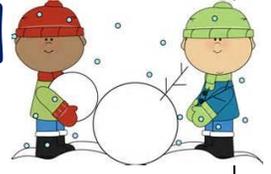




Great Village Elementary School



January Newsletter

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WELCOME!

The following eleven children will be registering for school on February 7, the first step to beginning school in September 2018.

Kara Cooke	Jaylen Merritt
Emma Hamilton	Alea Shipley Richards
Gage Kinsman	Ben Smith
Isaac Lomond	Lika Spencer
Isaac MacGillivray	Rylan Thompson
	Jaxen Young

These children will return for an orientation to school in the spring. The number of teachers and classroom assignments for our school is based on our student enrollment, with the final decision on classroom assignments made by Ian MacLeod (Family of Schools Supervisor). When this information becomes available, it will be shared with our school community.

This month we welcomed **Mrs. Crystal Burry**, our new Administrative Assistant, to our school. **Tami Canning** accepted a term position at the School Board office. We wish Tami well in her new assignment. This month, **Shyla Jordan**, a Grade 4 student, also moved from our community and is now attending Debert Elementary.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Whenever possible students are outside for breaks and need hats, winter mitts and snowpants on cold weather days. Each Friday when conditions permit, classes take turns walking through the field next to the school for supervised coasting on "Penny's Hill". Students are required to wear snowpants for coasting. Students should also be prepared for the possibility of outdoor Physical Education classes each Monday and Thursday.

Parents are reminded that when busses do not travel on unpaved roads in the morning, the regular practice is that the busses will not travel on these same roads in the afternoon, even if the road conditions improve throughout the day.

Your continued care in checking labels to prevent nut and nut products from being brought to school is greatly appreciated. Good Job!

SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

Tyson, from the Discovery Center, is becoming familiar with our school. Just before Christmas Break, Tyson shared a presentation that explained the science behind some magic tricks and illusions. This month, he set up his "planetarium" in the gym. Each class had a chance to go in the big dome to view the night sky where many constellations were visible. Through the magic of time travel, students were also able to visit distant planets and the moon. Next month, Tyson will spend time in each classroom to share an interactive presentation on a science topic being studied at that grade level.

At the end of the month, Chris Kennedy shared a "Unity Through Drumming" presentation to each of the classes. This presentation showcased drums from many cultures including, Cuban, African, Middle Eastern, European, Pakistan, Brazil, and First Nations. Students learned about each drum's history, sounds, and construction. Then, with each student playing a drum, together the class created rhythm using the various voices of the collection of drums. The performances were impressive!

PEACE GROUPS

Students meet in Peace Groups throughout the school year to learn and practice strategies to support a peaceful environment. Each Peace Group includes students from all grade levels. This month, students learned about "empathy". Students practiced "reading" body language by guessing an emotion that was being acted out by another student. After hearing the book The Invisible Boy, by Tracy Ludwig, students shared what they could do to make others feel more valued and appreciated. More activities are being planned to encourage students to show understanding and caring about how another person is feeling. Showing empathy will make our school a better place for learning and playing.

LOOKING AHEAD

- A reminder that there is no school for Mrs. White's class on February 7, Primary Registration Day.
- Watch for information about special activities each day of our "Peace Week", February 12-16.
- March Break is March 12-16.

Let it Snow!