



# FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



34 Potts Rd , Simcoe ON• 519.426.0820• [www.stjosephsimcoe.ca](http://www.stjosephsimcoe.ca)  
@stjcatholic - ZONE 1

Principal: Mrs. Graham  
Vice Principal: Mr. Persia

Secretary: Mrs. Melissa Vaughan  
Mrs. Mary VandenBussche

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Time is moving quickly with the first month of 2024 completed. Report cards go home Monday, February 5th. Please take the time to review the report with your child, looking for the achievement of skills and next steps to move learning forward. Please remember to sign and return the 'cut off' portion of the grades 1 through 8 report cards. Page 3 of the JK/SK report also needs to be returned. A friendly reminder to return the white envelope as well so it can be used in June. There are no scheduled interviews associated with these reports, however, please feel free to contact your child's teacher to arrange a time to discuss the report if necessary.

Shrove Tuesday is on February 13th. We are blessed to have pancakes being served to all students as a form of symbolism of using up our rich foods like eggs and milk before the 40 days of fasting during the Lenten season. Thank you to Parent Council and volunteers who are giving of their time to make this event happen. Following Shrove Tuesday will be Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our Lenten season. Since Ash Wednesday and Valentine's coincide, St. Joseph's will celebrate Valentine's Day Feb. 13th. We will come together as a community and gather in mass on Ash Wednesday.

We are currently registering kindergarten students for the 2024-2025 school year. If you know of any families within our boundaries and are looking for a Catholic Education in English or French Immersion for their child, please let them know that our school is now accepting registrations online. More information can be found on the board website: [www.bhncdsb.ca](http://www.bhncdsb.ca).

God bless,

Heather Graham,  
Principal



## INCLEMENT WEATHER– SCHOOL CLOSING OR BUS DELAYS

[www.stsbhn.ca](http://www.stsbhn.ca)

*St. Joseph's School is Zone 1*

Student Transportation Services of Brant Haldimand and Norfolk has developed a website which contains information on bus cancellations and delays. This site can be accessed either through the Board's website [www.bhncdsb.ca](http://www.bhncdsb.ca) (under the Parents tab) or directly through your browser to [www.stsbhn.ca](http://www.stsbhn.ca). Once you have entered into the Transportation's website, click on the "**Cancellations– Closures Morning Fog Delays**" icon, which is on the top left corner of the page. This will tell you:

- A) What routes have been cancelled/delayed on any given day;
- B) When a zone is cancelled or delayed, it will flash and read "**Cancelled**" or "**Fog Delay**".

**Please note when transportation is cancelled in a zone, the schools in that zone are closed.**

St. Joseph's is a Zone 1 school. If bus transportation is cancelled in Zone 1 please check the **board website** for cancellations and/or **listen to local radio stations**. St. Joseph's will **be closed** for students and staff. Decisions to cancel or delay transportation will be made prior to 6:30 a.m. and be announced prior to 6:45 a.m. Please check the board website for delays or cancellations or listen to the local radio station, 98.9 FM. Thank you for your attention to this very important safety concern.

## NEWSLETTERS, CALENDARS, and TWITTER

### STAY Current with School and Classroom Events!

To access the school calendar, choose the 'Calendar' button on the main page. Once you reach the Calendar, there will be a 'printer' icon to print the monthly calendar.

When you are on the webpage there is a Subscribe button to receive email notifications when new items have been added to our webpage. Stay up-to-date with alerts, news, upcoming events and more by subscribing.

As well, please subscribe to the school's Twitter feed (@stjatholic) to keep up to date with the daily events in our school.



# ONLINE KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

**JAN 8 – FEB 23**

[catholiceducation.ca](http://catholiceducation.ca)



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK  
Catholic District School Board



## Tuesday, February 13th—VALENTINE'S DAY at St. Joe's

Students are encouraged to dress in red, white and pink. Valentine's cards and store boughten, peanut free treats are permitted for distribution. (If you chose.)

### Important Upcoming Dates:

- February 2<sup>nd</sup>: Prof. Jamz Fundraiser Kickoff
- February 5<sup>th</sup>: Reports go home
- February 6<sup>th</sup>: Bus Safety Presentations in gym
- February 13<sup>th</sup>: Shrove Tuesday/Valentine's Activities
- February 14<sup>th</sup>: Ash Wednesday
- February 16<sup>th</sup>: Prof. Jamz Fundraising Dance
- February 19<sup>th</sup>: Family Day—no school

### COLD WEATHER GUIDELINES

Parents are to ensure children are adequately dressed for winter conditions.

Principals are to ensure children remain indoors when temperatures drop below -20°C (with or without windchill) and do not spend more than 20 minutes outdoors when the temperature is between -10°C and -20°C.

Time outdoors is an integral part of each school day. Children need fresh air and exercise, and time spent outside offers students an opportunity to break free from the structure of the classroom. With our Canadian winter climate, time spent outside means donning winter coats, gloves or mittens, hats and snow pants. In the winter, it is important for our students to come to school prepared for the cold. Thank you for your cooperation with ensuring your child is dressed our Canadian weather.

### Basketball Tournaments

#### Holy Trinity January 31st

Congratulations to the girl's and boy's basketball team members who competed at the Board tournament on Jan. 31st. A special thank you to Mrs. Smith and Mr. Walsh for coaching the teams. Great sportsmanship and dedication displayed by all. Members included:

**Girls:** Sammy, Charlize, Brooke, Anna, Hannah, Mayumi, Maya, Kaden, Reece, Priscilla, Jordyn, Katelyn, Eva, Emma, and Brynn

**Boys:** Andrew, Blake, Cam, Cooper, Henry, Jack B., Jackson, Kellen, Leandrew, Luke F., Luke P., Majesty, Ryland and Will.

### Free Throw Competition

Congratulations to the St. Joseph's Free Throw winners:

- Grade 8: Brooke H.
- Grade 7: Katelyn C.
- Grade 6: Vanessa V.
- Grade 5: Elana A.
- Grade 4: Adrienne W.



Congratulations to these students who participated at the regional free throw level on Jan. 21st at Holy Trinity:

Aadya K., Vanessa G., Elana A, Adrienne W., Heitor S., Kolton T., Ryden E. and Kohen T.

A special congratulations to Vanessa and Elana who both placed 1st in their divisions and will compete in the District competition on Feb. 10th. Way to go!



## REACHING OUT for Lent 2024

### Support our Norfolk St. Vincent de Paul

February 14, 2024

Dear Families,

During this season of Lent, our school, along with our fellow Norfolk County Catholic Elementary Schools will be participating in this year's **REACHING OUT for Lent** campaign. The purpose of this campaign is to support our local chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Non-perishable items and monetary donations will be collected by our school. Collection items have been predetermined in conjunction with the St. Vincent de Paul Society. A list of items that are needed is provided below. Any assistance you can provide will be put to great use! We will be also collecting monetary donations using [SchoolCashOnline](#).

Items that are needed:

- |               |                     |                    |
|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| -Kraft Dinner | -Soup               | -School snacks     |
| -Pasta        | -Peanut Butter      | -Canned Vegetables |
| -Pasta Sauce  | -Jam                | -Tuna              |
| -Crackers     | -Canned Baked Beans | -Canned Pasta      |
| -Toothbrushes | -Toothpaste         | -Cereal            |

The campaign will begin on Ash Wednesday (February 14) and conclude on Holy Thursday (March 28). You can choose to send in any items listed above or donate to [SchoolCashOnline](#) between February 14, 2024, and March 28, 2024.

May God Bless your families this Lenten season. With your help, the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Norfolk will be able to provide our neighbours in need with renewed hope this Lenten season.