



# NICHOLSON CATHOLIC COLLEGE



February 2022

### Principal's Message

Students and staff in the NCC community have once again showed their perseverance and flexibility as we moved to remote learning for the first two weeks of classes after the break. Thank you to everyone for your patience and flexibility as we continue to navigate the ever-changing rules of the pandemic. Upon the return to in person learning students easily settled in to diligently following COVID protocols in the school. We need to continue to be diligent in our mask wearing and hand hygiene. Teachers will continue to complete daily screener as a part of morning exercises.

All students have access to course work through D2L when they are absent. Students in Grades 9-12 can request to access their class through Teams on their **third consecutive** day of absence from school. Parents/guardians are reminded to report students' absence as usual but that secondary students who log into Teams on the third consecutive day (and beyond) of their absence will be marked present as long as they remain in the engaged in their Teams meeting. Students/parents/guardians are encouraged to communicate with teachers while absent for further directions.

Please note that some courses will not have access to a synchronous Teams meeting due to the nature of the course (ie. phys ed classes when learning in the gym, or tech courses learning in the shop).

Students in Grades 7 & 8 who are absent should check for missed work on D2L while they are away. Emailing your teachers after the third consecutive day of absence is recommended as there is no access to a synchronous Teams link.

As we begin quad 3 students will continue to eat their lunch in their afternoon classroom or leave school property. Students can eat in their afternoon classroom and then leave the building but we ask that students remain out for the remainder to minimize hallway traffic. Upon their return they will need to go directly to their afternoon class. We are asking students to limit the number of trips needed to their lockers where possible, by bringing what they need with them to classes, and using the closest washroom and water fill station to their classroom. This will allow us to keep hallways clear and minimize mixing of cohorts. Staff continues to remind students to respect the capacity limits posted on bathrooms doors.

The learning commons, gym, and weight room will remain closed during lunch for the time being as we transition to the new quadmester. However, the learning commons will be open to clubs to hold meetings in order to accommodate adequate social distancing. Students will be asked to eat their lunch prior to attending a club meeting.

As we look at the second half of the year there is a lot of planning to start looking forward to the next school year. Incoming grade 8 students have met Mr. Walsh, and will be receiving registration packages as well information regarding the upcoming virtual parent information night on **Tuesday**, **February 22**, **2022 at 7 pm**. Grade 9 to 11 NCC students will be partaking in the course selection process with guidance throughout February. To ensure adequate time for planning for next year we will be looking to have course selections in before leaving for March Break.

Thank you for your continued support as we continue to navigate the pandemic.

Graham Stuart Amy Goodberry

Principal Vice Principal

### **UPCOMING**

#### **Upcoming Dates**

Feb 21—Family Day

Feb 11—Quadmester 2 Reports available on Aspen

Mar 14-18-March Break

#### **Daily Schedule**

8:20 – 10:50 - AM Class 10:50-10:55 – move to PM class 10:55 – 11:55 – LUNCH 11:55-2:25 – PM Class 2:25-2:30 – dismissal

Quadmester 3 Dates Start Date: February 3 Last Day of Classes: April 12 Exam Days: April 13 &14

Credit Recovery Day: April 19 Quadmester 4 Begins: April 20



### **PASTORAL NEWS**



Dear Nicholson families,

As February begins, we will hear and see much about love in the coming weeks. Red and pink adorn store aisles, shiny, glittery hearts catch our eye, and the temptation to buy something sweet hits us most places we go! Valentine's Day gives us Christians an opportunity to resist the day's sugarcoated messages and instead focus on a truer and more realistic depiction of the joys and challenges of love. It gives us an opportunity to examine how we are loving, and how we may do better, both inside and

St. Paul writes: "Love is patient, love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth." (1 Corinthians 13: 4-6)

Although we often hear this verse in reference to married love, St. Paul addressed it to everyone in the early Christian community. These words are a model for all our interactions: with spouse, children, friend, stranger, foe, acquaintance, everyone. How can I be kind and gentle to those with differing political views than myself? How can we be open to other ways, rather than insisting on our own? How can my family be more truthful? How can we work together to help all flourish? How can our society remember injustice and rejoice in doing right by those on the margins? These are some of many possible

May you trust God's love for you, there for the taking at your best and your worst, and offer that same love to everyone you meet.

Peace.

Matthew Snowdon, Chaplain



### **NCC Guidance**

#### **Incoming Grade 9 Students**

Mr. Walsh (Guidance Counsellor) has visited our feeder schools over the last few weeks to introduce himself and start the registration process for next year.

- February 9-11th, 2022 Mr. Walsh will be returning to our feeder schools, St. Gregory's (Picton), St. Joseph's, NCC (Gr. 8s) and Our Lady of Fatima, for grade 8 registrations
- Registration packages will be available on these dates which will include information on the course selection process and information on the many programs NCC has to offer
- A 'Grade 8 Parent Info' Video will be sent home from your respective schools
- Any student from a school not mentioned above, interested in French Immersion or the IB Programme, please contact the NCC guidance department directly. Please visit the <u>Guidance and IB at NCC YouTube Channel</u> for helpful videos about Grade 9 registration, which will be live on February 7, 2022.
- A Gr 8 Parent Virtual Info Session on **Tuesday February 22nd at 7 pm**. Brief summaries of course selections, pathway choices, French Immersion and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme will be provided, followed by a Q & A session.
- Any Grade 8 student who is interested in attending Nicholson during the 2022/23 school year may contact the school directly at 613-967-0404 ext. 235 for more detailed information.

#### NCC Course Selection Process for Grade 9-11 Students

Each February current grade 9-11 students plan their upcoming year courses. It is an important time for both students and the school. For students, successful pathway planning is key. They will need to ensure future courses provide appropriate post-secondary options along with allowing them the opportunity to explore areas of interest. For the school this process helps ensures courses are able to run and ultimately determines the structure of the timetable. To aid in this process, NCC's Guidance Department has organized the following process and dates.

#### **Important Dates grade 9-11 students:**

**February 9-18**—class presentations by counsellors (with morning classes) – review of student progress, course offerings, researching pathways and requirements

**February 23-26**—parent information (virtual) to help assist with course selection – variety of topics

March 7-10—course inputting into myBlueprint (with afternoon classes)

### Of Importance to NCC Graduates

February 1, 2022 – College application deadline

A number of students still have **NOT** completed and/or submitted their required 20 hours of community service. Students and families are reminded that the Ministry of Education requires students graduating in June 2022 to complete 20 hours as part of the OSSD (diploma) expectations. Failure to complete these Community Services hours will mean the student is ineligible to graduate.

Please submit your hours in guidance as soon as possible.

### **Important Dates:**

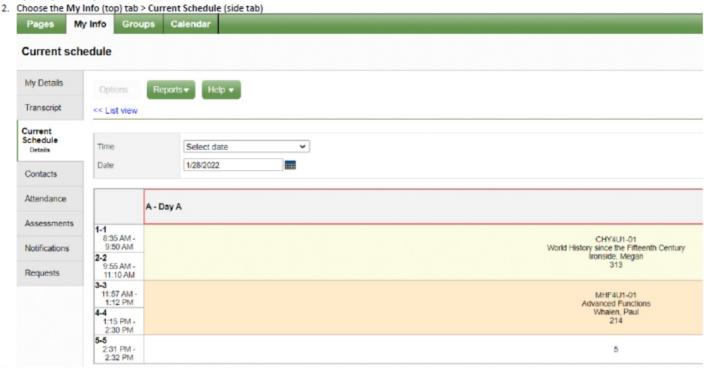
February 22 Parent Teams meeting.

February 25 Completed registration packages due to classroom teachers.

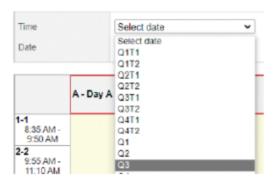
February 28, March 1 & 2 Course selection inputting visit with Mr. Walsh.

### Viewing your Timetable in Aspen

1. Open Aspen from your Virtual Commons



3. To see quad 3 courses, choose Q3 from the Select date dropdown



4. To see your entire year, Click List view to change it to Matrix view



5. Make sure to click on Term to sort the courses into quads.

Matrix view >>



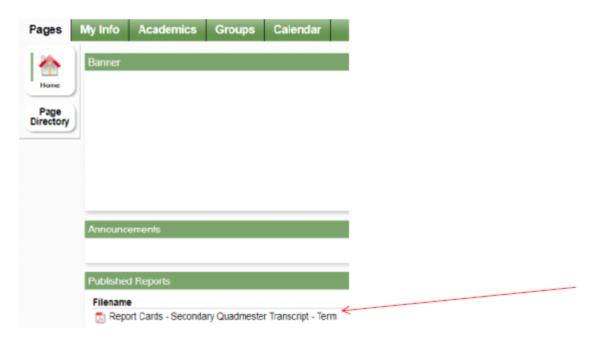
### Viewing your Marks in Aspen

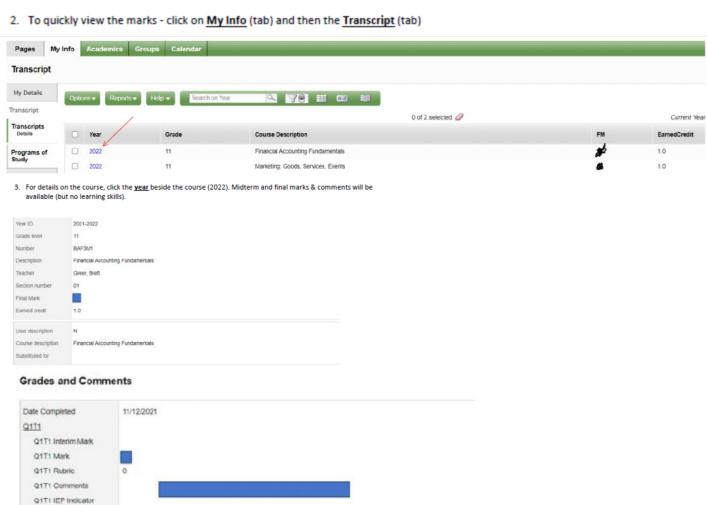
Q1T1 Interview requested Q1T1 ESL/ELD Indicator

Q1T2 Interim Mark Q1T2 Mark Q1T2 Rubric Q1T2 Comments Q1T2 IEP Indicator

Q172

Report cards (will) be available on the students main Aspen page (<u>Pages</u>). In the Published Reports area. Students
will see a PDF file.



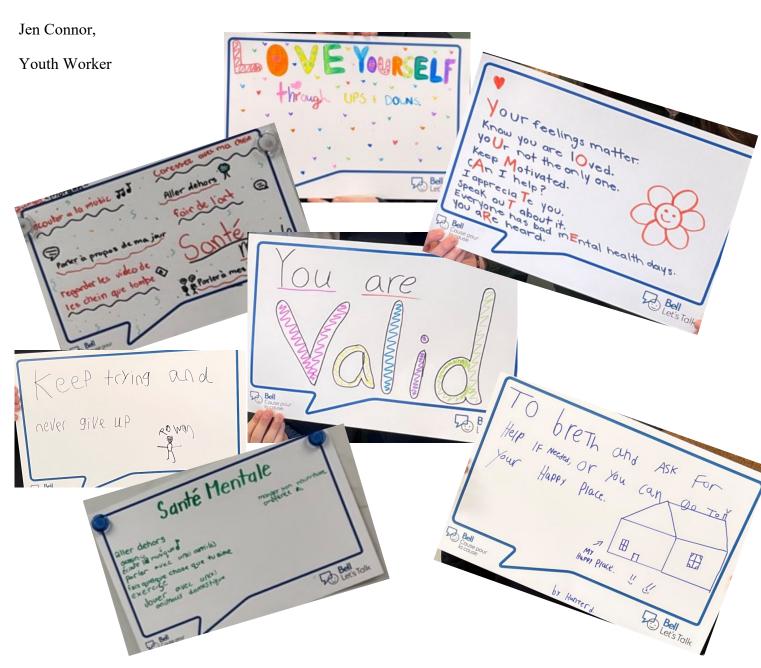


### **Bell Let's Talk Day**

On Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, our grade 7 and 8 students took part in Bell Let's Talk Day. This is a day to openly talk about mental health and reducing stigma. They learned that good mental health is a balance in

all aspects of our lives: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. We talked about reducing stigma by changing how we talk about mental illness, being kind, noticing, talking and listening. Students completed activities and Bell Let's Talk bubbles that were tweeted out in support of this important day. A big thanks to the grade 7/8 students and staff for making the time to talk about mental health.





### **NCC Supports**

#### Jen Connor, Child and Youth Worker

Location: 3rd Floor South Side

I am Jen Connor, the full-time Youth Worker. I support the social, emotional and mental health of students at Nicholson, grades 7-12. This is a confidential service and may involve making referrals to agencies and other professionals. I also coordinate the Food for Learning Program for the school. Please check out my virtual office on the students' D2L page for more information and family resources.

#### Lethicia Foadjo & Anastasia Burns, Social Workers

**Location**: 3rd Floor South Side

Lethicia Foadjo and Anastasia Burns are ALCDSB Social Workers provide support to students experiencing mental health symptoms that interfere with their learning. This support may be individual or group therapy, case management, consultation, crisis intervention or critical incident debriefing. These services are voluntary and confidential. To get started with a ALCDSB Social Worker, students can be referred by themselves through their online student portal or with the help of a school staff member.

#### Tom Revell, CYW, CACCF, Youth Diversion Program.

Location: 2nd Floor in Student Services

Hello and my name is Tom Revell. I am the addiction substance use counsellor at Nicholson Catholic College. I provide one on one counselling moving students through the stages of change and in a positive direction. I use screeners (questionnaires) to assess a student's needs and what services might be appropriate to connect them too. This might include a mental health referral through School board social workers or to Youth Hab in Belleville to provide housing and other supports.

I also provide workshops in many different classrooms talking about basic drug classifications to how to stay healthy throughout your time in secondary, post-secondary and adult life. Lastly, I provide counselling support to the students in elementary as need be. I have always provided health information to Grade 7 and 8 classrooms in hopes of preventing issues happening to our students.

Student council is looking forward to working together to bring community building activities to this new semester. We hope to find ways to build connections within our school community.

### **Spirit Wear**

Thank you to everyone who ordered for your patience. Due to a supply chain issue, multiple items were back ordered and we apologize for the delay. Most of the order has been completed, and we are looking at an arrival date for this month. If you ordered green track pants, please check your email for an important update. This order could not be filled and options have been sent to you.

#### **Terry Fox Update**

The final results of the 2021 Terry Fox School Run are in and we are immensely proud of our NCC community for their commitment to fundraise for cancer research in Terry's name. We are excited to share with you that Nicholson Catholic College raised \$4,575.00 this year! During another challenging year, your resiliency and dedication to Terry's dream of a world without cancer shone through brighter than ever!

Important Dates—March 7th - 11th: Random acts of Kindness week

Follow NCC Students' Council for updates





### Please continue to use School Messenger to report student absences

### Safe Arrivals Program

### Report your Child's Absence







The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board is excited to launch the Safe Arrivals Program on February 1, 2020, which will allow parents/guardians to report their child's absence in a new, more convenient way.

Using the Safe Arrivals Program, parents/guardians will be able to report daily absences (such as an illness, medical appointment, etc.) and even schedule absences in one of three ways:

- SchoolMessenger mobile app
- SchoolMessenger website
- Calling toll-free 1-844-445-4383

Once parents/guardians have reported an absence, they will receive a message confirming the details by email or the app, if set up.

As student safety is ALCDSB's number one priority, this program allows school secretaries to know where students are faster and track their absences in a more effective way.

Before you begin, you must have an email address and/or phone number associated with your child's school to sign up.



### **NCC Catholic School Council**

Education is a partnership involving parents, students, teachers, principals, schoolboards, government and the community.

Due to current Public health guidelines, we would anticipate meetings to be virtual via Microsoft Teams until further notice.

Our next meeting will be on: Wednesday, March 23th.

Contact Mr. Stuart or Ms. Goodberry for a link to the virtual meeting.



### **Student Supports/Resources**



**Eurêka** is a service available to French-language students and families that provides resources and supports for all subjects, Grades 1-12.

https://moneureka.ca

# tvo Mathify

Free 1:1 Grade 6-11 math tutoring with Ontario Certified Teachers

Tutors are available online Mondays-Fridays from 9am to 9pm ET and Sundays from 3:30pm to 9pm ET.

https://www.tvomathify.com/



## tvoLearn



Learning Resources to assist students in grades Grade 1-12 wit the Ontario curriculum. https://tvolearn.com/

### Nicholson Catholic College

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