

St. Denis Catholic School

May 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

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 the 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 when this masterpiece was through
He called this simply....Mother.



May is one of the most beautiful months of the year. It is the time that we honour the Mother of Jesus - Mary. We look to Mary as a model of holiness for all people. During this month we honour all Mothers and Grandmothers! I wish every Mother the happiest Mother's Day!

May 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



Lord God

We see signs of new life all around us as the days continue to grow longer.

Thank you for the buds and the blossoms; the grass and the warmth of the sunshine.

May we remember that you have created us and even if it doesn't quite feel like spring outside we can find newness of life through

your presence.

Please help us to notice the beauty around us; a child's smile, a work of art, an insect, a friend's embrace. May we also share beauty and life with those we meet.

Help us to glorify you as we promote peace, love and grace.

May we speak truth in love and forgive those who wrong us, by your strength.

We pray, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen

Called By Name: Hear My Voice 2025

Let us focus on this thought - Jesus knows my name. And Jesus calls me by name. He doesn't just say, "Hey, you!" but He knows me. And he calls out to me by name. You aren't just a faceless name in a crowd of humanity. Jesus recognizes you. And you're precious to him. You matter so much to

Jesus that he calls you by name, beckoning you to walk closer to him. To trust him more and to live and move and have your being in his unconditional love for you.



[May 2025 Calendar - Click Here](#)

Monthly Award Winners - April 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.

Mrs. Lee's Class - **Meenah R.**
Ms. Schenck's Class - **Liam S.**
Ms. D'Ettorre's Class- **Lisan T.**
Mrs. Foster's Class - **Max S. and Alexandra S.**
Mrs. Jackson's Class - **Ivy K.**
Mr. Biamonte's Class- **Caleb B.**
Mr. Sutton PTM - **Rohanna P.**
Mr. Hasting's Class - **Frank I.M.**
Mrs. La Valle's Class - **Rocco F.**
Mr. O'Connor's Class - **Gabriel A.**
Miss MacSporran's Class - **Aidan L.**
Mr. Riddell's Class - **Greydania P.S. and Ayden M.**
Madame Bonin's French Class JR - **Elizabeth M.**
Madame Bonin's French Class INT - **Elissa G.**
Mrs. Wegelin - Principal's Award - **Elissa G.**

Congratulations to all winners! You are amazing!

Lenten Fundraiser

This Lent the St. Denis Catholic School Community collected monetary donations for our St. Vincent de Paul Society in support of their good works. Thank you for your donations! As a school community we raised \$164.00. Thank you for your generosity!

God Bless.



Krispy Kreme Fundraiser!!

Orders-April 28, 2025-May 2, 2025

Pick Up-May 12, 2025



Orders for a dozen Krispy Kreme donuts have started and will be taken until Friday, May 2, 2025. Hurry and get your orders in using School Cash Online!! You can order a dozen Krispy Kreme donuts for \$16.00. We can only take **200 orders! First come first served.** Place your orders starting on **Monday, April 28, 2025! Pick up your orders on Monday, May 12, 2025 at St. Denis Catholic School and enjoy your fresh Krispy Kreme donuts! You may pick up your order at the school starting at 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or you can indicate that you would like your child/ren to bring your order home with them after school.** All money raised will support purchasing more technology for our students and other items needed at the school. Thank you for your continued support!

Catholic Education Week

Theme: Pilgrims of Hope

May 4, 2025-May 9, 2025

As a Catholic Community, we see the link between our faith and mental health. This year's Catholic Education Week and Mental Health 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 focused on the future.

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

Day 1: By honouring human dignity

Day 2: By caring for creation

Day 3: By responding to the poverties in our world

Day 4: By serving in solidarity

Day 5: 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 School Mental Health Ontario's website and resources, 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!

Many special activities will be happening this week at our school. To try to put a face on our faith, each teacher will designate one specific period during the week as a time where parents and or guardians will be invited into their classrooms to see Catholic Education in action, we hope you are able to join us.

Monday, May 5, 2025-School Mass at St. Denis Catholic Church at 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, May 6, 2025-Family Day (Kindergarten-Grade 3) Parents/Guardians are invited to visit the school from 10:00 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. for a small classroom lesson and activity to be completed.

Wednesday, May 7, 2025-Gratitude Wall will be created as students appreciate the small blessings in life and express their gratitude for the journey of hope.

Thursday, May 8, 2025-Recycled Art Show (Grades 4-8) Students work will be on display for parents to view from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Friday, May 9, 2025-Recycled Art Show (Grades 4-8) Students work will be on display for parents to view from 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Math Scavenger Hunt will be happening in all grades.

Parent Engagement with Dr. Jean Clinton

Monday, May 5, 2025

Niagara Catholic and the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee are pleased to host a parent engagement evening with guest speaker Dr. Jean Clinton, Child Psychiatrist and Knowledge Translator. Dr. Clinton will be presenting a workshop on the topic of "Youth Addictive Behaviours."

Date: Monday, May 5, 2025

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: Denis Morris Catholic High School (Auditorium)

Dr. Jean Clinton is a Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster, division of Child Psychiatry. She is on staff at McMaster Children's Hospital with cross appointments in Pediatrics and Family Medicine, and an Associate in the Department of Child Psychiatry, University of Toronto and Sick Children's Hospital. She is also a senior scientist at the INCH (INfant Child Health) Lab at McMaster University. She has been a consultant to children and youth mental health programs, child welfare, and primary care for almost 30 years. Dr. Clinton was recently appointed as an education advisor to the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Education. Dr. Clinton's book, *Love Builds Brains* has been provided to Niagara Catholic schools.

Registration is required for this event as seating is limited. Registration will be open until Friday, May 2, 2025.

Please click below to register!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1VmPKggdAED3raA-i28zaq_zZkhjuFQSflvjYyvdNThs/preview

Indigenous Storyteller and Drummer Nicole Joy-Fraser

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Nicole Joy-Fraser (Settler, Dene Zaa, Nehiyaw and Metis) is an award-winning performing artist who currently lives in Niagara. She has been storytelling on stage and screen and has collaborated with many companies including Mirvish Productions. As a proud Bear clan member of oshkabewis and Hand drum carrier Nicole is grateful to be sharing Indigenous ways and continues to support others through healing and the arts.



Catch The Spirit Award Winner 2025



Tuesday, May 6, 2025

St. Denis Elementary School is very proud to announce that the recipient of the NCDSB "Catch the Spirit Award" is Elizabeth Rankin in Grade 8. Throughout the years at St. Denis she has displayed outstanding qualities in the areas of catholic leadership, catholic faith, catholic school philosophy, family commitment, school community relations, involvement in activities and

academic excellence. Elizabeth constantly displayed many of the gospel values through her community involvement and her relationships with peers, classmates, teachers and students within our school! Elizabeth continues to grow academically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually in the St. Denis Catholic community. Congratulations, Elizabeth! We are all very proud of you! Elizabeth will receive this special award at the Student Excellence Awards held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at the Central Niagara Community Centre.

Elementary Student Council Leadership Symposium

May 7, 2025

Congratulations to our three students who will be attending the Leadership Symposium at Club Roma Giselle M. V., Ava L. and Elias H. will proudly represent our school. We thank Giselle for her two years of service on this council and wish her all the best as she moves onto high school next year. Ava and Elias will lead our students together next year.



NRPH May 2025 Newsletter - Click Here!

Niagara Region Public Health Monthly Newsletter

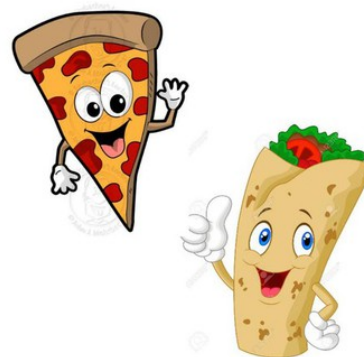
Food Days for May 2025

Pita Day Orders due on **Monday, May 5, 2025.**

Pita Day - **Friday, May 9, 2025.**

Pizza Day Orders due on **Friday, May 16, 2025.**

Pizza Day - **Thursday, May 22, 2025. (Please note that this date has been changed to Thursday due to the fact that Track and Field will be held on Friday, May 23, 2025.)**



Safety Village Class Trips

May 8-9, 2025

Primary classes will be visiting the Safety Village on a class trip. At the Safety Village they will learn about personal safety and injury. **Grade 3 students are reminded to bring a bike helmet for their session on bike riding safely.**

May 8-Grades 1/2 Konieczny, Grade 3 Biamonte, Grade 3 Jackson

Catholic School Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

A Catholic School Council meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. All members are welcome to attend!



Kindergarten Parent Orientation for New Students!

Kindergarten Parent Orientation for New Students!

May 14, 2025

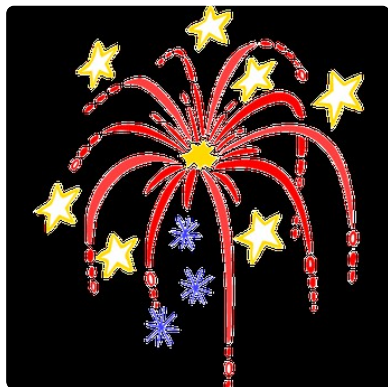
A very special meeting will be held for our new Kindergarten parents whose children will be experiencing the program for the first time this coming September.

This parent meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. in our school library.

**Kindergarten
Open House**



Friendly Reminder to Parents – Victoria Day!



Friendly Reminder to Parents:

There will be no school on **Monday, May 19, 2025** due to the Victoria Day Holiday. Please enjoy this special holiday with your loved ones.

EQAO- Grade 3 and Grade 6



EQAO

May 21, 2025 - May 30, 2025 Grade 3

May 27, 2025- June 2, 2025 Grade 6

Grade 3 and 6 students will be participating in the Provincial Assessments. Grade 3 and 6 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. Working together, parents and educators can help ensure that students have a positive experience by discussing the assessment with them. Parents are asked to avoid interruptions in their child's attendance during the assessment. Scheduling of appointments during this time is not encouraged. We thank you for your support.

Flag Football Intermediate Boys and Girls

Tuesday, May 20, 2025- Girls Intermediate Flag Football at Youngs Sportsplex

Thursday, May 22, 2025- Boys Intermediate Flag Football at Youngs Sportsplex

We are excited that our Intermediate Girls and Boys Flag Football teams will be competing in the Area Tournament at Youngs Sportsplex in Welland. Thank you to Mr. Riddell and Mr. Hasting for coaching our great teams!

Go Saints Go!



Track and Field Meet (Grades 4-8)

Friday, May 23, 2025

Junior and Intermediate students have been preparing for this upcoming event. Students will be travelling to Niagara Olympic Club for this event by school bus. Students will need to bring a lunch, bring lots of water and sunscreen. **There will be a concession stand that is CASH only. Please note that if you are attending to watch, there is a By-law for NO parking on the grass in St. Catharines. Also note that the DSBN Academy is NOT the parking lot for this event. NO DOGS are allowed at this facility.** More information will follow as the date gets closer.



Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) Conference

Saturday, May 24, 2025

The Ontario Association for Parent in Catholic Education (OAPCE) is pleased to announce that the 86th OAPCE Conference "Coming Together as the Power of One", will take place in Niagara this year. This is an incredible opportunity for parents, educators, and community members to come together, gain valuable insights, and strengthen our Catholic education system. Participants can expect dynamic speakers, engaging workshops, and meaningful networking opportunities that will empower and inspire!

On behalf of the Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, all Niagara Catholic parents/guardians are invited to attend the OAPCE Conference.

Date: Saturday, May 24, 2025

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Saint Michael Catholic High School 8699 McLeod Rd., Niagara Falls

Topics and Guest Speakers include:

➤ The Power of One: Joe Perri, OAPCE Co-Executive Director



- Pilgrims of Hope Live in Families: Teresa Hartnett, Director Family Ministry Office -The Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton
 - AI in Education: Anthony Perrotta, Guiding the Next Generation of Learners, Educator, Storyteller, and Digital Learning Advocate
- Click to register:**

Parent/Guardian OAPCE Conference Registration

St. Denis Eco School Update



May - Eco School - School Ground Clean up

A Message from your Eco Schools Team:

Recycled Art Show

In honor of Earth month, St.Denis invited all classes from kindergarten through grade 8 to participate in our April initiative. Each class was challenged to make their best recycled art work in efforts to bring attention to reducing, reusing and recycling. Students used recyclable materials such as paper products, cardboard, plastics, cans, etc. in order to transform these materials into a masterpiece. This month during Catholic Education Week (May 5-9) the art work from each class will be showcased for all staff, students, parents, and other community members to see.

School Ground Clean up

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. In fact, if only 5% of Canada's population picked up 1kg (2lbs) of litter in one day, 1.4 million kg of garbage would not pollute our environment. St. Denis students will be participating in a School Grounds Clean Up campaign 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 and will be informed of safe procedures for collecting and disposing of litter.

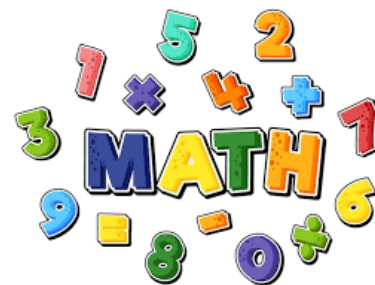
Waste Free Wednesday

Finally, this month, we will continue with Waste Free Wednesday. The goal is to reduce the amount of garbage our school produces. Please bring lunches and snacks in reusable containers every Wednesday.

May is Math Month at St. Denis!

Every day we focus on Math at St. Denis but throughout the month of May, we will have an extra math problem to solve! The Student Senate will be posting a math problem on the Knowledgehook Award Board. Students will be encouraged to solve the problem and write down their answer on a

paper with their name and class. They have to be ready to explain their answer! Make sure you submit your answer by Wednesday each week! Let's get ready to problem solve!!



May is Speech and Hearing 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?



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>.

Spring Cha-Ching Catholic School Council Fundraiser 2025



St. Denis Catholic School Council Spring Cha-Ching Fundraiser!!

THANK YOU!!

The St. Denis Catholic School Council was very excited to be hosting the St. Denis Spring Cha-Ching Fundraiser last month. Thank you to all the families who supported and purchased tickets for our fundraiser. We are very excited to announce that we raised approximately **\$2930.00** in two weeks. This money will be directed towards our Grade 8 graduation and supporting the purchase of technology in our school. Thank you to **Burtnik Printing** for your donation to our raffle!

Thank you to all St. Denis families for your amazing enthusiasm and participation in our Spring Cha-Ching Raffle Fundraiser!! It was a great success!!

We would like to announce all the winners for our Spring Cha-Ching Raffle and our Top Seller Prizes. Join us in congratulating all of the winners:

Day 1 - **Sherry Carey**

Day 2 - **Amy Flummerfelt**

Day 3 - **Steve Forget**

Day 4 - **Frank Penner**

Day 5 - **Kim Janes**

Day 6 - **Brittney McLellan-Smith**

Day 7 - **Taira Penner**

Day 8 - **Justin Drummond**

Day 9 - **John Myers**

Day 10 - **Ron Warnock**

Top Family Seller - Primary Division - **Burtnik Family**

Top Family Seller - Junior Division - **Penner Family**

Top Family Seller - Intermediate Division - **Woelk Family**

Sold 3 Books or More Draw - **Colledge Family**

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

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

North of 60 Project - Supporting our Northern Neighbours in Need

In 2010, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) took on the challenge initiated by Eileen Orysiuk and Sister Fay Trombley aimed at helping inhabitants of the Canadian Arctic in need. It all started in the community of Tuktoyaktuk, in the Northwest Territories. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Catharines Central Council along with the respective particular councils and parish conferences across our Diocese have been helping with the North of 60 Project

Naujaat Nunavut, also known as "Repulse Bay" for seven years, since 2016. There are 40 families in need of help this year. At St. Denis we have been asked to help fill a 20 foot sea container to be sent out in September 2025. **Our school has been asked to donate Mr. Noodles Soup: Beef. Donations may come to school now to the end of June.** Thank you for your support!



Kindergarten Registration

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)



The SNAC Program will continue throughout the school year. Students are reminded to ensure that they have 2 healthy snacks and a lunch packed each day for school.

Niagara Nutrition Partners
the year!

Thanks to Niagara Nutrition Partners for supporting us throughout

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 / School Messenger

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)

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



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Niagara Catholic District
School Board



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st.denis_ces



Victoria Wegelin

Victoria is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

