

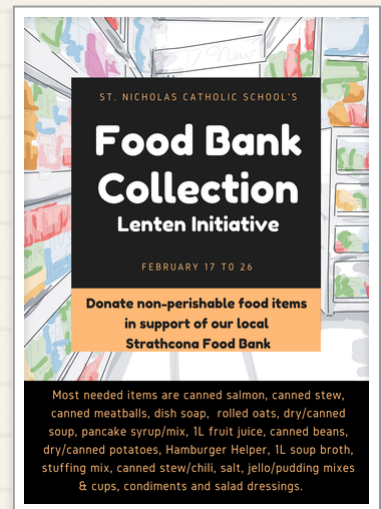
St. Nicholas Weekly News

FEBRUARY 22ND-26TH, 2021

DEAR FAMILIES,

The Lenten season, with its importance on prayer, fasting and almsgiving is upon us. As a school community we celebrated Ash Wednesday mass virtually at OLPH Parish last week and we are still accepting food bank donations for people in our community this week. Thank you for supporting those in need.

[Lenten Food Drive.png](#)



This Thursday, we will be acknowledging Pink Shirt day. Students are encouraged to wear Pink. On this day we come together to bring awareness to stop bullying and continue to be shining examples of kindness.

God bless,

Peter Rachmistruk

Upcoming Important Dates

- **February 17-26** - Food bank donations accepted
- **Thursday, February 25** - Pink Shirt Day
- **Wednesday, March 3** - Early dismissal/Spirit Day (Rainbow Day)
- **Friday, March 5** - PD Day (no school)

Information

- Please find attached the January EICS Board highlights - [January Board Highlights](#)
- Please find attached the Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education (GrACE) January newsletter - [January GrACE Newsletter](#)

Faith Corner

Lord and Saviour,

As we undertake this Lenten journey, we seek to know your merciful love in all that you have done for us.

May we face our sins squarely, assured that you know and love us as we are.

May we always be confident that your mercy is far more powerful than our sins and that you draw all people to yourself.

Help us to turn to you in sorrow and to praise you in joy, knowing that you hold all things in your hand.

Amen

Information Regarding Software Monitoring Program (GoGuardian Beacon):

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This year, Elk Island Catholic Schools has implemented a software monitoring program designed to help keep students safe. The monitoring program is called *GoGuardian Beacon* and is designed as a suicide prevention tool. We have set up the *GoGuardian Beacon* to detect when a student searches, creates, views or interacts with online content that could be related to suicide or self-harm. When something of this nature is detected, designated school staff members receive an email alert notifying them of the student and the specific actions the student did that prompted the alert. School staff will respond accordingly to each alert. Often, it will result in a phone call to parents or guardians letting them know about the alert that was generated. Additionally, through conversations, the school team will determine what other follow-up might be needed for supporting the student.

Using the *GoGuardian Beacon* monitoring system provides another layer of support for keeping our students safe and providing essential care for them. It is important to recognize that the *GoGuardian Beacon* software cannot detect every possible situation when a student might be suicidal. However, it is an effective way to grow in our awareness of which students may need extra support.

It is important for you to know that *GoGuardian Beacon* operates when a student is logged into his/her school-managed account on a chromebook. The program does not monitor what students do on their own personal devices, even if they are logged into their school account. We want to assure you that your child's privacy is important to our school division and any information collected by *GoGuardian Beacon* is only shared with designated staff and is *not* put into PowerSchool or PASI (the database that houses all student records).

We know that parents, guardians and school staff all play a vital role in each student's support network. We appreciate your support of division as we implement the *GoGuardian Beacon* monitoring system. If you have questions or concerns about it, please reach out to a member of our school's administration team at St. Nicholas (780-467-3633).



ST.NICHOLAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

 Facebook  @stncatholic

"Our Catholic School Family, embracing both English and Ukrainian Bilingual programs is dedicated to providing the best opportunities for learning while nurturing in our students' continuous personal growth."

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