



SAINT GERARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY UNIT



HEADTEACHER: Mrs C Buck

Yatesbury Avenue, Castle Vale, Birmingham, B35 6LB. Tel: 0121 464 2613

St. Gerard's Mission Statement:

With Christ at our side and St. Gerard as our guide we live, love, learn and pray together.

12th September 2019

Welcome Back Everyone It is lovely to see all the children so smartly dressed for the new school term. Thank you for your support in making sure all children are wearing the correct St. Gerard's school uniform with hairstyles that are in line with our school policy. Please ensure that any hair accessories bows/ribbons are small and discreet.

Please make sure all items are labelled with your child's name.

Thank you for helping us to maintain our high standards.

We have 2 spaces in our Nursery

If you know of anyone looking for a Nursery place for a 3 year old that was born between 1st Sept 2015 and 31st August 2016 please tell them to make enquiries at the school office.

Children's Liturgy

Does your child get bored during Mass? At St Gerard's Church every Sunday Morning at 10 am we now have Children's Liturgy. The children are taken out for the first part of the Mass where they do activities related to the Sunday Liturgy. This is aimed at ages 3-7 years, so Nursery to Year 2.

Healthy Tip

Healthy snacks help children and young people meet their daily nutritional needs.

Gospel Virtues this half term - Grateful & Generous

Pupils in St Gerard's School are growing to be: Grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and generous with their gifts, becoming men and women for others

Online Safety Tip for this half term

Whether you want to set up parental controls, adjust privacy settings or get advice on social networks, experts from the free O2 & NSPCC helpline are here to help.

Telephone 0808 800 5002



Dinner Money Year 3 to Year 6

Please make sure all money is in an envelope with your child's name and class clearly marked on the envelope. Dinner money **MUST** be paid on the **first day of the week**. Dinner money is £11.75 per week. If your child wishes to change from Sandwiches to dinners or dinners to sandwiches, the office must have at least 2 weeks' notice as the food has to be ordered.

School Photographs

The photographer will be coming to take photographs on **Wednesday 25th September**. Every child in the school will have an individual photograph and if they have siblings a group photograph taken, but there is no obligation to buy them. Unfortunately, we can only take photographs of children in the Nursery and school we cannot accommodate younger siblings.

The Sacrament of Confirmation

Year 6 Children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday 23rd October 7pm

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of the safeguarding team:

Mrs Buck, Mr Crehan, Mrs Nicholls, Mrs Powis, Mrs Kissun.

Homework

READING REMINDER Please ensure your child is reading EVERY night at home for at least 10 minutes with an adult. Your child needs to write 3 diary entries every week. This is part of your child's homework.



TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS Last year, the children in KS2 were brilliant at completing their rock star challenges each night and we saw a huge difference in their times table knowledge. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 must do at least 10 minutes of times table practice each night. There is also a paper version for those who do not have internet access. This is part of your child's homework.

Parents and Teachers Association (PTA)

Last year, the PTA were extremely successful in organising and running a range of events for the children in our school. Not only were the events great fun for the children who attended and the adults who volunteered, but they raised valuable funds for school. Mrs Gondol, the Chairperson of the PTA this year, would like to invite any parents that are interested in joining the PTA to register their interest in becoming part of the PTA team with either the school office or with her directly. The PTA will meet once a term to discuss future events and help with the running of various activities such as school discos, film nights and much more. We welcome your ideas.

Secondary Transfer Online Year 6

All Secondary Transfer Applications must be submitted between **2 September and 31 October 2019** for your child to transfer to secondary school in September 2020. If you live in Birmingham, apply online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

If you need any help applying online the school office will be happy to help you. Dates and times of schools open days and sessions are available on MyEd website <https://myed.com/birmingham-school-admissions/>.

| Dates for your Diary | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Monday 16 th September | 3.05pm | ECO Club |
| Tuesday 17 th September | 9.00am | Mass Years 5/3/1 in Church |
| Thursday 19 th September | 3.05pm | Parents Confirmation Meeting in Hall |
| Tuesday 24 th September | 9.00am | Mass Years 4/2/6/Reception in Church |
| Wednesday 25 th September | 9.00am | School Photographs |
| Friday 27 th September | 9.00am | MacMillan Coffee Morning |
| Friday 27 th September | 9.00am | Y2 INSPIRE Workshop |
| Monday 30 th September | 3.05pm | ECO Club |
| Tuesday 1 st October | 9.00am | Y2 Class Mass in School |
| Friday 4 th October | 9.00am | Y6 Class Assembly |
| Sunday 6th October | 10.00am | Confirmation Commitment Mass in Church |

Term Dates 2019-2020

| Autumn Term 2019 | Spring Term 2020 | Summer Term 2020 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Wednesday 4th September 2019 | Monday 6th January 2020 | Monday 20th April 2020 |
| to | to | to |
| Friday 25th October 2019 | Friday 14th February 2020 | Friday 22nd May 2020 |
| HALF TERM | HALF TERM | HALF TERM 2 weeks |
| Monday 4th November 2019 | Monday 24th February 2020 | Monday 8th June 2020 |
| to | to | to |
| Friday 20th December 2019 | Thursday 9th April 2020 | Friday 17th July 2020 |

PLEASE NOTE: Only one week holiday for Easter and two weeks at Whitsun.