



St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

Spring Term 2025-26 Curriculum Newsletter

EYFS

Mrs Eilbeck, Mrs Bradley, Mrs Hall

Happy New Year!

We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. It's been a fantastic first term in EYFS, and we're excited for the Spring term ahead!

Reminder:

- Nursery gates open at 8:30am and close promptly.
- Reception: Please ensure your child arrives by 8:40am, as staff are working with groups to support phonics and reading between 8:40-8:55am.

This term, our themes are Our Wonderful World and Growing! Be sure to check the online school calendar and the weekly newsletter for updates.

Reception Parents:

Read the phonics book with your child each night to build fluency. Remember to send the reading folder, book, and record daily.

Nursery Parents:

Enjoy the books we send home and add a comment or signature to the reading record after each session.

Please send your child with warm clothing, hats, gloves, a water bottle, cap, and raincoat daily. Please label all clothes with their name!

If you ever need assistance, feel free to call. Also, follow us on Facebook and check Reach More Parents for updates and pictures!

Phonics Sounds Write

Nursery: This term, we are focusing on developing phonics skills in Nursery. Our aim is to help your child become more confident with sounds and early reading.

Reception will continue to build on their phonics skills. We're excited to see their progress in reading and writing.

Reception children are continuing to "say the sounds and read the words" in daily phonics lessons. We're focusing on new sounds, including those spelled with two letters. The children will use this knowledge to build CVC words and add labels and captions to their writing. **They will also take part in daily sentence dictation to practise using their phonics skills in writing.**

Maths

This term, Nursery children will practise counting and recognising small amounts. They will explore numbers up to 5 and begin to notice when groups are the same or different. Children will also explore size, weight and capacity, and learn to recognise shapes in their environment.

Reception children will build on their counting and number skills, exploring numbers within and beyond 5. They will begin to recognise equal and unequal groups, doubles, and match numbers to quantities. In shape and measure, children will explore length, mass and capacity, learn the names of 3D shapes, and spot shapes in everyday environments.

Writing Reception

This term, children will continue writing labels, phrases and captions and will move on to simple sentences. We will enjoy stories about Our Wonderful World and Growing, and children will have lots of chances to write during their work and play.

Nursery

Children will explore writing through mark-making and giving meaning to their marks. They will practise listening to sounds and beginning to link them to letters in their play.

Religious Education

The children will continue to follow the 'Come and See' programme as part of their Catholic faith. Topics covered this term will include;

Celebrating:

The children will learn about celebrations. They will share their own experiences of celebrating. We will learn about the role of the Priest and how the Parish family celebrates.

Gathering:

The children will begin to learn about how and why people gather together. They will understand the joy of gathering together to celebrate at Mass.

Growing:

The children will begin to learn that Spring is a time when things begin to grow. They will learn about Lent – a time to grow in love to be more like Jesus and to look forward to Easter.

Understanding the World

Over the coming weeks, children will be exploring **Our Wonderful World**. They will observe the changing seasons, focusing on Winter and Spring, and take part in special celebrations such as **Chinese New Year, Pancake Day, and Easter**. Children will explore maps, learn about different places around the world, and create their own maps to show what they have discovered.

This term, children will also explore how plants, animals, and themselves grow and change. They will plant seeds, care for them, and watch how they grow, learning about the needs of living things. Children will also talk about their own growth and changes over time.

Expressive Arts and Design

This term, children will explore dance, music, drawing, painting, and pretend play, expressing their ideas, feelings, and creativity. They will develop their own storylines in pretend play, listening and reacting to others, experiment with colour and artistic effects, and build on previous learning to share and talk about their work.

Physical Development

This term, children will enjoy games and activities that help them move safely and use space confidently. They will develop coordination and balance through gymnastics, using equipment, and moving in different ways. Children will also practise hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills through cutting, drawing, and other activities to support their writing and letter formation.

Parents' Information Page

PE Days

Our PE days are **Thursday and Friday**. Please send your child to school in their PE uniform on this day.

St. Gerard's school PE uniform is: -

- Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt;
- Navy blue or black loose fitting shorts;
- Navy blue or black tracksuit bottoms;
- Navy blue or black tracksuit top or sweatshirt
- St Gerard's blue hoodie.
- Training shoes - these should be a different pair from their school shoes.

FOOTBALL KITS / COLOURED T SHIRTS MUST NOT BE WORN FOR PE.

Reading at Home

Research shows that parents who get involved in their child's education make a big difference to how well their children do.

Please read with your child at home every day for up to 10 minutes with a minimum expectation of 4 times per week.

Remember - your child will progress faster by reading in short bursts daily rather than for a longer period of time just once!

Help your child to read and write

Sounds-Write Phonics Program, Initial Code, Units 1-7 It's FREE!

- help your child take their first steps in reading and spelling;
- understand how to help your child build, write and read simple cvc (consonant, vowel, consonant) words;
- understand how to correct your child when they make a mistake in their reading or writing simple words;
- have a basic understanding of how phonics works.



Simply scan the QR codes on a mobile device.

Water Bottles

Please remember to send your child to school with their water bottle every day.

Reminder:

Please only send plain water for your child.

NO juice or flavoured waters.

Thank you

Jewellery

- Please remove any jewellery before your child enters school.
- Children must not wear earrings for school.
- If they have to remain, please ensure they are covered with plasters.
- Staff are not allowed to remove earrings.