

GREEN VALLEY SCHOOL



Principal's Message

March is the time of the school year when students often begin to display mastery of new skills. It is also the time of the year when many students are celebrating the growth reflected in their second report card, others view the arrival of grades with apprehension and anxiety.

Our middle years report cards will be arriving home later this month. Most likely, March grades will highlight your child's positive growth, both academically and socially. The report will give you reason to voice pride in your son's or daughter's efforts and work.

However, March grades also serve as a reminder that there is still work to be done, challenges to tackle, and goals to be set—for every student. While receiving a teacher's professional assessment of a child's efforts may cause one to be disappointed, bewildered, or assign blame, such emotions make it difficult to create and support "next steps." March is a time to calmly articulate concerns, seek root causes, put rational heads together, and set a course of action that lets a student know that it is never too late to grow and succeed.

As we continue to "March" forward through this school year, here are some suggestions for our parents:

- Look for authentic ways to celebrate your child's efforts. Meaningful praise or listening to your son or daughter explain his or her successes works better than extrinsic rewards—it's authentic and less expensive.
- Select one or two areas for improvement and help set a course of action. Goals should be realistic and achievable. Write them down and do weekly checks that you and your child can reflect on.
- Speak with your child and his or her teacher when looking for report card clarity. If necessary, arrange a teacher/parent/student meeting. Be sure to support each other. This is a team effort.
- Remember, assessments and grades are achieved by students, not parents, EA's or teachers. They are a means by which we can teach personal responsibility, natural consequences, and the value of hard work, good study skills and affirmative social skills. We continue to engage our students academically, socially, intellectually and emotionally.
- Try not to compare your child's progress with those of siblings, or classmates. Each child is unique and deserves to be treated as such.
- Stay positive, and don't forget to remain optimistic and hopeful. Spring is on the horizon!

I want to wish our entire school community a great Spring Break that is full of fun-filled adventures. I encourage our students and staff to take the time to engage in activities that they enjoy doing or are passionate about. Safe travels and may the arrival of Spring bring a renewed sense of energy and opportunity to get out and enjoy the longer, sunnier and warmer weather.

MONTH AT A GLANCE

March 9

Admin/PD Day
(No Classes)

March 9

Grad Pictures

March 15

Spring Concert @7pm
(Grades 7-12)

March 16

MY Report Cards Issued

March 21

MY Parent Teacher
Conferences

March 21

Grade 9 Orientation

March 23

Last Day of Classes before

Spring Break

March 26-30

Spring Break
(No Classes)

From Mr. Gerbrandt's Office

Graduation Portraits

Grad portraits are being taken on Friday, March 9 from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm in the GVS gym. All grads are reminded to check the schedule and be in the gym 10 minutes prior to their appointment time. Graduates should dress appropriately, read their information pamphlets carefully, and bring a cheque (written to Lifetouch Canada) to cover their sitting fee. The sitting fee is \$20.00. Grads may also order a composite photo of all grads at this time. The cost for this composite picture is \$15.00.



Grade 9 Orientation

All Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are invited to an information evening on Wednesday, March 21. We will be discussing Grade 9 transitions, course selection and how to be a successful high school student. All Grade 8 students and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend as this event helps students transition from middle years to senior years

SRSS Grade 9 Parent Orientation

The grade 9 parent orientation evening at the SRSS in on Thursday, March 8 from 6-8:30 pm. The evening will consist of a 30 minute presentation and an Open House. Guided tours will also be available and teachers and counsellors will be present to answer specific questions.

Rotary Career Symposium

This career symposium will be held at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg on April 16 in the evening and April 17-18 during the day. This can be a great opportunity for students to find out about who is highering, the prospective job market in Manitoba and across Canada, and the post-secondary training that may be needed to land these jobs. Go to: <http://careersymposium.ca/> for more information.

Music News

Optimist Festival

GVS grades 8-12 bands participated in this years Optimist Festival the third week of February. This is always a great experience for the students. At the festival we had the opportunity to measure ourselves against many bands from over the entire province of Manitoba. Our bands achieved solid performances and worked along with great adjudicators helping us to improve on all of the good work already being done in our bands.

GVS Choir at South East Manitoba Festival

On March 13 the GVS choir will be participating in the South East Manitoba Festival in Steinbach. We look forward to performing for an expert panel of adjudicators and observing other choirs from the region.

Spring Concert

Yes indeed, it is already time for our spring concert.

We would like to to invite you for this years Spring band concert on Thursday March 15 at 7:00 PM in the school gym.

The grade 7 - 12 bands will be presenting songs that they have performed for Optimist Festival and other selections.

Wouldn't it be great if by then indeed all of the snow was gone and we would be basking in plus temperatures.



Sports News

SY Sports

All of our basketball teams have wrapped up their season tournaments and league play schedules. Both varsity teams will be competing for a spot at Provincials in the upcoming Provincial Qualifiers, which will be held on March 3. Currently our Varsity Boys are ranked 3rd in the Province! If the teams finish in the top two at the qualifier they will advance to Provincials March 15, 16 and 17. Boys Provincials are in Gretna, while the girls are in Dominion City. Good luck to both of these teams as they compete and wrap up their seasons in the month of March.



Congratulations to our JV Boys Basketball team, as they have wrapped up their season. The boys played hard all season long and continually improved game after game. Thanks to Steve Elias and Josh Gruninger for coaching this team. It takes a lot of time, commitment and effort to coach a team so this is very much appreciated!

Badminton season has also begun. Players will be competing in tournaments on March 21, April 4 and April 11. South Playoffs are scheduled for April 17 with Zones being held April 24. Practices have started and will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays in March and April.

For a schedule of all game and tournament results please visit www.mhsaa.ca . For a schedule of practices, tournaments and upcoming games, please visit the Pirates calendar at www.gvs.hsd.ca. For updated league standings and game schedules, please visit our Zone 13 website at <http://z13aa.weebly.com>.

MY Sports

Basketball season is nearing the end and Badminton is around the corner. Thanks to all our middle years coaches for volunteering their time to coach basketball. Ed Giesbrecht, Mike Braun (gr 7 boys), Malorie Fisher (gr 7 girls), Ryan Funk (gr 8 boys), and Melissa Gerbrandt (gr 8 girls) are to be thanked for all their work with our students. Basketball playoffs will be held for the grade 8 teams during the week of March 5 - 8. Good luck teams.



GVS is looking for any parents interested in coaching the grade 8 badminton team. If interested please contact Mr. Sheldon Hill at the school.

Intramurals for our 7 & 8's have been having a blast with dodgeball. The next intramural sport will be indoor soccer followed by badminton. Students are to look for sign up sheets next week.

Traffic

Please be reminded that the speed limit on Oak Avenue, along side GVS, is 30km/h. This is a high traffic area in the mornings and after school with cars entering and leaving GVS, buses carrying students, students being dropped off, and pedestrians crossing the road.
Please drive safely and slowly.



From the Library

Wow! February was busy at the GVS Library (and throughout the school) with I Love to Read, the Great Canadian Reading Challenge, Drop Everything and Read, Blind Date With a Book, the Scholastic Saddle Up and Read Book Fair, the 2018 Winter Olympics, Guessing and Colouring contests and much, much more. There were over 250 books that went out during Blind Date With a Book, with lots of new book friends being made. Thanks to all the support of parents, students and teachers, the Saddle Up and Read Book Fair was a success with over \$1900 in sales. This helps GVS add new books to the library and the classrooms. A big thank you to all the volunteers in the library this month who made it possible for us to have so many events going on at once. It was really appreciated. GVS sure loves to read!



Kids Help Phone

If you're located in Manitoba, you can now text TALK to 686868 to be connected to a trained Crisis Responder to help you with any issue – big or small. The service is free, confidential, and available 24/7. Of course, you can always call as well - 1-800-668-6868

Numeracy Month

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Numeracy Month will be running from March 14 - April 13 at GVS. Activities to highlight and celebrate math will be going on throughout the month. Students will have opportunities to earn ballots for guessing the number of candies in a jar that will be on display. Some of the special days during Numeracy Month are:



- Wednesday, March 14: Pi Day, there will be a pie eating contest for MY students as well as other Pi awareness information and activities.
- Wednesday, March 21: Wear a Number Day.
- Wednesday, April 4: Wear a Pattern Day.
- Wednesday, April 11: Wear a Geometric Shape Day.
- Friday, April 13: Math Olympics (MY students). Students are encouraged to wear a number again.

KEEP CALM AND CALCULATE ON!

