

October 2023

## **Contact Information**

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#### We Give Thanks

+Gracious God.

As leaves turn to gold,

You shine with your goodness.

We give thanks for all of your good gifts.

Make our hearts even more grateful.

May we also shine with your love.

+Amen

# St. Patrick School News



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

On September 15th, 2023 St. Patrick School Staff gathered to celebrate our 2023 Faith Day. This year our new Board Spiritual Theme aligns with the OCSTA Catholic Education Week theme entitled, **We are Called to Love**. The theme invites us to reflect on the Scripture from the First Letter of St. John (1 John 4:12). We read in First John that God has loved us in Christ Jesus, who came as the Saviour of the world. Now, we have been given God and Jesus' spirit, and we are commanded to love others as we have been loved by God—as people of hope, faith, mercy, justice and joy. We are very pleased to share that we have established our transformational outreach connection with The Brantford Blessings Centre.

School staff, on the afternoon of September 15th, helped to prepare the evening meal and serve to the community. We are very excited to share that we have lots of great ideas to build on our connection with our new friends and we look forward to sharing our ideas with School Council at our first meeting on September 28th from 5:30—6:30 p.m. in the school library. (We will hold elections at this time). Some ideas for our partnership include school based fundraising (e.g., grocery gift cards drive); Junior/Intermediate volunteer outreach to the Blessing Centre; use of our STEM tree to donate produce; classes make treats, crafts, cards, special notes to be distributed at the centre.



Our Catholic Character Attribute for the month of October will be

**GRATITUDE**. Gratitude means both thanksgiving and grace. We give thanks to God for the many blessings we have, focusing on the good in our lives and the good in others.

## **HALLOWEEN**

Children are already looking forward to Halloween. Children are encouraged to wear a costume to school on October 31st (there will not be time to change at school). Costumes need to be appropriate for a Catholic School (no blood and gore, no weapons, not too scary for the little ones). If the weather permits, we will have a parade around the outside of the school and board office for people to see us (please fill out the attached permission form). Parents are welcome to watch on the grass around the playground to see the parade. The parade will begin at approximately 9am. It is also "Crunch Day" where we will be selling apples to raise money for "Brant Food for Thought and directly to our school nutrition program. You can purchase an apple at the end of the Halloween parade line. All donations will be gratefully accepted.

Students will participate in classroom activities as they rotate through centres after the walk. Students are allowed to bring in **store bought treats** that are peanut/nut free and pineapple free.

### **PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST**

On the morning of October 31st, families are invited to bring their carved pumpkin to school and put it outside on the tables by the Grade 2/3 doors. Pumpkins will be separated into three categories: Scary, Funny and Creative. During the day, children will come with their class to view the pumpkins and will choose their favourite in each category. The family that wins each category will get a \$25 Food Basics/Metro Gift Certificate. (Please make sure the scary ones aren't too scary and are in alignment with our Catholic values). Please keep in mind our young audience—some being only 3 and 4 years old).

## **INDOOR/OUTDOOR SHOES**

Please be sure your child has an extra pair of gym shoes for wearing indoors at school. These do not need to be expensive because they will only be worn indoors! We ask that all students, Kindergarten to Grade 8 follow this policy, to help keep our school as clean as possible.

## **Upcoming Events:**

October 2nd October 3rd	Bus evacuation practice PA Day: No school for students
	Fall Mass at St. Pius Parish 10:00 a.m.
	Brant Cross Country at Mohawk Park, Brantford (raindate Oct. 25)
October 25th	
	School Council Meeting 5:30-6:30 p.m.
October 30th	Grade 7/8 Immunization in the gym from 8:30—11:30 a.m.
October 31st	Hallowe'en Walk; Pumpkin Contest; Crunch Day

## Thanksgiving prayer for the family

Lord,

We feel so blessed to have been given such a wonderful family. We ask that our roots would be deep in your love.

Fill our hearts, friendships and homes with your truth and forgiveness. We thank you for each person, for their unique qualities and special characters.

Watch over each one and keep them safe, Fill their lives with your goodness, Inspire their hearts to follow you, Bless the work of their hands, And weave us all closer together.

+Amen.

## **Picture Day**

Picture Day will be on Wednesday, October 25th. Retakes will occur on Tuesday, November 14th. Grad Photos will take place on Thursday, April 11, 2024.

## Pizza Day and Food Days

Information will be coming home soon regarding Pizza Days and Food Days.





## PARENT CONSENT/PERMISSION FORM FOR EDUCATION TRIPS (Students Under 18 Years)

THIS FORM MUST BE READ AND SIGNED BY EVERY STUDENT WHO WISHES TO PARTICIPATE AND BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A PARTICIPATING STUDENT

St. Patrick School, of Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board is arranging

## Halloween Parade - Friday, October 30, 2020 at approximately 9:00 a.m. (Name of School Program)

Dressed in their costumes, students will <u>walk</u> on the sidewalk out of their assigned doors of St. Patrick School, along the parking lot, left onto Baxter Street, left onto Fairview Drive and then down the sidewalk between the School and the Board Office and return to their classrooms, through their assigned doors, all while maintaining social distancing.

(Description of activity, location, dates and mode of transportation)

#### ELEMENTS OF RISK:

Educational activity programs, such as this parade involves certain elements of risk. Accidents may occur while participating in these activities. These accidents may cause injury. By choosing to participate in the activity, you are assuming the risk of an accident occurring.

The chance of an injury occurring can be reduced by carefully following instructions at all times while engaged in the activity.

If you choose to participate in <u>the Halloween Parade</u> on <u>Friday, October 30, 2020 at 9:00 am.</u> you must understand that you bear the responsibility for any injury that might occur.

The <u>Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board</u> does not provide accidental death, disability, dismemberment or medical expense insurance on behalf of the students participating in this activity.

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board strongly advises that all students participate in the STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE PLAN offered by Reliable Life Insurance Company and which covers participants for all accidents. 24 hours per day, every day during the full policy term.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WE HAVE READ THE ABOVE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITY DESCRIBED ABOVE, WE ARE ASSUMING THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH DOING SO.

Signature of Student:	Date:
Signature of Parent/Guardian:	Date:
PERMISSION	
I give	
Signature of Parent/Guardian:	Date:

BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD