



September 2-5, 2025

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Important Dates

September 2

SK assessment
appointments

First Day for Gr. 1-6

September 3

First day for SK
JK intake meetings

September 11

Meet the Educator
Night- 4:00-5:30

October 7

Picture Day

School Year Blessing

God,
We thank you for the blessing to begin the new school year,
and we ask that you bless the staff, the students,
and student families of our school community.
We pray that you will protect and guide us,
and bring joy and hope in everything that we do.
Amen

Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff at St. Patrick Catholic School, we would like to extend a heartfelt welcome back to returning students and a warm welcome to our new students and their families.

Continuing a sense of warmth and maintaining a safe, welcoming and inclusive learning environment for all is a priority. We are looking forward to an exciting, fun, faith-filled year of learning and will work closely with parents in establishing a positive learning environment for each child at St. Patrick School.

All parents are invited to join us for monthly meetings of our School Council. This is a great way to keep informed about school events and lend a hand to the many parent-sponsored activities that take place throughout the school year. Everyone is welcome.

May God Bless the St. Patrick School community as we begin this new school year united in faith. On behalf of staff we wish everyone a successful and productive school year full of creativity, innovation and inspiration!

We would like to welcome the following educators to the St. Patrick learning community;

Kelly Newton- FSL Teacher- 4/5 Core and 6 immersion
 Kristal Martin- FSL Teacher- 5 immersion and 6 Core
 Taylor Dillabough- Grade 2/3 Teacher
 Emily Vanderklift- Grade 4/5 Teacher
 Katherine Denk- KP3 Teacher
 Kim Warren- 3/4 FSL and KP1 FSL Teacher
 Abigail Imbeault- 6Blend and 5 Blend (until teacher is hired)
 Caitlynn Armstrong- Educational Assistant
 Erin McDonald- Educational Assistant
 Zineb Benhamou- Educational Assistant

Quick Links

[St. Patrick](#)

[OCSB](#)

[CSPA](#)

[OSTA](#)

Parish Links

[St. Andrew](#)
613-723-9767

Board Spiritual Theme:

We are entering Year two of our Board's spiritual theme "We are called to Open Doors, Build Bridges and Nourish New Beginnings."



We are called to
Open Doors,
Build Bridges,
Nourish New Beginnings
"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock..." Rev 3:20

Building bridges means creating connections and fostering unity. This year, we aim to become living bridges that unite diverse communities and traditions through gestures of solidarity, reconciliation, and social friendship, echoing Pope Francis' notion that building bridges is intrinsic to the Christian vocation. We look forward to fostering a welcoming, inclusive and accepting school community where all are welcomed and respected.

The teachings and values of Jesus Christ will continue to be integrated in all aspects of St Patrick School. Our St Patrick staff is looking forward to building community and working with your children in the upcoming school year. We look forward to a thriving learning community with our students and community throughout the school year. Please know that my door is always open to discuss any concerns or inquiries.

And finally, please take a few moments to view the [Back to School Book Checklist](#), if you haven't already. This Checklist was sent last week and has important information and links for the school year start-up.

Looking forward to an exciting school year!

Nancy Beaulac
Principal

Week at a Glance:

Monday, Sept 1	Tuesday, Sept 2	Wed., Sept 3	Thurs., Sept 4	Friday, Sept 5
Labour Day- No School	SK- Screening appointments First Day for Grades 1-6	First full day for SK students JK intake meetings	JK intake meetings continued	First full day for all JK students

News & Updates.....

Arrival Procedures and Dismissal Procedures

A huge thank-you for your support with drop-off and pick-up to ensure the safe arrival and departure of students.

Having an "all hands on deck" approach from the community is really appreciated. **Reminder to follow all posted signs!**

We are encouraging students to walk to school. You are also encouraged to continue to utilize Tripp Cres or the front of the school to drop-off or pick-up your child(ren) if they are not taking the bus.

Note: Kindergarten students will be dropped off (brought to the kindergarten entry gate). At the end of the day parents can pick up their Kindergarten child at the kindergarten meeting area (in front of kindergarten yard)
Siblings of kindergarten students can be dropped off and picked-up in the same area as their kindergarten sibling.

Arrival:

School buses arrive between 8:15 a.m. and 8:30. Students will be unloaded with the support of a staff member. Grades 1 - 6 will be directed to enter the school yard by the portables and go to their designated zone (primary yard or junior yard). Kindergarten students who have arrived by bus will be brought to the kindergarten yard.

Walking:

Students being dropped off or walking **should not arrive** before **8:15 am**. They will then head directly to their designated zone (primary yard or junior yard)

End of the day:

Bus Departure:

School buses will be loaded starting at the bell.

Walking:

Students being picked up or who are walking home will be dismissed at **the bell**. If students are being picked-up at the end of the day they will then be picked-up at their arrival points.

Please ensure that you have arranged a consistent plan for safe drop off and pick up of your child at our school.

Important: Being late for class disrupts the school community as well as your child's education. It is also a safety issue for your child if left without supervision. Please make every effort to ensure that your child is dropped off and picked up on time.

Meet the Educator Night--

Meet the Educator will be held on Thursday, September 12th from 4:00 to 5:30. This is an informal Meet and Greet with Educators.

This will be a night where parents can come into the school, visit the classroom, meet their child's educators and any questions they may have about the school environment and program. Specific questions regarding their children should be directed at another time (phone call/private meeting).

OSTA- Have you signed up yet?

Please sign up for the **Parent Portal on OSTA's** website for frequent updates about buses and bus routes/delays/cancellations

<http://www.ottawaschoolbus.ca/parents/>

Technology at St.Patrick

Students in grades 3-6 that have Chromebooks or Laptops at home are encouraged to bring them to school. We do not have enough Chromebooks for all students. BYOD (bring your own device) will help with this. Students can either bring their device to school and home again or simply leave it at school. If your child is leaving their device at school, please make sure to send in the charger.

We also have some Chromebooks for our students in kindergarten to grade 2 to use in their classroom. Leveraging digital is a useful tool to enhance the learning for students!

Important: Please review with your child and complete [Acceptable use of Technology found in the Parent Portal for students in grade 1-6](#). All students need to have this form completed to utilize the technology in the classroom.

Cell Phones

As per Ministry guidelines, students at St. Patrick School are not permitted to use cell phones during the school day. If a student needs to reach their parents/guardians, they must come to the office. If students have cell phones at school, they must remain on their person or in their backpack and should not be seen by anyone. If students are seen with their phones out, they will bring their phone to the Office.

School/ HomeCommunication

Communicating with parents is one of our top priorities. If you have activated your School Messenger account, you will receive a weekly newsletter as well as all other educator, school and Board communication (this message was sent to bypass the School Messenger restrictions. All newsletters can also be found on our [school website](#).

In addition to the above forms of communication, we are always happy to speak by phone, email (patrick@ocsb.ca) or through the agenda (grades 1-3). Your child(ren)'s educator will let you know how communication will occur in Kindergarten and Grades 4-6.

OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE

pat.ocsb.ca

Please visit it often!!! This is where you can find all information about our school. **The St. Patrick calendar is on the main page of the website, please check there for all information and times for events happening at our school.**

Set up a link on your smart phones, laptops and home computers to stay in tune with all of the happenings at St.Patrick. Links to individual homeroom websites/blogs can also be found on our website (these links will be updated shortly)! This is an important tool for communication from the school and your child's classroom.

Newsletters will be posted on the website Monday mornings.

School Messenger Messages will be sent out as needed.

News from School Council...

Next meeting: TBD

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to a new school year! We are excited to invite you to join our Parent Council, a vital part of our school community. As a member of the Parent Council, you'll have the opportunity to be actively involved in shaping your child's educational experience and fostering a supportive environment for all.

What Does the Parent Council Do?

- Organizes School Events: Help plan and execute events such as fundraisers, family nights, and educational workshops.
- Supports School Initiatives: Collaborate with school staff to support new programs and initiatives.
- Enhances School Facilities: Contribute to projects that improve school resources and facilities.
- Provides Input: Share your insights and feedback on school policies and programs.

Benefits of Joining the Parent Council:

- Stay Informed: Gain a deeper understanding of school operations and curriculum.
- Build Community: Connect with other parents and strengthen the school community.
- Make a Difference: Play a key role in enhancing your child's school experience and supporting their education.
- Develop Skills: Gain valuable experience in event planning, leadership, and teamwork.

We look forward to your involvement and ideas.

For more information, please contact stpatrickparentcouncil@gmail.com or visit <https://pat.ocsb.ca/parents>.

Activity Fee

(Agenda, activities, class events/workshops)

This year, we will not be collecting an activity fee. Instead, we will be requesting funds when activities are planned. Educators will send home permission forms with the cost attached and this will be paid online through SchoolCash.

Our Primary (Grades 1-3) will be receiving agendas. We ask that all parents/guardians of students in grades 1-3 to pay \$8 for their child's agenda this year..

<https://ocsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

Allergies

Please be aware that there are students and staff members in our school with severe life threatening food allergies to peanuts, nuts, fish, eggs and dairy products. These individuals are diagnosed as anaphylactic. Anaphylaxis is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can be fatal. St. Patrick also strives to be a scent free environment for the safety of staff and students.

Wowbutter is a new product on the market made from soya. It is completely peanut and nut free. It can, however, incite consternation in severely allergic children when not handled appropriately by classmates. If your child will be bringing Wowbutter to school, please instruct him/her about proper etiquette with regard to being mindful of their classmates with allergies. Please use the stickers to label that the sandwich is made with Wowbutter.

Ottawa Catholic School Board 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

A School Board calendar will be sent home. All of the Professional Development (PD) Day dates, holidays and contact information is included. Please keep it handy for your reference. A link to this calendar can also be found on our school website.

Boomerang Lunches

A boomerang lunch is a lunch that has every piece of packaging and food returned to its source. In other words, everything in the lunch goes back home at the end of the day (wrappers, empty juice boxes, etc.). All garbage, recycling, etc., will stay in your child's lunch box and it will be brought home at the end of each day.

School Cash Online

Parents please register!

Even if you do not wish to pay online, please register!! This is how you will receive notification of items available to purchase.

Here's how:

Step 1: Go to this website: <https://ocsb.schoolcashonline.com>

Step 2: Register by selecting the “**Get Started Now**” and following 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.

Thank you parents!

Student Absence/Late

If your child will not be attending school for any reason, please call the school daily at **613-825-4012** or email Patrick@ocsb.ca. Please send a note to the classroom teacher 1) if you know in advance that your child will be away, and 2) if your child will be leaving school early for any reason.

Any child arriving after 8:30 am must be signed in at the office. This is an integral part of our attendance procedures to account for all children at the school.

WITS: *Please take some time to review our WITS and Conscious Discipline strategies with your child*



[WITS for Families Resources](#)

[Conscious Discipline Resources for Families](#)



[St. Andrew Parish Website](#)

[Parish Newsletter](#)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT



St. Patrick School
68 Larkin Drive
Nepean, ON K2J 1A9

Phone: 613-825-4012
Email: Patrick@ocsb.ca
Website: pat.ocsb.ca
Twitter: [@PATocsb](https://twitter.com/PATocsb)

