



From the Raven's Nest...

for Friday, March 4, 2022

Dear Families,

"March"-ing along...

Well it is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of the second term and that on Monday we have our Term Two Curriculum Completion Afternoon where students that are caught up to date will be able to be dismissed at 11:35am and those that are missing work or whose parents would like them to stay at the school will remain until the assignments are completed. All students were given a form as to their requirement to stay or be dismissed early and hopefully you have seen, signed and returned those forms. CC Day is an indication of the end of term and we will be sending home Report Cards on Mar 18 to help you understand your child's progress this term.

And mentioning report cards, I hope all families will take the time to review your child's report card with them. Yes, there are subject letter grades, but the real value in the report cards is in the comments about your child's learning. Comments will include three areas : 1) What your child can do, 2) What your child is still developing in, and 3) Ways to support your child moving into the third term.

I know that, as a parent myself, it is easy to quickly scan the letter grades, but taking the time to discuss the comments will maintain a focus on your child's "strengths and stretches" in their learning and help identify areas of focus for the third term. As always, if you have any questions or need any clarification, please connect with your child's Advisory teacher. We hope that there are not any surprises on these reports but rather that they provide an opportunity to reinforce what you know about your child's progress.

What's happening at Rockheights next week:

Monday, Mar 7th

- CC Afternoon – Students dismissed at 11:35 if they are all caught up

Tuesday, Mar 8th

- 3:30 pm-4:30pm Volleyball games at Rockheights
- 7pm Parent Education Evening

Wednesday, Mar 9th

- Noon - Music Pizza sales

Thursday, Mar 10th

- Volleyball practice at lunchtime

Friday, Mar 11th

- Maturation Workshops for Div 5 and 6

Looking Further Ahead:

March 12th – PAC Bottle Drive at Cask and Keg

March 18th –Report Cards Home
- Last day before Spring Break

April 4th –First day after Spring Break

April 13th – Celebration of Learning

Cell Phone update- As a staff, we have been talking a lot about the distractions that cell phones provide for our students and ways to try to minimize that. We do appreciate the desire that parents have to stay connected with students especially if they are walking to or from school. As per our school policy, cell phones are not to be used during class time unless being supervised by adults, but as I have shared before, they are often being snuck into the washroom or outside during breaks which prevents students from completing work.

After the break, Advisory teachers will be collecting student cell phones during the Advisory portion of the morning. Cell phones will then be kept in a secure, locked closet or cupboard until they can be returned to students for supervised learning activities, or at the end of the school day.

As always, the choice to send your child to school with a cell phone is up to you and should you choose to allow your child to bring expensive devices to school; it is their sole responsibility to ensure the security of their devices at all times, but the expectation is that they will be collected by their Advisory teacher at the beginning of each day.

If you need to get a hold of your child during the day, or need to send them a message we are happy to facilitate that through the office. You can call the office at (250) 384-7125. We appreciate your support with this and look forward to seeing the effects of this change.



RMS PAC Event:

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.

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.



As the days get longer and the weather gets warmer, I hope you have a great weekend and are able to spend some quality time with your family. And if you get a chance to create some "empties" please hold onto them for our PAC Bottle Drive on Saturday March 12. We hope to see you there!

Sincerely, *Mr. Maxwell*