



St. Gerard School
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December 2020 Newsletter



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

"One candle for Hope... One candle for Peace... One candle for Joy... One candle for Love"
Advent hope moves us. Advent peace stills us. Advent joy stirs us. Advent love leads us. May we prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus and for us to celebrate Christmas. May the light of Jesus fill our hearts as we prepare for the Christmas season. May everyone's hearts be filled with love to share with those around us this Advent Season and all year long.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful Christmas season filled with each other's love and care!

God Bless,
Miss J. Gilbert, Principal



Season's Greetings to all St. Gerard School Families!

As we prepare our hearts and homes to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child, the Students and Staff have been hard at work preparing for this year's Christmas Concert: "Jesus is Coming". However, due to the pandemic, our annual concert will be a little different this year. Instead of all of you sitting in the gym together it will be a virtual concert that you can enjoy at home. We will be sending you the link on concert day, Wednesday, December 16, 2020.

It has been a challenging year, but as a school community we have come together as families do. We look forward to being together "in person" next year.

YEARBOOK UPDATE

Thank you to all who have ordered to date. If you are still interested in purchasing a yearbook (or 2), you have until Dec. 18th to order a copy at \$15.00.

Order forms are available in the School Office.

St. Gerard Parent Association

The Parent Association has started a GOFUNDME account to collect donations for a new play structure for our students. If you choose to donate you will receive a charitable donation receipt that you may use when you file your taxes. Every little bit will help us reach our goal.
Thank-you.

<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/st-gerard-school-play-structure-fundraiser>

Mabel's Labels

St. Gerard's Parent Association has continued the year-long fundraiser with Mabel's Labels. Please check their website for information.

mabelslabels.ca

WINE RAFFLE DONATION

A huge thank you to all the families that donated wine for our wine raffle, your support is much appreciated! Sold tickets for the raffle are due December 11th.

Uniforms

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

www.envisionuniforms.ca

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



Lost & Found

Please encourage your child to regularly check their classroom for any items they may have misplaced.

PARENTS: please ensure clothing items are labeled with your child's name so "found" items can be returned to the owner. When laundering your child's uniform items - check for items that may not belong to your family, and have mistakenly been brought home. If another child's name appears in the item - please return it to the Office so these items can be returned to the right family.



St. Alphonsus School Centennial - 1921-2021

"Our school community will be celebrating our centennial in 2021; what a momentous milestone! Our Anniversary Committee is busy planning virtual events and in-school activities to mark the year. If you are an alumni of the school, or know someone who is, we want to connect with you! We are looking for old pictures and memorabilia that could add to our celebration or for former students and staff to share a story of their time here by emailing 100th@stals.ca. As well, find information on our upcoming events and check out our online photo archive at www.stalphonsusschool.ca/100th-anniversary."

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18TH IS THE FINAL DAY OF CLASSES BEFORE CHRISTMAS BREAK.
THIS WILL BE AN EARLY DISMISSAL DAY (2:25 P.M.) FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL.**



BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

There will be **NO After School Program** available on Friday, December 18th.
(Before School Program will be available on this day.)

Please make certain you make transportation arrangements to have your child picked up at 2:25 dismissal time.

SCHOOL BUS FAMILIES

In anticipation of an increased amount of traffic on this day, the school bus will be departing the school at an earlier time. **The students who use the school bus for afternoon transportation home will be dismissed at 1:25 p.m.** Please ensure that arrangements are in place for someone to receive your child either at home, or at their stop approximately 2 hours earlier than their usual drop-off time when classes are dismissed at 3:25 p.m. (e.g. if your child is normally dropped off at 4:00 p.m., the drop-off time that day will be at approximately 2:00 p.m.).

THERE IS NO AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM AVAILABLE ON THIS DATE.



CHRISTMAS GIVING

This year in the spirit of giving for Advent we are asking each grade to bring specific items. These items will be donated to Missionaries of Charity soup kitchen. Please find your child's grade in the list below and when you are doing your grocery shopping buy a few of those items for those less fortunate than us. This is a wonderful time to show your giving spirit!

Kindergarten	-	<i>Canned Fruit and Vegetables</i>	-	packed in own juice
Grade 1	-	<i>Canned Stew, Chili, Brown Beans</i>		
Grade 2	-	<i>Whole Grain Pasta</i>		
Grade 3	-	<i>Peanut Butter</i>		
Grade 4	-	<i>Baby Formula and Food</i>	-	iron-enriched formula, baby food jars (vegetables, fruit or meat), infant cereal such as oatmeal, barley or rice
Grade 5	-	<i>Rice</i>	-	Plain, brown, converted or parboiled
Grade 6	-	<i>Canned Spaghetti Sauce</i>		
Grade 7	-	<i>Cereal</i>	-	plain, fiber, and non-sugar coated
Grade 8	-	<i>Canned Soup</i>	-	vegetable, tomato, lentil, pea, mushroom

White Elephant Sale

Donations of gently used and clean items can be dropped off at St. Gerard School from November 23 - December 04, 2020. The sale will be open to our children during school hours.

Thank you for your support.