



# September Newsletter



Friday, Sept. 1, 2017

"Respect, Responsibility & Reaching for our Best"

186 Alsek Road, Whitehorse, Yukon Phone: 867-667-5189 fax: 867-667-5179

[www.gmp.yukonschools.ca](http://www.gmp.yukonschools.ca)



**Thank you for keeping  
G M P Nut Free!**

## ☺ Welcome from the Principal

Welcome back to school everyone! We have had a great start to the new school year. I am looking forward to partnering with you throughout your child's year at Grey Mountain Primary!

I am pleased to welcome back Laurel McDowell who was away for a year of travels. Welcome to all returning staff members! We are grateful for their tremendous efforts over the summer to create inspiring and engaging classroom environments for our students. Thank you GMP Staff!

I look forward to a positive and productive school year at Grey Mountain Primary. If you have any questions or concerns during the school year, please call or come in to speak with me – 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@gov.yk.ca](mailto:Kim.ramsay@gov.yk.ca)

## ☺ Medical Alerts/Allergies

We have children and staff at GMP with food allergies. GMP School is nut free. Please do not send anything to school with nuts in them. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

## ☺ Introducing the GMP Team for 2017-18

We are here as **Learning Partners**, learning together with your children as a community of curious learners

Molly O'Riordan	Administrative Assistant
Keir Hyde	Kindergarten Teacher
Ann Larnder	Grade 1 teacher
Laurel McDowell	Grade 2 teacher (Monday-Thursday)
Jordan Stevens	Grade 3 teacher
James Mitchell	Grade 2 (Friday) and English Language Learner teacher
Barb Reid	Reading Recovery Teacher and Teacher-Librarian
Alison Ott	Learning Assistance, French and Gym Teacher
Pat Bennett	Remedial Tutor/Educational Assistant
Wendy Kingston	Educational Assistant
Rachel Hrebien	Educational Assistant
Brenda Jenner	Educational Assistant
Ryan Lajeunesse	Educational Assistant
Kim Ramsay	Principal/Counsellor

## ☺ Welcome Back Assembly/BBQ/Open House ~ Friday, September 22nd

All families are invited to our Welcome Back To School festivities!

11:30am - Whole school assembly in the gym (class presentations)

12:00noon – BBQ lunch provided!

12:30pm – Open house. Parents are invited to visit their child's classroom.



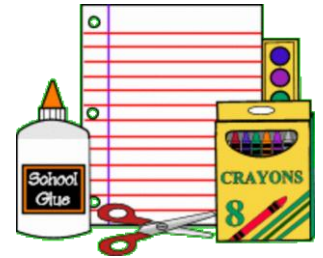
## ☺ School Website

Our school website is at: [gmp.yukonschools.ca](http://gmp.yukonschools.ca)

Here, you will find a calendar with school events, and a variety of interesting nuggets of information! We will do our best to keep it updated!

## School Supplies for 2017-18 at Grey Mountain Primary

As we have done in past years, the school has purchased school supplies for this school year. The price is \$35(kindergarten) and \$60 (Gr. 1 – 3). Having the school buy the supplies has many advantages for both parents and the school.



In addition to the school supply fee, we are asking parents/guardians that your child has:

- a water bottle (for inside the classroom)
- inside shoes(*non-marking that the child can do up on their own – Velcro if necessary*)

**\*\*NOTE: Shoes must provide ankle support suitable for gym activities.**

**Sandals are not recommended.\*\***

- a backpack (large enough to hold their lunch, snack, and a library book that goes back and forth once a week)
- a large shirt for painting

In addition, **Kindergarten and Grade 1 students** should have a complete change of clothes for the inevitable spills.

Please ensure shoes, backpacks, lunch kits and jackets are labelled with your child's name.

Payment can be made at the front office with Miss Molly. Cash or **cheques** made out to Grey Mountain Primary School are accepted. If a student requires assistance with school supplies, please contact the school so we can make arrangements to make sure everyone has the supplies they need to get the school year started.



### Student Safety

The parking lot located on the school grounds is for **staff only** between the hours of 8:00am and 4:00pm. A reminder that students being dropped off by vehicle should be let out on Asek Road and should be instructed on how to enter the school grounds safely using crosswalks and sidewalks. City bylaw states that cars have to be parked 5 meters from the crosswalk. Students with bicycles are asked to lock them up at the bicycle stands.

### ☺ Early Morning Supervision

We provide supervision for students beginning at 8:00am every morning. Depending on the weather, students will go to the library or remain outside from 8:00 – 8:30am when class starts. A staff person will be on duty during this time. If you are dropping your child off early, please ensure they are dressed appropriately.

### ☺ Absentees and Lates

All students are expected to attend school regularly and on time. If your child is going to be absent or late, please call the school to inform us. We also require a reason for absenteeism. If we do not receive a call before 8:30am and your child is not at school, our admin assistant (Miss Molly) will attempt to call you. We hope this procedure will ensure your child's safe arrival at school. Please call the school at **667-5189** to report all absences and late arrivals.

### ☺ From the Ground Up – Yukon Healthy Choice Fundraiser



We are taking part in a **fundraising project**, "From the Ground Up". Order forms will be sent home on Monday, September 11. People can pay by cash or cheque to Grey Mountain Primary. Our school will receive 40% of all orders - which is an amazing fundraiser! Last year, the money was used for the purchase of new home reading books.

All order forms (and money) must be handed in to the office by **Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>** and vegetables will be delivered to the school on **Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>** and families can pick them up after 3:00pm.

**If you are able to volunteer with distributing orders on October 23<sup>rd</sup> after school, please let the office know (667-5189). Thank you!**

For more information: [www.yukonfromthegroundup.ca](http://www.yukonfromthegroundup.ca)

☺ **Grey Mountain Primary School Council**

The School Council will hold their first meeting of the school year on **Tuesday, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>**. Council meetings are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month **at 5:30pm** in the school library. The next meeting is **Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>**. All parents are welcome to attend meetings. Join us!

GMP School Council Members

Kim Thompson – 668-6708  
Tamara Carter - 334-5208  
Ben Campbell – 335-1080  
Ardeth Evans - (587) 890-2201

☺ **Permission forms and notices sent home**

Your child will be bringing permission forms and a variety of notices home throughout the year. If parents are not currently residing together and you would like a copy of the school information mailed out, please let the office know.

☺ **Dressing for the Weather**

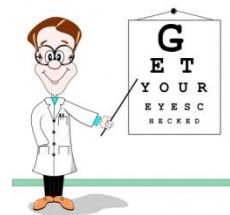
Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. The children can spend up to 1 hour per day outdoors.

☺ **Extra clothes needed at school**

Cooler weather is coming and we are always in need of extra clothes here at school. If you have any extra gloves or mitts. we will gladly take them. Thank you.

☺ **Vision Screening**

GMP will once again conduct vision screening for all students at the end of September. If you are able to volunteer with the screening, we will provide the training! Please let us know if you can help. The results of the screening will be sent home to you. If your child wears glasses, please ensure that they have them at school.



☺ **Swimming**

As part of the physical education curriculum, grade 1 – 3 GMP students participate in 45 minute recreational swims at the Canada Games Centre several times throughout the school year.

The students ride the school bus to and from the Canada Games Center. Approximately a week before a swim, we will send home a permission form for you to sign and return to school. Children will not be able to participate without a signed permission form. **Parents are welcome to join us and they swim for free.** Let your child's class teacher know if you can come with us!

**Swimming dates for 2017-2018 school year**

Wednesday, <b>September 13</b>	pool time: 1:45-2:30pm
Thursday, <b>October 19</b>	pool time: 1:00-1:45pm
Friday, <b>November 28</b>	pool time: 1:00-1:45pm
Thursday, <b>December 7</b>	pool time: 1:00-1:45pm
Tuesday, <b>January 9</b>	pool time: 1:00-1:45pm
Wednesday, <b>January 31</b>	pool time: 1:45- 2:30pm
Thursday, <b>February 15</b>	pool time: 1:00-1:45pm
Friday, <b>March 9</b>	pool time: 1:00-1:45pm
Tuesday, <b>May 8</b>	pool time: 1:00-1:45pm
Wednesday, <b>June 6</b>	pool time: 9:45-10:30pm



**School calendar survey**

The Yukon government is asking students, parents, School Councils and communities to fill out an online survey and provide their opinion on how the school calendar should be organized. We are asking for all of you to take the time to [fill out the survey](#). Hard copies are also available through the school.

It is important to voice your opinion so we can prepare a school calendar that works best for our school. The survey will be open to complete until **October 16, 2017**.

The feedback from this survey will be considered when preparing school calendars for the next four school years, including 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact the school. If you require assistance filling out the survey, please contact Amanda Dieckmann at [amanda.dieckmann@gov.yk.ca](mailto:amanda.dieckmann@gov.yk.ca) or 867-456-6751. For more information, you can also visit [www.education.gov.yk.ca](http://www.education.gov.yk.ca).



## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Tuesday, September 5.....School Council Meeting at 5:30pm in the library  
Wednesday, September 6.....Playground afternoon @2-3pm  
Wednesday September 13....Swimming for grade 1-3 (bus leaves GMP @ 1:20)  
Monday, September 18.....Math Parent Night @6pm-7:30pm in library – parents only!  
Thursday, September 21.....Grade 3 Farm Field Trip  
Friday, September 22..... Welcome Back Assembly/BBQ/Open House  
Tuesday, September 26..... Grade 1 Farm Field Trip  
Friday, September 29.....Veggie Order need to be returned to school  
Tuesday, October 3.....School Council Meeting @5:30pm in the library  
Friday, October 6.....Curriculum Planning Day – no school for students  
Monday, October 9.....Thanksgiving Monday – no school

**More dates here:** <http://gmp.yukonschools.ca/calendar.html>

### ☺ **Emergency Evacuation Sites**

This is a reminder to parents that if an emergency arises that results in an evacuation of the school where it is not safe to re-enter, our "safe location" is **Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses** (across the street) 191 Alsek Rd. (667-4304).

Our "alternate location" will be: **Vanier Catholic Secondary School**, 16 Duke Street.

**WELCOME BACK  
TO SCHOOL**

## ~ School Calendar 2017-2018 ~

Monday, August 28	Staff Planning day – no school for students
Tuesday, August 29	School Starts for students (full day)
Monday, September 4	Labour Day holiday
Friday, October 6	Curriculum Training Day #1 - No school for students
Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving Day holiday
Friday, November 10	Curriculum Training Day #2 - No school for students
Monday, November 13	Remembrance Day holiday observed – school closed
Friday, December 1	Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews - No school for students
Wednesday, December 20	Last Day of school before Christmas break (early dismissal)

### ***\*Christmas break is Thursday, December 21 to Tuesday, January 2\****

Wednesday, January 3	First Day of school after Christmas break
Friday, January 19	Curriculum Training Day #3 - No school for students
Friday, February 23	Heritage Day holiday
Monday, February 26	Curriculum Training Day #4 - No school for students
Friday, March 16	Last day of school before Spring Break

### ***\* Spring Break is Monday, March 19 to Friday, March 30\****

Monday, April 2	Easter Monday holiday
Tuesday, April 3	First day of school after Spring Break
Friday, April 27	Curriculum Training Day #5 - No school for students
Monday, May 21	Victoria Day holiday
Friday, June 8	Last day of school