



Great Village Elementary School



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September Newsletter

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WELCOME

September has been a busy month as activities and routines resume for the new school year. There are currently 56 students in our school, a few more than the beginning of last year. A warm welcome to new and returning families and staff members to our school.

It was a pleasure to greet families at our Open House. Students enjoyed touring the school to meet the teachers, while solving the challenge of matching each teacher with a favourite storybook. We appreciate the donation of apples from the Masstown Market and congratulate the winners of the gift cards. **Lochlan Langille Higgins, Jamie Lee Alexander, and Bria Tanner**, each received a \$10.00 gift card for Coles Book Store.

STAND UP-SPEAK OUT-STOP BULLYING-TOGETHER

Students and staff participated in the Board-wide day of action promoting positive, healthy relationships. This year's theme is "Stand Up Speak Out! What's Your Story?" At our school, students met in Peace Groups* to watch "Stand By Me". This video was created through Playing For Change, a project that seeks to inspire, connect, and bring peace to the world through music. After watching the video, students shared stories of times when they made the decision to stand by and help someone, or of when someone was standing by and helped them. Students also shared a book, Strictly No Elephants by Lisa Mantchev, in which a boy makes a decision that welcomes everyone. Activities finished with students and staff standing in the shape of a peace symbol for a school photo, and everyone having the opportunity to enjoy a yogurt tube for a recess snack. Information about our Board's anti-bullying initiative can be found on the Board website.

MARATHON OF HOPE



In honour of Terry Fox, students, teachers, and several family members completed an obstacle course on the school property. For each province where Terry ran, students had to complete an activity, beginning with dipping a foot in the "Atlantic Ocean" as Terry did. Classes were awarded points based on their performance in each province with the goal of getting 37 points, one for each year of the Marathon of Hope. Together we had a lot of fun, got some exercise, and collected an impressive \$152.40 to support Terry's dream of finding a cure for cancer. Congratulations to all participants and to **Lochlan Langille Higgins**, the winner of the Terry Fox t-shirt.

CLASSROOM CAFÉ OPENS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

Starting in October, students will have the opportunity to purchase a hot meal at the school twice a month. This year, the Café opens with minipizzas (pizza toppings on an English muffin) on the menu. Included with all hot meals is a vegetable/fruit/cheese tray. All students are invited to enjoy the items on the vegetable tray, whether they choose to order the hot lunch item or not. We have been fortunate to receive a grant through Children's Charity for School Nutrition (President's Choice). These funds will be used to offset the cost of the Classroom Café for students so lunch will cost \$1.00. Orders are taken and the money collected by a parent volunteer when students arrive to school each morning the Classroom Café is offered. Students purchasing hot lunch still need to bring a drink and snacks for the day. We are very fortunate that **Mandi MacRae** has volunteered to coordinate and cook for Classroom Café. Many helpers will be needed throughout the year to help with the food preparation, serving students, and cleaning up.

Through the Breakfast Program, a selection of packaged products are available to students as needed on a daily basis. Each Friday, students are offered a fruit & yogurt smoothie as they arrive at school.

NOON ACTIVITIES

Students are welcome to participate in a variety of activities in the gymnasium during the lunch break Monday through Thursday. We appreciate Mr. Black (Music) and Mrs. Marquis (Phys. Ed.) for providing these opportunities for students.

COMMUNICATION

Thank you to families who were able to provide email addresses so notices can be sent home electronically. A "test" email has been sent out to check that email addresses are entered accurately in our system. If you have not received this email, or an electronic copy of this newsletter, please send an email to our administrative assistant at canningt@ccrsb.ca. A paper copy of the monthly newsletter and calendar, as well as permission slips will continue to be sent home with students. Our school website (www.gve.ccrsb.ca) continues to be updated with current information. Each teacher's Communication Plan will soon be posted for parents to have an overview of the year's plan.

*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.