

Georges Vanier Catholic School Newsletter

A School Community of Love, Learning & Respect. Living by Christian Values and Nurturing Student Growth.



Mr. Stephen Tracze - Principal

Mrs. Elaine McMurter - Secretary

Father John Hibbard - Pastor of Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish

Ms. Theresa Kennedy - Superintendent of School Effectiveness

September 2017

@alcdsb_gvan - <http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/School/gvan/Pages/default.aspx>



“With God all things are possible”

STAFF

Mr. Tracze	Principal
Mrs. Williams/Mrs. Bailey	JK/SK
Mrs. Leveque/Ms. Shaw	JK/SK
Ms. Ryan	Gr. 1
Ms. Bashall	Gr. 1/2
Mrs. DeWitt-Plante	Gr. 2
Mrs. Colebourne	Gr. 3
Mr. Plante	Gr. 3/4
Mrs. LaPlante	Gr. 4
Mrs. Poulin	Gr. 5
Mrs. Ross/Mr. D'Amico	Gr. 5/6
Mrs. Terry	Gr. 6/7
Ms. Patterson	Gr. 7/8
Mr. Pericak	Gr. 7/8
Mrs. Dickson	SERT
Mrs. Thomlinson	SERT
Mr. MacDougall	FSL
Miss Guimont	FSL
Ms. Robinson	Itinerant Arts
Ms. James	Learning Commons
Ms. Moncrief	CYW
Mrs. McMurter	Secretary
Mr. Grimson	Custodian
Mr. Farrell	Custodian
Mrs. Cayer	EA
Mr. Connell	EA
Ms. Doucette	EA
Ms. Lonsberry	EA
Ms. Loveless	EA
Ms. Murray	EA
Mrs. Newberry	EA
Mrs. O'Rourke	EA
Mrs. Preston	EA
Mrs. Rich	EA
Ms. Ramsay	EA
Mrs. Thorn	EA
Ms. Wheeler	EA

Lunch Supervisors-
Mrs. Ross
Ms. McCahary-Divitt
Mrs. Ng
Mrs. Rapino
Mrs. Crawford

Prayer and Welcome

God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder of our being,
for mind, body and spirit.

Be with our children as they begin
a new school year.

Bless them and their teachers and staff.
Give the strength and grace as their bodies
grow;
wisdom and knowledge to their minds
as they search for understanding;
and peace and zeal to their hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**Welcome to Georges Vanier school
community! On behalf of our school staff, I
welcome all families to our community.
Together we are on a journey of learning,
working as a community, for the success of
each student. Under the protection and
guidance of Mary our Mother, we commit
ourselves to Catholic education and invite
all members of our school community to
get involved.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 13, Breakfast Program Begins
Sept. 15, Student Information Forms Due
Sept. 15, Student Agenda Payment Due
Sept. 19, Open House & BBQ 5-7
Sept. 26, School Mass 10:00 at Church
Sept. 26, Parent Council - 4:00pm
Sept. 28, Terry Fox Walk 2:00
Sept. 29, PA Day
October 2 – Pizza and Milk Programs begin for
the month

Elementary Student Information Forms

This week you received a Student Information Form and Freedom of Information Form for each of your children attending Georges Vanier Catholic School. Please make any corrections/changes and return them to the school on or before Friday, September 15th. This form contains important information for parental contact in case of emergency. Each family is asked to ensure that we have a LOCAL emergency contact name if we cannot reach you.

Electronic School Newsletter

We will be distributing an electronic newsletter for families in order to help reduce our use of paper and photocopying costs. Families will receive a notice at the beginning of each month when the newsletter is accessible on the school website (<http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/School/gvan/Pages/default.aspx>). Please include us in your favourites. A paper copy is available for families who do not have access to a computer or who wish to receive a hard copy (please inform the office). Emergency letters will continue to be sent home with students. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Mass

Our first school Mass is Tuesday, September 26th at 10:00 at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Church. Please join us.

Open House & BBQ

Tuesday, September 19th from 5-7 p.m.
Parents will have an opportunity to see their child's classroom, meet the school staff and get together. Please join us!

Administration of Medication/Epi Pen

Student permission forms must be submitted every school year. Medication, where applicable, must be brought to the school, with the doctor's forms, and kept at the office.

EpiPens – for safety of students, epiPens must be either on the student or kept at the office; for safety reasons backpacks are not appropriate.

Please inform the office and your child's teacher of the location of the epiPen.

ANAPHYLAXIS (ALCDSB Policy Statement: Anaphylaxis) Procedures Risk Reduction – Roles and Responsibilities

Parent/Guardian (or Student where appropriate) Provide a letter from the physician, diagnosing the allergy and its severity. Complete the required ALCDSB forms Medical Information (Form B) and Administration of Medication EpiPen Injection (Form A). It is recommended that parents/guardians provide two auto-injector EpiPens; one to be kept with the student at all times, the second to be stored at the school according to the Emergency Plan. Renew EpiPens before the expiry date. Provide fanny pack/backpack for transport of EpiPen with student. It is recommended that a laminated card with important information be carried in the fanny pack with the EpiPens (Form D). Be sure your son/daughter wears a Medic-Alert bracelet. Help your son/daughter develop coping skills to avoid the allergen and recognize and communicate the symptoms to an adult.

Important Medical Information

CLARIFICATION AND COMPASSION: An increasing number of students and staff members within our school community have severe and life-threatening allergies to PEANUTS & PEANUT OIL. As parents, we all understand the intense concern that this can cause and as a school community we will work to reduce the possibility of this exposure at school. As we share many common areas in our school such as the gym, the yard equipment, bathroom facilities and the library, *WE ARE EXPECTING THAT ALL PARENTS WILL REFRAIN FROM SENDING PEANUTS, PEANUT BUTTER AND PRODUCTS KNOWN TO CONTAIN PEANUT OIL TO SCHOOL FOR LUNCHES, DAILY SNACKS OR SHARED CELEBRATION SNACKS.*

The joint effort that we will all make in this area relates directly to the health and wellbeing of others and is an appropriate common initiative. SOME ADDITIONAL ALLERGIES WITHIN INDIVIDUAL CLASSROOMS WILL ALSO BE COMMUNICATED TO YOU AS NEED BE.

PLEASE LET US KNOW---Parents of students who have medication needs at school are asked to let us know immediately and to ensure that they have completed a medication consent form with their family doctor FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR. This must be completed by family doctors before we are able to administer medication.

All Parents Note: It is important for parents to be aware that at no time can medication be casually sent to school with students. Students are not to self-administer medication nor to store it nor can short term pain remedies or antibiotics be administered at school without the above mentioned documentation. Please call if you have questions or need information.

Additional Allergy Information

Being a nut-free school, we strive not only to provide products that are nut-free but also an atmosphere that ensures our students feel safe and secure at school, especially our students who have life-threatening allergies to nut products. Recently, certain products that are made from soy products have been directing advertising campaigns to school communities, with the intent being to market their products as safe and viable options for school lunches. While these products are certainly nut-free, they do however, resemble peanut butter so closely that it is virtually impossible to distinguish between a peanut butter sandwich and a sandwich made from a 'nut-free' alternative. As children with allergies are highly sensitive to what is being eaten around them, we feel, as a school community, that the presence of these products may possibly create unnecessary anxiety.

We appreciate, as always, parents' concern for the safety and well-being of all children in the school. For more information on providing healthy lunches, with nut-free alternatives, please contact the local health unit, or visit the Health Unit's website at www.hpechu.on.ca

Safe Welcome System

Our School is equipped with a Safe Welcome System School Doors and Gates will be locked at 9:15 am. Guests to the School will have to be buzzed in by a staff member to gain entry. This safe welcome system will provide increased safety in our schools by ensuring all visitors use the same entry doors and sign in.

Periodically throughout the day staff may be attending to other duties and may not be readily available to answer the buzzer, please be patient as you wait until someone returns to the main office. If you are picking up your child prior to the end of the day (Prior to 3:15) you will need to sign them out at the office, once you arrive we will call the classroom and have the student meet you in the main office.

If you are picking your child up at the end of the day (After 3:15) we respectfully ask you to wait outside the school gate until the end of the day bell rings. Students who are walkers and picked up by parents will exit through the parking lot gate.

School Agendas

All of our students from grades 1-8 are provided with an Agenda Book as a means of fostering and developing organizational skills. If parents wish to make a donation to defer the costs, we suggest **\$5.00, due by September 15th**. Students are expected to record important events, projects, test dates and homework assignments. We ask that you the **Parents** also use them as a convenient communication tool between home and school. **Teachers** will check agendas daily in order to ensure a ready link with all students and their parents. **Sensitive information should not be written in agendas.**

Electronic Devices

Please read the school code of conduct in the front of the agenda regarding electronic devices. We would ask that all parents sign this code of conduct. **All cell phones and electronic devices are to be powered off and put away once students are on school property.** Some pilot projects continue to run in our junior/intermediate classrooms where students use electronic devices under direct teacher supervision to enhance learning. Feedback from this project is continually gathered.

School Cash Online

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board is offering School Cash Online as its preferred method of payment for all school fees, everything from field trips to yearbooks.

School Cash Online allows parents to pay school related fees safely, quickly and easily. By using School Cash Online, you help increase efficiency and security at schools. Teachers and secretaries are then able to focus on helping students, and not counting cash.

School Cash Online shows all of the school fees available to your student online for purchase. You can also stay informed of upcoming events and keep track of which school fees require your attention.

More information can be found on www.alcdsb.on.ca and our school websites.

Milk / Pizza Program

Milk and Pizza will be sold on a monthly basis starting in **October**. Milk and pizza are set up on the School Cash Online system for those who are registered. We will be sending out a paper order form for those who are not signed up yet.

Chocolate/white milk will be available are at a cost of \$0.75 per carton and cheese/pepperoni pizza will be \$2.75/slice. Please see attached order form. **DUE DATE FOR BOTH ORDERS IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2017. LATE FORMS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.**

Please include exact cash or make cheque payable to "***Georges Vanier Catholic School***".

Refunds for missed lunches or missed milk will not be provided as they are pre-ordered.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club will begin September 13th. Volunteers are needed and should contact the office at 962-7541 to ensure that your police check is up to date.

School Council / Elections

We thank the parents who have given so much time and effort to the school on behalf of our students. All parents are welcome to become involved and join us at School Council meetings. Regulations require that an election or acclamation for School Council be held "during the first 30 days of each school year".

If you are interested in sitting on the Georges Vanier Catholic School Council Executive for the 2017-2018 school year, please submit your name as a candidate on the **BALLOT BELOW and return it to the school office by Monday, September 18th. Our first meeting will be Tuesday, September 26th at 4:00 p.m.**

Statement of Interest for School Council

Name: _____

Signature: _____

DAILY ROUTINES: Timetable

Below is the daily timetable for the 2015-2016 school year.

Period	Time
Entry	9:15 am
Recess	10:45-11:00 am
Lunch	12:20-12:40 pm
Lunch Recess	12:40-1:20 pm
Dismissal	3:30 pm

MORNING

Please note that supervision in the yard will be provided beginning at 9:00am. **For their safe arrival, please do not have your child come to school before 9:00am.** Buses should arrive between 9:00 and 9:15am. Students may proceed directly to the yard.

LUNCH

Lunch hour is from 12:20 to 1:20. Students will eat their lunch in supervised classrooms from 12:20 to 12:40 and be outside for the remaining 40 minutes. As in the past, no food is to be taken on the yard during the lunch hour.

Students are NOT permitted to leave the school for lunch. As is common practice with other Catholic schools in our Board, please note, only students who regularly go home for lunch to eat with adult supervision OR who can be picked up by their parents are allowed to leave the school for lunch. Parents please indicate, at the beginning of the school year, to the classroom teacher whether the student will be leaving school to eat lunch at home. We are concerned for their safety and it is jeopardized if they leave the school property. Thank you for supporting us in taking safety measures for our students.

Parking Lot Reminders

Parent Parking

There is no entry or parking in the newly constructed Bus Loop, this will allow a free and clear area for Emergency Vehicles and Busses. Parent Parking will be located in the previous Bus Parking Lot on the West Side of the School. For the next few weeks during final completion, onsite parking will be extremely limited.

Parking Lot Entry/ Exit

As a result of the new Bus Loop we will have one Exit from the school grounds for Busses and Vehicles, this will be located in the middle of the two entry points (same as previous) Parent parking lot entry will be the entrance the furthest west of the school property.

Students being Picked up / Walkers

All Students that are being picked up by parents or walking home will Exit the school grounds at the West Gate closest to the Primary Yard.

Walkers will proceed toward the front of the school and cross at the painted crossing zone to the sidewalk.

Bussed Students

All Bused students will exit the school grounds at the East Gate closest to the New Bus loop, and will proceed down the sidewalk to the appropriate Bus.

Last Minute Changes to Routines

If there are to be changes to routines for going home (e.g. someone new picking up your child, child not taking the bus as usual), please provide a note in the agenda for the teacher indicating this change. If the need for change occurs after your child is already at school, please notify the office as soon as possible. If you need to pick up your child from school during the day for appointments etc., and happen to arrive during recess or noon hour, ***please do not go directly to the yard. Sign in at the office so we can contact the yard supervisor to send your child in.*** If someone other than yourself is picking up your child, please indicate this in your note and please explain our school's routine to this person.

Safe Arrival Procedures

Please contact the school office prior to the absence of your child, stating the reason for the absence. This notification is to ensure the safety of pupils while en route to the school. If the school is not made aware of your child's absence the office will contact you. For your convenience, a telephone answering machine is on from 4:15 p.m. thru 8:15 a.m. Please continue to send a note to the classroom teacher. Thank you for your assistance in ensuring the safe arrival of your children.

Volunteering in Schools

All parents, grandparents, and community volunteers who wish to participate in any activity at school such as going on field trips, volunteering in the library or for a classroom teacher, working in the breakfast club, or volunteering to assist as a temporary or full School Council Member will be required to have a police check completed and presented to the school in its original format. We so encourage and value your participation that we would like to facilitate this for you as best we can. We can provide a cover letter to your local police detachment that usually results in the check being done at no cost to you. We appreciate your understanding and support. This process is good for three years once completed. **Please contact your local Police Station to inquire about their process for application.**

Spirits House League Basketball

The Belleville Spirits are accepting registrations for house league basketball for boys and girls of all skill levels in grades 3 to 8. The league runs on Friday nights from September 22nd to November 17th. Cost is \$75 which includes a team t-shirt. Please visit www.spiritsbasketball.net for further details or email bellevillespirits@gmail.com

Spirits Basketball Tryouts

The Belleville Spirits Basketball Club will hold tryouts for its Under 14 and Under 12 girls rep teams beginning on Sunday, September 24th. The U12 tryout begins at 1:00 p.m. at St. Theresa Catholic Secondary School and the U14 tryout will follow at 2:30. Please visit www.spiritsbasketball.net for further details or email bellevillespirits@gmail.com

[Tryouts for Belleville Spirits Boys](#)

All tryouts are at Nicholson Catholic College, 301 Church Street. Please use the John Street entrance. There is no cost to attend the tryouts. Please contact the coach listed in the information below:

U12 -- born in 2006 or later

Sunday, September 17 -- 10:00 AM until 11:45 AM

Sunday, September 24 -- 10:00 AM until 11:45 AM

Coach -- Marc Ray -- golf@cgtf.com

U14 -- born in 2004 and 2005

Sunday, September 17 -- 12:00 PM until 1:45 PM

Thursday, September 21 -- 8:00 PM until 9:30 PM

Sunday, September 24 -- 12:00 PM until 1:45 PM

Coach -- Corey Rump -- rump@alcdsb.on.ca



Volunteering with Food for Learning can provide you with opportunities to build meaningful relationships in our school, develop new skills and experience and be a positive role model for our students. Volunteer time commitments are flexible, it is up to you how much time and when you want to contribute.

For more information, and to begin making a positive difference in your community please contact the school today!

HAPPY HEART SINGERS: Calling all young people ages 8 to 14 to lead worship for the 11:30am Mass month. **FREE MUSIC LESSONS** and lots of fun!! Bring friends, make new friends. Rehearsals on monday evenings from 6pm to 7pm in the church. Contemporary music. **SINGERS**, and **INSTRUMENTALISTS** welcome. Call Silvana 613-968-7309 to register.

September 2017

~ September 2017 ~				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4 Labour Day	5	6	7	8
11	12	13 Breakfast Program Begins	14	15 Student Information Forms Due Agenda Payment Due
18	19 Open House and BBQ 5-7 pm	20	21	22
25	26 School Mass 10:00 at Holy Rosary Church Parent Council – 4:00pm	27	28 Terry Fox Walk 2:00pm	29 PA Day

Milk and Pizza lunch will begin in October 2017

KEEP KIDS WARM

Do you need some help fitting your child with winter clothes?
Not sure where to turn?

KEEP KIDS WARM program supports working families
and those in need of assistance.

REGISTRATION

Monday, September 13 - Friday, September 29, 2017
10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday - Friday
and every Thursday 14th, 21st, 29th 10am-6pm

**Registration will be held at the
Children's Safety village behind the Police Station,
John Street entrance**

Bring proper ID for custodial parent or guardian and child.



Quinte Broadcasting
COMPANY LIMITED

ADOPT-A-CHILD HOTLINE
613-966-0882, ext. 4100



keepkidswarm.ca