

# George Vanier Catholic School

## September 2018



2782 Dafoe Road  
Combermere ON K0J 1L0  
613 756 3708  
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 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 companies and drivers, our custodian Mr. Gerard Olsheskie, our Parish Priest, Fr. John Lacey, our Madonna House neighbours and all of our students and their families.

2018-19 is bound to be an exciting and fun school year!

### **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 “*reverence the dignity of the whole person*”. 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: Leighton, Addison, Hailey, Tatiana, Luc, Jake, Georgia, Leo, Grey, Jackson, Rylan, and Eden.

## GVCS School Day Schedule

8:10am	Yard supervision starts
8:40am	Bell
8:40-10:04am	Class Time
10:04-10:19am	Recess
10:19-11:25am	Class Time
11:25-11:40pm	Lunch Recess
11:40-12:10pm	Lunch
12:10-2:40pm	Class Time
2:40-2:55pm	Recess (please let a yard supervisor know if you are picking up your child during this time)
2:55pm	Dismissal – buses leave

## 2018-19 Staff

Principal	Ms. Anne Marie Landon
Spec. Ed. Resource Teacher	Ms. Anne Marie Landon
Secretary	Mrs. Shirley McLean (mornings)
Custodian	Mr. Gerard Olsheskie
French	Madame Joanna Ropego (mornings)
Kindergarten-Grade 1	Ms. Cigi Manwell
Grades 2-4	Miss Lindsay Dick (also Grade 1 Science & Social Studies and Grade 5 Math)
Grades 5-8	Ms. Kelsey Marquette
Music & Dance	Mr. Joseph Platt (Friday afternoons)
School Attendance Counsellor	Mr. Kevin De Ruiter
Yard/Lunch Supervisors	Mrs. Monique Schweig Mrs. Joyce Larche

## School Notes

- Morning yard supervision does not begin until 8:10am. 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 morning of the 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. Parents and guardians will be asked to wait at the office if they arrive to pick up their children.
- Healthy snacks (usually fruits, veggies, or grain products) are available at the hallway lunch counter at no charge.
- Staff have the option of “dressing down” on Fridays as a fundraiser for local charities.

- 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.
- Students will have an opportunity each Tuesday to sign out library books to read at home and school.
- No eating on the school yard or on buses.
- Bus driver info. is attached to the front of your newsletter. 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. Bus passes are for emergencies only (not birthday parties, sleepovers, etc.,).
- 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.
- Please do not send any food to share without checking with the office. Several of our students have food allergies, sensitivities, or family preferences about what is eaten.
- Our school strives to be scent free and nut free.

## 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

- Parents of students in Grade 2 (or of Grade 2 age) 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 later this fall.
- Parents of students in Grades 7 and 8 (or of Grade 7 or 8 age) who wish for their child to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation should write a note in their child's agenda to indicate this. Preparation will begin in the winter months.
- We will be joining the parish community at Mass on Friday, September 21 at 9am.

## Thank You

- Thank you to Gerard Olsheskie for all of his hard work in cleaning our school this summer.
- Thank you to Oliver and his family for providing some school supplies and to Sathya and her family for the delicious apples.

## Community Information

- Tim Baklinski is offering music lessons during classroom hours to all grades. If you are interested in starting your child on a musical instrument or wish to continue with lessons from the previous year, please contact him at 613 281 0854 or by email at [baklinskimusic@gmail.com](mailto:baklinskimusic@gmail.com) for further information, including cost.
- Dr. Jean Clinton will be offering a session for parents to better understand the significance of secure attachment, the signs when there may be issues, and provide concrete strategies on how to improve relationships with children and youth at the Ma-Te-Way Activity Center in Renfrew on September 25 from 5:30-8pm. This event is presented by the Parenting Network of Renfrew County. (Note: Many of our staff have had the privilege of hearing this speaker and she is excellent!)

## Did You Know?

- Our lost and found area is overflowing with hoodies and other clothing. Please check this area out when you come to Open House. Our Lost and Found is located in between the entrance doors.

## Looking Ahead...

Wednesday, October 3	12-1pm Grade 7/8 students go to MVDHS to hear John Pridmore speak (more info. to follow)
Thursday, October 4	Partridge Run at SJB
Friday, October 5	PA day "Closing Gaps in Student Achievement and Numeracy"
Monday, October 8	Thanksgiving Holiday
Wednesday, October 10	Parent Involvement Council (PIC) Mass and Session in Eganville, all welcome
Monday, October 15	Grade 7 Immunizations
Friday, October 26	Photo Day starting at 8:40am
Friday, November 16	PA day "Reporting to Parents"
Friday, December 21	Last day before holidays start
Tuesday, December 25	Christmas
Monday, January 7	Back to school
Friday, February 1	PA day "Reporting"

## Perhaps...

- Parents, Community Members: Perhaps you would be interested in joining our School Council. The first meeting of this school year is on Wednesday, October 3 at 6:30pm. School Council is a great way to meet new people and help the school.

## 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. Are there any changes to any medical information for your children? If so, please let the Principal know.
- Please read and discuss with your child the Code of Behaviour found at the front of each agenda and sign it together.
- Try to attend our Open House on Tuesday, September 18 from 5:30-7:00pm. You will be able to see your child's classroom and meet their teachers.
- 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 required to sign an "Offence Declaration for Volunteers" for the 2018-19 school year. These will be sent home later this week. 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.

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

## Attachments

Bus driver info.	September 2018 GVCS Calendar	2018-19 School Year Calendar
Student Emergency Info. Page		

## Family Activity of the Month

We practiced a fire drill at school on Friday, September 7. Students needed to walk, not run. They lined up on the field. They listened to staff. Ask your child to share about their experience and talk about your family plan in case of fire.