



Week at a Glance

Monday, May 18th– Friday, May 22nd, 2026

Parent/Guardian #35 2025-2026

At St. Stephen Catholic School, we are dedicated to fostering the spiritual, intellectual, and moral development of every child. Grounded in the teachings of Jesus Christ and guided by Catholic values, we aim to build a supportive and inclusive community where students are motivated to excel, build strong character, and serve others with compassion and integrity. Through faith-based education, we prepare our students to become lifelong learners, responsible citizens, and faithful followers of Christ

Dear Parents/Guardians of St. Stephen School,

As we move closer to the end of another wonderful school year, there are many important upcoming events and celebrations taking place at St. Stephen School. Please take a few moments to carefully review the information below so you can mark these important dates on your calendars. Our Grade 2 students will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Reconciliation this Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the church. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Scott, and Mrs. Schaus for their dedication and preparation of the students for this important milestone in their faith journey. The Grade 2 students will also celebrate their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 24th, at 10:30 a.m. in the church. All are welcome to join us as we celebrate these very special Catholic Sacraments together as a school and parish community. As Catholic educators, we recognize that this work is more than a profession; it is a calling. Each day, the staff go above and beyond to support the students entrusted in our care, and their kindness, dedication, and faith-filled leadership make a tremendous difference in the students' lives.

This Wednesday will also be Classroom Picture Day. Since classroom photos were paused during COVID, this will be our first opportunity in several years to capture these special memories together.

This week also marks the beginning of EQAO testing for our Grade 3 students. Thank you to Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Gaudette, and Ms. Michaud for all their hard work in preparing the students for the assessments. The Grade 6 students will complete their EQAO testing the week of the 25th.

On Thursday, our Grade 7/8 students will have the exciting opportunity to attend the Epic Jobs and Skilled Trades Event at the Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre in Brantford. We know this will be a valuable and engaging experience for our intermediate students. On Friday, our grade 8 students will be going to Camp Celtic for 4 days, what a great opportunity for them. Thank you Mr. Bortolotto, for organizing.

We also continue preparing for the upcoming Track and Field Meet at Cayuga Secondary School on June 8th and the Super Meet on the 10th. Thank you to all staff members and volunteers for helping with practices and preparation. Opportunities like this would not be possible without your continued support and commitment to our students.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns, questions, or compliments. I will do my best to respond within 24 hours. Wishing all our St. Stephen families a wonderful, safe, and relaxing Victoria Day long weekend!

Mr. Docherty

Monday, May 18th, 2026	PA Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victoria Day-No School
Tuesday, May 19th, 2026	Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition Day- Thank you, volunteers • Subway • May 19th-22nd- EQAO grade 3 (Make-up days June 8 & 9)
Wednesday, May 20th, 2026	Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EQAO grade 3's • Classroom portraits-starting at 9:15 • Reconciliation grade 2's (11:30) @ St. Stephen Church
Thursday, May 21st, 2026	Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition Day- Thank you, volunteers • PALS 2nd Nutrition Break (Grades 1-3) • Epic Jobs and Skilled Trades (grades 7-8) Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre
Friday, May 22nd, 2026	Day 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name that Song and Random Acts of Kindness (2:20) • May 22nd-25th- Grade 8 End of Year trip to Camp Celtic

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Upcoming Important Dates & Events

May 24th- First Communion (10:30) @ St. Stephen Church
May 25th-28th-Start EQAO grade 6
May 29th- Presentation on Water and Sun Safety- Two groups (grades K-3/4 11:15- 11:55) (grades 4/5-7/8 12:00-12:50) in gym
June 2nd- Have a Go (Mrs. Gaudette)
June 3rd- Grades 2/3 & 3/4 End of Year trip to Splitsville Bowling
June 8th- Track and Field @ Cayuga SS (all day)
June 9th- Track and Field rain date
June 10th- Track and Field-Super meet@ HT
June 11th- Track and Field- Super meet @ HT rain date
June 12th- FDK-Grade 1/2 End of year trip to Mudcat Bowling
June 12th- Grade 4/5 End of year trip to Adventure Village
June 16th- Grade 3- Swim to Survive (11:00 am-12:00 pm)
June 16th- Grade 7- Swim to Survive (12:00 pm-1:00 pm)
June 18th- Grade 3- Swim to Survive (11:00 am-12:00 pm)
June 18th- Grade 6/7 End of the Year Trip to Activate
June 19th- FDK Graduation (1:30)
June 19th- Grade 8 Graduation and mass (6:00 pm)
June 19th- Grade 7- Swim to Survive (1:00 pm-2:00 pm)
June 22nd- Fun Day (Colour House Day)- all day-Father Rudy is buying pizza for the school
June 23rd-Grade 3- Swim to Survive (11:00 am-12:00 pm)
June 23rd - Grade 7–Swim to Survive (12:00 pm-1:00 pm)
June 24th- End of Year Mass (9:15)

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****FYI****

Kindergarten Entry Process 2026

Tuesday, September 8 - All Second Year Students (SK) and half of First Year Students (JK)
Wednesday, September 9 - All Second Year Students (SK) and half of First Year Students (JK)
Thursday, September 10 and Friday, September 11 - ALL Kindergarten Students

What a Parent/Guardian/Family Member Can Do to Assist in Good Attendance:

- **Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.**
- **Lay out clothes and pack backpack the night before.**
- **Keep your child healthy.**
- **Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbour or another parent.**
- **Try to schedule medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.**
- **If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, the school principal and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.**
- **If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.**

SELF Regulation:

- **Understanding the SELF in Self Reg©**
- **The self-regulations as a learning skill that is reported on in the Ontario Report Card is vastly different than the process of Self-Reg©. At BHNCD SB, we continue to explore and embed Shanker Self Reg© practices in our schools as a means to enhance learning, promote well-being, reduce behavioural issues, improve educator well-being and promote lifelong skills.**
- **Consider the following:**
- **Can you pour from an empty cup?**
- **Can you help others when you yourself need help?**
- **Can you co-regulate without being regulated by yourSELF?**
- **Knowing yourself and how you respond to different tensions and energy states enables you to effectively support yourSELF and others and provides the opportunity to foster a supportive and stress-aware environment for students and staff.**
- **Reflect on the video and consider the next steps.**

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VIDEO LINK:

- <https://bhncdsbca.sharepoint.com/:v:/r/sites/PLR/Shared%20Documents/Understanding%20the%20SELF%20in%20Self-Regulation.mp4?csf=1&web=1&e=ARqhRT&nav=eyJyZWZlcnJhbEluZm8iOnsicmVmZXJyYWxBcHAIiJtdHJIYW1XZWJBcHAIiLCJyZWZlcnJhbFZpZXciOiJTaGFyZURpYWxvZy1MaW5rliwicmVmZXJyYWxBcHBQbGF0Zm9ybSI6IldiYiIsInJlZmVycmFsTW9kZSI6InZpZXcifX0%3D>

Head Lice:

Prevention & Treatment Information: [head-lice-brochure-BCHU-HNHU-booklet-Updated.pdf](#)

Ticks:

When nice weather arrives, so does the risk of tick bites. The attached factsheet provides families with additional information on protecting themselves against ticks.

Please visit <https://bchu.org/public-health-topic/infectious-disease/ticks/> for more information.”

Public Health Info:

Dear school partner,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Joey Liu, and I am pleased to introduce myself as your school's new Public Health Nurse. I am new to Grand Erie Public Health but I have been working in Public Health for the past eight years, most recently with Halton Region. Throughout my career, I've had the opportunity to work closely with school boards, school administrators, educators, parents, and children and I value the important role schools play in supporting student health and well-being.

I am very much looking forward to working with you and your school community for the remainder of this school year. Over the coming weeks, I will be taking some time to review what your school has done in the past few years, as well as any areas of interest you may have shared in previous discussions with our Health Promoter, Josh. I will also share any relevant public health information that may be helpful for inclusion in your monthly school newsletters. Here is February's health topic: Bullying.

There are also several current initiatives that may be of interest to your school including:

You're the Chef

Playground Activity Leaders in Schools (PALS)

Information on implementing student lunch monitors

A staff presentation on teaching food and nutrition using a neutral and inclusive approach

For more information on Public Health Services in schools, please visit our website. Please note that Brantford-Brant and Haldimand-Norfolk PHUs have merged, and our new GEPH website will be coming soon. For now, please continue to find the information you need via our legacy sites.

I would love the opportunity to meet in person to put a face to the name. I recognize how busy school schedules can be and would be happy to accommodate a time that works best for you. Please don't hesitate to reach out if there are any needs related to your school or if you are interested in initiating any of the initiatives listed above.

You can reach me by email at jliu@geph.ca or by call/text at 548-885-1697 — whichever is easiest for you. I look forward to working with you.

Warmly,

Joey Liu, BScN, RN (She/Her)

Public Health Nurse, School Health

Grand Erie Public Health

Email: jliu@geph.ca

Phone: 519-900-9600

Web: www.geph.ca

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REACH



Healthy Habitats - Healthy Minds

Join us for a fun, hands-on program where youth, ages 7-11 and their caregivers, explore wildlife, learn about turtles, and build skills like mindfulness, empathy, and resilience.

Connect with nature
Grow a healthy mind
Protect local wildlife



Made possible by a TD Friends of the Environment Grant, Child & Youth Mental Health Services and Hobbistee Animal Rescue are excited to offer 4 free interactive sessions.

When: Saturdays: May 16, June 20, July 11, August 15 2026

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (Rain or Shine)

Where: 101A Nanticoke Creek Pkwy, Townsend,

Free to youth in Haldimand & Norfolk and Neighbouring Communities. Space is limited!

To Register: Call 519-587-2441 ext. 283 or
Email: nschuur@hnreach.on.ca



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Haldimand Norfolk

REACH

Calling All Young Gardeners

Create a Magical Pollinator Garden  Create Your Calm
Grow Your Mental Fitness  Disconnect from Screens 

We are seeking

POLLINATOR PALS

Are you ready to embark on an exciting and fulfilling journey that not only helps the environment but also enhances your mental fitness?

Come Help Us Plant a Pollinator Garden!



Townsend Garden
Tuesday May 12, 2026
4:30 pm -5:30 pm

101 Nanticoke Creek Pkwy, Townsend

OR

Dunnville Garden
Tuesday May 26, 2026
4:30 pm -5:30 pm

110 Ramsey Drive, Dunnville

Ages 7-11 - Free to youth in Haldimand, Norfolk, and Neighbouring Communities - Space is limited

For more information or to register call 519-587-2441 ext. 283
or email: nschuur@hnreach.on.ca



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A promotional poster for a Star Wars Youth Movie Night event. The background is black with yellow stars and a yellow border. At the top left, a red laser beam points towards the text 'FREE' in white, with 'AGES 13-19' below it. The main title 'YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT' is in large, yellow, outlined letters. Below this, it says 'PRESENTED BY THE WEEK OF THE CHILD & YOUTH, HALDIMAND-NORFOLK'. The date '-MONDAY, JUNE 1-' is in glowing green letters. The movie titles 'STAR WARS: MANDALORIAN AND GROGU' are in red and white. The venue 'THE STRAND MOVIE THEATRE, SIMCOE' and times 'DOORS OPEN @ 6:00, MOVIE STARTS @ 6:30' are in yellow. A blue banner at the bottom says 'FREE POPCORN & POP INCLUDED'. Registration information is provided in yellow text. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a grey planet and a blue bucket of popcorn with a logo.

FREE
AGES 13-19

**YOUTH
MOVIE
NIGHT**

PRESENTED BY THE WEEK OF THE CHILD & YOUTH,
HALDIMAND-NORFOLK

-MONDAY, JUNE 1-

**STAR WARS: MANDALORIAN AND
GROGU**

THE STRAND MOVIE THEATRE, SIMCOE
DOORS OPEN @ 6:00, MOVIE STARTS @ 6:30

FREE POPCORN & POP INCLUDED

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
Register by Phone: (519) 426-5870 x2233
Register by Email: recreation@norfolkcounty.ca
Register Online: norfolkcounty.perfectmind.com