



St. Teresa of Calcutta Chronicle



St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Elementary
Part of the St. Francis Family of Schools

ISSUE: 8

April, 2024

JUNGLESport



Climbing has been an integral part of physical education since the advent of indoor gymnasiums. JungleSport recognizes the importance of the natural method of physical education and has developed a modern climbing apparatus to give schools the ability to re-introduce these fundamental skills to their curriculum. JungleSport is coming to St. Teresa of Calcutta School the **week of April 15th**. **All students** will have the opportunity to participate a minimum of twice that week in this exciting event. A full functioning indoor climbing structure will be set up in the gym which will also be supported by 2 instructors (from JungleSport) daily. All physical activities will be grade appropriate. Thanks to our COBs fundraiser the parent council was able to pay for most of the cost. We are asking for \$5.00 per student to subsidize the rest. This will appear on Cash-on-Line. A waiver will be coming home the first week of April that must be completed in order for a child to participate. Please see the link below for some information on JungleSport:

<https://www.junglesport.com/#junglesport>

NATIONAL GOOS PAPER DAY



Join students, teachers, workplaces, and families across the country on Thursday April 4th to celebrate **National GOOS Paper Day**. **GOOS** stands for **Good On One Side**. GOOS paper is paper that has been used on one side, but is still blank and usable on the other side. Using GOOS paper means ensuring both sides of a piece of paper are used before it is recycled. We will be having a GOOS paper collection bin competition the first week of April with the winning class receiving a free tuck shop item!

WORLD AUTISM DAY



World Autism Day is Sunday, April 2, 2024 and will be celebrated across all Niagara Catholic District Board schools on **Tuesday, April 2, 2024**. Students are encouraged to **wear blue** on this day. This effort can help to raise awareness in support of initiatives being developed locally or provincially to increase the understanding and acceptance of people with Autism around the world.

TRIPLE BALL (Volleyball)

On Monday, April 22nd our Jr. Girls Triple Ball team will be travelling to St. Peter School and on Wednesday April 24th our Jr. Boys Triple Ball team will be playing right here at St. Teresa of Calcutta School to participate in the NCDSB Large School Tournament. Good Luck to both of our teams.



INTRAMURAL HANDBALL



Currently our PTM Physical Education Teachers are working with our grade 2 & 3 students to teach them the rules of Handball. They have been working with them for the past 2 weeks and when we return from break we will start our Grade 2/3 Co-ed Handball League. Our Grade 8 students will be the coaches and our teachers will be running the games during lunch recess in the gym. We look forward to fun and skill development for all students. Any students who would like to play will be put on a team.

EARTH WEEK

During Earth week, from April 22nd-26th, we will be collecting old batteries to encourage proper recycling. Please bring the old batteries in a ziplock bag. Below is a list of acceptable and unacceptable batteries.



Acceptable batteries

- Standard A, AA, AAA, C, D, 6V, 9V
- Lithium
- Mercury
- Rechargeable batteries (Lithium Ion, Nickel Cadmium, Small Sealed Lead Acid)

Unaccepted batteries

- Car batteries (wet lead acid batteries)
- Leaking batteries



Thank you for your support!

CHESS

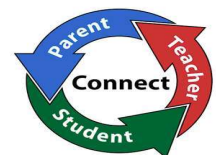


Throughout the month of March and moving into April students from Grades 4 to 8 have been actively playing chess and participating in 1 v 1 matches. The St. Teresa of Calcutta teams are set to represent our school on Thursday April 18th at the NCDSB Chess Tournament taking place at St. Mary's School in Niagara Falls. We will be sending 4 teams total: 2 Junior teams (Gr. 4 to 6) and 2 Intermediate teams (Gr. 7 & 8).

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 23rd, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

The meetings for the Catholic School Council will be noted on the calendar monthly. A presentation will be made to council regarding the parameters around class size and class organization for the upcoming year and teacher mobility. Everyone is welcome!



GRADE EIGHT GRADUATION



The Graduation student sub-committee at the school has been diligently planning for the Grade Eight Graduation of 2024. The date has been reserved for **Tuesday, June 25th, 2024**. The Ceremony will begin at 5:00 p.m. at Club Roma. At approximately 6:30 p.m. the students will participate in the dinner and dance portion of the evening at Club Roma in the Starlight room. Parents are asked to pick up their child(ren) at 10 p.m. Any parents wishing to assist that evening please contact Ms. Leslie directly via e-mail. It promises to be a wonderful evening for our graduates.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

It is still not too late to register your child for KINDERGARTEN (age 4 as at December 31, 2024) for September, 2024 school year start. We encourage all families to register as soon as possible. This helps to ensure proper staffing is in place for the new school year. Please share this information with any friends, family and/or neighbours who have a child that is ready to start school in September 2024.

Full Day Early Learning
Kindergarten Program



We are very excited to have more students join our St. Teresa of Calcutta Family and the extended Family of Niagara Catholic.

For registration, you are reminded to bring in the child(ren)'s:

- Birth Certificate;
- Immunization Records;
- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate and/or Baptismal Certificate of the child(ren)'s parents and/or guardian (if applicable);
- Proof of Residence within school boundaries; for example, a utility bill.

If applicable, original Landed Immigrant/Permanent Residence documentation, and the passport of the country of origin, indicating the date of entry into Canada.

CLASSROOM ORGANIZATION for 2024 - 2025

Plans are in the preliminary stages for the 2024-2025 school year. While we await approval from the board office on the number of classes and teachers required, we ask that you submit any specific requests concerning academic and social grouping placements in writing to the office by April 30th, 2024, to the attention of Mr. Morawek. Many situations unfold from now until the beginning of a new school year. As experts in education, we will consider all requests, but we will base all student placement decisions on what is in the *best interest of the entire student grade-level community at St. Teresa of Calcutta*. These decisions are made in good faith and based on, but not necessarily limited to, the following considerations: individual needs of students; academic strengths, weaknesses and needs; social and emotional needs of the students; special needs; resource support requirements and personnel allocation; and classroom teacher strengths.



LATE SLIPS



Parents are to encourage their children to be at school on time by 8:30 a.m. Students arriving late are asked to report to the office for a late slip. All parents must report to the office to sign out their child once the school day has started. If returning to the school later, students must sign in at the office before returning to class.

EQAO ASSESSMENT 2024

The Grade 3 and Grade 6 Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics will take place from May 8th – June 12th, 2024.

Grade 3 EQAO assessment will be written from **May 27th to May 30th**

Grade 6 EQAO assessment will be written from **June 3rd - 6th**



Parents of our Grade 3 & Grade 6 students are asked to please plan vacations, appointments and/or other absences around these dates as attendance during these assessment times is vital.

Parents may also visit the EQAO site at www.eqao.com/Parents/Elementary to look at types of questions and samples of past assessments to provide practice with students at home.

NIAGARA CATHOLIC ACCESSIBILITY:

An Evening Event in Support of Accessibility Awareness The Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Accessibility Planning Committee are pleased to invite parents, guardians, staff and community partners to a motivational evening featuring Niagara Catholic graduate, public speaker, and activist, Michael Jacques and disability advocate Charlene VanderGriendt, from The Rick Hansen Foundation.



Public speaker, activist, and author Michael Jaques, has written and self-published his book *Can't Read, Can't Write, Here's My Book* using speech-to-text technology. Michael is diagnosed with autism and an intellectual disability and shares his life experiences to help audiences understand accepting and belonging.

Disability advocate, Charlene VanderGriendt, from The Rick Hansen Foundation will discuss how to speak and interact inclusively.

Students with disabilities will share their perspectives on building a culture of acceptance through taped video interviews. The words we use carry meaning and power.

This exciting free event will take place on **Monday, April 15th from 6:00- 8:00 pm** at The Holiday inn and Conference Centre (327 Ontario Street, St. Catharines) and includes light snacks, refreshments and door prizes.

Please click here for event and registration details

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/Uu4YCCF8e6JUkxA96>

APRIL IS ORAL HEALTH MONTH

Keeping your child's teeth healthy

Children can receive a free fluoride varnish application from the Niagara Region Public Health dental program. Fluoride varnish is a protective coating that is painted onto the teeth with a tiny brush. It helps reduce cavities if applied twice a year.



Why do we recommend fluoride varnish?

- Tooth decay is the number one chronic disease of children
- In the 2015/2016 school year over 25,000 school-aged children were screened by Public Health. 39 per cent of those school-aged children were identified having as having cavities.
- Untreated cavities can lead to difficulties eating and sleeping, self-esteem issues, decreased school performance and attendance, pain, discomfort, infection and poor overall health
- Fluoride is not added to Niagara's drinking water

Tips to keep your child's teeth healthy...

1. Brush teeth **two times** per day
2. **Use** a pea-sized portion of **fluoride** toothpaste

3. Spend **two minutes** brushing each time with help from an adult
4. Floss daily
5. Provide a healthy diet and limit sugary drinks, sticky candy and snacks. **Water is best.**
6. Schedule regular dental checkups at least once a year (cleaning, fluoride varnish application and sealants).

For more information on dental services and programs please call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 or visit www.niagararegion.ca/health.

REMEMBER TOOTH DECAY IS A PREVENTABLE DISEASE!



“One Family in Christ: Know, Love, Serve Him.”

“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through its charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”