



GLANFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

March, 2007

Greetings to all GMS families!

We hope that you took some time to relax and unwind during Spring Break! It is time to start our third and final term of the school year.

Spring Break was a time to relax and recharge - now it is time to get into our third term. The teachers at our school have taken time to articulate the progress of every student on the second term report cards. The reports that came home are important for students and their families - celebrate your successes, and think clearly while acting upon the goal areas set for third term. Middle School is an exciting time for everyone and there are numerous opportunities for development. The third term will continue to bring these many opportunities, and a focus on intellectual development will continue to be of importance as staff plan their lessons.

With the improvement in weather, we encourage more students to walk or cycle to and from GMS. If you are riding to and from school, please remember to wear your helmet, walk your bicycle on the school property, and lock up your bicycle in the designated bicycle racks.



GMS PAC Fundraising Effort

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the **GMS PAC** and all of the parents/students/staff that have diligently worked hard on behalf of our learning community by taking part in this year's chocolate fundraising event. Under the leadership and tireless efforts of parents Gary and Audrey Smith, *many* of the parents of our school community came together to make this year's chocolate sale a huge success! The profits made by this effort are in turn used to support our programs for **GMS** kids in their entirety. We know that the students have also worked hard by selling the chocolates, and a huge thanks goes out to all that worked so hard to support this important endeavor!

Upcoming Athletic Opportunities at GMS

We have introduced three new sports for students to take part in at our school. Field Hockey is being offered by **Mrs. Rushton**. Rugby is being offered by **Mr. Seaberg**. Additionally, students interested in playing badminton can do so under the leadership of **Mr. Leischner**. Students are encouraged to try something new - you just might fall in love with a new sport! Thanks in advance to the parents that assist us with our teams and with the transportation that is required for games.

Upcoming Important Dates

March 28th - Counselors from Spectrum and Reynolds Secondary here to work with our grade 8 students regarding next year's course selection

Tuesday, April 3rd - **GMS PAC Meeting**, 7 PM; all parents welcome to attend

Wednesday, April 4th - Students dismissed at 12:08 PM to allow for parent teacher conferences

Friday, April 6th - Good Friday, School not in session

Monday, April 9th - Easter Monday, School not in session

Wednesday, April 11th, 18th, 25th, and May 2nd - Final round of Mini-X; watch for choices being offered on our school website in the near future

Friday, April 20th - Provincial Non-Instructional Day; School not in session

See you in and around **GMS**

Mr. Scigliano, Principal

Mrs. Wooster, Vice-Principal



SEXUAL HEALTH – LET'S TALK!

Sexual health – do you really have to talk about it? Your child is getting a sexual health education from TV, music videos, the playground and from friends. Wouldn't you like it to be accurate? When asked, children say they want to learn about sexuality from their parents. Here are some tips to help you start the conversation:

- ◆ Explore your attitudes and communicate your values
- ◆ Start early and keep talking
- ◆ Take the initiative – don't wait until they ask
- ◆ Find teachable moments
- ◆ Give accurate, age appropriate information
- ◆ Talk about more than the "birds and the bees"
- ◆ Assure your child he/she is normal
- ◆ Listen

For more information contact:

- ◆ Your local Health Unit
- ◆ Prevention Services http://www.viha.ca/prevention_services/healthy_choices.htm
- ◆ BC Nurse Line (1-866-215-4700) a free call

Health Units:

Esquimalt	360-5600 Salt Spring Island	538-4880
Outer Gulf Islands	539-3099 Sooke	642-5464
Peninsula	544-2400 Victoria	388-2200
Saanich	744-5100 West Shore	478-1757