



St. Cecilia's School SCHOOL NEWS



3 Lynn Park Avenue, Port Dover, ON N0A 1N4 • 519-583-0231

www.stceciliaportdover.ca @stceciliahawks - ZONE 1

Principal: S. Defreyne

Secretary: K. Muise

September 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome back to another exciting year of faith, fun and learning! We are so happy you are part of our community at St. Cecilia's School. We've grown even more this year and we welcome all new students, staff and families to our community. Thank you for entrusting your children to us and for choosing Catholic Education! I am truly honoured to have the opportunity to serve you as Principal at St. Cecilia's Elementary School.

This year our theme is based on the Road to Emmaus story from the Gospel of Luke – Hearts of Fire: Transform. We hope to journey with you as we celebrate our faith and deepen our relationship with Christ. It is our hope that as we accompany each other on the journey that you fill God's love and abundant blessings.

Normally, we would welcome you with a Meet the Teacher Night, however, we have been asked to cancel this event due to the number of people that would gather. We will be sharing short videos through out the first week on twitter @stceciliahawks. Your teacher will introduce themselves in the first week.

My door is always open and I look forward to working together to ensure your child (ren) reach their fullest potential to increase their personal growth, resiliency, innovation, and engagement.

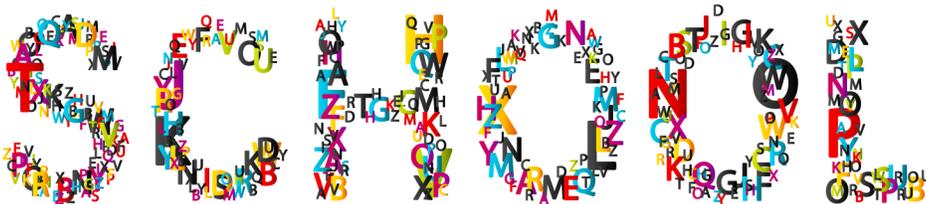
If there is anything I can assist you with, please let me know, I am only an email or a phonecall away .

Warm Regards,

Mrs. Sue Defreyne

All family members and visitors to the school will not be permitted to enter the school unless you have a scheduled appointment. Please call 519-583-0231 to make an appointment. All doors to the school will remain locked.

Welcome back Seahawks to



⇒ **Notify the office with any contact phone number changes.**

⇒ **IMPORTANT**
when your child is going to be absent CALL 519-583-0231 We have a 24 hr answering machine.

⇒ **Visitors & Parents**
All visitors and parents must have an appointment to enter the school. Face masks must be worn. Please contact the school to make an appointment.

IMPORTANT
we are a NUT, SHELLFISH and LATEX Safe School

In This Issue

- Use of Transportation in the Portal
- Volunteers & Police Checks
- Information for 2020-21 School Year

REGISTER and USE CASH ON-LINE

SCHOOL HOURS FOR BALANCED DAY

8:45 am School begins

10:25 – 11:05 am
First Nutrition Break

12:45 – 1:25 pm
Second Nutrition Break

3:05 pm Dismissal

Please note **NO staff is on duty until 8:30 am**

Upon dismissal **ALL walkers must leave the playground.**

DISMISSAL IS AT 3:05 pm

Subscribe on the School Website

To subscribe scroll to the bottom of our website. You will receive an email when items are posted or updated.

School Newsletter

All monthly newsletters will be posted on our website. Simply go to

stceciliaportdover.ca

Agendas

This year we have been instructed to not use a paper copy agenda/communication book to stop paper from going back and forth from home to school. To get a hold of your teacher, you will need to use their email (listed below). Please remember that if they have not responded it is best to assume, they have not read it as they are Mrs. or Mr. with the children in their class. Therefore, do not send anything that is time sensitive via email. If you have an Urgent message, please call the school, and talk to a live person, Mrs. Muise. Your child will need to know how they are getting home each day.

BELL TIMES

At 8:30 students will be going into the school as they arrive at school. This enables us to maximize learning time and minimize interruptions. Ensuring your children are here on time will help us achieve this.

- Teacher supervision on the playground begins only at 8:30 a.m. The students will not be under adult supervision before this time, so they should not be on the playground until then.
- **All family members and visitors to the school will not be permitted to enter the school unless you have a scheduled appointment. Please call 519-583-0231 to make an appointment. All doors to the school will remain locked.**
- Students who arrive late to school must buzz the office to be let into the school and stop by the office to be signed in by Mrs. Muise. Parents will not be permitted to come into the school without an appointment.
- A parent/guardian who requires a student to leave the school before dismissal time must buzz the school to verbally sign the student out. Please state your name and who you are picking up. We will then call your student to gather their belonging and make a visual contact with you to leave. All students must be picked up at the parking lot doors. This policy is in place to ensure the safety of all of our students.

DRESS CODE

Modesty and common sense are the main guidelines for the dress code that is in place. Schools rely upon the good judgement and support of parents/guardians in helping their children determine appropriate wear for school.

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board believes that proper dress for pupils helps to create a positive and safe Catholic learning environment consistent with the mission and values of the Board. All schools within the jurisdiction of the Board shall adopt a Local Dress Code or Uniform Dress Code. The responsibility for meeting the expectations of the Dress Code is primarily that of the parents/guardians of the students. Students will not be required to have an indoor pair of shoes to wear at this time. Shoes must have non-marking soles that will not leave marks on the gym floor.

All students attire must be in keeping with our Catholic teachings and beliefs, reflect principles of modesty, and shall not include the following:

- Short shorts/skirts, bare midriffs, halter tops, tank tops, etc.;
- Accessories such as spiked bracelets/necklaces or an external not in keeping with the spirit of the dress code, as determined by the local school and/or
- Language and/or representation on attire that indicates gang affiliation and/or depicts violence, profanity or discrimination of any kind whatsoever or that otherwise demeans an identifiable individual or group.

Dress code must be consistent with all Board policies related to purchasing, health and safety, safe schools and principles of equity and inclusion.

Dress Code must take into consideration:

- Affordability
- Consequences for non-compliance with the local dress code
- Safety conditions
- Age of the students
- Maintenance of proper decorum
- Neatness and cleanliness
- Students with special needs

Communication is Key

Working together is the key to success for our students. To that end, we would like to make an effort to make sure that all communication is timely and relevant. In order to accomplish this we will be updating our school website with our School information. All newsletters and dates of important events will be posted and updated. Each month you will receive a reminder in your child's Bright Space that the monthly newsletter. This is also where you can access School Cash Online which is the method of payment for everything from hot lunches to school trips. Additionally, it will be linked to our Twitter feed where we will be posting pictures and information from classroom and school events and this will keep you up to date with valuable information.

Stay informed and receive all the information you need by visit us at www.stceciliaportdover.ca by following us on twitter @stceciliahawks. Sign up for notifications to have the information come directly to you!

SCHOOL SAFETY

The safety of your child(ren) is of the utmost importance to the staff of St. Cecilia's Catholic School. In order to ensure the safety of your child(ren), we will continue to have parents and designated family members pick up their children outside of the school building. All parents are asked to please wait outside at the edge of the parking lot until your son/daughter is dismissed. All doors to the school will remain locked.

We welcome back our crossing guard at the corner of Lynn Park Ave and Thompson Rd. Please kindly remind your child of the rules when crossing this street. Walkers crossing this corner will be dismissed by the front doors of St. Cecilia's.

TRANSPORTATION PORTAL

Students will be required to login to the online portal available at www.stsbhn.ca. Parents/ students are asked to select the *Transportation Information* icon on the home page of the Consortium's web site, which will re-direct them to the online portal. When at the portal, the parent/student should select the *Student Login* tab and enter four key pieces of information, which will allow them to access their Transportation details. The information required is:

- **Ontario Education Number (OEN) – i.e., 123-456-789). Dashes need to be included. This number can be found on your child's report card, at the top of the first page.**
- **Date of birth – (i.e., dd/mm/yyyy).**
- **Street Number – enter in the actual number (not the street name).**
- **School – select from drop down menu the school the student will be attending.**

The portal is currently scheduled to be made available to the public, with information for the 2020-21 school year, as of August 2020. Parents and students can test the portal until the end of June, which will display the current year's transportation details to them! Please try to find out your child's bus information on-line as the school and Bus Company will not have time to look up the hundreds of students individually. **If you need help please call Transportation at 519-751-7532 or Toll Free at 1-877-226-6353 ext. 2**



Forms and Communication Through School Cash Online

School Cash Online will be used for Forms and other communications. You will receive an email to advise you that you need to go to School Cash.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

We care about the safety of our students. Every time that the bus driver's attention is averted from the road to speak to students who aren't behaving properly, there is a potential situation for an accident. It is a privilege NOT a right to ride the school bus. Students are responsible to the Principal for his/her behaviour on the bus. Inappropriate behaviour will NOT be tolerated and students will be responsible for his/her actions and will be dealt with accordingly.

Please remind your child about the importance of proper behaviour on the bus. Only students who follow the conduct code of behaviour for riding the bus will be allowed to continue to ride. If you have any questions regarding the arrival time of the bus please call the transportation department 1-877-226-6353 – ext.#2. **Please note that no student will be allowed to get off or on at another stop due to the transportation policy and insurance purposes.**

POLICE CHECKS

All parents who wish to volunteer in the classrooms or go on school trips, must provide the school with a **Vulnerable Sector police check** as well as complete the **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (A.O.D.A.)** training.

Forms for the police check are available at the office. Please call Mrs. Muise for the forms.

As a volunteer, you will not be charged for the police check. Once the school has the police check on file, it is **valid for 3 years**. During year 2 and 3 you must fill out an Offence Declaration form as well as the Confidentiality form. These forms are available at the school office. Please return any completed police checks in a sealed envelope with Mrs. Defreyne's name on it.

To access the A.O.D.A. Training visit the school webpage and select **Volunteer on the School Information menu**.

STUDENTS ACCIDENT INSURANCE

A Student Accident Insurance form will be sent home for your consideration. Should your child need an ambulance, damage their teeth or break a bone, this insurance will cover many costs not covered by OHIP or employee group plans. This insurance will provide coverage for school activities as well as activities outside of the school day. Should your child be injured on the basketball court, the baseball diamond, the soccer field or hockey rink, you will be able to claim many of the expenses associated with their injury if you purchase Student Accident Insurance. All rates are one-time, annual fee and family rates are offered. **Please consider purchasing this affordable insurance by completing the Application Form and returning it to Reliable Life Insurance Company.**

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL 2020-21

As we begin the new school year, we need parents/guardians to form our school council (formerly referred to as Parent Advisory Committee). The council is an advisory group to the Principal. The main goal for this year is to work on literacy and numeracy and the safety of students. The school council works in conjunction with the school to assist in purchasing resources in this area as well as strengthening the bond between the church and the school, supporting school fundraising, augmenting the school improvement plan, fostering a sense of pride in our school identity, organizing fundraising activities, consulting with BHNCDDB on policy development.

All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. Through the Council, members can make a positive impact in the growth and development of the school community. It is one way of being an active participant in Catholic Education. We will be posting the date for the next SAC meeting at the end of September.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE POLICY AT ST. CECILIA'S

It's a fact: a healthy mind depends on a healthy body. Students who eat healthy food are better prepared to learn and are more likely to succeed in school. Please remember that the students have two 40 minute breaks. We encourage healthy snacks.

The Ministry of Education has a School Food and Beverage Policy that includes comprehensive nutrition standards. As part of this initiative, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board has created its own Interim Policy that aligns with the ministry policy.

As in the past, home baking is not allowed due to Health Unit Guidelines and the anaphylactic policy.

A SPECIAL THANKS.....

- To the staff of St. Cecilia's, who did so much work behind the scenes in order to make our children feel welcome and excited about the new school year.
- To our parent community for the outstanding support we receive.
- To Mrs. Muise whose work in the office was very helpful in starting the school year smoothly.
- To Mr. Hebert for giving us a clean, beautiful school. We appreciate the many hours of hard work in preparing for opening day!
- To our Kindergarten students, who will be starting school for the first time. Welcome and Congratulations!
- To our Priest, Father Al Dufrainmont and Ian Duckworth for our continued partnership in our Catholic faith.

PICK UP OF CHILDREN – SAFETY PRECAUTION

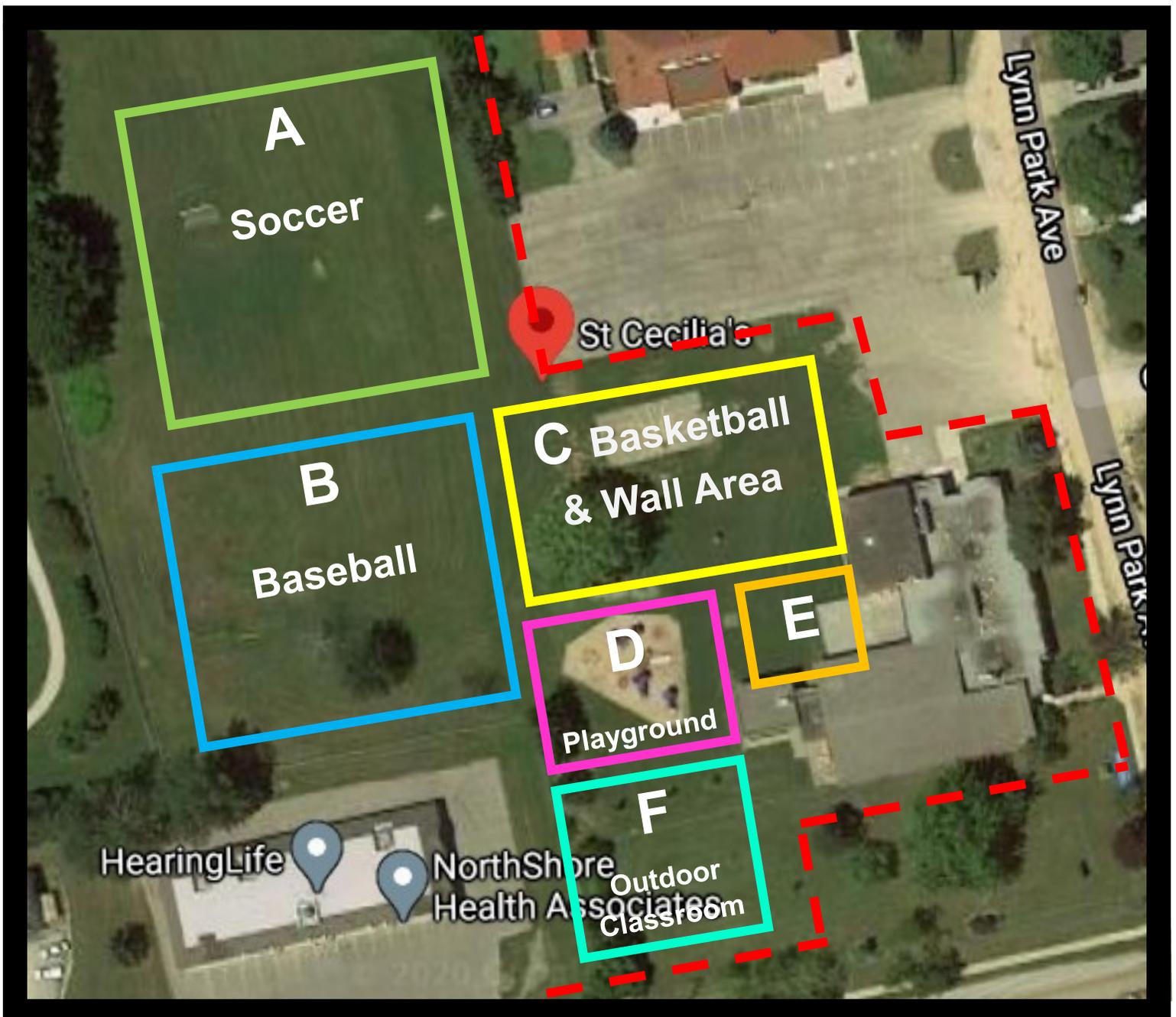
Please enter the parking lot using the correct entrance. Parents please wait outdoors by the parking lots until children are dismissed. If you need to speak to a teacher, please wait until students have been dismissed and until teachers have completed their supervision duty. ***Please book an appointment (by phone) with your child's teacher or the Principal. It is not only courteous but also it allows us to give you our undivided attention. **YOUR CO-OPERATION IS MUCH APPRECIATED. No one is to enter the school without an appointment.**

ST. CECILIA'S SCHOOL GROUNDS

These are the areas that classrooms will be scheduled to play in during recess. A daily schedule will be created and teachers will share with their students. A class will be assigned to the playground equipment daily and they will need to sanitize prior to using.

If you do not want your child to access the playground equipment you must communicate this to the school by calling or emailing. On another note, BHNCD SB's Covid Policy states that only students and staff are only to be on the school property. The dotted red lines indicate that boundary. Thank you for working together to keep our children safe.

519-583-0231 or sdefreyne@bhncdsb.ca



FOOD ORDERS

At this time all food orders will be postponed

REMINDER: ALLERGIES

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated once again in making our school a safe environment for all our students. This is to advise you that we have we have students who are allergic to all tree nuts, peanuts, latex, sesame, shellfish. It is requested that parents of all students do not pack any foods or send food items containing any of these, or anything containing latex.

If your child has anaphylaxis and you have not yet made us aware, please contact us immediately as we have a paperwork to fill out.

We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



LUNCHES

Should you have to drop off your child's lunch, you will need to buzz the office (buzzer at door nearest parking the parking lot). Mrs. Muise will allow you to enter. Please note that you must be wearing a mask. There is a red contactless bin inside the door where you will place the lunch—please make sure it is clearly labelled with your child's name and Grade. Also, please note to pack any utensils with your child's lunch. We do not have spoons etc. to hand out from the office.

ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIBED DRUGS

We, at St. Cecilia's, must follow definite Board procedures for the administration of medication during school hours. If your child requires such medication you are asked to contact the principal and the necessary arrangements will be made. Authorization to provide such service must be made in writing by the parent and physician on the appropriate form (obtained at the school). Only prescription drugs will be administered. Non-prescription drugs such as aspirins and the like will NOT be administered to the students.

INDOOR/OUTDOOR SHOES

At this time we are not asking for outdoor shoes. We will revisit this when the messy weather comes. Since all students need running shoes for gym, we suggest indoor shoes be running shoes.

Reminders

IMPORTANT

Subscribe to our
Webpage
and
Register for Cash
Online TODAY

IMPORTANT
we are a NUT
Safe School

Thank you for
wearing a MASK
And working
together to keep
our students safe

NO CHILD WITHOUT

Our school is involved in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's No Child Without program. There is no cost for students who attend our school and are between the ages of 7 up to their 14th birthday to join MedicAlert through this program. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis, then you should consider this program. A child's MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur. If your child is already part of the No Child Without program and there have been changes to their medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call MedicAlert at 1-800-668-1507 to update your child's file.



SUPPORT SCHOOL

Have you moved? If so, your taxes automatically revert back to the public school system. If you have moved and not changed your taxes to support the separate school system, please pick up the necessary papers at the office. If only one parent is eligible to support the separate school system (having been baptized Roman Catholic), then you will also need to request a separate school assessment lease as well as the tax form.

VOLUNTEERS AND POLICE CHECKS

Be sure call Mrs. Muise for the police check papers. Photocopies are not accepted as we need to see the police seal that is stamped on the police check. September is always very busy at the police station and we encourage parents to have their police checks done over the summer when it is not as busy. **Police checks that are more than 3 years old are no longer valid.** Those parents who have a police check more than a year old must fill out a declaration to state and sign that they have not acquired a police record. Police checks that are more than three years old will be destroyed.

MONITORING OF SCHOOL VISITORS

Because health and security of all our students is important, we ask that all parents/caregivers and other visitors **MUST sign in** when entering the school. This includes Board personnel. The sign in book is located at a table near the parking lot entrance.

The school will be locked and parents/visitors must have an appointment before being allowed to enter. Parents/visitors must press the button to buzz and talk to the office before the door will be opened.

If a student is coming in late they will need to stop at the door of the office, wave and say their name and Grade and Mrs. Muise will sign them in.

Mark Your Calendar

School Resumes

September 8th with a Staggered Start. Groups are based on surnames. The schedule is as follows:

Sept 8 - Group A (A to F)

Sept 9 - Group B (G to M)

Sept 10 - Group C (N to R)

Sept 11 - Group D (S to Z)

Sept 14 - Groups A&B (A-M)

Sept 15 - Group C&D (N-Z)

Sept 16 - All Students

Sept 17 - All Students

Sept 18 - All Students

P A Days

- November 13
- January 18
- June 11 & 29

School Council Mtg

- To be announced

Meet The Teacher Night

- Cancelled

Thanksgiving Day

- October 12

Advent Celebration

- To be announced

School Info

Phone number

519-583-0231

Webpage

stceciliaportdover.ca

St. Cecilia's Contacts and Information

Principal	Mrs. S. Defreyne	sdefreyne@bhncsb.ca
Secretary	Mrs. K. Muise	
Pastor	Father Al Dufraimont	
Church	St. Cecilia's	
Superintendent	Mr. R. De Rubeis	
Trustee	Mr. C. Casey and Mrs. C. Luciani	

St. Cecilia's Staff 2020/2021

Kindergarten 1	Mrs. J. Bouw	jbouw@bhncdsb.ca
E.C.E.	Mrs. L. Carr	lcarr@bhncdsb.ca
Gr. 1/2	Mrs. A. Boerkamp	aboerkamp@bhncdsb.ca
Gr. 3/4	Mr. B. Defreyne	bdefreyne@bhncdsb.ca
Gr. 5/6	Mr. P. DePauw	pdepauw@bhncdsb.ca
Gr. 7	Mr. K. Jansen	kjansen@bhncdsb.ca
Gr. 8	Miss S. Flagg	sflagg@bhncdsb.ca
French	Madam Caruso	tcaruso@bhncdsb.ca
Resource Teacher	Mrs. K. Moore	kmoore@bhncdsb.ca
STEM Teacher	Mr. J. VanLeuvenhage	jvanleuvenhage@bhncdsb.ca
Educational Assistant	Mrs. L. Benninger	lbenninger@bhncdsb.ca
Educational Assistant	Mrs. N. Taylor	ntaylor@bhncdsb.ca
Educational Assistant	Miss T. Ward	tward@bhncdsb.ca
Library Technician	Mrs. S. Francis	
Custodian	Mr. C. Hebert	

St. Cecilia's Church Information

September School Mass will obviously not be in the churches this year (or at least right away), but we have filmed a Mass and posted it on YouTube for your classes to tune into. The video is 30 minutes long. Here's the link to the English Mass: <https://youtu.be/FjUUfJYXnds>

2) First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion for this year's Grade 2s

Please continue to let Grade 2 families know that they can register for First Reconciliation/Holy Communion on our website at: <https://catholicfamilyparishesnorfolk.dol.ca/frfhc>

3) Confirmation 2021

Please continue to let the Grade 8 families know they can register for Confirmation on our website at: <https://catholicfamilyparishesnorfolk.dol.ca/confirmation>

4) First Holy Communion from LAST year's Grade 2s

Last year's First Holy Communion that were scheduled in April 2020 were postponed and starting in August we have begun First Holy Communion Masses. If there are any Grade 3 students wondering about the state of their First Holy Communion that was postponed, you can direct them to me or send them this link: <https://catholicfamilyparishesnorfolk.dol.ca/fhc-dates>

5) Sunday Mass & Livestream Sunday Mass

Churches are open and all are welcome if they are comfortable. Registration at the door in all our churches except St. Cecilia's - to register call the office in between 9am and 12 noon on Tuesdays & Thursdays. For those interested in viewing Sunday Mass from home, we will still be livestreaming the Mass off of our website: <https://catholicfamilyparishesnorfolk.dol.ca/>

Please let us know if you think of any ways the church can help support you in this unique transition into the new school year.

God Bless,

Ian Duckworth
Family and Youth Minister

Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk email: iduckworth@dol.ca
phone: 519-426-0887 Ext. 227