

DECEMBER 2020

GREEN VALLEY SCHOOL



IMPORTANT DATES:

December 7
Admin Day
(No Classes)

December 21- January 1
Christmas Break
(No Classes)

January 4
In-School Classes Resume Gr 5-6
Remote Learning Resume Gr 7-12

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

At this time, I can see the glass as half empty or half full; I choose to see the glass as half full. There are many things that I am thankful for today. I am grateful for this community and how well we have done as a school community through these first three months of school. Students and staff adjusted to new regulations, procedures and protocols without skipping a beat. The general feeling in the school was upbeat, appreciative of being back together and learning. I am thankful that I work in a division that places students at the center of all their decisions. I am thankful for all of the efforts from students, parents and staff as we switched to online learning for the following four weeks leading up to our holiday break. Students have excelled at getting to their various platforms for their different classes.

We continue to remind and ask our parents/guardians to provide your child(ren) with a quiet place in your homes to join their online classes and encourage them to complete their homework. Please remember to check your emails for messages from our teachers. We truly appreciate the efforts and assistance that our families are giving our students for their remote learning. We would not have been able to do this without the support, guidance and cooperation from our parent/guardians. For this we are extremely THANKFUL.

I am so thankful for our entire staff, who continue to work hard every day for your children. Our staff have been tasked with multiple obstacles since September. Our staff have been champions in adjusting to different teaching/learning models.

May this holiday break provide our GVS community with peace and the time to reflect and find joy in the things that we may have lost sight of over the last year. This has been a difficult year, please find warmth in memories from the past. Embrace your current blessings and find hope for a better and healthier 2021.

CHROMEBOOKS

If you are needing a Chromebook for at home learning, we still have a few available. If you are having Chromebook issues - battery, mic, camera, etc. - HSD has support available. To talk to a technician directly, you can call 204-320-2315 anytime between 9:00am - 3:30pm on weekdays or complete a form through the links on GVS' website. The Chromebooks are monitored by HSD and all visited sites are tracked. If you have concerns regarding Chromebook usage please contact Mr. Adrian.



LIBRARY

Hi Pirates! Thanks to everyone for your continued participation in the GVS curbside library program. Go to gvs.hsd.ca for the link to Destiny and instructions on how to sign up for books. Just a friendly reminder, to please return finished or unread library books to the Drop Off Bin outside the school's front doors. Many other students are waiting for some of these overdue books. When your books (on HOLD) are picked and ready to go, I will email you and arrange a pickup date for you to get them. Once the pickup time is set, the books will then be placed in the Pick Up Bin, outside the school's front doors, for you. If you have any questions or need help with the Destiny program, please feel free to contact me. Keep on reading Pirates! Have a happy and safe holiday season!



TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK DAY

Take Our Kid to Work Day had to occur virtually this year. Grade 9 students in Lifeworks class heard from Safe Workers of Tomorrow and also conducted some career exploration activities. Students who were not in Lifeworks this semester will conduct these activities in semester 2. Parents are encouraged to talk to their children about possible life paths after grade 12 is completed. If you need any tips or pointers for that discussion, please contact our school counsellor: cagerbrandt@hsd.ca.



POST-SECONDARY

Many universities and colleges have early admissions policies and deadlines. Many of these are fast approaching. If you or your son/daughter is interested in applying you can contact Mr. Cam Gerbrandt for more information or you can contact the post-secondary institution in which you are interested.

Scholarships and RESPs are a great way to decrease the cost of post-secondary studies. RESPs can be started as soon as a child is born. When the school receives information on scholarships, notices and posters are put up in the Grade 12 area of the school and emails are sent out to students and parents. Students should pay attention to these and watch for new posters that might pertain to them and their interests. Another useful resource which lists numerous scholarships and bursaries available to graduating students are scholartree.ca and scholarshipscanada.com. Contact Mr. Gerbrandt if you would like more information on scholarships, bursaries, or RESPs.



MENTAL HEALTH

Looking after your mental health during this pandemic is very important. Making sure not to overindulge in news, getting a proper amount of sleep, eating properly and getting some exercise every day can all go a long way in helping keep you mentally healthy. Talking to a trusted person about your struggles can also be an important step. Please check out the counselling blog on our website for great tips to look after your mental health:

<http://gvscounsellingthoughts.blogspot.com>.