

Vanier Vipers Newsletter

1410 Fall River Road
Fall River NS B2T1J1
(902) 860-4182 (Fax) (902) 860-4188
gpvanier.ednet.ns.ca
November 2018



We Remember: GPV will be commemorating Remembrance Day on Friday November 9th. During the ceremony students and staff will take the time to remember the sacrifices made by all of the members of our armed forces, both past and present. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Armistice that ended World War I. This treaty was signed on the 11th hour, of the 11th day of the 11th month. Poppies are available in the main office for a donation that goes to support the Royal Canadian Legion.

Term 1: November marks the end of our first term and report cards will go home on December 5th, 2018. Parents/students are encouraged to check PowerSchool for missing assignments.

Viper Athletics: It has been a very busy and rewarding start to the school year with 9 teams participating in extra-curricular activities!

Soccer - The league wrapped up with the boys and girls team taking heartbreaking losses to Sackville Heights in the finals of the Mariner Central division. They battled hard, but unfortunately came up on the short end this year. Thanks again to the players, Coach Layne, Coach Marcie, Coach Taylor and Coach Crawford!

Volleyball - The season has kicked off and both teams are gearing up for their regular season run. It has been exciting seeing them in the gym before and after school. All the best moving forward!

Flag Football – Coach Pollard keeps the boys rolling, winning his 4th championship in a row! Congrats to the boys who played well throughout the whole tournament – showing hard work and focus can do wonders on the field. The girls took home the Mariner banner as well with a VERY tight game vs. Sackville Heights in overtime – the rivalry continues to grow!



We were happy to be able to offer a 2nd mini Flag football tournament vs. Astral Drive Jr. High allowing both schools to offer more student-athletes an opportunity to experience a new sport. Judging by the smiles on the field – the day was a huge success! Thanks to Mr. Pollard and Coach Brendan Nobes for helping out once again this year!

Cross Country – Mr. Nugent had his team from early September and his enthusiasm for being back in the gym transferred over to his cross-country team! The girls' team won the Mariner Zone Banner and the boys finished in second place. Both teams went on to compete at Regionals and were successful in qualifying for the Provincials that were held in Cape Breton. The conditions were cold, windy and muddy on the Cape; however, they finished with strong results and several personal best times. Shout out to Ms. Aucoin for helping out with the practices as well!

Follow Mr Hanlon on Twitter @VanierSports or follow Pat Healy (@Laker_PatHealy) of the Laker, who is great at re-tweeting any information he receives. We will do our best through Twitter, e-mail, announcements and whiteboard to update on practice and game schedules. In the junior high world – things can change in an instant!

Basketball try outs will not start until Dec. 1 with the season beginning in January!





Library News and Events: My name is Michelle Dey - I am new to your Library. It has been a smooth transition settling in to your warm, welcoming school community. Thank you, to the staff and students.

Our library is thrilled to welcome a number of Authors to the school this year. Josh MacDonald visited mid-October to share his experiences as a playwright, screenwriter, and actor. He encouraged our students to see stories as consumers, with a critical, learned eye. Martine Jacquot is visiting the first week of November, to connect with many of our French immersion students. As a local historical fiction author, she brings an Acadian (Acadien) and Mi'kmaq perspective of Nova Scotia history. Wade White will be visiting in late November to share his passion for Youth fantasy. As an author of several middle school novels, he will share his experiences with the writing and publishing process. And finally, Shalan Joudry is a writer, performance artist and storyteller. She also brings her experience as a cultural interpreter and community ecologist at Bear River First Nation. Students will enjoy Shalan later in the year.

We also welcomed Mario Eleftheros (our HRCE Tech. Consultant), all day, October 29th to share some of the latest and greatest methods for integrating technology into delivering student outcomes. Virtual Reality, Green Screens, coding and robotics, circuitry, stop motion animation, and other useful assistive technologies were demonstrated.

Looking forward, the Library will be hosting a Book Fair. This fundraiser will be organized and delivered by our students. You are invited to stop in and support their efforts during Parent Teacher interviews. Scholastic is sending French and English books, as well as writing tools and activities that may help with your Christmas or Holiday wish list shopping. The students will then help determine how this money will be applied to the library.



Finally, I am looking for donations for the library - wool, felt, and old smart phones, tablets, ipads, etc. that you have not dropped to a depot yet. The HRCE Tech. department will reinstate them to factory settings and ensure all data is wiped before being used by students. Thank you!

Theatre Experience:

All grade 8 students had the opportunity to attend a play at Alderney Landing Theatre on October 25th. "Chasing Champions" was presented by Ship's Company Theatre. It tells the story of Sam Langford, an African Nova-Scotian boxer from Weymouth Falls who was said to be one of the greatest boxers of his time. He boxed from 1903 until the 1920's. Students were impressed by the production and how 4 actors were able to portray multiple characters. They were surprised by some of the race relations of the time and that race riots following a boxing win by another black boxer resulted in 20 deaths across the U.S. Students were also intrigued by Langford's life and did some research on some of the elements of the back-story of the play.



Picture from The Coast, taken by Jennifer Harrison, published March 5, 2018

Guidance News: Exciting things are happening at GPV!



Did you know that the students have started a rock band? Grade 7 and 8 students have come together to play some of rock 'n' roll's finest tunes. Not only do we have guitarist, bassist, keyboardists and drummers; we also have saxophone players and vocalists that are harmonizing like pros! We just received a \$500 grant from the HRCE! We are doing some exciting work together and are always looking for any donations of instruments and gear to help us in our program. If you would like to help our new rock band, please contact Mrs. Banks, our Guidance Counsellor.

A new chapter of Best Buddies is coming to GPV! A few of our students will be attending the Best Buddies conference in Halifax this month, to learn about the program and ways to kick start our chapter. Best Buddies is a program that builds friendships; between people with and without intellectual developmental delays. We want students to have fun playing and learning together in the hope that students will continue to promote the values of inclusion and friendship once they reach adulthood. Watch for details of upcoming bake sale fundraisers for this excellent program!

A few of our female students will be attending an Engage in Engineering conference hosted by Engineers NS along with Dalhousie University. It will be an interactive day of workshops for girls who want to learn more about careers in engineering. Students will have a day of hands-on activities, meet engineering students, professors and professionals working in industry and learn about the diverse careers available to engineers within Nova Scotia and around the world. A truly great opportunity!

Our immunization clinic went very smoothly! Our Grade 7 students had the first of two series of needles. The second clinic will be in the New Year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Banks.

Cafeteria: Please remind your child that they are to remain seated while in the cafeteria, refrain from throwing food and to clean up after themselves. Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated. Pre-paid cards may be purchased. Please see Cafeteria staff if interested.



NOVEMBER CAFETERIA MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 Sweet & sour meatballs & rice	2 Chicken burgers & tater tots
5 Fettucine alfredo with salad	6 Pulled pork with coleslaw	7 Oven baked subs with salad	8 Shepherd's pie with salad	9 Chicken strips & wedges
12 No School	13 Chicken Tortilla	14 Mashed potato bowl	15 Lasagna & salad	16 Poutine
19 Mac n'cheese with veggie sticks	20 Quesadilla's with garden salad	21 No School	22 Spaghetti & meatballs	23 Pancakes with fruit topping
26 Chicken bacon ranch pasta	27 Walking taco's	28 BBQ chicken drumsticks with mashed potato & veggies	29 Sloppy joes with veggie sticks	30 Cheeseburgers & salad

- All daily specials are \$5.00.
- Wraps, sandwiches, salads, fruit and yogurt are available on a daily basis. Developing
- 4 varieties of homemade pizza made daily (Cheese, Pepperoni, Garlic, specialty).
- Fresh baked goods on a daily basis (low fat brownies, cinnamon buns, cookies and loaves).
- Pizza Wraps & Sandwiches.....\$3.50 Salads.....\$2.50 - \$3.75
- Baked Goods.....\$0.66 - \$1.50 Juice.....\$1.75

School Hours: Students will be admitted to the school at 8:35 am. Please do not drop your child off early as there is no supervision prior to 8:35.

Safe Arrival: Should your child be absent from school call 860-4197 and leave a message. Please ensure that your contact information is up to date in case we need to contact you.

Cell Phones / Electronic Devices: Please remind your child that cell phones may only be used during lunch in the cafeteria, outside and upon teacher request. We are not responsible for lost or damaged phones. Parents / guardians are to contact the office should they need a message relayed to their child.



Newsletters: Newsletters will be available on our website. If you require a hard copy please have your child notify the office.



Volunteers: A volunteer includes but is not limited to a coach, a driver, a classroom helper and a trip chaperone. Students will not be permitted to travel to or from a school sanctioned event with a parent (other than their own) unless the parent has a Criminal Records Check, Child Abuse Registry Search and a J-Form on file in the main office. If you have these checks done through another agency, school, or organization, you can request that they send a copy to Georges P. Vanier. Please see the link on our website under volunteers to access the current Child Abuse Registry form. Criminal Records Check can be done through the RCMP office. We appreciate the time, patience and understanding our parents have shown in ensuring our students are safely transported to extracurricular events.

Cold Weather is Approaching: Please make sure that your child is appropriately dressed as they are outside at noon and are exposed to the elements while waiting for the bus.



Early Dismissal of students for Appointments: Parents and guardians are expected to come into the school to sign their child out in the green folder.



No Idling Zone: Please make sure that your vehicle is turned off while waiting to pick up your child as fumes enter the school and disrupt students and staff. This is also a health and safety issue. We thank you in advance for your co-operation



School and/or Bus Cancellation Due to Inclement Weather

School safety is the first priority of the Halifax Regional Centre for Education when making school cancellation decisions. Our schools will be kept open except under extreme circumstances to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision to attend school during inclement weather conditions is the responsibility of each family.

Full Day Closures:

For full day closures of all schools or some schools, the decision will be announced as close to 6 AM as possible. Announcements will be:

- Posted on the HRCE's website (www.hrce.ca)
- Posted on the HRCE's Twitter account ([Twitter.com/HRCE_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS))
- Recorded on the HRCE's School Cancellation Information Line 464-INFO (4636);
- Shared with subscribers to the board's email and text notification system; and
- Communicated to local media outlets.

Early Closures:

If conditions deteriorate throughout the day, the Regional Executive Director may close schools early when weather or road conditions are considered to be a threat to the safety of students and staff. Should this occur, principles will be notified by e-mail as close to 11 AM as possible regarding information about an early school closure. If forecasted inclement weather is imminent later in the day, at **6 AM** an announcement could be made to inform parents of an early school closure and / or to inform parents that a decision will be deferred until no later than **11 AM** following further examination of developing conditions.

Communication of an early school closure due to deteriorating weather conditions will be:



- Posted on the HRCE’s website (www.hrce.ca)
- Posted on the HRCE’s Twitter account ([Twitter.com/HRCE_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS))
- Recorded on the HRCE’s School Cancellation Information Line 464-INFO (4636);
- Shared with subscribers to the board’s email and text notification system; and
- Communicated to local media outlets.

In the event of an early school closure, school buses will be dispatched to schools **two hours** earlier than their normal regularly scheduled pick up for the afternoon dismissal. If the announcement is made at either **6 AM or 11 AM, walking students** will be dismissed at the start of the regular lunchtime. Due to changing weather conditions and early closure procedures some school buses may be delayed.

Cancellation of Bus Runs – Schools Open:

On school days when conditions exist that it is not safe to operate buses there may be a decision to cancel bussing but keep schools open. A decision to cancel some or all bus runs will be announced by **6 AM**. The cancelled buses and impacted schools will be identified in the announcement. Communication of bus run cancellations will be:

- Posted on the HRCE’s website (www.hrce.ca)
- Posted on the HRCE’s Twitter account ([Twitter.com/HRCE_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS))
- Recorded on the HRCE’s School Cancellation Information Line 464-INFO (4636);
- Shared with subscribers to the board’s email and text notification system; and
- Communicated to local media outlets.

Delayed Opening of Schools:

On school days when conditions exist that it is not safe to open schools at the regularly scheduled time but it is predicted that conditions will improve a **2 hour** delayed opening may be considered. Delayed openings would be considered when a severe weather event has concluded but snow clearing or other operations require additional time. Delayed openings would also be considered when the physical plant is experiencing an issue (power, water) and additional time is required to prepare the facility for opening. In the event of a delayed opening the following will apply:

- School opening will be delayed 2 hours
- School bus pick up times will be delayed 2 hours
- Excel childcare will be delayed opening by 2 hours
- Each school will alter morning schedules to best address their time tables.
- Lunchtime will not change.
- Afternoon class schedules will not change.
- Dismissal time will not change.

Important Dates for 2018

November 6	Parents as Career Coaches 6:30 – 8:30pm (cafeteria)
November 9	Remembrance Day Ceremony
November 12	Remembrance Day observed (no school)
November 21	Assessment & Evaluation Day Elementary & Jr. High (no school)
November 22	School dance 7-9pm; SAC meeting 6-7pm
December 5	Report Cards go home
December 6	P.D. am (no school); Parent Teacher meetings 1-3pm & 6-8pm
December 13	Band Holiday Concert 7-8pm
December 20	Snow date for the Holiday Band Concert
December 21	Last day of school for Christmas break
January 3	School re-opens

