

# St. Nicholas Catholic - May

Home of the Tigers!

Please remember school starts 8:35 a.m. After that time a late slip is needed.

## St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

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**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

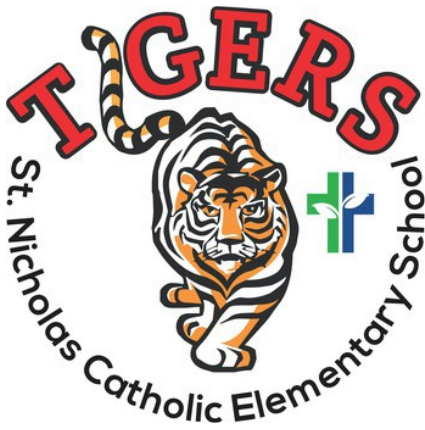
Superintendent: Mrs. Forsyth-Sells

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

**Email:** [st.nicholas@ncdsb.com](mailto:st.nicholas@ncdsb.com)

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

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



## Called By Name: Hear my Voice

Reflection #9

God loves to involve us in His plans to lead people to heaven. He often uses the weakest to lead the strong. Sometimes God speaks to us through other people. But, have you considered that God could use you to bring His message to others? What have you done today to share the love of God with those around you? Spend some time with God today asking Him to help you share His love to those in most need of it.



## School Home and Parish

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

Weather pending, we walk to church once a month for mass with Father Ben or Father Paul, 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:

May 16th: thank you to Mrs. Rathee and her Empower class who will be celebrating with Father Ben and Father Paul.

Final mass of the school year will be on June 20th in the afternoon in our gym.

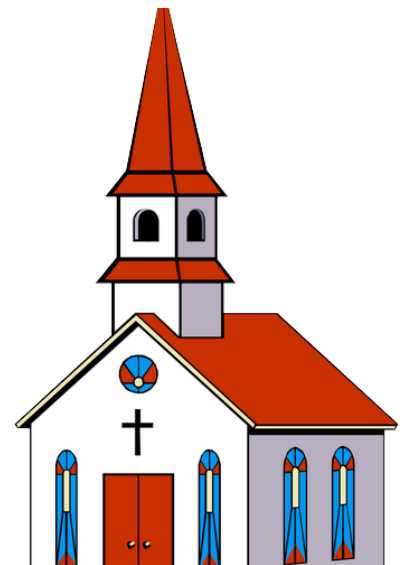
Grade 8 Confirmation: Sunday, May 19th at the 11:30 a.m. mass. Please note, this is a date change.  
Grade 2 Sacrament of First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday, May 4th at the 4:30 p.m. mass.

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 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.

**Catholic Education Week: We Are Called to Love May 5th to May 10th**



As a Catholic Community, we see the link between our faith and mental health. This year's Catholic Education Week and Mental Health Week theme is, *"We are called to love."*



The theme for Catholic Education Week 2024 was inspired by the following considerations:

- With joyful anticipation of the Jubilee Year of 2025, we are inspired by Pope Francis announcing the theme of *"Pilgrims of Hope."* With open hearts of love, we can continue to *"fan the flame of hope"* for a bright future.
- On the fifth anniversary of Renewing the Promise, we celebrate that Catholic Education is centred on our Christian call to love. This love permeates how we live in the world and as we act with love, we build a better future. As Pope Francis stated in 2023, *"He wants us to be artisans of a new history, weavers of hope, builders of the future, peacemakers."*
- The theme of the synod, *"Enlarge the Space of Your Tent,"* invites us to listen in love, to be a healing presence to one another and to strengthen relationships.
- In his visit to Canada last summer, Pope Francis gave us hope for our continued work for Truth and Reconciliation. Through prayer and a commitment to love, stronger bonds are forming and a new way forward is emerging.
- Catholic Education Week comes at the same time as Mental Health Awareness Week. Through love and compassion, we continue to support each other's wellbeing. God is love and we are always called to live out this love.
- In our continued work for Equity and Inclusion in Catholic schools, a focus on love reminds us that all God's children are loved unconditionally.

There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week and Mental Health Week:

Day 1: As people of hope / Dans l'espérance

Day 2: As people of faith / Dans la foi

Day 3: As people of mercy / Avec compassion

Day 4: As people of justice / Dans la justice

Day 5: As people of joy / Dans la joie

Every year, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) provides our Catholic schools with a resource kit to help schools prepare for Catholic Education Week. Using these resources, as well as School Mental Health Ontario's website and resources, we have prepared a series of activities, which will highlight how the students and staff at our school are being Called to love together.

Please come and visit your child(ren)'s classroom on Friday, May 10th from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and experience what the class has been working on during Catholic Education Week. We hope to see many of you during our school's open house.

### **Catch the Spirit Award Recipient**

A heartfelt congratulations goes out to Lincoln McGuire who is our 2024 Catch the Spirit Award recipient. Lincoln is a community minded young man who has been helping those less fortunate for many years. In 2021 Lincoln established the Lincoln Care Kits and has supplied many children in need with backpacks filled with school supplies and teddy bears. In 2022, Lincoln extended these



kits to help the young boys and girls from the Ukrainian. These backpacks included colouring books, crayons, maple lollipops and many other items that would help to support our incoming friends.

In 2021 the YMCA recognized Lincoln with their Peace medal for his support and efforts in collecting 500 winter gloves and hats for our community's less fortunate.

After taking a little break, Lincoln is now looking for his next endeavour - volunteering with the Cathedral of St. Alexandria.

Lincoln will be receiving this well deserved award during our Awards of Excellence evening which takes place the evening of May 8th at Brock University.

Congratulations once again to Lincoln. What a Tiger!

## **St. Nicholas Catholic Student Senate**

What is a Student Senate?

As per policy 100.6.2, the Elementary Student Senate provides a forum for student servant leadership, the exchange of ideas, discussion, consultation, peer mentorship and communication through its Co-Chairs to the Secondary Student Senate, the Student Trustees on the Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Director of Education.

Congratulations and thank you to our St. Nicholas Catholic Student Senate members: Bryar V., who is our outgoing, graduating member, Phoenix A., who is our appointed member for next year, and Tai'yha H.L. who is our newly elected senate member for the 2024-2025 school year. All three members attended the final Student Symposium for this school year on April 30th at Club Roma. Phoenix and Tai'yha will proudly represent St. Nicholas Catholic next year during all Family of School meetings that will take place at Denis Morris Catholic throughout the year.

## **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 <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). Use your new login information to access your account. 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.

### Arriving on Time:

Please try your hardest to arrive to school on time, at 8:35 a.m. Arriving late causes disruptions in the classroom and often times means trying to catch up on what was said regarding the day's events.

Please also remember, if you are late to see Mrs. Winstanley for a late-slip before going to class.  
Thank you

## Hot Lunches

Sub Day - May 10th

Last day to order for subs Tuesday, May 7th

Pizza Day - May 31 st

Last day to order pizza Wednesday, May 29th



## Catholic School Council: Krispy Kreme Doughnuts for Sale



Delicious, sugary, fluffy, melt in your mouth Krispy Kreme doughnuts will once again available for sale during the end of May. Sale will begin on Friday, May 17th and will run until Friday, June 14th. Doughnuts will be delivered for those who have ordered on Monday, June 24th in the afternoon. Cost will be \$12.00/dozen and purchases can be made through school cash on-line. All money raised by this fundraiser will go towards school technology. Thank you for your support with this tasty fundraiser.

## St. Catharines Public Library Visits

Once again students are able to enjoy visiting the downtown library to borrow books and to participate in library learning activities. During our last visit in June, our students will be made aware of the library's summer programs and how students and their families can register for them.



Don't have a library card? No problem. A library card can be issued in one of two ways:

- 1) Parents, please ask your teacher for a hard copy form, complete it and return it to school by Wednesday, May 8th, or
  - 2) Parents are welcome to submit library card requests online by Wednesday, May 8th: <https://www.myscpl.ca/myscpl/request-card>. Please indicate the school and teacher.
- In doing so and in meeting the above stated deadline, all new cards will be available for pickup at our upcoming May visit.



## Sports Corner...

Mrs. Diemer, Mrs. Rathee and Mr. Boland were so proud of their Junior Girls' and Boys' Basketball teams that played at St. Denis Catholic in a tournament on April 17th and 18th, respectively. Both teams gave it their all, worked so hard and cheered each other on. Thanks to all for their hard-work and dedication to the team. Congratulations to Marri L., Nevaeha C., Sariah D., Tai'yha H.L., Brandy M., Valentinna D.P., Maya Q., Kristyn A., Keisy E. C., Miah S. And to Andy L., Deavoi H., Damon C., Billy, C.D., Daniel C.S., Baraka M., Gabriel M., Mason S., Devantae S. and Bryan U.



A special thanks to the parents that drove our team to the tournament, Mr. Lavigne and Mr. McGean.

On Deck

Next up will be Girls' and Boys' Intermediate Soccer followed by Track and Field for grades 4 and up.

## Track and Field Friday, May 24th: Niagara Olympic Club

Track and Field will be taking place on Friday, May 24th for our students in grades 4 to 8. All students will be bussed to the Niagara Olympic Club on Louth St. for the days event and will return to the school prior to dismissal.

Students, please dress appropriately in outdoor sports attire. Ensure you have a hat, extra sunscreen and a lot of food, water and snacks to get you through the day. The concession stand will be open and will be run by the club, however there is no guarantee that the club will not run out of items.

Parents/Guardians, please ensure that you park in the lot off of Vera St. and not in the DSBN Academy's parking lot.

As well, it is requested that **dogs not be brought** onto the Niagara Olympic Club's property,.

## Kindergarten Registration is Still Open

We had a very successful Kindergarten Open House last month, and we are still accepting Kinder registrations for the 2024-2025 school year.



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.

## Kindergarten Welcome Night For Our Incoming Tigers

For those families who have registered their cubs for Kindergarten Year 1 for the 2024-2025 school year, we will be hosting a Kindergarten Welcome Night on Tuesday, May 28th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Invitations have been recently mailed out.



Looking forward to welcoming our 2035 Graduates!

## Summer School

Summer School is now open for students in Grade 8 going into Grade 9. Information has already been sent to all parents/guardians via Board Messenger.

### 2024 Summer School Grade 8 Flyer

[Download](#)

964.0 KB



## 2024 E-Learning Geo-Civics Grade 8 Flyer

[Download](#)

805.0 KB

## Public Health: May's Newsletter

### Public Health Newsletter for Families

[Download](#)

285.0 KB

## Call For Nominations: Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) Membership 2024-2025

The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee acts as an advisory committee to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the Board and school levels in order to build strong Catholic identity and community, nurture the distinctiveness of Catholic Education, and improve student achievement and well-being for all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is seeking to appoint up to three community representatives and to fill the available parent/guardian positions on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee for the 2024-2025 school year.

Please see the three attachments below.

Thank you for your continued support of parent involvement in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

### Parent Involvement NCPIC Nominations 2024-2025.pdf

[Download](#)

194.0 KB

### Call for Nominations NCPIC Parents and Guardians 2024-2025.pdf

[Download](#)

227.8 KB

### NCPIC Community Representative 2024-2025.pdf

[Download](#)

172.3 KB

## **EQAO for Grade 3 and 6 will be held the week of May 21st to the week of June 6th**

Who We Serve and What We Do

### **Supporting student learning is our driving force**

- EQAO is a board-governed agency of the Ministry of Education that supports student learning and public accountability in Ontario's education system by assessing all students at key stages of their educational journey.
- EQAO offers independent data in relation to the learning expectations outlined in *The Ontario Curriculum*.
- EQAO is committed to anti-racism, diversity, equity and inclusion throughout its work.

EQAO's data are an important indicator of student learning that add to the available knowledge about how Ontario students are doing, and help Ontario's education sector with improving student achievement and well-being at the individual, school, school board and provincial levels. The agency supports parents and guardians, policymakers, other Ontarians and the education community at large in understanding, analyzing and appropriately using its data for improvement. The agency continually strives to enhance its high-quality large-scale assessment program. Parent information for Grade 3 and 6 students can be found below:

### **Ministry of Education: Parent's Guide to Ontario's Education System**

The Ministry of Education is pleased to announce the launch of the Parent's Guide to Ontario's Education System. This new resource will provide parents with helpful information that supports them to have a stronger role and actively participate in their children's education. The guide covers a number of subjects such as knowing how their child is doing in school, learning about suspension and expulsion processes, attending a school council meeting or parent involvement committee meeting, and knowing about specialized supports to help all children succeed. This initiative is part of the government's recent efforts to increase transparency and accountability in our school system.

The full guide can be found at [www.Ontario.ca/educationguide](http://www.Ontario.ca/educationguide).

The attached promotional flyers available in 10 different languages (English, French, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Punjabi, Tagalog, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese and Hindi) include a QR code that links to the full guide.

Thank you for your continued support of parent involvement in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

#### **Parent Involvement Promotional Flyers.pdf**

[Download](#)

2.1 MB

### **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

[Download](#)

677.8 KB

## 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.

### Happy Mother's Day

To all of our wonderful and beautiful Mothers, Step-Mothers, Grandmothers and Maternal Caregivers,

Happy Mother's Day. May your day be filled with love - and everyone doing everything for you!!

*Mom*

*It' so amazing what a little word can do.*

*It fills our hearts with warmth and love  
and lasts a lifetime through.*

*Happy Mother's Day*





Remember there is no school Monday, May 20th: Victoria Day Weekend

**Jacqueline Watson**

Jacqueline is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

