

Blessed Sacrament School

185 King Street West, PO Box 370, Burford, ON N0E 1A0
Phone: 519-449-2984
Principal: Mr. M. Finochio
Secretary: Mrs. S. Konkiewicz

Catholic Education: BECOMING ARTISANS of PEACE
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (Matthew 5:9)

October 2026 Newsletter

Visit: https://bbss1.bhncdsb.ca/

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

September was a great month here at Blessed Sacrament. It was a pleasure getting to meet so many families at the Meet the Teacher event.

October will be a very busy month with regular weekly trips to the church for classes as well as we will be doing the Halloween walk and many other fun activities here at the school. A reminder we have a PD Day on October 6th.

I wish you all an enjoyable Thanksgiving filled with family and friends!



Mr. Finochio

SOME DATES TO HIGHLIGHT - check website https://bbss1.bhncdsb.ca/events/month/

- Oct. 2—LunchBox—Pizza
- Oct. 6—PA day
- Oct. 7—Parent Council team mtg—7pm
- Oct. 8—School Mass
- Oct. 8—Gr. 4 & 5/4—Norfolk Fair
- Oct. 9 to Oct13– Scholastic Book Fair
- Oct. 9—LunchBox– Alice Subs
- Oct. 12—Thanksgiving Day
- Oct 16—LunchBox Alice Chicken
- Oct. 16—Kindergarten to Gr. 3—Brantwood Farms
- Oct. 23—LunchBox –Shawarma
- Oct 30– Alice Pasta
- Nov. 3—Gr. 1, 1/2, 2—Safety Village
- Nov. 4—parent Council Teams mtg—7pm
- Nov. 5—Picture Retakes
- Nov. 6—LunchBox—Alice Burgers
- Nov. 11– Remembrance Day
- Nov. 13—LunchBox—Pizza
- Nov. 19—Parent/Teacher interviews
- Nov. 19—Gr. 7 & 8 Immunizations
- Nov. 20– PA Day
- Nov. 20—Parent/Teacher interviews
- Nov. 27—LunchBox– Alice Subs



Reminder: SCHOOL HOURS

Please note our bell times have not changed from last year and be reminded that students should *NOT* be arriving prior to 8:15am which is when supervision begins.

School Yard Supervision	8:15 – 8:30
Bell Rings for start of school	**8:30 am**
Instructional Block	8:30 – 10:10
Nutritional Break	10:10 – 10:50
Instructional Block	10:50 – 12:30
Nutritional Break	12:30 – 1:10
Instructional Block	1:10 – 2:50
Dismissal Bell	2:50

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REMINDER:



The end of the day is extremely hectic as we have 2 bus runs and a dismissal for walkers. Parents picking up their child **please stand by the bike racks** rather than in front of the door or the pen. Last year it was extremely congested and difficult for walkers to use the sidewalk. We want to ensure they are safe when walking to the crosswalk.

Also, when you have your child, please **use the sidewalk rather than cut through the parking lot.** Again, we are trying to keep all of our students safe as dismissal times. We have buses coming in and out and it can be dangerous if we cut across the sidewalk.

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PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be **ELECTRONICALLY** sent home on Monday, November 9th. More information regarding an opportunity to discuss these reports with the classroom teacher will come closer to the date.

HALLOWEEN



Students are encouraged to wear a costume or black and orange on **Friday, October 30th**. Costumes will need to be worn to school with their street clothes underneath in case your child wants to take their costume off during the day. Students will need to wear a costume that they can manage themselves without support from a friend or a teacher and allow them to navigate the school and classrooms safely. Please remember **not to send** any costume props and to choose costumes that are culturally sensitive.

DANGER: BUS LOADING ZONE

Before and after school, once buses start to arrive in the school bus loading zone, **please do not drive up to the school to drop off or pick up students**. We would like parents to park near the crosswalk and **use the sidewalk**. Please **do not walk between buses.** This is for the safety of all students, parents and staff. Your co-operation and good example is very much appreciated.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS – Nov.1st

Move clocks back 1 hour on November 1st.



SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Please use school cash on line.
Go to https://bhncdsb.schoolcashonline.com to get started. Sign up now! **It's easy and convenient**

CONFIRMATION 2026



Pease register by completing the attached registration form along with a copy of your Baptismal Certificate. Once completed they can be dropped off at the Church or Rectory or email them to blessedsacramentburford@hamiltondiocese.com. **We ask that all registration forms be completed and returned to the office by October 6th, 2026.**

We will be having weekly sessions starting Tuesday October 13th, starting with mass at 7:00pm,followed by workshops in the hall, **October 20th, October 27th, November 3, November 10th, November 17th, November 24th, Reconciliation will be on November 28th at 1:00pm-2:00pm** and rehearsal will be on December 1st, and Confirmation will be on **Wednesday December 2, 2026 at 7:00pm.**

If you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to us at the office either calling 519 449-5143 or emailing at blessedsacramentburford@hamiltondiocese.com

We look forward in seeing you on Tuesday October 13th at 7:00pm.

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HALLOWEEN



On Friday, October 30th at 11:00 a.m. the students from Blessed Sacrament will be going on a costume walk through downtown Burford. Students do not need to come to school dressed in their costumes, as they will be given an opportunity to change before the walk. A permission form will be sent home later in October for the students to participate in the walk. Please remember that no weapons (knives, swords, guns, etc.) or masks or depictions of violence ie: blood are permitted. All parents are invited to accompany us on our walk through Burford.

HOT LUNCHES ARE COMING



Reminder: Hot lunches will be starting October 2nd. Please log into School Cash on line to Access LunchBox orders.



Parent Council is having their annual Halloween dance in October. Please watch your emails for more information in the near future.

BUSSING

The start of the school year is always a challenge. So we wish to remind all families of a few points that are meant to keep everyone safe and the transitions quick and smooth.

- Please **always** use the sidewalk as it is the safest way to navigate through the 19 buses in the AM and PM. Not to mention setting a good example to the children.
- Crossing from your vehicle to or from the sidewalk should only be at the painted lines crossing area.
- Once the buses have begun to arrive at the school, no other vehicles should approach the school for either drop off or pick up either in the AM or PM.

We are a "Transfer" school and with 19-20 busses and hundreds of students, we ask all of you for your support in keeping everyone safe. Thank-you.



Blessed Sacrament NEWS

SAFE ARRIVAL
Student Absence Reporting

To report your child's absence:

1-844-445-4381

go.schoolmessenger.ca *

open the School Messenger APP *

* must have set up an account to use

The new student absence reporting system will let you use a **mobile app**, a **website**, or an **interactive toll-free phone line** to report an absence in advance as well as that day. This procedure is followed to ensure the safety of your child. Your cooperation saves numerous daily phone calls by the school. **Students who arrive after the bell in the morning, should report directly to the office for an admit slip and then proceed to class**

Please keep checking your emails regularly as information and emails are coming from the school on a constant basis. As well, keep checking the school's website for update information and calendar events.

NOTE: The School Calendar has now been updated on our website.

https://bbss1.bhncdsb.ca/



INDOOR SHOES

While at school **all** students are expected to wear a clean pair of shoes when indoors. We recommend white soled running shoes as they can then be used for physical education class as well.



INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of weather that may affect school transportation, Blessed Sacrament is a **Zone 3** school with all Brant County schools. If bus transportation is cancelled in Zone 3 (as announced by local radio stations) Blessed Sacrament will **be closed** for students and staff. Decisions to cancel or delay transportation will be made prior to 6:30 a.m. and be announced prior to 6:45 a.m. When Blessed Sacrament School requires an emergency closing due to weather conditions, each child or family of children will only be dismissed when the parent has been contacted by school personnel and/or volunteers.

Blessed Sacrament NEWS

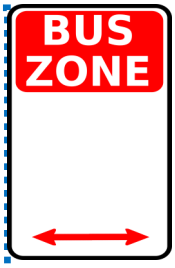


Just a friendly reminder that we CANNOT pull up to the front of the school while the buses are here. We have seen an increase in parents doing this and blocking our buses from leaving.

We have also had an increase in cars driving in front of the school while the buses are still loading which obviously presents a safety concern for staff and students. If you do need to drive your child(ren) to the front of the building, please wait until the buses have completely exited the area.

I appreciate your help in keeping our loading zone safe.

Mr. Finochio



Schools back! Together, let's ensure our children arrive at school and back home, safely.

Here's some helpful tips to remember:

1. **All vehicles are required to fully stop when children and crossing guards are anywhere in the crosswalk.** That means, vehicles cannot turn left, right, or proceed through the crosswalk, even on the clear half of the roadway. You must wait until all pedestrians and the crossing guard are safely on the sidewalk before proceeding.

2. **All school zone speeding limits are reduced to 30 km/ hour and 40 km/hour to keep children safe.** The fines for speeding in these areas have increased and demerit points are higher.

Drivers travelling in both directions must stop for a stopped school bus when its upper red lights flashing and / or stop arm is activated. Amber flashing lights on a school bus indicate that the bus is preparing to stop. When you see these lights, it means you should slow down and be prepared to stop, as the red flashing lights and stop sign will soon be activated. If you are approaching the bus from the front, stop at a safe distance to let children get on and off the bus and cross the road safely. Don't move forward until the red lights have stopped flashing and the stop arm is no longer activated!

Let's keep our kids safe!

Thank you,

Julie McKeen
Licensing Officer, By-Law Enforcement Division
County of Brant
26 Park Avenue, P.O. Box 160, Burford, ON N0E 1A0

COUNTY OF Brant Simply Grand

Blessed Sacrament NEWS

Three Whistle System Reminder

The guards will first sound the whistle with one long blast when they determine it is safe to enter the crosswalk, alerting motorists they are stepping out into the crosswalk. They will then sound two short whistle blasts indicating that pedestrians may cross the street.

School crossings

A school crossing is any pedestrian crossing where a:

- school crossing guard is present
- school crossing stop sign is displayed



How crosswalks differ from crossovers

A crosswalk is different from a crossover. A crosswalk is usually found at an intersection with traffic signals, pedestrian signals or stop signs.

A crosswalk can be:

- the portion of a road that connects sidewalks on opposite sides of the road into a continuous path, or
- the portion of a road that is indicated for pedestrian crossing by signs, lines or other markings at any location, including an intersection

At crosswalks, drivers are only required to stop and yield the entire roadway when a school crossing guard is present.

Penalties

The penalties for drivers who endanger pedestrians are as follows:

Offence	Fine	Demerits	Other penalties
Failing to yield at pedestrian crosswalks, school crossings and crossovers	Up to $1000	4 demerit points	None

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STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Many families do not know that our school board **does not** cover accident costs!

If an accident happens, the board may be prevented from offering financial solutions to our families even if we wanted to. Student accident insurance, Insuremykids®, can mitigate your board's exposure and help you manage the loss for student injuries that occur on school property or during school activities, including extra- curricular sports.

Each year, many families are left financially unprotected when their children are injured at school, while participating in non-school activities or at home. If a student is injured, parent(s)/guardian(s) are responsible for any costs not covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) or their employer's health care plan.

Please check with your provider regarding your coverage.

Most accident-related expenses are not fully covered under OHIP and some expenses like ambulance fees, casts, crutches, physiotherapy, and emergency dental care are usually not covered at all. This leaves you, the parent/guardian, financially responsible.

To help protect your family, it is recommended that you consider obtaining student accident insurance. As a convenience to you, the Board has arranged to offer student accident insurance through insuremykids®.

Participation is voluntary, but highly recommended, and the costs are to be paid by the parent/guardian. The program is available for students up to age 26.

Coverage is provided for a wide range of accidental expenses, including:

Dental Expenses - includes 10 years unlimited dental benefit coverage, future dental up to $1,650 per tooth, and injury-related orthodontia coverage up to $2,500 per accident.

Total and Permanent Disability - up to $350,000.

Loss of Limb/Loss of Sight, Hearing, or Speech.

Accidental Death.

Ambulance Fees.

And much more.



Insuremykids® Student Accident Insurance offers three plans with 24/7 coverage at affordable rates – their most affordable plan is $17 per year and their most popular plan is the Platinum at $33 per year, which provides out-of-province emergency medical coverage and travel benefits. All annual plans provide **13 months of coverage** from the date of purchase. Family rates are available for three or more children in the same family, even if attending different schools. You can also save on time and premium with an optional 3-Year or 5-Year plan, available for online purchase only.

If you wish to purchase coverage, please do so directly online at **www.insuremykids.com** or call

1-800-463-5437. The insurance agreement is between **You** and the insurance underwriter,

Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada. For more information, please visit **www.insuremykids.com**.