

Vanier Vipers Newsletter

1410 Fall River Road
Fall River NS B2T1J1
(902) 860-4182 (Fax) (902) 860-4188
gpvanier.ednet.ns.ca
January 2019



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. It can be very time consuming for the secretary to make all the absent calls in the morning. 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: 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.



Marshall Hughes: GPV was fortunate to have an alumni and future hopeful Olympian visit our school on Thursday, December 20. Marshall Hughes is a community ambassador for RBC and spoke to students about the importance of education, Cheema and the love of his sport. Marshall has been a member of the Canadian National Sprint Kayak Team since 2013 and has his sights on Tokyo 2020.

Band Concert: On December 13th, Georges P. Vanier hosted our annual band concert. Grade 7 band, grade 8 band, jazz band and our Rock band, The Treblemakers entertained the crowd and put everyone into the Holiday spirit.



Christmas Giving Tree:



The Giving Tree was a huge success.

Students delivered the donations to Shelter NS on Dec. 17.

Shelter NS was very thankful and appreciated the donations.

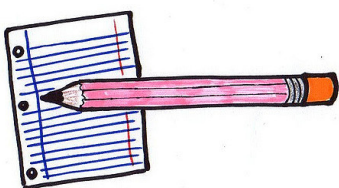


Lions Food Drive: Once again this year, GPV stepped up and brought in an overwhelming amount of canned goods for the Lions Club Express.



African Drumming:

Georges P. Vanier hosted the Maritime Centre for African Dance on Wednesday, December 18th. All students were exposed to cultural dance from areas such as Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia and South Africa. Students were up dancing and enjoying themselves. Some also had the opportunity to play the traditional instrument jembe (drum).



Supplies: Please ensure students have adequate supplies such as pencils, paper at school for them to use. They often need to replenish what they have at school from home come the New Year. This will help ensure they start out 2019 ready for success!

Viper Athletics:

Congratulations to the student-athletes that were selected to represent GP Vanier in the Mariner Zone Basketball this year. Mr. Nugent will be taking the lead once again with the boys' team while Mr. Hanlon and Mr. Sangster return to coach the girls' squad! Best of luck!

Any student – athlete who wished to try out for the 1st ever Vanier Ski Race team can pick up information at the main office. The try outs are this week at Wentworth – please see the notice for the finer details! Intermediate/Advanced level is required, however, race experience is not. Shout out to Tim Hilton, who has offered to take on this exciting adventure this year!

Vanier will be having a Ski Club once again this year! We hope to have all information out by the end of the week. There will be ski trips offered on 3 Wednesdays and 3 Thursdays this ski season.

Thank you for your support with Vanier sports and extra curricular activities.

African Nova Scotian History Challenge: The African Nova Scotian History Challenges and the Delmore 'Buddy' Daye Learning Institute (DBDLI) Awards for Excellence in History were established to encourage discussion about African Nova Scotian History in our schools and communities. The Awards are presented to students whose submissions to the Challenges best exemplify the contributions that African Nova Scotians have made to the history, heritage and culture of our province. The African Nova Scotian History Challenges are for all age groups and all modes of expression. Individual, small group, and class entries are all welcome. Deadline is February 8th. GPV would love to have as many entries as possible :) ow.ly/d/89wI

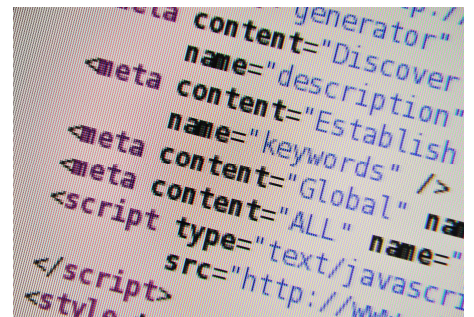


Winter Mugs Workshop: The HRCE Fine Arts Lab at Rocky Lake Junior High is offering free classes to HRCE junior and senior high students on Monday evenings 6-8pm from Jan. 7 – 28. Students will learn to create a functional ceramic mug and try out the pottery wheel. Email dvankoughnett@hrce.ca to sign up.

Guidance News:

Coding Workshop:

GPV is hosting a coding workshop for students interested in coding! SuperNova from Dalhousie University will be holding a small session to teach students the ins and outs of coding. Supernova is a not-for-profit initiative of Dalhousie University that provides youth in Atlantic Canada with fun, educational, and inspiring experiences in science, engineering, technology and mathematics (STEM). Check them out at supernova.dal.ca. Next week, students will have the chance to sign up for this awesome opportunity! The date is to be announced.



Skills Canada:

On January 24 & 25, Skills Canada will be coming to GPV to teach the entire student body about future careers. Skills Canada is a not-for-profit organization that provides Nova Scotian youth with opportunities to explore skilled trades and technologies through a range of programming. This excellent opportunity will be presented to every class.

Winter Blues:

Now that the holidays are over, many students find it hard to come back to school and get into the groove of things. Also, many find it a tough time of year which manifests into the winter blues. There are many ways to support children through this tough time. Did you know exercise increases the amount of serotonin in the brain and helps to improve mood? Exercise is one of the best ways to help anxiety, depression, and many other mental health issues. Just down the road from GPV is the Gordon R. Snow Community Centre. There are many new programs starting next week! Check out their website for more information:



<https://www.halifax.ca/recreation/facilities-fields/rec-centres/gordon-r-snow-community-centre>

Library News and Events:

Speaking with the students from multiple classrooms can be challenging. For this reason, I have created a Google Library Classroom to make our library accessible at all times. There are currently 225 students in my virtual classroom. It is lovely having students from so many classes contributing. Ask your child if they are already members, or would like to join. I invite them! GPV Library - 8 French, class code gvlszq; GPV Library - 8 English, class code funn338; GPV Library 7 French, class code fxbo4i; GPV Library - 7 English, class code 1wzv7fj. This is an easy way to keep informed about activities and events happening in the library. It is also a great forum for comments, questions or suggestions too.



Finally, the library is also happy to be partnering with the Halifax Public Libraries. Thank you to Jocelyn Covert of the Bedford Public Library for providing the "Thinking Critically About Fake News" module for our students. She will be offering this lesson with students over the next few months. I will also be offering sessions on Overdrive and accessing electronic resources. A request was sent via the Vipers e-genda for all students to obtain library cards (accounts) for this purpose. If your child does not yet have an account, please apply online at <https://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/membership/card/>. It is free, and your card will be mailed to you.

Mrs. Dey

Book Fair: 2018 Fall Book Fair Results



Dear GPV Parents, Guardians and Staff,

This year's book fair was a great success. We made a fantabulous **\$780.00** to purchase new books and resources for our library. Thank you very much for your support!!! We hope you and/or your kids enjoy the books and gadgets from the fair!

We also had a fun activity on our first day and gave the purchasers a chance to win a book or a poster by guessing how much unicorn food (Froot Loops) there is in a jar. Our winner is Laura !!! With a guess of 427 compared to 419!!!

Our big winner of the book fair, who won \$25 from scholastic to buy anything from the fair was... Emma in 806!!! Mrs. Murphy also won \$25 in books.

Fun fact! One of the bills that was used to pay had this website written on! www.whereswilly.com. It looks up the bill's history!!! In this bill's case, it's traveled 719 km!!! It started its journey close to Quebec City and has ended up in our library's hands traveling at an average 5.7 km per DAY! This bill has probably been traveling for 126 days. Think about how much ground your bills have covered!

With kind regards,
Eduardo and the GPV book fair crew

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.



Big Thank you to
Tim Hortons
for providing hot chocolate to
the entire school during Spirit Week.

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.



JANUARY CAFETERIA MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2	3	4 Chicken strips & fries
7 Fettucine Alfredo with salad	8 Chicken Tacos	9 Pulled pork with corn bread	10 Shepherd's pie with garlic bread	11 Chicken burgers with veggie sticks
14 Mac n' cheese with veggies	15 Taco's with Rice	16 Spaghetti & Meatballs with salad	17 Lasagna with garlic bread	18 Poutine
21 Chicken bacon ranch pasta with salad	22 BBQ chicken drumsticks with	23 Sloppy joes with salad	24 Chicken tator bowl	25 Cheeseburgers with salad
28 Fettucine Alfredo with Salad	29 Taco's	30 Oven baked subs with veggies	31 Nacho's Supreme	Feb 1 Chicken strips & fries

- 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
- Milk \$0.40 - \$0.80 Choc. Milk \$1.80 - \$2.80 Water \$1.75



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 superintendent 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, principals 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 2hours
- 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 2019



January 3	School re-opens
January 17	SAC meeting 7-8:30
February 7	Parent Information Session regarding registration 7-8:30pm
February 13	Staff meeting
February 18	Heritage Day – Maud Lewis (no school)
February 28	School Dance 7-9pm ; SAC Meeting 6-7pm
March 8	Assessment & Evaluation Day (no school)
March 14	Showcase
March 18-22	March Break
April 5	Report Cards go home
April 10	Parent Teacher meetings 6-8pm
April 11	P.D morning (no school); Parent Teacher meetings 1-3pm
April 18	Grade 7 Immunizations
April 19	Good Friday (no school)
April 22	Easter Monday (no school)
April 25	SAC meeting 6-7:30pm