 9th at 6:00 p.m.**



SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR 2025-2026

How Can Parents Help?

Please trust our professional judgment to make good pedagogically sound decisions regarding your child's class placement for September. We are well educated professionals with your child's best interests at heart. Talk positively and hopefully to your child about next year. If your child is with a different group of students, discuss the value of new friendships and fresh starts. With some large and small numbers in many grades, and Ministry caps in the primary division, we still may be faced with a combined grade classroom(s) in September.

A combined grade is no different than a single grade classroom where there are children at many different learning levels. All teachers use differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all learners in their classrooms.

Guidelines that we consider may be one, some or all of the following:

Learning style/social needs

Work habits

Special program needs

Behaviour

Gender balance

In all class situations, present and possibly receiving teachers meet with the principal and education resource teacher to make the final decision. We are looking forward to another wonderful school year with your support.

CATCH THE SPIRIT AWARD 2025

Congratulations to **Jordyn Duerden**, the St. Augustine Catholic School recipient for the NCDSB Annual "Catch the Spirit Award". This award is presented to recognize excellence within the Niagara Catholic student population. The student selected has demonstrated qualities in areas such as Catholic Faith and Catholic School Philosophy, Family Commitment, High Degree of Academic Excellence and School Community Relations.

ST. AUGUSTINE KINDERGARTEN FAMILY ORIENTATION Thursday, May 22, 2025

To welcome our new families registered for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year, St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School will be scheduling a Welcome to Kindergarten Family Orientation evening on **Thurs, May 22nd**. Specific details are forthcoming and will be communicated out.

EDUCATION WEEK 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Catholic Education Week Prayer

God of Mercy,

We thank you for the gift of Catholic education.

We walk in faith and thanks, guided by those who have gone before us, who nurtured and sustained Catholic education.

Inspired by our Catholic Graduate Expectations, we acknowledge that the promise of Catholic education is within us, that it is a promise that we live out in our families, school, parishes and communities.

It is a promise that we proclaim in acts of justice and compassion, in word and in deed.

We make this prayer that we may live out the promise of Catholic education daily and for many more years to come.

Amen.

MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER: MAY 11TH

On behalf of the school community of St. Augustine, I would like to wish all of our mothers a very happy Mother's Day and a sincere thanks for your care, support and nurturing.

Heavenly Father, hold my mother close to your Heart
As we hold her close to mine. Let her know today and every day
How much we love her. Lord, comfort her mind and reassure her
that her motherly care was everything we needed and wanted
And that we love her dearly.
Lord, comfort her body as she ages and grant her health and
Vitality as she goes through her days here on earth. Bring all
Good things to my precious mother, dear God, and bless her
Every day, in every way. Amen!

GRADE 8 GRADUATION – WED, JUNE 25TH

The Grade 8 Graduation is scheduled to take place on **Wednesday, June 25 at 5:30 p.m.** Specific information as per logistics is forthcoming.

EQAO – GRADE 3 AND GRADE 6

As has been previously communicated, students in Grade 3 and Grade 6 will be participating in EQAO.

During these dates, we ask parents/guardians to please refrain from booking any appointments etc within the school day. Your cooperation and support in this, is much appreciated.

Specific details will be forthcoming. Stay tuned!

DRESS CODE REMINDER

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all St. Augustine Catholic families for their continuous support of Niagara Catholic's standardized dress code. Listed below are a few dress code reminders:

- Students may wear St. Augustine Catholic Spirit Wear
- Navy or white shirts must have a collar and are to be without any logos.
- Pants, skirts and shorts need to be navy blue.
- Only navy blue or white sweaters may be worn in the classroom.



ECO SCHOOL MESSAGE FOR MAY

What is Ontario Eco Schools?

Ontario Eco Schools is an environmental education and certification program for grades K-12 that helps school communities develop both ecological literacy and environmental practices to become environmentally responsible and reduce the environmental footprint of schools. The key areas of focus and achievement are: Teamwork & Leadership, Energy Conservation, Waste Minimization, School Ground Greening, Curriculum, and Environmental Stewardship.

The St. Augustine ECO team, has worked extremely hard this year with all of the ECO initiatives and especially with the recycling programs under the guidance of Mrs. Berardocco.

We are extremely proud of all their hard work and dedication to the program.

Thank you for all that you do!

FIGHT THE BITE! FROM PUBLIC HEALTH

Ticks, mosquitos and rabid animals have no boundaries and can be a risk to you and your family when walking to and from school or work, waiting at the bus stop, family trips, and while playing in the yard at home or at the park.

Protect yourself and your family from West Nile Virus:

- Reduce standing water where mosquitoes breed
- Cover up, wear long sleeved shirts, long pants, hats socks and shoes
- Repair any damaged window screens
- Use insect repellants containing DEET or Icaridin (follow manufacturer's instructions)
-

Reduce the risk of Lyme disease:

- Wear light coloured clothing to help spot ticks
- Use insect repellants containing DEET or Icaridin (follow manufacturer's instructions)
- Check yourself, your children and pets for ticks after being outdoors
- Cut your grass and dispose of leaf litter where ticks can live

Prevent rabies:

- Vaccinate your pets
- Do not feed or approach any wild, stray or strange animals
- Do not trap, transport, keep or pet any wild animals
- Do not try and nurse sick and wild animals back to health
- Presently, all of these diseases exist in Niagara. For more information, contact Niagara Region Public Health. 905-688-8248 ext. 7767 or 1-888-505-6074