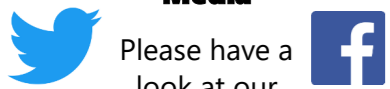




Elsie,
 Edie,
 Maddison
 Aaron
 Charlie S
 Lylah
 Hollie
 Charlie M
 Winner
 Jack
 Amelia H,
 Ollie,
 Nuel,
 Amelia C
 & Joseph

Have a lovely day!

School Website & Social Media



Please have a look at our school website for up to date information. Copies of letters, newsletters, & school lunch menus can be found on there as well as class specific information and key dates for your diary.

www.stgerards.npcat.org.uk

You can also follow all our latest news on Twitter: [@stgerardsrc](https://twitter.com/stgerardsrc)

Important Dates

| | |
|--|--|
| Friday 7th April | Good Friday |
| Sunday 9th April | Easter Sunday |
| Monday 17th April | Back to School |
| Tuesday 18th April | Inside Out Coffee Morning - school hall 9am |
| Wednesday 19th April | PTFA Meeting 1:30pm - all welcome |
| Sunday 23rd April | Family Mass at St Mary's Cathedral 10am |
| Thursday 27th April | Reception and Y1 Visit to Newham Grange Farm |
| Monday 1st May | Bank Holiday Monday |
| 2nd—end of May | Key Stage 1 SATS |
| Friday 5th May | King Charles' Coronation Street Party Children invited to wear red, white and blue. |
| Monday 8th May | Bank Holiday for King Charles' Coronation |
| Tuesday 9th May - Friday 12th May | Key Stage 2 SATS (Y6) Children MUST be in school. |
| Saturday 13th May | Y4 children make their First Holy Communion |
| Sunday 21st May | Family Mass at St Mary's Cathedral 10am |
| Friday 26th May | Last day of term |
| Monday 29th May—Friday 2nd June School Closed for half term | |
| Monday 5th June | Back to school 8:40am |
| Monday 5th June— 16th June | Year 4 Multiplication Check Children MUST be in school. |
| Tuesday 6th June | Inside Out Coffee Morning - school hall 9am |
| Monday 12th June— Friday 19th June | Y1 Phonics Screening Children MUST be in school. |
| Sunday 25th June | Family Mass at St Mary's Cathedral 10am |
| Thursday July 6th | Summer Fair |
| Monday 17th July— Thursday 20th July | Sports Week |
| Thursday 20th July | School closes for Summer break |
| Friday 21st July | PD Day—School closed |



St Gerard's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Part of Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust



Avalon Court, Hemlington, Middlesbrough TS8 9HU

01642 591820

www.stgerards.npcat.org.uk

April 2023 Email: enquiries@stgerards.npcat.org.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

'Happy Easter! May you bring to all the joy and hope of the Risen Christ' -Pope Francis.

The beginning of April this year also marks the beginning on Holy week; a time of renewal and reflection. On 2nd April, we celebrate Palm Sunday; the day when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, a symbol of peace and humility. We hear how Jesus stopped to wash the feet of his disciples; how He shared His last supper with them and taught them a new commandment and how he made the ultimate sacrifice so that we might live. Jesus was the Prince of



Peace; The Servant King; the humble one who taught others how to live in the way we should. Jesus did not ask us to take up the cross as he did but instead to make small sacrifices to help others; to show one another love; to help those in need; to be selfless and give what we can to help our brothers and sisters. Mother Theresa said, 'We cannot all do great things, but we can all do small things with great love.' Let us remember this in our daily lives and never underestimate the difference a small gesture can make. Happy Easter.

'Jesus' Love for us is not an illusion; it is born from Jesus' supreme act of love on the cross.' Pope Francis.

Welcome to the St Gerard's Team!

We are pleased to tell you that we have 3 new members of staff joining St. Gerard's this term! Mrs Bradley and Miss Dye are joining us as teaching assistants and Miss Lax joins our team of lunchtime supervisors.



They all come with great experience and are looking forward to getting to know the staff, children and families of St Gerard's. We are sure you will make them feel welcome.

Attendance

Please continue to support us with our school and trust expectations for attendance.

Our whole school attendance is currently **93.5%**, which remains below our target of **97%**. Please try your hardest to ensure your child attends every-day of school on time.

If your child is not well enough to attend school, please call the school office before 9am and let Mrs Foster know on each day of his/ her absence.

Our new attendance officer Rachel McDonald is supporting St Gerard's with attendance monitoring and is in school one day a week.

If you are concerned about your child's attendance, please speak to your child's class teacher, Rachel McDonald or Mrs Coe. They will try to help as best they can.

A reminder that a leave of absence request form **must** be submitted to school **before** any planned absence in term time. Leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.



| Year Group | Attendance |
|--------------|--------------|
| Reception | 93.9% |
| Year 1 | 93.3% |
| Year 2 | 93.7% |
| Year 3 | 96.9% |
| Year 4 | 94% |
| Year 5 | 95.3% |
| Year 6 | 94.7% |
| Whole School | 93.5% |

New Doors!

We have had even more improvements to our lovely school over the Easter break. The current Year 2, Reception and Nursery classrooms have had external doors put in that lead directly outside! This gives Nursery direct access to the new outdoor area.

There is more building work planned for over the summer... watch this

Community Cupboard!

Please remember that our Community Cupboard remains stocked with food and toiletry essentials for anyone who may need them. Please call in if you need anything at all.

Similarly, if you would like to donate anything, we will be very grateful.



LIMITED NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE NOW!

We currently have a limited number of places available in our lovely Nursery! There are 15 hour places for two, three and four year olds as well as 30 hour places for 3 and 4 year olds.

Please contact the school office for more information and an application



PLEASE CONTACT ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
01642 591820 | enquiries@stgerards.npcat.org.uk

Save the date for the Summer Fayre

Thursday 6th July 3pm

We are really looking forward to this year's summer fayre! There will be all of the usual stalls plus some new exciting ones!

Some of our children will be leading on a Young Entrepreneurs initiative, which will be incredible.

The Fire Brigade, Police and Ambulance Service will be in attendance.

If you can help or are able to contribute a prize or know of any businesses that can, please let us know!



Join us for a coffee and a chat!



Many thanks to St Gerard's PTFA for their ongoing help and support in raising vital funds for our school. Every penny raised through the events goes directly back to the school and children and in the current climate of school funding, it is much needed.

Movie Night raised £150

Easter Egg Tombola raised £169



We are always looking for people to join St Gerard's PTFA to help with fundraising and organising events. If you can spare any time at all, please contact Mrs Porritt.

Next Meeting:

19th April 1:30pm

School Uniform



Thank you for your ongoing support with our uniform expectations. For uniform policy, please see the school website.

There continues to be a growing number of children not wearing a tie for school. A tie is part of our uniform expectations when wearing a shirt / blouse.

For Y6 children who choose to wear their leavers' hoodies, a tie must still be worn.

As the days get longer and the sun begins to shine (hopefully) the children may wear summer school uniform this term. This consists of a white polo shirt and grey shorts, grey or school checked / skirt / pinafore, a blue and white gingham school dress. Black school shoes should continue to be worn each day that your child doesn't have PE.

Please remember that jewellery is not allowed to be worn for school.

If you need any help in affording school uniform, please do come and let us know. We have lots of nearly new uniform in school.

Similarly, if you have any items that your child has outgrown we would be very grateful for them.