

St. Gerard's Primary School

COVID19 Coronavirus Update

With only days remaining before we break up for the holidays, North Lanarkshire Council have reminded schools to remain vigilant with the mitigations in regard to Coronavirus. We are now 15 months since our first school closure and while this academic year has had closures also we have lots to be proud of as we look back on this academic year. My thanks to parents, pupils and families for their continued support to the school in such challenging times. It truly has been a team effort. I would like to thank all the teaching and non-teaching staff for the dedication and commitment during this time. I am enormously proud of them and of the efforts to give our children an educational experience deserving of them. We look forward to August 21 with renewed determination to do well.

New classes and year groups

The new class set up with new teachers is as follows:

P1 Mrs. Ditty	P1/2 Mrs. Hunter	P2/3 Miss Brown
P3 Miss Rattigan	P4 Miss Lawlor	P4/5 Miss Rankin
P5/6 Mrs. Balmer	P6 Mrs. McIloney/ Mrs. Clarke	P7 Mrs. Reilly

I will letter you on Wednesday 23rd June confirming what class your child will be in.

Start and finish Times of School Day

Staying in line with government and local authority guidance we will continue with our plans to stagger starting and finishing times. Please note the information below regarding the start time for your child's class. For those with siblings please adopt the times for the youngest pupil.

8.50am Start	9am Start	Gate Entrance/Exit
P1	P1/2	Kelvin Road side gate
P2/3	P3	Bell Street gate
P4	P4/5	Kelvin Road main gate
P5/6	P6	Fleming Road gate
P7		Fleming Road gate

8.15am for Breakfast Club. Children should enter via the main gate and the main entrance.

Staycations at St. Gerard's

Our Staycations were a fantastic success and children had a great day celebrating their efforts throughout the year. A big thank you for your kind donations that went to pay for the staycations. Your contributions went towards the snacks & juice, the hotdogs & burgers, the bouncy castle & slides as well as our new gazebo.



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

Entrance/Exit Gates

Monday 16th August 2021

Parents will not be permitted to enter the school grounds. Pupils should enter through their appropriate gate as indicated and make their way to their line. Please do not drop children off early for school as there will be no supervision in the yard before.

If you are bringing siblings to school who should enter through different gates and it is not feasible for the older child/ren to safely make their way to the other gate then they should enter the school with the younger sibling and they will be directed from there.

Please be mindful of social distancing rules when collecting and dropping off your child/ren and avoid crowding round exit gates. If your children are older it may be appropriate to arrange a meeting point a little further away from school gate area.

St. Gerard's Primary 1 Visits

We have been very fortunate, given Covid restrictions, to have had our new P1 children come for a visit with their families. Coronavirus restrictions continues to impact on important transition stages for children and families but we hope we have made the transition to St. Gerard's as smooth as possible under the circumstances. We look forward to seeing you all again in August 2021.

St Gerard's Primary 7 Graduations

Our P7 had a fantastic 2 days of celebrating the end of their primary career before beginning the next stage in their life & educational journey. On Thursday 17th June we began the day with our Thanksgiving Mass followed by our formal graduation ceremony in the afternoon. The ceremony ended with a video created by Greg Robertson and we are really grateful for all his hard work in putting such a creative piece of work together. It will make a lovely memory for pupils and parents. Both events were available on Teams and many families joined us for the occasion. Later that day we had a fun evening of music, dancing, bouncy castles & bungee running slides. Madness and mayhem but fun. It was heartwarming to see the children together after a very emotional day for staff and pupils alike. We completed our celebrations on Friday 18th June with a great day out at Drumpellier Country Park. We will say goodbye and good luck on Thursday to a fantastic bunch of kids who I know will make St. Gerard's and their families very proud in the coming years. We wish them every success!

School Uniform and PE Kit

Uniform is provided by LogoXpress and Miyo Apparel. Please try to ensure you have full school uniform for August 21. Given that, if your child has PE they should attend school in their PE kit, I would ask that you use the purple t-shirt with the school badge as part of their uniform for that day. You can purchase the school PE top at the above suppliers. This would help us maintain a strong uniform ethos as several classes have PE on the same day. If they were in school t-shirts it would not detract from the overall appearance of the school on these days. I understand that this is due to Coronavirus but your help in this area would be greatly appreciated and may help with dress issues on PE days.

Club 365 Summer Clubs

Primary school pupils can attend any of the 18 Club 365 hubs, which will be open across North Lanarkshire. Pupils will be able to participate in sports and activities in a fun setting from 11.30am to 1.30pm (including weekends). Lunch will be provided. Sacred Heart Primary School will be our local Hub but you can go on to the website and get more details of other areas in North Lanarkshire. A group call message will go out to all parents and further details can be found on North Lanarkshire website.

Summer Holidays

This has been a strange academic year for pupils, parents and staff. I hope everyone takes the opportunity to recharge your batteries and spend some quality time with your friends and families. If staying in the UK, I hope you have a wonderful time and return with many happy memories. I think everyone deserves a break from the ongoing crises and let's pray the weather is kind to us.

FINISH – Thursday 24th June at 1pm

Children requesting, will be served a packed lunch at 12 noon on Thursday 24th June which they can take home. The final bell will ring at 1pm. Children can be collected in the usual manner at this time. Please make appropriate arrangements for 1pm.

School Begins in August 16th

Just a wee reminder that the school staff return on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th August for inservice. Children return at 8.50am or 9am on Monday the 16th August. Our new P1 children will begin at 9.30am on the first day. We wish them well.

Lunch Payment & Arrears

If you still owe breakfast club or lunch money can you please pay this before the end of the school term. If you pay online then great, if not, please send the money in with your child before the end of the term. Many thanks for your cooperation. Please remember that from August P1 – P4 will have free school meals. This universal service will be rolled out to all primary pupils in the coming years.

Parents' Night on Teams

Many thanks for your cooperation on Parents' evening. I hope everyone found the opportunity to engage with your child's teacher a worthwhile experience. Moving forward we intend to repeat this for our October parents' evening given that Covid restrictions will very likely still be with us. If and when we return to normal on line meetings could be an option for parents who may be working but could get 10mins to meet online.

Reminder Re COVID19

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.