



Madonna Della Libera News

DECEMBER 2022

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Dear Families,

Advent is a season of joyful, expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The word Advent means coming and during this time we prepare our homes, our hearts and ourselves for the birth, or coming, of Christ. It is my sincere hope that during this Advent season you experience the true meaning of Christmas and what it means to prepare ourselves for Christ to be born in our hearts. At school we will be encouraging students to share how they are preparing themselves and how they are recognizing Gods' presence in their lives each day. On behalf of the staff of Madonna Della Libera, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed and very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. May you and your families take the time to celebrate the real gifts of love, peace, and family this holiday season.



Wishing you all Christmas Blessings and warm regards.

Peter Marchand
Principal

CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Jaguar families, please save the date! Our **Grades 1 to 5/6** classes have been hard and work preparing and we are excited to be hosting our Christmas concert in-person and at the school on **Thursday, December 15th** from **6-7 PM** in the school gym.

If you are unable to make the evening performance, we will be holding a recital at 1:30 PM that same afternoon which families are invited to attend!

For admission, we would kindly ask that, if possible, to bring a canned good (for example, a chunky-style soup, chili, canned pasta, etc.) to help support the work of St. Vincent de Paul in our community.

ADVENT COLLECTION OF CARING

This year, we will be collecting toiletry items to help support the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Brant. They are in need of toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, soap, toilet paper, etc. to help support our community. Donations will be collected until **Friday, December 16th**.

Important December Dates

Photo Retake Day.....	1
Advent Mass at Our Lady of Assumption Parish 9:30 AM.....	14
Christmas Concert 6-7 PM.....	15
Christmas Lunch.....	22
Last Day of School Before Christmas Break.....	23

Important January Dates

First Day Back to School.....	9
Grade 8 Student and Parent Open House at ACS 6-8 PM.....	18
Intermediate Basketball Tournament.....	27

School Bell Times

Yard Supervision Begins	8:25 AM
Instructional Block	8:40 AM — 10:20 AM
First Nutrition Break	10:20 AM — 11:00 AM
Instructional Block	11:00 AM — 12:40 PM
Second Nutrition Break	12:40 PM — 1:20 PM
Instructional Block	1:20 PM — 3:00 PM
Dismissal	2:50 PM bus students
	3:00 PM all other students



*A Christmas Prayer
by Karen L. Oberst*

Jesus, the Light of the World, as we celebrate your birth, may we begin to see the world in the light of understanding you give us. As you chose the lowly, the outcasts, and the poor to receive the greatest news the world had ever known, so may we worship you in meekness of heart. May we also remember our brothers and sisters less fortunate than ourselves in this season of giving. Amen.

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CHRISTMAS at MDL

Our Student Parliament has been hard at work organizing and preparing a variety of school-wide activities to celebrate the season. Here's what our Jaguars can look forward to:

- Candy Grams will be on sale from December 5th to 16th. Students can purchase a candy cane for 25 cents each to send to a friend and they will be delivered by Student Parliament on December 21st.
- We will celebrate a school-wide Christmas lunch catered by The Sherwood Restaurant. Information has been shared via email and meals can be purchased through School Cash Online for \$12 per child. The meal consists of turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, corn niblets and gravy. There is also an option to purchase a lunch for another student so that all can participate. Orders are due by Wed., December 14th. Lunch will take place on Thursday, December 22nd.
- We will celebrate Winter Wonderland with a variety of fun activities for all students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 on Tuesday, December 20th
- We will wrap-up the last week before the break with a theme each day that students can participate in:



Monday, Dec. 19	Tuesday, Dec. 20	Wednesday, Dec. 21	Thursday, Dec. 22	Friday, Dec. 23
Christmas Colours Day	Christmas Hat Day	Christmas Socks Day	Christmas Sweater Day	Pajama Day

A big thank you to Student Parliament and staff for helping spread some Christmas cheer!

COLD-WEATHER INFORMATION



Recesses will be outdoors unless outdoor temperatures fall below -20°C (including windchill) then, in accordance with Board policy & guidelines, MDL 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 outdoor footwear/boots, hats, mittens/gloves and proper outerwear, such as a winter jacket. We also encourage students to bring an extra pair of socks, pants and mittens/gloves, which can be kept in their 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.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Looking for a convenient, safe and secure way to pay for field trips, hot lunches, etc.? If you haven't done so already, please register at School Cash Online for this easy to use service. Here's how to register:

Step 1: Please go our school's website or to: [https://](https://bhnacsb.schoolcashionline.com)

bhnacsb.schoolcashionline.com

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and follow the steps.

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account.

Throughout the school year, we will continue moving towards fully implementing School Cash as a safe and secure means of payment for all school events.

ALLERGY ALERT

Just a reminder that we are a **peanut/tree nut safe** school. We have students and staff with severe, life-threatening allergies to **peanuts and tree nuts**. Also, please note that the use of peanut butter substitutes (e.g., Wow Butter) is not permitted as it is difficult for staff to monitor and may cause anxiety for those with a life-threatening allergy. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping to keep ALL of our kids safe!



VOLUNTEERING

If you are wishing to volunteer in the school, for a class trip, etc., please ensure that you have an up-to-date police check and/or declaration. If you are unsure, please contact the office. We also kindly ask that, police checks are submitted to the office **at least 3 days prior** to an event (i.e., class trip) taking place. This ensures adequate time for it to be processed.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Madonna Della Libera is designated **ZONE 4**. This means if bus transportation is cancelled in Zone 4, then the school is closed for **ALL** students! Decisions to cancel or delay transportation will be made prior to 6:30 AM. Please check the Board website (www.bhncdsb.ca), school Twitter [@madonnaroar](https://twitter.com/madonnaroar), or listen to Jewel 92 (92.1 FM).

You can also visit the transportation website at www.stsbhn.ca and sign up for direct e-mail notifications of any bus delays or cancellations!



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

New Junior and Senior Kindergarten registrations for the 2023 – 2024 school year will start during the month of January. If you know of any families with Kindergarten-aged children who will be attending Madonna Della Libera next year, please let them know to register! For Junior Kindergarten, children must be 4 years old by December 31, 2023 and for students registering in Senior Kindergarten, they must be 5 years old by December 31, 2023.

WHEN CAN I REGISTER MY CHILD?

Registration for Kindergarten will open on January 9th, 2023 for BHNCDSE elementary schools. Early registration greatly assists the school with planning and organizing for the coming school year. **For our French Immersion program, registration MUST take place before February 24, 2023** due to limits on class sizes. Any French Immersion registrations that occur **after** February 24th will be placed on a waitlist and acceptance is not guaranteed after this date.

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. 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 519-753-5283.

A blue graphic with white and yellow text. The text reads "ONLINE KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION" in large letters, with "ONLINE" in yellow and "KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION" in white. Below this, it says "JAN 9 - FEB 24" in white, and "catholiceducation.ca" in yellow. At the bottom, there is a photograph of six diverse children smiling. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board, which includes a cross and the text "BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board".