

GEARY GAZETTE

At Geary Elementary Community School:

"We C.A.R.E."

October 6, 2014

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

GECS Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for September 2015 - 2016 will be held October 14th - 17th. Geary Elementary Street School is still located at Gesner Street School for registration. Mrs. West will be accepting registrations from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and again from 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Make sure you bring:

- a birth certificate
- record of immunization
- medicare card with expiry date.

It is good to register early so that your child can be included in learning opportunities. Transition to kindergarten is an important process and your child should be included!

PSSC

At the first meeting of the PSSC, positions for the new executive were decided upon. Amanda Moss will replace Sean Brown as the Chairperson. Mrs. Moss was formerly the Vice-Chairperson and she was replaced by Shana Mitchell. Tinika Lowe has agreed to be the new secretary of our meetings, replacing Amanda Pottle. Thank you to all of you, past and present, who continue to take a leadership role in the Parent School Support Committee. The next meeting of the PSSC is **Tuesday, October 28th** at 6:30 p.m. Pictures of a recent site visit to the new school were shared at the last meeting of the PSSC. What a beautiful school we have!

Halloween Pre-Teen Dance

This dance is hosted by your Home and School Association. Children may wear a costume and will receive a loot bag.

Who: Geary K-5 students

What: Halloween Pre-Teen Dance

When: **Friday, October 24th**

Time: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Geary Lion's Club

Cost: \$3.00

Start working on your costume as this dance is always a well-supervised and well attended event! It should be fantastic! Thank you to Stacey Gregan and Trish Gallager for organizing these dances.

Picture Retakes

A photographer from Harvey Studios will be in our school for picture retakes on Wednesday,

October 29th. Please inform your child's teacher, on the day (a note in the agenda), of your interest in retakes. Thanks!

K-8 Report Card Pilot

There will be two kinds of report cards: Progress and Achievement. There is a Power Point for parents which can be viewed on the school website. You will receive a Progress Report **November 5th**. The Progress Report is a general update about the progress your child is making and will indicate if your child is: progressing well, progressing, or progressing with difficulty in each area of learning. This report will focus discussions with your child's teacher about next steps for learning during the parent-teacher interview (grades 3-5) or student led conference (grades K-2). The evaluation will be based on provincial learning expectations. Staff will be learning about the K-8 Report Cards and Grade Book (Power Teacher) during the Professional Learning days on October 9th and 10th.

Monday morning, November 10th and the **evening of Thursday, November 13th** will be set aside for these discussions. The staff is looking forward to meeting with parents to talk about student progress and next steps. The children do meaningful work at school and are so proud of their efforts.

Network Bread Tabs for us!

Currently the children have saved 783 525 bread tabs (not bad for five years of collecting). If you have a source for bread tabs would you please network for us, we certainly appreciate it. We will one day reach the million mark!

Home and School

The next meeting of the Home and School Association meeting is **Thursday, October 16th** at 6:30 p.m., at the Geary Lion's Club. Parents are always welcome to attend. At last month's meeting Wallace Carr was named President of the Home and School; Sara Hill was named Vice-President; Leola Langille retained her position of Treasurer; and Amanda Coughlin became our new Secretary. We would like to thank Sharon Kingston-Eldridge and Edna Smith for their leadership in past years. Many thanks!

Whole School Breakfast:

On **Friday, October 31st**, the Home and School is hosting a whole school breakfast for students and staff at the Lion's Club. Thank you to our Transportation Manager, Ed Hogan for making arrangements to have our buses stop at the Lion's Club on the way to school. Teachers are planning a Halloween Unit for the children on this date, which means we will stay at the Lion's Club all morning and bus the children home at 12:15 from this location. Please note, the children may arrive a little early on Friday, October 31st.

New Hot Lunch Program:

Debi Saulnier is doing a great job as our new coordinator. Allen McLaughlin from Griffin's continues to offer a menu that the children enjoy. The next Hot Lunch orders are due: Tuesday, 14 October.

Safe School's Week

We hope you had a chance to discuss school safety with your children this past week. We practiced bus and school evacuations, fire drills and secure the building. We are very proud of the way the children conducted themselves. They were so quiet, respectful and engaged in the process. Practice makes perfect!

Information Session for Parents - Policy 322 Inclusive Education

An information session on the Inclusive Education Policy 322 for New Brunswick will be held on Wed. Oct. 22 at 6:30 at Oromocto High School Theatre. All welcome.

Headstart

There will be a Headstart Meeting on **Tuesday, October 7th** in the Headstart classroom at the Geary Baptist Church. Executive will meet at 5:30 p.m. Parents are welcome to join at 6:30 p.m. If you have any questions or concerns please plan to attend this meeting. **Harvey Studios** is visiting the Headstart Preschool students this week on **Wednesday, October 8th at 9:00 a.m.** **Both Headstart classes will attend.**

Literacy

Please make sure that you take the time to read with your child each night. With parental support every child will become a successful reader. Additional literacy support will be available for students beginning October 14th for six weeks, as we have our Literacy Leads, April Lanteigne and Amanda Snowdon returning.



A call for volunteer reading tutors in local schools!

Are you looking to share your love of reading and get involved in your community? Elementary Literacy Inc. is a not-for-profit charitable organization with the mission to work closely with educators, parents and communities for increasing literacy rates across New Brunswick. To support this effort, Elementary Literacy Inc. offers the Elementary Literacy Friends Program (Elf) in Anglophone schools across NB.

The Elf Program is a one-on-one reading achievement program matching trained community volunteers with grade 2 children who require additional reading practice. The volunteer commitment is one hour, twice a week for ten weeks. Volunteer sessions take place in the school at the end of the day. **Geary Elementary Community School** are looking for volunteers! If you are interested in becoming an Elf volunteer you can register online at elfnb.com or call 1-855-898-2533. Visit us online for more information about the program and other ways to help!

Community Coordinator News

Well we are once again counting the many blessings that come from being a Partner with **Breakfast Club of Canada**. We have signed on for another year, so that means our students will be enjoying a Breakfast supplement five mornings a week, while in the comfort of their learning space. Thank you to our amazing Staff who also contribute to the success of this program, by engaging our students in the classroom and promoting healthy eating all the time.

We are equally excited to be participating in a Pilot Program, **'Eggcellent Foods in School'** sponsored by the Egg Producers of New Brunswick and the Oromocto Food Centre, where our students will be receiving a hard boiled and peeled egg, twice a week. With 6 grams of high quality protein and 14 important nutrients such as vitamin B12, vitamin A, iron and folate, eggs are a natural, fresh food that helps keep children healthy and active. How lucky are we!

WASH YOUR HANDS! ...stop the spread of germs!

Hand washing is easy to learn, cheap and very effective at stopping the spread of disease-causing germs! Wash your hands: before **meals**, before **feeding children** (including breastfeeding), before and after preparing **food**, after using the **toilet**, after changing **diapers** or helping a child use the toilet, after playing with shared **toys**, after blowing your **nose, coughing or sneezing**, before and after visiting with people who are **sick**, and after handling **animals** or their food or waste.

Hand washing tips:

1. Remove all rings and wet your hands with warm running water.
2. Put a small amount of liquid soap in the palm of one hand. Rub your hands together for 20 seconds so you produce lather. Make sure you scrub between your fingers, under your fingernails and the backs of your hands.
3. Rinse your hands well with clean running water for at least 10 seconds.
4. Dry your hands with a single use paper towel. If you are using a hand towel, be sure to change it daily. During flu or cold season, you may want to give each family member his or her own hand towel.
5. Turn off the tap or faucet with the paper towel to avoid touching the same surface that you touched with your dirty hands.
6. Use hand lotion to put moisture back into your skin to prevent dryness and cracking.
7. Model good hand washing technique to your children. Have them sing a song like Happy Birthday while washing their hands to teach them the amount of time that it takes to clean their hands properly.

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/im/iif-vcg/wh-lm-eng.php#a>

Anglophone West School District, Woodstock Education Center

Cross Country Running Club

Now this is a club that we can all be very proud of! The boys and girls in grades 3-5 spent many a noon hour running through the play fields at Summerhill Street School increasing their stamina and endurance levels. We have some truly amazing runners. Please feel free to come and watch your children at the GECS Cross-Country event on **October 15th at 12:25** (rain date October 16th) at Summerhill. The **Regional Cross-Country** event is being held at Hubbard School on **Friday, October 17th at 1:00 p.m.** Thank you so much to Mr. Lanteigne and Mrs. Keizer for their work grooming these boys and girls.

FOSTER FAMILIES NEEDED

Ever thought of becoming a foster family? There are children who need you now. There is an ongoing need in Fredericton and all surrounding areas for new foster homes for babies and children of all ages. If you are interested in learning more, attend one of these sessions or call 1-800-990-0119 or visit our website at www.gnb.ca/family for more information. Fall Information Sessions are being held at Fredericton Public Library on Wednesday, October 8th and Thursday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. Thank you!

News from Guidance

September was a busy month for our students. Guidance lessons are well underway in the classrooms as we support the development of the whole-child. Students have continued to build on their self-regulatory skills with Zones of Regulation and are continuing to learn new and different ways to use their WITS (**W**alk Away, **I**gnore, **T**alk it Out and **S**eek Help). Small group sessions will begin for grades three to five during the month of October. These groups run for one hour a week for six weeks and occur during class time. If you would like your child to be part of the small group that focuses on helping children cope with a divorce or separation or a group for children that are grieving a loved one, please contact Mrs. Hamilton for information. Our first CARE assembly will be in October as we focus on Cooperation. Students will read stories and learn how to cooperate in their school and community.

Violent Video Games

Be responsible parents:

1. Monitor what your child is playing both solely and on-line with others.
2. Find out why your child is attracted to playing certain games ... Is it just for fun or are there underlying issues (ex: low self-esteem, need for sense of control or power, etc.)?
3. Double check age recommendations and reviews.
4. Limit time spent playing games and encourage physical and social activities.
5. Ensure homework and chores are completed prior to playing games.
6. Avoid 1st-person shooter games which can increase the risk of a player adopting the character's violent identity.
7. Establish and enforce clear consequences for rules not followed.
8. Encourage children to swap game tips and tricks so the activity becomes more social than solitary.

9. Rent or borrow the game after reading reviews to ensure the game is appropriate for your child.
10. To ensure safety, utilize the "parental control systems" found on all game consoles to instill time frames, restrict specific games, and limit who your child plays with.

Feedback

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact your child's teacher at 357-4071. Your feedback is important to us.
Sincerely,

Bonnie Worrall and Wendy Peters
for the staff of **G.E.C.S.**

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER	
Monday, October 06	Picture Orders Due
Tuesday, October 7 th	Headstart Meeting Geary Baptist Church Family Center - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, October 8 th	Headstart has Harvey's Studio visit, 9:00 a.m.
Thursday, October 9 th	Professional Learning for Staff NO SCHOOL for students
Friday, October 10 th	Professional Learning for Staff NO SCHOOL for students
Monday, October 13 th	HAPPY THANKSGIVING
October 14 - October 17	Kindergarten Registration 2014-2015
Tuesday, October 14 th	Hot Lunch Orders are due
Wednesday, October 15 th	Grades 3-5/School Cross Country event - 12:25 p.m. Rain date of Oct. 16
Thursday, October 16 th	Home and School Meeting 6:30 p.m. at Lion's Club
Friday, October 17 th	Regional Cross Country Meet - Hubbard School at 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 23 rd	DEC Meeting Stanley High School
Friday, October 24 th	Halloween Pre-Teen Dance @ Geary Lion's Club 6:30 - 8:00 - \$3.00
Tuesday, October 28 th	PSSC Meeting Gesner 6:30
Wednesday, October 29 th	Harvey Studio Picture Retakes

Friday, October 31 st	Orange and Black Halloween Unit (no costumes) School will be held at the Lion's Club on this date do not drop your child off at Gesner or Summerhill H&S WHOLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST
Tuesday, November 4 th Y	Remembrance Day Service at Gesner Street School for K-2 students at 9:00 a.m. Parents welcome!
Wednesday, November 5 th	Progress report coming home
Thursday, November 6 th	Remembrance Day Service at Summerhill Street School for 3-5 students at 11:00 a.m. Parents Welcome!
Monday, November 10	Parent Teacher/ Student Led a.m. only Professional Learning in afternoon for staff NO SCHOOL for students
Tuesday, November 11	REMEMBRANCE DAY/ see you at the Service NO SCHOOL for students
Thursday, November 14 th (evening only)	K-2 Student-Led Conferences at Gesner 3-5 Parent teacher Interviews at Summerhill

Please keep these important dates on your fridge as a reminder about school events!

