



St. Joseph NEWS

We are proud to be a part of the Lakeshore Catholic and St. Michael Family of Schools.

June 2024

We are all called by name to grow with God!



June Reflection:

Have you ever tried talking to someone in another room? It can be difficult to hear what the other person is saying because of all the walls and obstacles in the way. Sometimes we put obstacles up that make it hard for us to hear God's voice. God never moves away from us, but we can turn away from Him. Even still, God is never far from us. He loves us and wants to lead us back home. One of God's ways of removing these obstacles is by forgiving us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The words we hear from the priest are the words of Jesus: "I absolve you of your sins." Let us give thanks to God for His mercy and take advantage of this great gift of God's forgiveness.

It's June - already! It is hard to believe that yet another year is almost over. Words cannot express how thankful I, along with the entire staff, are for the endless support from students, families and the entire Stevensville community. Pope Francis stated, *"the home represents the most precious human treasures, that of encounter, that of relations among people, different in age, culture and history, but who live together and together help one another to grow. For this reason, the "home" is a crucial place in life, where life grows and can be fulfilled, because it is a place in which every person learns to receive love and to give love."* Thank you to everyone, for making St. Joseph, a place we can call 'home'.

As we look back upon all the blessings of this school year, we are grateful for the commitment, the compassion shared and the work of the entire St. Joseph family. To our students, thank you for entrusting us throughout your journey in Catholic education. Seeing the world through your eyes is a rewarding challenge! Our appreciation is extended to all school and parent volunteers, who gave so freely of their time in so many different ways. Thank you to Father Stewart from St. Joseph Parish for celebrating Mass with us throughout the year and visiting our classrooms. To the entire staff, thank you for all that you do!

Our challenge now is to take all the wisdom, graced moments, cherished memories, and new learning from this year into the summer. May we grow closer to God next year as we journey together as a faith family, a faith community.

Blessings to all our St. Joseph families! Mrs. Walsh

A Fathers Day Prayer:

God bless all the fathers in the world. Father we ask that You guide them to be good role models and loving to their children. We also ask that You help them to be a father like You are.

Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way. Amen



News and Events for June

- June 3rd - 6th - Camp Medeba for Gr 7/8
- June 5th - ALL Food Orders Close for June
- June 7th - PA Day **NO** School
- June 10th - Year Book Orders Close
- June 12th - GR 4/5 & 5/6 Year end trip to Empire Sports Complex
- June 13th - NCAA Track & Field
- June 16th - Father's Day
- June 17th - St. John's Conversation Park - Gr 5/6
- June 18th - St. John's Conservation Park - Gr 4/5
3 - Pitch Baseball at Vale Centre, Port Colborne
- June 19th - St. John's Conservation Park - Gr 3
- June 20th - St. John's Conservation Park - Gr 1/2
- June 20th - First Day of Summer
- June 21st - Play Day
- Week of June 24th - Report Cards Available on the Parent Portal
- June 24th - Grade 8 Graduation
- June 25th - Mass at Church - 9:30 am
- Kinder Celebration of Learning
- June 26th - Knowledgehook Awards Celebration / Math Arcade /
FREE Pizza and ICE CREAM
- June 27th - Last Day of School



Warm Weather Is Here

With the hopes of sunny, warm weather ahead, please take a moment to review the following warm weather reminders with your child(ren). Please apply sun-screen and bug repellent before they leave to come to school. Hats should be worn outdoors, and refillable water bottles would be greatly appreciated.

For safety concerns, running shoes are preferred in the school yard. Flip flops and sandals are not appropriate for active running children. Please continue to ensure that your child is dressed in the Elementary School Dress Code clothing:

- White or navy shirts with a collar. No halter tops or thin strapped sundresses.
- Shorts (just above the knee) and bottoms are navy blue.



Volunteers

If you wish to volunteer at St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School (School excursions, Volunteer driving, Volunteering at school-run events), we will welcome you with open arms. Important to note, all volunteers within Niagara Catholic are required to submit to the school a **Vulnerable Sector Check prior to volunteering**. Please contact the school to get your letter of application from Mrs. Walsh and if you have any questions and need further assistance. Summer is a perfect time to get your Vulnerable Sector Check





From Public Health

Check your Immunization Records and Travel Health Notice

If you are planning to travel, add these actions to your planning checklist to help make your trip a healthy one.

- 1) Make sure you and your children are up-to-date with vaccinations.**
 Staying up-to-date with vaccinations is important all year round. It is especially important before travelling.
 - When travelling, you may be at risk for vaccine preventable illnesses. [Check your immunization records](#) or talk to your health care provider.
 - Learn more about [where to get vaccinated](#). Remember to report vaccinations to Public Health for children 0 – 17 years of age. Report [online](#) or call 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425
- 2) Review the Public Health Agency of Canada's [travel health notices](#).** These notices outline potential health risks to Canadian travelers and ways to help reduce them. Stay informed as you plan your travel.



Ticks

Ticks, mosquitos and rabid animals can be a risk as the weather warms up.

- Mosquitoes transmit the [West Nile virus](#) to humans after becoming infected by feeding on the blood of birds, which carry the virus. To learn how to protect your family, visit [Reduce the Risk of West Nile Virus - Niagara Region](#).
- The black- legged (deer) tick transmits [Lyme disease](#) to humans after becoming infected by feeding on the blood of small animals which carry the disease. To learn how to protect you and your pets, visit [Protect and Prevent Ticks - Niagara Region](#).
- [Rabies](#) is transmitted through saliva from bites and scratches, entering an open cut or wound, or from saliva contacting a mucous membrane, such as those in the mouth, nasal cavity or eyes.



For more information and [tick identification](#), individuals can contact a Duty Officer directly at 905-688-8248 ext. 7590. General tick information can be found on our [Niagara Region Public Health website](#).

Head safety – for bikes and other wheels

With warmer weather and summer break just around the corner, more kids will be outdoors taking part in activities, such as biking, skate boarding or roller blading. A [properly fitted and correct helmet](#) can cut the risk of a serious head injury by up to 85%. This means four out of five brain injuries could be prevented if every cyclist wore a helmet.

- Bike [helmets](#) should be replaced after five years **or** a crash where the cyclist has hit their head
- It's not safe to use a [second-hand helmet](#)
- Baseball hats, big hair clips and headphones should never be worn under a helmet

The human skull is just approximately one centimeter thick, so it is important to remind children to always protect their head when being active. To make sure a helmet fits right, follow the 2V1 Rule (image courtesy of [Parachute Canada](#))



Food Literacy

Want to get your kids excited about food? Food literacy is more than just what's on your plate. It's about loving everything to do with food! Picture your child confidently picking out fresh veggies, cooking healthy meals, and knowing how to keep food safe and budget-friendly.

Food isn't just about eating—it's about enjoying different kinds of food, tasting delicious flavors, and making special memories with family.

Here are some fun things you can do with your kids this summer to help them learn more about food:

- Kitchen Adventures:** Cook together, try new recipes, and let your kids help with chopping, stirring, and tasting.
- Grocery Store Scavenger Hunt:** Turn a trip to the grocery store into a game where you look for foods from different groups or colors.
- Grow Your Own Garden:** Start a small garden and teach your kids about planting, taking care of plants, and harvesting their own veggies.
- Food Tasting Party:** Have a party where your kids can try new fruits, veggies, cheeses, and talk about how they taste and feel.
- Cultural Food Tours:** Explore foods from around the world through virtual or real tours, learning about new flavors and cooking styles.
- Visit a [Local Market](#):** Take a trip to a farmers' market, where your kids can meet the vendors and learn about where food comes from.

These activities not only teach kids about food but also make them love cooking, eating, and discovering new foods!



Growing with God! Growing with God! Growing with God! Growing with God!

Ukrainian
Russian
Arabic
Spanish
Spanish
Italian
Arabic
Polish



SUMMER SCHOOL 2024 INTERNATIONAL AND INDIGENIOUS LANGUAGES ELEMENTARY ALL CLASSES IN PERSON

JULY 2-26
9:30AM - NOON



*Study language,
cultural heritage, and traditions!*

| ST. CATHARINES HOLY CROSS Catholic Secondary School | GRIMSBY BLESSED TRINITY Catholic Secondary School | NIAGARA FALLS SAINT MICHAEL |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RUSSIAN • UKRANIAN (PM) • SPANISH • ARABIC • ITALIAN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPANISH • POLISH | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARABIC • CHINESE • GUJARATI • HINDI (PM) • ITALIAN • JAPANESE • PUNJABI • SPANISH • URDU (PM) |

NOTES:

- IILE Program is only available to students who are currently enrolled in Grades JK-8
- Students must have an Ontario Education Number (OEN) to register for this program
- AM classes are filled on a "First Come" basis • PM classes for some languages "may" be formed if required



Register online at www.summerschoolniagara.ca

Gujarati
Chinese
Italian
Hindi
Punjabi
Japanese
Urdu
Spanish