



# Glanford Middle School Newsletter

January 27, 2010

Greetings to all Glanford families,

Hey **GMS** students, families, and staff - thanks for making our Middle School one that all of us are proud to be associated with! **GMS** is off and running in 2010!

## Student Transfer Application Week: Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>

Students in Greater Victoria School District follow a pathway from elementary school to middle school to secondary school. Students at all grade levels (K-12) wishing to change schools or pathway will need to complete a Student Transfer Application Form, which is available at all schools and on the District website, [www.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.sd61.bc.ca). **Our school's pathway is Glanford Middle School to Spectrum Secondary School.** Thus the only Glanford students who will need to complete a Student Transfer application for 2010-2011 will be:

- current Grade 8 students wishing to attend any School District 61 secondary school other than **Spectrum Secondary School** (for example, **Reynolds Secondary School**), or,
- current Grade 6 or 7 students wishing to attend another School District 61 middle school.

You will find additional information regarding the transfer process on our school district website. Please contact Mr. Scigliano if you have any questions regarding the student transfer process for our school district.

## Upcoming **GMS** Ski Trip

We are very pleased to be offering a **GMS** ski trip to Mt. Washington, scheduled for Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. This enhancement to our program is optional for students in all three grades this year. For those students who choose not to attend the planned ski trip, we will be offering a regular day at school, which will include recreational opportunities- details for those choosing not to go to Mt. Washington are currently being planned out and will be shared soon with students. A ski trip information package has been passed out to every **GMS** student, and if you choose to have your child attend, we ask your assistance in completing the forms carefully, submitting them to advisory teachers as soon as possible, and at the very latest, by **Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>**.



## Upcoming Foundation Skills Assessment

This time of year finds students throughout British Columbia writing Foundation Skills Assessments in the areas of Writing, Reading Comprehension, and Numeracy. The [Foundation Skills Assessment](#) is an annual province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills, and provides a snapshot of how well BC students are learning foundation skills in Reading Comprehension, Writing, and Numeracy.

The main purpose of the assessment is to help the province, school districts, schools and school planning councils evaluate how well students are achieving basic skills, and make plans to improve student achievement. FSA is designed and developed by British Columbia educators. The skills tested are linked to the provincial curriculum and provincial [performance standards](#). This year, two of the six assessments will be administered electronically, with the remainder in booklet format. Each student will receive their individual results and personal booklets later in the Spring, while schools will use overall results as one source of data to consider when planning for improved student learning. If parents have any questions about this year's FSA assessments, please contact Mr. Scigliano.

## Hoops for Heart

We have a number of traditions at GMS that we are proud to support. One of those traditions is rapidly approaching - "Hoops for Heart". This is a fundraising event that supports The Heart and Stroke Foundation while promoting physical fitness and an active lifestyle. Each year, GMS embraces this opportunity and we are excited about it again this year. We really are looking forward to the shootout for Hoops for Heart, which happens in our Gymnasium on Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome to attend!



## Curriculum Completion Days

This school year, the ten middle schools in Greater Victoria School District will be introducing Curriculum Completion Days. These days are intended to provide additional time and opportunity for students with overdue or unsatisfactory school assignments to successfully complete the learning outcomes for their grade level prior to each report card. At Glanford, the second Curriculum Completion Days will occur on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11:04 AM - 3 PM. A personal note will be coming home with each student in advance of our curriculum completion day. For the February 22<sup>nd</sup> day, each child will bring home a note from their advisory teacher the week before, on February 15<sup>th</sup>. This note will inform families if a child is required or not required to attend. Parents of those students required to attend will also receive a personal phone call from their child's teacher. For students not required to attend, they will be dismissed at 11:04 PM. It is important to note that any GMS student may choose to remain for the afternoon and will be provided a quiet, supervised place to read/work quietly - there will be a place for parents to indicate that they wish for their child to be in attendance for Curriculum Completion Days on the form referred to above

## Helping Haiti

A heartfelt thank you is extended to the Glanford community for their generosity in sending financial aid to Haiti. In a week-long campaign, GMS students, staff, and families brought in an amazing \$2,652 which has already been forwarded to the Canadian Red Cross. With matching funds being supplied by the Canadian government, our community will be sending over \$5300 to support relief efforts in this devastated country. It was a privilege to see the pride and care students had in donating to help others in need.



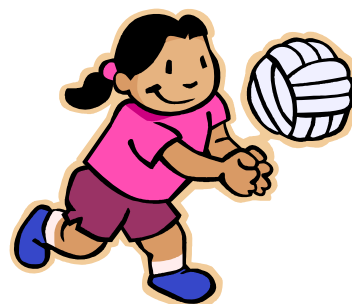
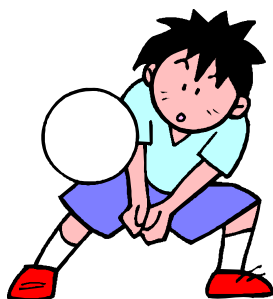
The Rogers School community is also sponsoring a bottle drive on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> to raise funds for Haiti. If you have any bottles to recycle, please drop them off at the new Bottle Depot on Glanford Avenue this Saturday where volunteers from Rogers School will be on hand to take your bottle donations. See attached flyer for more information.

## Student Supervision at GMS

As a reminder, it is important that GMS families know that the supervision of students at GMS before and after instructional time commences at 8:02 AM before school, and runs until 3:15 PM after school. We offer the use of the library and the computer lab for students before school, commencing at 8:10 AM. Additionally, teachers have been making arrangements for extra assistance for students before school in advisory classes. Most mornings, we also have band/strings in the music room, and sports team practices occurring in the gym. We do not have any supervision in the hallways before classes begin at 8:32 AM, and students have been asked to not be at their lockers or in the hallways at that time. Entrance to the school is limited to the front doors of the school when entering before regular class time.

## Athletics at GMS

It has been wonderful to have Mr. Dailyde set up an after school floor hockey club happening in our gym on Friday afternoons. Lots of fun, and great exercise too! We have four volleyball teams that are practicing their skills and playing volleyball games. Thanks so much to our expert coaches, **Mr. Allsopp, Mr. Shires, Mrs. Norbury, Mr. Brooker, Ms. Jubinville, and Mrs. McKillop.**



## Upcoming Important Dates

- Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> - Mini-Exploratory Blocks - the 22 options for kids are posted on the school website for your perusal
- Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> - last day to submit Mt. Washington forms
- Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup> - Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> - We will have Grade 7 students completing this year's Foundation Skills Assessments
- Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> - - GMS PAC meeting - all parents welcome to attend, 7 PM, Library
- Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> - Information night for parents regarding transition from Grade 5 schools to Grade 6 at **GMS** - 7 PM in the library
- Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> - Glanford Patisserie Night - see attached information/order form
- Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> - Hoops for Heart Shootout in our gym 12:15 PM
- Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> - Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> - School District Transfer Process
- Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> - Non-Instructional Day - school not in session
- Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>—Curriculum Completion Day—students dismissed at 11:04
- Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> - Optional School wide **GMS** Ski Trip to Mt. Washington or special day planned at GMS for those children choosing not to go skiing

*See you in and around Glanford!*

Louie Scigliano, Principal

Elaine Wooster, Vice-Principal