



# St. Teresa of Calcutta Chronicle



**OCTOBER, 2024**

## Give Thanks...

For all blessings that are ours, for all our food, for lovely flowers,  
Give Thanks!

For trees that give us fruit to eat, for winter cold and summer heat,  
Give Thanks!

For Mother's love and Father's aid, for all the wonders God has made,  
Give Thanks!

For friends and toys with which to play, for restful night and joyous day,  
Give thanks!

May the almighty and merciful God bless and protect the St. Teresa of Calcutta Community.  
Amen.



## PA DAY

Just a reminder that **Friday October 11<sup>th</sup> 2024** is a PA Day for all elementary students. No school today!



## YARD SUPERVISION REMINDER



Just a reminder that as part of our continued entry procedures and to ensure students maximize curriculum instruction in our new 'Balanced Day' schedule we will continue to grant 'free entry' into the school starting at 8:25 a.m. St. Teresa of Calcutta staff will let students into the building at 8:25 a.m. Parents are reminded that students should not be at school earlier than 8:15 a.m. as there is no outside supervision at this time. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## FOOD DRIVE

Once again this year the students of St. Teresa of Calcutta will be organizing and collecting food for the St. Vincent De Paul Society for our Thanksgiving Food Drive. The food drive began on **Wednesday September 25<sup>th</sup>** and will conclude on **Friday October the 4<sup>th</sup>**. We are collecting non-perishable items to help those less fortunate in our community, who need our kindness and generosity more than ever. Please send your donations in a paper bag and we kindly ask that you check the expiration date on all food items. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and continued support and have a wonderful Thanksgiving.



## PAINT A PLOW competition



Last Fall, the Niagara Region extended an opportunity to select schools to participate in our first ever "Paint a Snowplow" contest. The Region delivered a snowplow to each participating school, along with paint, brushes, and tarps. Over the next two weeks, students, with support of their teachers, had the chance to turn these plows into works of art, expressing their creativity and school spirit through their designs. The criteria for judging included the quality of the artwork, its relevance to the community, and the spirit it embodies. The painted plows were then used throughout our winter season and the winners of the contest had the opportunity to name the plow truck for the season as well as have their plow be part of their community Christmas Parade.



I am proud to announce that St. Teresa of Calcutta Elementary School has been selected to participate in this event. The Plow will be dropped off at the school on Friday October 4<sup>th</sup> 2024 and we will assemble an intermediate team to begin the design and paint process.



### PICTURE DAY

**Monday, October 28th** will be Picture Day. Parents are reminded that all students must be in the standardized dress code. As we get closer to the date, more information will be communicated to you directly.

### TERRY FOX

On Friday September 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 the students of St. Teresa of Calcutta participated in the Terry Fox walk. Thanks to the students and parents, I am so happy to say that as a school we raised over \$555.00 to go towards cancer research.



### Opening/Thanksgiving Mass



On Thursday October 17<sup>th</sup> we will be having our Thanksgiving school mass in the gym celebrating with Father Richard. Mass will be at 10:00 a.m. for students in grades 1 to 8. Parents are welcome to attend.

### MUSIC NOTE

This year we are fortunate to start our 'Instrumental Music Program' with our grade 7 & 8 students. Mrs. Pietrangelo will be here two days a week delivering the program to all of our students in our new Music Room. Throughout the year students will be exploring various elements of music. Some highlights include:

Kindergarten classes- finding the beat, singing, and playing rhythm instruments

Primary classes- playing/composing music with boomwhackers and handbells

Junior classes- playing glockenspiel, and playing/composing with body percussion

Intermediate classes- Instrumental Music Program



There has been much interest in school choir again this year. Practices have recently begun, and the STC choir has been invited to sing at various locations throughout the community this year.

The students of St Teresa of Calcutta are also looking forward to presenting a school wide K-6 Christmas Musical on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2024. Stay tuned for further details.

### COBS FUNDRAISER



On **Monday October 14<sup>th</sup>** we begin our Cobs Bread Fundraiser. The “Loaf per Month” Card entitles you to get one complimentary loaf of bread at COBS Bread Ridley Square every month for a year! (12 loaves in total). This Card is only Redeemable at the COBS Bread Ridley Square location in St. Catharines. All proceeds will go directly back to the school. This is a good time to get an early start on your Christmas shopping!

### TUCK SHOP:



As per the request of our newly elected Student Council who provides ‘Voice’ for the student body, Tuck Shop is set to return this October. Just a reminder to parents that this is a student driven initiative in conjunction with school administration. The council has decided this year to go with ‘TUCK SHOP TUESDAYS’. Our first Tuck Shop will be **Tuesday October 22<sup>nd</sup>** where we will be selling ice cream & popcorn for \$2.00. All Tuck Shops will be noted on the monthly calendar.

### HOT FOOD DAYS



We had our first hot lunch day on **Friday September the 13<sup>th</sup> 2024** with our new balanced day schedule. Just a reminder that hot lunches will be served during the first 10:55 to 11:15 a.m. nutrition break. We are currently in the process of adding new items to our rotation. We will continue to attempt to keep costs down while at the same time keeping the quality high. As part of our ECO initiative, we are continuing to avoid any items at this time that require plastic cutlery. Thank-you for your support!

### SPORTING NEWS



We are currently in full swing with our sports program at St. Teresa of Calcutta elementary school. During the month of October students from Grades 4 to 8 can join the cross country team. Our boys and girls Jr./Intermediate soccer teams have been practicing this month as well. Good luck to all of our athletes!

### A VISIT WITH THE TEACHER

The St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Elementary School Staff look forward to continued on-going and productive communication with all parents and guardians. If, at any time, you have a question regarding the progress of your child, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher via e-mail, the agenda or a phone call. We are never too busy. We thank all of those families that were able to attend our Meet the Teacher/Open House Night. We had an amazing turn out.



### BUS BEHAVIOUR

We are very pleased that the majority of our riders have been showing respectful behavior on the bus.

Just a reminder to parents and students that bus transportation is a privilege. Sharp drivers have the important responsibility to transport students safely. Students have the responsibility to abide by the expectations of the driver. *Behavior that compromise the safety of others, or interferes with the right to a relaxing, enjoyable journey, will be dealt with immediately.* Drivers have been made aware to issue reports as they see fit. Reports will then initiate the debriefing process with the student and/or parents. Disciplinary



action will be based on the situation. Suspension from bus transportation is one possible consequence. Please take some time to reinforce this message with your child.

## HALLOWE'EN



On Halloween there will be an out of dress code day for all students – as they are invited to wear either their costumes or orange and black clothing in the spirit of the day on **Thursday October 31<sup>st</sup> 2024**. Students are to come in costume from home in the morning. Parents will not be permitted to enter the building to assist with putting on costumes or accessories. There will be a parade outside of the school for our K to grade 3 students for parents to view in the morning. More details to follow. Costumes that portray inappropriate or violent characters and props such as swords, knives and guns, etc. are not consistent with our Catholic culture and are not to be worn or brought to school. Students are not allowed to bring in any candies or treats to hand out to others. Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

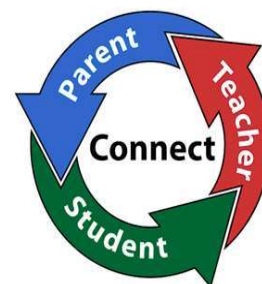
## SCHOOL LOCKDOWN PRACTICE

The simulated lockdown on **Tuesday September 10<sup>th</sup> 2024** allowed students and staff an opportunity to implement our School and Board Emergency Response Plan to ensure the safety of all students and staff should an emergency lockdown situation occur. During the hold and secure, staff members ensured that all students remained inside a classroom, gym and/or safe location until otherwise notified. All classrooms and exterior doors of the school will be locked, lights turned off and window coverings closed. Please note that at no time will students or staff of St. Teresa of Calcutta elementary school be in any potential threat and/or danger. We will do our utmost to provide advance notice to parent(s) and/or guardians of any upcoming School Lockdown practice dates.



## CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

On Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> 2024 the inaugural meeting of the St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School Council was held in person and our Chair was voted in. Our council meetings will usually be the last Tuesday of the month, at 6:00 pm in the library – if any parents would like to participate or volunteer or have any comments or questions please contact the school and speak to Mr. Morawek. The meetings for the Catholic School Council will be noted on the calendar monthly. Everyone is welcome.



## ELEMENTARY STANDARDIZED DRESS CODE

As you are aware, Niagara Catholic has adopted an Elementary Dress Code for students. Details regarding the Dress Code can be found on the Board's website or your child's agenda.

Highlights include the following:

At a minimum, every student is required to wear one (1) of the following items:

- Navy Blue sweat pants for students in Early Learning Kindergarten to Grade 3 or;
- Navy Blue Pants (Dress, Cargo, Denim, Kobe, Corduroy style permitted) or;
- Navy Blue Skorts or Dresses or
- Navy Blue Walking Shorts or Capris or;
- Grade 8 students have the option to wear grey secondary uniform pants. At a minimum, every student is required to wear one (1) of the following items;
- Navy Blue or White Oxford shirt (short or long sleeve) or;

- Navy Blue or White Polo shirt (short or long sleeve) or;
- **School designed spirit wear polo shirt/t-shirt or hoodie**

Running shoes are the recommended footwear and socks must be worn. Please remember that shirts are to be logo free.

## MEDICATIONS

The following procedures must be followed when a parent requests that a student be permitted to take medication at school:



1. No medication can be administered to students without the consent of a physician. This includes over-the-counter drugs as well as prescription medications.
2. All medications for students must be kept in the school's main office and will be administered there, unless the student wears medication on their person or specified to be kept in teacher's desk by parent/physician.
3. A Physician's Recommendation for Medication Form must be completed by the physician, detailing the method, amount and time schedule for taking the medication, and signed by the student's parents/guardians. New forms must be completed each school year.
4. Medication must be delivered to the school in the container dispensed by the pharmacy and the information on the label must coincide with the physician's order.
5. Persons administering the medication must record the date, time, and dosage on the student's medication record.
6. Students **MAY NOT CARRY ANY** medication at school, in their backpack, or in their lunch box. All medication must be kept in the Office. This includes inhalers, Aspirin, Tylenol, Advil, decongestants, antibiotics, etc.
7. Please inform us **IMMEDIATELY** if your child has a serious allergy or an anaphylactic condition. It is beneficial for the school to have 2 EpiPens if possible (one for the classroom and one for the office).

Please contact Mr. Kwinecki if you require further information.



***“One Family in Christ: Know, Love, Serve Him.”***

*“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through its charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”*