

GPS Grizzly Gazette-October Edition

The Best School in Town!

Sept/Oct 2019

Principal's Message

It was great to see so many families out at our meet the staff BBQ. I want to thank you for attending this event, even in the pouring rain. I know how busy parents are and making time to attend shows me how very involved you are in your child's education. It was a great evening - even though I burnt a few hamburgers! Thanks for joining us.

September just flew by at GPS! Students have been running and training hard for their various races and events. Some of our primary students have had visits to the town library. Junior/intermediates have had lots of opportunity to participate in special events and field trips already this year. I want to give a shout out of thanks to our amazing staff for planning these extra-curricular activities for our students.

It's raining now, but our students have been enjoying the wonderful fall weather! We are fortunate here at GPS to have such wonderful grounds to play on. Please speak to your children about respecting the natural environment. All sticks, stones, acorns and other natural objects need to be left on the ground, and not part of our play. I must say I am very pleased with the many students who have been playing appropriately out on the yard by keeping themselves busy with sports, friends and imaginative play. Staff are always out at recess wearing orange vests and ready to help your child problem solve.

It's absolutely vital that we have a working phone number and up-to-date medical information and emergency contacts for your child. Please call or visit the main office if you

have new information.

Please continue to check your child's agenda on a daily basis. We utilize this tool for getting timely information and messages home to you. Please feel free to write your child's teacher a note - they are checking agendas every day!

We still need parent volunteers to participate on school council and do head lice checks. If you can help us out, please call or visit the main office.

Please enjoy the Thanksgiving weekend with your families.

Take care,

Dianna Petrie, Proud Principal of GPS

Important Dates to Remember

October 2	Soccer Fest
October 4	Terry Fox Assembly
October 7	Grizzly Gallop (postponed)
October 8	Parent Council
October 10	Mud Run
October 11	Picture Day/Immunization Day
October 14	Thanksgiving Monday
October 23	Fun Run
October 25	PA Day - no school
October 31	Halloween

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Terry Fox Proceeds

Thank you to the families, community members, and GPS Grizzlies who supported this year's Terry Fox Run. While the weather did not cooperate with rain and thunderstorms, our Grizzlies did not give up. We designed a route in the school and proceeded to walk laps for the afternoon in honour of Terry Fox.

This year, we raised an incredible \$3200.00. Students were very excited to exceed their target and to experience the incentive challenges that will take place during our special Terry Fox assembly on Friday, October 4th. From pies in the face, to makeovers, to a staff dance, to shaving of beards and finally, the shaving of Ms. Petrie's hair in order to celebrate our fundraising goals.

On Thursday, October 3rd, staff members are sleeping in the school's newly constructed Gaga ball pit to celebrate the classes that reached their fundraising targets. Hats, toques, raingear, and good company will be part of the long night sleeping outside. Friday's school-wide pancake breakfast will serve as an incentive to make it through the night.

Thank you Gravenhurst Grizzlies for keeping Terry Fox's dream alive, for raising awareness, and for giving hope to those who are impacted by cancer. We are making a DIFFERENCE!

Mrs. Dent.



Gym News

October is a busy month for athletes. October 10 is the Mud Run, and October 23rd is Glen Orchard's Fun Run!

Cottage Crossfit is in full swing. Mrs. McLeod is thrilled to have received a grant for \$ 7500 to put towards new Crossfit equipment.

Primary Students: Tuesday/Thursday – 1st Recess. Still room available to participate!

Junior/Intermediate Students: Currently full. Stay tuned for availability.

Adults: Tuesday/Thursday – 4pm

Reminder: Please ensure your child brings proper physical education clothing and running shoes every day, so that they are able to safely participate in our gym program.

Library News

Our Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success! It is wonderful to see our library staff so excited about our growing collection of books. Please continue to read with your child and encourage them to check out our selection of NEW books.

Head Lice Alert

Today is a good day to check your child(ren) carefully for head lice. If you do find head lice on your child, all nits/eggs must be treated and removed before your child returns to school. We will have periodic checks at school and will call parents to pick up children if head lice is found.

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Please encourage your children not to share hair accessories, hats, combs, etc. Thank you!

Parent Council Updates

Our Parent Council will meet each month. Meetings cover a range of topics and often provide parents with an insight into the inner working of GPS.

Our first meeting was Tuesday, September 17th at 6:00. Fundraising continues this year with proceeds going towards improved playground equipment. The first fundraiser, Fresh From the Farm is underway, and forms are due by October 9th.

GPS would like to thank Mr Sub (Gravenhurst), Mary Anne Marshall from the Rotary Club (Gravenhurst), and Muskoka Thunder Motorcycle Riders for their generous donation of Math Smart resources for our Gr 2 students!

Upcoming Parent Council Events:

Christmas Bazaar, November 23rd,
201Craft/Ware table are available for any potential vendors. Please contact Parent Council via email: gravenhurstpublicsc@gmail.com

Parent Council is always looking for more parent volunteers. Join meetings, or come and assist at the various events!

Next Meeting: Tuesday October 8th at 6pm.

Babysitting is available!

I'M HERE Attendance Campaign

Consistent school attendance is critical to the academic development of GPS students. This year, TLDSB has launched the "I'm Here"

Attendance Campaign in order to raise awareness about why attending school consistently is important to long-term success.

Look out for statistics and facts related to attendance in our future newsletters.

I'm Here! Are You Here?

Safe Arrival

The Safe Arrival Program is designed for the safety of your children. This means that if your child does not show up at school and you have not contacted us to inform us they will be away, we will call home to ensure they are safe. Please call Safe Arrival and let us know if your child is going to be late or absent and for what reason. The Safe Arrival number is 705-687-3361

Morning Arrival and Safe Pick Up

Teacher supervision of the yard and bus arrival area begins at 8:20 am. Students are not to be on school property before 8:20 am. All students are expected to stay outside where there is supervision until the bell rings at 8:45 am.

If students are late for school they need to come to the office for a late slip before going to class.

If you are waiting for your child at the end of the day please wait outside the front doors.

Please note that classes are in session until 3:10

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and your cooperation in leaving the hallways clear and "voice-free" is appreciated.

Student Parliament

Parliament meetings are underway for the 2019/2020 school year. Classroom Representatives are encouraged to attend each meeting in order to offer suggestions to your Parliament members. Pay attention for future Spirit Days!

Your Parliament Representatives are:

Prime Minister Aiden Fitzmaurice

Deputy Minister Andres Alfaro

Minister of Spirit Aaron McDonald

Minister of Sport Carter Pallister

This Student Parliament is eager to get to work and help support student voice here at GPS!

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