



St. Patrick School News



September 2023
ZONE 4

The Journey Begins

Loving God,
you are kindness
and caring,
you are wondrous
and wise,
you are our friend
and guide,
you are our
deepest truth.
You bring us
together
to learn,
to play, and
to worship.
Be with us and
guide us now and
throughout the
school year. +Amen.

Contact Us:

320 Fairview Drive,
Brantford, Ontario N3R 2X6

Tel. (519) 759-0380

Twitter @stpatseagles

www.stpatrickbrantford.ca

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

Welcome or Welcome Back to St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School! It was a busy summer here at St. Patrick School. We have had a new boiler system installed to help with our heating and air conditioning. An area of the gym was painted so that we can now project on the walls. We have a new sandbox in the Kindergarten area and the Playground equipment is repaired and open for school and community use. A very big thank you to Mr. Maunder and the staff at St. Patrick School. The Board Support Staff Team have moved to St. Mary's School and so we now have a designated classroom for French and STEM. Our school looks amazing and is ready to go for our new school year. *Don't forget to check in at the office to see if your Police Check is current and your training is up to date if you wish to volunteer at the school or on school trips.*

This year, our 2023-24 Board Spiritual Pastoral Theme is Catholic Education: WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE. Our focus is aligned with the OCSTA Catholic Education Week Theme. At BHNCDNB, we are a dedicated, faith-filled, Catholic education community who are stronger together.

Staff for the 2023-24 School Year

Kindergarten	Mrs. Amanda Hewings
ECE	Mrs. Rita HehenKamp
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Anna Szaloky
Grade 2/3	Mrs. Anna Matwijiw
Grade 4/5	Mrs. Maria Savaria
Grade 5/6	Ms. Nicolina Strkalj
Grade 7/8	Mr. Tyler Leyzer
FSL/Prep	Mdm. Lisa Venne and Ms. Evelyn Linz
SERT	Mrs. Nancy Mulroy
E.A.	Ms. Kelly Sobolewski
E.A.	Mrs. Julie Phee (a.m.)
E.A.	Ms. Anastacia Poulimenos (temp)
E.A.	Ms. Kaitlyn Reay (temp)
STEM	Ms. Tina Noble
Custodian	Mr. Don Maunder
Secretary	Mrs. Terri-Lynn Zakrzewski / Ms. Patricia Glover
Principal	Mr. Orazio Caltagirone/ Mrs. Heather Knill-Griesser

SCHOOL HOURS

<u>Start Time:</u>	8:45 a.m. (supervision begins at 8:30 a.m.)
<u>1st Nutrition Break:</u>	10:25—11:05 (eating time 10:25) Snack
<u>2nd Nutrition Break:</u>	12:45—1:25 (eating time 12:45) Lunch
<u>Dismissal Time:</u>	3:05 p.m.



SCHOOL DRESS CODE REMINDER:

The BHNCDSD believes that proper dress for pupils helps to create a positive and safe Catholic learning environment consistent with the mission and values of the Board. The responsibility for meeting the expectations of the Dress Code is primarily that of the parents/guardians of the students. All students attire must be in keeping with our Catholic teachings and beliefs, reflect principles of modesty, and shall include the following:

1. No clothing with inappropriate logos, sayings, and/or pictures.
2. **Midriffs should not be exposed.**
3. Pants are to be worn at the waist — undergarments are not to be visible.
4. **Shorts/skirts are to be an appropriate length for the student. A student may be asked to call home for a change of clothes if their shorts/skirt is deemed to be too short.**

SCHOOL SAFETY:

As part of the Ministry's "Safe Welcome Program" for Elementary Schools, all doors to the school will remain locked, including the main entrance (you must use the intercom to enter the building).

PARKING— The school and board parking lot gets very busy and congested at the beginning and end of the school day. Please park in a designated St. Patrick's spot, the larger of the two parking lots, or park on the street. Please do not park in the circular drop off zone in the morning.

Please do not block the taxi/bus driveway or park in the clearly marked Fire Routes or Board Office spaces. Please note that the City of Brantford enforces the by-laws in our parking lot and non-compliance may result in a ticket being issued.

If you are dropping off or picking up your child before or after school at the gate on Fairview Drive, please make sure it is latched securely after you enter/leave.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

St. Patrick Catholic School has a hard working, dedicated and dynamic School Council. However, we are always looking for individuals in the school community that would be willing to participate and share their talents with the school community. If you are interested in volunteering your services, please fill out and return the School council Nomination Form. The Catholic School Council is an advisory group which works with staff to assist with the goals of the school. Council works in conjunction with the school to assist in purchasing resources, equipment, and providing funding for classroom trips, supporting the school, and consulting with the BHNCDSD on policy development.

Our first School Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18th from 5:30—6:30 p.m. in our school library. All parents interested in being part of our Parent Council for the 2023-24 are welcome and encouraged to attend.

D2L/Brightspace

Teachers will be posting homework and information on their D2L/Brightspace page. There are no agendas this year. Please check your child's class Brightspace page for messages from the teacher.

Prevalent Student Medical Conditions

If your child has a prevalent medical condition that requires support or monitoring, we request that you contact the school as soon as possible to ensure that our staff have the necessary information to ensure your child is safe while at school.

The following are medical conditions that require a **Plan of Care** as determined by Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board policy and/or provincial legislation. The **Plan of Care** will be completed in collaboration with the school administrative team:

- **Asthma** – Please complete the Asthma Plan of Care
- **Anaphylactic Reactions** – Please complete the Anaphylaxis Plan of Care
- **Diabetes** – Please complete the Diabetes Plan of Care
- **Epilepsy** – Please complete the Epilepsy Plan of Care

If your child has any of the aforementioned conditions and you have not yet completed the required forms, please contact the school immediately to provide the necessary information and receive a copy of the required forms.

Please note: It is the responsibility of parents to notify schools of any medical concerns and to update the Plans of Care on an annual basis.

For more information regarding specific School Board policies or procedures concerning specific medical conditions, please visit: <http://www.bhncdsb.ca/>.

School Cash ONLINE (SCO)

St. Patrick School uses only SCO for all payments (trips, pizza days, etc.). Cash and cheques are not accepted.

Again this year, mandatory school forms, for example the parent permission form to allow your child to use technology at school are also posted on SCO. Please check SCO for these forms.

Most items are online for one to two weeks to allow ample time to pay. Please ensure you receive a receipt at the end of your transaction to confirm completion of payment. You can also check your history tab to make sure that your orders are complete.

Forms should not be submitted to the office until payment has been completed in SCO.

CELL PHONES

If your child brings a cell phone to school for safety reasons our school rule is cell phones are to be "off and out of site". If students need to contact families we request that students come to the office and the school secretary or administrator will assist with contacting a family member. If students are using their cell phone, without teacher permission, the following consequences will occur:

First Offence: Warning occurs.

Second Offence: Parents will be notified.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER...

- September 14 Meet the Teacher from 5:00—7:00 p.m. Come to meet your child(ren)s' teacher and staff at the school. We are excited to share that you will be able to purchase food from **Alice's Food Truck** on that day. Payment is made on site at the food truck.
- September 15 P.D. Day (no school for students)
- September 28 Parent Council Meeting from 5:30—6:30 p.m.

FIRE DRILLS AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS

The Ministry of Education requires that all schools conduct a minimum of 6 fire drills (3 in the fall and 3 in the spring) and 2 lockdown drills (1 in the fall and 1 in the spring) each school year. We will have conversations with all classes and review/practise procedures. Please reassure your child(ren), that fire drills and lockdown drills are necessary and remind them that it is important to follow procedures quietly and attentively. Although the chances of having an actual fire alarm or lockdown are very small, it is important that we practice and understand what to do in case of an emergency.

Monthly Celebration Assemblies:

In Connection with the Catholic Graduate Expectations and Fruits of the Holy Spirit we will be celebrating our Catholic Character Attributes with a monthly Principal award and Classroom Awards. Classes will be volunteering to share the next months attribute at our monthly assembly, at the end of each month. Ask you child(ren) about our "Caught ya! Awards". Students who are caught acting kindly or following our Character Attributes may be recognized with a Caught Ya award in their classroom. Caught Ya award winners will have their name entered in a weekly draw.

This months Character Attribute is the "Gift of Hospitality"

1 Peter 4:9–10 In addition to wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, prophesying, serving, and others listed above, **hospitality** is a **spiritual gift**. It is given by the Holy Spirit, by God's grace, and it's used to serve others. **Hospitality is the friendly reception and treatment of others where we demonstrate our love for others.**

Catholic Education:
We Are
Called To
LOVE



"If we love one another, God lives in us."
(1 John 4:12)