

January 2021 Newsletter

Principal's Ponderings

Happy New Year! I hope you had a restful holiday with your family. It seems so strange to think that it is now 2021! And with the beginning of a new year, we begin thinking about new Kindergarten students for the 2021-22 school year. If you have a child or know of a child who will be 5 before December 31, 2021, he/she is eligible to join us for Kindergarten next year. To register, give us a call at 791-8510.



I would like to thank our wonderful SCC for all they do for George Lee staff and students. In December, the SCC provided individual treats for all students and staff. Thank you, George Lee SCC, for your kindness and support!

A huge thank you to all staff for the time, effort and work put into online learning during the last week of school in December and the first week in January. Teachers worked hard to be able to provide students with online learning during these two weeks and did a great job with this change. Support staff participated by reading with students, answering questions about assignments, preparing materials, etc. Everyone was involved to ensure students had what they needed while learning at home. Thank you, parents, for supporting your children with remote learning during these two weeks. The level of engagement that teachers have seen from their students has been impressive!

January is the time for making resolutions. One resolution that we ask students to make (and keep!) is continuing with positive behaviors. We want all students to **come to school and be on time (whether it is in-person learning or remote learning); eat nutritious lunches and snacks; and develop positive work habits.** Healthy, nutritious food is essential for children to be able to learn. Please send snacks and lunches that promote healthy bodies and brains. As well, having regular conversations with your children about positive work habits and behavior - utilizing time in class to complete projects and assignments; appropriate use of technology (refer to Responsible Use of Technology/Digital Citizenship Agreement for Students); use of appropriate language; treating others with respect; and getting to school on time are all ways that help students be successful in school. Your support with these items is appreciated!

January is Family Literacy Month with January 27 being Family Literacy Day. Think about making a family resolution to read together this month.



Upcoming Dates

Jan. 11 - Students return to George Lee for in-person learning

Jan. 15 - Spirit Day - National Hat Day

Jan. 18 - PD Day for staff (no school for students)

Jan. 22 - Spirit Day - Backwards Day

Jan. 29 - Report Cards sent home

-Spirit Day - Pajama Day

Feb. 1 - KA report cards sent home

Feb. 15 - 19th - Family Day Holiday/Vacation

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Virtual Book Fair

Thank you to the everyone who purchased from the Virtual Book Fair! The school library received \$230 worth of Scholastic Book Rewards because of the purchases made families.

Willow Book Bracket Battle

All our classrooms have completed the Willow Book Bracket Battle we started in the fall. It was great to see students getting excited and discussing books and how varied the ultimate winners were in each room.

Ultimate Willow winners by grade:

Princess Puffybottom and Darryl- Kindergarten, grade 1, grade 3/4

Sergeant Billy- gr.1/2, SLC

How to Give Your Cat a Bath- gr. 2

Boxitects- gr. 4

Don't Tell the Nazis- gr. 7/8

Justice Project- gr. 8

Tales from Beyond the Brain- gr.7

A Royal Guide to Monster Slaying- gr. 6

My Deal with the Universe- gr. 5/6

Harvey Comes Home- gr. 5

The Collected Works of Gretchen Oyster- gr. 4/5

Students who finish one of the other Willow **novels** on their own before the end of March can enter a draw to win a gift certificate to DQ or Chapters. We will find out May 26th which books are the provincial finalists for the Willow Award at a live-streamed event.

Thanks again to the SCC for their support of our Willow Battle.

What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what YOU bring to the new year.

-Vern McLellan

Sherry Knoblauch-Schoepp