



General Vanier Public School

1025 Harkness Avenue, Ottawa Ontario, K1V 6N9 Phone: (613) 731-3631 Fax: (613) 521-5597

Principal: Jeremy Nowiski
Superintendent: Nadia Towajj

Office Administrator: Peggy Manion
Trustee: Shirley Seward

A great place to learn.



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

This newsletter contains important information. If you don't understand it, please have it interpreted. Thank you.

Cette lettre contient des informations importantes. Si vous ne la comprenez pas, faites la traduire, s'il vous plait. Merci.

Warsidehan aad ayuu muhlim u yahay, hadii aad fahmi waydo turjubaan la raadso. Aad ayaad u Mahadsantahay.

مجلة المدرسة الشهرية تحوي علمومات مهمة جدا تخص مسيرة تعليم اولادكم. يمكنكم الاتصال بالمدرسة لغرض مساعدتكم في ترجمتها لكم ولكم منا جزيل الشكر و الاحترام.



Fall 2017

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October 31	Hallowe'en Assembly at 10 am
November 2	Bus Safety Presentations
November 6-7	Artists in the School Workshops for students
November 9	Progress Reports to go home
November 10	Remembrance Assembly at 1:00 pm, everyone is welcome
November 13-14	Humane Society Presentations
November 17	Grade 3 students on field trip to University of Ottawa
November 23	Parent and Teacher Interviews (5:00-7:30 pm)
November 24	PA DAY- No school for students
November 24	Parent and Teacher Interviews (9:15-11:45 am)
November 20	School Council Meeting, 6:30 pm in our Library
November 30	Monthly Assembly at 10 am
December 1	Field Trip to Landsdowne for grade 1-3 students

Pizza Days: Oct. 27, Nov. 3, Nov. 10, Nov. 17, Nov. 23,

Principal's Message

September and October have been very busy and exciting months at General Vanier Public School, and I am happy to report that things are running very well! As I walk around, I see demonstrations of students developing their math problem solving skills; as all staff are working with the students to improve both the quality and clarity of their answers. We are also focusing on a 'growth mindset' where mistakes are seen as an opportunity for growth and resiliency. If a child makes a mistake in their work, they are encouraged to persevere and find the right answer. We also continue to foster student well-being and encourage students to do good deeds for one another. 'Paying it forward' is mentioned daily.

On Tuesday, October 31, if your child would like to wear her/his Hallowe'en costume at school, please ensure that no toy weapons, objects or masks are brought to school; and that it is appropriate and not too scary for our students (or staff).

Sincerely,
Jeremy Nowiski

LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES

This is a reminder that we have students severely allergic to nuts and nut products at General Vanier PS. These are life threatening allergies. It is not only eating nuts, but even touching oil from nuts, PEANUT BUTTER, etc., that can trigger immediate anaphylactic shock. We are asking you to **not send any nuts** or nut-based products to school with your children. Your co-operation will help us maintain a safe environment for all our students.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Student Progress Reports for grade K-3 students will be issued on November 9. Please look carefully at the comments the staff have written. They will focus on student strengths, needs, and next steps for success.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY



We will hold a Remembrance Day Assembly in the gym, **beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, November 10th**. Please join us for this special assembly. At this assembly we will remember those who have defended our freedom and reflect on the role we can play in promoting peace. Two students from each class will lay a wreath in honor of our veterans. Families are welcome to join us on this solemn occasion. If you will be bringing a veteran to our ceremony, please let us know in advance so he/she could participate in our ceremony. Poppies are available at the school. We encourage children to donate a small amount for their poppy.

MITTENS AND WARM CLOTHES

We would appreciate donations of washed snowsuits, snow pants, hats and mittens that your children have outgrown. We often have students with wet clothing after playtime. Your contributions are deeply appreciated.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, November 20 at 6:30 pm. We will meet in the library. Please join us to learn more about your child's education.



FLU AND COLD SEASON

We ask for the cooperation of all families in ensuring that your child remains home for at least 24 hours after stomach upset or fever. We encourage hand washing to keep everyone well. Thank you for your help!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME/COLD WEATHER

The clocks have been turned back to end daylight saving time. The weather is becoming cold and wet. If it is not raining, or raining lightly, we will be outside during recesses. Please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately for these weather conditions. Please note: we prefer neck warmers rather than scarves, as scarves could easily get caught on the play structure, bus door, etc. Our play structures will soon be closed once the frost hardens the ground.



INCLEMENT WEATHER

On the rare occasions when it is decided that buses will not be running because of poor road conditions, OSTA will make the final decision. Please check <http://www.ottawaschoolbus.ca> first. The appropriate announcement will also be broadcast on radio stations such as:

CBC-FM (CBC Radio)
MAGIC 100.3 FM

JUMP 106.9
HOT 89.9

When the buses are not running, but the school remains open, teachers and staff will be in attendance. If parents choose to drive their children to school, it is important to remember that they must pick up the children at the end of the day or earlier if weather conditions worsen. **When there are no buses in the morning, there are no buses for the rest of the day.** When the school is officially closed due to inclement weather or other emergencies, students and staff will not attend.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES, CLOSING, FIRE DRILLS AND SECURITY DRILLS

We have six fire drills during each school year (in the Fall & Spring). If you are in the school at the time, please exit the building with a class and lend assistance to a teacher. The signal is a continuous ringing of the alarm. At first sound, all students should stand, walk normally and quietly proceed out the proper exit. The emergency Procedures Poster in each room should be consulted for additional information.



In addition, we have two lockdown practices each year. Our first lockdown practice will be held in November. Constable Rachelle James will be here to participate oversee the practice drill.

Emergency Evacuation of the School

In the event of an emergency that threatened the safety of students and staff, we would evacuate the school. Everyone would go to Fielding Drive Public School. After an emergency, when children have been settled in the new location, teachers will start telephoning parents to ask them to pick up their children or make other arrangements. Staff will remain on duty until all children have been picked up. **Please share any updates to phone numbers throughout the year.**

Emergency Closing

Schools can be closed by the Director of the O.C.D.S.B. when the weather is severely uncomfortable or when storms threaten the children's safe trip home. Working parents are advised to develop a plan with their children and reliable neighbors to be used in cases of closures. We have sent home a form for all parents to complete to inform us of your plan. We thank all families who have returned your forms. We remind those who have yet to return your forms to do so as soon as possible. Any child who does not have alternate arrangements approved by the parent or whose parents cannot be contacted will remain at school under the supervision of teaching staff until the parents are able to pick children up.

LOST AND FOUND

There is a lost and found box on the main floor near Exit Door A. Unfortunately many of the items are not labeled with the child's first and last name and therefore cannot be easily returned. **We will display the clothing for pickup when parents are due in the school. At the end of each term, the contents of the boxes are packaged and donated to a charitable organization.**

LIBRARY NEWS

The Library at General Vanier School is a very busy place. The students have already borrowed hundreds of books since the beginning of this school year. Each book is borrowed for a one week period. Please help your child remember Library Day. Kindly help your child care for the Library books so when returned, they may be borrowed by other students.

VOLUNTEERS

In our Early Literacy Program, adults read to students, expose them to literature, cultivate their interest in reading, and develop some language skills within the framework of this program. We thank them for making this program a success. As the Ministry of Education points out, “When parents are engaged and involved, everyone – students, parents, and families, staff, schools, and communities – benefits, and our schools become increasingly rich and positive places to teach, learn, and grow.” Kindly call the school if you are interested in volunteering or join our active School Council.

PARENT’S CORNER

We must never underestimate the valuable role families play in modeling the appreciation of books. Singing a lullaby, playing card games, talking at the dinner table about the highlight of the day are encouraged. We encourage all families to establish a read aloud routine in their home language. Remember that our youngest learners like to reread the same stories and will join in the reading when they are ready or turn the pages. Get creative by acting out a story or read and make a recipe together. Challenge your children to teach you how to do their homework! Families are the first and most powerful teachers of your children. We recognize and appreciate what children learn prior to entering the school doors. These practices ultimately set the stage for lifelong love of literacy and learning.

