



# *From the Raven's Nest...*

for Friday, February 25, 2022

Dear Families,

Can you believe it is almost March and there are only three weeks left of term two!? Time flies in Middle School! As students work to complete their second term, we encourage them to take the next three weeks to finish all outstanding assignments so they can all feel proud of their progress and accomplishments this term. **Curriculum Completion** afternoon is coming up on March 7<sup>th</sup> – parent forms will be sent home next week.

On Wednesday, our Grade 8 students will be completing their **course selection** for high school. We will send out a sample course selection sheet to grade 8 families on Monday, so you can discuss options with your youth.

In the spirit of pink shirt day, we started a **kindness challenge** this week. Students are writing shout-outs to recognize the kind actions of others in our school community. A few shout-outs are read each day during our daily morning announcements. Our shout-out bucket is getting more and more full, with many examples of positivity and kindness happening in our school.

Lastly, Rockheights students had so much fun designing, and competing in our **gravity car races** this week. The final championship races were live streamed to all classes on Friday afternoon, with many additional prizes to recognize the artistic and creative efforts of many students. We also have four students' cars moving on to the district competition happening next week. Below are a few pictures their incredibly creative gravity cars.



**What's happening at Rockheights next week:**

## Monday, Feb 28<sup>th</sup>

- Start of March Mammal Madness

## Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

- Div 7, 8, & 11 Salish Sea land session
- 3pm-4pm Volleyball practice after school

## Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

## **Looking Further Ahead:**

**March 7<sup>th</sup>** –Term Two CC Afternoon

**March 8<sup>th</sup>**- PAC Education evening

**March 18<sup>th</sup>**: - Report cards go home  
(Last day before spring break)

- Noon - Music Pizza sales
- High School Course selection for Gr. 8's

**Thursday, March 3<sup>th</sup>**

- Volleyball practice at lunchtime
- Div 9 & 10 Salish Sea land session

**Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**

- Noon- Hotdog & Freezie sales

**RMS PAC Events:**

**Parent Education evening - Community Discussion on Anti-racism and Equity with Dr. Lisa Gunderson**

Tuesday March 8, 2022

7:00-8:30 pm

In your own home (Via Zoom)

<https://gvsd61.zoom.us/j/67088204741?pwd=eDhDd2w0Z2tWVVBjeDdIYUJBMUpNUT09>

Parents, educators and staff are invited to join in a community discussion led by Dr Gunderson on the topic of race. Dr. Gunderson will facilitate an interactive discussion with a focus on understanding systemic racism with specific attention to anti-racism, equity, unintended bias, understanding "micro"aggressions, and white fragility. Attention will also be paid to the psychological impact and issues of racialized mental wellness as appropriate. The goal of this interactive community event is to give adults the tools they need to speak about race and build an anti racism home with their children in an age appropriate way. If you would like, community members are invited to submit questions prior to the event. If you have specific questions that you would like addressed then please feel free to send them to Ally Hoffman at [teacherallyhoffman@gmail.com](mailto:teacherallyhoffman@gmail.com) or you can send a direct message to the *Rockheights Middle School PAC* Facebook page. Ally will collect any questions up until Friday March 4 and then forward them to Dr. Gunderson. Questions can also be posed during the discussion.

**About Dr. Lisa Gunderson:**

Dr. Gunderson is an award winning educator, community speaker, organizer, leader, and equity consultant and trainer for various institutions in Canada and the United States focusing on issues that impact Black, Indigenous, and people of colour (BIPOC) populations especially on racial identity and mental wellness. Dr. G. is also a frequent guest speaker to various organizations and to K-12 and post-secondary institutions.

**Country Grocer- Save your receipts!**

The PAC has started a new fundraiser called Save a Tape Program with Country Grocer. We are asking all students to bring in their Country Grocer receipts to the school office and our PAC will collect them. For more information please see the link below.

<https://www.countrygrocer.com/community/saveatape/>

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and enjoy the sunny weather. Sincerely, *Mr. Maxwell*

