

Wednesday, June 24th, 2009



Greetings to all **GMS** Families!

This is the last newsletter of the school year – what a year we have had at **GMS!** How has this school year disappeared before us?

We wish to express our congratulations to our grade 8 students as they have completed their time in Middle School. Most of our grade 8 students are on their way to Spectrum and Reynolds Secondary Schools, and we have some that will be attending Mt. Douglas, St. Andrew's, Esquimalt, and Claremont Secondary Schools. Thanks so much to all of you for your leadership and overall outstanding contributions to our school! All the Best! We look forward to welcoming a whole new class of grade six students in September!

Thanks so much to **all of our staff** for tremendous commitment and dedication to our students this year! Our school is so special because of you!

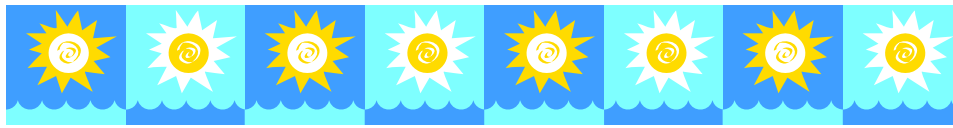
Thanks to our **GMS** PAC and to all of our **GMS** parents – it has been great working together with you in support of our kids! A special parent appreciation coffee and muffin to go happened last week; it was a small token of our appreciation to the numerous parents and grandparents that have helped us to be the best school we can be – thank you!

Take time this summer to relax, enjoy the outdoors, and find balance in life. Spend quality time with friends and loved ones, enjoy some great books, exercise, and see you in September!

School opens on **Tuesday, September 8th, 2009**. We ask that our students meet in our gymnasium on September 8th, which will be in session from 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM on the first day.

All the Best!

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



'What's New' Newsletter Announcement Community Literacy Plan

A Community Literacy Plan that spans the geographic area encompassed by School District 61 is available at www.sd61.bc.ca/literacy.aspx. Year 1 of implementation will focus on three goals which respond to some of the literacy needs of youth, persons with disabilities and vulnerable populations. For further information contact Jan Dupuis, Literacy Outreach Coordinator, at 250-294-3026 or jmdupuis@shaw.ca. (The Greater Victoria School District, along with representatives from a variety of literacy based groups, sits on the community literacy plan steering committee, which is chaired by Ruth Derrick from Literacy Victoria.)

Missing Stringed Instruments? Violins? Violas? Cellos? Double Basses?

The SD61 Strings Teachers have formed an Ad Hoc Committee to catalogue all SD61 string instruments. We are looking for any unclaimed, lost or misplaced violins, violas, cellos and basses that appear to be part of the SD61 collection. If you know the whereabouts of an instrument or several instruments that belong in the catalogue, please contact Barb Eadie at beadie@sd61.bc.ca or Anja Rebstock at arebstock@sd61.bc.ca

2009 PROVINCIAL HERITAGE FAIR IN VICTORIA

This July 1st you and your family can see how young people make connections between the past and the present when 60 students (grades 4 through 10) selected from 14 regional heritage fairs from across British Columbia will gather in Victoria and proudly share their outstanding history projects with the general public and with each other during a one-day public exhibition.

The BC Heritage Fairs Society developed out of an initiative of the Historical Foundation to promote the study of history and heritage within Canada. The Fairs program encourages students to explore Canadian heritage in a dynamic, hands-on learning environment. Students use the medium of their choice to tell stories about their own family connections and stories or the stories of Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, and achievements and present the results of their research at a public exhibition. They are on an adventure in history, telling the stories that excite them and engaging each other in learning about their communities and their country. The results of their research will be presented at a public exhibition on **Canada Day**, Wednesday July 1, at the Crystal Garden, 715 Douglas Street. **The event is open to the public between 11 am and 3 pm and admission is free.**

The BC Heritage Fairs Program is a charitable organization dedicated to helping British Columbians discover the fascinating stories that make our country unique, and define our identity.

