

St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School



Phone: 905 734 4659

January 2025

"We are proud to be part of the Notre Dame Catholic Family of Schools"

Principal: Mr. Paul Moccia

Superintendent: Mrs. Kim Kinney

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I hope that everyone has enjoyed the Christmas vacation and is well rested and prepared to return to the routines of school life. January is always a time of new beginnings and a time to start fresh with new resolutions for improvement.

The new year is also a time to reinforce good habits at school. It is imperative students arrive at school on time ready to begin the school day. Promptness is a quality needed throughout student's academic, professional and personal life. Student's arriving late results in valuable instructional time lost as well as interrupting classmates and teachers. The number one indicator of student success is time on task. The staff of St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School continues to work and strengthen the partnership with the home and parish to foster academic, social and spiritual growth.

Happy New Year Everyone!
Mr. Moccia

ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Happy New Year! Catholic School Council is gearing up for an exciting 2025.

Our next Catholic School council meeting will take place here at the school on **Tuesday, January 21st at 3:30 p.m. in the library. All are welcome to attend.**

To access the Catholic School Council meeting agenda/minutes, please visit:

- www.niagaracatholic.ca
- Click elementary schools/St. Augustine
- Click Catholic School Council, agenda/minutes

UPCOMING POPCORN DAYS

Our next popcorn days are scheduled for:

- **Wed, Jan 15 & Wed, Jan 29**

Orders can be made via School cash on line

STUDENT ABSENCES REMINDER

SAFE ARRIVAL ATTENDANCE REPORTING

**IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO BE ABSENT
FROM SCHOOL FOR ANY REASON THE
ABSENCE MUST BE REPORTED BY CALLING**

1 844 287 6287

OR VISIT

<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>

You can no longer call the school to report absences!! We must account for every child. Please make every effort to remember to contact the school via one of the above methods when your child is absent. The phone line and web site are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!

WINTER PLAYGROUND RULES

Parents should be advised that going out for recess during the Winter Season will be a rule rather than an exception. In extreme weather cases, children will remain indoors. Proper attire must be worn, i.e., boots, gloves, etc. With the number of students in our school, it is imperative that we all emphasize the dangers of snowball throwing.

Our outdoor play structures will be closed during winter due to safety concerns.

Please make sure your child(ren) are aware of the possible dangers of throwing snowballs at school. No one wants anyone seriously hurt. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated. The following playground rules are in effect for the Winter Season: No throwing of snowballs, no kicking, throwing snow or snowing other students. No breaking of others' forts.

Please be advised that students engaging in these types of behaviours will be dealt with immediately. If this behaviour continues, parents will be contacted and further consequences will come into effect.

GRADE 8 GRADUATION PHOTOS

Graduation photos for our Grade 8 students have been scheduled for **Thursday, January 16th**.

UPCOMING SPIRIT ASSEMBLY FRI, JAN 31

Our next scheduled Spirit Assembly has been scheduled for **Friday, January 31st at 2:30 p.m.** All are welcome to attend.

NOTRE DAME OPEN HOUSE TUES, JAN 14 6:30 PM

The Grade 8 open house for parents will be held at Notre Dame High School on **Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m.**

UPCOMING KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE WED, FEB 5 9-6PM

There will be an upcoming Kindergarten Open House here at St. Augustine school for new families registering for September 2025 on **Wednesday, February 5 from 9-6pm**. Here is some information for your consideration:

- Please use edsembli online registration to register your child(ren)
- Online registration system is accessed on the landing page of the Board website at www.niagaracatholic.ca by clicking on the Register tile.
- Online registration is available throughout the school year through the Board website.

UPCOMING PA DAY-FRI, JAN 17

There will be an upcoming Professional activity day for staff at St. Augustine Catholic Elementary school. Thus, there will be no school for students on this day.

FRENCH IMMERSION ON-LINE PRE-REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is proud to offer parents and students the opportunity to enroll in a French Immersion (FI) Program. This program is designed specifically for students whose first language is not French. French Immersion in the Niagara Catholic District School Board is an **optional** program.

All 5 French Immersion Catholic Elementary Schools will accept registrations for Grade 1 along with Kindergarten for September 2025.

Listed below are the designated elementary schools that provide the French Immersion Program:

-Notre Dame Catholic Elementary, Niagara Falls-Begins in Kindergarten

-Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary, Niagara Falls-Begins in Kindergarten

-Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary, St. Catharines-Begins in Kindergarten

-Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary, Welland-Begins in Kindergarten

-St. John Catholic Elementary, Beamsville-Begins in Kindergarten

TRANSPORTATION

All students enrolled in the French Immersion Program will be provided with transportation to their local Family of Schools designated French Immersion School site in accordance with the Board's Transportation of Student Policy #500.2. Designated Family of Schools French Immersion schools can be located at the following link www.niagaracatholic.ca

FRENCH IMMERSION ON-LINE OPEN PRE-REGISTRATION

- On-line open pre-registration window for students **new** to French Immersion in September 2024; **Monday, January 13th, 2025 at 7:30 a.m.** through to **Friday, January 31st, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.**
- Pre-registrations outside of this window will **not** be considered.
- There are a limited number of spots available for students wishing to enter the French Immersion Program.
- Pre-registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Each pre-registration will receive a time-stamp.
- Please visit www.niagaracatholic.ca and click the first thumbnail-Registration. Then, click the Let's get you registered! Link at the bottom of the page.
- An account must be created first through edsembli CONNECT to access the registration forms. This account can be created ahead of time.

SELECTION PROCESS

In accordance with the Board's Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy #301.1, there are a limited number of spots available for students entering the program. Eligible spots will be determined on a first come, first serve basis for each elementary French Immersion school site. Applicants will receive notification by **Monday, March 3rd, 2025** to **inform** them if their children have been placed in the French Immersion program **OR** if their children have been placed on the school's waitlist. Applicants who have not received notification by **March 3rd, 2025** are to contact the elementary French Immersion school site directly.

ST. AUGUSTINE MC DONALD'S FUNDRAISER THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6 4-7 PM

St. Augustine will be having a McDonald's fundraiser to support St. Augustine School. This event is scheduled to take place on **Thursday, February 6 between 4-7 pm at Mc Donald's on 153 Lincoln Street.**

You are to present the card when ordering and indicate that you are from St. Augustine school. Proceeds from this event will go towards updating technology within the school, as well as offsetting the cost of field trips. Specific information and details will be forthcoming. Stay tuned!

WASTELESS LUNCH WEDNESDAY

Our next waste less lunch is scheduled to take place on **Wednesday, January 8.** Students are encouraged to bring a wasteless lunch on this day.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

In the event of severe weather conditions, announcements to close the schools or to cancel buses will be made on all local radio stations by 6:00 a.m. and on the NCDSB website at www.niagaracatholic.ca, and social media. During bad weather, when the school remains open, parents must decide whether or not their children will attend. It is very important that we have your emergency contact telephone numbers on file, as well as any update or change in information since your last Student Information Form was submitted to us. If your child remains at home, you **STILL** must call the absence into the Safe Arrival System.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER AND INDOOR SHOES

With the arrival of cold weather, families are reminded to provide their child(ren) with indoor shoes for health and safety reasons. Thank you to all parents who provide indoor shoes!!! As well, it might be a good idea to send in a spare change of clothes. Many students need reminders to wear a coat, hat and gloves. Please ensure your child brings a coat to wear for outdoor recess breaks.

ST AUGUSTINE BOOK FAIR FEB 12-14

St. Augustine will be having an upcoming Scholastic book fair from **February 12-14.** Specific details closer to the date will be provided.