



St. Gerard School

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September 2024

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear God of Wisdom and Might, we praise You for the wonder of our being, for our mind, body and spirit. Be with our children as they begin a new school year. Bless them, their teachers and staff. Give them strength and grace as their bodies grow; wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and peace and zeal to their hearts. Hear us O Lord and have mercy. Amen.

We look forward to a year filled with growing academically, emotionally and spiritually. Wishing everyone a great year!

God Bless,

Miss J. Gilbert, Principal

2024/2025 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. J. Francisco	- Grade 2	Mr. J. Calvo	- Educational Assistant/Gr. 7 Geography
Mrs. S. Shade	- Grade 3	Mrs. J. Kelly	- Educational Assistant/Pre-Kindergarten
Mrs. R. Cunningham	- Grade 4	Mrs. S. Letkeman	- Educational Assistant
Mrs. H. Pollock	- 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	Mrs. R. Wong	- School Bus Driver
Mr. T. Moore	- Grade 8	Father Janusz Maron	- School Bus Driver

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
POSITIVE 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

We will honour Truth &
Reconciliation Week
September 23 – 27.

Students may wear Orange
September 23 – 26. We will
have an activity day on
September 27th learning about the
Medicine Wheel. We will wear our Team
Colours that day.

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
Tuesday, September 17th
6:30 – 7:15 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Cell Phone Reminder:

The Province of Manitoba has made the
policy for all elementary school that
students do not use their cell phones at
school. St. Gerard students already adhere
to this policy, so we will not have difficulty
doing this. If parents want children to carry
a cell phone for going to and from school
remember to have your child either give it to
the teacher at the beginning of the day or for
the grade 6-8 students they may secure it in
their locker. As always, if you need to get a
hold of your child during the school day
please call the school and we will have your
child come to the phone. Thank-you for
your continued co-operation and support
with this.

Milk News



Daily milk sales will resume on Thursday,
September 12 – white or chocolate milk at \$1.00 cash
or a book of 10 tickets for \$10.00 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:
Thursday, September 17th
(K - 8)



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.

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 **"2024/2025 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 10, 2024

Welcome Back!

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING



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

Tuesday, September 17th

6:30-7:45

(Please Meet In The Cafeteria at 6:30 p.m.)

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!

All families are encouraged to attend the **Meet the Teacher**.

We look forward to seeing everyone on the 17th!!

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.