

# BAYSHORE

**B**ayshore Catholic School is special. It is not the newest, most modern school, having opened in September 1966. It is not the biggest school, having a student enrolment of 149 students in the 2005-06 school year. It is not the wealthiest school, as it relies on partner schools to provide financial help for special items such as student agendas and field trips, and as it is a frequent recipient of special funding for program support and for literacy and numeracy initiatives. Bayshore Catholic School is so very special because those at the school — students and staff — are able to make a difference by being associated with others with special needs and disabilities and thus to practise the Gospel values in their everyday school lives.

Since 1985, Bayshore Catholic School has been home to a dependently handicapped class. Its presence in the school has allowed both students and staff to understand the challenges of dependently handicapped students and to treat them with respect and dignity as children of God. Bayshore Catholic School also houses a primary learning disabilities system class, a half-day program. As of 2005, the school houses two McHugh School behavioural classes — one primary and the other junior. Students with severe behavioral difficulties from both Catholic and public schools in the Ottawa area attend these Crossroad classes.

Bayshore Catholic School is also special because it is the learning environment for many students for whom English is a second language. Because it is located within an urban rental community, there are sometimes economic and involvement issues for the families that are part of the school community. The school community views this as an opportunity to make a difference in lives and to put Catholic beliefs into practice. For instance, Bayshore Catholic School has a food cupboard for students who come to school without breakfast, lunch or snacks.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL



50 Bayshore Drive  
Nepean K2B 6M8  
613-828-5158  
[www.occdsb.on.ca/bay](http://www.occdsb.on.ca/bay)

Parents are welcomed at the school and particularly enjoy attending school functions in which their children are highlighted. Parental involvement in parent council and school-focused meetings is not as robust as at school functions. But caring principals, an involved staff and students who reach out and include others are traditional at Bayshore Catholic School and make it a special place, not in spite of its challenges but because of them.

The school takes its name from the Bayshore area of Nepean in which it is located. Indeed, the nearby, well-known Bayshore Shopping Centre has become a

community partner of the school, paying for paving the access to the play structure area in the schoolyard. The school is within the St. Martin de Porres Parish boundary and, over the years, Masses were held at the school as part of the regular Sunday routine of the parish. This practice ceased about ten years ago.

Bayshore Catholic School has a number of regular events which have become school traditions, such as annual Christmas concerts, heritage dinners during Education Week, a Christmas gift sale, pancake suppers on Shrove Tuesday, a Halloween party and a year-end barbecue.

### Present Principal

Austin DeCoste

### Past Principals

Starr Kelly  
Marie Kennedy  
Robert Slack  
Sherri Swales  
Bonnie McLaurin  
Mary Moss  
Dwight Delahunt

### School Colours

Blue and yellow

### Logo

The school logo is circular, featuring a cross, the initials "BCS" and the school name.