



St. Gerard School

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FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

"Be the living expression of God's kindness:

Kindness in your face

Kindness in your eyes

Kindness in your smile."

~Mother Teresa~

We celebrate Catholic Schools this month, especially St. Gerard Community. We are all fortunate to be a part of this wonderful community. We share our faith, knowledge and kindness with each other on a daily basis. Thank you to all the families that send their prized possessions, their children, to learn and grow at our school. We are very fortunate to have you all as part of our St. Gerard School Community. We are blessed with fantastic volunteers that give of themselves regularly. We are fortunate to have a community that works together to make our school an amazing place to learn, grow and be a part of.

God Bless,

Miss J. Gilbert

2024/2025 School Year

We are accepting names for our Pre-Kindergarten (age 3 & 4) and Kindergarten (age 5 by Dec 31, 2024) programs, as well as for Grades One to Eight where space is available.

Please mention St. Gerard School to family and friends who may be looking for a **great** school!

Catholic Schools Week - February 12th to 15th

Check the calendar for activities taking place during Catholic Schools Week! Students are given the opportunity to dress according to the daily dress theme indicated on the calendar.

If you pre-ordered Subway lunch for February 15th, it will be given to your child in their classroom.

St. Gerard School will offer Full time Kindergarten during the 2024-2025 school year.

If you know families interested in full time kindergarten, please have them contact the school at 204-667-4862

Yearbook Reminder

*If you missed the December deadline, you can still order a copy of the yearbook @\$20.00. Order forms are in the office – deadline for order is March 22, 2024. Absolutely **NO** yearbook order will be accepted after March 22, 2024.*

Handicapped Parking Reminder



The 2 handicapped parking spaces located near the gym entrance are to be used by vehicles with designated handicapped stickers only **PLEASE**.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Reminder



Please ensure your child comes to school each day with appropriate outdoor clothing. Temperatures can change rather quickly. Students should be prepared for outdoor conditions by having ski pants, hat, scarf, mittens, etc. with them. If possible please include an extra pair of mitts and socks. Students are not permitted to “stay in for recess” because they did not bring warm enough outdoor wear!

Hot Lunch Reminder

St. Gerard School Pizza Lunches will be held every Friday that we are in school.

Lunches must be pre-ordered on Wednesday – no exceptions.

You can purchase a book of 10 tickets for \$50 (cash or cheque payable to St. Gerard School).

We are also offering the opportunity to purchase white milk or chocolate milk on a daily basis - \$1.00 cash or a book of 10 tickets for \$10.

2024-2025 REGISTRATION

Registration Packages for the 2024-2025 School Year will be going home with your child mid-February.

The registration packages contain white pages and coloured pages. White pages are information only and are for you to keep.

All coloured pages (with the exception of the grey OPTIONAL School Bus form) must be completed (including signatures), and returned to the school in order to successfully register your child. Registrations missing any coloured forms or fees will be returned to families as “INCOMPLETE”. If you have a child of age for Kindergarten, please notify the school ASAP in order to ensure a spot is available.

Those families who will not be returning for the 2024/25 school year should indicate so, on the top page of the Registration Package, sign and return the entire package as requested.

Please note: If you currently use the Before and After School Program, new registration forms for 2024/25 will be sent out with the March invoices. If you anticipate the use of the Before/After School Program for 2024/25, and have not used it before, please see the office for forms.

Any questions regarding the packages can be directed to the School Office.

All returning students should have their registration packages back to school by Friday, February 23, 2024.



**St. Boniface High School
Open House**

Wednesday, February 7, 2024
7:00 p.m.
282 Dubuc St.

Please call 204-987-1560
or e-mail
admin@sbdhs.net
for more information,
or visit the website at
www.sbdhs.net

PANCAKE LUNCH



Tuesday, February 13th .

Order forms were sent out and are due by Friday, February 2nd .

Absolutely **NO** late orders will be accepted.

This will also be a volunteer opportunity.

**Friendly Reminder for
Bus Students**

Ensure your child is at their stop 5 minutes prior to pick-up time.

If Mrs. Wong cannot answer the phone while driving, please leave a message on her cellphone and she will call you back once she is done with her run.

**The 2022-2023
School Year
Charitable Donation
Receipts,**

for inclusion with your **2023** tax return, will be prepared for qualifying families.

They will be mailed out to those families when completed.

The School is again reminding all our families to please follow our "road safety" rules to ensure our children are safely dropped off and picked up from school:

- ▶ The lane is ONE WAY from Foster to Grey streets during morning drop off and afternoon pick up.
- ▶ We thank our families for following the signage that indicates the area in front of our back lane door is a "**No Stopping / No Drop-Off**" area. For the safety of our children – please park in an open parking spot against the gym wall when dropping off or picking up your child.

(NOTE: the spots against the school wall that are "numbered" are for **STAFF ONLY**. As there are minimal spots available for our staff's use, please refrain from parking or stopping in these stalls at **ANY TIME**.)

DO NOT STOP OR PARK YOUR VEHICLE ON OUR NEIGHBOUR'S PROPERTY!

- ▶ Many of our families are stopping/parking "hugged" up against the garages/fences situated along the school's back lane. These areas are not school or public property – therefore, our families should be respecting the property of the home owner. Let's practice and encourage "healthy living lifestyles" with our children by walking the short distance!

- ▶ The **2 handicapped** parking spaces located near the gym entrance are to be used by vehicles with designated handicapped stickers only **PLEASE**.

- ▶ Please **do not** park in the School Bus Loading Zone on Foster Street (as indicated on the street signs).

Let's be respectful of each other – as we ask our children to be.



The Grade 5 and 6 classes are heading to camp
May 16 - 17, 2024.

We are holding a fundraising raffle with all proceeds going towards our camping trip.

From Tuesday, February 6 – Friday, February 9 we will be selling raffle tickets for a \$100.00 Walmart gift card.

Tickets are being sold for \$2 a piece. Tickets can be purchased by placing your child's name, grade, and number of tickets being purchased in an envelope with exact change. Envelopes are to be given to their homeroom teacher and will be picked up by Grade 5 and 6.

Tickets will be entered into the draw.

Tickets will also be on sale during our Family lunch on February 15. The winning ticket will be drawn at the end of lunch.

Thanks for supporting us!!

**NEW ADDRESS?
NEW PHONE NUMBER?**

Please notify the office of any changes to your home address, email address, home phone number or cell numbers. It is imperative that the office has up to date contact information, should your child become ill or require immediate attention.

Thank you for your cooperation!



If your child is going to be late, please notify the school.

Even though your child is buzzed in when they are late, **please have them report to the office to confirm their attendance.**

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

For those parents and students who already do...MANY THANKS!

SCHOOL BUS NEWS



The School Bus will not run if the temperature (with wind chill) is -45 or colder. In the event that the bus is cancelled in the morning this cancellation will be in effect for the whole day. Please listen to CJOB for Winnipeg division school bus information. You will be contacted by phone that the bus is not running.

Please have your family waiting at their stop in the morning. They should be dressed appropriate for the weather conditions, as at times, the bus may be running behind schedule due to traffic or weather conditions – and the children may have to wait a few minutes longer for the bus to arrive. If all our passengers are ready and waiting at their stop, this helps keep the bus on schedule.

When your child will not be on the bus (in the morning and/or afternoon) please remember to contact

**Mrs. Wong at (204) 981-3502
between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.**

Thank you!

Winter Family Fun Dance



Thank you to everyone who donated items, volunteered and attended the Winter Family Fun Party. We had an amazing time!

STUDENT ILLNESS & MEDICATION



As indicated in the Student Handbook, St. Gerard School does not have facilities to accommodate children who are ill. When a student becomes ill, we will call a parent (or Emergency Contact, if necessary) to request that the student be picked up. **IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT FAMILIES ENSURE ALL PHONE NUMBERS IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE ARE CURRENT.**

Out of consideration for the health of others, a child who is not well should be kept at home.

Please contact the School Office when your child will not be in attendance at school due to illness, appointments, or other planned/unplanned absences.

The school does not keep pain relief or cough medication on hand to administer to students.

A child who is not well enough to go outside for recess should be kept at home.

Parents should administer any required medication at home, when possible. If a student requires a prescription (or over-the-counter) medication to be administered at school – parents must complete an “Authorization of Prescribed Medication” form (available from the Office); or submit a note to the Office with the medication indicating:

- **DATE THE NOTE**
- **NAME OF CHILD/GRADE**
- **NAME OF MEDICATION**
- **DOSAGE OF MEDICATION & TIME TO BE TAKEN, AS WELL AS ANY SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS (I.E. TO BE TAKEN AFTER LUNCH). THE MEDICATION SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE SCHOOL IN THE ORIGINAL PHARMACY'S CONTAINER.**

WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION is imperative for your child's safety. It is not the school's responsibility to decide when medication should be administered - and therefore specific instructions from the parent must be submitted with the medication. Students should not be presenting medication to the Office with “verbal” instructions from home. For the safety of your child: Please take the time to write out this important information.

For the safety of the entire school – all medication should be kept in the School Office.

Please do not send medication with your child and advise them “... to keep it in their backpack or locker until they need it”. This is an extremely unsafe practice and can put the School in a precarious situation should the medication be accessed and ingested by another student.