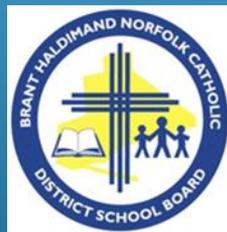


Welcome to St Patrick's School



Let The Journey Begin

St. Patrick is a Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District school that offers an engaging, play-based Kindergarten program in a safe, caring and inclusive environment. The program is designed to nurture the development of the mind, body and spirit.



Spiritual Development and Learning



A child's faith journey in school includes various experiences:

- learning different forms of prayer including Christian meditation
- participating in school liturgies
- exploring the wonders of God's creations



"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14)





Learning Through Play

"...for children, play is serious learning.
Play is really the work of childhood."

~Fred Rogers~

Children learn through purposeful play and inquiry in the classroom and outdoors. They learn about themselves, others, and the world around them by exploring, discovering, experimenting, and questioning.



Our Kindergarten Program

Provides opportunities for children to:

- Exercise their curiosity, creativity, thinking and problem-solving skills
- Develop skills in reading, writing, oral language, numeracy
- Refine their motor control and muscular development
- Develop Self-Regulation
- Develop social skills such as sharing and working cooperatively in groups
- Experience joy and pleasure in coming to school



Four Frames of Learning

In Kindergarten, your child will build their skills, knowledge, and experiences in four key areas or frames of learning.

The frames:

- reflect the natural way children learn
- help educators and families focus on how a child's learning develops



Belonging and Contributing

Self-Regulation and Well-Being

Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviours

Problem Solving and Innovating

Belonging and Contributing

Children explore their connections to others and their role as community members. Through play and interactions with peers, they learn about relationships as they build an understanding of the contributions they can make to various groups, the wider community and the world around them.



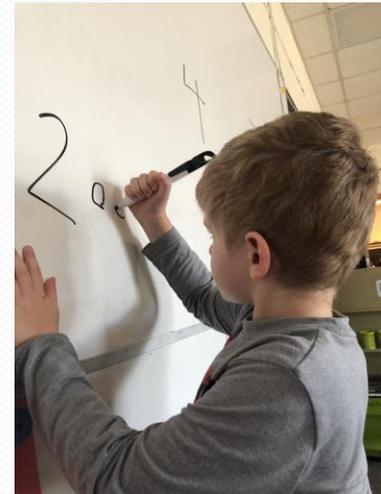
Self-Regulation and Well-Being

Children develop a sense of self-awareness and an understanding of the importance of physical and mental health and wellness. They learn important life skills including how to regulate their emotions and how to adapt to distractions.



Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviours

Children think critically about the world around them and communicate their learning in different ways. They use language and materials to express ideas and emotions and develop reading and writing skills. Using numbers and patterns in play strengthens their growing mathematical skills.



Problem Solving and Innovating

Children make meaning of the world around them by observing, questioning, planning, exploring, testing theories and solving problems. They use their natural curiosity to investigate new and complex ideas.



How Learning is Communicated

Ongoing, clear and meaningful communication between parents, their child and the educator team is vital to a child's growth in learning."

(p.4, *Understanding Your Child's Reports*)

Examples of communication:

- Conversations through phone calls or in person
- Emails, written notes
- Digital portfolios
- Communication of Learning reports (fall, winter, late spring)

The image shows two examples of Kindergarten Communication of Learning (KOL) reports. Each report is a form with the following sections:

- Student Information:** Student Name, Date, Home Address, Phone Number, Email Address, and School Information (School Name, Street Address, City/Town/Village, Postal Code, Province).
- Religion and Family Life Education:** A section for reporting on the student's learning in this area.
- My Learning - Growth in Learning - Next Steps in Learning:** A section for reporting on the student's learning in this area.

Guests

- ❖ We welcome and encourage family involvement in the school community.
- ❖ We have a policy that ALL GUESTS (including familiar faces) are required to check in at the front office.
- ❖ All doors will remain locked during the regular school day.
- ❖ It is important to remember that while this may seem inconvenient to frequent visitors, it is the goal and responsibility of the school to create a safe learning environment.
- ❖ We welcome & need parent volunteers. A current Police Check is required



Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Have your children:

- Manage self-help skills (zipping, snapping, buckling, and buttoning).
- Take care of their own bathroom needs.
- Wash their hands properly.
- Work on developing manners (please, thank you, wait their turn, listening to others).
- Clean up after themselves.
- Practice putting on and fastening their own shoes.
- Practice cutting, pasting, colouring, using a pencil and manipulating objects.
- Practice printing their first name.



St Patrick School Day

8:30 to 8:45 - arrival into classroom, drop off at the classroom door in kindergarten play area

8:45 to 10:25 - 100 minute learning time

10:25 to 10:45- 20 minute outdoor play in K area

10:45 to 11:05 -20 minute nutrition break

11:05 to 12:45 - 100 minute learning time

12:45 to 1:05 - 20 minute outdoor play in K area

1:05 to 1:25 - 20 minute nutrition break

1:25 to 3:05 - 100 minute learning time

3:05 - dismissal to parent or designate in play area or escorted to the bus





Allergies

- ❖ Please inform the school as soon as possible if your child has any allergies, especially if they are life threatening (bee stings, peanuts, tree nuts, milk etc.)
- ❖ Our school is a **PEANUT/TREE NUT SAFE** school. Other allergy notices are also sent home each year once the list of avoidable items is renewed.



Bus/Attendance

- ❖ If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the school.
- ❖ If your child is not going home on the bus, please send a note to the school for the change in routine.
- ❖ If there is any change in your child's pick-up, (being picked up by someone new, etc.), please send a note to school with your child or call the school.
- ❖ If your child requires before/after care contact the YMCA at 519-752-4568



Communication



- To help your child carry their belongings to and from school, you are asked to provide a backpack (one that is large enough to fit their lunch bag is preferable).
- Students will be given an agenda/ communication bag from the teacher to send home their wonderful creations, school and class notes, and information to you. You may also use this to communicate with the teacher. This communication bag will be placed in your child's backpack before dismissal.



School Council

Our School Council is a group of parents who are very active in the school; planning events and activities, and fundraising to benefit the school. Please consider being a member of our parent council .

School Council meetings are held monthly and everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. All info is posted on our school website.



Before you arrive in September



- Bring your child to the school and have them walk around outside with you.
- Take some digital photos of the school and classroom to talk up the transition with your child.
- Talk with your child about the first morning when you have to say goodbye.
- Call the school if your situation changes and your child may not be attending in September.
- Get back to good sleeping patterns and morning school routines at least 2 weeks before the start of school



We Look Forward To Seeing You

This Fall!

