

# St. Nicholas Catholic

June 2025

## St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

Home of the Tigers

**Mission Statement:** To educate each student to his/her full potential in a community formed and guided by Catholic beliefs and traditions.

**Motto:** "Journey Together On The Road To Discovery"

St. Nicholas Catholic is proud to be a part of the Denis Morris Catholic High School Family of Schools.

*Go Tigers Go!*

**Principal:** Mrs. Jackie Watson

**Secretary:** Mrs. Kim Winstanley

**Catholic School Council Chair:** Ms. Paprzycki

**Superintendent:** Mrs. Forsyth-Sells

**Parish:** Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, Father Benjamin Weber, Father Paul Mc Donald

**Email:** [st.nicholas@ncdsb.com](mailto:st.nicholas@ncdsb.com)

**Location:** [149 Church St, St. Catharines, ON, Canada](#)

**Phone:** [905-685-7764](tel:905-685-7764)





## Prayer for the End of Our School Year

God of wisdom,  
we thank you for all the gifts you have given us throughout this school year.  
We praise you for giving us life, for saving us in Christ, and for choosing us to be your people.  
As we come to the end of this school year,  
we voice our gratitude for the good things you have done in us,  
and we praise you for all who have shared in the work of this school.  
We ask you to bless them in your love  
and give them refreshment and peace over this summer.  
We praise you, God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns forever and ever.  
Amen.

## Called By Name - Come Follow Me: Reflection #10

In the Bible, Jesus invites us with the words "Come, follow me."  
This means He wants us to join Him on a journey of love, kindness,  
and faith. Just like a good friend who shows us how to be our best  
selves, Jesus is asking us to follow His example. When we help  
others, show compassion, and make good choices, we're following  
Him and living the way He taught us. It's like being part of a special  
team where everyone works together to make the world a better place. So, when we hear "Come,  
follow me," it's Jesus asking us to be His helpers and to spread His love to everyone we meet.



## School, Home, Parish

St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary Schools is associated with the  
Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria. Parish Priests are Father  
Ben Weber and Father Paul McDonald.

Weather pending, we walk to church once a month for mass with  
Father Ben, usually the third Thursday of the month for a 10:00 a.m.  
start. Each class is responsible for the readings and for celebrating  
mass along side Father.

Our current masses are as follows:

June 19th will be our closing mass celebrated by staff who will be  
leaving s this year.



All are always welcome to join in our celebrations, both at church and the school.

Grade 8 Confirmation will be held on Pentecost, Sunday, June 8th at the 11:30 a.m. mass.

Grade 8 Graduation - Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at Club Roma. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. with convocation beginning at 5:30 p.m. Dinner for staff and students will take place at 7:00 p.m., followed by a dance from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

We ask that you pick your child up promptly at 10:00 a.m. Due to the lateness of the evening, students cannot walk home by themselves.

Please understand that dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances. If this happens, the St. Nicholas Family community will be notified whenever possible.

## **To Report Your Child Absent, Please Do Not Call The School**

### SafeArrival:

To report your child absent prior to the start of the school day (before 8:25 a.m. of the day being called in for), please use one of the 3 methods listed below:

1. **Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account using your email address. After logging in, select the Attendance tab to Report an Absence.**
2. **Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app (blue logo) from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). Use your new login information to access your account. Select Attendance to Report an Absence. If you would like to receive attendance notifications on your mobile device please enable Push Notifications in the Settings area of the app. The document Using the SchoolMessenger app will give instructions for using the App.**
3. **The toll-free number 844-287-6287 will allow you to report your child absent without creating an account.**

## **Tentative Classrooms**

The time of year is approaching when we will set in motion the procedures for organizing next year's classes. Please note that although St. Nicholas Catholic will have combined grades this coming school year, all classrooms should be classified combined as teachers program for the needs of all their students on a daily basis.

Teachers do not accept parent requests for specific teachers. They create the classes according to the projected numbers and to the criteria given. The principal and the ERT will meet with each teacher to review the lists. Please rest assured that all children at St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School will be afforded excellence in classroom learning environments and your support and confidence in our ability to create appropriate class groupings is appreciated.

## **Term Two Reporting Process**

Term 2 electronic copies of Report Cards will be available to parents/guardians and students through the Niagara Catholic EasyConnect Parent Portal [the week of June 23, 2025](#).

The Niagara Catholic EasyConnect Parent Portal can be accessed at

<https://niagaracatholic.ca/reportcards/> by selecting your child(ren)'s school.

Log in with your username (email account on file with the school) and your previously set password.

Hard copies of all IEPs and Alternatives will be sent home with the respective child.

## Good Bye and Best Wishes

May God shine His love down on those who will be leaving us this year and may He continue to guide their path, keeping them safe from harm.

To Miss Capitano, Ms. Dwumaah, Miss Grant, Mrs. Hayward, Mrs. Lyttle, Mrs. Mastracci-Fera, Ms. Morgan, Mr. Osaghae, Mrs. Picard and Mr. Ruberto, we wish you all the best in the new schools you will be going to next year.

To our Grade 8 Graduates, enjoy high school, make memories and continue to be as great as you all are.

All of you will always be a roaring Tiger!!

## Graduates, We are So Very Proud of You

Congratulations to Our Graduating Class of 2025.

We would also like to take this time to recognize and congratulate our Graduates of 2025.

To Phoenix, Kebron, Emma, Ashlynn, Grace, Landon, Lola, Ronan, Helen Anne, Daniel, Seim, Lincoln, Tashayia, Alexander, Martin, Yadiel, Mihat, Trevor, Khloe and Lucas, thank you for sharing yourselves with us. We wish you love, happiness and continual

growth and success in high school. Please know that each and every one of you will always be a Tiger!

May God give you...

For every storm, a rainbow,

For every tear, a smile

For every care, a promise

And a blessing in each trial.

For every problem life sends,

A faithful friend to share,

For every sigh, a sweet song,

And an answer for each prayer.

## Play Day Tuesday, June 24th at Burgoyne Woods

Catholic School Council, in conjunction with School Council will be holding a Play Day for the students of St. Nicholas Catholic on Tuesday, June 24th at Burgoyne Woods. Busses will pick at the school at 9:30 a.m. and will return to the school at approximately 1:30 p.m. Students are asked to wear appropriate athletic attire, to wear and bring sunscreen, to bring a hat, snacks and plenty of water.

While at Burgoyne Woods, every child will receive two hotdogs during lunchtime. Freezies will be handed out upon return to the school. Please remember to pack extra snacks and water.

Thank you to our Catholic School Council who will be supporting this day with fun activities.

Monies raised during the Christmas Shoppe will be used to offset the cost of bussing, hot dogs and freezies.

## Hot Lunches

GONNA MISS YOU!



We have our last hot lunch for June as follows:

June 13th - Pizza Day

Last day to order is Tuesday, June 10th.



Please understand that all lunches need to be ordered prior to, and cash cannot be accepted the day of.

Thank you

### **Last Day for Lunch Angels will be Thursday, June 19th. A packed lunch from home will be needed daily for the last week of school.**

Lunch Angels will come to an end for this school year on Thursday, June 19th. For the last week of school, we ask that parents/guardians ensure that their children come with a packed lunch consisting of two snacks, a lunch and a reusable water bottle.

A reusable water bottle is very important to have on these hot summer days and it can be refilled at one of our three hydration stations throughout the day.

Lunch Angels should start back up in September. We thank the members of volunteers of Community Crew for all that they have done this year in supplying lunches to St. Nicholas Catholic

### **Last Day for Ice-Cream will be Friday, June 20th**

Just a reminder that the last day for ice-cream, whether it be pre-paid or purchased the day of, will be Friday, June 20th.

We thank everyone for supporting our ice-cream sales throughout the year. A reminder that all profits go towards the cost of our Grade 8 Graduation.



### **Sports Corner**

Wow, what a busy month we have had.

A very big congratulations goes out to the Intermediate Girls Flag Football team who brought home the Gold on Tuesday, May 20th.

Ladies, you were all awesome. Your determination and effort was amazing and your sportsmanship was superb. Your effort and tenacity during practices shone through at the tournament. Congratulations goes out to Lola, Peniel, Emma, Khloe, Phoenix, Tai'yha, Maya, Nevaeha, Mihat and Brandy.

A special thank you goes out to coaches Reese and Kennady from Denis Morris Catholic High School. Thank you for your time and for teaching us all that you know in such a short period. Unfortunately, the Intermediate Boys tournament was rained out. We are waiting to hear if the Board can find an alternative date prior to the end of the school year. Thank you to Trevor, Ronan Kebron, Pablo, Seim, Daniel, Andy and Jaxon or all of your hard work during practices.



Track and Field was a cold and damp success. Way to go Tigers for all of your hard work. A special thank you goes out to all of the teachers who helped to plan and organize the smooth running of all of the events. Congratulations to those who came in first and will be moving on to the FOS Track and Field Event at the Niagara Olympic Club on Monday, June 2nd.

The Board Track and Field will take place on Thursday, June 12th with a rain date of the 17th.

### **Catholic School Council**

A very big thank you goes out to Catholic School Council for all that they did this school year.

With our three fundraisers of the COBS Bread, Boxed Gift Cards and Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, we have raised over \$2,455.00 to go towards new Chromebooks. Way to go Tigers, and thank you for your support!

A special thank you to our wonderful Council members and volunteers who supported our Christmas Shoppe this past December. Once again with everyone's support, we raised \$1,216.00 and were able to fund playday that will be taking place on June 24th.

Thank you to all families who have supported our fundraisers throughout the year.

Please consider joining CSC for the 2025/2026 school year.

The first meeting will be Monday, September 22, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.



## S. Catharines Public Library

As in the past few years, Public Library visits will begin in the month of March and will continue until the end of June. These visits will not only lead us into summer vacation, but will also lead us into the summer book clubs that will be open for all students during the summer vacation.

Thank you to the Library for once again inviting us into their home.



The St. Catharines Public Library anticipate some of your children will be interested in requesting library cards! They have two options available - students' caregivers can complete [this online form](#) (click link to access) to receive a card or a printable PDF can be requested and sent home. If you wish a printable form, please ask for a copy from your child's classroom teacher. If caregivers are completing the printed form, please make sure to include the grade and the teacher's name so that we can make sure we have the card ready for their specific visit day. As well, this form needs to be returned to school at least one week prior to the class visit.

For our Library visits, we will be leaving the school shortly after 10:30 a.m. and will be returning shortly after noon. The remaining schedule is as follows:

June 3rd– Gd 1-Grant and Gd 4/5-Heywood

June 17th – Gd 2-Diemer, 2/3-Yungblut, 3/4-Carbonara

\*\*Please note that for those borrowing books these last two visits, you will be responsible for returning them to the library by their due dates.

## Poppin Into Kindergarten (This information was sent to new families last month)

We are excited to welcome new to Kindergarten children and families to Niagara Catholic in September 2025/26. The Student Support and Early Years teams will be offering information sessions for parents/caregivers to support children's transition to school in September, as well as interactive activities for families to engage in.

The NCDSB Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Team of Registered Behaviour Analysts will be presenting a general overview of how parents can use some straightforward ABA principles and strategies to help prep their little learners for kindergarten. There will be discussions regarding school readiness skills such as following routine instructions, sitting and attending for increasing lengths of time, sharing and turn taking and self-advocacy. Parents and guardians can be expected

to leave with a clear understanding of what skills their little ones will be working on while in kindergarten and some general steps and tips on how to encourage these skills over summer! The Niagara Catholic Speech-Language Pathologists will be reviewing some key speech and language milestones that are important for children entering kindergarten. Increasing conversational engagement and strategies to support communication and social interaction will be discussed. Along with the Early Years Lead, practical tips and some ideas for fun activities that can be used at home to support your child's ongoing language development will be shared. This is a great opportunity to connect, learn, and ask questions regarding your child's speech and language development!

There will be five various locations for families to choose from and attend on the date and location that works best. Each session will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and will offer a light dinner for families before the information session begins.

### **FamJam - Saturday, June 14th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

The Niagara Catholic EarlyON Child and Family Centres and Early Years Team are hosting a FAMJAM Community Event for all families with young children - EarlyON families, Kindergarten to Grade 2 families, and new to Kindergarten families for 2025/26 school year.

FAMJAM is a free, family-oriented celebration that brings together local organizations, community services, and families for a morning of interactive learning, community connection, and fun-filled activities. The event aims to foster engagement and promote access to vital resources—particularly for newcomer families to Canada. Last year's FAMJAM welcomed over 400 families, with enthusiastic participation from various community partners. Join us as we celebrate the Niagara Catholic EarlyON Centres being a part of this community for over 20 years. Years that have been filled with play, learning and meaningful connections, as we prepare to say our final farewell.

This invitation is being extended to all Kindergarten families and our elementary school communities. We look forward to your support in making this celebration memorable.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, June 14, 2025

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: EarlyON Centre Niagara Falls Mary Ward Catholic Elementary School 2999 Dorchester Road, Niagara Falls, ON

This year's event will offer:

- Interactive play and creative experiences for children and families
- A chance to win River Lions tickets, and Prizes
- Book giveaways
- Ball Hockey with the IceDogs
- Free clothing shopping for families provided by the Start Me Up Niagara Mobile Program
- Niagara Falls Public Library Book Mobile will be available for families to borrow books
- Switzer-Carty Transportation School bus exploration
- Broken Spokes free refurbished bike giveaways
- Complimentary refreshments for families
- and much more!



**FamJam Poster 2025.pdf**

[Download](#)

1.3 MB

## Public Health

Parent Newsletter for June below.



**June - Public Health.pdf**

[Download](#)

259.1 KB

## Kiss And Ride: Please Park Only In A Designated Parking Spot

Please remember that you are asked not to park or get out of your car when in the Kiss 'n Ride line up. The Kiss 'n Ride is exactly that - a quick kiss as your child(ren) quickly get out of the family car. Or the quick ability for your child(ren) to get into the car and do up their own seatbelts. Please ensure that you have pulled up to the front of the line prior to your child(ren) getting out of the car. After school, staff will support students by getting them to their car safely. If you need to help your child(ren) get in and out of the car, or to assist with the seatbelt, or to help with the putting on or taking off of backpacks, we kindly ask that you park your car in a designated parking spot - away from the flow of traffic.

Our parking lot is small, however the traffic is able to flow well when expectations are followed. We thank everyone for their cooperation when it comes to the safety of our students and staff when in the parking lot and in the Kiss 'n Ride.

## PPM 128 Cell Phone Use In Schools

Elementary Schools:

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

As we continue to foster a safe and positive learning environment for all students, I would like to remind you of the new regulations regarding cell phone use that have been implemented in Ontario schools.

To minimize distractions and maximize learning, cell phones are only permitted during instructional time when they are being used for educational purposes as directed by the teacher. Outside of these times, students are expected to keep their phones turned off and stored away unless needed for documented learning needs and/or health related requirements. We kindly ask for your support in reinforcing this policy with your children and encouraging them to focus on their studies during school hours.

Your cooperation is essential in helping us maintain a healthy and respectful school environment. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these rules, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Please note that all cell phones need to remain in backpacks or lockers. If your child does have a locker, it is suggested that s/he bring a lock. Cell phones are not to be kept in back pockets, in the pouch of hoodies, in desks, or anywhere visible.

If a child does have his/her cell phone out, they will be directed by the classroom teacher to go to the office where the phone will be locked in the safe. The cell phone will either be returned at the end of the day, or will be returned to the parent/guardian when they come to pick it up.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

## Elementary Dress Code

NCDSB has a dress code of navy and white for all Elementary schools and their students within. Below is an excerpt from the Elementary Standardized Dress-Code Policy 302.6.10:



1.1 At a minimum, every student is required to wear one of the following items: ☒ Navy Blue sweat pants for students in 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.

1.2 At a minimum, every student is required to wear one 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.

Please see below the policy attached in its entirety.



**302.6.10 - Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy.pdf**

[Download](#)  
227.6 KB

## Big Bear Spiritwear

St. Nicholas Spiritwear is now being offered through Big Bear Spiritwear. Please click onto



<https://www.bigbearspritwear.com/st-nicholas/> to see the options available for purchase. All St. Nicholas Spiritwear can be worn throughout the year as it is an extension of the school dress code.

Orders placed through Big Bear Spiritwear can either be picked up at their Niagara Falls store or can be delivered to the school for a \$3.00 charge. Items delivered to the school will be sent home with the student in his/her backpack.

## Anaphylaxis Awareness

All schools within Niagara Catholic are peanut and tree nut free.

**Allergy Aware School**



At St. Nicholas Catholic, we have students with life threatening allergies (anaphylaxis) to peanut and/or tree nut products. We ask that you please read labels carefully ensuring that all lunch products are peanut and tree nut free. That includes products that 'may contain' or are packaged in a facility that uses peanuts and/or tree nuts. For more information on anaphylaxis, visit [www.anaphylaxis.ca](http://www.anaphylaxis.ca). We work very hard at preventing accidental exposure. We ask that you please ensure that your child has thoroughly washed his or her hands after eating peanuts or peanut products for breakfast/lunch while at home. It is also very important that we have common rules throughout the school. The teachers will explain the importance of the following health and safety routines to the students in their classrooms:

- 1) Wash hands with soap and water/hand sanitizer before and after eating,
- 2) Do not bring in food that contains, or possibly contains peanuts/tree nuts
- 3) Do not share food with other students
- 4) Do not accept food from other students, especially if you have an allergy
- 5) Dispose of all food waste properly

If your child has an allergy or is anaphylactic, please ensure that the office is aware and that the proper medical forms have been completed. All medication signed off on by a doctor will be housed safely at the school during the duration of the school year. Please check the expiration date of all medication prior to bringing in.

## Ensuring Asthma Friendly Schools

Ryan's Law (Ensuring Asthma Friendly Schools) 2015 is an important step to support the health and well-being of students diagnosed with asthma in Ontario schools.



**If your son/daughter has been diagnosed with asthma, please contact the office to provide information about your son/daughter's asthma medication.**

**You will be required to complete and submit the Niagara Catholic Student Asthma Management Plan for your student.**

Any student under the age of 16 years will be permitted to carry and administer his/her asthma medication at school with your consent. A student 16 years or older is not required to have his or her parent's or guardian's permission to carry his or her asthma medication.

The Ministry of Education website has resources on asthma that can be found at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/healthyschools/anaphylaxis.html>.

## Please Keep Us Updated

Communication thru emails:

A reminder that information and updates will be regularly sent out via email. Please ensure that your current email address is on file at



the office. Likewise, monthly calendars, newsletters and on-line paraphernalia such as class trip information can be found on our school's website.

**\*Please understand that if we do not have your current email address, you will not receive information, you will not be able to access information such as report cards, through the parent portal, nor will you be able to access school cash on-line.**

**Always keep us apprised of email changes.**

Thank you

## Respectful Interaction Framework

St. Nicholas Catholic is rooted in Catholic and Christian values. Our goal is to create a safe, kind and loving environment for all who work, learn, and assist with our school community.



Aggressive or hostile behaviour or language toward, staff, students or our community helpers will not be tolerated.

While we welcome feedback, concerns and opinions it is the expectation that all staff, students, parents, guardians and community helpers communicate their needs and concerns with one another in a respectful and peaceful manner whether through email, on the phone or face-to-face. Adherence to this expectation is vital in order to create a community which can solve problems and help one another achieve success.

Thank you

# Happy Father's Day

## Happy Father's Day

### The Strength of a Mountain

God took the strength of a mountain,

The majesty of a tree,

The warmth of a summer sun,

The calm of a quiet sea,

The generous soul of nature,

The comforting arm of night,

The wisdom of the ages,

The power of the eagle's flight,

The joy of a morning in spring,

The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
And when there was nothing more to add,  
He knew His masterpiece was complete,  
And so, He called him - Dad.

To all of our Fathers, Grandfathers and Caregivers, enjoy your day!.

**PA Day on Friday, June 6th. There is no school on this day.**

**The Last Day of School is Friday, June 27th.**



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**Jacqueline Watson**

Jacqueline is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters