



January 2026

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Thank you Lord for giving me the brand new year ahead.

Help me live the way I should for each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom that I may help a friend.

Give me strength and courage so a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty, help me fill it with good things,

So that each new day is filled with joy and the happiness it brings.

Amen.

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

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St. Patrick School News



JANUARY

Dear St. Patrick Families,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that each of you had an enjoyable Christmas spent with family and friends. As we begin 2026, we look forward with hope and excitement to the upcoming year and what it might bring. May God continue to bless you all with good health, happiness, and peace throughout this year!

Just a reminder that report cards will be sent electronically to your email on Monday, February 9th. This is a great opportunity for students to set new goals for the remainder of the year!

Peter Marchand

December's Principal Award Winners for Charity:

Congratulations to the following students for demonstrating charity in their classrooms and throughout the school in December:

JK—Gavin	Grade 3—Keaton
SK—Osmund	Grade 4/5—Giles
Grade 1—Leo	Grade 6/7—Mila
Grade 2—Thomas	Grade 7/8—Manaiyah



January's Catholic Social Teaching focus is **Courage**.

SPIRIT WEAR WEDNESDAY'S

We are encouraging all of our Junior Eagles, students and staff, to show off your school pride by wearing your St. Patrick School spirit wear or school colours every Wednesday!



HEAD LICE

Head lice can be a nuisance. As we return to school after the Christmas break, this is just a reminder to be vigilant in helping prevent the spread of head lice.

What to Look For:

Nits are very tiny eggs. Half the size of a pinhead and oval in shape. They may look like dandruff but they are firmly glued to the hair and cannot be flicked off. New eggs, which are close to the scalp, are tan coloured and are difficult to see. Nits that are further away from the scalp appear white. Nits are most often found above and behind the ears, at the nape of the neck and at the crown of the head.

How to Check for Head Lice:

- Examine the head under natural bright light. Head lice may be hard to detect because they move quickly and are very small.
- It is helpful to examine the head from different angles or light. This is easily achieved by moving around the adult/child while examining. Newly laid eggs are almost transparent.
- Part the hair and closely examine the scalp, especially the nape of the neck and behind the ears.
- To find the eggs. Look for small white or yellowish-brown specks that are about the size of a poppy seed. You may see lice quickly moving away from the sunlight.
- To tell the difference between eggs and dandruff, try to dislodge them from the hair shaft. If they are not easily removed, they are probably eggs.

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.

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.



St. Patrick is a peanut/tree nut safe school. Please **DO NOT** send food that contains any type of nut and ensure store bought items have a peanut/tree nut free label. Also, please note that the use of peanut butter substitutes (e.g., WOW Butter, etc.) **is not permitted**.

We also kindly ask that you **DO NOT** send to school food treats for the class due to allergies and dietary restrictions. Thanks for your cooperation and helping keep our kids and staff safe!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER...

- ★ Jan 1 - February Hot Lunch orders open on School Cash Online
- ★ Jan 5 - Kindergarten online registration opens
- ★ Jan 14 - Grade 8 Parent Info Night & Open House at St John's College 6pm
- ★ Jan 18 - February Hot Lunch orders close on School Cash Online
- ★ Jan 19 - PA Day—no school for students
- ★ Jan 20 - St Patrick Harvey's fundraiser night (Henry Street location ONLY)
- ★ Jan 21 - Parent Council meeting 5:30 PM in St. Patrick staff room
- ★ Jan 28 - SK, JK & Gr 2 Dental/Oral Screening (Parent info letter emailed Jan 5th)
- ★ Jan 28 - Sr Boys & Girls Basketball @ ACS
- ★ Feb 1 - March Hot Lunch orders open on School Cash Online
- ★ Feb 9 - Report Cards go home
- ★ Feb 13 - Valetine's Day at St. Patrick (Feb. 14th is on Saturday)
- ★ Feb 15 - March Hot Lunch orders close on School Cash Online
- ★ Feb 16 - Family Day (no school)
- ★ Feb 17 - Strove Tuesday (pancake orders available on School Cash Online)
- ★ Feb 18 - Ash Wednesday
- ★ Feb 25 - Parent Council meeting 5:30 PM in St. Patrick staff room



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

New Junior and Senior Kindergarten registrations for the 2026 – 2027 school year will start during the month of January. If you know of any families with Kindergarten-aged children who will be attending St. Patrick School next year, please let them know to register! For Junior Kindergarten, children must be 4 years old by December 31, 2026 and for students registering in Senior Kindergarten, they must be 5 years old by December 31, 2026.

WHEN CAN I REGISTER MY CHILD?

Registration for Kindergarten opened on January 5th, 2026 and will run through February 20th for BHNCDSE elementary school. Early registration greatly assists the school with planning and organizing for the coming school year.

HOW DO WE REGISTER?

The Board's Kindergarten registration process is online via www.catholiceducation.ca. In order to complete the online registration there are some documents that you will need to have ready to upload. We recommend either scanning or taking an image/photo of the documents in advance of beginning the registration process.

What documents do I need?

- Birth certificate or proof of Canadian citizenship or permanent residence status (citizenship documentation, permanent resident card or record of landing).
- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate or, if your child is not baptized, the Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate of the parent(s) or guardian(s) must be provided.
- Proof of home address:
Accepted proof of address (1 required): Grandbridge Energy bill, Brantford Utilities bill, Reliance bill, Enbridge Gas bill, Brantford property tax bill)
Required on Proof of address photo: (First and Last name of one of the students parents, Brantford home address, Company Name, Company Logo, Date on invoice must be within 30 days of registration date)

Where do I go to register?

- Prepare electronic copies of the required documents and visit www.catholiceducation.ca to register.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office at 519-759-0380.



Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board

St. John's College
**FUTURE GRADE 9
STUDENT & PARENT
OPEN HOUSE**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Tour the school, discover our departments and programs,
and attend the information presentation!

6:00-7:00 pm — Information session

7:00-8:30 pm — Open house and an opportunity to tour
the building

sjconline.ca

