



December Newsletter

Friday, December 8, 2023

"Respect, Responsibility & Reaching for our Best"



186 Alsek Road, Whitehorse, Yukon Phone: 867-667-5189

www.gmp.yukonschools.ca

We acknowledge, recognize, and respect that we learn, work, and play, within the traditional territory of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council



☺ **Mrs. Ramsay's Remarks**

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas around GMP! The tree is aglow, winter art is decorating the walls, and we sense the anticipation and excitement that the season brings. We have some special festive activities planned for the children. Let me take this opportunity to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday season.

If you have any questions or concerns during the school year, please call or come in to speak with me (Principal at GMP) – my door is open, and it is always better and easier to deal with a minor issue before it becomes a major problem. Kim.ramsay@yukon.ca

Kim Ramsay
Principal



☺ **Christmas Crafternoon: Tuesday, December 19th**

We are thrilled to host our much-loved traditional **Christmas Crafternoon** on **Tuesday, December 19th** in the afternoon. **Parents and family members are invited** to make Christmas crafts with their children. We will supply the materials and instructions. We look forward to seeing you there starting at 1:00pm. Students will start in their own classrooms, and then be free to visit other classrooms to make more crafts!

☺ **Morning Christmas Caroling**

We will gather in the gym to sing some Christmas songs together at **8:45am** on the following days:

- Monday, December 11th
- Wednesday, December 13th
- Friday, December 15th
- Monday, December 18th
- Wednesday, December 20th



*Parents and siblings are welcome to join in!
We'll keep it short and sweet... about 15-20 minutes.*



A reminder that there is
NO SCHOOL for students on Friday, Jan. 19th
due to the PD Day

☺ **Grade 1 Animal Shelter Christmas Project**

Grade 1 is celebrating the festive season and learning about the joy of giving. They love animals and have decided to collect some donations for the Mae Bachur Animal Shelter. From December 4 – 11, they are collecting donations for the shelter including:

- ✓ Dish soap
- ✓ Toilet Paper
- ✓ Small and regular garbage bags
- ✓ Large durable garbage bags
- ✓ Small dog and cat toys

All GMP students are welcome to join in the giving! Please feel no pressure to donate.

☺ **Welcome Back in 2024 - Hot Breakfast served on Friday, January 12th**

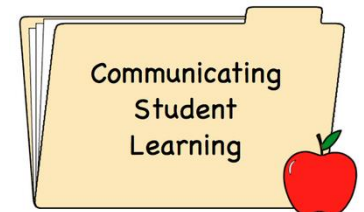


A beloved GMP Tradition is that we all come back to school in January and enjoy a pancake breakfast together. We normally host the breakfast in the gym... however, our student population has grown so much and we no longer all fit in our gym!

We will be serving breakfast in each classroom. Students and families are invited to take part. The menu will consist of pancakes, bacon, sausages, and fruit. All the food will be provided – you just need to come! **Breakfast will be served, beginning at 8:00am.** We will wrap things up by 9:00 am so that we are ready for the school day. Watch for a reminder in January!

☺ **Communicating Student Learning: The next event at GMP**

Written Progress Report Cards will be sent home on Friday, January 26th. Please feel welcome to discuss concerns with your child's teacher at any point in the school year. Rest assured that teachers will also keep in touch with you between the reporting events as needed.



☺ **Bi-Weekly School wide assemblies**

Every two weeks, our school has an assembly. We gather in a circle and sing a welcome song together. Then, each class shares what they have been learning about in their class. We sing a land acknowledgment song (check it out on our website!) and the assembly ends with a 5 minutes slideshow featuring GMP students and some great moments from the previous 2 weeks. We would love to share these assemblies with parents – you are welcome to come! The next 2 assemblies will be on:

- Monday, December 18th at 11:30am in the gym
- Monday, January 15th at 11:30am in the gym

The assemblies are about 20 minutes long.

☺ **School Calendar – unique to GMP!**

This year, our school has adjusted our recess and lunch times *slightly* from previous years. In doing so, we are able to provide 2 days that the school is closed, to provide a break for students throughout the year. The feedback we have received from families in the past, is that having a rest throughout the year, is beneficial to the children.

The goal is that rather than families taking a “home day” off school on random days throughout the year, together as a school we will have a few common “school break days”. We'll give it a try this year and see how it feels for everyone. Your feedback is appreciated.

The 2 school break days at GMP will be Monday, February 5th and Monday, April 22nd.

As well, with this schedule, our students will complete the required number of minutes of school one day ahead of most other Whitehorse schools.

Our last day of school will be Thursday, June 13th.



DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2023-2024

(more to be added as the year goes on)

Monday, December 11th	Skating for Mrs. McDowell's Kindergarten Class at 1:45pm
Wednesday, December 13th	Whole School Science Show Field Trip to Art Center at 1:00pm
Thursday, December 14th	Gymnastics Field Trip for Ms. Herle's Grade 1/2 class
Friday, December 15th	Mrs. Coventry's class – Performance for Parents at 11:30am
Monday, December 18th	Field trip for Mrs. McDowell's class – Shipyards and Public Library
Monday, December 18th	School Assembly at 11:30am in the gym
Tuesday, December 19th	Crafternoon from 1:00 – 3:00pm – FAMILIES WELCOME
Wednesday, December 20th	Last day of school before Christmas Break
Monday, January 8th	First Day Back in the New Year
Thursday, January 11th	Mrs. Coventry's Grade 1 class – Cross Country Skiing at 10:45am
Friday, January 12th	Welcome Back Breakfast for students and families at 8:00am
Monday, January 15th	School Assembly at 11:30am in the gym
Thursday, January 18th	Mrs. Coventry's Grade 1 class – Cross Country Skiing at 10:45am
Friday, January 19th	Professional Development Day – no school for students
Tuesday, January 23 rd	Ms. Mark's Grade 1/2 class – Cross Country Skiing at 1:15pm
Thursday, January 25th	Mrs. Coventry's Grade 1 class – Cross Country Skiing at 10:45am
Friday, January 26th	Polar Nights Dance Show at Art Center @12:45 – Grade 1s, 2s, and 3s
Friday, January 26th	Written Progress Report Cards sent home
Monday, January 29th	School Assembly at 11:30am in the gym
Tuesday, January 30th	Ms. Mark's Grade 1/2 class – Cross Country Skiing at 1:15pm
Friday, February 2 nd	Gymnastics Field Trip for Mrs. Coventry's Grade 1 class
Monday, February 5th	School Break Day for GMP – no school
Tuesday, February 6th	Mrs. McDowell's Kinder class – Cross Country Skiing at 9:00am
Tuesday, February 6th	Ms. Mark's Grade 1/2 class – Cross Country Skiing at 1:15pm
Friday, February 9th	Gymnastics Field Trip for Mrs. Coventry's Grade 1 class
Monday, February 12th	School Assembly at 11:30am in the gym
Tuesday, February 13th	Mrs. McDowell's Kinder class – Cross Country Skiing at 9:00am
Wednesday, February 14th	Valentine's Day
Friday, February 16th	Gymnastics Field Trip for Mrs. Coventry's Grade 1 class
Tuesday, February 20th	Mrs. McDowell's Kinder class – Cross Country Skiing at 9:00am
Friday, February 23 rd	Heritage Day – no school
Monday, February 26th	School Assembly at 11:30am in the gym
Friday, March 8th	Last Day of school before Spring Break
Monday, March 25th	First Day back after Spring Break
Friday, March 29th	Good Friday – no school
Monday, April 1 st	Easter Monday – no school
Monday, April 22 nd	School Break Day for GMP – no school
Thursday, April 25th	Student Led Conferences 3:00pm – 7:00pm
Friday, April 26th	Student Led Conferences – no school for students
Friday, May 3 rd	Professional Development Day – no school for students
Monday, May 20th	Victoria Day – no school
Friday, June 7th	Grey Mountain Gallop afternoon
Monday, June 10th	Family Picnic and Grade 3 Farewell at 5:00pm
Wednesday, June 12th	Whole School Field Trip to Kookatsoon Beach
Thursday, June 13th	Last day of school for GMP (note - most other schools end on June 14 th)
Friday, June 14th	Summer Break Begins!

