



**Glanford Middle School Newsletter**  
4140 Glanford Avenue Victoria, B.C. V8Z 4A8  
Phone: 479-7179 Fax: 479-4629

January 6, 2005

*Dear Parents & Guardians,*

Happy New Year! From all of the GMS staff, we wish you and your family good health and happiness for 2005!

## Tsunami Relief Effort



Please join us and our entire school district in our **"TONNE OF TOONIES FOR TOMORROW"** campaign.

In order to help raise monies for the Red Cross to support the Tsunami Relief efforts we, as a district, have extended to all students, parents, employees, trustees and volunteers the challenge to bring in toonie contributions. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 in donations. We want to send a clear message that School District #61 is a caring, learning community. The Canadian Federal Government has offered to match any donations made to sanctioned agencies before January 11<sup>th</sup>, so our timelines are short. We need all donations to come to the school on or before Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Toonies can be handed in to Advisory Teachers and then all monies will be collected by our office staff. The culmination of this quick and simple plan will be a presentation of all cash raised by our district to the Canadian Red Cross. Together we can perform a small miracle. This project can rebuild affected lives. It will take boundless love and billions of dollars, but **GMS** can help to make a difference. Along with toonie donations, we welcome families to bring in empty bottles for a bottle drive being organized in our

Judah Street parking lot Friday morning. With the kind assistance of parents, students, and staff, all donations will be quickly converted to toonies, and added to the **GMS** contribution to the Red Cross. Please help spread the word and give generously.

### *Upcoming Important Dates at GMS*

**Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM** – Reynolds Secondary is holding an information sharing evening for parents of grade 8 students that may be interested in their Flexible Studies Program – parents welcome to attend

**Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>** – GMS PAC meeting, 7 PM; all parents welcome to attend

### *Mini-Exploratory Blocks Start this Month!*

We are very excited to start our first round of mini-exploratory blocks for **GMS** students! These blocks are offered to enrich the middle school experience for all involved. Students have 17 choices for mini-x, and will be multi-aged according to their interests. The following options for this round have been presented to the students:

"Design, Make, and Play Your Own Game" Have you always wanted to create your own board game? Here is your chance! This session is the place to create your own board game, then play it with others!  
*Mr. Beech*, his classroom

"Warhammer 40K, Fantasy, and Lord of the Rings" Battle to the end! Then shake hands with your worthy adversary. Warhammer, you won't be disappointed."  
*Mr. Brooker*, in his classroom

“Movie Making and Cartoon Animation” An introduction to animation, claymation, and film-making. Learn storyboarding, shooting techniques, and editing. Students will be required to complete a brief script. Students selecting this MUST commit to being part of the second round of Mini-X for round two as well, as 8 sessions are required. *Mrs. Kind and Mr. Durrance*, Computer Lab

“Introduction to Yoga” An introduction to the latest fitness trend – Yoga! *Mrs. Wooster*, in the multi-purpose room

“Crafts” Come and be creative and take home a new craft every week! *Ms. Olson*, in her classroom

“Theatre Sports” Are you into quick witted humor? Improv games that prove to be loads of fun will be the theme! *Mr. Dailyde*, his classroom

“Blast Off!” Create and fire off your own pop rockets and cardboard rockets extraordinaire! *Mrs. Norbury*, her classroom

“Book Making” A creative session; participants will be assembling, cutting and binding mini-books that they could use for projects or personal use. Paper marbeling and stamping will be included. *Mrs. Rushton*, her classroom

“Pottery for Beginners” Come explore the world of pottery! Students will have a hands-on experience with this popular art form. *Mrs. Macaulay*, Art Room

“Jazz Improv” Students with music background, any instrument or vocalists, interested in exploring Jazz improvisation are welcome to come and join us. Students will work with recordings and/or a rhythm section and learn to play by ear. Some basic ability on an instrument or voice is required as there will be no time to teach beginning instrumental technique. *Mr. Fello*, Band Room

“Story Telling” If you’re into drama, this one is for you! Come and use drama skills to make stories come alive! *Mrs. Chiappetta*, her classroom

“Chess Anyone?” Put your love of woodworking together with the challenge of playing chess – we will make chess pieces while playing chess. *Mr. Bedard*, Woodworking Shop

“Musical Extravaganza” Come along and be part of practical guitar demonstrations, group singing, songwriting techniques, and popular music study. *Mr. Leischner*, Mr. Beech’s classroom

“Fancy Cupake Decorating” Have you always wanted to bake and decorate your own cakes? Here’s your chance - come and enjoy! *Mrs. Hall*, Staff Room

“Fleece Hat Sewing” Come and make a funky hat for the ski trip! Machine sewing experience is necessary. *Mrs. Craig*, Home Ec Room

“Bicycle Maintenance” Offered by a professional bicycle mechanic in our community, learn how to maintain your bicycle properly so that you can enjoy hours of safe bicycle riding. *Mr. Pete Brown*, Teacher Prep Room

“Introduction to Lacrosse” Is lacrosse a game you would like to try? These sessions will allow you to play indoor lacrosse and learn some basic skills of the game. *Mr. Scigliano*, Gymnasium

As you can see, an array of fun-filled learning opportunities await GMS students through mini-exploratory blocks – we can’t wait to get started!

**February 22<sup>nd</sup> – A special day of recreation for GMS students!**

We are planning a special day for **GMS** students on Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2005. All students will be given the option of attending a one day ski trip to Mt. Washington on that day, or, if they prefer, spend the day at the school and the local community where special events will be happening. Please see attached information regarding the ski trip. Final plans have not yet been made for students choosing to be at **GMS** the day of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2005 – the outings for these students being explored are a visit to the IMAX Theatre and a swim/skate/or bowling outing of some kind (the outing for students not attending the Mt. Washington Ski Trip will not exceed a cost of \$20). More information will be forthcoming regarding this special day of recreation for **GMS** students.

See you in and around **GMS** !

***Louie Scigliano, Principal &  
Elaine Wooster, Vice-Principal***