

October 2017

Georgian Bay Community School

Administrators' Message:

This month was a busy month at GBCS. One of the primary goals in September is to develop classroom expectations that create a positive learning environment. Another goal is to develop shared understandings about how the brain learns and how the classroom culture impacts learning. When visiting classrooms, we've seen many creative and engaging approaches to achieving these goals. Here are some of the mindsets about learning that teachers are working to instill in students:

- Everyone can learn with effort
- Mistakes are valuable to learning
- Questions are really important to learning
- Learning is about creativity and making sense
- Learning is about making connections and talking with others
- School is about learning, not performing
- Depth is more important than speed

See page 3 for ideas about how you can reinforce these mindsets at home.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 6 – Boys' and Girls' Soccer tournaments & Terry Fox Run

Oct 9 – Thanksgiving Holiday

Oct. 18 – Parent Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 23 – Rocks and Rings

Oct. 27 – P.D. Day

Oct. 30 – Picture Retake day

Oct. 31 – Arts Assembly



SAFE ARRIVAL

519-538-1680 Ext.100

NO NUTS AND NUT PRODUCTS OR EGGS AT GBCS

We have several students at GBCS who have life threatening allergies, to nuts, nut products, sesame seeds and eggs. For this reason we do not allow any eggs, sesame seeds, or products that read 'may contain nuts'. Please ensure that you read all food labels carefully.

FOOD PURCHASE

Pizza purchase is available online (monthly) or by cash each Wednesday morning.

Subway Lunch: 6" subs will be delivered every Thursday at a cost of \$4. Parents will be able to order and pay online weekly. Thanks for supporting this fundraiser.

Milk – Students can order chocolate or white milk on a daily basis. Cost is \$0.75. Place your order the morning and milk will be delivered first nutrition break.

GBCS Recognizes Orange Shirt Day – Sept. 28th

Orange shirt day is dedicated to sharing the truth about indigenous peoples' residential school experiences through telling Phyllis' story. Phyllis' shiny orange shirt was taken away from her on her first day at the Mission school. Leading up to orange shirt day, Secondary students read announcements to share Phyllis's story and inspire students to participate. At our Arts assembly, Mr. Balen's class re-enacted Phyllis' first day at school and showed an informational video in which Phyllis talked about how residential school impacted her for years to come. Learning the truth about this part of our history is the first step towards reconciliation.

Important procedures for parents/guardians:

Communicating with staff...

If you have a concern about your child, we want to hear from you. Your first step should be to communicate directly with your child's teacher. By now, homeroom teachers will have let you know their preferred method of communication. If you have something you'd like to discuss with an administrator, we advise that you call or email to make an appointment, rather than dropping in. We will get back to you promptly to set up a time to meet.

GBCS Phone Number: 519 538 1680

Kathy Damsma, Principal: Ext. 527 kathy_damsma@bwdsb.on.ca

Jennifer Gunion, Vice Principal: Ext. 525 jennifer_gunion@bwdsb.on.ca

Heather Minielly, Vice Principal: Ext. 526 heather_minielly@bwdsb.on.ca

When you need to pick up your child before the end of the day....

When students are leaving during the day, the parent or guardian must come to the office and sign the student out. If the parent or guardian wants to meet the student outside, or give permission for the student to leave school

unaccompanied, we must receive written permission. The student still needs to come sign out at the office. If a student is going to be late or absent, please call the Safe Arrival number before 9 am.

When you need to make a change to bus arrangements...

For a student to be taken on or off the bus, we must receive a note or a phone call to the Safe Arrival mailbox 100. We may *not* take a student's word that they are on or off the bus. If there is a permanent or semi-permanent change, please let us know in writing.

SUPPORT OUR MAGAZINE & COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER!

Order forms went home today, just in time for Thanksgiving get-togethers.

Consider ordering a magazine subscription for your child. Kids love receiving mail and it's proven that reading print benefits children far greater than reading material online.

Magazines also make great gifts - delivery is available anywhere in Canada.

You can also purchase by shopping online. Just go to www.qsp.ca! Plus, you'll see hundreds of gift items available online. Every purchase benefits our campaign.

Customer service is always available by calling QSP directly at 1-800-667-2536

Thank you in advance for your support.

Important dates for fundraising:

Order forms due October 16th

Cookie dough pick up is Tues. Nov. 14th from 3:15– 6:00 at the school

Parent Council Needs You!

Are you interested in being part of our parent council? Parent council provides input from the parent community and organizes and runs events for the school. All parents are invited to attend the monthly meetings. Alternatively, you could join the mailing list to receive meeting notes and information about specific committees you could join. To add your name to the mailing list, click on the School Community Council under School Links. On the parent council page, there is a link to fill out a form.

Arts Assemblies

Every month, we come together as a group to celebrate student achievements. At September's assembly, we recognized many students for participating in school teams and organizations. We recognized others for demonstrating cooperation. As well, we had the pleasure of hearing our orchestra perform and watching 3 class dramatizations. Thank you to the members of the orchestra, and students from Mrs. Ramaker's, Mr. Balen's, and Mrs. Ratcliff's classes for performing this month.

October's assembly is on Tuesday, Oct. 31st at 9:45 a.m. Please join us if you can!



Safe Inclusive School

A safe, inclusive school is a place where students feel physically and mentally safe to be their unique self. It's a place where everyone feels a true sense of belonging. When students feel free from judgment, they feel safe to ask questions, be creative and make mistakes as they learn. It takes the combined efforts of every one of our students and staff to create this safe & accepting learning environment at school.

Here's some ways you can help at home:

- Model appreciation for people's uniqueness and for different perspectives. Children learn so much from observing the adult's around them.
- Model a safe and accepting learning environment at home:
 - Encourage creativity in your child's approaches to tasks. There are many ways to approach a task and to solve problems. Ask 'How would you do it?'
 - When your child makes a mistake, celebrate with them. It means they are in the process of learning!

