



Loretto Catholic Elementary School

May 2024



School Information

Ms. L. Spadafora - Principal

Mrs. J. Hastings - Vice Principal

Website: <https://schools.niagaracatholic.ca/lorettocatholic/>

Location: [6855 Kalar Road, Niagara Falls, ON, Canada](#)

Phone: 905 356 4175

Twitter: [@LorettoFalls](#) **Instagram:** [lorettocatholicnf](#)

Principal Message

We are looking forward to sharing in celebrating Catholic Education and Mental Wellness Week. Our committee have many wonderful activities planned. We want to thank our Catholic Education Committee planning and organizing the week.

*Please find the **May calendar** at the end of the newsletter.*

During the month of May, we honour Mary , as our Mother.

A special thank you and wish for all our Mother, Grandmothers, and Special Women in our lives.

May Mary watch and continue to guide you in your dedication and vocation to our most precious gifts, our children.

Immaculate Heart of Mary

O Most Holy Virgin, Immaculate in body and spirit, look kindly on us as we implore your powerful intercession. O most Holy Mother, receive our prayers as we present them to God. O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, you intercede for us with your Son. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.



Our Lady of Loretto, pray for us.

Loretto Catholic Bee Hive

We continue to focus on "Bee-ing part of our Loretto Catholic Hive", we all play a role in order for our Hive to be successful. We can Be Kind, Be Caring, Be successful, Be Nurturing, Be workers, Be Faithful...

As we work through this year, students and staff will work on the importance of Team work and how our Hive is a collective group that helps to make each one of us better and stronger spiritually, emotionally and intellectually.



Special Announcement

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate Mrs. Hastings on her new school, St. John Henry Newman, for September. Mrs. Hastings will be missed by her students, staff, parents and by myself. Her support to our Loretto Catholic families has been amazing over the last two years. We wish her the very best as she joins the SJHN School community as their Vice Principal in September.

We will be welcoming Mrs. M. Kelly, as our new Vice Principal from Mary Ward Catholic School. We look forward to working with her and welcoming her into our Lynx Bee Hive family.

Catholic Education Week 2024

Theme: We Are Called to Love

We will display a large gratitude jar with the words: hope, faith, mercy, justice and joy. Each class will be add to the gratitude jar - what they are grateful for. Students will write their intentions on squares of coloured paper, provided.

Daily prayers and announcements will be shared with the school. Please check out the weekly planner below for some of the events that are happening here at Loretto!

*Loretto Lynx Families-please take note of the event on Friday, May 10th The Crowning of Mary. Parents are invited to attend this event. It takes place in our gymnasium and begins at 1:30-2:10. We would love to see you there.

Monday, May 6	Tuesday, May 7	Wednesday, May 8	Thursday, May 9	Friday, May 10
<p>Focus: People of Hope</p> <p>Meditation: led by classroom teacher</p> <p>Teachers will use link to all stories for the week, for all divisions, one each day</p> <p>VEX Robotics</p> <p>Door Hanger Activity - Whole Class - template provided - all students will write a message of either: hope, faith, mercy, justice or joy on the hanger and display it on your door (please complete by Wednesday)</p> <p>Mental Health & CEW Student Contest Theme: "We Are called to Love"</p> <p>Shared with teachers: (additional lessons for Mental Health - by grade)</p>	<p>Focus: People of Faith</p> <p>Sunflower Challenge-Prayer service during AM announcements - Derda's class</p> <p>Meditation: led by classroom teacher</p> <p>Teachers will use link to all stories for the week, for all divisions, one each day</p> <p>Emotions Charade - play in own class (teacher to create own emotions cards for students to use)</p>	<p>Focus: People of Mercy</p> <p>Meditation: led by classroom teacher</p> <p>Teachers will use link to all stories for the week, for all divisions, one each day</p> <p>Making of the Flowers and written intention (for Crowning of Mary on Friday)</p> <p>Catch the Spirit Award Ceremony, Evening event</p>	<p>Focus: People of Justice</p> <p>Meditation: led by classroom teacher</p> <p>Teachers will use link to all stories for the week, for all divisions, one each day</p> <p>Ways to Make a Friend - Collaborative Bulletin Board</p>	<p>Focus: People of Joy</p> <p>Meditation: led by classroom teacher</p> <p>Teachers will use link to all stories for the week, for all divisions, one each day</p> <p>Watch positive affirmation video: Link shared with CT. Each student will make their own poster with a positive affirmation</p> <p>Crowning of Mary in gym 1:30 - 2:10 PM (placement of the flowers - real and some from classes - around the statue of Mary) - Parents invited</p>

Catch the Spirit

The Niagara Catholic **"Catch the Spirit Student Award of Excellence"** has been established to honour representatives of leadership within our student population as we continue to work together to "nurture souls and build minds" throughout Niagara Catholic.

Each year all schools across Niagara Catholic select one student as their award winner. Congratulations to **Lily Colangelo** for winning the **2024 Catch The Spirit Award**. She will be celebrated on May 8th at the ceremony held at Brock University. We are very proud of Lily and look forward to celebrating her accomplishment again at graduation.

Welcome to

Loretto

CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

"A Professional Catholic Learning Community"

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD MISSION STATEMENT
The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice and service, provides an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential.



Welcome to Kindergarten Orientation Night for New Registrations

Kindergarten Orientation for New Registrations

Loretto Catholic is hosting an orientation evening for new Kindergarten registrations on **Wednesday, May 15th** here at **Loretto Catholic starting at 5:30-6:15**. Come meet our Kindergarten team and learn about the Kindergarten program. NCDSB is also hosting a Popping into Kindergarten Virtual event. Click on the picture to fill out google form.



School Organization for 2024- 2025

We will be starting to plan for the 2024- 2025 school year and the specific organization of the school is tentative dependent upon any changes to our enrolment numbers. As well, due to our enrolment numbers, we know that combined classes are a reality for many of our grades. We will continue to follow the direction set in the past several years, **and will not be accepting requests**. As the experts in education, we will base all student placement decisions on what is in the *best interest of the entire student community at Loretto Catholic*. These decisions are made in good faith and based on, but not necessarily limited to, the following considerations: individual needs of students; academic strengths and needs; social and emotional needs of students; resource support requirements and personnel allocation; and classroom teacher strengths

******We will not be making any adjustments or changes to class lists or homerooms until the end of September should enrolment increase or decrease.**

How Parents can help with the transition to a different grade...

Talk positively to your child about next year. If your child is with a different group of students discuss relationships and the excitement of making new friends.

EQAO



Our students in Grade 3 and 6 are once again participating in EQAO. Once again, the assessment is completed using computers, the focus remains on Reading, Writing and Math. Students will have an opportunity to show off their gifts based on the Ontario Curriculum which they have been diligently working on throughout the year.

This year our Grade 3 students will be writing over two days - May 28 & 29 and Grade 6 students will write on May 30 & May 31 - the assessment times are less than in previous years so we will only need two days. Students will be given extra time if needed or if they miss any of the days. Students will have the opportunity to complete the assessment and do their very best.



Sacraments

Congratulations to our Grade 2 candidates who received their First Holy Communion on April 6th and our Grade 8 candidates who received the sacrament of Confirmation on April 27th both at St. Thomas More Parish.

Thank you to Father Mathew, Father Sojan, our parents, godparents, sponsors, Mr. Jones, Mrs. McKean Mrs. Minotti, Mr.

Cullen for preparing our students on their faith journey.

Parking Lot Safety

Just wanted to take a moment to thank all our families who are following the **Kiss'n Ride process both before and after school.**

We are asking parents to only use the front area designated as a Kiss'n 'Ride- to not park and leave your car or exit your car in this area. Student(s) exit the car only with their belongings and cross with the supervisor to the school property.

We also ask that parents do not park in front of the stop signs along the exit path as this blocks traffic and flow and the entry of the afternoon busses.

Parents/Guardians we ask that you not block the entrance way at the end of the day as the busses are struggling to get into our parking lot or to have to try and maneuver around cars.

We have supervision staff who are helping students so they can walk to their entrances both at the front and back of the school **before 8:45 a.m.** Once the bell goes, students must enter through the front doors.

We ask that cars proceed **slowly** as we have had a few very close calls with students. Cars need to **STOP** and check that the crosswalk is clear where students and families are walking to cross

Should parents want to park- then please use the side entrance at the KSD side and enter through the back gates after 8:35.

Families are asked not to park on the side of Loretto Catholic where the gate and portables are at any time as this is an Emergency Lane, as well we have been asked not to use the Avondale Parking lot as a pick up zone.

Your support and assistance in ensuring our students' safety are very important to all of us.

Student Council

Catholic Graduate Expectations

For the month of May our students will be focusing on being a responsible citizen to demonstrate the **Catholic Graduate Expectation "A Responsible Citizen"**. A person who demonstrates this makes time to help those in need within their community by promoting peace, justice and sacredness of human life. Our CSC has come up with the idea of collecting puzzles, and gently used books to donate to the Meadows of Dorchester Senior Home.



Standardized Dress Code

Reminder that students are expected to follow dress code expectations daily. We have provided a graphic below as a reminder of the colour and items of clothing that students can wear to school. If you have purchased a Lynx T-shirt in previous years, student can continue to wear them on Spirit Wear day and during gym class.

As in past years, a reminder that the Black Grad hoodies are reserved for the students in the current grade 8 graduating class.

As the warmer months have arrived, please be mindful that dress code remains in effect, collar shirts, appropriate length shorts(no short short), skorts, skirts (with shorts underneath), no tank tops or ripped waded jeans. **Sweaters remain as dress code.**

Thank you for your continued support.

Big Bear Spirit Wear

Families are able to purchase Spirit Wear through Big Bear Spiritwear - **please visit the website by clicking on the banner above with their name.**

We have launched our new **FRESH** Loretto Catholic Logo for our Spirit Wear.

Students may continue to wear existing spirit wear. Just a reminder that Spirit Wear T-shirts are not part of the daily dress code as collar shirts must be worn.

Please see the items below that are available throughout the year to purchase.

****To order- Link to Big Bear website- click schools- click Niagara Falls - click on Loretto Catholic**

School dress code is in effect. Collared shirt is either blue or white- no logos. Pants, skirts, shorts are blue. Denim is dark denim and in good repair, not faded or with holes.

All sweaters are blue unless they are Loretto Catholic Spirit wear which are blue and/or grey and have our school logo on it.

Grad hoodies are reserved for our students in Grade 8 only.

New this year, St. Michael HS spirit wear is reserved for our Grade 8 students only. Only the new St. Michael's Spirit wear can be worn as part of our Dress Code this year.

LORETTO LYNX 2023 SPIRITWEAR

Gildan DryBlend 9.4 oz. 50/50 Jersey Polo
Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Left Chest



Youth #8800B \$18.79
Adult #8800 \$20.49

Available Colours: Navy & White

Core 365 Dri-Fit 100% Polyester Polo Shirt
Youth #88181Y Ladies' #78181 Adult #88181



\$27.50

Available Colours: Navy & White

50/50 Pull-Over Hooded Sweatshirt, 13.0 oz.



Printed with Full-Size Loretto Lynx Logo on Front

Youth #18500B \$32.49
Adult #18500 \$33.95

Available Colours: Navy & Dark Heather

50/50 Pull-Over Hooded Sweatshirt, 13.0 oz.
Full-Size Embroidery & Applique Decoration on Front



Youth #18500B \$36.95
Adult #18500 \$38.49

Available Colours: Navy and Dark Heather

Dynamic Heather 2-Tone Lightweight Polyester Hoodie
Printed with Full-Size Loretto Lynx Logo on Front



Youth #Y2047 \$64.95
Adult #F2047 \$64.95

Available Colour: Charcoal Dynamic Heather/True Navy

50/50 Full-Zip Hooded Sweatshirt, 13.0 oz.
Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Left Chest



Youth #18600B \$38.95
Adult #18600 \$42.49

Available Colours: Navy and Dark Heather

ATC™ Mid Profile Twill Ball Cap
Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo Front
100% cotton twill 5-panel Adjustable hook and loop closure



Youth Size Adjustable #Y130 \$14.49

Adult Size Adjustable #C130 \$14.95

Acrylic 12" Pom Pom Toque
Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Front



Dark Heather/Navy

#SP15 One Size \$14.50

Tax is NOT included in the Prices shown.

Acrylic Beanie-Style Winter Toque
Embroidered with Loretto Lynx Logo on Front



Charcoal Grey

Navy

One Size #102 \$12.95 + tax

Order On-Line at www.bigbearspiritwear.com
No Refunds or Exchanges on Decorated or Customized Products
Sizing Charts available at each product online | Delivery to your School option available

New Design!
LORETTO CATHOLIC LYNX



6182 Dixon Street
Niagara Falls, Ontario, L2G 2L6
Ph: 905-357-7132

NIAGARA CATHOLIC Standardized Elementary Dress Code

Niagara Catholic has a standardized dress code for students in all of our Catholic elementary schools. All students wear navy blue bottoms and navy blue or white shirts.

OUR DRESS CODE COLOURS

Tops

At a minimum, every student is required to wear one of the following:

- Navy or white Oxford shirt (short or long sleeve) or;
- Navy or white collared shirt (short or long sleeve) or;
- School-designed spirit wear

The elementary standardized dress code shirt must be plain (no logos or advertising) and buttoned in a respectable manner. Visible t-shirts worn under the elementary standardized dress code top must be either navy blue or white.



Bottoms

At a minimum, every student is required to wear one of the following:

- Navy sweat pants (Kindergarten - Grade 3) or;
- Navy pants (capri, cargo, denim, kobe or corduroy) or;
- Navy skirts, skirts or dresses or;
- Navy walking shorts.

Only knee-length shorts, skirts or dresses are permitted. All clothing must be in good repair. Grade 8 students have the option to wear grey secondary uniform pants.



Shoes

For health and safety reasons, running shoes with a full back and closed toe are the recommended footwear. Parents/guardians should provide a pair of indoor shoes for physical education and indoor wear. Socks must be worn with the elementary standardized dress code pants or shorts at all times.

Nurturing **Souls** & Building **Minds**

Electronics

The Electronic communication Systems Policy states that cell phones or smart phones, tablets, laptops, audio or video recording devices are eligible for use by students in all Niagara Catholic Elementary schools (Grades 6-8) **as approved only by staff for instructional or co-instructional purposes**. The expectation is that students will use NCDSB's electronic communication systems for educational purposes, to enhance learning through responsible access to global information and communication. Students who carry cell phones when travelling to and from school, for safety reasons, are reminded they are not allowed to use their cell phones to call or text home once they are on school property or during the school day/recess/lunch.

All cell phone must **remain off/silent** and **put away** during the school day unless noted by the school staff.

Students are asked to use the school student phone located in the office if they need to call home or are not feeling well.

We thank you in advance for your support in ensuring students stay safe from social media during the school day.

[School Cash online](#)

Payment for School Activities- School Cash Online

Parents/Guardians are asked to sign up for our convenient payment program - SCHOOLCASHONLINE. This is an excellent way to pay for student activities/lunches without sending in money to school.

To register, please go to:



SchoolCashOnline.com: Welcome

Why Use SchoolCash Online? Convenient Make secure payments 24/7 from the comfort of your home Easy To Use Online shopping with various payment methods Safe Your child won't be carrying cash or checks to and from school Saves Time Manage your school expenses and view payment history in one place

🔗 schoolcashionline.com

Lynx Water Bottles

We will continue to sell our Loretto Lynx 24- ounce reusable Sports Water bottles with our Loretto Lynx logo on it as well as a spot to write your child's name on it. Water bottles are BPA-free sports bottles that are made with a polyethylene (PET) material that's phthalate-free, non-toxic and lead-free. It features a twist-on lid with push/pull drinking spout. Its translucent bottle colour matches its lid color. Bottles can be purchased through School **Cash Online for \$8.00 each or 2 for \$14.00. We will begin selling as of mid September until late May.**



Reusable Water Bottles & Utensils

Please ensure that your child comes to school each day with a reusable water bottle. This will not only help keep our children hydrated but will also help our environment. We ask that if your child needs a fork or spoon to eat their snacks or lunch that you please place one in their lunch pails.

Niagara Nutrition Partners

Thank you to our Niagara Nutrition Partners for all their support this year. Each class has a bin and tongs filled with delicious and nutritious food items such as yogurt tubes, fruits, fruit bars, and individually baked goods. These items vary from day to day. All students are welcome to pick a snack to compliment their own snacks.



We also want to thank our families for donating to this great cause so we can continue to sustain and help maintain it throughout the year.

Please continue to help by donating through School Cash Online.

Items Left At School

We know it is the season when we have many student belongings at school like hats, mittens, sweaters, coats, indoor/outdoor shoes and boots at school. Often items are not labelled and it is hard to know who they belong to. We do have a lost and found for students to check in the vestibule in the main entrance to the school. Unfortunately, should items go missing and/or are lost when students have left them at school a reminder that we, the school, are not responsible for any lost items or items left at the school. We will do our best to help our students find their items. We ask that items are all labelled as many items are similar or from the same stores.

Toys at School

We remind all our students and parents that although toys are fun to play with during recess times, it is difficult to keep track of whose toys belong to whom. Often students bring and play with their toys during class time. We ask that you please consider not sending toys or labelling the toys and speaking to your child about when is an appropriate time to use them.

We also ask that student not bring additional equipment i.e footballs, basketballs to school as we provide some to all classes which assist with maintaining student safety.

Although students are encouraged **not to trade** playing cards of any kind i.e. Pokémon, we are not responsible for traded, lost or misplaced cards.

Thank you for your support

Pets on School Property

Parents, we kindly ask that your pets do not come on to school property at arrival and dismissal. Many of our areas are already congested with families at pick up and some of our families and students are a little uncomfortable.

We appreciate your support.

Niagara Region Health

Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter May 2024

Vision Health Month

Visual health is an important part of a child's overall health and well-being. Proper vision is important for a child's movement and coordination, independence, play and learning. If left untreated, vision problems may become serious and prevent a child from reaching their full potential.



A yearly eye exam is **FREE** – the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) covers the cost of an eye exam every 12 months for children up to the age of 19 with a valid OHIP card. [Find an eye doctor near you.](#)

Also, contact an eye doctor if you see **ANY** of these signs:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Squinting or holding objects close to the eyes | • One eye that turns out or in |
| • Blinking often | • Rubbing, tearing, itchy or burning eyes |
| • Turning or tilting the head to the side often | • Reporting blurry or double vision |
| • Covering or closing one eye | • Reporting headaches, nausea or eye strain |

For more information on vision screening, please visit <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/schools/vision-screening.aspx>.

Mental Health Week 2024: A Call to be Kind

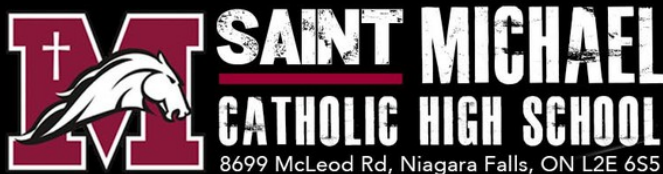
Showing compassion toward others can have a huge impact on someone's life. Mental Health Week in Canada runs from May 6 to 12, and this year's theme is focussed on the healing power of compassion. One of the most important ways that we can demonstrate compassion is through active listening without judgment. Actively listening can create a safe space for people to share their thoughts and feelings. You can do this by avoiding interrupting or dismissing their experiences.



Let's all learn to be more present, attentive, and empathetic.

- [Explore how compassion connects us all](#)
- [Learn to safely support someone struggling with their mental health](#)

#CompassionConnects #MentalHealthWeek



8699 McLeod Rd, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6S5

- MIND
- BODY
- SPIRIT

We are a proud member of the Saint Michael Highschool Family of Schools



Loretto Catholic Elementary School

Climbing Mountains Together In Faith



@LorettoFalls

May 2024



lorettocatholicnf



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Day 3	2 Day 4	3 Day 5	4
Supervision begins at 8:35 a.m., we ask that students not enter grounds prior to this time. Students are to enter using grade/class specific doors only.		The month of May is Speech and Hearing Awareness		Water Festival Gr 4's	Track and Field at Oakes Park GR 4-8 Public Library visit- 1D Gr 4-8 will receive ice cream on Monday	St. Thomas More 5pm Mass
5 St. Thomas More 5pm Mass	6 Day 1 Dental Fluoride Treatment- JK& SK	7 Day 2 Freezies on sale \$2.00 full/\$1.00 half Pickle ball -Gr 4P & 4PAam/Gr 4 5Gpm	8 Day 3 Support Staff Appreciation Day Catch the Spirit Award Pickle ball -5/6L-am& 5/6B& 6G-pm	9 Day 4 World Catholic Education Day	10 Day 5 Crowning of Mary- gym @1:30- families welcome Popcorn Day	11 St. Thomas More 5pm Mass
Catholic Education & Mental Health Week						
12 Happy Mother's Day	13 Day 1 Kinder-Science with St. Michael HS	14 Day 2 Public Library - 3/4P June Lunches open Clubs & Sports photos Freezies on sale \$2.00 full/\$1.00 half Pickle ball- 6M- pm	15 Day 3 New Kinder Family Orientation & Bus Ride @ 5:30-6:15 Pickle ball -7G & 7V-am 8M-pm	16 Day 4 Public Library visit Gr 8's	17 Day 5 Out of dress code Black & Yellow Day	18 St. Thomas More 5pm Mass
19 St. Thomas More 5pm Mass	20 Victoria Day No School	21 Day 1 Freezies on sale \$2.00 full/\$1.00 half	22 Day 2 Gr 3's Pioneer Trip June Lunch orders close	23 Day 3 Pickle ball -Gr 8C-am 7G&7FS -pm	24 Day 4 Out of dress code- Jersey/Sports/Club day	25 St. Thomas More 5pm Mass
26 St. Thomas More 5pm	27 Day 5 Year End GR 1 & 2 Trip	28 Day 1 Grade 3 EQAO Freezies on sale \$2.00 full/\$1.00 half CSC Meeting in @6pm	29 Day 2 Grade 3 EQAO	30 Day 3 Grade 6 EQAO	31 Day 4 Grade 6 EQAO	
					National Accessible Week May 26- June 1st	

Loretto Catholic Elementary School is proud to be a part of the Saint Michael Catholic Family of Schools



Ms. Spadafora