

Greetings to all Glanford Families!



Welcome back to school, everyone! It is truly “the most wonderful time of the year!” At GMS, we love to inspire students by building relationships and providing rich learning opportunities that are FUN! Our school year has opened with a Building Bridges theme. By working in multi-age groups where students in all three grades work together with all of the staff, we feel we are promoting a very positive, welcoming start to this school year! Friday morning, we will be culminating our opening activities with a cinnamon bun and juice breakfast, followed by our multi-age Bridge Building Experts showing off their accomplishments. Ask your child about it! Students will be placed into their advisory classes Friday morning. *It is important to note that a great deal of planning and preparation has been put into building*

our classes and on Friday, advisory classes will be complete and finalized. We have five classes of grade six students, five classes of grade seven, and five classes of grade eight. **PLEASE NOTE:** *School Supplies are not needed at school until Friday of this week.* The incredible staff at **GMS** have now begun their work with the exemplary middle school model.

Fundraising @ GMS

Like most schools, Glanford Middle School and the **GMS PAC** take on a variety of fundraisers during the school year to support our programs. We are aware of the importance of timing, so that families are not overwhelmed by too many fundraisers happening at the same time. We will keep this issue as a goal for ourselves this year and will be working with the PAC to try to be as coordinated as possible in our fundraising efforts. We will start the year off with the sale of **Entertainment Books**, which is the single, largest fundraising effort that **GMS** staff will do this year. In past years, funds have been used to purchase school uniforms, update the computer lab, and set up our **Studio 85**. We know we can reach our fundraising goal if each of our students sells one Entertainment Book. Please note for every five books sold, your family receives a FREE book and your child receives a school prize. In addition, for each book sold, students have their names entered into a draw for amazing prizes, including iPods, a portable DVD player, and others. Any questions regarding Entertainment Book sales, please contact Mrs. Wooster, Vice-Principal.

See you in and around Glanford!

Louie Scigliano, Principal

Elaine Wooster, Vice-Principal

From the Board of Education, School District No.61 (Greater Victoria)

The Board of Education wants to assure you that student learning remains our highest priority. We believe that the Greater Victoria School District is home to the very best educators and support staff.

On Wednesday August 31st the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) received strike notice from the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF). Under the provisions of the *Labour Relations Code* and the 2011 Essential Services Order, teachers will commence strike activity involving the withdrawal of certain duties. The BCTF has informed BCPSEA that Phase 1 strike activity will commence in all school districts on September 6, 2011. Teachers will continue to provide services designated as essential in the 2011 Essential Services Order.

For a list of the activities that will be affected please refer to the link below: [http://www.lrb.bc.ca/decisions/B132\\$2011.pdf](http://www.lrb.bc.ca/decisions/B132$2011.pdf)

Teachers will continue to prepare and plan lessons, assess and evaluate student progress and mark student work. We will continue our commitment to each student's success in learning within a responsive and safe environment. We hope that BCPSEA and the BCTF can reach a settlement; however, regardless of when that might happen, we want to assure you that we will continue to offer an outstanding educational program to each of our students.

Yours truly,

Tom Ferris
On Behalf of the Greater Victoria Board of Education

