



December 2023 School Newsletter

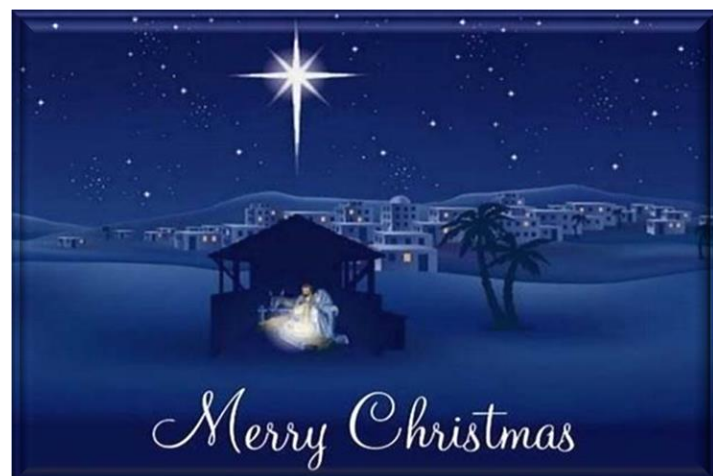
Principal's Message

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"....

Advent... A time of waiting and preparing with HOPE for the Birth of Our Saviour. Throughout the year, the church invites us to remember the important events in the life of Jesus and to celebrate them together. This is what we call the Liturgical Year. The Liturgical year begins with ADVENT on December 3rd and lasts for 4 Sundays prior to Christmas. This is a time to prepare, in a spiritual way, for Christmas. It is a time to reflect on God's great love for us and to thank Him for His greatest gift to us, the gift of his only son, Jesus. Advent challenges us to see Jesus in all we meet.

God Bless & Merry Christmas

Mary Leonard, Principal



Notre Dame Catholic School

35 Braemar Avenue

Caledonia, ON N3W 2M5

(905) 765-0649

Website: www.notredamecaledonia.ca

Twitter: @ndcaledonia

ZONE 2

Principal: M. Leonard

Secretary: C. Woods, L. Frenza

Mass Holiday Schedule

St. Patrick's Church

Christmas Eve

5:00pm & 8:00pm

Christmas Day

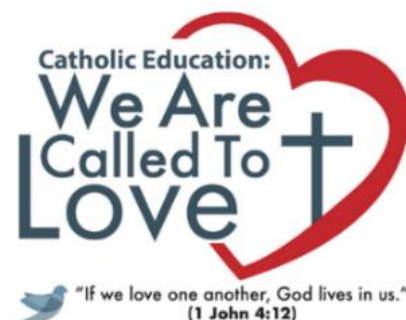
10:30am

New Year's Eve

5:00pm

New Year's Day

10:30am



SCHOOL HOURS FOR BALANCED DAY

8:55 am School begins

10:35 – 11:15 am

First Nutrition Break

12:55 – 1:35 pm

Second Nutrition Break

3:15 pm School Dismissal

Please note staff are **NOT** on duty until **8:40 am**.

*Staff will be on duty to receive students off the bus. *Upon dismissal at the end of the day **ALL walkers** must leave school premises promptly.



Notify the Office

Please advise the office of any changes to your contact information.

IMPORTANT

All students (JK to Gr 8) should have a change of clothes at school for any emergencies. We do not want to bother parents during the workday if it can be helped.



"Frosty the Snowman"...

Students are encouraged to play in the snow and to make snowmen, but snowballs are not allowed. Please reinforce this rule with your child. Please ensure your child is properly dressed for the weather with mitts, hats and snow pants.

"Oh the Weather Outside is Frightful..."

Please send indoor shoes with your children during these winter months and a change of clothes for students in all grades. Our hallways are often wet and students in stocking feet will be uncomfortable. A change of clothes is also suggested in case of accidents. Decisions about when to hold indoor recess are dictated by weather conditions and common sense. The decision may vary from grade to grade. If the temperature falls below -20C with the wind chill factored in, students are to remain indoors. Also, if the school yard condition is icy we stay inside due to safety reasons.



"Jingle Bells"

School begins at 8:55am each morning. Children should be allowed sufficient time to arrive promptly. Parking before & after school continues to be on the street. Kiss & Drop Off to be used by students who are independent to exit a vehicle on their own so the parent can drive away promptly so not to interfere with bus drop off or pick up.

"I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas"...

We are a **Zone 2** school. Details about inclement weather conditions and school closures can be found on the board's website (www.bhncdsb.ca) or by listening to 820 CHAM, 900 CHML, 1150 CKOC, or watching channel 11 news. **If the buses are cancelled the school is CLOSED. SCHOOL STAFF** are not available and the doors will be locked. **Never drop off your child or send them to school without checking if we are open.**

Any bus delay due to road conditions/visibility can be found on the Student Transportation website (www.stsbhn.ca) or by calling 1-877-226-6353 ext.3.

SAFETY FIRST

Please drive carefully when dropping off and picking up your child(ren). Remember to give yourself ample time as the snowy road conditions may impact the parking availability around the school.

At 3:15pm students are dismissed out their own doors in an orderly fashion and under the supervision of their teachers.

"Jolly Old St. Nit..."

Tis the season for unwanted lice and/or nits. Please check your child's hair regularly/routinely. Early detection helps to minimize the risk of this spreading at home and at school as well.

Helpful Tip: Olive oil will suffocate the lice/nits if left on for 4 hours, then washed out. It is imperative that it is left on for 4 hours, as they can survive after only 3 hours without air. We appreciate your vigilance.



ONLINE REGISTRATION for September 2024

The Parent Portal will be accessible for online registrations for **NEW** students to attend Notre Dame Catholic School starting **January 8 to February 23**
Please visit: www.bhncdsb.ca

Spread
the
Word



**ONLINE
KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION**
JAN 8 - FEB 23
catholiceducation.ca
BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

Please visit www.bhncdsb.ca to access the online registration portal.

Notre Dame Catholic School continues to offer a French Immersion program.

In September 2024 the French Immersion program will be available for students from JK to Grade 6.

Once again for the 2024-25 school year a cap has been instituted for kindergarten registration in the French Immersion stream.

Attention All
Grade 8 Students
starting high school
September 2024!



Assumption College School **FUTURE GRADE 9 STUDENT & PARENT OPEN HOUSE**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

Join one of our guided information tours and find out everything you need to know about becoming an Assumption Lion!
Tours are available at 6:00, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45, 7:00pm only.

MORE COURSES + MORE OPTIONS = MORE PREPARED



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

assumptionlions.com



Pepperoni Pizza slices can be purchased on School Cash Online for the month of January starting December 1st.

Deadline to order is December 21st

hewitt's

Milk is distributed each week of the month on Tues/Wed/Thurs.

Milk can be purchased on School Cash Online for January starting December 1st

The deadline is December 21st



Subway lunch is available to students twice a month.

January Subway Days have been scheduled on the 9th & 23rd
School Cash Online is accepting orders for January starting December 1st.

NEW
Subway
Choice:
3 Meat Sub

Deadline to order is December 21st

From Farm to Table CANADA Popcorn

School Cash Online is accepting orders for February & March distribution starting December 1st.

Deadline to order is January 14th



S.A.C. Festive Christmas Lunch

December 19th at 1:00pm

Lunch will include turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, corn, and gravy. Lunch will be served to students in the gym.

The cost for lunch is \$8.00
Payments through School Cash Online
(offer expires Dec.11th)

Students who prefer not to receive turkey lunch can bring their own lunch to enjoy with their class in the gym at 1:00pm.

St. Patrick's Church News



**Come Celebrate Jesus' Birthday
on December 17th after 10:30am Mass
Children from JK to Grade 2 are invited
to join the celebration**

Mass Schedule for the Holidays

Christmas Eve

5:00pm & 8:00pm

Christmas Day

10:30am

New Year's Eve

5:00pm

New Year's Day

5:00pm



Congratulations!

**Congratulations to our Grade 8 Knights
on their Confirmation Day**

DENTAL SCREENING



Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Dental Program from the Haldimand Norfolk Health Unit will be coming to your child's school for dental screening.

WHO?

- JK, SK, 2, 7 and some selected students in other grades
- If your child is not in one of the grades listed above but you want them to be screened, please click on this link <https://hnhu.org/school-screening/> or call the Health Unit, Dental Program Ext. 3293.

WHAT?

- The screening is a quick look in the mouth. It is done by a Registered Dental Hygienist. A separate sterilized dental mirror is used for each child.
- If your child has cavities or would benefit from other dental services, a letter will be sent home in their backpack.
- Your child may be screened again at a later date. This is part of the dental screening follow-up process.
- Our school screenings **DO NOT** replace visits with your family dentist.
- If you are worried about your child's mouth you do not need to wait for the school visit please contact the Health Unit, Dental Program Ext. 3293.

WHY?

- To find children who need to see a dentist.
- To offer support for children who cannot afford dental services.
- To link families with other Public Health Services.
- This is a mandatory program under the Health Protection and Promotion Act, Section 7

JK, SK,
Grade 2 & 7
and
selected
students

IMPORTANT:

Please contact us if you do not want your child to participate in dental screening by clicking on this link

<https://hnhu.org/school-screening/> to opt out or by phone at 519-426-6170 ext. 3293 no later than

December 4, 2023

Public Health
Visit on
December
11th

SK
Students
Only

Public
Health Visit
on
December
12th

VISION SCREENING

WHY?

- Approximately 1 in 4 school age children may have vision problems
- Children need healthy eyes to learn, read and stay safe
- Vision screenings are mandatory for students in Senior Kindergarten (SK) under the Ontario Public Health Standards

WHO?

- All SK students will receive vision screening
- Vision screenings are conducted by trained Lions Club volunteers

IMPORTANT: If you wish to opt out of vision screening for your child please go to [www.hnhu.org/school-screening](https://hnhu.org/school-screening) or call 519-426-6170 ext. 3285 no later than **December 4, 2023**

WHAT?

- Vision screening consists of three easy eye tests to identify risk factors for eye disorders such as:
 - Lazy eye
 - Eye turn
 - Nearsightedness and farsightedness
- The vision screening takes about 15 minutes to complete
- Your child will bring home a letter with their results in their backpack
- This vision screening does not replace your child's regular checkup with your eye doctor or family doctor. Your child should still receive a full eye exam by an eye doctor. Children can receive a yearly eye exam, free of charge until the age of 19.

WHERE?

- Vision screening will take place at your child's school during school hours
- Alternatively, you may take your child to an eye doctor for a free eye exam

If you have any concerns with your child's eye health, please contact your eye doctor or family doctor. You do not have to wait for the school screening visit. If you do not have an eye doctor, please visit findaneyedoctor.ca to find one near you.



Vision Screening Study

Researchers from the University of Waterloo, School of Optometry and Vision Science are looking into parent/guardian follow up to vision screening recommendations.

Participation is completely voluntary and is independent from the vision screening program offered. If you are interested in learning more about the study or to participate, please scan the QR code displayed.





COMMITMENT

Develop a faith-filled community where all individuals are equipped and supported so they can live their best life.

GOALS

Students

- Provide students with accessible supports.
- Leverage the benefits and unpack the challenges of the increasing use of digital technology.
- Provide opportunities for student collaboration, wellness, support, and spiritual development for personal growth.

Staff

- Develop a school board workforce that reflects the diversity of all community members.
- Through a wellness lens, create board policies, procedures, and protocols.

- Connect staff with supports to promote work-life balance, stress reduction, and innovative wellness practices.

Community

- Highlight specific community agencies and have them visible in our schools and buildings.
- Foster strong, integrated support with agency partnership so they become woven into the district.
- Reach out and discover innovative and responsive community supports.

wellness for all



Thank You
to the
Hagersville Lions Club

The Club generously donated \$2500 toward our fundraising goal of \$50,000 to replace the school's outdoor playground structure.

Your support is so appreciated!



DECEMBER 2023



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

26

27

28

29

30

1

2

December Collection: Tree of Warmth
Collecting Hats, Mittens & Socks for All Ages

Pizza

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Milk
Subway Day

Milk

Milk

Pizza

10:30am
St. Pat's
Church

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

**Communion
Enrolment
Ceremony**

Dental
Screening

Milk
Subway Day
Vision Screening

Milk

Milk

Pizza
JR Boys & Girls
Basketball Tournament

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

**Christmas
Sweater Day**

Milk
**SAC Festive
Christmas Lunch**
**Christmas Accessory
Day**

Milk
Gr 8 Christmas Idol
Christmas Hat Day

Milk
School Mass 9:45am
RED & GREEN Day

Pizza
**Christmas PJ or
Comfy Clothes Day**

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

Christmas Break

Christmas Break

6

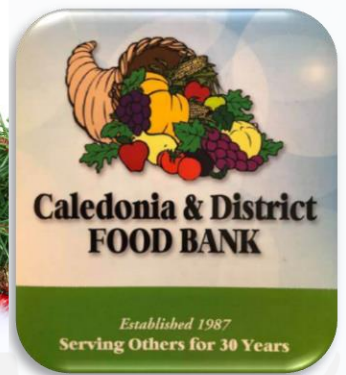
UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

- January 8 Return to School after Christmas Break
- January 8 Kindergarten Registration Opens
- January 16 Knight of Columbus Free Throw Competition Gr 4 to 8
- January 17 ACS Open House for Grade 9
- January 22 PA Day
- January 30 SAC Virtual Meeting 6:30 to 7:30pm
- February 5 Term 1 Report Cards Sent Electronically
- March 11 to 15 March Break
- April 7 Grade 2 First Communion ~ St. Patrick's Church 1pm
- April 17 Grade 8 Grad Photos
- April 19 PA Day
- April 25 Grade 7 Vaccinations (2nd Dose)

Wishing you a
**Merry Christmas and
a Healthy & Happy
New Year**



From the Staff at
Notre Dame Catholic School



As Catholics, we are called to help those in need.
With your help we are excited to be able to support the
Caledonia & District Food Bank

***FIGHTING HUNGER 1 DAY AT A TIME** was a success because of your generous donations. Thank you for your ongoing support during the month of November! Donations will be delivered to the food bank in early December with the help of our friends at Winegard Ford.



December's Initiative

***TREE OF WARMTH** will aim to collect
hats, scarves, and mittens.

Our Tree of Warmth will be set up in the foyer for
your contributions beginning **December 1st**.

We are grateful for your efforts in helping to bring
warmth and comfort to those less fortunate this year.

