



Contact Details

Parents should not come into the school office unless instructed to. If, for any reason you need to contact the school please email or phone the school office.

Email : enquiries@st-gerards.n-lanark.sch.uk

Alex.Mcnair@st-gerards.n-lanark.sch.uk

KMcDonald@st-gerards.n-lanark.sch.uk

Tel: 01698274916

Lenten Appeal

We want to make this Lenten period as successful as possible for our children and families and we started off with our Ash Wednesday Big Assembly. We will get a full timetable to you next week with our plans to make Lent as engaging as possible under the circumstances. We are raising funds for St. Andrew's Hospice and Missio and our food bank appeal will begin with Wednesday as our foodbank day. We hope we can join Fr. Parkes for online Mass during Lent and that if home you and your family can join us spiritually in this exercise. We hope to inject a little bit of fun into this season also, so look out for the full Lenten programme and please encourage your child to participate as best they can.

St. Gerard's Primary School

COVID19 Coronavirus Update

As stated by the First Minister our P1, P1/2, P2/3 & P3 classes will return to school from Monday 22nd February 2021. We hope this will be a welcome morale boost for many children and families and we look forward to their return. At the same time, we need to be aware that this virus has not gone away and mitigations will remain firmly in place for some time. While we await further news regarding P4-7 we will continue with online digital support and encourage all families to ensure your child is ready for the 9.15am meetings with their teachers. As you can imagine this has been a challenging time for all of us concerned with the education of our children and I cannot thank enough the contribution that parents, teachers, staff and indeed the children themselves are making at this time.

P1, P1/2, P2/3 & P3

A huge welcome to P1 – P3 children returning on the 22nd February. Can you please follow your established start and finish times.

P1 & P3 8.50am & 2.50pm

P1/2 & P2/3 9am & 3pm

The First Minister spoke about crowds gathering around the school and I would be grateful if you could drop off your child as close as possible to the start time and leave immediately. Staff will be at the Kelvin Road and Bell Street entrances in the mornings. If you need to speak to staff please contact the school.

Key Workers' Children P4-P7 & P1-3 Return

Key workers' children should attend for 8.50am. Due to the increased numbers within school can I ask that you send your child to school at the required time and enter through the senior yard at Fleming Road.

Many of you will now be in a position where one child from P1-P3 is in school and one child from P4-7 is at home. While I understand that this is a difficult and challenging circumstance I would appreciate if families continue to support the school and make appropriate arrangements for your child to engage in online digital learning. To reiterate a previous correspondence, can you please ensure that both parents/partners are keyworkers as one parent working at home is still required to take responsibility for their child's

care if they are in P4 – P7. You are only eligible to apply if both adults are keyworkers and both are required to attend a place of work. Children should only attend school on the days that both adults are required to attend; it would be helpful if you could supply the school with shift patterns if this applies. While I appreciate that this is a challenge, schools are closed to suppress the virus and the extensive numbers of applications will only exacerbate the school's ability to provide face to face learning for P1-P3 as well as keyworker and vulnerable children from P4 – P7. Many key workers work from home. If this is the case you should not send your child to school unless they are in P1- P3.

We will continue to be family centered in our approach but please be mindful of the competing demands of our school staff in supporting parents as well as following government guidelines around safety. Your support in this area is immensely appreciated.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club during this lockdown period will begin daily at 8.30am. Please send your child to school for that time if you wish to use this service. The breakfast club is only open for Keyworker children and not for the whole school. P1-3 children should not use the breakfast club unless already doing so as a key worker's child. P4-P7 keyworkers' children should only use the breakfast club for eating and not for an early start facility. We await further information regarding breakfast club wider opening from North Lanarkshire Council. Your cooperation in this regard is much appreciated.

Contact Details & Family Data Information. Parent Portal

Please be mindful that the school needs your most up to date address and contact details. Please check and make sure that any new phone numbers are known to the school. If you have registered with the parent portal you can update details there. If not, can I please encourage you to do so as soon as you can? Details and instructions have been sent home on numerous occasions and are on the school blog site <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/StGerardsBlog/2012/12/20/st-gerards-blog/> If you are unable to do this please email the school your updated contact details enquiries@st-gerards.n-lanark.sch.uk

Jotters Reminder

I have placed a trolley outside, at the main entrance, full of jotters so please feel free to come and collect. Please ensure you are wearing a mask and that you sanitise your hands before selecting a jotter. There is a sanitiser outside the foyer for your use

Reminder Re COVID 19

Please be aware that all information in this newsletter is subject to change given that National and Local government may change or adapt social distancing rules. Please follow press details from the Scottish Government and updates from North Lanarkshire Council.
