



# Glanford Middle School Newsletter

January, 2011

## 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 2011.

## Student Transfer Application Week:

**Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday, February 25<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 will be available at all schools and on the District website, [www.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.sd61.bc.ca) beginning on February 17th.

**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 2011-2012 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 **Mt. Douglas Secondary School**), or,
- current Grades 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. **GMS** will be hosting a **Parent Information Night** on Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 PM – this is an evening of information for parents of grade 5 children planning for Middle School, and for parents of new grade 6 or 7 children wanting to learn more about Glanford Middle School. We know that most of our grade 8 students and families have attended Secondary School information nights – well done! Please contact Mr. Scigliano if you have any questions regarding the student transfer process for our school district.

## Planning for 2011/2012

Yes, it seems incredible but we are starting to plan for next year! If your child is currently in grade 6 or 7 and will not be attending Glanford Middle School next year, please advise the office staff. Thank you!

## Athletics at GMS

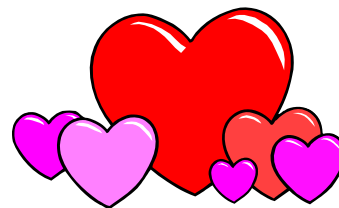
Active living and taking care of oneself is a goal we have at **GMS**. Thanks so much to our staff and parent volunteers for offering volleyball to **GMS** students! We have both recreational as well as competitive teams in volleyball and it is great to see such enthusiasm for the sport!



## Hoops for Heart



Each year, **GMS** supports The Heart and Stroke Foundation while promoting physical fitness and an active lifestyle. We are pleased to support this important endeavor at **GMS** by encouraging our students to participate in the Hoops for Heart Basketball Shoot Out. Students that are interested in this event will collect pledges from family and friends, sponsoring them for a basketball shoot out. All funds raised are given to The Heart and Stroke Foundation, a wonderful cause. We really are looking forward to the shootout for Hoops for Heart, which happens in our Gymnasium on Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup> over the noon hour.



## Upcoming Foundation Skills Assessment

During the month of February, students throughout British Columbia will write 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 year, 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 or Mrs. Wooster.

## Upcoming GMS Ski Trip

We are very pleased to be offering a **GMS** ski trip to Mt. Washington, scheduled for Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</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 provided 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 the office **by Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**.



## 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 8:05 AM before school, and runs until 3:00 PM after school. We offer the use of the library and the computer lab for students before school, commencing at 8:05 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 8:30 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.

## Upcoming Important Dates

- ◆ Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup> – last day to submit ski forms
- ◆ Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> – Glanford PAC Meeting, 7 PM in the library
- ◆ Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> – Information night for parents regarding transition from Grade 5 schools to Grade 6 at **GMS** – 7 PM in the library
- ◆ Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and March 4<sup>th</sup> – Mini-Exploratory Blocks – we are encouraging community service as a theme for this round
- ◆ Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> – Glanford Cabaret & Patisserie Night – an amazing annual event of music and the arts; please note – a silent auction will be held between 6 and 8pm including a Vancouver Getaway Package worth over \$850 including 2 Roundtrip Victoria-Vancouver ticket aboard Harbor Air Seaplanes, and 2 nights' accommodation - Rosedale on Robson
- ◆ Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup> – Hoops for Heart Shootout in our gym 12:10 PM
- ◆ Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup> – Curriculum Completion Day, dismissal at 10:59 AM for those students not required to stay for curriculum completion
- ◆ Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup> – Non-Instructional Day – school not in session
- ◆ Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup> – Glanford Music Parents Association Meeting, 7 PM
- ◆ Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> – Optional School wide **GMS** Ski Trip to Mt. Washington or special day planned at GMS for those children choosing not to go skiing
- ◆ Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Anti-bullying day and Pink Day at GMS

## *See you in and around Glanford!*

Louie Scigliano, Principal  
Elaine Wooster, Vice-Principal

