

George Vanier Catholic School

February 2019



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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.

School Board Information

-**Registration** is still happening for September 2019. Early registrations are important when planning for staffing and grade combinations.

-There will be an **Open House at Bishop Smith Catholic High School** in Pembroke on Wednesday, February 27 from 7-8pm for any interested students transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9 and their families.

-The **NASP/ RCCDSB archery tournament** will be held on March 2nd, 2019 at St. Michael's School in Douglas Ontario. It is open to any student in Grades 4-8. The competition will occur between 9:00 a.m. until 3:00p.m. with the last shoot of the day being held at 2:30p.m. Competitors may show up at any time during these hours to compete and will shoot as soon as there are targets available. There will be four divisions: Grades 4/5 Boys and Girls and Grades 6/7/8 Boys and Girls. There will be certificates awarded for the top five in each category. All prizes will be determined at the end of the day and the students will be notified of any winnings through their school. Prizes will be brought to each school following the tournament. Any competitor that day will be eligible to win draw prizes which may include archery equipment and other items. If you have any questions please email Rick Klatt at rklatt@rccdsb.edu.on.ca Registration forms are available to the GVCS office.

Transportation Information

-Reminder: **Notifications for bus cancellations and/or delays:** Families can receive notices via:

- Website (www.onthebus.ca)
- Twitter (@RCJTC_Trans)

- Facebook (**RCJTC**)
- iTunes with iPhone App (verify with “**RCJTC**”)
- Google Play with Android App (verify with “**RCJTC**”)
- Email to parents who subscribe for notifications (confirmation email sent within 3min)

In a situation where school buses are cancelled they are cancelled for the entire day but schools will remain open to students.

-Transportation Reminder to Families with Kindergarten Students:

We all share in the duty to ensure the safety of our students. We would like to remind parents/guardians that you are responsible for the safety and conduct of your child(ren) at the bus stop prior to boarding the bus and in the afternoon following the drop-off. **In the case of a Kindergarten student afternoon drop off, a trusted responsible person (e.g. parent/guardian/babysitter) must be waiting at the bus stop to receive your child(ren). If no one meets the child(ren) at the bus stop, drivers are directed to take the child(ren) back to school.** Repetitive failure to receive Kindergarten student(s) at the bus stop may result in the removal of transportation privileges.

School Information

-Students have the opportunity to skate at lunch recess on Tuesdays and Thursdays weather permitting. A CSA certified hockey helmet and gloves or mitts must be worn. Skates must be in a bag/carrying case to travel safely on the bus. Students should wear properly fitted skates. Parents, Grandparents and volunteers with completed Vulnerable Sector Screening Checks are welcome to come to the school on these days at 11:15am to help tie laces and/or skate with our students.

-On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, students from Grades 5-8 have the opportunity to practice their broomball skills on our rink at lunch recess. A CSA certified hockey helmet with cage and gloves or mittens must be worn. The school has a few extra broomball helmets if students need.

-Our in-school public speaking contest will be held on Wednesday, February 6 at 9am. All are invited to attend. Many of our students have been working hard to prepare speeches, some as part of class requirements. The **local annual public speaking contest at the Barry’s Bay Legion** will be on Saturday, February 9, 2019. This is a great opportunity to help develop the confidence and communication skills of students. They may speak on any topic and contest details can be obtained from Madame Ropego. The categories are: Primary – Grades 1-3, Junior – Grades 4-6, Intermediate – Grades 7-9, and Senior – Grades 10-12.

School Council Information

-The next School Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 5 at 6:30pm** in the school library. All are welcome to attend. At this meeting we will be looking at upcoming fundraising plans, class excursions, and also planning for the annual Trivia evening in April.

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

- We will be joining the parish community at Mass on Friday, February 8 at 9am.
- Information about the Sacrament of Confirmation (for Catholic students born in or before 2006) will be sent home soon.
- Congratulations to Leo, Jan, Summer, Declynn, Carleigh, and Erin who received their Sacrament of Reconciliation on January 24.

Thank You

-Ms. Burchat-Marquette for organizing broomball, to Jamie at the Combermere rink for preparing for our visit, and to Tammy Reimer for helping our team practice.

-Mr. Olsheskie for assembling the netting on our new broomball nets

-Mrs. Villeneuve for handling the Kindergarten registrations for September 2019.

-Ms. Manwell, Ms. Burchat-Marquette, and Miss Dick for looking after hot lunches.

-Madame Ropego for overseeing our public speaking event.

-Dion Metcalfe, Kellie Hisko, Rick Klatt, and Erika Lapierre for visiting GVCS to help us learn about and prepare for the upcoming Arctic Winter Games.

-Bus driver Lia Van Het Wout who is retiring. We wish you all the best!

Congratulations

-To the following families for sharing with us their favourite winter activities to do together (as suggested in January's newsletter): Brady Glofcheskie's family and Mason, Sadie and Emma Brotton's family. Both of these families will be receiving a small treat and their submissions will be displayed by the office.

Community Information

-The **Game On** activity program is offered at GVCS every Tuesday after school from 3-6pm for students in Grades 3 to 8. Registration is on-going. For more information check out www.facebook.com/crcgameon/ or call Cheryl at 613 757 3108. Please note that families will need to RSVP to the program for the upcoming Taco family dinner on February 26.

-Prenatal: CRC strives to be a fun and relaxed place for expecting parents to meet new friends, share experiences, discuss healthy eating and enjoy good food. In Barry's Bay we meet Tuesday mornings at St. John Bosco School. The Killaloe group meets Wednesdays at the Community Resource Centre. Our groups offer grocery gift certificates, prenatal vitamins, connections to new friends and service providers. Partners/support persons are welcome as well as older children. Please contact San at the Community Resource Centre 613-757-3108 for more information and to register.

-There is **public skating** at the Paul J. Yakabuski Community Center on Friday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm and on Sundays from 2-3:30pm. Cost is \$2 per person.

-2019 Grade 8 to 9 Transition Evening at MVDHS, Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

-The Combermere Recreation Committee invites everyone to take part in the **Festival of Small Rinks being held on Saturday, February 9 at the Combermere Community Center and Rink.** There will be a chilli cook-off (information and registration for this will be ahead of time at the Heartwood Restaurant), a kids rice krispie square bake off starting at noon (bring in squares you have made at home), a costume skating party at 1pm, a colouring contest (entry attached to this newsletter), a puck shoot for all ages from 2-2:30, a snowman building contest from 2:30-3, and much more.

-MASC Young Authors and Illustrators Festival, for students in Grades 4 to 7, is taking place April 9, 10, and 11, 2019 at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa. For further information please visit www.masconline.ca or see Ms. Landon.

Did You Know?

-George Vanier Catholic School celebrates 50 years of educating students from Combermere and area in 2019. Please share with Ms. Landon any ideas you have for when and how we can recognize and celebrate this milestone. Ideas so far include a Mass and digging up a time capsule buried on June 2, 1994 by Mr. Norman Bates and his students.

Looking Ahead...

Friday, March 1	Basketball tournament – Grades 5-8
Thursday, March 7	Chess tournament for interested students
March 9-17	March Break
Thursday, March 21	Drumming workshop K-4 at 12:10pm (parents, grandparents and young siblings welcome)
Monday, March 25	Arctic Winter Games at Shaw Woods (1 boy, 1 girl from Grades 4-6 and 1 girl, 1 boy from Grades 7-8 to represent GVCS)
Friday, April 19	Good Friday
Sunday, April 21	Easter
Monday, April 22	Easter Monday
Wednesday, April 24	Volleyball tournament – Grades 5-8
Friday, May 3	Gray Matter – some Grade 7 and 8 students
May 6-10	Catholic Education Week - “Living as Joyful Disciples” is this year’s theme
Friday, May 17	PA Day “Christian Community Day”
May 21-June 3	EQAO (students in Grades 3 and 6)

Tuesday, June 4	Sacrament of Confirmation – some Grade 7 & 8 students
Wednesday, June 5	Kindergarten to Grade 4 Class Trip to Ottawa (if you wish to volunteer you must have an up to date Vulnerable Sector Check completed – See Ms. Landon for more info.)
Thursday, June 6	Track and Field meet – Grades 2-8
Friday, June 7	PA Day “Reporting”
Friday, June 14	Grade 8 Grad dance
Friday, June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day
Friday, June 21	3 pitch tournament – Grades 5-8
Monday, June 24	T-Ball tournament – Grades 1-3
Thursday, June 27	Last day for students
Friday, June 28	PA Day “Closing the Gaps in Student Achievement and Literacy”

Perhaps...

-You can continue to spread the word about our Kindergarten registration for September 2019.

Action Items for Our Families

-Please consider registering for School Cash On Line. For safety and efficiency reasons the RCCDSB would like to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into schools and the amount of class time being spent collecting money. It takes less than 5 minutes to register at <https://renfrewcatholic.schoolcashionline.com> Please contact Ms. Landon or Mrs. Villeneuve for more information. At this point GVCS will continue accepting cash payments, in labelled envelopes, for hot lunches, class trips, etc., but are working towards going cash free in the near future. We encourage all of our families to try School Cash On Line. If you tried it in the past and stopped using it please give it another try – your feedback helped us work out some issues.

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

Attachments

February 2019 GVCS calendar	Colouring contest entry from the Combermere Recreation Committee – take with you to the Festival of Small Rinks to enter or drop off at the school office	Valentine's Day Candy Gram Info.
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Family Activity of the Month

Colouring page from Katie Bogner's Looktohimandberadiant blog

Perhaps you can colour it with someone you love.



friend
LOVES
all
times

"let all you do
be done
in love"
~1 Corinthians 14:1

"a faithful
friend is a sturdy
shelter;

he that finds
one finds a

TREASURE"

~ Sirach 6:14

~ Proverbs 17:17