

# George Vanier Catholic School

## September 2016



2782 Dafoe Road  
Combermere ON 1L0  
613 756 3708  
Acting Principal – Anne Marie Landon  
alandon@rccdsb.edu.on.ca



### **Vision Statement**

*Inspired by our rich heritage and challenged by the struggles of our past, we at George Vanier Catholic School, are called to express our mission as church, to pass on the good news of Jesus Christ, to make it relevant in the world today, and to be the hope for the future.*

Welcome to the start of a new school year full of possibilities for learning and growth. At George Vanier Catholic School in Combermere we encourage you to take care of amazing you – eat nutritious food, ensure you get proper sleep, stay hydrated, enjoy nature, exercise, and spend time in prayer and reflection. Each day try to “do ordinary things with extraordinary love” as spoken by our newest saint, St. Teresa of Calcutta. When things get tough remember that mistakes are opportunities to learn and that practise makes progress. Celebrate the uniqueness of each person you encounter. Thanks to all of our staff and volunteers who have worked so hard in preparing for the return of our students, and special thanks to our bus drivers, our Parish Priest, Fr. John Lacey, our Madonna House neighbours and all of our students and their families. 2016/2017 is bound to be an exciting and fun school year!

*Ms. Landon*

### **School Board**

Each year the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board selects one portion of their Board Vision Statement to animate. This year we are called to “*Make a difference as faith-filled community builders*”. Check out the complete Board Vision Statement posted beside the office or at [www.rccdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.rccdsb.edu.on.ca).

### **School Information**

Welcome to our new students: Liam, Ember, Myra, Colten, and Daisy.

## GVCS School Day Schedule

8:15am	Yard supervision and bus arrival starts
8:40am	Bell
8:40-10:10am	Class Time
10:10-10:25am	Recess
10:25-11:25am	Class Time
11:25-11:55pm	Recess
11:55-12:20pm	Lunch
12:20-2:50pm	Class Time
2:50-3:05pm	Recess, Manion (Palmer Rapids) <i>bus</i> leaves at 2:55pm
3:05-3:20pm	Yard clean-up, Musclow bus and R.&L. bus leave

## 2016/17 Staff

Acting Principal	Ms. Anne Marie Landon
K-2, Spec.Ed.	Ms. Anne Marie Landon (mornings)
Secretary	Mrs. Shirley McLean (mornings)
Custodian	Mr. Gerard Olsheskie
French	Madame Joanna Ropego (mornings)
K-2	Mrs. Karen Pecarskie (afternoons)
Grades 3/4/5	Miss Kelsey Marquette (also K-2 Phys.Ed/Health)
Grades 6/7/8	Mr. John Artymko (also Grade 5 Phys. Ed/Health)
Music	Mr. Joseph Platt (Wednesday afternoons)
School Attendance Counsellor	Ms. Cindy Giroux
Yard/Lunch Supervisors	Mrs. Monique Schweig Mrs. Susan Yaraskavitch

## School Notes

- Morning yard supervision does not begin until 8:15am. Please do not drop your child off earlier.
- If your child is going to be absent from school please let us know (note in agenda prior to absence or phone call day of absence).
- School newsletters go home the first week of each month. If you wish to have a second copy of the newsletter sent home each month for Grandparents or others please ask at the office.
- All parents and visitors to the school must sign in at the office upon entering the building.
- Chocolate and white milk for sale at 11:55am each day for \$0.60.
- Healthy snacks are offered at no cost on Thursday afternoons.
- Staff have the option of “dressing down” on Fridays as a fundraiser for CPAN (Child Poverty Action Network – Renfrew County).

- Fire drills and drills for other emergency measures will take place throughout the school year. Please remind your child of the importance of practicing these drills and consider practising some of these drills at home.
- Students need to wear running shoes for Phys.Ed.
- Please note that every person who is involved with the school as a volunteer is required to have a Criminal Background/Vulnerable Screening Check completed and on file with the school. Those who have already done so will be asked to sign an "Offence Declaration for Volunteers" for the 2016/17 school year. Anyone who has not completed a check and is interested in volunteering (including chaperoning on class trips in the Spring) should contact the office to obtain the necessary forms to be taken to a local OPP station. This process takes time.
- Students will have an opportunity each Tuesday afternoon to sign out library books to read at home and school.
- Our school webpage will be updated soon.
- This is a technology upgrading year for GVCS. More details to come.
- No eating on the school yard.
- Our bus drivers are Sandra Phanenhour (R & L buslines), Jim Manion (Manion buslines), and Doug Dickson (Musclow buslines). Please wait with your child at their stop 10 minutes before the scheduled pick up time. It takes a few weeks to fine-tune the routes and schedules. Thank you for your patience!
- Students have been provided with all the necessary school supplies again this year. We trust that students will appreciate and respect these supplies as the year goes on.

## Parish Information

Parish Priest: Fr. John Lacey	
Weekend Mass Times:	
Holy Canadian Martyrs, Combermere Saturdays 5pm Sundays 9am	St. Francis de Sales, Latchford Bridge Sundays 11am

- This is a Confirmation year. Please write a note in your Grade 6/7/8 child's agenda if you wish for your child to participate in the Sacrament preparation program. This program will begin in late winter at the school.
- Parents of students in Grade 2 who wish for their child to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist should write a note in their child's agenda to indicate this. Preparation will begin in the winter months.

## Thank You

- Thank you to Gerard Olsheskie for all of his hard work in cleaning our school this summer.
- Thank you to James, Carolyn, Oliver, and Lilly Cannon for their donation of some back to school materials
- Thank you to Trista Betournay for serving as one of our yard supervisors. We wish her the best in her new job.
- Thank you to Carmel Rumleskie, Susan Yaraskavitch, and Helen Parisien who are back again this year as our library volunteers.
- Thank you to John and Lynne Yantha for taking care of the landscaping at the front of the school.
- Thank you to Susan Yaraskavitch for all of her help around the school this summer.

## Community Information

- Both Musclow Buslines and Manion buslines are looking for drivers. Please contact Brad Musclow 613 334 7624 or Jim Manion 613 756 3395 for more information.
- Thank you to the C.O. Country Market Store (new store in Combermere) who raised \$500 for our school through their used book sales this summer. This money will be used for student activities, library books and bussing to tournaments. Attached to today's newsletter is a yummy coupon from this store for each student!
- The County of Renfrew wants your input on the new Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres (e.g. Where should they be located? What hours should they be open?). Find the survey at <http://tiny.cc/OEYCFC>.
- The Melissa Bishop (local Olympian) Homecoming Parade is in Eganville Saturday, September 10 starting at 1:30.
- Tim Baklinski is offering music instruction at GV on Mondays this year. Please contact him at 613 281 2854 for further information.

## Did You Know?

- GVCS collects Campbell soup labels for points which we use to purchase sports equipment and other materials. Our collection bin is beside the main gym door.

## Looking Ahead...

- Check out the attached calendar for September's dates including Open House, two School Spirit days, two Masses and more!
- Thursday, October 6 Ultimate Frisbee Tournament at GVCS
- Friday, October 7 PA Day "Gap Closing"
- Monday, October 10 Thanksgiving
- Friday, November 11 Remembrance Day Prayer Service 10:50am

- Wednesday, November 16, 2016 School Photos including graduation photos (in the morning)
- Saturday, November 19 School Council annual Christmas Bazaar at GVCS

## Perhaps...

- Parents, Community Members: Perhaps you would be interested in joining our School Council. The first meeting of this school year is on Thursday, September 22 at 5:30pm. A pamphlet about our school council has been attached for all families new to GVCS. School Council is a great way to meet new people and help the school.
- Bakers: Perhaps you would be willing to bake muffins (8-10 dozen) for an after Mass snack on Monday, September 26 (Feast of the Holy Canadian Martyrs). Ask Ms. Landon for more details. Costs will be covered.
- Families: Perhaps you would be able to help out with Healthy Snacks on Thursdays. Talk with Ms. Landon for more info. We already have families willing to look after the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month.
- Parents: Perhaps you or someone you know is interested in becoming a yard/lunch supervisor at our school. Work times 11:25-12:20 daily. This is a paid position. Contact Ms. Landon if interested.
- Parents and Volunteers: Perhaps you would like to help with the MESAA Ultimate Frisbee to be held at our school on Thursday, October 6. Contact Mr. Artymko or Miss Marquette for more information.

## Action Items for Our Families

- Please complete and return the School Emergency and Information Form attached to the newsletter and keep us informed throughout the school year if your contact information, address, workplace, etc., changes.
- Please read and discuss with your child the Code of Behaviour found at the front of each agenda and sign it together.
- If your child is interested in receiving Sacraments this year (Gr. 2, 6, 7, 8) please write a note in their agenda.
- Try to attend our Open House on Wednesday, September 21 from 5:30-7pm.

*Thank you for your attention to these items. Together we're better!*

## Attachments

Coupon from C.O. Country Market (1 per student)	Info. on Student Accident Insurance "Kids Plus"	2016/17 School Year Calendar
School Emergency and	September 2016 GVCS Calendar	George Vanier School Council

## Family Activity of the Month

You will need 2 number cubes (dice) to do this activity. Person one rolls the two cubes. They can add or subtract the numbers. They should cross off the answer on their "0-10" strip of paper. Now it is the other person's turn. They do the same. Who will cross out all of their numbers first? Try playing with the whole family.

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