



## Alexander Kuska K.S.G. Catholic School

Alexander Kuska K.S.G. Catholic Elementary School  
333 Rice Road, Welland ON, L3C 2V9 905-735-4471  
C. Moscato - Principal      A. Ventresca - Vice Principal  
D. Massi - Superintendent of Schools



### Alexander Kuska K.S.G. Catholic School Mission Statement

*As a community of faith, the mission of Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary School is to work in partnership with the home and the parish to provide a Christ-centered learning environment which allows students to grow spiritually, to strive for academic excellence and to become responsible citizens with a love of learning.*



### Prayer for September

*Thank You Father for the start of a new school year! May it be a year full of learning about You and the world You have created, full of growth, friendship, laughter, and great memories. Help us to be kind to one another and to build each other up, to celebrate each other's wins and provide encouragement when we face challenges. Thank You for another year of learning together! Amen.*

### Follow us on Social Media



**@kuskaknights**

Jesus doesn't just know your name. He calls you by it! In Matthew 28:19, Jesus tells us to "go and make disciples of all nations." But, He doesn't send us out as strangers. He calls each of us by name. He asks us to join this great mission. Just like Jesus called Simon by name and made him Peter, He calls you by your name too. He sees the special gifts you have. You aren't just another face in the crowd. You are called by name to help others follow Jesus right where you are. As we start this school year, let's listen for Jesus calling our name and answer Him in love!

### ~~~ Niagara Catholic District School Board Mission Statement ~~~

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



# September 2025



## HAPPENINGS

### Welcome Back

The staff of Alexander Kuska is back and ready to begin a great year!

We welcome back our returning families and also extend warmth to the families who are joining us for the first time.

We pray that this year will be one of growth - spiritually, mentally, socially, and academically. The continued partnership of home, school and church will provide our children with a strong foundation.

We welcome input from all members of our community, so that we can continue to grow in a positive way. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to working together to make this a wonderful year.

### Bell Times - 2025/26

**\*\*ENTRY BELL - 9:10 am\*\***

#### Nutrition Break #1 (NEW TIME)

**10:40 am - 11:00** - Grade K - 4 outside  
Grade 5 - 8 inside

**11:00 am - 11:20** - Grade K - 4 inside  
Grade 5 - 8 outside

#### Nutrition Break #2

**1:20 pm - 1:40** - Grade K - 4 outside  
Grade 5 - 8 inside

**1:40 pm - 2:00** - Grade K - 4 inside  
Grade 5 - 8 outside

**\*\*DISMISSAL - 3:30 pm\*\***

### Morning Supervision

Student safety is our first priority. Please keep the following procedures in mind:

**Morning supervision begins at the arrival of the first bus at 8:55 AM.** Please do not drop off before 8:55 AM. Remain outside with your child until supervision begins. All students are supervised during nutrition breaks and recess.

So we can accurately track student arrival, if any student arrives after the 9:10 AM bell, they are to ring the doorbell at the front door and check into the office before going to their classroom.

Thank you for your assistance in ensuring safety for all of our students.

### Respectful Interactions

Alexander Kuska is rooted in Catholic values. Our goal is to create a safe, kind, and loving environment for all who learn, work, and assist within our school community. Aggressive or hostile behaviour or language toward staff, students, or community helpers will not be tolerated. While we welcome feedback, concerns, and opinions, it is the expectation that all staff, students, parents, guardians, family members, 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 to achieve success.

*Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but show yourself as a model to those who believe in word, conduct, love, faith, and purity.*

*- 1 Timothy 4:12 -*



# September 2025



## HAPPENINGS

### Alexander Kuska Staff

<b>Kindergarten</b>	Mme Carrey/Mme Letourneau Ms. Pace/Mrs. Newton Mrs. Inneo/Mrs. Bassi
<b>Grade 1</b>	Mme Gagliardi Mrs. Dyson
<b>Grade 1/2</b>	Mme Root Mrs. Gustyn
<b>Grade 2</b>	Mrs. Melo
<b>Grade 2/3</b>	Mme Brandao
<b>Grade 3</b>	Mme Purdie Mrs. Briggs
<b>Grade 4</b>	Mme VanDyke Mrs. Moccia
<b>Grade 5</b>	Mme Arscott Mr. Moccia
<b>Grade 6</b>	M Hart Mr. Bernardi
<b>Grade 7</b>	Mr. Lettieri
<b>Grade 7/8</b>	Mme Volante Mr. Fishleigh
<b>Grade 8</b>	Mr. Naso

**Secretaries** - Mrs. Demers Ms. Barrett

**EA** - Mr. Lafortune Mrs. Barbieri Mrs. Koch  
Mrs. Richards Mrs. Clapp

**Librarian** - Mrs. Bosnich

**CYW** - Mrs. Roesch

**Caretakers** - Mrs. Grenier Mr. Esteva  
Mr. Tisi

**Visual Arts** - Mrs. Gignac

**ERT** - Mr. Raso

**PTM** - Mr. Brady

**P&P/Core English** - Mr. Stranges

**FSL** - Mme Fini

### Welcome!

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new staff members:

**Mrs. Ventresca** - Vice-Principal  
**Mrs. Gustyn** - Teacher (Gr. 1 /2)  
**Mme Brandao** - Teacher (Gr. 2 /3 FI)  
**Mr. Lettieri** - Teacher (Gr. 7)  
**Mr. Esteva** - Caretaker  
**Mrs. Gignac** - Visual Arts Teacher  
**Mrs. Clapp** - EA

*Welcome to the Kuska family,  
we're glad you're here!*



### Dress Code & Spirit Wear



A friendly reminder that all schools within the Niagara Catholic District School Board follow a standardized dress code. Simplified, the dress code requires students to wear a white or navy shirt with a collar and navy bottoms - pants, shorts or skirts. For more info, click [here](#). To order Alexander Kuska spirit wear (Grad hoodies, polo shirts, toques, etc) visit [Big Bear Spirit wear](#) to order.





# September 2025



## communication

### SafeArrival - Absence Notifications



SCHOOLMESSENGER®

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school each and every day. School Messenger allows parents to report their child's absence quickly and conveniently using a mobile app, a website, or an interactive

toll-free phone line to report an absence, late arrival or early departure, in advance. This time savings makes it faster and more efficient to account for all students and their safety.

If your student is marked absent and the absence hasn't been explained in advance, our SafeArrival system will be able to rapidly contact you by automated phone call, text message, email, or mobile app push notification to get a reason for the absence. Calls and contacts will continue until you choose an option to explain the absence.

**PLEASE continue to call and advise the school of your child's absences, late arrival or early dismissals by using the mobile app, online <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home> or by calling 1-844-287-6287.**

### Extended Absences

You can mark your child absent for a maximum of 6 consecutive days via SafeArrival. If your child will be absent for more than 6 days, please notify the main office.

If your child will be absent for more than 15 consecutive days, you will need to submit notification of the dates in writing to the main office. You may be provided with a Program of Study for your child to work on during their time away.

### Payment for Specialty Lunches & Activities

Parents are asked to sign up for our convenient payment program - SCHOOL CASH ONLINE. This is an excellent way to pay for student activities without sending money to school. This system is used to purchase items such as food for specialty lunch days and to pay and grant permission for field trips.

To register, please go to:

<https://ncdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

### Specialty Lunch Days



Wednesday, September 10



Wednesday, September 17



Wednesday, September 24





# September 2025



## Health & Safety

### BUS SAFETY

**At the Stop** - Be 5 to 10 minutes early, and stand on the inside of the sidewalk/shoulder away from the roadway.

**When the Bus Arrives** - Line up in a straight line, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the doors to open, and never touch the outside of the bus.

**Riding on the Bus** - Sit with your back to the back of the seat and your bottom to the bottom of your seat with your school bag on your lap. Younger bus riders should choose a seat closer to the front of the bus. Use a quiet speaking voice so that the bus driver can concentrate on driving.

**Getting off the Bus** - Stay in your seat until the bus comes to a complete stop. Look for your parent/guardian before you get off the bus (if that is your routine) and always tell the bus driver if you do not see your parent/guardian at the bus stop waiting for you. Also, make sure you tell the driver if you missed your stop.

**Crossing in Front of the Bus** - Watch and wait for the bus driver to signal to you to cross the road once it is safe to do so.

**\*\*IF THERE ARE ANY ISSUES ON THE BUS, LET THE BUS DRIVER KNOW RIGHT AWAY\*\***



### Emergency Medical Protocols



At Alexander Kuska, we work cooperatively with families in order to provide a safe, inclusive, and healthy educational environment for all students. We recognize that students who are at risk because of medical concerns such as allergic reactions, Diabetes, Epilepsy, intolerances, asthma and/or seizures require an intervention plan for their needs to be met and to reach their fullest potential at school. \*\* You must have Dr. signed forms if your child requires any medication to be administered at school. \*\*

**If your child requires a specific plan of care, please contact the school at your earliest convenience so we can ensure his or her safety during the school day.**

### Anaphylaxis

At Alexander Kuska, we continue to have several students with Anaphylaxis – a severe life threatening condition caused by an allergic reaction to certain food products (i.e.) peanuts, dairy, sesame, egg, fruit, medications, latex products, inhalers and insect stings from bees or wasps. Residue on any material that has been touched by hands that have not been properly washed may also trigger a severe allergic reaction.

Anaphylaxis requires immediate first aid (Epipen) and immediate medical intervention. Classroom teachers who have children with anaphylaxis are working hard to prevent accidental exposure to products that trigger life-threatening reactions.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this life-threatening concern.





# September 2025



## coming soon

### Meet the Teacher & Curriculum Night



Curriculum night will take place on **Thursday September 18th at 6 p.m.** We will have three x 20 minute info sessions in the classrooms. This informative evening provides parents with an opportunity to meet the classroom teacher and learn about the curriculum and classroom expectations. Hope to see you there!

### Catholic School Council

The Alexander Kuska Catholic School Council is already busy planning and getting organized for all the things that make Kuska a great place to be!



Our first meeting will be on **Monday, September 22, at 6:00 pm.**

There is a place for everyone on the Alexander Kuska Catholic School Council. Get involved, share your ideas and make a difference! Self-nomination forms will be emailed to families in early September.

### Dates to Remember

**Terry Fox Walk** - On Thursday, September 25, we will be participating in the Terry Fox walk. All students are encouraged to wear red, white or Canada clothing to celebrate this Canadian hero. More info will follow.

**Picture day** - Lifetouch Images will be at school on Friday, September 26 for picture day! Bring your best smiles!



**Truth & Reconciliation day** - Students and staff are encouraged to wear an **orange** shirt on **Tuesday, September 30, 2025**, in support of Truth and Reconciliation day. We encourage you to order shirts from Pegasus School Images, as all proceeds will be shared between the Orange Shirt Society and Woodland Cultural Centre. The shirts can be ordered [here](#) for \$15.



All orders must be placed by midnight, **Monday, September 15** for all shirts to be delivered to schools on time.