



# Glanford Middle School Newsletter

May 3, 2010

## Greetings to all GMS families!

This newsletter brings us to the end of April 2010, with much to celebrate and reflect upon, as well as much to prepare for! As we enter the final two months of the school year, we delight in the many highlights of the past month around our school, as well as look forward to some of the exciting events ahead!

### *GMS Students are the Best!*

We are so very proud of the 394 students at GMS. Since the second term formal report cards went home, we are pleased to see the commitment students are making to their personal goals. Way to go, kids! At GMS, we pride ourselves on the positive climate and culture of our school. Our wonderful students are tremendous contributors to our school culture. Studio 85 continues to be a great way for us to start our day - hopefully, parents have heard all about it! The many great things happening around GMS are broadcast live on Studio 85 - our very unique live feed of announcements, which occurs every morning, and is sent live into all of our advisory rooms. The studio affords our grade 8 students with the opportunity to take on many important leadership roles in our school. Often, we will have staff and students from grades 6 and 7 as guests on the studio, which everyone enjoys. Studio 85 was featured by Dana Hutchings on her wonderful local show, *Island 30*. To see some of the amazing things going on with our staff and students at GMS, please take an opportunity to visit our school's webpage - <http://www.sd61.bc.ca/school/glanford/sitepages/home.htm>.

### *Safety Issues at GMS*

We value everyone's safety while at GMS. Our closed campus is one component of our day to day life that helps keep everyone safe and accounted for. Our code of conduct is another aspect of our school

culture that helps all to understand the expectations of behavior. Additionally, our school practices **fire drills** often, ensuring students and staff have a safe, exit plan that has been rehearsed and that everyone is prepared to carry out. We will be having our **Emergency Evacuation Drill for Earthquake Preparedness** on the morning of Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Advisory teachers, with the assistance of local Earthquake specialist Mr. John Cassidy, will be sharing information with students regarding what to do in the event of an earthquake. This is timely, as the world has recently experienced a number of recent earthquakes. In addition, Earthquake Preparedness Week in British Columbia is the first week of May. Please take time to review emergency preparedness plans with your family.

### *Rugby, Field Hockey, Track and Field, Badminton, and Juggy League*

We have been delighted with the high number of students in grades 6-8 that have given Rugby, Field Hockey, Track & Field, and Badminton a try this year. These exciting sports have been led by the expertise of **Mr. Seaberg**, assisted by **Mrs. McKillop**, in Rugby, **Mrs. Rushton** in field hockey, **Mrs. Seaberg (and numerous other staff!)** along with parents **Wendy Pethick** and **Cathy Duncan** in Track & Field, and **Mr. Leischner** & **Mr. Dailyde** in Badminton. A game invented by a former student at GMS, Juggy, has evolved into our school taking part in our very own Juggy League, sponsored by **Mr. Brooker** - lots of fun for all participants! It has been a delight to see the enthusiasm of our GMS students in these five amazing athletic opportunities! Way to go, kids! It continues to be our endeavor at GMS to promote team play, skill development, and sportsmanship. Congratulations to all students involved and a big thanks to our many staff sponsors and parent helpers!



### ***Band and Strings***

Our Band and Strings programs continue to excel. We are very proud of the hard work and commitment made by our students with respect to practicing their instruments, and performing as a team! ***Ms. Gerrits and Mr. Welby, along with Mrs. Wooster, Mr. Kehler, and Constable Kim Basi,*** long with a rather large contingent of GMS students and parents have just returned from a phenomenal trip to Edmonton! Congratulations to all of our musicians! A collection of photos and video clips from this amazing school journey can be found on the *GMS Music* page.

### ***Final Round of Mini - X***

The third and final round of Mini-X is set for Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>. With the weather improving, many of our mini-x offerings will be taking place outside. As in the past the Mini-X activities are fully funded and supported by the amazing commitment from our GMS PAC! Thank you so much! These enrichment activities provide students an opportunity to try an activity that they may otherwise never try! All of the mini-x activities are FREE to the students, again, thanks to the GMS PAC. For a complete list of the mini-x options being offered to our students for round three, please have a look at the GMS home page, found at <http://www.sd61.bc.ca/school/glanford/sitepages/home.htm>.

### ***Upcoming Transition Events***

On Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, our school district is hosting a Transition Afternoon. The afternoon is dedicated to allowing students an opportunity to visit the school that they will be attending in September 2010. For our grade eights, most of our students will be attending Spectrum Secondary, Reynolds Secondary, or Mt. Douglas Secondary next year; they will be spending the afternoon of May 20<sup>th</sup> at those respective schools. For neighboring students currently in grade five that will be attending GMS in September 2010, we have invited these kids to spend an afternoon with us that day. This will be a chance for these youngsters to see the school they will be attending, learn more about what to expect when they come here, and finally, get a taste of our wonderful school culture we are so proud of around ***GMS!***

### ***Upcoming Important Dates***

Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> - Round Three of Mini-X at GMS  
Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> - GMS PAC Meeting, in our library, all parents welcome to attend!  
Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> - Class Photographs  
Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> - Duffle Bag Theatre presentation for all students, 9AM  
Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> - District Transition Afternoon - see notes above  
Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup> - Non-Instructional Day; students are not in session  
Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup> - Victoria Day Holiday, students are not in session  
Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> - Music Year End Concert 7 PM, GMPA AGM 6:30 PM

See you in and around GMS!

Louie Scigliano,  
Principal

Elaine Wooster,  
Vice-Principal

