



CANADIAN MARTYRS NEWS

September 2024

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



PRAYER TO BEGIN A SCHOOL YEAR

God of wisdom and might,
We praise You for the wonder of our being,
For mind, body, and spirit.
Be with our children as they begin a new
school year.
Bless them and their teachers and staff.
Give them strength and grace as their
bodies grow;
As they search for understanding;
And peace and zeal to their hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Canadian Martyrs Crusaders Families,
Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! We
are very excited to start this school year with
our Canadian Martyrs Crusaders family. We
hope and trust that you have enjoyed a
relaxing and rejuvenating summer break
with family and friends.

As you are all aware, this promises to be a
year filled with extraordinary opportunities
and challenges, as we continue to strive to
advance the mind, body and soul of all of
our students. We embark on this journey
together as we make a commitment to
provide engaging, meaningful and spiritual
experiences certain to engage all Crusaders!

As we embark on a new school year, we
would like to recognize and extend a special
thanks to the caretakers and all staff for
preparing our school for 2024-2025. Our
school year will focus on the health and
safety of all, supporting and improving
student achievement, and building our
Catholic faith with the support of our families
and St. Alfred Catholic Church.

We look forward to a very positive and
productive year together. We highly value
the triad connection between home, parish
and school. We value your parental support
in your child's education, as your active
participation is key to the success for your
child.

May God bless each of you as we begin the
2024-2025 school year. We look forward to
working with you as God guides our steps
through the journey of another successful
school year at Canadian Martyrs Catholic
Elementary School.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mrs. L. Incaviglia-Principal

Ms. W. Wilson -Vice Principal

BALANCED SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE

Supervision Begins at 8:15 a.m.
Entry 8:30am
Nutrition Break #1 10:40am-11:20am
Nutrition Break #2 12:40pm-1:20pm
Dismissal 2:50 p.m.



The school yard will be open in the morning and all students will be expected to start the day outside. For your child's safety, students are not to arrive to school earlier than 8:15 a.m.

SAFE ARRIVAL

To report your child absent 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.

COMMUNICATION

Canadian Martyrs is rooted in Catholic and Christian values. Our goal is to create a safe, kind and loving environment for all who work, learn, and assist with our school community.

We have moved away from paper agendas and we will be using digital forms of communication. Your child's teacher will confirm the best way to communicate with them.

Aggressive or hostile behaviour or language toward, staff, students or our community helpers will not be tolerated. While we welcome feedback, concerns and opinions it is the expectation that all staff, students, parents, guardians and community helpers communicate their needs and concerns with one another in a respectful and peaceful manner whether through email, on the phone or face-to-face. Adherence to this expectation is vital in order to create a community which can solve problems and help one another achieve success.

We are proud to be a part of the Holy Cross Family of Schools.

STAFF LIST 2024 - 2025

Mrs. L. Hebert	Kindergarten
Mrs. E. DiMaria	ECE
Mrs. R. Warner	Kindergarten
Mrs. R. Sokal	ECE
Mrs. M. De Angelis	Kindergarten
Ms. T. Rucinski	ECE
Mrs. A. Sciarra	Grade 1
Ms. P. Vandenbraak	Grade 1
Ms. S. Ricciuto	Grade 1
Mrs. S. Krawchuk	Grade 2
Mrs. S. DeLuca	Grade 2
Mrs. K. Napoli	Grade 2
Ms. L. Bogusat	Grade 3
Ms. A. Riganelli	Grade 3
Mrs. M. Lacroix	Grade 3/4
Mrs. A. Florov	Grade 4
Ms. L. Sciamonte	Grade 4/5
Mrs. L. Riganelli	Grade 5
Mrs. A. Di Paola	Grade 6
Mrs. C. Venneri	Grade 6
Mr. K. Kelly	Grade 7
Miss A. Roe	Grade 7
Mr. N. Carile	Grade 8
Mr. P. Sroka	Grade 8
Mrs. S. Borg-Holjak	ERT
Mr. J. Tilley	French
Ms. D. Barone	French/PTM
Mrs. N. Mancus	PTM
Mrs. H. O'Shea	Itinerant Arts
Mrs. J. Penner	Library Technician
Ms. R. Ceccato	Educational Assistant
Mrs. A. Figliomeni	Educational Assistant
Ms. H. Gordon	Educational Assistant
Ms. S. Kocsis	Educational Assistant
Mrs. C. McIntyre	Educational Assistant
Mrs. V. Slootsky	Educational Assistant
Mrs. K. Stranges	Educational Assistant
Ms. R. Weekes	Educational Assistant
Ms. K. Witte	Educational Assistant
Ms. S. Yao	Educational Assistant
Ms. D. Rogers	Child Youth Worker
Mr. D. Witter	Caretaker
Ms. A. Moore	Secretary
Ms. L. Jones	Secretary
Ms. T. Pagano	Secretary
Mrs. W. Wilson	Vice-Principal
Mrs. L. Incaviglia	Principal

**STAY INFORMED. BE CONNECTED.**

Effective home and school communication is key to the growth and success of our entire Canadian Martyrs' family. In order to continue to build upon communication between home and school, please **provide us with an existing email address.** Through email, you will conveniently receive newsletters, calendars, event announcements and friendly reminders to keep you up to date and well informed.

PARENTS PLEASE CONSIDER:

Is My Child Completely Covered??

Accidents happen... Stay prepared! Get the financial protection your family needs. If your child is involved in an accident, whether at school or during non-school hours, *Insure My Kids* protects your family from the resulting expenses, which are not normally covered under your government health and group insurance plans. Brochures and applications will be sent home with your child. You can also get more information on the website: www.insuremykids.com

NEWSLETTER & CALENDAR

Canadian Martyrs' families are invited to access the Newsletter and Calendar online through the Niagara Catholic District School Board's website at

www.niagaracatholic.ca. Once on the website, click on the following tabs: **Schools / Elementary / Canadian Martyrs Newsletter / Calendar**

They will also both be emailed through our School Messenger system.

REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE

In an effort to promote and teach students about sustainability, we ask that all students bring a reusable water bottle to school each day that can be filled at one of our two hydration stations. Thank you for your co-operation and support for the environment.

**SCHOOL CASH ONLINE**

We are cashless. Families use School Cash Online to make payments or complete various forms. Setup your account at the following website:

<https://ncdsb.schoolcashionline.com>

If you setup an account in the previous school year that account will work for the new school year. The document called Become a SCO Member will give instructions to create a new School Cash Online account and information about that account.

PARKING LOT PROCEDURES

It is important for the safety of the entire Canadian Martyrs School Community that families abide by the procedures and rules of the parking lot when picking up and dropping off their child(ren).

The role of the staff is to ensure that students get to and from the buses or their parent/guardian safely. Those using the parking lot must follow the city by-laws and procedures set out by the school. Most importantly, we ask that you are patient when dropping off and picking up your child(ren). The parking lot is very busy, especially at the end of the day. When entering the parking lot, please REDUCE SPEED. Keep children close to you when walking through. It is very busy and we want to make sure everyone is safe.

If you are exiting your vehicle, you must park in a designated parking spot. Parking in the fire lane or blocking other vehicles is prohibited. If there are no spots available in the school's parking lot, you are to park your vehicle at the church across the street or the church next door to the school and walk to get your child(ren). It is very dangerous to use the exiting lanes of the parking lot to walk onto the school property so please use the sidewalk on the west side of the school or walk on the grass.

Accessible Parking - The accessible parking spots in the school parking lot are intended only for those with a disabled parking permit. If you do not have a disabled parking permit, you are not to use the accessible parking spots for any reason. These spots cannot be used for dropping off students. These spots need to be open and available for those with a disabled parking permit.

Kiss and Ride – If you are dropping your child(ren) off at school in the morning, please use the Kiss and Ride lane. We ask drivers to please “kiss and drive” straight through the middle lane of our school lot to avoid blocking the arriving and departing busses. Do not let your child(ren) out of your vehicle until you are at the top of the lane where staff is present. It is very unsafe to have children weaving through the cars and buses in the parking lot so please follow the Kiss and Ride procedures. Please refrain from parking in the “No Stopping - Fire Route” area. Please respect the pylons placed in the parking lot. They have been placed there to protect our students who exit their vehicle in the middle lane and walk through the staff-supervised first lane to the safety of the school sidewalk.

Dismissal Procedures - All students grades 1 to 8 will be dismissed at 2:50 p.m. from the east field at the front of the school next to the parking lot. Parents/guardians are asked to wait on the field to receive their child(ren). Kindergarten students are to be picked up in the Kindergarten play area. When crossing with the crossing guards, please remind your child(ren) to remain between the lines of the crosswalk to ensure their safety.

We ask that parents/guardians and visitors exercise caution when driving in our very busy parking lot. Please ensure that everyone who drops off/picks up your child (for example, family member, friend, grandparent, etc.) is aware of these drop-off and pick-up procedures.

Thank you for your continued focus on safety.

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

We will be having a **Meet the Teacher Night on Thursday, September 12th from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.** This is an opportunity for parents/guardians to come into the school and meet their child's teacher(s) and tour the school. We will also have food trucks! More information will be forthcoming. We look forward to seeing you then!

ANAPHYLAXIS

We currently have several children registered at Canadian Martyrs with peanut/tree nut allergies. Please ensure that you are packing a nut safe lunch and snacks for your child. We thank you for your cooperation in this very serious matter.

FIRE AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS

Fire drills will be conducted at a minimum of **six times** throughout the duration of the school year; three per term at various times of the day. Lockdown drills will be conducted at a minimum of **two times** throughout the duration of the school year; one per term. The first lockdown drill will take place on September 18th. Thank you for your support and cooperation in ensuring the safety of all our students here at Canadian Martyrs.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Canadian Martyrs Catholic School Council is an advisory body that will encourage the active participation and faith formation of its members, supporting the triad of church, home and school, to improve student achievement and well-being of all students in our school community, and to enhance the accountability of the education system.

We will meet in person four times this school year. Our first meeting will be on **Monday, September 30th at 6:00pm** in our school library. Elections will be held during this meeting for a new executive. All parents/guardians are welcome to join us.

CELL PHONE USE FOR STUDENTS

As we continue to foster a safe and positive learning environment for all students, I would like to remind you of the new regulations regarding cell phone use that have been implemented in Ontario schools.

To minimize distractions and maximize learning, cell phones are only permitted during instructional time when they are being used for educational purposes as directed by the teacher. Outside of these times, students are expected to keep their phones turned off and stored away unless needed for documented learning needs and/or health related requirements. We kindly ask for your support in reinforcing this policy with your children and encouraging them to focus on their studies during school hours.

Your cooperation is essential in helping us maintain a healthy and respectful school environment. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these rules, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for your understanding and support

ELEMENTARY STANDARDIZED DRESS CODE

We look forward to seeing everyone looking sharp in their dress code clothing! Please review the following to ensure that your child is in proper dress code each day. If you require dress code clothing for your child, please call the office and we will provide you with gently used clothing items if they are available. Spirit wear for all students and personalized Grad Hoodies for grade 8 students are available again this year. All ordering is done through Maddalena Uniforms on their website maddalena-uniforms.com.

Shirts


- **All shirts must have a collar.** Navy blue or white oxford-style long-sleeved or short-sleeved shirt, polo-style long-sleeved or short-sleeved shirt.
- **All sweaters must be navy blue or white.**

Pants / Skirts

- **Navy blue sweatpants are permitted for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 only.**
- Navy blue pants - Dress, Cargo, Denim, Kobe, Corduroy style for all students.
- Navy blue skorts or dresses - length must be appropriate and modest. **Dresses must have a collar. If your child's dress does not have a collar, please ensure they have a collared shirt on underneath the dress.**
- Navy blue walking shorts or capris.
- Grade 8 students have the option of wearing grey secondary uniform pants.

Shoes

- We ask that parents/guardians please ensure that students come to school each day wearing appropriate and comfortable closed-toe footwear (i.e., running shoes with proper ankle support). Please send your child with indoor shoes as well to help keep our school clean.




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 (cape, cargo, denim, kobe or corduroy) or;
- Navy skorts, 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