

Subject: CANF Family Newsletter | September 23, 2026

Growing Hearts & Minds

A Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

Yesterday marked the first day of Fall, a beautiful reminder that each season brings its own special purpose and opportunities for growth.

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."
— Ecclesiastes 3:1

As the leaves begin to change and the days grow shorter, may we take time to appreciate the beauty of this new season. Just as nature changes and grows, we too are constantly growing—in our hearts, our minds, our faith, and our kindness.

May this fall season bring our school families many opportunities to slow down, enjoy time together, give thanks, and continue to grow together.

Blessings,
Principal Richards

Important Dates

Weds. 9/23 - K-2 Soccer Shots & Chorus Club until 3pm; Swim Practice; CANF vs St. Peter @ St. Peter (6167 Walmore Rd, Sanborn) JV- 4pm; V- 5pm (Please be sure to arrive 30 minutes early to games); **FSA Meeting at 6:30 tonight!!!**

Thurs. 9/24 - School Store; Buffalo Bills dress down (\$3 or season pass);

Fri. 9/25 - NO NW bus; Picture Day; **Mum pick up 12-3pm**

Sat. 9/26 - Swim Practice at GIHS

Sun. 9/27 - Swim Meet

Mon. 9/28 - CANF vs Trinity @ Trinity (146 Reserve Rd, West Seneca) - JV - 4pm; V - 5pm (Please be sure to arrive 30 minutes early to games)

Tues. 9/29 - JV + V Soccer practice 3-4 at Vets; Bowling

Weds. 9/30 - Every Child Matters (wear orange); Band lessons begin; K-2 Soccer Shots until 3pm; Gr. 3-5 Chorus Club until 3pm; CANF vs St. John @ St. John (6950 Ward rd, NT) - JV - 4pm; V - 5pm (Please be sure to arrive 30 minutes early to games); Swim practice

School News

• **Picture Day** is Friday! Remember to dress UP!

- **ATTENTION NF bus riders:** See the enclosed sheet for directions on how to download an app that you can use to track your child's bus! Your student id is attached to the sheet. Be sure to search "Niagara Falls City School District".
 - **Fire drills** began last week! Children are doing a great job!
 - **Mum pick up** will be 12-3 on Friday. Please enter through door #1 from 12-2. Then from 2-3 you can use door #6.
 - **Security fee invoice** - You are receiving a **2nd notice** in today's folder if you have not yet returned your choice of roll into FACTS or pay in full.
 - Next Wednesday, we will be honoring **Every Child Matters** by wearing orange. You can add orange to your uniform or dress down in orange. More information below.
 - **Blessing of the Pets** is next week Friday, Oct. 2. We will meet outside in the parking lot at 10:15.
 - Remember there is **11:00 dismissal** on Friday Oct 2 for K-8 students. Be sure to bring lunch if your child is staying for afterschool care.
-

Thank You

- ❖ To everyone who made our mum fundraiser such a success! We sold over 400 mums!
-

FSA Upcoming Events

- ❖ We hope to see you tonight at our **first FSA Meeting** of the year! Remember to enter through door #6 and meet in the gym at 6:30pm!
 - ❖ Time got away from us! How is it October already next week! We have changed the **CANF Movie night** to Friday, Oct. 23!! A flyer will go home next week!
-

Clubs & Sports

- ★ **Cheerleading-** A letter went home on Monday with children in grades 1-8 in your child's classroom folder today. Remember to turn the page over as there is more information on the back including a \$12 fee.
 - ★ **Fall Bowling** started yesterday!
 - ★ **Soccer Team** - Make sure you have signed your Players' Promise, the t-shirts invoice, and the \$20 sports/athletic fee.
 - Congrats to our Varsity team who won 6-2 on Monday!
 - Keep playing hard JV!
 - ★ **Swim Team** - Continue to follow your practice and meet schedule! Remember you can wear your swim shirt to school on Mondays.
 - Your \$135 fee is PAST DUE. Reminders went home yesterday. Checks can be made out to CANF.
 - ★ **Chorus Club** continues every Wednesday until 3pm.
-

💰 Fundraising Updates

- Support our easy & delicious **Spice Fundraiser**! All online orders are due by October 15th!
 - Simply scan the QR code on the flyer or visit the website, then scroll, add your favorites to your cart, and check out!
 - Orders will be shipped directly to the school, and we'll receive 50% of every sale! We are currently at \$283 of our \$750 goal! That is 38% of the way there!
- **Buffalo Bills Seasons passes** are still available for purchase or you can pay \$3 per dress down! Remember you can dress in Bills attire or red/white/blue for the entire Bills season. We are at 81% participation! Come help get us into the 90s!
 - Reminder: For those who chose to do baskets for the Meat Raffle, they are due Oct. 1!
- Our CANF Meat Raffle will be held on Friday, Nov, 13th this year! The flyer and order form are in today's folder. Order and payments are due by Thursday
 - ★ Volunteers will be needed to make this event a success! Be on the lookout
 - ★ We have donation letters ready. If you know of a place or company that would be willing to donate to the Meat Raffle, let us know!



🧡 **September 30 — Orange Shirt Day / National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Every Child Matters.**

There is a painful part of history that we must never allow ourselves—or our children—to forget.

Native and Indigenous children were taken away from their families and communities and forced into residential schools. They were separated from the people who loved them, their languages, their cultures, their traditions, and their homes. Many children were treated cruelly simply because of who they were.

Some children never came home.

Today, we continue to learn about children who died at these schools and whose remains were buried in unmarked graves. These were not simply names in a history book. **They were children. They had families who loved them. They had dreams, personalities, laughter, and futures that should have been theirs.**

That is why **September 30 matters.**

Wearing orange isn't about making children feel guilty for something they didn't do. It's about teaching them compassion, truth, and the importance of remembering.

We wear orange to say:

- 🧡 **We remember the children.**
- 🧡 **We honor the families who lost them.**
- 🧡 **We respect Indigenous cultures, communities, and survivors.**
- 🧡 **We believe every child deserves to be safe, loved, and allowed to be who they are.**
- 🧡 **We will remember so that history is never erased or repeated.**

When we teach children about difficult parts of history, we aren't taking away their innocence. **We're teaching them empathy.**

So on September 30, I hope you'll wear orange and talk to your children about why.

Because behind the words **"Every Child Matters"** are real children whose stories deserve to be remembered.

🧡 **Every child matters. Every family matters. Every story matters.** 🧡”
