

GEARY GAZETTE



At Geary Elementary Community School:
"We C.A.R.E."



February 02, 2015

<http://geary.nbed.nb.ca>

"Happy to be Home"

Have we said how happy we are as a school community to be back home? We had such a wonderful turn out on the children's tour night. They brought their family members, many of whom we hadn't seen in months. It was wonderful to see you all. Your impressions of the new school were so positive. Thank you all for coming! We are planning a grand opening but it will be toward the end of March. We hope you will come back for the celebration.

Report Cards

Report Cards will be sent home with students on Thursday, February 5th. You will receive a notice about a scheduled interview time on Monday. If these times are not good for you please let us know as we want to accommodate your family needs. These interviews will be held on Thursday evening, the 12th of February and Friday morning, the 13th of February. Achievement reports will inform you of how your child is performing at school and the next steps for continued growth. All children are learning at their instructional ability level.

Our Condolences

Trish Vail, a parent in our school community passed away on Tuesday, January 20th, Her funeral was a week ago Friday. GECS staff would like to say thank you to the community for their love and support of this family during the past weeks. Keep Noel McIntyre and his boys in your thoughts and prayers in the weeks ahead!

EAT FOR EDUCATION

Eat for Education will be held this year on **Saturday, February 21st**. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend Breakfast at the Lion's Club, between 7:30 - 10:30 a.m. The planning process for this school fund raiser is just beginning. If you would like to help, there will be a meeting at the School after our PSSC meeting on Feb 3rd. The PSSC meeting is at 6:30 p.m. and the Eat For Education meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. You can also help support the breakfast by sending in pancake mix with your children in grades K-2 and syrup with your child in grades 3-5. Thanks so

much!

Home and School

The next meeting of the Home and School Committee will be held on **Thursday, February 19th at 6:30 p.m.** As always, the Home and School has a busy agenda planned. Even if you have never attended a meeting in the past we welcome parents to attend these meetings, as many hands make light work.

The Hot Lunch Program, with Debbie Saulnier at the helm continues to be a success. Menus go out every two weeks for families. We are still using an outside provider for our Hot Lunch Program until the kitchen in the school has been licensed. We are nearly there. The next hot lunch order form is due back at school on Wednesday, February 4th. Please remember that late orders cannot be accepted. The food is delicious and nutritious so if you miss an order you miss two weeks of hearty eating!

There will be a Home and School sponsored **Valentine's Dance on Friday, February 20th** for GECS students at the school from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. The cost is 3.00 per child. If your child is under 6 you need to plan to attend with them. There will be a canteen available for treats to be purchased at this event. Have fun!

The **Spring Bazaar** is an annual event that the Home and School is planning for. Dates for this event are **April 17th for the Children's bingo and April 18th for the bazaar.** This family oriented event is one that allows the Home and School to provide fiscal support to the school - time and time again! As well, the Home and School is Planning to have a "Drive a Ford" event on April 11th at the school. Mark your calendars!

Annual Book Fair

Monday, February 9th - At 1:00 pm - set up book fair in the music room (3 to 5 persons required).
Tuesday, February 10th - 9:00 am - 3:30 pm - Viewing times for teachers and their classroom children (2 to 3 persons required).
Wednesday, February 11th - 9:00 am - 3:30 pm - Viewing times for teachers and their classroom children (2 to 3 persons required)
From 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Fair is open to the public for purchasing books (3 to 4 persons required)

Thursday, November 12th - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm - Children can purchase books (2 persons required).
At 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm - Fair is open to the public for purchasing books (4 to 6 persons required).
Friday, November 13th - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Book Fair is open to the public for purchasing books (3 persons required).

Please let Wallace Carr know if you are available to help out and at what times. As you can see it takes a lot of volunteer time to make this event successful.

Thanks, Wallace Carr (Home and School President)

Kidformation Fair to Kick Off Kindergarten 2015

We are excited to announce that a Kidformation Fair for Gesner, Geary and Assiniboine parents who have students beginning kindergarten in September 2015 will be held at Gesner on **Wednesday, February 18th at 6:30 pm**. The Fair had initially been planned for November but had to be rescheduled. This information session will consist of many of our community and school partners who will provide great information on health, nutrition, readiness skills, and services. Please join us for a great evening of networking and learning. **If you have a preschool child who is too young to begin kindergarten next fall, you are also welcome to come along as there will be many services at the fair that can be used for your little ones as well.** There are many services you can utilize right here in our community. Bring a friend along if they have a preschooler as we are happy to share the information with all those in attendance.

CARE Assembly

Cooperation, Appropriate Actions, Respect, Excellence in Learning

On **Friday, February 20th**, the students in our school will attend a CARE assembly. The CARE Crew, which consists of some students from grade 5, will explain the importance of Appropriate Actions in our school. We have a beautiful new school and we want to keep it that way. Appropriate Actions will be modeled for students so they can learn how to keep their school environment nice and tidy, just by doing the right thing. We hope all students will learn from the CARE Crew and will walk away with more knowledge of how to be a good citizen in our community!

WITS and National Anti-Bullying Pink Day

On **Tuesday, February 24th** students will continue to increase their knowledge about using their WITS (Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek Help) and how to be a good friend and citizen at school and in their community. We will have a group of students from Oromocto High School's *Beyond the Hurt* program visit our students. These OHS students will facilitate different centers in which our students will rotate to gain more knowledge on how to take a stand against bullying and also how to be a kind, accepting and compassionate citizen. We are also hoping to have Cst. Black visit to share information about internet safety. Our students are very fortunate to have these positive role models visit and to listen to their important message. Remember to wear PINK on this day! The National Pink Shirt Day is on **Wednesday, February 25th**! Citizens across the country are encouraged to take a stand against bullying and to show support of this cause by wearing Pink. Our students are encouraged to wear PINK on this day as well!

Theatre New Brunswick Visits on Tuesday, February 17

We are very lucky to have TNB visiting our school on Tuesday, February 17th. They will present the production *The Eighth Fire*. This is the story of two modern-day children who set off on a journey to re-connect with their ancestors and find themselves in a magical, expansive world. This adventure story for audiences of all ages speaks to the transformative nature of family, culture and the emotional power of the natural world and our place within it. The cost for our students to see this performance is \$ 3.00.

Work on Those Motor Skills!

Perhaps the most important aspect of your child's physical education program is getting a positive, early start on his/her basic motor skills and game and sport related skills. A solid Physical Education program begins with movement related activities that pave the way to future success. Developing a strong overhand throwing motion in Kindergarten and Grade one will lead to success further along in racquet sports, volleyball and in track and field. Most every game involving a ball requires a strong throwing motion. Leaping ability, skipping, bounding and jumping high, are useful in all sports and games. The

strong foundations developed at an early age give your child the confidence to step out onto the floor or field, to feel good about playing the game and competing and to contribute to the team. Most often, when a child says that games and sports are "no fun", it is because they lack the confidence in their skills to play with their peers. There will come a time when, for whatever reason, being physically active will become important in a young person's life. Health and physical fitness concerns, a change in the peer group, or a significant other coming along, may each contribute to the desire to be active. A young adult will not climb over the fence to play tennis or softball or join others in a game of basketball or Ultimate Frisbee if there is a lack of confidence in his or her ability to be successful. The role of Physical Education is to produce young adults who value good health and have the knowledge and ability to lead active, healthy lives. Make sure your children work hard on their skills. The journey begins in kindergarten.

Norm Russell, Subject Coordinator, Health and Physical Education

Daily Announcements/Playground Pals and other Roles of Responsibility

Did you know that the grade 5 students in our school read the announcements to the other boys and girls each day? They take this role of responsibility very seriously. These students also collect funds for the IWK on Friday's IWK Hat Day! As well, students in grade 5 are library helpers, playground pals and so much more. They are the oldest students in the school and as such we expect them to model appropriate behavior and help the younger students throughout the school. These grade 5 students do a wonderful job. As the principal of the school, I seldom write a discipline notice for these children. Our grade 5 students are so trustworthy and make sound decisions about their behavior and actions. The staff are so proud of these students!! We count on them to help us with the younger children now that we are back in our own school. Their behavior is a reflection of the values that are instilled in them at home. Thank you parents!

School Supplies

Did you know that the Geary Lion's Club delivers School Supplies to our school each month? These supplies are collected at the bingo. What a nice way for the community to help level the playing field for all students.

Thank you to all of you who bring these valued school supplies!

Bread Tabs

The grade 5 students in our school have collected 900 000 bread tabs to date. Thank you for extending our network and helping us to one day reach our million goal. It isn't very far away now!

Idling Cars

Please be aware that the area around the school is an idle free zone. Please do not leave your vehicles running as the fumes come into the building and play havoc with the air quality. Thank you for helping us with this environmental concern.

Canada's Outstanding Principal

As you have no doubt heard Mrs. Worrall has been named one of Canada's Outstanding Principals. What a tremendous honour for her and for our entire school community. It means that we, collectively have a strong school community. As one of the top 40 principals in the country, Mrs. Worrall has been invited to Toronto by The Learning Partnership to attend a five-day leadership course at the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto from Feb. 22 to 26. As well, there will be a gala celebration on Feb. 24. The Learning Partnership, a national organization that's been around for 21 years, began Canada's Outstanding Principals program 11 years ago, said Rod Thompson, director of executive leadership programs at The Learning Partnership. "Our mission is about advocating strong public education and we know that good schools occur where you have great principals," he said. (excerpt from the Daily Gleaner)

Early and Late French Immersion

If you have a child in grade 2 or grade 5, there was Early and Late French Immersion information sent home today. It is a big decision for parents to consider. Read the information carefully and plan to attend the meeting on Thursday, February 5th, 2015 at OHS.

Respectfully yours,

Bonnie Worrall
for the staff of G.E.C.S.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER	
Monday, February 2 nd	Ground Hog Day Grade 5 begin Compacted English Curriculum
Tuesday, February 3 rd	PSSC Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, February 4 th	Hot Lunch Orders due
Thursday, February 5 th	Achievement Report Cards
February 6 th - 13 th	Scholastic Book Fair
February 12 th	Parent Teacher Interview Times to be assigned in the p.m.
February 13 th	NO SCHOOL - Parent Teacher Interviews - Times to be assigned in the a.m. Profession Learning p.m.
February 14 th	Valentine's Da
Sunday, February 15 th	Canada's FLAG DAY!
Tuesday, February 17 th	TNB presents "The Eighth Fire" - 9:15 a.m.
Wednesday, February 18 th	Kidformation Fair Gesner Street School 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 19 th	Home and School Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Friday, February 20 th	CARE Assembly Appropriate Actions
Saturday, February 21 st	Eat for Education Pancake Breakfast Geary Lion's Club 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Monday, February 23 rd	EYE-DA assessments at GECS (by appointment only)
Tuesday, February 24 th	PINK SHIRT DAY (wear pink and if you don't have pink, wear white!) Anti-bullying awareness
March 2 nd - 6 th	MARCH BREAK No school
April 11 th	"Drive a Ford" Event Fundraiser
April 17 th - 18 th	Children's Bingo/Spring Bazaar



Geary Community School