



April 2025

St. Kevin Catholic School



Principal: Mr. G. Marchio

Superintendent: Mrs. Kimberly Kinney

Parish Priests: Rev. Jinto Mathew Puthiyidathuchalil, CSC & Fr. Arockia Sunil Josapath
182 Aqueduct St., Welland, ON, L3C 1C4
905-734-7709

Called By Name: Follow Me

As we welcome the month of April, we are greeted by the beauty of spring and the promise of new life. This season of renewal is a wonderful reminder of the Easter story in our Catholic faith. Just as the earth awakens and blossoms, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

Easter is a time to reflect on the profound love and grace of Jesus, who calls us to follow His good news. Let us embrace this season with hearts full of gratitude and a renewed commitment to living out His teachings in our daily lives.

May the joy and hope of Easter fill your homes and hearts. Wishing you all a blessed and joyful April. On behalf of the students and staff at St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School, I would like to wish everyone a very blessed Easter!

God Bless!

Mr. G. Marchio

Principal



Follow us on Instagram @StKevinWelland



First Reconciliation

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

St. Kevin Church
Grade 2 @ 6:30 p.m.

Professional Activity Day

Friday, April 4, 2025

No School for Students

Good Friday

Friday, April 18, 2025

School Closed

Easter Monday

Monday April 21st, 2025

School Closed

Food Days

Subway ~ April 3
Pizza ~ April 10
Pizza ~ April 24

School Easter Mass

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025

St. Kevin Church 1:00 p.m.

~~~ Mission Statement ~~~

We are a Christ-centred Catholic faith community that celebrates diversity and fosters spiritual growth, inspiring all to reach their full potential in mind, body and spirit."

Justice Compassion Stewardship Accountability Community Integrity Faithfulness

Prayer for New Life

Lord, it is Spring and You have performed a glorious miracle of re-birth on the earth.

We thank You for the bountiful beauty that Spring brings to all.

All living creatures speak

Your name ever so gently, giving thanks to You.

You are the only one being to hear these praises.

During this rejuvenation, we are truly blessed,

And we feel Your presence all around.

Lord, send Your rays of hope down upon us,

So that we may open our eyes and see the new beginning of Spring life.

Fill our hearts and minds with joy and peace.

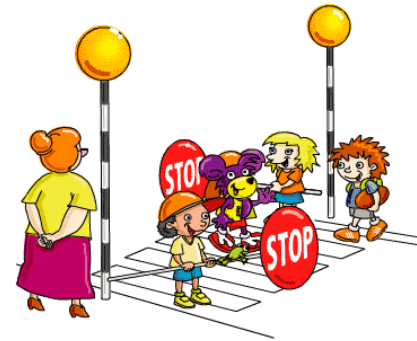
Amen



Kiss & Ride Safety

Families are reminded to remain patient in the Kiss and Ride lanes at school. Please drop off or pick up only. Do not idle or park your car in the Kiss and Ride lane during drop-off in the morning. Furthermore, please keep traffic going in the same direction toward the same exit the busses use on Aqueduct St. This will ensure that the busses are not blocked by cars waiting to drop off students. If you need to get out or want to walk your child to the gate, please park your car in the parking lot at our school or at Notre Dame. Thank you for your cooperation with this. It is always the goal to make sure that arrival and dismissal procedures are done as safely as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.



World Autism Day

World Autism Day is Wednesday, April 2, 2025.

A Prayer of St. Francis for Autism

Lord, let thy peace fill me up until I overflow; that where people cannot speak, I may be their advocate; that where anyone is rejected, I may extend my arms in welcome; that where parents are heavy burdened, I may offer a word of comfort; that where our children struggle, I may lift them up and cheer; that where some see disability, I may reveal to them extraordinary gifts; that where others judge, I may share with them my deep gladness; and that where any are overlooked, I may help the lights of all to shine. Oh giver of these gifts, grant that I may not so much seek to be reassured as to reassure; to be praised as to praise; to be accepted as to accept; for it is in all our uncertainty that we are inspired to hope; it is in great challenges that we discover our greatest joys, and it is in our community of wanderers that we find the way home.

Amen.

Kindergarten Registration

TO REGISTER, A CHILD MUST BE FOUR (4) YEARS OLD AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL BE REQUIRED FOLLOWING REGISTRATION:

[Register Here](#)

- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate
- Health Card
- Name / Telephone Number - Family Doctor
- Contact Persons (in case of an emergency)



Badminton 2025

In March, our **Intermediate Boys and Girls Badminton Team** competed at **Notre Dame College School**. The team played with skill, determination, and great sportsmanship - all while having a fantastic time!

A special congratulations goes out to **Kenzie Russell** and **Nana Ibrahim** for their amazing victory in the **Girls' Doubles division** — well done!

We are so proud of the entire team for representing our school so well and for their success. Keep up the great work!

Team members include: *Kenzie R., Milana S., Dillon M., Nana I., Antonio M., Alessandro G., Louiford M., Mark C. & Karim A.*

ST. KEVIN ECO TEAM NEWS

This month St. Kevin Celtics will be participating in several events and challenges aimed at helping our Earth and becoming Stewards of God's Creation. Here are the events that the eco-team will be supporting in order to raise awareness of simple things we can do in our daily lives to protect our planet.

ANTI-IDLING CAMPAIGN

We encourage parents to shut off their engines while waiting to drop off or pick up your child(ren). We have completed a pre-campaign record of idling cars and are hoping when we complete our post campaign tally we have less cars idling while waiting!

WASTE FREE LUNCHES

For the month of April we will be encouraging all students to bring a Waste Free lunch on Wednesdays. This means we will be hoping to see less Ziploc bags, and plastic in lunches and more re-useable containers!

SORTING WASTE

Students in Kindergarten-Grade 2 will be monitored for their correct use of the garbage and recycling bins in their classrooms. They will be taught which items belong in each and hopefully we see an improvement in the amount of wrongly sorted items! Older grades will be reminded of proper sorting habits.

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

On Earth day, groups of students will be cleaning up St. Kevin's property. They will be provided proper equipment to tidy up our yards and put garbage in its place!

GOOS PAPER

Classrooms without "GOOS" paper bins (Good on one side) will be provided with bins and encouraged to use the empty side of paper when possible. This practice will stay in place until the end of the year to help reduce the amount of paper used.

EARTH DAY

Teachers will be preparing activities/lessons for children to complete on Earth Day in an effort to continue to educate our students on our duty to protect the environment, our resources and to consume responsibly.

TURN OFF LIGHTS AND DEVICES

This is an ongoing initiative at St. Kevin to ensure that lights and devices are turned off when not in use. The eco team will continue to monitor this.

At the end of March our students participated in two other challenges. One was the "Great Gulp" where students with re-useable water bottles all took a drink at the same time. Teachers presented facts about the importance of re-useable water bottles. On March 22 we turned our lights and electronic devices not in use off to observe Earth Hour.

Celebrating Holy Week: A Journey of Faith and Reflection ~ April 13th – 20th, 2025

As we prepare to enter the sacred time of Holy Week, we would like to take a moment to reflect on the significance of this profound period in our Catholic faith. Holy Week is not only a cornerstone of our spiritual tradition but also a time to deepen our relationship with God and embrace the teachings of Jesus Christ. It offers us the opportunity to meditate on His love, sacrifice, and the promise of eternal life.

Holy Week encompasses several meaningful days, each with its own spiritual significance:

Palm Sunday: This day marks Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, where He was greeted with palm branches and praise. It reminds us of His humility and the joy of welcoming Him into our hearts and lives.

PALM SUNDAY MASSES ~ St. Kevin Parish ~ 8:00, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM

Holy Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday: These days prepare us for the events to come, highlighting Jesus' teachings and actions during His final days. In particular, Holy Wednesday recalls Judas' betrayal, urging us to reflect on loyalty and forgiveness.

Maundy Thursday: On this day, we remember the Last Supper, where Jesus instituted the Eucharist and washed the feet of His disciples. Maundy Thursday calls us to service, humility, and the profound mystery of communion with Christ.

Good Friday: The most solemn day of Holy Week, Good Friday commemorates Jesus' Passion and Crucifixion. It is a day of prayer, reflection, and gratitude for the ultimate sacrifice He made for our salvation.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ~ St. Kevin Parish ~ 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday: This day invites us to wait in quiet reflection, mourning Jesus' death but holding onto hope in the promise of the Resurrection.

Easter Sunday: The culmination of Holy Week, Easter is a joyous celebration of Jesus' Resurrection, victory over sin, and the promise of new life for all believers.

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES ~ St. Kevin Parish ~ 8:00, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM

At our school, we are dedicated to fostering a deep understanding of these holy days and creating opportunities for our students to connect with their faith. Throughout Holy Week, we encourage families to join us in prayer and participate in parish services. Together, let us embrace this sacred time as a community united in Christ's love. Mrs. Phillips' class will be celebrating the Stations of the Cross at our school for our students this year on Holy Thursday.

Thank you for your partnership in nurturing the spiritual growth of our students.

May this Holy Week bring blessings, peace, and renewal to your family.



Connecting the Curriculum to Home

Starting the Conversation of Consent: Connecting The Curriculum to Home

(Parents of Elementary aged students)

With our School Health Nurses

Your child might start learning about various parts of healthy human growth and development based on their grade and the [Ontario Health and Physical Education \(2019\) curriculum](#).

[Frequently Asked Questions about Puberty](#) – as your child starts learning more about human development, our school health team wants to support adults with answering some of those tricky questions.

Happy Oral Health Month!

The Niagara Region Public Health Dental Program offers **FREE** dental clinics for children and youth 17 and under throughout Niagara.

Appointments are available at the following locations:

Office Location	Day and Time
Niagara Falls Public Health Office 7835 McLeod Rd	Mondays 11:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Niagara Region Headquarters 1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way	Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Welland Public Health Office 200 Division Street	Thursdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

[Niagara's Mobile Dental Clinic](#) also travels around Niagara to various locations throughout the week.

All of our dental clinics offer free dental assessments, cleanings, fluoride and sealants. To book an appointment [contact the Dental Program](#) or [book a dental assessment online](#).



Let's Talk Vaping

Even for elementary students, there's a good chance that kids have been exposed to vaping—whether at school, through friends, on social media, or in movies and TV shows. From one parent to another, learn the basics about vaping in just 12 minutes.



<https://www.notanexperiment.ca/parents/>

Be Safe for Niagara

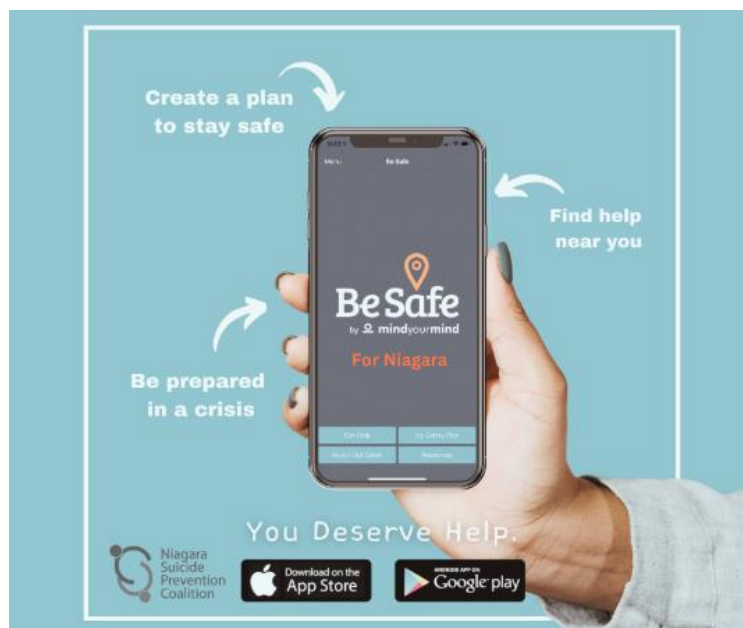
It can be overwhelming to try to navigate mental health supports in Niagara. With the [Be Safe app](#), you can get the help you need, when you need it most. Be Safe is a free mobile app that offers information and links to mental health, addiction and suicide prevention resources in Niagara. It helps support you through the process of reaching out when life feels overwhelming.

The Be Safe App in Niagara:

- Allows users to create a digital safety plan
- Informs users about mental health and addiction resources in Niagara
- Helps you be prepared if you find yourself in a crisis

For more information, please visit <https://besafeapp.ca/>

You can download the app on the [App Store](#) or [Google play](#).





CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (NCPIC)



MEMBERSHIP 2025-2026

The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) supports the Mission of Catholic education and the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board by providing a communication link to parents/guardians, Catholic School Councils, the Diocese, the Director of Education, and the Board.

The NCPIC promotes active parent/guardian engagement within all schools for the improvement of student achievement and well-being of all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

The NCPIC membership is made up of parents/guardians, community and student representatives, the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines or his appointed representative, principals, teachers, support staff, the Director of Education or designate, the appointed Superintendent of Education and Trustees. The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month, on a bi-monthly basis (or as noted) at the Catholic Education Centre from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Meetings are open to the public, livestreamed and recorded.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is seeking to appoint up to three (3) community representatives for the 2025-2026 school year to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. Interested parties are to complete and submit the Community Representative Form, along with a letter of recommendation supporting the nomination from the community agency, association, or organization addressed to Danny Di Lorenzo, Chair of the Board no later than 4:00 p.m., on Friday, May 16, 2025.

PARENT/GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVES

To be eligible for election/appointment as a parent/guardian representative to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, a person:

- must be a parent/guardian of a student enrolled in a school of the Niagara Catholic District School Board;
- must reside within the jurisdiction of the Board;
- must support the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board; and
- must fully participate in the annual Commissioning Ceremony of NCPIC members.

Available parent/guardian positions for the 2025-2026 Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Membership are as follows:

Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln	1 position	Parent/Guardian Representative
Thorold/Merritton	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Niagara Falls	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
St. Catharines/Niagara-on-the-Lake	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Welland/Pelham	1 position	Parent/Guardian Representative

Interested parents/guardians are to complete and submit the parent/guardian nomination form no later than 4:00 p.m., on Friday, May 16, 2025. Nomination forms are available at the school and on the Board website. Please click on the link: [Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee](#).

Please send nomination forms to: Catholic Education Centre
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1
Attention: Yvonne Anderson
or by email to: yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com



Complete application packages are to be emailed to Yvonne Anderson at yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com no later than **4:00 p.m., on Friday, May 16, 2025** for consideration.