ST. GERARD
CATHOLIC + SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

August 27, 2026

From the Principal's Desk:

Dear Golden Eagle Families,

What an amazing start to the school year! Our building has been filled with excitement, laughter, and lots of learning as we've welcomed both new and returning scholars. We are so proud of how quickly most of our students have settled into their new routines, made new friends, and embraced the opportunities that come with a new school year.

At our school, we remind our scholars that they are all **Saints in Training**. Throughout the year, we'll be intentionally teaching and reinforcing what it means to show **respect, kindness, and compassion** each day. We want our students to understand that they have the power to make a positive difference in our school community through their words, choices, and actions. Every day is another opportunity to grow in faith, character, and love for one another.

One of our guiding verses this year comes from **Matthew 5:16**:

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

This verse is a wonderful reminder that even the smallest acts of kindness can reflect God's love. Whether it's welcoming a new classmate, helping a friend, or showing respect to a teacher, every good choice helps our scholars let their light shine.

Thank you for sharing your children with us and for partnering with us in their faith and education. We are excited to be on this journey with you and your family and can't wait to see all the wonderful things our scholars accomplish this year. Here's to an incredible year of learning, growing, and shining God's light together!

Blessings,
Natalie Schoonover
Principal

This Week at St. Gerard

ST. GERARD
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

DEAN'S CORNER: STARTING THE YEAR OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT

WELCOME BACK, ST. GERARD FAMILIES! I HOPE EVERYONE HAD A WONDERFUL SUMMER AND IS READY FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR. AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR TOGETHER, THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR STUDENTS TO START FRESH, MAKE GOOD CHOICES, AND SET POSITIVE GOALS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD.

STARTING THE YEAR OFF ON THE **RIGHT FOOT** MEANS MORE THAN SIMPLY GETTING BACK INTO A SCHOOL ROUTINE. IT MEANS LEARNING TO MAKE RESPONSIBLE CHOICES, SHOWING RESPECT, AND UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF FOLLOWING SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS.

SOMETIMES, STUDENTS MAY FEEL THAT CERTAIN RULES ARE **SMALL, SILLY, OR UNNECESSARY.** HOWEVER, EVERY EXPECTATION SERVES A PURPOSE. FOLLOWING RULES—EVEN WHEN WE DON'T ALWAYS UNDERSTAND OR AGREE WITH THEM—HELPS CREATE A SAFE, RESPECTFUL, AND POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF. LEARNING TO FOLLOW EXPECTATIONS IS AN IMPORTANT LIFE SKILL THAT HELPS CHILDREN GROW INTO RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL YOUNG ADULTS.

A LITTLE REMINDER FOR FAMILIES

ONE OF THE EASIEST WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD START THE YEAR STRONG IS TO MAKE SURE THEY **ARRIVE AT SCHOOL PREPARED AND DRESSED FOR SUCCESS.** OUR UNIFORMS ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF REPRESENTING ST. GERARD SCHOOL AND SHOWING PRIDE IN BEING PART OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES EACH MORNING TO HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE SURE THEY ARE:

- WEARING THEIR UNIFORM CORRECTLY AND FOLLOWING THE DRESS CODE.
- BRINGING THE MATERIALS THEY NEED FOR THE SCHOOL DAY.
- ARRIVING ON TIME AND READY TO LEARN.
- PRACTICING RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR AND POSITIVE ATTITUDES.
- UNDERSTANDING THAT FOLLOWING SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS IS PART OF BEING A MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY.
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PARENTS AND GUARDIANS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING US REINFORCE THESE EXPECTATIONS. WHEN SCHOOL AND HOME WORK TOGETHER AND COMMUNICATE CONSISTENT EXPECTATIONS, STUDENTS ARE MORE LIKELY TO UNDERSTAND THAT **THE LITTLE THINGS REALLY DO MATTER.**

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS A YEAR FILLED WITH **GOOD CHOICES, POSITIVE ATTITUDES, RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, AND HIGH EXPECTATIONS.** THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH US AS WE HELP OUR STUDENTS GROW ACADEMICALLY, SOCIALLY, AND PERSONALLY.

Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ST. GERARD
CATHOLIC + SCHOOL

8/31 — **House Spirit Week**

House Spirt Week begins on Monday, August 31st. Each days theme is enclosed.

9/2 — **Weekly Mass**

Please join us for Mass beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Church

9/07 — **No School - Labor Day**

9/18 — **Fall Picture Day**

Lifetouch will be at school to photograph all students for school pictures. Stay tuned for ordering information.

Reminders & Announcements

THANK YOU FOR STAYING CONNECTED.

BLESSING OF THE STUDENTS

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE WEEKEND MASSES ON AUGUST 29TH AND 30TH FOR A SPECIAL BLESSING FOR ALL STUDENTS.

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH AT 5 PM: TRISTYN PITNEY, SAMUEL TOBE, IZAIAH HILLARD

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH AT 8:30 AM: BLAKE TOBE, FAITH TOBE, IAN TOBE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH AT 11 AM: KHLOE KUNKLEMAN, MAKENNA SZIPPLE, MARA SARNO

EDCHOICE SCHOLARSHIP ACCEPTANCE FORMS

ALL STUDENTS WHOSE EDCHOICE SCHOLARSHIP HAS BEEN AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED AN ACCEPTANCE FORM AT YOUR HOME ADDRESS. IF YOU HAVE NOT YET SIGNED AND RETURNED IT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE, PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

ALL STUDENTS WHO HAVE NOT RETURNED THE ACCEPTANCE FORM TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE, WILL BE BRINGING HOME A COPY TODAY.

2026-2027 SCHOOL FEES

FEES FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR ARE NOW DUE. PLEASE LOG ONTO YOUR FINAL FORMS ACCOUNT TO VIEW YOUR BALANCE AND PAY BY CREDIT CARD. IF YOU PREFER TO PAY BY CASH OR CHECK, PLEASE STOP INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE OR SEND INTO SCHOOL WITH YORU CHILD. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PAY THE FULL BALANCE, PLEASE REACH OUT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE TO SET-UP A MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMPT ATTENTION TO THIS.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR, THERE WILL BE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS AND/OR FAMILY MEMBERS TO VOLUNTEER BY DRIVING TO/FROM FIELD TRIPS, WORKING INT HE CLASSROOMS FOR HOLIDAY PARTIES, ETC. VOLUNTEERS IN THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS & CHURCHES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND REMAIN CURRENT WITH A BACKGROUND CHECK AND TAKE A PROTECTING THE YOUTH COURSE ONLINE.

THE DIRECTIONS TO COMPLETE THESE ITEMS ARE ATTACHED (VIRTUS ONLINE REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS). ONCE COMPLETED IF YOU WOULD TURN IN YOUR CERTIFICATE FOR THE PROTECTING THE YOUTH COURSE TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE, ST. GERARD WILL REIMBURSE THE $25 FEE TO YOUR FOR THE BACKGROUND CHECK.

THE BACKGROUND CHECK DOES TAKE A FEW DAYS TO PROCESS, SO PLEASE DO THESE ITEMS TO ENSURE YOU WILL BE ELIGBLE TO VOLUNTEER FOR UPCOMING EVENTS.

FROM THE FAMILY ACTION TEAM

OUR FALL MUM SALE HAS KICKED OFF!

OUR FAMILY ACTIONS TEAMS (HOME AND SCHOOL) ARE OFFERING THIS FUNDRAISING EVENT TO RAISE FUNDS THAT SUPPORTS STUDENTS AND STAFF AT ST. GERARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL.

EVERY FAMILY SHOULD BE RECEIVING EMAILS ABOUT HOW TO REGISTER AND SELL OR YOU CAN USE THE LINK ON THE ATTACHED FLYER.

REGISTER NOW:
HTTPS://STGERARD.SOWZER.COM/PARENT-SIGNUP?STEP=WELCOME

GOAL=EVERY STUDENT COMMITS TO SELLING 3 ITEMS AS A SCHOOL, WE HOPE TO SELL 500 PLANTS!

IT'S SIMPLE AND EASY, NO DOOR TO DOOR SALES, UNLESS YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO DOOR TO DOOR.

HOUSE SPIRIT WEEK! 2026

AUG 31 MIXED UP MONDAY

OUT OF UNIFORM -WEAR YOUR CLOTHES INSIDE OUT/BACKWARD

SEPT 1 TACKY TOURIST DAY

OUT OF UNIFORM - DRESS UP LIKE A TOURIST, READY TO EXPLORE THE SCHOOL!

SEPT 2 HOUSE SHIRTS DAY

WEAR YOUR HOUSE SHIRT OR A SHIRT OF THE SAME COLOR *WITH* YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM

SEPT 3 HOLIDAY HULABALOO

OUT OF UNIFORM - DRESS UP LIKE YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY!

SEPT 4 HOUSE SPIRIT DAY

OUT OF UNIFORM-SHOW YOUR HOUSE PRIDE
DRESS HEAD TO TOE IN YOUR HOUSE COLORS!

September Menu 2026

Monday 08/31/2026	Tuesday 09/01/2026	Wednesday 09/02/26	Thursday 09/03/2026	Friday 09/04/2026
Tacos Refried Beans Fruit Milk	Chicken Patty / Bun Tater Tots Green Beans Fruit Milk	Quesidilla Salsa Broccoli Fruit Milk	Sloppy Joe/Bun French Fries Carrots Fruit Milk	Pizza Cheesy Bread Stick Romaine Salad / Drsg Fruit Milk
Monday 09/07/2026	**Tuesday 09/08/2026**	**Wednesday 09/09/26**	**Thursday 09/10/2026**	**Friday 09/11/2026**
NO SCHOOL	Chicken Alfredo Corn Fruit Milk	Mozzarella Sticks Green Beans Fruit Milk	Corn Dog Baked Beans Fruit Milk	Pizza Romaine Sld,/ Drsg Fruit Milk
Monday 09/14/2026	**Tuesday 09/15/2026**	**Wednesday 09/16/26**	**Thursday 09/17/2026**	**Friday 09/18/2026**
Pancake on a Stick Potato Triangle Fruit Milk	Chicken Strips French Fries Carrots Fruit Milk	Grilled Cheese Baked Beans Fruit Milk	Hot Dog / Bun Green Beans Fruit Mik	Pizza Romaine Sld,/ Drsg Fruit Milk
Monday 09/21/2026	**Tuesday 09/22/2026**	**Wednesday 09/23/26**	**Thursday 09/24/2026**	**Friday 09/25/2026**
Salisbury Steak Mash Potato/Gravy Bread Stick Fruit Milk	Chicken Nuggets French Fries Green Beans Fruit Milk	Egg Patties French Toast Carrots Fruit Milk	Hamburger / Bun Baked Beans Fruit Milk	Pizza Romaine Sld, / Drsg Fruit Milk
Monday 09/28/2026	**Tuesday 09/29/2026**	**Wednesday 09/30/26**	**Thursday 10/01/2026**	**Friday 10/02/2026**
Hot Dog / Bun Baked Beans Fruit Mik	Popcorn Chicken Mash Potato / Gravy Corn Fruit Milk	Mac & Cheese Bites Carrots Fruit Milk	Pasta/ Meat Sauce Green Beans Garlic Bread Fruit Milk	Pizza Romaine Sld, / Drsg Fruit Milk

News

Menus are Subject to Change

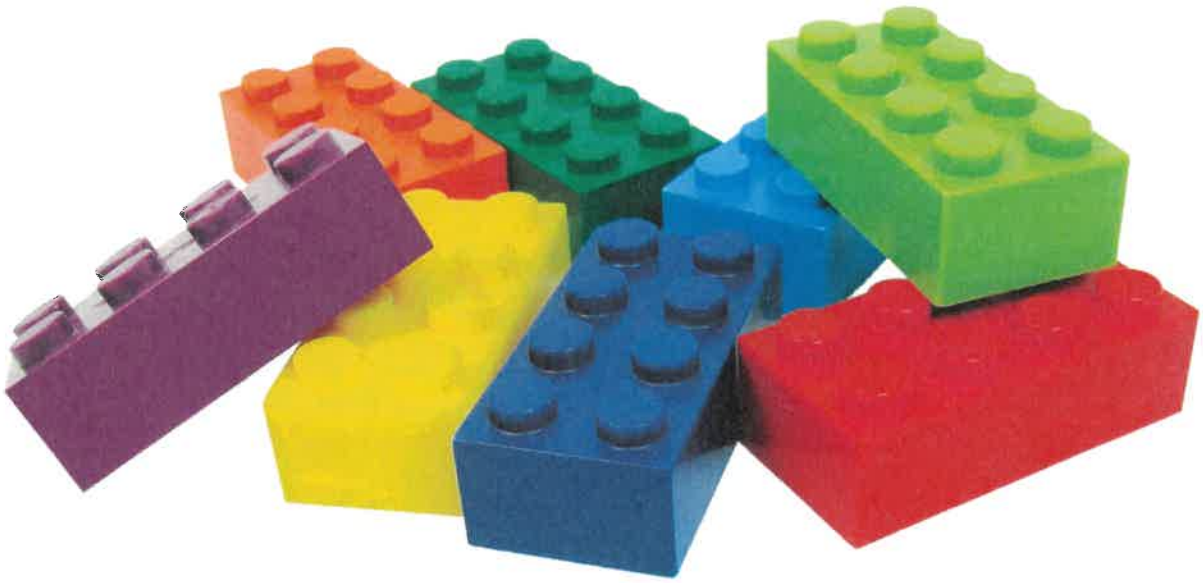
Lunches are Free to all Students at St. Gerard School.

Extras are available to purchase at the cost of $2.00

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

Lego Club

Is your child interested in Legos and building things? There will be an after school lego program to assist children in building their social skills through the lego medium. The skills focused on are; working in a group, communication with others, conflict resolution and building friendships. There will be three after school groups offered for children 2nd-8th grades. The second and third grade program will be on Monday from 3-4 and the fourth and fifth grade group will be on Tuesday from 3-4. The 6-8th grade group will start in January. The start date of Lego Club will be September 21st . If you would like your child to participate, please fill out the attached Lego registration form. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Huffman at (419)222-0431 Ext.306 or email at khuffman@sgslima.org.



LEGO CLUB REGISTRATION 2026/2027

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

_____ I would like to donate snacks and drinks for Lego club

_____ I would like to help supervise at Lego club

Father's Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City Zip

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City Zip

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Child lives with: _____

In case of an emergency, contact:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Persons Authorized to pick up child(ren): (Persons must have identification when picking up child)

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Instrument Rental Meeting

WEDNESDAY,
Sep. 2nd

LCC, 720 South Cable
Great Hall
6:00pm

Topic of Discussion:

Instrument Rental & Beginning Band

This meeting is open to all Lima Catholic Community School Families who are interested in more information about instrument rental.

Featuring Speakers from:

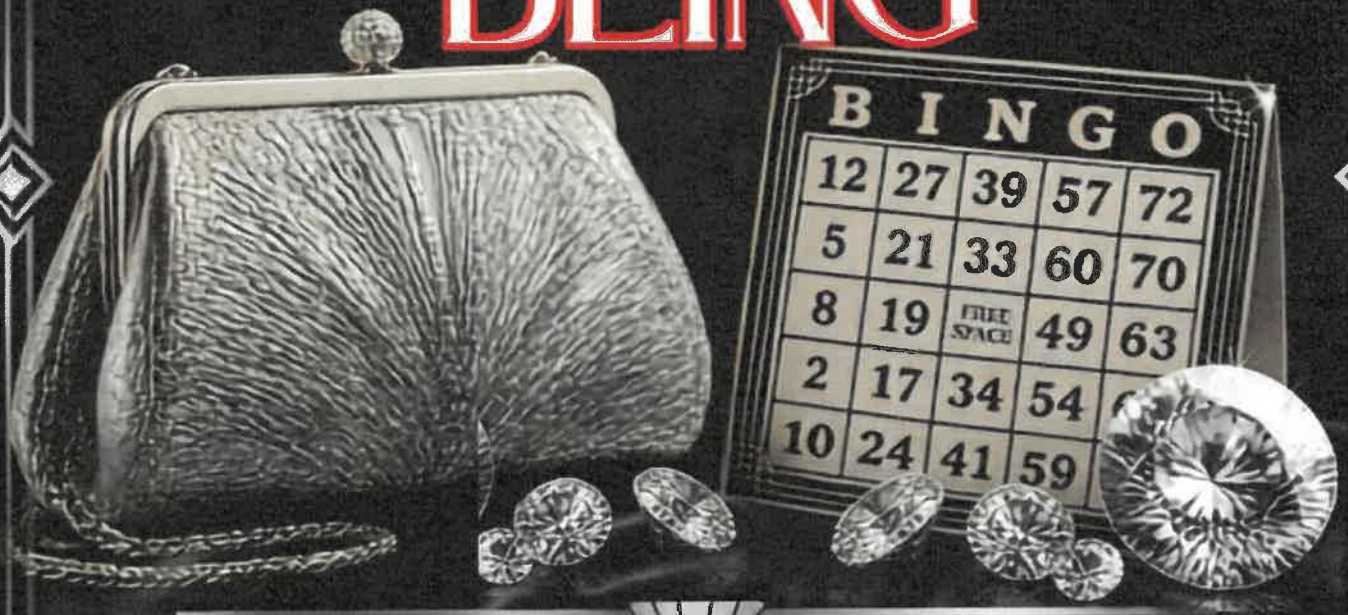
INSTRUMENT CARE CENTER

More information:

Mr. Friess:
afriess@apps.lcchs.edu

ST. GERARD SCHOOL'S LADIES NIGHT OUT

BAGS, BINGO & BLING



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH

7 P.M. (DOORS OPEN AT 6 P.M.)

$40 PER TICKET

Tickets on Sale at St. Gerard School, 1311 N. Main Street