



St. Gerard School

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September 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

"The more you **read**
the more **things** you know.
The more that you **learn**
the more **places** you'll go."
-Dr. Seuss

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year!

*We look forward to a year filled with growing academically, emotionally
and spiritually together.*

Wishing everyone a wonderful year!

God Bless,

Miss J. Gilbert, Principal

2023/2024 ST. GERARD SCHOOL STAFF

Miss J. Gilbert	- Principal	Mrs. C. Deang	- Administrative Assistant
Mrs. B. Potkonjak	- Kindergarten	Mrs. A. Chartrand	- Administrative Assistant
Mrs. J. Parsons	- Kindergarten/Resource Teacher	Mr. D. Kolowca	- Physical Education
Mrs. C. Talaroc	- Grade 1	Mr. S. Kharchenko	- Library/Music
Mrs. S. Shade	- Grade 2	Mr. J. Calvo	- Educational Assistant/Gr. 7 Geography
Mrs. J. Francisco	- Grade 3	Mrs. J. Kelly	- Educational Assistant/Pre-Kindergarten
Mrs. H. Pollock	- Grade 4	Mrs. S. Letkeman	- Educational Assistant
Mrs. R. Cunningham	- Grade 5	Mrs. L. Kavats	- Educational Assistant
Miss M. Pyrozyk	- Grade 6	Mrs. C. Yorski	- Educational Assistant/ Before & After School
Mrs. N. Escoto	- Grade 7	Mr. J. Munoz	- Custodian
Mr. T. Moore	- Grade 8	Mrs. R. Wong	- School Bus Driver
		Father Janusz Maron	- Pastor

WEB INFORMATION



Go to our webpage www.stgerardschool.net.
Click on our **Facebook** link.
Like us on Facebook and you will automatically get the information we post.



**None of us are
"nutty" around
here!**

**ST. GERARD SCHOOL PROMOTES A
"NUT-SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENT".**

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY FOOD WITH YOUR
CHILD THAT CONTAINS (OR MAY CONTAIN) NUTS – AS
WE HAVE STUDENTS WITH LIFE-THREATENING
NUT ALLERGIES.**

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING US TO KEEP
ALL OUR CHILDREN SAFE!**

National Truth and Reconciliation Day September 30th

Since 2017 the Government of Manitoba had formally recognized September 30th as Orange Shirt Day in honour and remembrance of the residential school Survivors, to educate students and reflect on the detrimental impacts of these schools. Students will not be in school on September 30th; it is the hope that people will take time on this day to reflect on the history of residential schools and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action.

**We will honour Orange Shirt Day at
school on September 29th.**

Uniform Update

All uniform pieces will be available to order on-line at any time of the year.

<https://envisionuniforms.ca>

If you have used uniforms that you do not need, you can donate them to school.

USED UNIFORM Sale will be
Thursday, September 14th
5:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the gym.

*We would like to welcome
Mrs. Talaroc (Grade 1 Teacher)
to our St. Gerard School staff.*

*Please help us in welcoming her to our
school community.*

Milk News



Daily milk sales will resume on Thursday, September 15 – white or chocolate milk at \$1.00 cash or a book of 10 tickets for \$9.00 available from the school office (cash or cheque payable to St. Gerard School).

If you have any tickets left from last year they are still good for this year.

Please label all students' supplies and all clothing – parkas, jackets, shoes, boots, uniform shirts, gym clothes etc.

Reminder to send any cutlery (spoons and forks) your child will need to eat lunch.

We do not have a supply at school.

Please include refillable water bottle with your child.



Mark your calendar...

Picture Day:

Tuesday, September 19th (K - 8)

Picture day for Pre-K is November 17th



Reduced Speed Limits in School Zones:

Please remember the reduced speed zone on Talbot Avenue. The reduced speed limit is set at 30 km/hr and in force Monday to Friday from 7:00 – 17:30, in the months of September to June. This has been set out by the City of Winnipeg. You will find signs to indicate the start and end of the reduced speed zone. Please be mindful of this as you drive down Talbot Avenue during the school months. It is for the safety of our children.

School Bus News

A FEW REMINDERS TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO USE THE SCHOOL BUS:

- ★ Ensure your child is at their stop 5 minutes prior to pick-up time.
- ★ Call **Mrs. Wong 204-981-3502** (7:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.) - on the days your child will not be taking the bus.
- ★ Remind your children to be courteous to the driver and other children.

FRIDAY BINGO NIGHT UPDATE

Friday Bingo Night on Friday, September 29th is cancelled due to Election Manitoba using the gym for Advance Polling.

SCHOOL FEES

All families are aware of their yearly mandatory school fees, and have been invoiced for such.

Please be aware that all SEPTEMBER fees were due **September 1st**, and should be submitted to the School Office (Activity, Building Improvement, Tuition, School Bus).

If you have not already done so, and in order to keep your account up-to-date, please submit your fees immediately.

(Note: An outstanding **Activity Fee** may hinder your child's participation in Field Trips until fees, which are used to pay for these events, are collected.)

If you have submitted your payments, they will be applied to your account accordingly, and you will receive a receipt.

For those requiring payment plan information or current balances, please contact the Office.

Thank you for your timely payments!

EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS

All families have received a copy of "**2023/2024 Year-at-a-Glance**" which indicates holidays, in-service, administration days, and early dismissal days for the school year. These days are printed on the monthly school calendar and newsletter available on the School's website: www.stgerardschool.net

Please mark the dates at home to remind yourself when your child will be dismissed early to ensure they have a ride at 2:25 p.m. Early dismissal days are scheduled to provide time for school personnel to attend Staff Meetings. Teachers/Staff are not available to supervise students after 2:30 p.m. on these days. Students are not permitted to wait unsupervised for their ride – and students not picked up by 2:30 will be sent to the *After School Program* (a service Parents **will be** charged for).

DO NOT INSTRUCT YOUR CHILD TO PHONE TO REMIND, OR ARRANGE RIDES ON EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS. TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS, ETC. SHOULD BE MADE IN ADVANCE. THE PHONE IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE IS FOR EMERGENCY USE ONLY.

We do our best to keep our families informed of all school events.

It is the parent's responsibility to read all school correspondence in a timely manner to ensure they are informed of important announcements/events. Parents should check backpacks/agenda books **daily** for notes, permission slips, etc. (Ask your child each day if there are any notes sent home from school!)

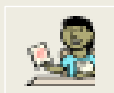
We will be emailing all notes/information that does not require information from families. This way there is less paper transfer between many hands.

Thank you!

First Early Dismissal Day is September 12, 2023

Welcome Back!

HOMECOMING BBQ & MEET THE TEACHER EVENING



Parents/Guardians are invited to "*Meet the Teacher*"

Thursday, September 14th

BBQ* 5:00-6:15 p.m. • Meet the Teacher 6:30-7:45



This evening provides families the opportunity to meet teachers and staff and to visit your child's classroom. As well it is a fantastic opportunity to meet & mingle with other families of students in your child's class!

(*Food must be pre-ordered using the order form in the Homecoming/BBQ pamphlet.)

All families are encouraged to attend the **Meet the Teacher**, even if you are not attending the BBQ.

We look forward to seeing everyone on the 14th!!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

Many of our families in past years have chosen to celebrate their child's birthday by generously providing the entire class with cake, treats, and beverages.

Unfortunately, the school is unable to allow this practice – mainly due to severe food allergies which may prevent some children from participating in the "party".

(As well, the celebration is a disruption to the day's lessons.)

The teachers have asked that all birthday celebrations be conducted at venues outside of the school. St. Gerard will continue to recognize our students' birthdays by sending greetings to them during morning announcements, as well as granting them a "N.U.T." Day
(**No Uniform Today**).

**We thank parents for their cooperation.
If you have any questions regarding this matter,
please contact the School Office.**

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 do not park even "briefly".**
- ▶ **Please do not park (even briefly) 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.