

St. Theresa Tribune

Sowing the Seeds of Faith, Blossoming in Knowledge
St. Theresa Catholic Elementary

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Principal: Mr. Dan Trainor B.A., M.Ed

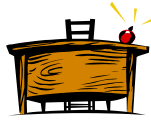
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Principal's Message

"Then Jesus took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them."

Mark 10:16



Once again, I am awed by the passage of time. The month of May has arrived and this school year is nearing an end. As time goes by we need to pause and reflect on the words found in St. Mark's Gospel. Jesus has blessed all our children and we need to remind ourselves of the blessing each child is to us on a daily basis, even on those days when they are more challenging and spirited!

Our St. Theresa Catholic School environment is renewed daily by the spirit, vigor and energy of each student. Our faith formation and daily religious activities renew our connection to our environment and teach our students important lessons about our "footprint." I am so proud of all our students and staff.

Thank you to every student for offering your best and contributing to our Catholic community. Please allow your peers to be themselves and feel safe and confident as young people in our school. We all have the right to be safe, secure and happy as we develop our own blessed personality each day at our Catholic elementary school.

I thank my staff for creating and regenerating our school's Catholic culture and identity. Our daily teaching/learning journey is a rich experience for our students that models modern day living with Jesus.

Catholic Education Week will be May 5th to May 10th and this year's theme is "We are Called to Love." We look forward to celebrating this theme with our students and grounding our daily work in teaching and in learning.

The month of May is devoted to Mother Mary. We will pray the "Hail Mary" each morning and we will teach the Rosary to all our classes during this month. We extend a joyous Mothers' Day to all Mothers, Grandmothers, God-mothers and Aunts. Mothers, make sure May 12th is your day!

Yours in Catholic Education,

D. Trainor
PRINCIPAL

Kindergarten Open House - May 30th

Our Kindergarten Open House has been scheduled for Thursday, May 30th at 6:00 pm. During this visit we will share the typical kindergarten day, visit our classrooms, library and gym. Parents will receive a "save the date" for our August School Visit for students and along with the list of school items that can be labeled for school. Welcome to our newest and youngest students!



Kindergarten

Prayer for Moms

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the gifts you gave me in my mom.

As children, we are taught to help one another, no greater teacher is there than my mom, who taught me to walk, talk, run, laugh, play, cry, smile and love.

As children we are taught to forgive one another. No greater example of forgiveness is seen than in a mother's eyes.

As children we are taught to protect and nurture each other, no greater example is seen than in my mother's

caring and loving ways. As children we are taught to take risks, no greater example is seen than my mom who takes on

so many jobs and tasks for our family.

Thank you Jesus for giving me my Mom - she is the only Mom I'd pick for me. Amen



Prayers for our Grade Two Baptisms and First Communion

On Sunday May 5th, at 10:00 two of our grade two students will be receiving the sacrament of baptism at St. Patrick Church. At the same Mass, our students from grades 2, 5 and 7 will make their First Holy Communion. They will have a practice for First Communion on Friday, May 3rd, 9:30 at St. Patrick Church. Thank you Father Bevan for your spiritual guidance. All families are invited to join us for these sacraments.

Yearbook Orders

Yearbook orders (online only) will be available to purchase beginning May 13th for \$26.00 ea. Sale ends Monday, May 27th. This is a hard deadline as we will be placing the order based on the online purchases. Grade 8 students will automatically receive a yearbook as part of their Graduation package.

St. Theresa Instagram Account

The account is [St_Theresa_Merritton](https://www.instagram.com/St_Theresa_Merritton)

The account is one way we model and teach our children how to use social media platforms as a way to showcase and highlight positive content. The account is private and will not allow for comments. When you "follow" us on Instagram you will make the request and we will confirm. This extra setting will allow us to keep our followers limited to members of our school community. You have received an email from Permission Click and need to indicate confirmation that pictures of your children can be posted.

St. Vincent de Paul North of 60 Project

St. Vincent de Paul Society is collecting food for residents of Naujaat Nunavut. All Niagara Catholic Schools have been assigned a food item to collect. St. Theresa will be collecting Granola Bars. Please send in boxes of Granola bars during the month of May. Thank you for your support.



Classroom Spotlight Grade Eight

As the anticipation of graduation builds in the Grade 8 classroom, students continue to work hard and build the foundation they will need to be successful as they move on to Denis Morris high school next year. In the coming weeks, the Grade 8 students will be presenting the important social justice issues that they have researched at our Social Justice Fair during Catholic Education Week. They will be challenged to solve problems and create computational representations of mathematical situations by writing and executing code. In our Financial Literacy Unit, they will determine the growth of simple and compound interest at various rates, explain the impact interest has on long-term financial planning, and create a financial plan to reach a long-term financial goal. They have examined character, plot structure and literary elements in the short story unit with our student teacher Miss Allard, and continue to learn about the structure of language as we explore morphology, including prefixes, suffixes and the origin of various root words. Flag Football has been a huge hit and the Grade 8s continue to learn skills and drills that teach them more about this rapidly growing sport! In History, they have begun to build on their understanding of earlier Canadian history, examining how social, political, economic, and legal changes in Canada affected different individuals, groups, and communities, including First Nations, Métis, and Inuit individuals and communities. And, as always, centred around our Catholic faith, the lens of Global citizenship and the care and stewardship of the earth and others.

Catholic Education Week

“We are Called to Love!”

May 5th to May 10th, is a week to celebrate the gifts of Catholic Education. We will make the week about teaching and learning. Our prayers and liturgies will be focused on the theme “We are called to Love!” Students will experience this year’s theme through prayer and scripture readings. Our daily sub-themes will include:
Monday, May 6th— As people of Hope—This day we invite all parents to be a part of our open liturgy and to join our math games in our classrooms from 9:10 to 10:10.

Tuesday, May 7th - As people of Faith -This day we engage in our Book/Math buddies rich learning and primary students attend a virtual trip on Composting.

Wednesday, May 8th – As people of Mercy - This evening we celebrate Demi D., who is our “Catch the Spirit” winner.

Thursday, May 9th - As people of Justice - This day our grade 7/8 will have Social Justice Fair.

Friday, May 10th - As people of Joy—This day students will decorate rocks for our new Kindergarten students.

Parent Open House Invitation

We invite all parents and grandparents to school on **Monday May 6th from 9:10 to 10:10** to see our Math Games in action. We invite you to play math games with our students. Please sign in at the main office when you arrive. Join us in the gym for our liturgy, then you will be captivated by the joy of children learning through play. We are so excited to welcome our parents and grandparents to school!

Intermediate Homework Club

Our Intermediate Homework Club is a happening place to be! The club runs weekly on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 2:50 to 4:15 p.m. in the library. We have many students accessing this opportunity and we encourage other intermediate students to join us; information letters and permission forms are available in the office.



Anaphylaxis Awareness and Action Plans

All classrooms at St. Theresa are **peanut, tree nut and milk safe classrooms**. **No peanuts, peanut products, or tree nuts are allowed at any time**. We have many students with life threatening allergies to peanuts, tree nuts and peanut products.

Please do not send in any food items for class distribution. We also have a student with dairy allergies and must ensure we handle all dairy food items carefully.

Students who share the classroom with our student with a dairy allergy have been informed and know that they are to wash their hands after lunches and snacks that contain dairy items. Please ensure that your child has thoroughly washed their hands after eating peanuts, peanut products or dairy products for breakfast/lunch at home. We must make every effort to ensure we do not contaminate our learning environment for these students. Please respect the safety of all students. Remember how you would want your child protected by their school community if your child had a fatal allergy.

Grade 6 to 8 Math Clubs

Well things are adding up and expanding in our math clubs! We have 30 students and 5 staff belonging to our various morning and afternoon Math Clubs. The clubs focus on fundamental math skills. Math clubs meet twice a week for 10 weeks. Math Clubs will run from May 6th to June 5th. Students will be engaged in an endless set of games to support their understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division are all a big hit, too! Consistency of counts, trusting the count and recognizing amounts with automaticity will be the products of these games. Our last session will be June 5th.



EQAO

The provincial test of Grade 3 and 6 Reading, Writing and Mathematics skills and problem solving will occur on the following days:

Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will complete the assessments on Monday May 27th, Tuesday May 28th, and Wednesday May 29th.

Parents, we ask you to make sure your children are well rested and start their day with a healthy breakfast during EQAO days. All students will support our Grade 3 and 6 students by working quietly during these assessment days. The assessment will be completely online for both Grade 3 and 6. We know they are well prepared and will showcase their best work. The results will be shared in the fall.

Catholic School Council

Our next meeting will be on **May 23rd, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**, which has been changed from the original date of May 16th. We welcome all parents to our meetings.



“Catch the Spirit” Award

Congratulations to **Demi D.**, our grade 8 student who is the recipient of our Board’s “Catch the Spirit” Award. This recognition goes to a student who has demonstrated qualities in the following areas:

- Catholic Leadership
- Catholic Faith and Catholic School Philosophy
- Family Commitment
- School Community Relations
- Involvement in School Affairs and Activities
- Involvement in Community Activities
- Commitment to a Difficult Task or Situation
- High Degree of Academic Excellence

Demi will be recognized by the N.C.D.S.B. at the Catch the Spirit Ceremony on May 8th at 7:00 p.m., recognition ceremony at our Grade 8 Graduation. Congratulations Demi!

Track & Field - Grades 4 to 8

Our school event will be **Thursday May 30th** in the morning, rain date will be May 31st. The Board Meet will be at Niagara Olympic Club on June 3rd. We will prepare for track and field in our gym classes so all students can challenge themselves in each event over a series of days. All students are encouraged to participate. Please remember how important it is to have sunscreen, hats and water bottles.

Junior Basketball



St. Theresa’s Junior Boys and Girls basketball teams rocked the socks off of spectators in their respective games this past month, with their awesome skills and excellent teamwork! Junior Boys made it to the semi-finals, but unfortunately were defeated. Boys team members are Tanner, Seth, Isaac, Ben, Anthony, Benoit, Andrew F., Patrick, Emmanuel, Ethan and Makbel. Girls team members included Khyla, Kaylyn, Kiki, Ava, Everleigh, Vaiyah, Arabella, Paisley, Makenna, and Gemma. Congratulations to both our junior teams; you are models of exemplary sportsmanship. Once again, St. Theresa athletes, you have made us proud!

Thank you Mrs. Rogers and Ms. Colavecchia-Wills for your time coaching! Thanks to our parent drivers!!!

St. Theresa Catholic

Elementary School Newsletter & Website

We will send home a paper copy of the school calendar each month. The newsletters and calendars will be posted on our school website. This will generally happen on the last Thursday of the current month. Watch for your newsletter as it contains much information regarding school activities. All information is sent home with the youngest or only child in a family. Newsletters and calendars will be posted on our school website! Please visit this exciting showcase of our great school.

Cell Phone use for Students

The Ministry of Education has directed schools and school boards to not allow elementary students to have cell phones on them during the school day. To fairly manage this mandate along with parenting decisions made for each of our students; we thank you for respecting the following compromise. If you are providing your child(ren) with a cell phone as part of their communication and safety tools as they transit from home to school and back, be advised that all cellphones will be placed in the classroom “cell garage” or in each student’s backpack for the instructional day. If you are texting your child during the day, please expect them to only get the message at dismissal time 2:50 p.m. **All communication must go through the main office during the school day.** If students are using their cells as a personal device for research, teachers will direct them to access their cell phones. If students are required to bring a device for a specific purpose, the teacher will send a message in their digital platforms, such as the “NCVLE-classroom, School Messenger” so parents are aware of the request. Thank you for your support.

Chess Club

St. Theresa Chess Players continue to astound with their strategy and grace as they faced several other highly-skilled Niagara Catholic chess teams last week. Extraordinary work, Chess Teams! Special congratulations to our Juniors for earning Silver medals! Our team; Emmanuel, Khyla, Xian, Tanner, Ayo, and Benoit. They played at the Niagara Catholic Chess Championships at the Seaway Mall last Friday. Go, St. Theresa!



Thank you Ms. Colavecchia-Wills for your time coaching the teams. Thank you to our parent drivers!

Year End Trips

We have finalized our plans for all year end trips fulfilling all requirements found in the Niagara Catholic Policy for school trips. In an effort to help all families budget for these extra expenses we have planned trips that range in costs. The trips range from a very low cost, low cost, moderate cost to high cost

Please note the following dates:

June 6th—Gr. 7 = Blue Jays, Ripleys Aquarium = moderate cost

June 20th-21st - Gr. 8 = Blue Mountain over night = high cost

June 24th - Gr. 4-6 = Queenston Heights = very low cost

June 25th - K to 3 = Safari Niagara = low cost