



Headteacher – Mr K. Landrum – Bed (Hons) NPQH

Website : <http://st-gerards.halton.sch.uk>

Dolce - From 1 April we will be changing our school meals providers and will be using a company called Dolce! This is an exciting opportunity and will see a big difference in our school meals. I will provide additional information about this over the next few weeks

School Dinners



Parking around school - Please note the following regarding parking issues around school:

- It is illegal to park on a corner or on zig zag lines emergency purposes.
- Residents in the area are concerned that parents are parking in front of their drives. Please be mindful of this when dropping/collecting children from school.

The Police will be monitoring this situation at various times of the day.



Procedures - Can I just remind you about our procedures at the end of the school day: we would appreciate it if you could stand away from the ramp where the children come out to allow staff some space to see the adult who is picking the children up. Once the Teacher has handed over your child it is **your** responsibility to ensure their safety. We would appreciate it if the children do not go on the equipment around school once school has finished. We will not be liable for any accidents should they occur at this time. Thank you for your co-operation with this.



As we are still in early January I think I am able to still wish you all a very Happy New Year! I hope you all have a healthy and prosperous 2018! Christmas seems to have come and gone yet the message of Christmas should still be in our hearts every day.

As ever we thank you for your continued support.

We begin the year with some sad news. As you will know Mrs McCallum has been off school for a while to look after her husband who has been ill. Sadly her husband passed away the first week of the New Year. Please remember Mrs McCallum and her children in your thoughts and prayers. May God be with them at this very sad time.



After School Provision - Any questions or queries about the After School Provision please ring:

07756808219.

Please note you must book your child/ren into After School Club 24 hours in advance **NOT** on the day.

Please note the increase in price for After school Club: it is now £2.00 per child' per night.

If you wish your child to attend **Breakfast Club** they **must** arrive before 8.30 a.m. Breakfast Club will be starting from 7.40am.

School Website/Class Pages - We pride ourselves on our communication with parents and the various methods that we have. In addition to Twitter/Facebook and Class Dojo please do not forget our School Website. We have electronic copies of policies, newsletters and class information. Please visit your child's class page to find out what they will be learning in the Spring Term.

Attendance & Punctuality -

Please remember to ensure that your children arrive in School on time and that their attendance continues to be a priority. We will continue to encourage good attendance and those children who attend school every day this half-term will be rewarded.

Lateness - If your child/children are late for school please remember to come with them as you will have to sign them in on our system.

Spot on Week - We are seeking to initiate 'SPOT ON Week', starting week beginning 22 January 2018.

Children will receive a spot for arriving at school on time each day. All pupils awarded with five spots will be presented with a 'Well Done Certificate' during a school assembly.

Holidays - Just a reminder that school is **not** allowed to authorise holidays during the school terms unless there are exceptional circumstances.



Top 5 Schools in Widnes - You may have noticed, if you read the Liverpool Echo or if you use their website on your smartphone, that we have been placed in the 'Top 5 Schools in Halton'. Whilst this came as a pleasant surprise to us all it goes without saying that this is well and truly deserved. This is just another fantastic opportunity to show the community what a brilliant school they have on their doorstep. With this in mind, if you do have any relatives or family members looking for a Nursery for their 3/4 year olds then please contact the School Office.





Nursery - We still have places available in our Nursery. We are now providing the 30 funded hours. If you think you or someone you know could be eligible please call into the School Office for the information. We are also providing wrap-around care (if you are not eligible for the 30 free hours) for children at a cost of £45 for the whole week. Please speak to our School Office for further information.

St. Gerard's School Website - We have had parents/carers coming into school saying they have not received school letters. All letters that are sent out with children are put on our website. Please take time to look at the website, everything we send out is uploaded. www.st-gerards.halton.sch.uk

Shoes

Please ensure that the children wear the correct shoes (not trainers/converse) as they are not part of our school uniform.

Jewellery

Please remember that jewellery is **not** part of school uniform. We request that children do not wear earrings in schools due to health and safety.

Jojo Bows

These are not part of the school uniform.

Gymnastics - Year 3 and 4 children have the opportunity to take part in weekly gymnastics sessions delivered by Total Gymnastics. The gymnastics company is directed by Beth Tweddle who is an Olympic Bronze Medalist.

HPAN Art Project - School has been working with Gill Taylor (Artist) to create artwork under the theme of "one Family". The art work will proudly be displayed in Runcorn Shopping Centre from Monday 5 February.

Passports - please note that school staff are unable to authorise any passports due to Data protection.

Delamere - The children in Year 2 will be going on a residential visit to Delamere Forest in February. Our school is very fortunate to be able to offer so many opportunities for our children outside of the curriculum and I have always been passionate about giving children these chances and experiences.

Outside Classroom - To further enhance the learning of our children we are resurfacing the outside classroom. This classroom is used a playtimes and lunchtimes and the children are fully supervised by school staff.

Please ensure that when you collect your children at 3.15pm they **do not** play in this area unsupervised.

Spaceport - Year 5 had a fantastic time in Spaceport exploring the new topic - Space. Throughout the day, we engaged with the exhibits, were quizzed on our knowledge and learnt all about our galaxy in the planetarium. Tim Peake was even there to give us a lesson on what life is like on the International Space Station (ISS). We were lucky enough to venture into outer space on a roller-coaster simulator ride and even blast off our very own rockets (which we got to take home). It was the perfect launch for our new term!"

Holidays Dates - Spring Term

Monday 8th January 2018
Friday 9th February 2018
Monday 19th February 2018
Wednesday 28th March 2018

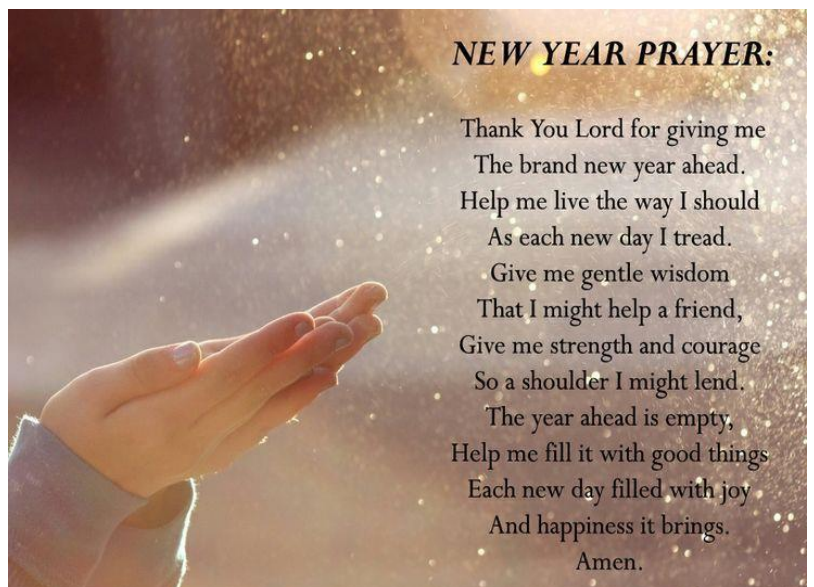
School Opens. Staff and pupils
School Closes. Staff and pupils
School Opens. Staff and pupils
School Closes. Staff and pupils

Summer Term

Monday 9th April 2018
Friday 25th May 2018
Monday 11th June 2018
Friday 20th July 2018

School Opens. Staff and pupils
School Closes. Staff and pupils
School Opens. Staff and pupils
School Closes. Staff and pupils

PLEASE DO NOT REFER TO THE CARDS WE PREVIOUSLEY SENT OUT!



NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.