

St. Nicholas Catholic - January

Home of the Tigers!

St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

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

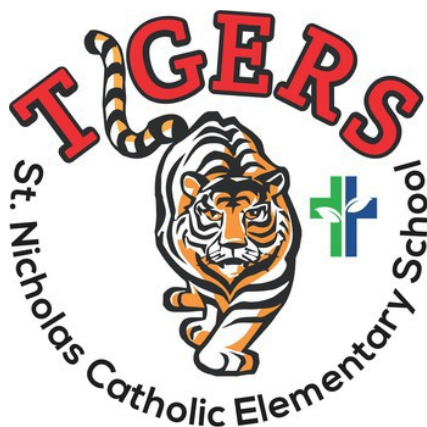
Superintendent: Mrs. Forsyth-Sells

Parish: Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, Father Benjamin Weber

Email: st.nichlasa@ncdsb.com

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

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





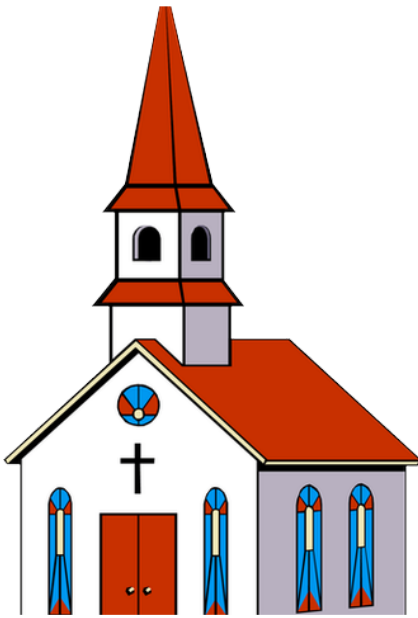
Happy New Year!



Called By Name: Hear My Voice

Reflection #5

Our theme this school year is "Called by Name: Hear My Voice." And while our theme is about God's call to us, it should also serve as a reminder of our call to Him. Each day God says to us, "let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet" (Song of Solomon 2:14). God doesn't want to talk at us; He wants to have a conversation with us. Have you given Him the pleasure of hearing your voice yet today?



Home, School, Parish

St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary Schools is associated with the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria. Parish Priest is Father Ben Weber.

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:

January 18th - Thank you to Mr. Lamothe and a few students from his various classes for celebrating with Father.

February 14th (Ash Wednesday), March 21st, April 18th, May 16th and June 20th.

School-wide Sacrament of Reconciliation is December 7th and April 11th. These will be held at school.

Grade 8 Confirmation: Sunday, May 19th at the 11:30 a.m. mass. Please note, this is a date change.
Grade 2 Sacrament of First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday, May 4th at the 4:30 p.m. mass.

The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be an open opportunity in which you can bring your child to the church during any confessional time. Confessions are usually 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Grade 2 and 8 parent information letter has already been sent home by Father.

Grade 8 Graduation - Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at Club Roma. Information to follow later.

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

French Immersion for the 2024-2025 School Year: Pre-Registration Information

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is proud to offer parents and students the opportunity to enroll in a French Immersion (FI) Program. The French Immersion Program is designed specifically for students whose first language is not French. French Immersion in the Niagara

Catholic District School Board is an optional program. The entry point for September 2024 is either Kindergarten Year 1 or Grade 1, depending on the school site offering the program.

Listed below are the designated elementary schools that provide the French Immersion Program:

- Notre Dame Catholic Elementary, Niagara Falls – Begins in Kindergarten
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary, Niagara Falls - Begins in Kindergarten
- Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary, St. Catharines - Begins in Kindergarten
- Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary, Welland – Begins in Kindergarten
- St. John Catholic Elementary, Beamsville – Begins Kindergarten

Transportation

All students enrolled in the French Immersion Program will be provided with transportation to their local Family of Schools designated French Immersion School site in accordance with the Board's Transportation of Student Policy #500.2. Designated Family of Schools French Immersion schools can be located at the following link www.niagaracatholic.ca.

French Immersion On-line Open Pre-Registration

- On-line open pre-registration window for students new to French Immersion in September 2024: Monday, January 15th, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. through to Friday, February 2nd, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. Pre-registrations outside of this window will not be considered.
- There are a limited number of spots available for students wishing to enter the French Immersion Program.
- An account must be created first through Edsembli to access pre-registration forms.
- Pre-registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Each pre-registration will receive a time-stamp.
- Please visit www.niagaracatholic.ca and click ➤ the French Immersion Registration banner OR ➤ then, click the French Immersion tab for information about the program. Additional pre-registration details will be posted on this site as they become available. Please check the site before the pre-registration window opens.

Selection Process

In accordance with the Board's Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy #301.1, there are a limited number of spots available for students entering the program. Eligible spots will be determined on a first come, first serve basis for each elementary French Immersion school site. Applicants will receive notification by Monday, March 4th, 2024 to inform them if their children have been placed in the French Immersion program OR if their children have been placed on the school's waitlist. Applicants who have not received notification by March 4th, 2024 are to contact the elementary French Immersion school site directly.

Children Who Don't Know What To Do Over the Christmas Holidays? Please Read Below

Don't know what to do with the children over Christmas Holidays?

St. Catharines Public Library:

They will be open during their regular hours of: Monday -Thursday 8:00 - 6:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., but will be closed December 24th, 25th 26th, 31st and January 1st. They have several programs running over the Christmas Holidays as well. Their events page can be found by clicking <https://events.myscpl.ca/>

St. Catharines has free public skating:

New Years Eve skate at Seymour Hannah - register on active stc or call 905 688 5601 ext 1800

Outdoor skating - Fort George & Ravine vine yards

Indoor skate - Bill Bourgoigne arena Dec. 29 4-6, Seymour Hannah Dec 23, 31(12-3) and Jan 2 (11-1)

Christmas Light Displays:

Let it glow in Port Dalhousie- free light display until January 7th

Lights along Niagara Parkway and Dufferin Island (donation required)

Safari lights *fee per car load

Lights on Rio Lane, St. Catharines

Tobogganing:

Jaycee Park, Bourgogne woods and Barbican Heights Park

School Math and Language Software Sites:

All students can also access their Knowledgehook software for on-line math activities and a few students (who have licenses) can access the Lexia language software.

Enjoy your vacation everyone!



Hot Lunches

Friday, January 12th - Pizza Day

Last day to order is Wednesday, January 10th.

Friday, January 26th - Chicken Fingers and Wedges Day

Last day to order is Tuesday, January 23rd.

Please note that all food must be ordered through school cash on-line. Money cannot be accepted the day of .

Thank you



Sports Corner

Welcome to basketball season. Tryouts are well underway for Intermediate boys and girls basketball. Tournament play will be February 8th and 9th. More information to follow.



Denis Morris Catholic

The team from Denis Morris Catholic High School will be visiting our Grade 8 students the afternoon of Tuesday, January 9th to discuss Grade 9 course selection options. Once students have made their selections, the form will be sent home for a family discussion and signatures. Parent/Guardian signed forms are due back to Mr. Ruberto by Thursday, January 18, 2024.

Denis Morris Catholic High School will be hosting their Open House for all Grade 8 students and their families the evening of Thursday, January 11, 2024 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Grade 8s, please plan on attending this fun filled evening.



Kindergarten Open House

Do you have a little one or know of a family that has a little one who will be turning 4 years old by this December? Do you want to have a better understanding of how Kinders play yet learn all at the same time. If so, come and visit us during our open house on Wednesday, February 7th. Our doors will be open for a little visit any time between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. On this day you will be able to meet our current kindergarten teachers, our principal, ask questions and listen as you are introduced to the life of a Kindergarten student at St. Nicholas Catholic.

How to become a Tiger?

To register for the 2024-2025 school year, use the Easy Register, accessed on-line through the Niagara Catholic website. Click on the "Join Us! Register" icon.

When registering you will need - proof of address, proof of birth and baptismal certificate. Even if registering online, you will still need to bring or email the above documentations in before the registration is considered complete.

We will also be holding a Kindergarten family orientation evening for all registered children and their families for the 2024-2025 school year at the end of May or beginning of June. Further information will be placed in May's newsletter.

Welcome to St. Nicholas Catholic Tigers! Our Graduating Class of 2035!



Graduation Pictures Grade 8s

Grade 8 Graduation pictures will be on Tuesday, January 16th, in the morning.

For graduation pictures, it is best if our young men wear a white collard shirt and a dark tie.

For our young ladies, a white collard shirt looks best.

Public Health

January's newsletter for Elementary schools.

Public Health Newsletter.docx

[Download](#)

202.6 KB

It Is Imperative That You Report Your Child(ren)'s Absences Daily

SafeArrival:

To report your child absent prior to the start of the school day (before 8:35 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

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.



Inclement Weather: Snow Days/Bus Cancellations

With the winter weather upon us, there may be times that busses are not running and schools are closed due to inclement weather. Please ensure that you listen to local news/radio for the happenings of the day. When at all possible, Niagara Catholic District School Board in conjunction with the District School Board of Niagara will announce cancellations or closures by 6:00 a.m. Board announcements will be made through various ways: on local radio stations, emails sent to families and staff, and posted on the NCDSB's website.

If busses are cancelled but schools remain open it will become the responsibility of the parent/guardian to drive their children to school and to pick the children up at the end of the day. If you choose to keep your children home, they must be called in using safe arrival - as inclement weather.

If schools are closed, Way To Grow Daycare located at St. Nicholas Catholic will be closed as well.

You do not need to call your children in using the safe arrival if schools are closed.

****Please note that due to Niagara Region's extreme weather, there could be times that schools are closed or busses are not running in one area, such as Fort Erie but other areas are open and proceeding as usual. Information such as this will be made clear through the announcements stated above.**

Just a reminder that if busses are cancelled, Lunch Angels will also be cancelled. Children who receive Lunch Angels will be responsible for bringing in their own lunch and snacks on bus cancellation days.

Linus Hand Productions Audition Call

Do you have a child who is a ham? Loves to perform? Is constantly singing at home? Perhaps they would be interested in auditioning for the Linus Hand Production of High School Musical 2.

Please see attached.

Linus Hand Productions Audition Call.pdf

[Download](#)

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.



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 AOP (1).pdf

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Big Bear Spiritwear

St. Nicholas Spiritwear is now being offered through Big Bear Spiritwear. Please click onto <https://www.bigbearspiritwear.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.



No Cell Phone Use While In School

This is a reminder that cell phones are not to be used at school unless under direct supervision of the classroom teacher. Cell phones are not to be used during recesses or lunch breaks. Pictures are not to be taken and under no circumstances can anything, pertaining to any aspect of the school day, be uploaded to the internet. This includes pictures taken on any device aside from a cell phone. If an emergency arises and a parent needs to get ahold of their child, a call to the school's direct line can be made and Mrs. Winstanley will forward the message.

St. Nicholas Catholic is not responsible for any lost or damaged cell phone/technology that is brought to school. For the younger grades, cell phones are to be kept in a child's backpack. For the older grades, cell phones are to be kept in a child's locker. It is advisable for that child to bring a lock to place on his/her locker.

301.5 - Electronic Communications Systems (Students) AOP (1).pdf

Download

368.7 KB



Please Keep Us Updated

It is very important that we have the most updated contact information for your child, especially if we need to get ahold of someone quickly in case of an emergency.

Please forward to Mrs. Winstanley any information that has been changed, such as phone numbers, emails and emergency contacts.

Thank you in advance for helping us keep everyone safe.

Jacqueline Watson

Jacqueline is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters