



GLANFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday, December 22, 2017

Hello **GMS** Families! On behalf of the entire **GMS** staff, we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year! Students and staff have worked hard and everyone is ready for a break! Take time to enjoy one another at this special time of year. With today being the last day of classes prior to Winter Break, we wanted to share some important information regarding upcoming dates of importance in January 2018.

Mark your calendar for:

Monday, January 8th, 2018 – school reopens after Winter Break; Ski Trip forms come home- due back Jan. 18th (**SKI TRIP FEB. 15TH**)

Wednesday, January 10th - PAC meeting, library, 7 PM– all parents welcome

Friday, January 12th– All GMS grade 8s visit Spectrum for a Fine Arts Showcase and information session from Spectrum Secondary staff

Friday, January 19th - Lockdown Drill at GMS, 9:30 AM

Tuesday, January 23rd- Music program visit Rogers, McKenzie, and Northridge Elementary Schools

Friday, January 26th - Retro Assembly, 1:30 PM - parents welcome to attend

Monday, January 29th - GMPA and Cabaret/Patisserie planning, 7 PM

Tuesday, January 30th- GMS Information night for all families interested in joining us at GMS next year, 7 PM - 8:30 PM (GMS Jazz band to perform 6:15 PM). Families of grade 5 children in neighboring elementary schools are all invited to attend.

New Student Enrollment Priorities for 2018-19 School Year

The Victoria School District has implemented new enrollment priorities for registering your child for the 2018-19 school year. These new parameters were put in place to prevent over-crowding in some district schools where neighbourhood children can end up being denied access to their catchment school. This is not the case at Glanford and we expect to have room for all of our Grade 6 students wishing to attend GMS in the fall. For students currently in grades 6 and 7 at GMS, all of these students are automatically part of our numbers for September 2018. Our current grade 8 students will receive a letter from the school district in January, informing families of the expected high school for your child (determined by address). For students in grade 8 wishing to attend a high school other than the one they are expected to attend, they will be required to submit a transfer application between February 15th - 23rd. Please visit the district website for details and don't miss this Transfer Application Process to secure your spot at your chosen high school if you don't currently reside in that school's catchment.

Congratulations and Thank You, Mr. Duyndam



It is with mixed emotion that we announce some very exciting news for our Vice Principal, Mr. Duyndam. Following the Spring Break of this school year, Mr. Duyndam will be moving over to be the Principal of Tillicum Elementary School in our school district. Mr. Duyndam will be an asset to the Tillicum learning community, while at the same time, will be truly missed around GMS. This is Mr. Duyndam's third year working with us and he has added so much to our school culture and to our learning community. We will enjoy having Mr. Duyndam with us for January, February, and March of 2018, at which time, we will be wishing him farewell. Thank you, Mr. Duyndam, for your wonderful presence and contributions around GMS. All the best to you as you commence your Principalship at Tillicum Elementary in April.

Pancake Breakfast & Community Support

Yesterday, we held our annual Pancake Breakfast and Pajama Day! In an effort to "go green", students were asked to bring their own plates and cutlery for the event. We are determined as a school to REDUCE and ELIMINATE unnecessary garbage. The **Central Saanich Lions** once again generously cooked up a storm for all of us to enjoy! A tremendous thank you goes out to the **GMS** PAC for all of their support of this event.

The entire GMS learning community is to be congratulated for the generous contributions made to various charities. We have been collecting non-perishable food items for the **St. Vincent de Paul** and were very pleased to present a large food hamper to them. **All grade 7 classes** raised money for local families with the sale of gingerbread cookies - this is a tradition that we are most proud of . . .
. **way to go Geckos!!** Our grade six team has supported the **Socks for the Homeless** campaign, collecting toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, shampoo, combs, and other personal items, and wrapping them in warm socks - perfect for the Holiday Season - fantastic work, **Rockin' Rookies!** At **GMS**, being socially responsible citizens is a goal that we take seriously. It has been heartwarming to experience the care **GMS** has for its community. Well done everyone.



Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and happy holidays, everyone! Have a safe, wonderful holiday and see you January 8th, 2018!

Louie Scigliano, Principal

Jeff Duyndam, Vice-Principal