

St. Peter Catholic Elementary School

175 Glenwood Drive, Brantford, ON N3S 3H1
519.752.1611 • www.stpeterbrantford.ca • Zone 4
Principal: Mr. Lucas Boluk • Secretary: Mrs. Judith Dugas



SEPTEMBER 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians of St. Peter School,



Welcome to a new school year at St. Peter! My name is Lucas Boluk and I have been appointed as the principal of St. Peter School. I am excited about working with you and your children this year. Our goal is to foster an academic, physical, social, and emotional environment that is rooted in our Catholic faith. A special welcome to all of our new students and families who have joined the St. Peter learning community this year. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer; one filled with family and friends, memories, laughter, and spontaneity. Although this year will look and feel a little different, I assure you that our commitment is to always strive to meet the educational needs and ensure the safety of your child(ren).

I begin our staff news by taking this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Gyselink on the birth of her baby girl, Adelaide. Miss Di Sabatino will be teaching Mrs. Gyselink's class during her leave. We also welcome many other staff to the St. Peter School community this year. In addition to the returning staff, we welcome Miss Csercsics - our new grade 2/3 teacher, Mrs. Smith - our new grade 5/6 teacher, and Mrs. Fergus our new STEM teacher. Mrs. Male is now our SERT Special Education Resource Teacher). Mrs. Spangenberg has taken on a new teaching role at another school; we wish her all the best.

This year, our Board's 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 prayer that, as we accompany each other on the journey, you feel God's love and abundant blessings.

Normally, we would welcome you with a Meet the Teacher Night. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel the event this year due to social distancing requirements that cannot be guaranteed. As the year progresses, we will find other ways to "join together" virtually/safely.

In my role as principal, I welcome input from parents/guardians. My goal is that we work together to ensure child(ren) reach their fullest potential, increase their personal growth, resiliency, innovation, and engagement. If there is anything we can do to support your child(ren), please do not hesitate to reach out to me - I am only an email (jboluk@bhncdsb.ca) or a phone call (519-752-1611) away .

As always, please continue to communicate with your classroom teacher and me, especially if you have any questions or want to inform us of concerns/good news. Please be sure to access our school website (www.stpeterbrantford.ca) and follow us on our Twitter feed (@stpcatholic) to learn more about the what is happening at St. Peter School.

Respectfully,

Lucas Boluk, Principal
St. Peter School, Brantford



September Important Dates

Staggered Entry Begins	8
A-E Surnames Begin.....	8
F-I Surnames Begin.....	9
M-P Surnames Begin.....	10
Q-Z Surnames Begin.....	11
A-L Surnames ONLY.....	14
M-Z Surnames ONLY.....	15
All Students—regular attendance.....	16

October Important Dates

School Council Nominations Due	2
Thanksgiving Weekend.....	10-12

Mission

As a Catholic Learning Community, we provide faith formation and academic excellence, which enables our graduates to live a life of love and service in Christ.

Motto

Excellence in Learning—Living in Christ

Outdoor Supervision

Please note that there is NO supervision outside before 8:20 am or after 2:55 pm. At the end of the day, children need to go directly home and are not permitted to play on school grounds since there is no supervision.



Join Us on Twitter

See what is happening at
St. Peter School!
Follow us on twitter at
@stpcatholic

Our Staff for 2020-2021

Kindergarten—Ms. Dobrovodsky
ECE (Early Childhood Educator)—TBD
Gr. 1—Miss Di Sabatino
Gr. 2/3—Miss Csercsics
Gr. 3—Mrs. McVey
Gr. 4/5—Mr. Halsey
Gr. 5/6—Mrs. Smith
Gr. 7—Mrs. McBride
Gr. 8—Mr. Enns

SERT (Special Education Resource Teacher)—Mrs. Male
FSL (French As A Second Language)—Mme Luis
FSL (French As A Second Language)—Mme Ricci
EA (Educational Assistant)—Mrs. Jansen
EA (Educational Assistant)—TBD
Library Tech.—Mr. Tavernese
Caretaker—Mrs. Biggs
Secretary—Mrs. Dugas
Principal—Mr. Boluk

School Council Elections/Meeting The Catholic School Council is a group that acts on the behalf of parents. Meetings occur at least 4 times per year, at the school. We welcome interested parents/guardians to join School Council - learn about our school activities, share your talents, help in raising funds, and meet other parents/guardians involved in the school community. Everyone is welcome to attend meetings—as many or as few as you can.



A limited number of parents fill the executive positions. Every year, Council members must be nominated to fill these positions. Nomination forms will soon be available on the school website and **MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2nd, 2020 by 3pm.** You will be notified of the results.

The first meeting of the Catholic School Council will be held **Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.** in the library. Voting for executives will take place at this time

STEM Teacher The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board has a program called "STEM and Innovative Learning". STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The role of the STEM teacher is to work with students from all classes, throughout the year, engaging in a variety of STEM related challenges. This year, our STEM teacher is **Mrs. Ferguson.** She will be with our students every Day 3. If you would like more information about STEM, please refer to our school website and our Twitter feed.

Drop Off/ Pick Up Routines **NEW** IMPORTANT CHANGES****

In the Morning—Start of Day

When dropping off a kindergarten child in the morning, please walk them to the fenced kindergarten area (left hand side when facing the school). Students from Grade 1 to Grade 8 (**students only—no parents/guardians/visitors permitted**) proceed to the main playground located on the other side of the building (right hand side when facing the school). Supervision begins at 8:20 am. *DO NOT leave children at the school any earlier as the playground will be unsupervised.* Once your child has entered the playground, please leave promptly, to allow for a smooth flow onto the school grounds.

At the bell: Students in Gr. 2/3 and Gr. 3 will enter the school through the back doors of the building, Students in Gr. 1 and K's enter at the left side (when facing the building); each class has their own entry door, Gr. 7 and 8 classes are in the portables and enter through their main door. Students in Gr. 4/5 and 5/6 will enter through the doors at the front of the building.

Drop off after morning bell (aka LATE): Please bring your child to the FRONT DOOR and ring the intercom. ONLY your child will be admitted (parents/guardians/etc. MAY NOT enter the building without an appointment). The school secretary (or other designated staff member) will notify the classroom teacher and your child will proceed directly their classroom, on their own. Kindergarten children will be escorted to their room by an adult.

Parking: Parking is restricted to ONLY members of staff. The only permitted vehicles are staff vehicles, school buses, and delivery/maintenance vehicles .are permitted to enter the Parking Lot. Parents/guardians and/or other individuals MAY NOT be in the parking lot for drop off. This is a SAFETY ISSUE and MUST be RESPECTED. Kindergarten parents/guardians ONLY may walk their children to the kindergarten gate. ABSOLUTELY NO other parents/guardians/other adults are allowed on the school yard.

During the school day

Pick up before 2:55 (aka Early Leave): Except in emergency situations, parents/guardians are asked to inform the school before 8:35 am (or as soon as they become aware of the need to leave early) when taking their child from the school before dismissal. To pick up your child during the school day, please buzz the office then return to your car, or the sidewalk in front of the building, to wait. A staff member will accompany the student to meet you. Prior notification of early leave plans avoids delays/frustration for everyone.

Dropped Off Lunches/Forgotten Items: If you are dropping off a lunch/forgotten item for you child, please buzz the office, enter through the front door, then place it in the RED contact-free bin outside the office. Your child MAY NOT meet you at the door unless they are leaving. The office will page your child's classroom for pick up.

At the end of the day—Dismissal

School dismissal is at 2:55 pm. Students (who are not involved in the YMCA after school program) MUST be picked up no later than 3:05 pm. Only the parents of kindergarten children are asked to meet their child in the kindergarten area. Students from Grades 1–8 may be picked up from the front of the school (sidewalk area) as parents **will not** be permitting on the school yard. For safety reasons, your child will only be released to an adult *who has written permission* to pick up,

Please obey all traffic signs. Parking is restricted to ONLY members of staff. Only staff vehicles, school buses and delivery/maintenance vehicles are permitted to enter the Parking Lot. Parents/guardians and/or other individuals MAY NOT be in the parking lot for pick up. This is a SAFETY ISSUE and MUST be RESPECTED. Once you meet your child after dismissal, please leave the area promptly, to allow buses and other traffic to move unobstructed.

PLEASE NOTE: Parents/guardians/visitors are only permitted in the school if they have made an appointment. As much as possible, meetings should happen by phone or virtually. Parents/guardians (with the exception of kindergarten, who are to drop off and pick up their child(ren) from the kindergarten gate) may not be on the school grounds during the school day. This requirement is necessary to ensure the SAFETY of all.

Parish Information



St. Mary's Church
Our Lady of Assumption Parish
Pastor: Father Luke Kopaniak
133 Murray Street
Brantford, ON N3S 5P8
519.753.7316
www.marybrantford.com



School Bell Times

First Bell8:35 am
First Break 10:15 am to 10:55 am
Lunch Break 12:35 pm to 1:15 pm
Dismissal Bell2:55 pm



Absent/Late Students

If your child will be **absent or late**, please call the office at **519-752-1611** (24 hour voicemail)

St. Peter Website

www.stpeterbrantford.ca

There are many items you can find on the St. Peter website including:

- Newsletters & Calendars
- Information on Events
- School Bell Times



Peanut & Tree Nut Aware & Educated Zone

Please do not bring food items to school which contain (or may contain) traces of peanuts/tree nuts.

SchoolCashOnline



Pay for and order lunches, trips, etc. securely online! If you haven't yet registered please do so at: [https://](https://bhncdsb.schoolcashonline.com)

bhncdsb.schoolcashonline.com
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED!!!

Scent Safe School

Due to student and staff allergies, please do not wear perfume, cologne, or other strongly scented chemicals. Avoiding these scents will also be beneficial for students and staff who have asthma.



Transportation Info



Parents may register and track their child's bus information as well as get bus delay notifications sent to their smart phone/e-mail account.

Parents can register for this free service at: www.stsbhn.ca



Board Website
www.bhncdsb.ca

Please view the Board's website for important information. The website includes calendars, Board policies, and much other useful information.

Subscribe to our Website!

To receive newsletters and notices by e-mail, please go to our school website home page (www.stpeterbrantford.ca), go to the bottom of the page, and press *subscribe*. While you are on the Internet, please join us on Twitter as well @stpcatholic.



Dress Code Reminder

Modesty and appropriateness are the main guidelines. Schools rely upon common sense and good judgment. Please keep in mind that:

- Clothing must reflect that we belong to a Catholic elementary school
- No t-shirts with suggestive or violent sayings or pictures. Clothing with inappropriate logos will not be allowed
- All clothing must follow the rule. 'The top must meet the bottom and the bottom must meet the top'
- No low cut tops, halter tops, tank tops or muscle shirts. Tops must have minimum 2 inch wide straps. Shirts with large arm holes (e.g. basketball jerseys) require that a shirt be worn underneath
- Shorts must be of a modest length (at least arm's length) - no spandex or bicycle shorts
- No undergarments are to be visible
- No hats, hoods, or bandanas are to be worn in school (no gang paraphernalia)
- No see-through clothing
- Flip-flops are not recommended for physical activities in the gym or outdoors because of the safety hazard they pose

We always encourage students to dress for the weather. Scent free sunscreen and hats on days with high UV readings are recommended, as are rain gear and/or cold weather clothing, as appropriate



PREVALENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS POLICY:

In the spring of 2018, the Ministry of Education released Policy/Program Memorandum 161, requiring all Boards to develop and maintain a policy/policies to support students in schools who have been diagnosed with **anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes and/or epilepsy (considered to be "prevalent medical conditions")**. This policy was put in place for September 2018. Beginning September 1, 2018, the Board implemented the new Prevalent Medical Conditions Policy and Administrative Procedures 200.05 that will include our two previous policies (*Protection of Anaphylaxis Pupils 200.18 and Management of Students with Asthma 200.05*) and expand to incorporate *Diabetes and Epilepsy*.

If your child has a medical condition, as indicated above, please contact the office immediately.

Scent-Free School:

We respectfully ask that students, staff, and visitors of St. Peter School refrain from wearing scented products when at the school. **We ask that, if possible, you purchase fragrance-free sunscreens, hair sprays, hand sanitizers, etc.** Please be mindful not to wear perfumes, colognes, strongly scented hair products, or lotions, etc. when you plan to enter the school building.



Student Punctuality

We encourage parents to model the importance of punctuality and regular attendance for children, two important elements for student success. There is a direct correlation between children who are often late or absent and reduced academic achievement. All teachers begin the day with either language or math, laying a foundation for student success. We all want our children to do well in school and in life; punctuality and consistent attendance are important to realizing those goals. Students who arrive after 8:35 am must wait to be buzzed in to the building and then proceed directly to their classroom.



Medic Alert's No Child Without Program is at Our School

The **No Child Without** program offers a free Medic Alert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a Medic Alert membership through this program. Your child's voice in an emergency, Medic Alert membership:

- Gives emergency first responders immediate access to your child's medical information on their Medic Alert bracelet or necklet
- Enables first responders to quickly obtain up to date medical information by means of the child's Electronic Health Record through the **24 Hour Emergency Hotline**.
- Communicates with the parent or emergency contact upon activation of the **Hotline**
- Allows free updates of the child's medical record as needed

Medic Alert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur.

For further information visit www.nochildwithout.ca.



Police Clearance Checks

VOLUNTEER

In accordance with Board Policy, if parents wish to volunteer at the school, they **must** have a current clear Police Clearance Certificate.

All previously submitted Police Clearance Checks are being reviewed this month to ensure they are still valid. Family members of *current students*, who previously had police clearance forms on file, will be contacted soon. New police clearance forms may be requested from the office (519-752-1611)

Certificates are valid for 3 years providing Declarations provided. Online AODA training is also required.

Parking on Glenwood Drive

In order to ensure the safety of our children, parents/guardians are asked to **please obey traffic signs and to park on the street only where permitted.**



Please do not park/stop in no parking zones. Parking in these zones causes visibility issues for the student patrolers as well as navigation issues for incoming school buses.



Please ensure that you do not block the drive-ways of our neighbours—they truly appreciate your consideration.

The parking lot is reserved for staff only and may not be used for parking, pick up or drop off.

Strong Start Volunteers

The Strong Start Reading Program has been temporarily suspended. Families will be notified when it begins again.

Student Accident Insurance

If you are interested in obtaining Student Accident Insurance for your child(ren), please go to the Board's website at: www.bhncdsb.ca, click on the tab PARENTS, then Accident Insurance.



Allergy Alert for Peanuts/Nuts

Due to student and staff allergies, St. Peter School is a **nut safe school**.

Students are asked to bring lunches and snacks that are free of peanuts and tree nuts, as well as products that have the "may contain peanuts/tree nuts" warning on them. Please read labels before sending food to school. Please be aware—not all packaging is clearly labeled with the warning. Truly, this is a life saving measure. If you have caregivers, who provide your child with lunches or snacks, PLEASE share this information with them.

READ THE LABELS!

- That means there should be **NO** tree nuts & peanuts in the product.
- The item should also be made in a **TREE NUT & PEANUT FREE FACILITY**.
- The label can **NOT** say "May Contain Nuts" or made on equipment that also processes nuts, or anything similar.

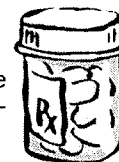
***Please note that the use of peanut butter substitutes (e.g., WOW butter etc.) is **not permitted** until further review by the Board's Anaphylaxis Committee. The rationale for this is that the peanut butter substitutes look and smell so much like peanut butter, it is difficult for staff to monitor, as well as possibly causing anxiety for students with severe peanut allergies. (use of the "Wow butter" labels, does not ensure that the product is "safe").

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

- **Peanuts:** a member of the legume family and not related to tree nuts.
- **Tree Nuts:** Almonds, Brazil Nuts, Cashews, Chestnuts, Hazelnuts, Hickory Nuts, Macadamia Nuts, Pecans, Pine Nuts, Pistachios, Shea Nuts and Walnuts.

Medication

The staff at St. Peter School must follow Board procedures for the administration of medication during school hours. Authorization to provide such service must be made in writing by the parent *and physician* on the appropriate form (obtained at the school or on the Board's website www.bhncdsb.ca under policy No. 200.19). Only prescription drugs will be administered. Non-prescription drugs such as Tylenol and the like will not be administered to the students.



Back To School Footwear

Each student should bring a pair of *indoor shoes* (*non-scuffing running shoes are recommended*) and a pair of *outdoor shoes* to school in September. Please remember that flip flops and Crocs are not good footwear for school because they slip on our floors and get caught under doors, providing little protection for children's toes. Running shoes are the best option. Also, please ensure boots are worn when weather is rainy or snowy. This ensures the safety (and general comfort!) of all

YMCA After School Program

Welcome to the YMCA After School Program. Our After School Program begins on Monday, September 14. If you have any questions about the program, please contact the YMCA directly at:

519-752-6568 ext 101

brantford_sacc@ymca.ca



Student Transportation Information

To view your child's transportation, including courtesy riders, please visit:
www.stsbhn.ca

Parents can register and track their child's bus information, as well as obtain late bus notifications. Notifications may be sent to either a smart phone or e-mail account. Parents may register for this free service on this website as well. Forms for new transportation or courtesy transportation may be obtained from this site as well.



SCHOOLCASH ONLINE

An introduction/instruction sheet is included with the opening package for this school year. SchoolCash Online remains an important tool for payment of fees, completion of permission forms, ordering hot lunches, etc. This is the only method of payment permitted for school related expenses. Please review the introduction/instruction sheet and contact the number at the bottom of the form if you require additional information.

HOT LUNCHES FOR 2020-2021

We will again be offering hot lunches, beginning in October. Additional information will be sent home before the end of September. As in the past, **ONLY** SchoolCash Online may be used to place orders and remit payment. **NO LATE ORDERS** can be accepted. Orders are placed one month in advance for all hot lunch days in the following month.

LOOKING FOR MORE INFO ABOUT OUR BOARD'S RESPONSE TO COVID?

Visit www.bhncdsb.ca Under the *Spotlight Section*, please click *COVID-19 School Re-Opening 2020-21...Read More*. This will provide you with answers to many of the most commonly asked questions:

"Messages from the Chair", "FAQS", "Virtual School" and COVID-19 Status by Location"

Before you contact the school, we recommend that you check out this area on the Board's website, accessible 24/7. The answer you need will likely be available here.

St. Peter School



September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
St. Mary's Church Sunday Holy Mass 9:00am and 11:00am		1	2	3	4	5 St. Mary's Church Saturday Mass 5:00pm
6 Colour Run for SKIP St. Mary's Church Sunday Holy Mass 9:00am and 11:00am	7 LABOUR DAY	8 Day 1 Students with surnames A-E	9 Day 2 Students with surnames F-L	10 Day 3 Students with surnames M-P	11 Day 4 Students with surnames Q-Z	12 St. Mary's Church Saturday Mass 5:00pm
13 St. Mary's Church Sunday Holy Mass 9:00am and 11:00am	14 Day 5 Students with surnames A-L	15 Day 1 Students with surnames M-Z	16 Day 2 All Students return to in- school attend- ance	17 Day 3	18 Day 4	19 St. Mary's Church Saturday Mass 5:00pm
20 St. Mary's Church Sunday Holy Mass 9:00am and 11:00am	21 Day 5	22 Day 1	23 Day 2	24 Day 3	25 Day 4	26 St. Mary's Church Saturday Mass 5:00pm
27	28 Day 5	29 Day 1	30 Day 1	Hot Lunches begin in October. Please look for additional information coming to you before the end of September.		