



# May 2025

## St. Kevin Catholic School

**Principal:** Mr. G. Marchio

**Superintendent:** Mrs. Kimberly Kinney

**Parish Priests:** Rev. Jinto Mathew Puthiyidathuchalil, CSC & Fr. Arockia Sunil Josapath, CSC  
182 Aqueduct St., Welland, ON, L3C 1C4  
905-734-7709

### Called By Name: Follow Me

As we step into the month of May, we are reminded of the special significance it holds in our faith. May is dedicated to our Mother Mary, a time to reflect on her life and strive to live as she did, with grace, compassion, and unwavering faith.

Mary, our Mother, exemplified many virtues that we can aspire to in our own lives. Her humility, obedience, and unwavering faith in God's plan are profound examples for us all. Mary's compassion and love for others, her strength in times of trial, and her dedication to prayer and service are virtues that can guide us in our daily actions. As we honour her this month, let us strive to embody these virtues and grow closer to God.

We encourage you to follow Mary's example in your daily lives. Let us come together as a community to honour her and deepen our connection to our faith.

Mr. G. Marchio

Principal



Follow us on Instagram @StKevinWelland



#### Catholic Education & Mental Wellness Week

May 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

#### Food Days

May 9<sup>th</sup> ~ Pizza Day  
May 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Subway Day  
May 29<sup>th</sup> ~ Pizza

#### Grade 7 & 8 Flag Football Tournament @ Young's

May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 ~ Girls  
May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 ~ Boys

#### Victoria Day

Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
School Closed

#### Scholastic Book Fair

May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>  
School Library

#### Alternate Dress Day

Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### ~~~ Mission Statement ~~~

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

*Justice Compassion Stewardship Accountability Community Integrity Faithfulness*

## Prayer for New Life

### Motherhood ... A Partnership with God

A partnership with God is motherhood;  
What strength, what purity, what self-control,  
What love, what wisdom, should belong to her;  
Who helps God fashion an immortal soul.  
God took the fragrance of a flower...The majesty of a  
tree...  
The gentleness of morning dew...The calm of a quiet  
sea...  
The beauty of twilight hour...The soul of a starry  
night...  
The laughter of a rippling brook...The grace of a bird  
in flight...  
The tender care of an angel...The faith of a mustard  
seed...  
The patience of eternity...The depth of a family's  
need...  
Then God fashioned from these things...  
A creation like no other, and then His masterpiece was  
through, He called this simply...

*Mother.*



## "Catch the Spirit" Award Winner

Congratulations to our Grade 8 student **Gianna D!!!**  
Gianna is St. Kevin Catholic's recipient of the "Catch the Spirit Award." The award recognizes a student who demonstrates Catholic leadership qualities, faith and Catholic school philosophy, family commitment, involvement in school and community affairs and activities, along with a high degree of academic excellence. Congratulations Gianna! Job well done!!



## Catholic Education Week – May 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Monday:    | By honouring human dignity                  |
| Tuesday:   | By caring for creation                      |
| Wednesday: | By responding to the poverties in our world |
| Thursday:  | By serving in solidarity                    |
| Friday:    | By living as peacemakers                    |



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!

### Chess Team ~ NCDSB Finals!

This year St. Kevin School was proudly represented by two Junior teams and one Intermediate team at the annual Chess tournament, which saw participation from approximately 200 students. Out of a total of 33 teams that competed, all three St. Kevin teams placed in the top 4 in their respective divisions, which is a remarkable achievement. As a result of their outstanding performance, Junior Team A moved on to the board-wide championship tournament, scheduled to be held at the Seaway Mall in a couple of weeks. Congratulations to all our players for their dedication to the game and for representing St. Kevin School with such distinction. Your hard work and commitment have brought pride to our school community. A special thank you to **Mr. Watson** for coaching the team and to **Mr. Sorella** for his assistance on the day of the board finals.



### Junior Handball

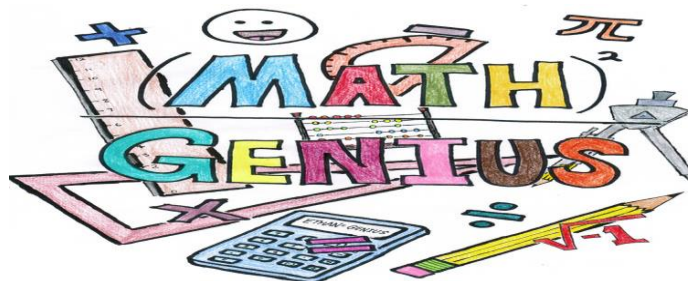
On Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> our junior handball teams travelled to Notre Dame to participate in the large school junior handball tournament for Welland Catholic Schools! It was a great day with a special congratulations going to both our girls and boys team who won the tournament!!! We are very proud of all of our athletes as they represented our school very well. Special thank you to **Mr. Sorella & Mrs. Joyce**, who coached our teams! Also, a big thank you to **Mrs. Stock** who convened the tournament! Great job Celtics ☺



### Intermediate Mathletes

We are thrilled to share the outstanding achievement of our Intermediate Mathletes team, who recently competed in the finals of the NCDSB tournament held at St. Kevin School. The team demonstrated remarkable perseverance and represented our school with great pride, securing an impressive fourth place in the entire board.

We are incredibly proud of our Mathletes for their hard work and dedication. A special thank you goes to **Mrs. Phillips** for organizing the team and to **Mr. Gallo** for his invaluable assistance on the day of the competition. Great job, Celtics! Keep up the fantastic work!



## CSC Fundraiser!

The St. Kevin Catholic School Council would like to thank all families that supported our Spring Hanging Baskets Fundraiser. A special thank you to Vermeer's for collaborating with our school. The Fern baskets were a hit! All proceeds will directly benefit the purchase of technology for our students. Mr. Marchio would like to thank *Catholic School Council* for their efforts and organization of this event. Job well done!



## Mission Day ~ May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

We are excited to celebrate the tradition of Mission Day on May 9, 2025. All proceeds will go to the Hope Center, Development and Peace and Niagara Nutrition Partners.

We have prepared a variety of activities for the children and the cost for each event is listed in this note. This will help guide how many tickets you might like to purchase for your child.

All payment for Mission Day must be done ahead of time on School Cash Online. There will be no money accepted as payment on the day of the events. Students will use tickets to participate in the activities. Tickets are available to purchase starting tomorrow on School Cash Online.

In an effort to help families with multiple children, the cost per ticket drops when you purchase more tickets. We will divide tickets and distribute them to your children if you indicate so on Cash Online.

Please note children in Kindergarten and Grade One will be accompanied by older students to activities for the first hour of Mission Day.

### EARLY BIRD SALE

On Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, parents are invited into the school from 3:00pm-5:00pm to purchase items from our sale (books, posters, toys) and to purchase raffle tickets! CASH ACCEPTED for this sale.

## Dental Screening Reminder ~ May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>

As per the April 15<sup>th</sup> parent update email, Niagara Region Public Health Dental Program will be offering [dental screening](#) to ALL GRADES on May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

A registered dental hygienist will take a quick look in the child's mouth using a sterilized dental mirror and light.

The [Healthy Smiles Ontario](#) program may financially assist children who do not have access to dental care.

**If you do not want your child(ren) to take part in the dental screening, you MUST complete the online [School Dental Screening Opt-Out Form](#) or call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 each school year.**





## **EQAO Grade 3 & 6 Assessment**

In late May and early June, your child will be taking part in the provincial Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary and Junior Divisions. This assessment is administered to all Grade 3 & 6 students in Ontario's publicly funded school system by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), an independent agency of the Government of Ontario.

This assessment includes a language and mathematics component, along with a student questionnaire and an introductory session that includes a sample test for students. The purpose of the introductory session is to familiarize students with the e-assessment platform and the types of assessment questions. During the assessment, students will complete four language sessions that range from 15 to 35 minutes each, and four mathematics stages that each take about 30 minutes to complete. The administration of the stages and sessions may be spread out in the assessment window.

EQAO assessment questions are directly based on the expectations set out in The Ontario Curriculum, which is what teachers teach in the classroom every day. Therefore, your child does not need to prepare in any special way. Students will complete the assessment in their regular classrooms with their current teachers, and are simply encouraged to do their best and show what they know.

In the fall, EQAO will share individual reports with us for all our students. Once we receive these reports, we will provide you with your child's achievement on the assessment. Your child's results are private and will give you an indication of his or her achievement in relation to Ontario's provincial standard. The standard, or Level 3, represents the range from B- to B+. Meeting the standard means your child has a solid grasp of the required knowledge and skills, which is a good indication that he or she will be ready for Grade 4. The results of the assessment do not affect your child's grades or report card in any way. They do, however, give you information about your child's progress.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or your child's teacher.



### **September 2025 Classes**

During the month of June, staff will be meeting to discuss and place students with classmates with whom they feel students will be most successful. A great deal of time and effort is spent determining the composition of classes. When organizing class groupings, attention and diligence is required on behalf of the classroom teachers, resource teacher and principal. A variety of factors are seriously considered when establishing classes. Creating a successful learning environment for all students is a goal we aim to achieve. Some of the criteria considered include: *Ability, Individual Needs, Behaviour, Work Habits, Age; Learning Styles, Class Size.*

#### ***HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?***

Talk positively to your child about next year. If your child is with a different group of students, please discuss relationship building and new friendships.

**Make this a positive experience.**






## NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



### CATHOLIC EDUCATION & MENTAL HEALTH WEEK PLANNER 2025

### "Pilgrims of Hope"

NAME OF SCHOOL:

**St. Kevin Catholic School**

	Catholic Education Week	Mental Health Week
<p><b>Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><i>By honouring human dignity</i></p> 	<p>Primary Faith Day will take place in the gym hosted by the primary teachers. <u>Parents are welcome to attend during their child's classroom designated time.</u></p> <p>Cracker Drive ~ students are asked to donate boxes of crackers for the next two weeks in support of the North of 60 Project. Collection ends May 16<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>Classroom Discussions</p> <p>"Be a messenger of hope to others."</p> <p>Unmasking Mental Health</p> <p>Social Media Campaign Begins</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><i>By caring for creation</i></p> 	<p>School-Wide Prayer Service on the announcements led by Mrs. Joyce's class</p> <p>Magnificent Marigold Submission (Mrs. Gaudet with Mrs. Matyas class)</p> <p>Cracker Drive Continues</p>	<p>Bulletin Board Creation</p> <p>"How does your faith provide hope in times of darkness or struggle?"</p> <p>Child &amp; Youth Worker and classroom teacher to complete lessons and add to this bulletin board throughout the week</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><i>By responding to the poverty in our world</i></p> 	<p>Celebrating Excellence - "Catch the Spirit" award 7 PM</p> <p>Congratulations Gianna D.!</p> <p>Student Leadership Symposium Sam, Blake &amp; Brayden to attend</p> <p>Cracker Drive Continues</p>	<p>Primary Division will be creating "Feelings Masks" to add to our bulletin board display</p> <p>Junior/Intermediate Divisions will hold an in-school poster contest in partnership lead by the school Child &amp; Youth Worker</p>

<p><b>Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><i>By serving in solidarity</i></p> 	<p>Raffle &amp; Ticket sale for Parents - Mission Day 3:15-5 PM (cash accepted)</p> <p>Cracker Drive Continues</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Faith &amp; Mental Health ~ A Daily Resource</u></a></p> <p>Here is our virtual library with links to read alouds to most of the CEW titles. Please enjoy the selected titles read by some of our own Niagara Catholic Staff, including our Senior Administration.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Virtual Library</u></a></p>
<p><b>Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><i>By living as peacemakers</i></p> 	<p>Mission Day ~ A day of fundraising for charity for the following organizations.</p> <p>Development and Peace, The Hope Centre &amp; Niagara Nutrition Partners. Several student activities will take place all in the name of charity and being responsible citizens</p> <p>Cracker Drive Continues</p>	<p>Posters will be collected</p> <p>Social Media Campaign</p>

# 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](#)



## NEW Quit Vaping Program for Youth

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) is excited to launch [Youth-Vaping, Substance use, and Technology \(VAST\)](#). Youth-VAST is a program for youth in Ontario who are using vaping, substances, or feel like technology is taking up too much of their time. This program brings together existing and new resources across CAMH to deliver virtual services directly to youth and their family.

- Program offered for youth ages 12-21 years.
- Appointments are offered virtually for youth all over Ontario
- Youth will be assigned a care coordinator to create a customized treatment plan
- Individuals can self-refer directly into this program, no physician referral required.



To refer, visit [Youth-VAST](#) to book an appointment. For more information you can email [youth.vast@camh.ca](mailto:youth.vast@camh.ca).

## 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](https://www.niagararegion.ca/living/health_wellness/disease-prevent/rabies.aspx)