



Denita
Bella
Alfie
Oonagh
Grace
Esmæ
Audrey
Earnest
Chay
Noa
Peyton
Elsie
Phoebe
Cameron
Mikey

Have a lovely day!

Community Cupboard!

Please remember that our Community Cupboard remains stocked with food and essentials for anyone who may need them. Please call in if you need anything at all. We would like to clear it before the summer break in order to start a fresh in September.

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



Diary Dates

It is a busy final half term coming up.

Please keep checking our website and social media channels for updates and new dates as things can (and probably will change!)

Class teachers will send out further details of events below if required.

Monday 5th June	Back to school 8:40am
Monday 5th June -16th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check Children MUST be in school.
Monday 5th June	Y4 Swimming—2 week block Y4 Library visit Y5 visit to Danby
Tuesday 6th June	Inside Out Coffee Morning - school hall 9am
Thursday 8th June	Reception Stay and Read
Monday 12th June - Friday 19th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Children MUST be in school. Saints Week - Saint in the Making
Tuesday 13th June	Reception Library Visit
Thursday 15th June	Y5 Library Visit
Wednesday June 14th	Reception & Year 1 Theatre Trip—The Tiger Who Came to Tea
Thursday 22nd June TBC	Little Big Assembly Years 1 –6 @ St Mary's Cathedral
Tuesday 27th June	Y1 Library Visit
Sunday 2nd July	Postgate Sunday—all children invited to celebrate at Mass. More info to follow.
Monday 3rd July	Y6 Leavers' Retreat Day at The Lady Chapel
Wednesday 5th July	Online Safety Assembly with PC Barret for KS2 Y4 Holy Communion Retreat Day @ The Lady Chapel
Thursday July 6th	Summer Fair
Monday 10th July	Moving Up Day! Children will spend the day with their new class teacher ready for September!
Wednesday July 12th	Year 5 Leavers' Disco - details to follow from Mrs Renwick
Thursday 13th July	Nursery & Reception Sports Day 9:30am
Friday 14th July	Years 3-6 Demon Dentist Trip @ Sunderland Empire Theatre. End of Year Reports to Parents
Monday 17th July- Thursday 20th July	Sports Week! The week begins with Sports Day on Monday 17th July at 9:30am for Years 1– 6.
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



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As we enter the final half term of the school year, I like to think back to the beginning of the school year and see just how much our school has grown in love for one another and to see how much the children have grown, not only in height but in maturity, in knowledge, in spirituality, in friendship, in happiness, in independence and in their journey with God. Reflecting on this is possibly one of the best feelings you get as a teacher. For me, it is a reminder of my vocation - of what God called me to do and for this I will be forever thankful.

Last half term was an extremely busy one for so many reasons. Our Year 6 children completed their SATs one week and were off to Carlton the next! They were an absolute credit to their parents and to St. Gerard's. Thanks go to Mrs Renwick for not only taking the children but for organising the trip. Thanks also go to Mrs Taylor and Miss Thompson for sacrificing their time to be part of the trip!



Some of our Year 4 children made their First Holy Communion a few weeks ago, which was beautiful. The children have been preparing to receive this sacrament with Mrs Hawkins—one of our parish catechists—who has so freely given her time to the children. We are ever so grateful and very lucky to have her supporting our children through their faith journey. First Holy Communion Mass was followed by a Key Stage 2 Mass and a celebratory breakfast for our Year 4 children.



The next 7 weeks are jam packed with great things at St Gerard's that everyone can enjoy - please see the Diary Dates section on the back page.

Thank you all for your ongoing support. God Bless. Mrs Coe



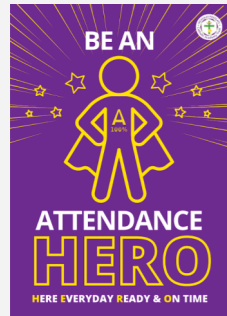
St Gerard's Science Superstars!

I am thrilled to be able to tell you that St Gerard's has been awarded the

Primary Science Quality Mark!



The award comes as recognition for the wonderfully exciting and outstanding science work that goes on at our school. As science subject leader, Miss Brown has worked incredibly hard in achieving this wonderful and well deserved accolade for our school. She certainly could not have done it without the support of all of our teachers and your incredibly super scientific children!



Attendance

Our whole school attendance is currently **93.6%**, which remains below our target of **97%** and just below the national average figure for attendance.

Please try your hardest to ensure your child attends everyday of school on time.

There has been a substantial increase in leave of absence requests over the last few weeks. A reminder that holidays should not be taken during the school term. Should you decide to take your child out of school for a holiday, a leave of absence request form **must** be submitted to school **before** any planned absence. Leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Please see the school website for our school attendance policy.

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.

If you are concerned about your child's attendance, please speak to your child's class teacher, Rachel McDonald or Mrs Coe.

** (-) denotes a decline in attendance since last month

** (+) denotes an increase in attendance since last month

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	93.9% (-)
Year 1	94% (+)
Year 2	93.8% (+)
Year 3	96% (-)
Year 4	93.6% (-)
Year 5	95.6% (+)
Year 6	95.2% (+)
Whole School	93.6% (-)

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 there too!

If you can help out or are able to contribute a prize or know of any businesses that can, please let us know! We are looking for good condition books and teddies for stalls please.

Every child will be given a token to allow them a free go on a stall of their choice.

Sports Week!

Sports week will take place the week beginning 17th July. Mrs Renwick will send out more details nearer the time.

Sports Days:

Nursery and Reception Thursday 13th July 9:30am

Years 1-6 Monday 17th July 9:30am

Parents welcome.

Children are invited to wear a t-shirt of the school house that they are in (red, yellow, green or blue) for sports day.

Parish Trips to Danby

There will be 2 fully funded trips to Danby Moor Centre during the six weeks holiday organised by parishioners from St. Mary's Cathedral. The dates are 31st July and 7th August. Lunch will be provided and there will be a morning and afternoon activity. The coach will pick up and drop off in Hemlington. If you would like to book places on either trip, please call the school office and let Mrs Foster know.

Staffing Update

I am thrilled to tell you that **Miss Thompson** will be a permanent member of staff at St Gerard's for one day a week from September. She has been a wonderful addition to our team already and we are very pleased to be able to keep her!

Miss Doyle will be joining St. Gerard's team from September too. I am sure that you will welcome her into our school family.

Congratulations again to **Mrs Taylor** in gaining the deputy headship at St. Gerard's, she has dedicated so much to our school already and I know how much this means to her. St Gerard's will move from strength to strength.

You will shortly receive a letter with details of staffing arrangements **for September** and there will be a 'Moving Up Day' on July 10th when children will get to spend the day with their new class teacher!

Early Years Building Continues!

The children in Nursery and Reception are thoroughly enjoying the new outdoor area! They are learning so much through outdoor play! It really has been a wonderful addition to St Gerard's School.



I am excited to tell you that phase 2 of the Early Years Foundation Stage redevelopment will take place over the summer holiday! There will be lots of building work going on. A new reception classroom is being created where the current library and therapy room stand. The rooms will be knocked through to make a huge new classroom. Toilets are being moved and the library is being relocated. The new reception classroom will open out directly onto the new EYFS outdoor area. It is a HUGE project and very exciting for our school. We will have a fabulous Early Years Foundation Stage truly fit for purpose!

School Dinners!

A polite reminder that if you would like your child to change from packed lunch to a school dinner or vice versa, we require at least 2 weeks notice. Please let Mrs Foster know if your child/ren would like to make a change and she will be able to give you the date from when the change will begin.

Our school dinners, provided by Caterlink, are proving to be a big hit. Anne-Marie is doing a brilliant job in the kitchen with the help of Steph and Kelly. They all go above and beyond to make sure that every child has something they like every day of the week.

A reminder to check your eligibility for Free School Meals by going to the website below:

www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims/apply

To complete an application you will need to provide:

- Your own name and date of birth
- Contact details
- National Insurance Number or National Asylum Seekers Number
- Child's name and date of birth
- School your child is attending/will attend.

If you pay for your child's school dinner, please ensure that payments are made on a weekly basis via ParentPay. If you have any problems in paying your bill, please contact the school office.