



# Green Valley School Newsletter

*Striving for Excellence*

October 2009

Rick Ardies, Principal

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<http://gvs.hsd.ca>

## Calendar of the Month's Events

- Oct. 2 - Admin/PD Day – No classes
- Oct. 6 - Grad Parent Meeting
- Oct. 8 - 25 - Chocolate Fundraiser
- Oct. 12 - Thanksgiving – No classes
- Oct. 15 - Options 2009 Parent Evening  
(at SRSS – 6:30 p.m.)
- Oct. 16 - Eastman Choral Workshop
- Oct. 19 - 22 - Bus Safety Week
- Oct. 22 - Fall Music Concert
- Oct 23 - SAG PD Day – No classes
- Oct. 28 - Picture Retakes



## Principal's Message

The beginning of October brings with it a great deal of activity to Green Valley School. Classes are in full swing and students can be seen working hard throughout the building. Our boys' soccer team and volleyball teams have started their practices and the senior teams have already played a few games. The cross-country running team has had their first running event and has enjoyed the beautiful weather on the lunch hour runs. The band and choir are practicing daily and the choir has already brought their musical gift to the students, staff and parents who attended our Awards Day Ceremony on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>. It is an amazing time of year filled with many great events that provide many opportunities for students...

The month of September included many events that were well supported by parents and the community at large. Thank you to the parents who attended the Awards Ceremony and the Meet the Teacher and PTA Barbeque making both events a huge success. Thank you to Tracey Shilling, Pam Rempel and Wayne Esau who completed their terms on the PTA executive. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. Congratulations

and welcome to our new PTA executive members: Lena Preteau, Russ Esau and Jenn Reimer.

Thank you to the parents who came out and joined us for the Terry Fox Run and to the Grunthal Fire Department who helped keep the route safe for students, staff and parents! A big thank you also goes out to the student council for taking care of the barbeque lunch that was enjoyed by many students and staff.

October 8th we will be kicking off our annual school fundraiser with an assembly and prize draw. Once again student will bring home cases of World's Finest Chocolate worth \$60. Please encourage students to be careful with the chocolate and the money as they are responsible for it. Proceeds from the sale go to support student activities at GVS.

We are able to subsidize activity days, sports programs, student council events, grad events, drama, field trips and a few other extras above and beyond regular funding levels through the money raised in this sale. So please help support student activities by buying a few bars, boxes of almonds or boxes of mints.

## Student pick-up and drop-off

A reminder to all parents that, in an effort to keep all our students safe, the East side (school side) of Oak St. is a no-stopping zone from 8-9 a.m. and from 3-4 p.m. on all school days, from the EMB church driveway to the corner of Park Ave. If you need to pick up or drop off a student please pull into the church parking lot, the West side of Oak St. or wait until after all busses have left the school before stopping.

As well, the bus loop is for busses only between 3:20 and 4:10 p.m. Entering the bus loop while buses are loading or dropping off students puts our students at risk. Passing a bus while they have their signs out and lights flashing is illegal and must be reported by bus drivers. Please ensure that you respect the signs and lights.

**NOTE: The deadline for the LifeTouch picture order forms has been extended until Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> due to the Professional Development Day on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

## Grad Retreat

The 2010 Graduating class of Green Valley School embarked on GVS's first grad retreat Tuesday, Sept. 15th. The one night retreat took the grads to Camp Arnes where they spent 2 days team building, discussing how to make their school year positive and memorable and reimagining their school.

After settling in to the camp and having lunch, the grads spent the next four and a half hours encouraging each other and their teacher chaperones to put their best foot forward with a great deal of courage as they participated in the high ropes course, rock climbing and zip lines. Each student had the opportunity to try out each of these events. Many weren't sure if they could climb that high, but they made valiant efforts! Those who reached their goals were able to look back and say, with a huge grin on their faces, "I did it!"



The evening session, led by Mr. Ardies and Ms Thiessen, was a student forum. Students were divided into small groups with a teacher facilitator and challenged to think about four questions. Students were asked to reimagine a great school, to look at the best of GVS, the things that need improvement and finally identify the areas of teaching and learning that we do well and those that need improvement at GVS. The students input was invaluable and will be used both at staff meetings and future student forums.



Other highlights of the evening included games in the Wigwam, swimming and a bonfire.

Wednesday morning the grads were in a session led by Mr. Gerbrandt, guidance counsellor, to begin discussing graduation; what it means to be a leader and role model, decisions that will be made, important dates

and how to make sure that each one makes it to the podium on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

The remainder of the morning was spent playing human foosball versus the teachers, sumo wrestling, playing mini-golf, skipping rocks on the lake and packing up for the ride home.

Thank you to all grads, parents, and staff who supported our first grad retreat at Camp Arnes, and for making this a memorable time.



## GREEN VALLEY SCHOOL AWARDS (2008-2009)

Presented on September 24th, 2009 in the gymnasium at Green Valley School

### SPORTS AWARD WINNERS

Junior Varsity Award (Female)	Casie Gauthier
Junior Varsity Award (Male)	Josh Elias
Middle Years Award (Female)	Brenna Friesen
Middle Years Award (Male)	Joshua Freund

### SPECIALTY AWARDS

Middle Years French	Haley Driedger
Middle Years German	Debbie Steinmann
Grade 9 German	Joseph Froese
M.Y. Industrial Arts / T.E.	Tess Friesen
S.Y. Industrial Arts / T.E.	Cora Fast
M.Y. Home Economics	Rylee Wiebe
S.Y. Home Economics	Jasmine Wiens
Middle Years Music	Tess Friesen
Middle Years Art	Kameo Hancox
Middle Years Citizenship	Debbie Steinmann

### ACADEMIC AWARD WINNERS

5CE	Julia Wiebe
5FH	Denice Geverink
6KR	Jeremy Hiebert
6MM	Maria Wall
6PB	Caelan Chornoboy
7BI	Celia Wiebe
7SH	Heidi Boehr
7RB	Rylee Wiebe
8KB	Meagan Rempel
8JS	Tess Friesen
8JH	Debbie Steinmann
9BB	Cora Fast
9JL	Jasmine Wiens
9JW	Jordan Boehr
20G	Karlene Hofer
20G	Miriam Schroeder
30S Math/Science	Ty Friesen
30S Humanities	Ty Friesen

## Student Council Update

The Senior Years Student Council is kicking off the school year with the Homeroom Olympics Opening Ceremonies on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Opening Ceremonies will start off with the creation of team names, poster making, and coming up with costumes for future homeroom competitions. Events include a speed walking relay, tug-of-war, 4-legged race, and Olympic trivia. This month's opening ceremonies is only the beginning of a year long competition between homerooms. Don't forget we're also awarding points to the homeroom with the most spirit.

Student council also organized a barbeque to raise funds for the Terry Fox Foundation. A total of \$250 was donated to the organization. Thanks to all students who helped to support the cause.

This year we will continue to hold hat day on the last Friday of every month. Students can bring in \$1 to wear their favorite hat. The money we make from hat day is used to sponsor our school's Compassion child.

Stay tuned for more exciting news about our spirit week activities!

Submitted by Jonny Guenther

## Take Our Kids to Work.

On Wednesday, November 5th, our school will once again be participating in *Take Our Kid To Work Day*. This is where grade 9 students can go with their parents or another significant adult and experience the world of work for a day. This is an invaluable experience for grade 9 students and we appreciate the time and effort parents, relatives and friends put in to make this day a success. If your grade 9 child has not yet talked to you about this day and had you sign a permission form, please contact Mr. Cam Gerbrandt to obtain the form.

## Senior Years Counseling

Options 2009 will occur on October 15th at the SRSS in Steinbach. This is a group of college, university, and other displays that students can visit, ask questions, and find out more information. All grade 12 students will attend this during the school day and the displays and presenters will be around from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. if parents want to come and visit. This is a great opportunity to find out more about options for after high school.

## Grad News

All parents/guardians of this year's grad class are invited to a grad meeting on Tuesday, October 6th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at GVS. We will discuss plans for this year's graduation ceremony and banquet and would appreciate parental input. Planning for an after-grad party will also be discussed.

## Dinner Theatre

For many years the cast has bounced around the idea of having a show based on the Hee Haw television variety show, so this year we have done it. We will be featuring a country music band made up of musicians from our community and one musician from Driemal Platt Band. Our fictional, rural "Kornfield County" will closely resemble Grunthal, Pansy, and Sarto. Come join us Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday, November 20<sup>st</sup>, or Saturday, November 21<sup>nd</sup>. The tickets are \$20.00. You will receive a \$10.00 tax deductible receipt for each ticket purchased. Dinner theatre tickets go on sale Thursday, October 8th or 15th. They will be sold in the school library.



## Grad Website

Parents and grads, please check out the school website and the grad section of this website. The grad section lists important dates, scholarship opportunities, links to local colleges and universities, links to student financial aid, and more. It will be frequently updated, so check it out. <http://gvs.hsd.ca>



## Canteen News

Tired of looking for loose change on Pizza Day? Afraid to send the kids to school with a \$20 bill? Try using our new GVS pizza/lunch vouchers. These vouchers will make your Friday lunch purchases so much easier. Starting immediately, vouchers will be sold in sheets of 10 for \$15 for the pizza vouchers, and 10 for \$20 for the lunch vouchers. They will be available from homeroom teachers, the canteen or from the office. Please note that they will not be available on Friday mornings while teachers are collecting pizza money. Vouchers can be purchased with cash or cheques. Cheques can be made out to Green Valley School.

## Canteen Price List for 2009/2010

<u>DAY</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
MONDAY	Chicken Strips & Caesar Salad	\$2.00
TUESDAY	Spaghetti & Garlic Toast	\$2.00
WEDNESDAY	Chicken Quesadillas	\$2.00
THURSDAY	Chili & a Bun	\$2.00
FRIDAY	Pizza Hotline Pizza	\$1.50
<u>EXTRAS</u>		
Chocolate Milk	small \$0.75	large \$1.25
Pudding		\$0.50
Halls Cough Candy		\$1.25
Utensils		\$0.05

