



ST. PATRICK

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we welcome the beautiful month of May, we are reminded of the many blessings this time of year brings. May holds special significance in our Catholic tradition as the Month of Mary, a time to honor our Blessed Mother for her faith, compassion, and unwavering love. We encourage all families to take a moment each day to reflect and pray through Mary, drawing closer to her Son, Jesus.

May is also a month of celebration and reflection in our school community. We proudly recognize Catholic Education Week, a time to celebrate the gift of Catholic education and our shared mission to nurture faith, inspire hearts, and shape lives rooted in Gospel values. We give thanks for the students, staff, and families who make our school a place of learning, love, and belonging.

Additionally, May marks Mental Health Week, reminding us of the importance of caring for our minds and spirits. As a faith-filled community, let us continue to support one another with kindness, empathy, and understanding, remembering that mental wellness is essential to the fullness of life God desires for each of us. May this month be filled with peace, gratitude, and grace for all.

~ Ms. Romano

Important thanks and reminders for parents and guardians:

- **Thank you for dropping off and picking up students in the church parking lot. This has helped keep the yard less congested.**
- **When picking up children at the end of the day, please keep the church parking lot gateway clear so that children can exit safely and get to their parents**
- **A reminder that our dismissal is 3:25pm. Please be on time when picking up your children at the end of the day.**
- **Kindergarten parents, please drop off your children at the gated area and then leave the property. It makes it easier for children to say goodbye and begin their day.**
- **Please use the Safe Arrival system to report your child's absences. Early pick up and alternate dismissal arrangements should be made in advance and communicated with the school well in advance of the end of the school day.**
- **Ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and in school dress code.**
- **Complete School Cash and permission items on time so that children don't miss out on activities**

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Thank you to Trish McGilvery our CSC members for running our April Calendar Draw Fundraiser! We raised **\$2,759.25!** These funds will go directly toward the purchase of student chromebooks. Thank you for your support!

A special thank you to Mr. Roma and all students who were involved in drawing names each day and recording videos for our social media pages! Well done!

Our next CSC meeting will take place on Monday, June 3 @ 5:30pm. All parents are welcome.



SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR

Orders for Spirit Wear may be placed at any time by visiting <https://www.maddalena-uniforms.com/collections/st-patrick-catholic-elementary-spirit-wear-1>

When placing orders, please click STORE PICK UP.
All spirit wear is delivered to the school on a weekly basis FREE OF CHARGE. You will need to put in your home address for online purchase but this is NOT for shipping.
Thank you!



DO WHAT YOU CAN'T

Congratulations to this past month's DWYC award recipients:



**Pablo S., Elisha S., Mia A.,
Ayden M., Jayla H., Flona A.,
Valentina M., Zoe L.**

and a special thanks to all students, staff and parents for participating!
Looking forward to celebrating again on May 20 in the library.



FEBRUARY AND MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Our monthly birthday celebration for February and March Birthdays was held on April 28.

Thank you once again to our anonymous donor for sponsoring these celebrations for our students!

April birthdays will be celebrated on May 30.



PASSION OF CHRIST

Congratulations once again to Mr. Curcio and the Grade 7/8 class for working many hours to put on moving Passion Play Performances during Holy Week.

Many guests attended and were able to join us in walking with Jesus to the cross.

Well done!



PICKLEBALL SHAMROCK SERIES

Thank you to Mr. Basilone for organizing Pickleball Education sessions by Tennis Clubs of Canada: Niagara Falls for our grades 4-8 students!

Thank you for also organizing the Shamrock Series Pickleball Festival for all Niagara Falls Catholic Schools taking place later this month!

What a fun experience!



JUNIOR GIRLS AND BOYS HANDBALL

Congratulations to both our girls and boys handball teams for participating in the recent Board tournament this month. Both teams demonstrated great team spirit and determination and represented our school very well!

Thank you to Mrs. Damiano and Mrs. Russell for coaching both teams!

Way to go Shamrocks!





CATCH THE SPIRIT

Congratulations to Mikayla A., this year's recipient of the Catch The Spirit Award.

Mikayla will receive her award on May 6 at the Celebrating Excellence Award Ceremony.

Way to go, Mikayla!

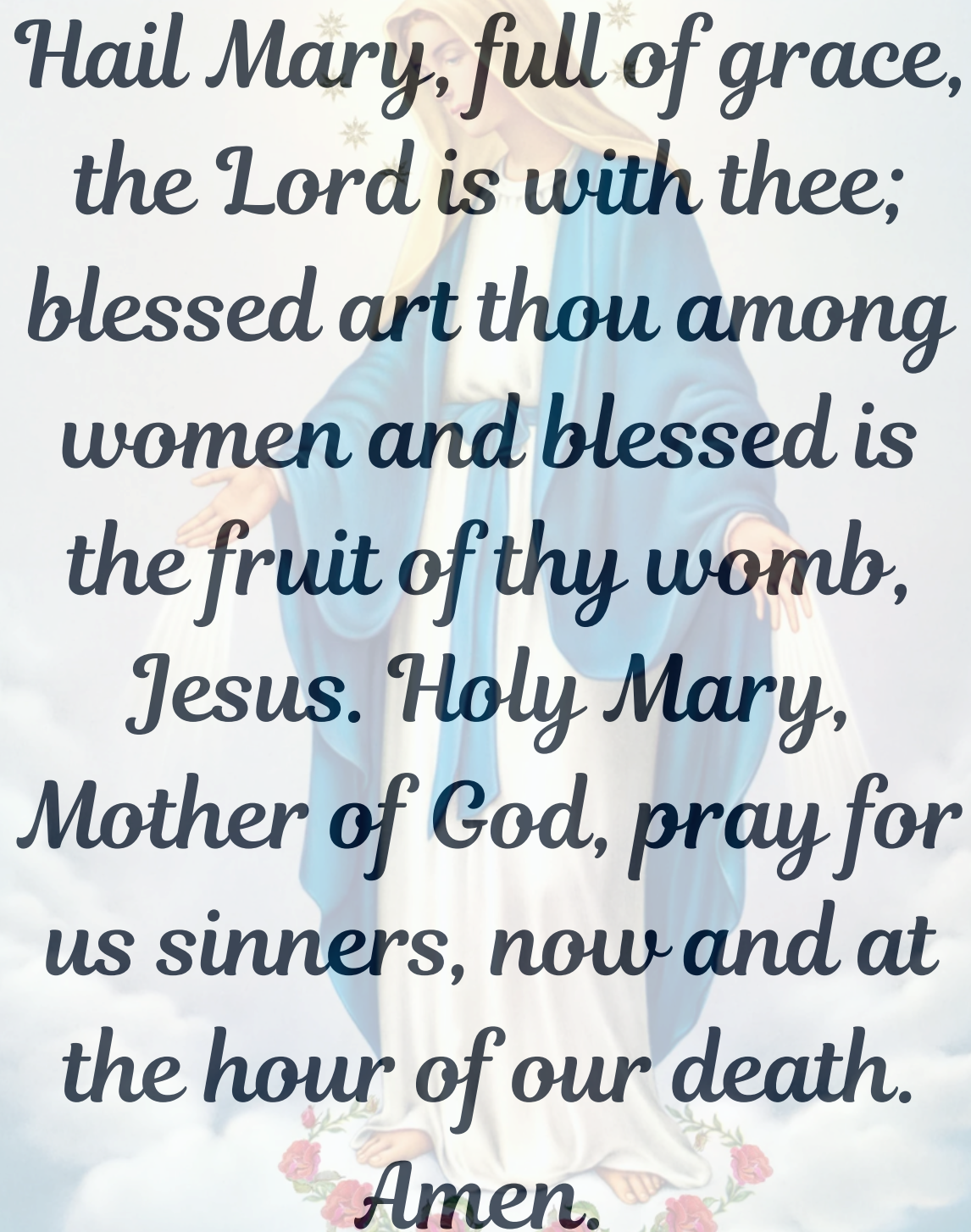


STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to Ruby and Abigail who were elected Student Council Reps for the 2025-2026 school year!

They will lead our Student Council, which will be created in September and will also represent our school at Family of School meetings, bringing forward student voice!

Congratulations to all who ran for these positions as well as to our outgoing Student Council Reps Vyella and Stephanie.



*Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among
women and blessed is
the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus. Holy Mary,
Mother of God, pray for
us sinners, now and at
the hour of our death.
Amen.*

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?



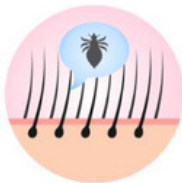
Public Health works in partnership with teachers, support staff, students, and parents to build a healthier school community.

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.

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