



April 2024

St. Kevin Catholic School



Principal: Mr. G. Marchio **Superintendent:** Mrs. Kimberly Kinney

Parish Priests: Rev. Jinto Mathew Puthiyidathuchalil, CSC & Fr. Arockia Sunil Josapath
182 Aqueduct St., Welland, ON, L3C 1C4
905-734-7709

Called By Name: Hear My Voice

A big part of friendship involves sharing words with one other. Thoughts, ideas, feelings. All of these things, when shared, help a friendship to grow. But sometimes friendship consists of simply being with one another. Though no words are shared, it is still quality time spent with someone we care about. In our friendship with God it is the same. Sometimes in prayer we don't know what to say. In those moments, we can simply be with God and recognize His presence with us. We can learn from the words of a simple peasant who explained his prayer to his parish priest, St. Jean Vianney: "I look at Him and He looks at me."

On behalf of the students and staff at St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School I would like to wish everyone a very blessed Easter! God Bless!

Mr. G. Marchio

Principal



Follow us on Instagram @StKevinWelland



Easter Monday

Monday, April 1, 2024

School Closed

Professional Activity Day

Monday, April 8, 2024

No School for Students

Friday, April 12, 2024

Dental Fluoride ~ JK/SK
Students

Food Days

Pizza ~ April 4
Pizza ~ April 25
Subway ~ April 18

Gr. 2 First Communion

Saturday, April 13, 2024
2 p. m. St. Kevin Parish

Gr. 8 Confirmation

Tuesday, April 30, 2024
7 p.m. St. Kevin Parish

~~~ Mission Statement ~~~

We are a Christ-centred Catholic faith community that celebrates diversity and fosters spiritual growth, inspiring all to reach their full potential in mind, body and spirit."

Prayer for New Life

Lord, it is Spring and You have performed a glorious miracle of re-birth on the earth.

We thank You for the bountiful beauty that Spring brings to all.

All living creatures speak

Your name ever so gently, giving thanks to You.

You are the only one being to hear these praises.

During this rejuvenation, we are truly blessed,

And we feel Your presence all around.

Lord, send Your rays of hope down upon us,

So that we may open our eyes and see the new beginning of Spring life.

Fill our hearts and minds with joy and peace.

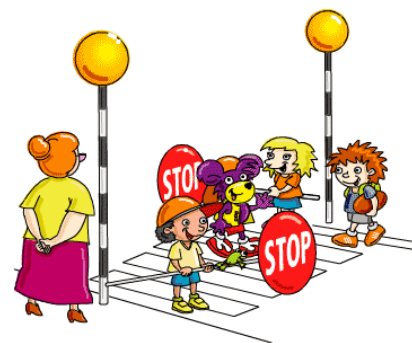
Amen



Kiss & Ride Safety

Families are reminded to remain patient in the Kiss and Ride lanes at school. Please drop off or pick up only. Do not idle or park the car in the Kiss and Ride lane during drop off in the morning. This will ensure that the busses are not blocked by cars waiting to drop off students. If you need to get out or want to walk your child to the gate, please park your car in the parking lot at our school or at Notre Dame. Thank you for your cooperation with this. It is always the goal to make sure that arrival and dismissal procedures are done as safely as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.



World Autism Day

World Autism Day is Tuesday, April 2, 2023 and will be celebrated across all Niagara Catholic District Board.

All students and staff are encouraged to wear blue as part of your attire 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.

Thank you always for your support!



Kindergarten Registration

TO REGISTER, A CHILD MUST BE FOUR (4) YEARS OLD AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL BE REQUIRED FOLLOWING REGISTRATION:

[Register Here](#)

- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate
- Health Card
- Name / Telephone Number - Family Doctor
- Contact Persons (in case of an emergency)



Festival of the Arts 2024

On March 7th our grade 3 class participated in the Niagara Catholic District School Board “Festival of the Arts”. The grade 3’s sang beautifully under the direction of our Itinerant Arts teacher Mrs. McCabe. Well done grade 3’s! Thank you to Mrs. McCabe, Mrs. Mascio & Miss Tournabuono for their leadership and preparation for our grade 3 students ☺



ST. KEVIN ECO TEAM NEWS

This month St. Kevin Celtics will be participating in several events and challenges aimed at helping our Earth and becoming Stewards of God’s Creation. Here are the events that the eco-team will be supporting in order to raise awareness of simple things we can do in our daily lives to protect our planet.

ANTI-IDLING CAMPAIGN

We encourage parents to shut off their engines while waiting to drop off or pick up your child(ren). We have completed a pre-campaign record of idling cars and are hoping when we complete our post campaign tally we have less cars idling while waiting!

WASTE FREE LUNCHES

For the month of April we will be encouraging all students to bring a Waste Free lunch on Wednesdays. This means we will be hoping to see less Ziploc bags, and plastic in lunches and more re-useable containers!

SORTING WASTE

Students in Kindergarten-Grade 2 will be monitored for their correct use of the garbage and recycling bins in their classrooms. They will be taught which items belong in each and hopefully we see an improvement in the amount of wrongly sorted items! Older grades will be reminded of proper sorting habits.

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

On Earth day, groups of students will be cleaning up St. Kevin’s property. They will be provided proper equipment to tidy up our yards and put garbage in its place!

GOOS PAPER

Classrooms without “GOOS” paper bins (Good on one side) will be provided with bins and encouraged to use the empty side of paper when possible. This practice will stay in place until the end of the year to help reduce the amount of paper used.

EARTH DAY

Teachers will be preparing activities/lessons for children to complete on Earth Day in an effort to continue to educate our students on our duty to protect the environment, our resources and to consume responsibly.

TURN OFF LIGHTS AND DEVICES

This is an ongoing initiative at St. Kevin to ensure that lights and devices are turned off when not in use. The eco team will continue to monitor this.

At the end of March our students participated in two other challenges. One was the “Great Gulp” where students with re-useable water bottles all took a drink at the same time. Teachers presented facts about the importance of re-useable water bottles. On March 22 we turned our lights and electronic devices not in use off to observe Earth Hour.

Way to Go Logan!

Logan, a Grade 4 student at our school, and the goalkeeper on his Welland Wizards under-9 team, got on Real Madrid's radar when he participated in a weeklong development camp in Toronto last year. Logan, who began playing the position a year ago, trained six hours daily in the heat for five days in hopes of being selected to play in a tournament that will feature teams from at least 15 countries.

Logan is currently in Spain representing Canada and training at the Real Madrid Camp and doing very well! We are proud of Logan and wish him all the best while he is in Spain. We are cheering for you back at St. Kevin!



You're Invited!

Family, Faith, and Learning WORKSHOPS

Thursday, April 11, 2024

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL
460 LINWELL RD., ST. CATHARINES

Choose two workshops presented by Niagara Region Public Health

Click on the icons for further details



**RAISING
COMPETENT,
CONFIDENT KIDS**



**YOUTH
CONNECTEDNESS:
HELPING
STUDENTS THRIVE**



**ADOLESCENT
BRAIN AND
SUBSTANCE USE
PREVENTION**

**CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER**

5:00 pm Light Refreshments • 5:30 pm Fr. Paul MacNeil Family Prayer

6:00 pm Breakout Session 1 • 7:00 pm Breakout Session 2

Childcare Available (school age children up to 12 years of age) • Workshop • Raffles

ACCOUNTABILITY • COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • FAITHFULNESS • INTEGRITY • JUSTICE • STEWARDSHIP



DO YOU THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK?

DATE: THURSDAY APRIL 11, 2024
TIME: 6:15 – 8pm
WHERE: St Kevin Church Hall

Join us for an evening of discussion on:

- How our fear of missing out FOMO, keeps us attached to our devices
- Balancing the benefits and dangers of social media from the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching
- Using the 7 commitments from the episcopal letter, “Let Your Speech Always Be Gracious” to engage better on social media

Guest Speaker:

Jennifer Pellegrini, Communications Officer
Niagara Catholic District School Board

*Everyone Welcome
Light Refreshments Provided*

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 Jacques, 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.



FREE EVENT!

NIAGARA CATHOLIC Accessibility

All Niagara Catholic parents, guardians, staff and community partners are invited to attend!

Light snacks and refreshments provided

DOOR PRIZES!

Limited Space! REGISTER HERE Before April 10!



MICHAEL JACQUES

Public speaker, activist, and author Michael Jacques, 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.

RICK HANSEN FOUNDATION

The words we use carry meaning and power. 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.



Rick Hansen Foundation

APRIL 15, 2024 • 6:00PM – 8:00PM

HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE • 327 ONTARIO ST., ST. CATHARINES

Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter

April 2024

Connecting the Curriculum to Home

Your child might start learning about various parts of healthy human growth and development based on their grade and the [Ontario Health and Physical Education \(2019\) curriculum](#). One important topic that is covered is consent.

Starting the Conversation of Consent: Connecting The Curriculum to Home

(Parents of Elementary aged students)

With our School Health Nurses

Our Public Health Nurses Jenn and Austin discuss how to start the conversation of consent, and how to connect the curriculum to home.

- **Watch here:** [Starting the Conversation of Consent - Connecting the Curriculum to Home](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about Puberty](#) – as your child starts learning more about human development, our school health team wants to support adults with answering some of those tricky questions.

Niagara Ontario Health Team – Events Calendar

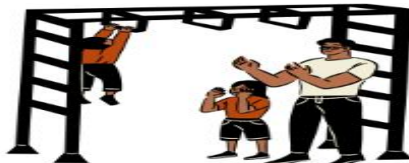
The [Niagara Ontario Health Team](#) created an events calendar tool to highlight the diverse activities happening in our region. This initiative highlights the importance of health and wellness. It also serves as a valuable link, connecting community members to resources available in Niagara.

The [calendar](#) makes it easier to find and explore new things to do. It also helps create meaningful connections in our community. Visit today to learn more about what is going on near you!



Benefits of Risky Play

Did you know that letting kids [play freely outdoors](#), even if it involves a bit of risk, is super important for their growth and well-being? Learn about the benefits of exciting play that might seem a little risky, and how it can help kids develop better physically, mentally, and socially. Let's rethink how we see risks and explore how adventurous play can actually help kids stay healthier and happier in the long run. Join us in creating a world where every child has the chance to thrive!



For more information on what it is meant by risky play, check out [Active For Life webpage](#).

Happy Oral Health Month!



Niagara Region Public Health Dental Program offers **FREE** dental clinics for children and youth 17 and under throughout Niagara.

Appointments are available for children in:

- Niagara Falls on Tuesdays
- Thorold on Mondays (afternoon and evening) and Wednesdays
- Welland on Thursdays

[Niagara's Mobile Dental Clinic](#) also travels around Niagara to various locations throughout the week.

All of our dental clinics offer free dental assessments, cleanings, fluoride and sealants. To book an appointment [contact the Dental Program](#) or [book a dental assessment online](#).

Educational Resources



Opportunities for Every Student with Play for All

To ensure a thriving intramural program, prioritize student safety and inclusivity. Tailor activities to student preferences, communicate goals clearly, and offer flexibility for participation. Cultivating student leadership is key for long-term success.



Explore ophea.net/play-all to discover additional resources, including planning tools and activity suggestions to enhance your students' physical activity throughout the day.

Student Mental Health Ontario: Wayfinder

Unlock the power of mental health promotion and literacy in your classroom with confidence and ease! [School Mental Health Ontario Wayfinder](#) provides a clear framework for mental health learning in the classroom. Empower your classroom with mental health promotion and literacy tools perfectly aligned with the Ontario curriculum, fostering an inclusive space for students to support each other's mental well-being.

Wayfinder provides:

- A digital guide of lessons and activities with easy-to-follow instructions
- Ready-to-use communication materials to foster home-school connections
- Regular email messages to offer you tips, support and new classroom resources



**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
 NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (NCPIC)
 MEMBERSHIP 2024-2025**



The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) supports the Mission of Catholic education and the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board by providing a communication link to parents/guardians, Catholic School Councils, the Diocese, the Director of Education, and the Board. The NCPIC promotes active parent/guardian engagement within all schools for the improvement of student achievement and well-being of all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

The NCPIC membership is made up of parents/guardians, community and student representatives, the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines or his appointed representative, principals, teachers, support staff, the Director of Education or designate, the appointed Superintendent of Education and Trustees. The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meets the on first Thursday of the month on a bi-monthly basis (or as noted) at the Catholic Education Centre from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Meetings are open to the public and are livestreamed.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is seeking to appoint up to three (3) community representatives for the 2024-2025 school year to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. Interested parties are to complete and submit the Community Representative Form, along with a letter of recommendation supporting the nomination from the community agency, association, or organization addressed to **Danny Di Lorenzo, Chair of the Board no later than 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 1, 2024.**

PARENT/GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVES

To be eligible for election/appointment as a parent/guardian representative to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, a person:

- must be a parent/guardian of a student enrolled in a school of the Niagara Catholic District School Board;
- must reside within the jurisdiction of the Board;
- must support the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board; and
- must fully participate in the annual Commissioning Ceremony of NCPIC members.

Available parent/guardian positions for the 2024-2025 Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Membership are as follows:

Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Thorold/Merritton	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Niagara Falls	4 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
St. Catharines/Niagara-on-the-Lake	3 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Welland/Pelham	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives

Interested parents/guardians are to complete and submit the parent/guardian nomination form **no later than 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 1, 2024.** Nomination forms are available at the school and on the Board website. Please click on the link: [Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee](#).

Please send nomination forms to: Catholic Education Centre
 427 Rice Road
 Welland, ON L3C 7C1
 Attention: Yvonne Anderson
 or by email to: yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com



**NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE
PARENT/GUARDIAN NOMINATION FORM
FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**



I have read and agree to the *Eligibility of Membership* of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Telephone No. _____ Business Telephone No. _____

Email: _____

I am the parent/guardian of _____
(Student(s) name)

who is/are currently enrolled at _____
(Name of School (s))

I am declaring my candidacy for the geographical area of:

<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Catharines/Niagara-on-the-Lake
<input type="checkbox"/> Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln	<input type="checkbox"/> Thorold/Merrittion
<input type="checkbox"/> Niagara Falls	<input type="checkbox"/> Welland/Pelham

Candidate's Signature _____ **Date:** _____

Please describe in a few sentences how you would like to contribute to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee:

Complete nomination forms must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 1, 2024.