



St. Patrick's School

Catholic Elementary School
320 Fairview Drive, Brantford, ON

519-759-0380 | Zone: 4

October Newsletter

Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving and gracious God,

During this month of Thanksgiving, we pause to give You thanks for the many blessings You have bestowed upon us. We are grateful for the beauty of this land, for the harvest of the earth, and for the gift of family, friends, and our St. Patrick School community.



Thank You for the food we share, the work that sustains us, and the opportunities we have to grow in faith, wisdom, and love. Open our hearts to recognize Your goodness in all things and to share generously with those in need.

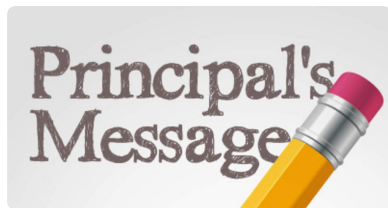
As we gather in gratitude, remind us that every good gift comes from You. Bless our homes, our school, and our community with love, peace, joy, and hope.

May we always be thankful people, caring for one another and for all of creation, following the example of Jesus Christ.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Principal's Message



As we move into the autumn season, we bear witness to some of God's tangible handiwork with the transformation of trees turning into glorious shades of colour. In this season of Thanksgiving, we wish to extend to all of you a heartfelt thank you for entrusting your most precious gifts to us - your children. We are thankful that

we can guide and witness their joy and bright minds full of wonder and learning each day! They bring their enthusiasm, curiosity, and energy through our doors every single day. I would also like to thank our dedicated teachers and support staff for going above and beyond to create safe, welcoming, and engaging places to learn. And thank you to our families for your ongoing partnership and support at home and at school! I hope you find time this season to pause and to give thanks for our many blessings. Take care, stay safe, and God Bless.

Peter Marchand
Principal

September Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following students for showing Gratitude in their classrooms and throughout the school in September:

JK – Maxine

SK – Grace

Grade 1 – Sam

Grade 2/3 – Gia

Grade 4/5 – Thomas

Grade 4/5 – Meadow

Grade 6/7 – Hunter

Grade 7/8 – Thomas

October's focus will be the virtue of Hope. Keep up the great work Junior Eagles!



School Bell Times

- School Starts: 8:30 AM
 - First Nutrition Break: 10:25 AM - 11:05 AM
 - Second Nutrition Break: 12:45 PM - 1:25 PM
 - School Dismissal: 3:05 PM
-

Safe Arrival Reminder

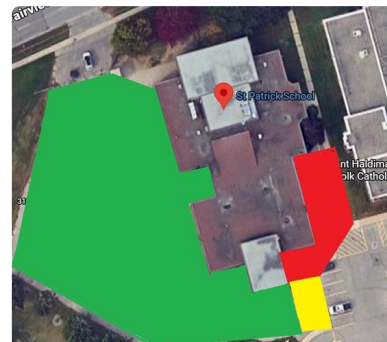
If your child will be absent or late for school please use the SafeArrival system, you no longer need to contact the school.

You have 3 options to report an absence:

- Download the mobile app;
- Use the [website](https://home.schoolmessenger.ca) (<https://home.schoolmessenger.ca>)
- Or call the toll free number: 1-844-445-4381

Morning Drop-Off Reminder

When dropping off students in the morning, please help ensure they are on the playground at the back of the school to ensure appropriate staff supervision (the area coloured in green). Students are not to be in the area between the school and Catholic Education Centre (noted in red). Students are also asked to not play in the area marked as yellow as this is in proximity to our kiss and drop area which can be quite busy with vehicle traffic in the morning. Thank you for your attention to this and helping keep our kids safe!



Looking to Volunteer at St. Patrick School?

Volunteerism is recognized as a core component of the Catholic teachings on the importance of service and stewardship to others. When parents/guardians or community members contribute their time and effort to support curricular and co-curricular programming in schools, they are carrying out the mission of the Catholic Church by helping young people to reach their full potential.

The Ontario Regulation 298/25, made under the Education Act and filed December 5, 2025, stipulates that a vulnerable sector check (VSC) must be collected from individuals who will be in a position of trust or authority in relations to pupils. ALL volunteers (e.g. school council members, classroom helpers, supervisors, SEAC members, coaches, etc.) must be vetted, which includes:

- Volunteers must submit, at their own expense, a current Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC) indicating

their intent to volunteer with the BHNCDsB prior to commencing volunteer service. The VSC shall be

retained in a secure location in the school's main office.

- Volunteers must submit an updated Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC) every five years thereafter.
- Volunteers must submit a completed Volunteer Criminal Offence Declaration annually in any year that a Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC) is not required.
- Volunteers must submit a signed Volunteer Confidentiality Agreement.
- Volunteers must complete the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) training module prior to commencing volunteer service.
- Volunteers must complete the Concussion Awareness Training and Acknowledgement process annually

If you are looking to volunteer this school year, please check with the office (519-759-0380) to ensure you are up to date!

! Important Dates !

Oct 1 - November hot lunch orders open on School Cash Online

Oct 1 - Hot lunches begin on Thursdays and Tuesdays (must have pre-ordered to receive it)

Oct 5 - World Teacher Day

Oct 6 - PD Day! (no school)

Oct 7 - Chips for sale at 2nd break (\$1.00 per bag)

Oct 7 - Parent Council Meeting 5:30 - 6:30 PM - all are welcome!

Oct 7 - BHN Special Education Parent Engagement Night 6 - 8 PM at St. Patrick School

Oct 12 - Thanksgiving (no school)

Oct 13 - Chocolate Bar Fundraiser ends - All money due to the office or on School Cash Online

Oct 18 - November hot lunch orders close on School Cash Online

Oct 20 - Grade 8 Camp Celtic information meeting - 6 PM at St Patrick School

Oct 28 - Picture Day 📷

Oct 30 - Halloween at St. Patrick School - Parade at 9 AM (weather permitting)

Supporting Well-Being at St. Patrick School

As part of our student support team, we are pleased to have a part time Child and Youth Worker (CYW) on staff. CYWs are trained professionals who support students' social, emotional, behavioural, and mental well-being. They work collaboratively with students, families, educators, district staff and community partners to help students build resilience, strengthen relationships, develop coping skills, and successfully navigate challenges that may impact learning and well-being.

The support provided by our CYW reflects the Ontario Ministry of Education's commitment to student well-being and aligns with the evidence-based practices promoted through School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO). Through prevention, early intervention, and collaborative support, we strive to ensure that all students feel safe, connected, supported, and ready to learn.

Our Child and Youth Worker may support students by:

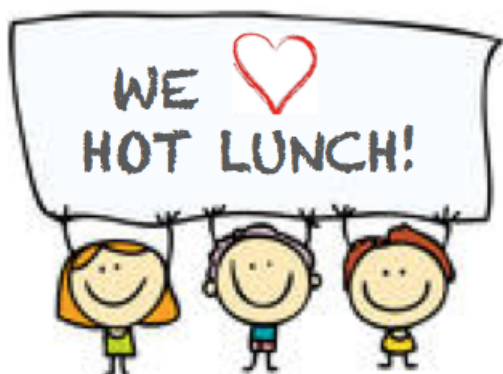
- Building positive relationships and a sense of belonging
- Developing and bolstering mental health literacy and social-emotional learning skills through classroom engagement sessions (alongside the educator), small groups, or within the life space of the student
- Supporting emotional regulation and coping strategies
- Assisting students during times of transition or change
- Recognizing and responding to emerging mental health concerns (support and linkages)
- Connecting families with mental health and wellness resources, when appropriate, including Board or community regulated mental health professionals
- Collaborating with school staff to promote student success

Please be advised that because CYWs are integrated members of our everyday school team, formal parental consent is not required for a CYW to interact with, support, or assist your child. Our school CYWs do not provide counselling nor replace the work of a regulated mental health professional.

Just as students interact naturally with their principal, teachers and support staff as part of the standard school day, they have access to CYW support whenever a need arises. While we always value open communication and will partner with families for long-term individualized support plans, immediate or day-to-day CYW guidance is provided as a standard school-wide resource to ensure all students thrive.

Families play a critical role in supporting student well-being, and we value our partnership with you. If you have questions about the support available through our Child and Youth Worker or believe your child may benefit from additional support, please contact the school office. To access parent/caregiver resources to support mental health learning and well-being for every family, visit: [By your side – Parents and caregivers - School Mental Health Ontario](#)

Together, we can help every student be well, feel well, and do well.



Hot Lunches

We will be offering the following Hot Lunches for purchase starting in October:

Strodes BBQ & Deli (every Tuesday)
Papa John's Pizza (every Thursday)

Ordering is done a month ahead on School Cash Online



Nut/Peanut Free

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!

YOUR PHOTO DAY IS APPROACHING!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28



Showcase Your Best Smile

- Students will be photographed at school.
- On photo day, no order form or payment is due.
- Review your images and purchase online with ease!



DON'T FORGET

School photos are a Canadian tradition to capture the school year and preserve your continued growth.



GET REMINDERS

Sign up for notifications at edgeimaging.ca/photoday to get real-time updates about your photo day and stay in the know with Edge.



1 (866) 707-3343

edgeimaging.ca

[edgeimaging](https://edgeimaging.ca)

🎃 Pumpkin Carving Contest 🎃



Dear St. Patrick school families,

The St. Patrick's Halloween Committee is please to present our annual FAMILY PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST. Each family is invited to carve a pumpkin at home and bring it for display on FRIDAY OCTOBER 30, 2026. We ask that only ONE pumpkin be submitted by each family. Each pumpkin will be assigned a number and it will be placed on display. Each class will visit the display throughout the day and staff and students will have the opportunity to vote for their top 3 choices. We will tally all votes and announce the three winners by the end of the day.

The three categories are: Most CREATIVE, FUNNIEST, and SCARIEST.

Please note that pumpkins depicting violence will not be places on display.

If your family wishes to enter our contest, please bring your pumpkin to school on Friday October 30 between 8:15-8:45am. We ask that you take your pumpkin home at the end of the day.

We hope that you participate in our contest and that your family has many exciting and fun moments collaborating and creating together!



🎃 🎃 Halloween Parade 🎃 🎃

The Halloween Parade will be happening on Friday October 30th at 9am.

If you want your child to go on the Halloween walk you **MUST COMPLETE** the 7 online school forms that have been out since the beginning of the school year on School Cash Online: **(Go online to confirm ALL have been signed)**

1. Church Mass & Community Walks
2. Catholic Code of Conduct
3. Concussion Awareness
4. Makerspace Safety Procedure (STEM)
5. Mobile Device Use Agreement
6. Notice of Collection and Use of Personal Information
7. Technology Agreement

If you don't see a particular form, that means you have already completed that one.

View our school year calendar

New Beginnings, Bright Futures



This event is designed to support youth and young adults with special education needs, while welcoming all families - including those with younger children - to participate. Beginning this journey early can open doors, ignite new possibilities, and lay the foundation for a brighter future for everyone.

Join us for a Parent Engagement Drop In &

Community Resource Information Fair

- Explore the wide range of community agencies (from Brant, Haldimand, and Norfolk) that offer support for families, youth, and young adults with special education needs, including developmental, intellectual, and physical disabilities, as well as Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Community agencies and organizations will be available to share valuable resources, answer questions, and support you in making informed decisions for the future.
- Learn about post-secondary pathways, including supported employment, day programs, housing options, respite services, and specialized college programs.

All Ages Welcome

 **Date:** Wednesday, October 7, 2026

 **Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

 **Where:** St. Patrick School Gymnasium
320 Fairview Drive, Brantford



October is Kindergarten Registration Month!

The Road to Kindergarten

Little one born in 2023?
Register for Kindergarten **this October**



BHNCDSB



Register for Kindergarten

Do you have a little one born in 2023? Mark your calendar - online Kindergarten registration opens in October

Tax Direction Information

Support Catholic Education in the Upcoming Municipal Election

Help protect and preserve our Catholic education system by ensuring that you are registered as an English Separate (Catholic) School Supporter. Like many Catholics, you may be surprised to find out that you are registered as a 'Public School' supporter. You are able to correct this before the upcoming election.

If you miss the update deadline, you can also bring photo identification and proof of address to your polling station on election day to ensure you are able to cast a vote for your local Catholic school trustee.

By directing your tax support to the separate school system:

- You may vote for separate school trustees in municipal elections
- Your children may attend Catholic elementary schools
- You show your support for the Catholic school system

You can visit [MPAC](#) to learn more about changing your school support online or download the MPAC school support factsheet below.



Direction of School Support

[Download](#)

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Grand Erie Public Health

Stay home when sick

When children are sick, it is difficult for them to learn and participate in school and activities. Home is the best place for your child if they have any new symptoms of illness.

They can return to school and activities when they feel better for at least 24 hours (48 hours for nausea, vomiting or diarrhea) and they do not have a fever.

Remember, handwashing is the best defense in stopping the spread of germs!

Thank you for taking care of your community!



More News From Grand Erie Public Health



Mad Science signup information



JKSK St. Patrick School.pdf

Kindergarten Mad Science Program Flyer

[Download](#)

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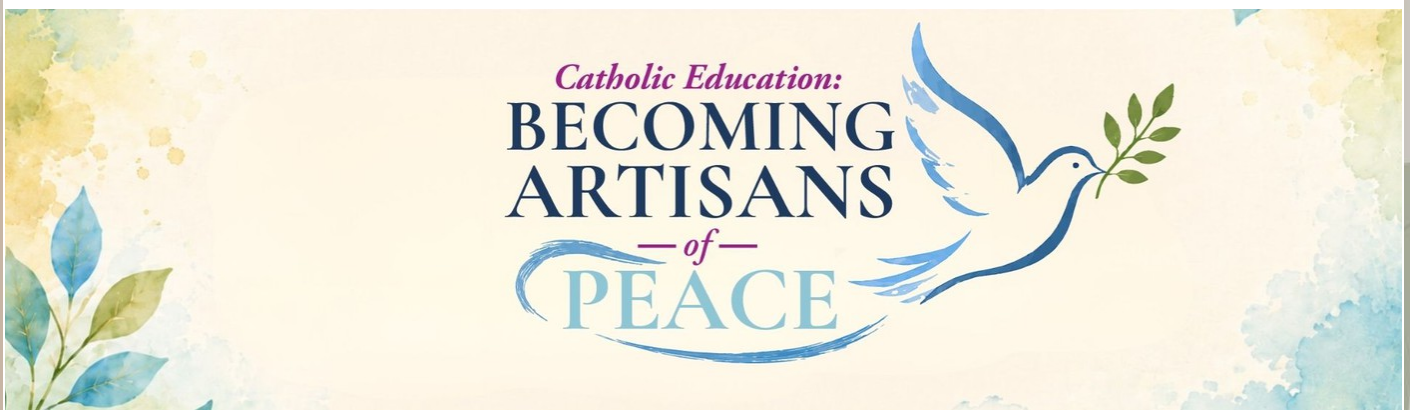


Grade 1-6 St. Patrick School.pdf

Grades 1 - 6 Mad Science Program Flyer

[Download](#)

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