

# St. Nicholas Catholic School

480 Keith Avenue, Newmarket, Ontario L3X 1V5

Ph. (905) 895-3777 Fax: (905) 895-3739



## School News & Upcoming School Events:

**Cross Country/Wellness Day: Tuesday October 26th, 2021** (Rain Date: Oct 28th)

In lieu of a Board wide Cross Country event, this year St. Nicholas will run a Cross Country/Wellness day where each class will participate in running and wellness activities that focus on physical fitness and mental well being. All health and safety protocols will be followed. A big thank you goes to our Cross Country Committee for organizing this day for our students.

**Halloween Fun Day: Friday October 29th, 2021**

On Friday October 29th, students and staff will engage in Halloween fun. All health and safety protocols will be followed and maintained throughout the day. We are excited to announce that we will be having a modified halloween dance event. Following strict protocols, each class will have an opportunity to enjoy a halloween theme dance in the gym (there will be no mixing of class cohorts). Masks will be required for all grades 1 to 8. Other events include:

- Grade 4-8 virtual author visit: A delightfully campy mixture of scariness and poking fun at scariness with three authors who have written a combined total of 47 books — a perfect blend for a fun literacy event on the last Friday before Halloween.
- Various Classroom activities: students will participate in various fun halloween activities, stories and/or crafts throughout the day.
- Appropriate costumes are a must. Please note the importance of discouraging cultural misappropriation in costumes, and the need for appropriateness of costumes to be worn in our schools. Here are some additional guidelines:
  1. **Culture is NOT Costume:** Refrain from using costumes that represent a cultural group or ethnicity.
  2. **Masks are Discouraged (Except for PPE):** Wearing masks during the school day can compromise the safety of the community. We should always be identifiable in our community so we can avoid having unwelcome guests.
  3. **Awareness of Costume Appropriateness is Important:** Discourage costumes that are not appropriate to the moral tone of our Catholic Schools.
  4. **Awareness of Fear and Evil:** Be aware that Ghoulish costumes can terrify younger students, students with special needs, or students with phobias.
  5. **We Must Be Trauma Sensitive:** There may be members of our communities who have traumas that can be triggered by certain costumes.

Additional:

- Inflatable costumes are **NOT** permitted this year (Board/YRPH direction)
- Treats: Please do not send any treats for distribution.

**Spirit Day: Green and White November 4th, 2021**

On Thursday November 4th, we welcome Director Scuglia and Superintendent Wright to St. Nicholas. We would like to showcase our wonderful school by inviting students and staff to wear our school colours; green and yellow (gold) or any other school spirit wear.

**Pictures: First Day of School**

As we begin to plan ahead, we are actively thinking of ways we can put together a successful yearbook this year given the many restrictions on events and photo opportunities. One way of doing this is to have various spirit days throughout the year. These spirit days will align with various monthly events and give teachers the opportunity to capture memories throughout the year and promote school spirit. More information to follow with regards to specific spirit days. We would also like to capture the first day of the 2021/22 school year. Parents/guardians are invited to send 'First Day of School' photos directly to Ms. Ashworth ([cindy.ashworth@ycdsbk12.ca](mailto:cindy.ashworth@ycdsbk12.ca)).

**Picture Day: Thursday November 18th, 2021**

We are pleased to announce that our school pictures have been scheduled for **Thursday November 18th**. At this time the Board, with direction from YRPH, has elected to only complete individual photos, there will not be a class photo taken at this time. In addition, Life Touch (photography company) and our students/staff will follow strict procedures and protocols in order for photos to be taken in a safe manner. Please 'save the date' and see attached flyer for more information.

As we enter the final week of October we are encouraged to see so many signs of student success and growth within our classrooms and school. I would also like to thank you all again for your continued support throughout this school year.

Yours in Catholic Education,

*C. Zorzi*

Mr. Zorzi