



St. Patrick School News



December 2023
ZONE 4

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

SEASONS GREETINGS

There is already excitement in the air as we begin our journey through Advent, leading us to the big day, Christmas. The birth of Jesus brings salvation and peace for all of us. In the Catholic Church, Advent is a period of preparation, waiting, and patience, extending over four Sundays before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to", and this refers to the coming of Christ. This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; but second, to the coming of Christ through our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For the next four weeks the school will be bustling as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Our Catholic Character Trait for the month of December will be focused on Charity and, using our Catholic Social Teaching, we will be putting the needs of the poor and vulnerable first. Our children will be making 200 Christmas Cards and we will be donating hats, mitts, and scarves from our "Tree of Warmth" to the Blessing Centre, Brantford.

We are very excited to be having our Christmas Lunch in the gym on December 19th. It will be buffet style so students will be able to choose what they would like to eat. We would like to thank our Parent Council for helping to sponsor this celebration.

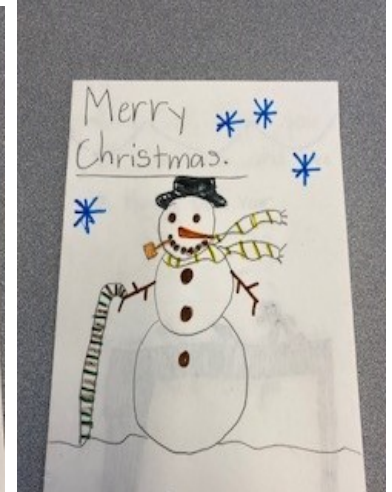
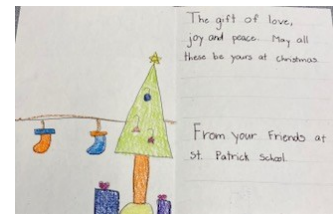
We are very excited to host our Christmas Open House at the School from 5:00—7:00 p.m. on December 20th. Come as a family to participate in the fun activities and crafts.

We have a Santa Hat day scheduled for December 1st and then a week of theme days beginning Dec. 18th (see inside the newsletter for details).

The entire staff of St. Patrick School wish all of our families, students and volunteers a joyous and peaceful Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Merry Christmas!

Mrs. H. Knill-Griesser



Bless Our Gifts:

God of all that is good and holy,

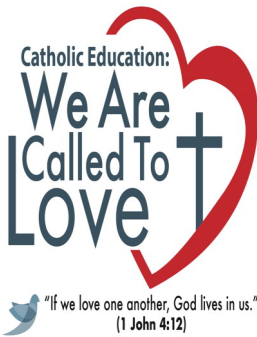
Bless the gifts that we have collected for those in need.

Bless them with hope and strength. May these gifts help them on their journeys.

As you care for us, help us on our journeys, too.

We make this prayer in Jesus' name

Amen



Contact Us:





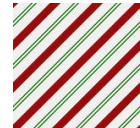
320 Fairview Drive,
Brantford, Ontario N3R 2X6

Tel. (519) 759-0380

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

On Tuesday, December 19th we will be having a Christmas Lunch catered by The Sherwood Restaurant in Brantford. We will be meeting as a school community in the gym to a buffet catered meal. The cost of the meal is \$10.00 per student and can be purchased through SchoolCash on line.

CHRISTMAS THEME DAYS

MONDAY Dec. 18		Wear your favourite Christmas hat/cap/hair accessories
TUESDAY Dec 19		Wear a Christmas sweater
WEDNESDAY Dec 20		Dress like a reindeer – wear your antlers
THURSDAY Dec 21		Christmas Character Day or Dress Like an Elf
FRIDAY Dec 22		Wear red, green and white day

INCLEMENT WEATHER/SCHOOL CLOSING

Our students' safety comes first. The decision to cancel transportation services shall be made PRIOR to 6:30 a.m. and will be announced on the designated radio stations, CHCH news, twitter @stsbhn, and our board website.



There are FOUR zones within our school board and St. Patrick School is **ZONE 4**. When morning transportation services are cancelled within our school board, ALL schools, and school trips will be cancelled for that day for all students.

Students will be able to go on-line on to D2L/Brightspace and participate in asynchronous learning opportunities on snow days! System teachers have placed grade appropriate work in the Content section of the site. Classroom teachers may also place work on the site for the day.

Please listen to the local news or check the board website to see if our school is closed.

WINTER PLAYGROUND SAFETY RULES

Children are expected to come to school dressed appropriately for the weather. In the winter that means hat, coat, neck warmer (scarves need to be tucked in), mittens, and snow pants.

Icy areas are off bounds to avoid slips and falls. No sliding on icy areas. Snowballs are not thrown because they could cause an injury to another student/staff.

Putting snow down someone's back, hood or face etc. is not allowed. Snow should stay on the ground.

Building snow-people, snow structures, and snow forts are allowed. We do not wreck other people's forts, snow-people, or snow sculptures because people worked hard to build them and we do not like it when someone wrecks our work.

The top of snow hills and other snow structures are off bounds to avoid pushing, slipping, falling, bumps, and collisions. Children may play on the sides of the snow hills or structures.

Soccer is allowed. Square ball (four square) is allowed when the pavement is dry and clear of ice and snow. Wall ball and pavement games are allowed using a "soft" ball (e.g., utility ball or tennis ball) and no ice is in the area. The playground equipment area is **closed** until the spring.

Most of all, we want students to have fun, enjoy the snow, and play safe!

WINTER OUTDOOR TEMPERATURES

When outdoor winter temperatures fall below -20 C (including windchill), St. Patrick students will have recess indoors in accordance with Board policy and guidelines.

When temperatures are between -10 C and -20 C students can be outside for a maximum of 20 minutes. Please continue to send your child with complete winter wear and we will continue to monitor the temperature and the playground conditions for student safety.



For more information on the BHNCD SB policy around cold weather please visit the following website: www.bhncdsb.ca

Important — Please remember to send your child to school prepared for all outdoor play. Students should wear boots, hats, gloves or mittens, warm coats, and snow/slush pants.

It is a good idea to send more than one pair of mitts on snowy days since mitts get wet and do not have enough time to dry before second recess.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER...

- December 1st - Santa Hat Day and Poinsettia Pick-up day.
- December 5th - Advent Mass at 1:40 p.m. in the gym with Father Steve. Families are welcome to attend.
- December 8th - Brantford Junior Basketball Tournament at Assumption College

- December 19th - Christmas Lunch in the gym
- December 20th - Christmas Open House from 5:00–7:00 p.m.
- December 22nd - Last school day for 2023!

===== 2024 =====

- January 8th** -Welcome Back to School—Happy New Year!
- January 8th - Online Registration for Kindergarten opens today!
- January 22nd - P.A. Day—no school
- February 5th - Term 1 Report Cards go home
- February 14th - Valentine's Day Theme—wear red, pink, white
- February 19th - Family Day—no school
- March Break** - March 11th—15th



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 ★
 ★ **PARENT COUNCIL**
 ★ **NEWS....**
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 ★ **WATCH FOR IT!**
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 ★ **Our Parent Council**
 ★ **Meeting will be on**
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 ★ **November 30th at 5:30 p.m.**
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 ★ **in the School Library.**
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 ★ **THANK YOU FOR**
 ★ **SUPPORTING YOUR**
 ★ **PARENT COUNCIL AND OUR**
 ★ **ST. PATRICK STUDENTS.**
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**ONLINE
KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION**
JAN 8 - FEB 23
catholiceducation.ca

BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

St. John's College
**FUTURE GRADE 9
STUDENT & PARENT
OPEN HOUSE**
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

Join one of our student-led tours, discover our departments and programs, and attend the information presentation!

6:00-7:00 pm Student-Led Tours and Department Displays
7:00 pm Information Assembly Presentation in the Cafeteria

MORE COURSES + MORE OPTIONS = MORE PREPARED

BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

sjconline.ca

News From Brant County Health Unit

Immunizations

In Ontario, as per the [Immunization of School Pupils Act, 1990 \(ISPA\)](#), all students between the age of 4-17 must provide proof of routine childhood immunization with Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Meningitis, and Varicella (for children born in 2010 and after), or have a valid exemption, in order to attend school. This information is used to help protect students and the public in case there is a vaccine preventable disease outbreak in our community. The Health Unit is mandated to enforce ISPA and assess the immunization status of children in accordance with the [Immunization for Children in Schools and Licensed Child Care Settings Protocol, 2018](#).

Each year, the Brant County Health Unit assesses the immunization records of students around the age of 7 and the age of 17 to ensure students are compliant with immunization requirements. Students who fail to provide proof of immunization, or a valid exemption, may be suspended from school for up to 20 school days. **This year (2023-2024 school year) the focused cohorts are the following birth years: 2006, 2007, 2014, 2015, and 2016. The suspension period for elementary students will begin in March 2024.**

You can report immunizations in the following ways:



Online:

www.bchu.org/emunization

Note: use the Ontario Immunization Identification Number on the front page



In Person:

194 Terrace Hill St., Brantford
Mon to Fri, 8:30am - 4:30pm

*Afterhours drop box outside main entrance



Email:

immunizationintake@bchu.org

Note: privacy of personal health information submitted by email cannot be guaranteed and should be done at your own risk



Phone:

519-753-4937 ext. 451



Mail:

194 Terrace Hill St.,
Brantford, ON N3R 1G7



Fax:

519-753-2140