



ST. PIUS X

CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



December 2020

Important Dates

- Dec. 1... Plaid Day
- Dec. 3... Christmas Hat Day; Pizza Day
- Dec. 4... Make Christmas Cards
- Dec. 7... Door Decorating
- Dec. 8... Red & Green Day
- Dec. 10... Subway Day
- Dec. 11... Christmas Sock Day
- Dec. 14... Christmas Sweater Day
- Dec. 15... Christmas Luncheon
- Dec. 16... Wear your "Christmas Best"
- Dec. 17... Christmas Bingo; Pizza Day
- Dec. 18... Christmas PJ Day

***Food Drive ends on Dec. 11

***Big Box of Cards Fundraiser due on Dec. 14

Check us out at:

www.stpiusxbrantford.ca

or



@piustitans

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

As we settle into the Holy Season of Advent, which began on November 29, we prepare for Jesus to enter our lives as the light of the world. Although Jesus is always present in our hearts, we use this special time to reflect on our many blessings and to pray for those who are in need. The school will use daily prayer, virtual Advent Liturgies, and good deeds for the community to foster our faith as we await the coming of Jesus at Christmas. The school community continues with acts of charity by donating to various organizations including the Food Bank and St. Vincent De Paul Society.

On behalf of the St. Pius X School staff, we would like to wish your family a safe, healthy and blessed season!

Sincerely,

Mrs. J Rudyk



DAILY COVID SELF-ASSESSMENT SCREENING TOOL

All students, staff, and personnel entering the school **MUST** complete the **MANDATORY** COVID self-assessment daily. The Ministry tool can be found here:

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening>

FACE MASKS

With the colder weather, we are noticing that face masks can sometimes get damp. As a result, we encourage students to bring a spare mask in case they need to change it throughout the school day. Masks should fit snugly around the mouth and nose.



Also a reminder to families that face masks **MUST** be worn when accessing the school and the Kindergarten area for pick-up and drop-off. Thank you for your cooperation in helping keep students, staff, and other families safe!

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

This year, Christmas break will be from **December 21st to January 1st** and the school is closed during this time. The last day of school for students is **Friday, December 18, 2020** and we will return to school on **Monday, January 4, 2021**.



For safety and efficiency reasons, ST. PIUS X SCHOOL would like to reduce the amount of Cash & Cheques coming into our school. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE! It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

NOTE: If you require assistance, select the *GET HELP* option in the top right hand corner of the screen.

Step 1: Register

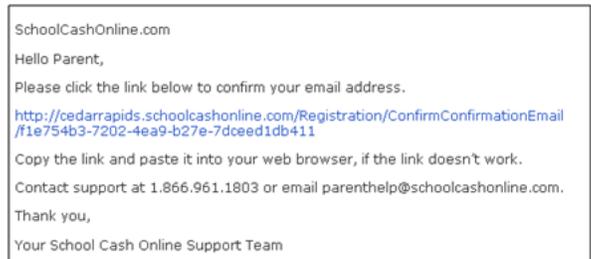
If you have not registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page <https://bhncdsb.schoolcashionline.com/> and select the **“Get Started Today”** option.

Complete each of the three Registration Steps
*For Security Reasons your password, requires **8 characters**, **one uppercase** letter, **one lowercase** letter and a **number**.



Step 2: Confirmation Email

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account.
The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.



Step 3: Find Student

Note: Student Number is Not Required

This step will connect your children to your account.

- Enter the School Board Name
- Enter the School Name
- Enter Your Child’s Name & Birth Date
- Select **Continue**

On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select **Continue**

Your child has been added to your account

Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select **“Add Another Student”** option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select **“View Items For Students”** option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

Find Student

School Information

School Board Name: School Board 1575
Looking for a student in a different school board?

School Name:

Student Information

Do you have the student number?

Student Number

First Name: *

Last Name: *

Birth Date: *
Date format: mm/dd/yyyy

(No students? [Click here](#))

A Message from St. Pius X Church...

A Message from our Pastoral Team: Christmas @ St Pius Parish

Here at St Pius Parish we're gearing up for a very different Christmas, and we're doing our best to make sure you can stay connected!

Interested in learning about our Christmas in-person or online services?

<https://stpiusbrantford.ca/christmas-2020-details/>

Looking for the link to watch us online (4pm to 1am on Christmas Eve as well as 9am and 11am Masses on Christmas Day)? <https://stpiusbrantford.online.church/>

Want to register to join us in person?

<https://stpiusbrantford.ca/christmas-mass-registration/>

Want to get involved in some way?

<https://stpiusbrantford.ca/christmas-2020-details/get-involved/>

Questions? christmas@stpiusbrantford.ca

First Eucharist & First Reconciliation

A reminder to all parents that registration for First Reconciliation & First Eucharist in the spring of 2021 is now available. Head to <https://stpiusbrantford.ca/first-communion/> to find out more or to register. **The registration deadline is December 18th.** If you have any questions please contact the parish office at 519-753-8439 and speak with Andrew.



Tips for Keeping Your Family Safe This Holiday Season

The holiday season may be the most wonderful time of the year. It is also a time of year where mishaps and visits to the emergency room may increase, especially for children. Protect your little ones from common holiday dangers by following some of these holiday safety tips:

Make sure your Christmas tree is sturdy. Trees that are not secured properly can fall onto children.

Keep trees away from sources of heat such as electrical outlets, radiators and portable space heaters.

Practice fire safety and have a family emergency plan in the event of a fire.

Hang smaller decorations higher up on the tree. Small decorations may look pretty but can pose a choking hazard for young children.

When buying toys, look for ones that are well-made and age appropriate. Remember to check the Government of Canada's Recalls and Safety Alerts database to see whether any toy has been recalled.

Keep holiday plants out of children's reach. Mistletoe and holly are poisonous and can cause an upset stomach.

Be aware of food safety guidelines to avoid accidental food poisoning over the holiday season.

For more holiday safety tips, visit the injury topics section of Parachute Canada at www.parachutecanada.org



GRADE 8 STUDENT & PARENT

**VIRTUAL
OPEN HOUSE
WEEK**

JAN 18-22

sjconline.ca/futurestudents



**St. John's
College**

All families welcome!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

New Junior and Senior Kindergarten registrations for the 2021 – 2022 school year will start during the month of January. If you know of any families with Kindergarten-aged children who will be attending St. Pius X School next year, please let them know to register! For Junior Kindergarten, children must be 4 years old by December 31, 2021 and for students registering in Senior Kindergarten, they must be 5 years old by December 31, 2021.

WHEN CAN I REGISTER MY CHILD?

Registration for Kindergarten takes place during the month of January at all BHCNDSB elementary schools. Families do have the opportunity to register up to September for Kindergarten, however it greatly assists the school with planning and organizing for the coming year when students are registered early.

HOW DO WE REGISTER?

The Board's Kindergarten registration process is online. 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 of the documents in advance of beginning the registration process. If you are unable to create electronic copies of the documents, you can still complete the online registration process and then provide the original documents to the school to be photocopied at a later date.

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).
- Proof of home address (a rental/lease agreement, utility bill, proof of purchase, etc.).

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 office at 519-753-6422.



**ONLINE
KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION**

JAN 4 - FEB 26

catholiceducation.ca

 BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

The banner features a blue background with a white arrow pointing down from the registration period. At the bottom, there is a row of six diverse children's faces and the school board's logo and name.

Inclement Weather

The decision to cancel transportation services and close schools to students shall be made by the school board PRIOR to 6:30 am and will be announced on the designated radio stations, CHCH news, our board website and school Twitter. There are FOUR zones and St. Pius X School is ZONE 4. Please listen to the local news or check the board website to see if our school is closed.

With snowy weather already here, we have had a few questions about how and when the decision to delay or cancel bus transportation is made. Our students' safety comes first. Please know that all transportation decisions are made for individual areas and routes across Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk counties. Decisions are not made from a Brantford office, but rather by the Manager of Transportation Services Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk with input from the individual bus operators and others located in your immediate area. Those observations, together with your municipal information and weather forecast help make the decision to run, delay or cancel individual routes and/or zones across the district.

We understand that weather and road conditions are different across our large geographic area and Student Transportation Services does everything possible to make timely decisions that are in the interest of safety for all.

Please remember to always rely on www.stsbhn.ca and your local radio station for transportation information throughout the school year.



COLD-WEATHER INFORMATION

Recesses will be outdoors unless outdoor temperatures fall below -20°C (including windchill), then, in accordance with Board policy & guidelines, students will have indoor recess. Please ensure that your child(ren) have appropriate clothing to enjoy our Canadian winter! Students should come to school with boots, hats, mittens/gloves and proper outerwear, such as snowpants and a winter jacket. We also encourage parents to send an extra pair of socks, pants and mittens/gloves, which can be kept in your child(ren)'s backpack or cubby, in case they get wet during outdoor recess. Please remember to label your child(ren)'s belongings so if they are misplaced, they can be returned to their rightful owner!

Also, a reminder that students who are not well enough to play outdoors during nutritional breaks should remain at home until they feel well enough to participate in a full school day.

HEAD LICE

Head lice can be a common problem, particularly among children aged 4-12, and especially this time of year with winter coats, toques, etc. Head lice is not an indicator of cleanliness and are spread from one person to another when there is close head-to-head contact or when items that have touched the hair of someone who has lice are shared.

For information on what to look for, preventative measures, and treatment, please visit the Brant County Health Unit site at www.bchu.org. As per Board policy, students with head lice are not permitted to return to school until all lice and nits have been removed. That is why it is important to be vigilant in checking your child(ren)'s hair regularly.



Merry Christmas to all...



Parking Lot Reminders

Student drop-off and pick-up times continue to be very busy and congested.

Student safety is of great concern to us, and therefore we request that you please adhere to the following procedures for traffic flow in the parking lot:

- * There is **no stopping** in the Fire Lanes.
- * There is **no parking** in the driveway/lane ways/ “Kiss and Drop-Off” area.
- * We invite you to drive in and follow the laneway all the way around to the far side where you can stop and allow your child(ren) to exit your vehicle safely onto the sidewalk (“Kiss and Drop-Off”).
- * There is **no stopping and getting out of your vehicle in the “Kiss and Drop-Off” laneway** during our entry and dismissal times (8:50 - 9:10 & 3:10 - 3:30). **PLEASE DO NOT PARK YOUR CAR HERE**.
- * Parking is available at the church, on the road in front of the church, or on Waverly St.

Signs have been posted throughout the parking lot to help with these procedures.

Thank you for your cooperation!

