



# Griffin News

## MAY 2019

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM ÉCOLE GLENBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL  
“TOGETHER WE SUCCEED — ENSEMBLE ON RÉUSSIT”

### Principal's Message

With the many challenges associated with the use of social media for middle school students, we thought that the article below would be a useful and hopefully helpful guide for parents and guardians on how to help our children navigate the world of social media. Although we do agree that there are many positive and productive uses of social media, we are becoming increasingly concerned about how some of our students are interacting with each other on these platforms.

We are also concerned about some of the activities that students are engaging in while using social media.

Our school takes several pro-active measures to educate our students on the appropriate use of social media including lessons through the Physical and Health Education Curriculum (PHE) and in Computer Explorations classes, social media guest speakers, classroom discussions, school district messages sent home to parents, etc. Despite this, we are finding more and more that the negative interactions that occur before and after school and on weekends among students filters into our school when the students meet up again. For our school's efforts to have an impact on students, the reality is it is what happens outside of school that really solidifies what students are learning at school. The onus is on families to monitor their children's' use of social media to help them navigate a digital world that is often not monitored by adults who can give them guidance.

We will certainly deal with the fallout from the negative interactions that occur outside of school hours that filter into our school when it affects kids' relationships with each other and ultimately their learning. We will also continue to educate our students on how their use of social media leaves a digital imprint about themselves that can have positive or negative consequences later in life. However, we know that without parents monitoring their children's use of social media, our efforts will often have a limited impact. If you don't know what your kids are up to on their devices, we encourage you to start up an open and honest dialogue with them. What are the basic social media rules for middle schoolers? Adapted from “Common Sense Media” (<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/social-media/what-are-the-basic-social-media-rules-for-middle-schoolers>)

The reality is that most kids start developing online relationships around the age of 8, usually through virtual worlds such as Club Penguin. By age 10, they've progressed to multiplayer games and sharing their digital creations and homemade videos on sites such as YouTube. By age 13, millions of kids have created accounts on social-networking sites such as Facebook.

#### **Here are the essential safety and responsibility guidelines for middle schoolers:**

- Follow the rules. Many social sites have an age minimum of 13 for both legal and safety/privacy reasons. Encourage kids to stick with age-appropriate sites.
- Tell your kids to think before they post. Remind them that everything can be seen by a vast, invisible audience (otherwise known as friends-of-friends-of-friends). Each family will have different rules, but, for middle school kids, it's a good idea for parents to have access to what their kids are doing online, at least at first, to be sure that what's being posted is appropriate. Parents can help keep kids from doing something they'll regret later.
- Make sure kids set their privacy settings. Privacy settings aren't foolproof, but they can be helpful. Take the time to learn about default settings and how to change privacy settings on your kids' favorite sites, and teach your kids how to control their privacy.
- Kindness counts. Lots of sites have anonymous applications such as "bathroom walls" or "honesty boxes" that allow users to tell their friends what they think of them. Rule of thumb: If your kids wouldn't say it to someone's face, they shouldn't post it.

This was a message that was sent out by a colleague named Andrew Graham. I felt that it was a good message and have copied it with his permission.

Wishing you many sunny and warm days ahead!

*Mr. Chris Evans, Principal*



# Reminders and Important Information

## DATES TO REMEMBER



Thursday, May 9th - Incoming Grade 5 Family Info Night

**Saturday, May 11th - Canadian Parents for French fundraiser: Queens Park garage sale**

Tuesday, May 14 - Character Theme Day

**Tuesday, May 14th - Grade 6 immunizations**

Thursday, May 16, Grade 6 immunizations.

**Thu. May 16th - PAC Silly Olympics!**

Friday, May 17th - Non-Instructional Day (no school for students!)

**Monday, May 20th - Victoria Day statutory holiday (No School!)**

**Have you purchased your yearbook yet?**

**It's time to buy your 2018-2019 yearbook! Get your hands on a copy ASAP!**

**There are only 20 copies left, so act fast!**

**The yearbook is no longer available to purchase online, so please bring cash to Mrs. Moysiuk at the office, or to Mme. Gibson in room 303**

## Lost & Found

Dear parents, with the warmer weather that's been happening and the need for sweaters diminishing, our Lost & Found is looking rather well-stocked once again! If your child is missing any of their personal belongings, particularly items of clothing, please have them check the Lost & Found, which is located near the office. Any items that remain unclaimed at the end of the month will be donated to local charities, so please encourage your student to look sooner rather than later!



## Class Photos and Team Photos

As you may know, before the break all of Glenbrook's homeroom classes, teams, and activities clubs had photos taken by Mountain West. This year, Mountain West has moved to an online system where you are now able to download digital copies of these photos as well as ordering prints.

Below are the details on how to download these group photos if you wish. Please let the office know if you have any questions, or contact Mountain West directly at [604.433.0551](tel:604.433.0551)



**Instructions for school - how to download digital photos and/or order prints:**

- 1) Visit Mountain West Studios website <https://www.mountainwest.ca> and click on the view & order button.
- 2) Once you are at the login page, enter your email address and the following Class/Group code: **GBRKGRP19**

# School Events and Activities 1

## Glenbrook Band

The Grade 8 EGMS enjoyed a successful band trip to the Whistler Cantando festival from April 26-28th. Over 2000 band and choir students participated from BC and Alberta, and students heard stellar performances from top ensembles and musicians, as well as other school groups. **For the first time in the history of the band program at Glenbrook the group won a "gold" award for their performance!** The adjudicators praised their energy, intonation and choice of repertoire. Congratulations to the grade 8 students for their musical dedication and enthusiasm!



If your child is considering band as an exploratory elective for next year, please have them sign up with Mr. Zaenker ASAP. No experience is necessary for beginning grade 7 band and the school has some clarinets, flutes and trumpets available for students who may not otherwise be able to rent an instrument from a music store.

You can also email Mr. Zaenker with any questions at [pzaenker@sd40.bc.ca](mailto:pzaenker@sd40.bc.ca)

## Concours d'Art Oratoire

We'd also like to extend our congratulations to Sophia Killawee (grade 6), Hannah Brine (grade 8), and Kaia Parsons (grade 6), who each took first place in their groups at the Canadian Parents for French Concours D'Art Oratoire, which took place this past Saturday, May 4th!

We commend them and all of the other École Glenbrook students who participated for their hard work and their excellent demonstration of their French language and public speaking skills. Our school was very proud to have them represent us!

## Track & Field

In Track and Field, league meets for the Grade 8s are over and we have over 40 athletes going into the Burnaby-New West Secondary and Middle School Championships on May 1-3 in Burnaby. Grade 8 Athletes who do well will move onto the Richmond-Burnaby-New West Zone Championships on May 14-15 at Burnaby Central. Our top athletes will go to Provincial Championships May 30-June 1 in Kelowna.

Emma Hillaby has already qualified in Junior (Grade 10) Hammer Throw. We anticipate many more athletes qualifying, including Levi Tuura who set a new Glenbrook high jump record with a jump of 1.75m. Levi will be aiming for the BNWSSAA Championship record on May 3 at Swangard - the current record is 1.73m.



Great work, students! We wish you the best of skill & luck in the coming competitions.

## Canadian Parents for French New West

Spring Cleaning? Still swept away by the KonMari method? Canadian Parents for French - New Westminster is participating in the Queens Park Garage Sale as a fundraiser on Saturday, May 11th, 2019 from 9 am to 2 pm and we need your stuff! We are looking for donations of items in good used and saleable condition: clothing, toys, puzzles, small household items, kids books and more! You can drop off your donations at 340 First St at the times below:



**Friday, May 3rd from 6 to 8 pm  
Sunday, May 5th from 9:30 to 11:30 am and 2 to 4 pm  
Wednesday, May 8th from 6 to 8 pm**

Any questions? Please email us at [cpfnewwest@gmail.com](mailto:cpfnewwest@gmail.com) Don't forget to come by on May 11th and find something new to you! Special thanks to our Sponsors, Matt Brabbins and Jeremy Rae from RE/MAX The New West Guys!

# School Events and Activities 2

## Leadership Club Vow of Silence Campaign

Each year the Leadership Club at Glenbrook Middle School focuses on a significant campaign to increase awareness of an important issue and fundraise for a worthy cause. Last year we did a Walk for Water which was wonderfully supported by students, staff, and families of Glenbrook students.

This year we have brought attention to the reality of so many in the world, particularly children, who do not have a voice. By taking a **Vow of Silence** in solidarity with those whose voices go unheard we take a stand for **human rights** and fundraise for **social change**.

In recent weeks

students had the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of these issues in class, which culminated in our **VOW OF SILENCE EVENT on Thursday, May 2nd**. A morning assembly was followed by a school-wide class block of silence. In-class activities, done in silence, highlighted the reality of living without a voice. Funds raised will go to the **ME to WE** organization to **increase access to education for children** around the world.

We hope you will support the Leadership Team's efforts and a campaign that has involved the whole school in raising awareness around human rights. Although the Vow of Silence event has now passed, if you still wish to contribute to our fundraising efforts please visit our fundraising page at: <https://www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/glenbrook-vow-of-silence>

## Glenbrook PAC



A reminder that the PAC will be holding its AGM and elections for next year's PAC on Monday May 27th at 7:00 pm in the Glenbrook library. As many of our PAC members are moving on to new schools next year, we are in need of several parents to take on executive positions. Positions include: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary as well as members-at-large. We meet 7 times a year on Monday evenings at 7 pm as well as about 3-4 executive meetings throughout the year. It is a great way to meet other Glenbrook parents and get involved in PAC fundraising and community events such as the back to school BBQ in Sept. and the entrepreneurial fair later in the school year. Please consider joining us on May 27th and putting your name forward to help. If you have any questions, please contact us at [egmspac@gmail.com](mailto:egmspac@gmail.com).



Mark your calendar! EGMS PAC will be holding the Silly Olympics on Thurs May 16th in the evening. Festivities will include pie toss, human 'hungry hippos' and much more. There will also be snacks for sale with proceeds going to the Grade 8 grad party. Come out and have some fun, the next day is a pro-D day. We require about 20 volunteers to run this event. Please email us at [egmspac@gmail.com](mailto:egmspac@gmail.com) if you can help out!

## Grade 8 Grad

### Recycle for a Good Cause!

Here's an easy way to help support our Grade 8 Grads and the Environment too! The Grade 8 Grad Committee encourages you, your friends and family to drop off bottles and other recyclables at the following "Return-It" depots:



- Queensborough Landing (409 Boyne Street) - Account # 610
- Sapperton (79 Braid Street) - Account # 618

All proceeds will go toward the Grade 8 Grad Evening Celebration.