



# St. Gerard School

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## September 2020

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



## A Prayer For Our Students

Lord, thank you for the **unique gifts** of every child as they transition into a new school year. Fill each student with **fresh enthusiasm** and a heart that is excited to learn and grow. Cover them with your **enduring love**, give them **confidence and grace**, and equip them with the ability to **persevere** through trials. Bless their teachers with **wisdom, understanding, and a heart to serve**, as they embark on the journey together!

**Amen!** P.S. Keep them healthy & safe!



## 2020/2021 ST. GERARD SCHOOL STAFF

Miss J. Gilbert	- Principal	Mrs. C. Deang	- Administrative Assistant
Mrs. J. Francisco	- Pre-K /Library/Music	Mrs. A. Chartrand	- Administrative Assistant
Mrs. B. Potkonjak/Mrs. J. Parsons	- Kindergarten	Mr. D. Kolowca	- Physical Education
Miss E. Logan	- Grade 1	Mrs. C. Yorski	- Educational Assistant/ Before and After
Mrs. S. Shade	- Grade 2	Mr. J. Calvo	- Educational Assistant/Gr. 7 Geography
Ms. A. Caruk	- Grade 3	Mrs. S. Letkeman	- Educational Assistant
Mrs. H. Pollock	- Grade 4	Ms. J. Vines	- Educational Assistant
Mrs. R. Cunningham	- Grade 5	Mrs. J. Parsons	- Resource Teacher
Miss M. Pyrozyk	- Grade 6	Mr. E. Dyck	- Guitar
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](http://www.stgerardschool.net).  
Click on our **Facebook** link.  
**Like** us on Facebook and you will automatically get the information we post.

### *Hot Lunch News!!!*

*Hot Lunch program will not be available  
until further notice*

### **DROP-OFF**

Students who come in late or after appointments should enter at back door entrance.



**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!**

### Uniform Update

St. Gerard School is excited to announce that we have a new uniform supplier – **envision**

All uniform pieces will be available to order on-line at any time of the year. The site information is just being finalized. As soon as it is available info will be sent out to families.

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

It will be NUT days until our uniform order is received (which is expected by the end of September)

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the school office.



## **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CHANGES**

***Grade 2 – Reconciliation & First Communion  
Grade 6 – Confirmation***

This year Sacraments (First Communion and Confirmation) will be taught through St. Gerard Parish on Saturdays much like it was done last year with extra guidelines in place to adhere to provincial health guidelines. We sent the registration forms home so you have the information needed to register your child for Sacramental preparation. If you choose to register your child prepare the registration forms and return to the school by September 25, 2020 and we will forward to the parish office.

If you have any questions/concerns, please contact the parish office at 204-667-0523.

### **Class Dates**

#### **Reconciliation and Communion**

Saturday – November 7, 2020  
Saturday – December 5, 2020  
Saturday – January 23, 2021  
Saturday – February 20, 2021  
Saturday – March 13, 2021  
Saturday – April 24, 2021  
Saturday – May 8, 2021

#### **Confirmation**

Saturday – October 31, 2020  
Saturday – November 28, 2020  
Saturday – January 16, 2021  
Saturday – February 6, 2021  
Saturday – March 6, 2021  
Saturday – April 17, 2021  
Saturday – May 1, 2021 - **RETREAT**

## **EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS**

All families have received a copy of “**2020/2021 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](http://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 15, 2020**



Mark your calendar...  
**Picture Day:**  
**Tuesday, October 20 (K - 8)**

Picture day for Pre-K is November 13th

**Attention: All Volunteers ....**

Given the current Covid Pandemic situation the Board will be discussing the Volunteer Program and information will be sent out as soon as available.

**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.**



**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.

**Masks are required for all students on the bus.**

★ 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 1<sup>st</sup>**, 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!*

*We would like to welcome  
**Ms. Caruk (Grade 3 Teacher) &  
 Mrs. Escoto (Grade 7 Teacher)**  
 to our St. Gerard School staff.  
 Please help us in welcoming them to  
 our school community.*

**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.

**SCHOOL TIMETABLE:  
(Entrance and Exit Times)**

**Morning Entry:**

8:45 a.m.	Front Doors:	Kindergarten – Grade 2
	Back Doors:	Grade 6 – 8
8:55 a.m.	Front Doors:	Grade 3 – 5

**Lunch:**

11:45 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.	Grade 6 – 8 - Lunch
12:05 p.m. – 12:35 p.m.	Grade 6 – 8 - outside
	Grade 3 – 5 - outside
	Kindergarten – Grade 2 - Lunch
12:30 p.m. – 12:55 p.m.	Grade 3 – 5 - Lunch
	Kindergarten – Grade 2 - outside

**Dismissal:**

3:15 p.m.	Bus Leaves
	Walkers Leave
	Students to Before and After
3:20 p.m.	Front Doors Kindergarten – Grade 2
	Back Doors Grade 6 – 8
3:25 p.m.	Back Doors Grade 3 – 5
3:30 p.m.	Sweep of all areas for students not picked up.
3:45 p.m.	<b>If children still at school they are sent to After School Program at the expense of the family.</b>