

# September 2024 Newsletter



**Principal**

**Mr. J. McDermid**

**Secretary**

**Mrs. E. Mertens**

**St. Michael's School**

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**www.stmichaelwalsh.ca.**

**Twitter:@stmikeswarriors**

## Principal Greetings

On behalf of the staff of St. Michael's School, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you back to another year of Catholic education. If you and your family are new to our school community, then we would like to extend a special welcome to you. As Catholic educators, we are constantly striving to create a Catholic community of faith by living and learning in an environment filled with Gospel values. It is our goal to create an environment where the gifts of our students' uniqueness and talents can be nurtured and allowed to flourish. In order to achieve this, we look forward to working very closely with you to establish a strong and positive school - home - parish partnership so that we may help your child to grow intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually.

## A Prayer for Our New School Year

We give you praise, O God,  
For everything that is new and beautiful,  
For everything which holds promise and brings us joy.  
Bless us as we start this year with our friends and staff at St. Michael's School.

Help us to make the most of every chance we have to start afresh.

May we show love to one another and to all.

May the new beginning of this school year remind us  
That you give us chances to start over again and again.  
Help us to forgive others as we receive your forgiveness.

Help us to learn and to work together..

Help us to listen when we should and to know the best words when we speak  
And when it is better not to speak.

We thank you for our friends

Help us to be good friends this year.

Help us to be patient with ourselves and with others.

Bless our school and keep us safe.

Be with us as we travel each day.

Help us to be aware of your love shown to us in the people around us.

Bless all those who care for us in school and at home.

Help us show our care for them and to say sorry when we need to.

May the Blessed Mother Mary protect us

And help us to live as well as we can

Giving thanks and glory to God as she did.

Amen.



## Welcome Back

Our Staff for this year is as follows:

Principal	Mr. J. McDermid
Secretary	Mrs. E. Mertens
Custodian	Mrs. B. Brock
K	Ms. C. DeCloedt
ECE	Mrs. A. Holbeck
1 / 2	Mrs. M. Kitchenham
3 / 4	Ms. J. Oud
5 / 6	Mr. J. Loncke
7 / 8	Ms. K. Handsaeme
FSL & Prep.	Ms. C. Worden
SERT	Ms. A. Aspden
Librarian	Mrs. S. Francis
STEM	Mr. C. Schaeffer
CYW	Ms. A. Matos

- **Parish Information**
- **St. Michael's Catholic Church**
- **Parish Pastor:** Father Seejo John
- **Associate Pastor:** Father Steve Marsh
- **Masses:**
- Sacred Heart Langton Sat. 5:00 and Sun. 10:30
- St. Michael's Sun. 8:30



## School Website

Over the summer the Board has made changes to our School Website. They are still working on it with updates so please be patient and hopefully it will be updated shortly!!

## Twitter

St. Michael's Walsh has an active Twitter account: @stmikeswarriors. By following us, you get access to important updates at the school, highlights of classroom and school events and everyday occurrences. Take some time and follow us, like our posts and learn more about what's happening @ St. Michael's Walsh!

## School Cash OnLine

Reminder to register for our convenient online purchasing system to pay for food orders, class trips, and fill out forms. Please go to: <https://bhncdsb.schoolcashionline.com> Select "Get Started now" and follow the online steps. After receiving a confirmation email select "click Here" option, sign in and add each of your children. If you have any questions during the registration process or shopping online, please contact our friendly Ontario based parent Help Desk at 1-866-961-1803.

## School Hours

School Yard Supervision	8:40 – 8:55
Instructional Block	8:55 – 10:35
Nutritional Break	10:35 – 11:15
Instructional Block	11:15 – 12:55
Nutritional Break	12:55 – 1:35
Instructional Block	1:35 – 3:15
Dismissal Bell	3:15



For your child's safety we ask that you not bring or send your child to school before 8:35 a.m. in the morning as there is no supervision on the yard before that time. Thank you for helping us with this.

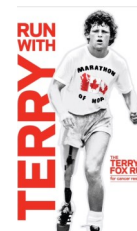
## School Information Sheets

Student Verification Forms are being sent home with every student. Please complete these forms, make any necessary changes, and return them to school as soon as possible, so that our records can be updated. Other important forms such as the concussion form, Internet agreement, and the consent to use personal information are being sent home as well, so please be sure to sign them and send them back to the school immediately. These forms (except the Verification Sheet) are also available on School Cash OnLine. If you have changes to your information (such as a phone number) throughout the school year, please call the school so that we can keep our information up to date. Please make sure that email addresses are kept up to date as much of our correspondence is sent through School Messenger. Also, please notify the office if there have been any diagnosis related to asthma or anaphylaxis conditions to so that we can keep our records up to date.

## Terry Fox Run

Students will have the chance to participate in the Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 20th in the afternoon. Rain date will be Friday, September 27th. The link to follow is:

<https://schools.terrybox.ca/StMichaelsSchool/WalshSimcoe>



A note has also been sent home with students in regards to the event.

## School Photos

School photos will be taken on Thursday, October 17th. Photo retake day will be held on Monday, November 25th. More information will follow.

## **Student Accident Insurance**

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school premises or during school activities. Some injuries incur medical, dental, or other expenses that are not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans. The Board makes available Accident and Life Insurance for students through Reliable Life Insurance Company's Insurance My Kids Protection Plan.

Participation is voluntary and costs are paid by the parent or guardian. The insurance agreement is between you and Reliable Life Insurance Company. If you wish to subscribe, you may apply directly at: [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com).

All questions should be directed to Reliable Life Insurance Company toll-free at: 1-800-463-KIDS (5437).

## **Eye Tests for Children**

Has your child had a recent eye examination? The cost for eye exams for children under the age of 19 is still covered by provincial health care. It is especially important for the youngest of school-aged children and their ability to learn to have their eyes checked to see if they need glasses. Please contact your optometrist for more information on this.

## **Food Orders**

Food Orders for the month of September and October will be going home with students on Monday, September 9th and will be due to the office on Tuesday, September 17th at 9:00 a.m. Don't forget to register for School CashOnLine!! If you use Cash OnLine, remember it is due at midnight the night before the actual due date, so September 16th.



## **Donnybrook Fair**

Please mark your calendars for the Donnybrook Fair which will be held on September 21st and 22nd. Please check out the website for details in regards to entering crafts and art work. A pamphlet is also being sent home with students in regards to the different items that can be entered into the fair.



## **Volunteering at St. Michael's**

A completed police check is **mandatory** as well as some online training, for any type of volunteering, whether it be driving students to sports events, helping in the classroom, or chaperoning on a trip. Volunteers are an essential part of student success. If you have just an hour a week to spare, and would like to help at school, please contact the office.

## Transportation Delays/ Cancellations, are you getting notified?

Did you know that there are a number of ways to see if your child(ren)'s bus is running behind schedule or has been cancelled? The ways that you can be notified of an interruption include: 1) downloading the bus delays app from either the Google Play or Apple store; detailed instructions on setting up the app are available by visiting <http://www.stsbhn.ca/faqs> and clicking on the last FAQ labelled "Delays and Cancellation App". 2) register to receive email notifications. To register simply visit <https://transinfobhn.ca/Login> and create an account. After your account has been created, connect your child(ren)'s bus service to your email address by logging in and clicking the "Add Student" button. Detailed instructions on setting up your account are also available by visiting <http://www.stsbhn.ca/faqs> and clicking on the FAQ labelled "having trouble logging into the Parent/Student portal". For parents who look up bus information before the start of school, you have already completed this option! 3) visit <https://transinfobhn.ca/Alerts> daily to see if your bus is running behind schedule or has been cancelled. If you are having trouble with any of these methods, please reach out to the transportation office by emailing [transportation@stsbhn.ca](mailto:transportation@stsbhn.ca) or by calling 519-751-7532.

## Meet the Staff

Parents will have the opportunity to Meet The Staff on Thursday, September 26th. More information will follow.



## Attendance

Good attendance is necessary for proper progress in school. Our students are expected to attend school every day that school is in session, unless prevented by personal illness or family emergency. Vacations during the year require a written note to the Principal outlining the expected length of absence. St. Michael's School Safe Arrival Policy states that an absence from school must be accounted for by a **telephone call to the school by 8:45 am (519) 426-5462**. Attendance is taken daily by 9:05 a.m. and by 1:40 p.m. This procedure is followed to ensure the safety of your child. Your cooperation saves numerous daily phone calls by the school. Students who arrive late in the morning, should report directly to the office for a late slip and then proceed to class. Please remember to telephone or send a note if:

- Someone other than yourself is to pick up your child
- Your child is to leave the school early during the day
- Your child will knowingly be late



## Parking at the School

Just a reminder that due to a parking lot shortage and ensure the safety of our students at the school, we are asking for Parents to please pick up / and drop of their child/ren at the Church Parking Lot.

## Indoor Shoes

Please make sure your child/ren have a pair of indoor shoes to be left at the school.