

September is Kindness Month



School Motto

Every student,
every day,
a success in our
community.

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Principal's Message

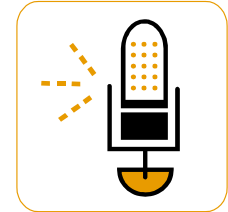
Welcome back to the new school year at Greater Gatineau! We are looking forward to a year of engaging learning experiences, fun-filled activities and exciting school community events!

Many of you have signed up for the free "Remind" app, which allows you to receive text or e-mail messages concerning important school news. Our goal is to have ALL parents sign up for the app, so that you can receive important information. If you sign-up, you will be

advised immediately of a bus cancellation (bad weather), school closure, and other very important information.

Ask at the office for more details or look on the website for instructions on how to sign up.

In order to build school spirit, we have purchased t-shirts for all students and staff members of the school. You can wear the shirt at any time but we would encourage everyone to wear them on assembly days.



This week Mrs. Link and M. Tremblay (Vice-principal) will be having assemblies with all students to review Emergency Procedures (fire drill, lock-down and lock-in)

Construction update

The new top floor classrooms are currently being used, and they look wonderful. The new furniture will arrive at the end of the month. The bottom floor classrooms and daycare room will be ready in about two weeks. The outside courtyard will be ready at the end of the month.

Important Information

MORNING DROP OFFS

If registered daycare parents are dropping off their children for morning daycare you must bring them through the school yard entrance of the school between 6:45 a.m. and 7:45 a.m.

If you are dropping off your child in the morning and are not registered in Daycare, you can bring your child directly to the office between 7:45 – 7:55 a.m. There is no supervision until 7:45 a.m.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

It is extremely important that parents/guardians call the office if their child is going to be late or absent, **it is very important that you report their attendance to Katharine Andriano by contacting the school at (819) 663-4842 ext. 0 no later than 8:30 a.m.**

It takes a lot of time to call parents, who have not reported an absence, so please help us out by calling the school (you can leave a message the night before as well).

PICKING UP AFTER SCHOOL

If you are picking your child up anytime throughout the day, please do one of the following before 1:30 p.m.

- Call Katharine Andriano at 819-663-4842 ext. 0
- Send an e-mail to kandriano@wqsb.qc.ca
- Send a note with your child that day.

It is very important that you call the school before dropping in to pick up your child and please do not call us when you are on your way to the school.



Events at School

OPEN HOUSE

September 10, 2019 at 6:00pm to 7:30pm (see page 5 for details)



GOVERNING BOARD ELECTIONS

Election for new members will take place in the staffroom on September 10, 2019 at 7:30 following the Open House.

PHOTO DAY

Photo day will take place on Friday, September 13 2019.



TERRY FOX RUN

Once again we will be participating in the Terry Fox Walk/Run at school. It will be held on September 26th, starting at 10:10 a.m. Rain date September 27th. Parent volunteers are needed, more details to follow.



Parents Please Note

MEDICATION

It is the policy of the Western Quebec School Board that no medication is to be given to any student without a doctor's authorization and written consent of parents indicating the time of administering the dosage. Parental Authorization Forms are available at the office or on the website. Medication must be delivered to the school office by a parent or

guardian and must be in the original prescription bottle/container. Over the counter medication can't be dispensed by school staff unless there is a doctor's note.

VOLUNTEERING AT SCHOOL & CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

All parents who would like to volunteer at the school (help the class, participate in field trips, etc.), must have a Criminal background check (CBC).

Please request a form from Katharine if you would like to apply for your CBC. The costs will be paid by the Western Quebec School Board.

PIZZA PROGRAM

We need volunteers to run our weekly pizza program. If you have some time on Wednesday at midday please contact Katharine. This program cannot run without great volunteers.

Monthly Assembly

Our first assembly will be on Wednesday, September 25th, 2019, where we will give awards to students who have shown the chosen virtue throughout the month.

Please remember to wear your new Greater Gatineau

t-shirt to all of our monthly assemblies. Wearing the same school shirt helps to create a sense of community at school.

September is **KINDNESS** month. We hope to see students showing us how kind they can be. You can

show this by being kind to others and yourself.



Lunch Time

GOOD FOOD CHOICES

The Greater Gatineau School staff encourages students to bring nutritious snacks and lunches. We want our students eating healthy food throughout the day. We encourage you to send snacks in reusable containers and to avoid heavily packaged prepared items. All staff will monitor snacks and lunches daily. Let's make this a community effort.

Some suggestions for snacks:

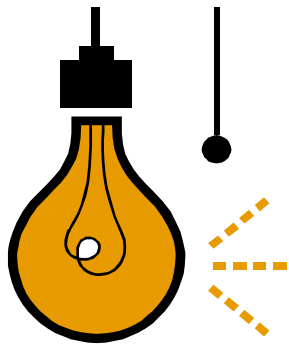
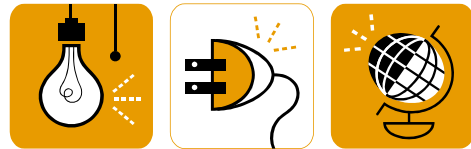
- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Cheese and other dairy products
- 100% fruit juices and snacks
- Granola Bars (no chocolate coating)
- Healthy cereals

Foods to stay away from:

- Chocolate
- Candy
- Chips
- Processed fruit snacks and juices
- Soft drinks

FOOD PROGRAMS

We will once again be having our Hot Meal Program provided by Entreprise Mazzola on Monday and Friday and our Pizza Program on Wednesday. The registration forms will be coming home.



For Your Attention

SCHOOL HOURS

Morning daycare: 6:45 a.m.
(for registered students)

Parent Drop-Off
(supervision begins): 7: 45
a.m.

Morning entrance bell: 7:55
a.m.

Attendance is taken in
class at 8:00 a.m.

Morning recess: 9:45 a.m. to
10:05 a.m.

Lunch hour: 11:45 a.m. to
12:10 p.m. – **K and Cycle 1**
(grade 1 and 2) will eat
lunch; some volunteer
grade 5 and
6 students will help out in
classrooms. **Cycle 2 and 3**
(grades 3 – 6) will have
outdoor recess

12:10 to 12:35 p.m. - **K and
Cycle 1** students will play
outside; some grade 5 and
6 students will volunteer to
play outdoor games with
the younger students.
Cycle 2 and 3 will eat their
lunch

Departure bell: 2:35 p.m.

Afternoon daycare: 2:35
p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (for
registered students)

COMMUNICATION

If you wish to speak to a
child's teacher, please use
their agenda, e-mail them
directly or leave a phone
message at the office.

ALLERGIES

We have a few different
types of allergies in our
school. Specific letters will
be going home to those
classes affected.

However, our whole school
still remains a peanut /nut
free school.

Home & School

The H&S would like to welcome you all back for a new and fun year.

We are working on events for this upcoming year so stay tuned and don't forget you can always reach out to us with ideas. If you want to join us please do not hesitate to contact us, we are always looking for motivated parents to help with events.

You can reach us at gghomeandschool@gmail.com or on Facebook. We hope to hear from you soon.



Daycare

We are still accepting registrations for our before and after school daycare program. If you would like more information either on PD days or to register your child, please call Jennifer at (819) 643-6365 or e-mail jlaxton@wasb.qc.ca.

The deadline to secure your spot at daycare is September 30th.

Our first PD Day activity is scheduled for Friday, September 20, 2019. Any

Greater Gatineau student can join us for the PD activities by registering for the day. The registration forms will be sent home to all daycare students and families who have expressed an interest in receiving PD day information the week of September 4th.

If you would like to receive the PD Day registration forms and have not yet filled in a daycare registration form please let us know.

Club Corner

There are many different clubs and activities available to the children here at Greater Gatineau. Some options are;

- Chess club
- Walking Wednesday
- Small group supervised recess options
- Various sports
- Lego club
- Arts club

- Photography club
- Games club
- Zumba
- Coding club
- and more

If your child has an idea for a club or activity to add please tell them to advise us so we can try to offer something for everyone.

Tribes at Home

MUTUAL RESPECT

What does it look like, sound like and feel like to respect others, yourself and things around you?

Talk about this with your family to set the tone for the school year.

APPRECIATIONS

Give compliments not putdowns to others. This applies at school and at home.

Share ways you can do this with your family.

ATTENTIVE LISTENING

Show people you are listening by stopping what you are doing and looking at them when they talk.

Listen to understand not to respond.

PARTICIPATION

Things are better when everyone participates. What does each person need in order to take part? Do you need to modify things in the environment or the activity itself?

Special Notes

OPEN HOUSE

On September 10th, 2019, parents are invited to attend this year's open house. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. and parents will meet in the gym for announcements and a presentation from administration, including information about Governing Board elections and our Home and School parent committee.

Teachers will give one presentation from 6:20 p.m. – 6:50 p.m., and a second one from 6:50 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (to accommodate parents who have more

than one child in the school).

The homeroom teachers will outline the programming and routines for the year. The French teachers will also be available for you to meet and ask questions.

GOVERNING BOARD

The Governing Board: A True Decision-Making Team. Bill 180 created a form of partnership between users of the school (i.e. parent) and the school staff and also recognizes that the school must maintain links with the community.

The Governing Board makes important decisions regarding the school, and gives input to the School Board about their policies. The Governing Board meets approximately 5 times a year in the evening.

Elections for Governing Board will take place on September 10th, immediately following the Open House at 7:30 p.m. in the staffroom. Please come to the meeting to run for a position, or to elect a parent member. We will also be nominating a parent for the school board special education advisory committee (SEAC). Any parent of a child with an IEP can put their name forward for this committee and one parent will be elected.



REMIND APP

*Please don't forget to sign up for the **FREE remind app** for school and daycare. It is a great way to keep on top of important reminders and announcements, such as school closure or bus cancellation.*

Download the app or check out our website and follow the details on how to sign up.

Special Notes

SCHOOL FEES

If you have not been in to pay the 2019-20 school fees, please do so as soon as possible. This year all outstanding fees that are not paid by November will be sent to collections. If you require a payment plan please contact Tammy Way at 819-663-4842 extension 1 to set one up.

IMPORTANCE OF DAILY READING

We encourage every student in the school to read every night. Start the year off right by setting aside time where the TV, video games and

computers are shut off and you have time to enjoy reading with your child. It will make a huge difference in the success they have at school.

ANTI – BULLYING PROGRAM

Greater Gatineau staff members have been trained in anti-bullying initiatives, and we are committed to ensuring the safety and security of students at school.

If your child complains about an act of violence, or bullying at school, please contact us so that we can address the issue. Please check our website for more details.

SCHOOL RULES ABOUT BULLYING

1. Don't Bully
2. We Help
3. We Include
4. We Tell

TRIBES

Our staff has also been trained in the "Tribes" program. The program is designed to create a safe and caring learning environment. The 4 pillars of the Tribes philosophy are:

1. Mutual Respect
2. Appreciations – No Put Downs
3. Listening
4. Participation