

Grand Valley & District Public School

APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

Character Trait for the Month of April

The Character Trait we are highlighting for the month of April is respect:

Respect involves actions, thoughts and feelings that demonstrate dignity, courtesy and high regard for self, others, the environment and our world.

Respect means:

- Valuing diversity
- Helping others
- Taking turns
- Listening to others
- Treating others the way you would like to be treated
- Caring for the environment
- Communicating with others in a considerate and courteous manner

JK/SK Registration

If you have a child who was born in 2012 and would like to register him or her in JK, or a child who was born in 2011 and is age appropriate for Kindergarten, please come into the office and pick up a registration package. Students currently in JK will automatically be registered for Senior Kindergarten. ***We ask that parents who know of families who do not currently have children attending GVDPS, but who will be attending in September 2016, to please contact those families about registration. A reminder to all JK/SK parents that GVDPS has full day, everyday JK/SK classes.***

Live Free Day

A very special thank you goes out to all the students, families and staff who participated in our Live Free Day on March 4th. Many students and their families thought of something that they take for granted everyday and made a promise to give it up for March 4th. All the funds raised will stay in our community and assist youth through our student nutrition programs. Congratulations Grand Valley, we raised over \$281.00. Thank you for all your support.

GVDPS and our Student Nutrition Program "Breakfast Club" would like to thank GV Foodtown and the community for their amazing donation of \$90.80 to Live Free day. It means a lot for our students to be able to start their day with a full tummy! Thank you for being such a giving and caring community!

Grade 8 Graduation

Plans are in place for the evening of Monday, June 27, 2016 for our 2015– 2016 Grade 8 Graduation. Please mark your calendars for this special event. More details will follow. Traditionally, parents of graduating students have had a very active role in the planning and preparation for Graduation. If you are interested in volunteering to help out with this event, please come to the Graduation Committee meeting on Monday April 11 at 6:30 pm.

Dance-a-thon

Thanks so much for your generous support of our Dance-a-thon which was held on Friday March 11th. The school received \$1,615.00 in donations. These funds raised are used to support inter-school athletics, technology and the purchase of phys. ed. equipment.

Student Safety - School Lockdown Drill Thursday April 14th

In the interest of student safety, the Upper Grand District School Board has directed all schools to conduct two Lockdown drills each school year. A lockdown is used when it is suspected that an intruder has entered the school and poses a threat to the safety of our students and staff. Detailed procedures have been developed in conjunction with our local police services and provided to all schools as part of our emergency procedures manual.

In a Lockdown, students and staff are directed to secure areas where doors can be locked and the children are kept out of sight (such as classrooms). No one may leave their secure area until they receive an "all clear" from the authorities.

In planning to do a drill, we can ask the local police to monitor and assist us, and we will also hold one if we are asked to do so by the local police. Students and staff will be instructed on what they are to do when a drill is held. Lockdown drills have become familiar to students just like fire and tornado drills which we are also required to do every year.

If you have any questions or concerns about Lockdown drills, we would be happy to discuss them with you.

EQAO 2016 - Attention Parents of Grade 3 and 6 Students

During the weeks of May 25th to June 8th students in grade 3 and grade 6 will be participating in the Education Quality and Accountability Office's (EQAO's) Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. In six one-hour sessions, students will complete a variety of assessment activities designed to allow them to demonstrate their skills and knowledge relating to reading, writing and mathematics as described in *The Ontario Curriculum*. The assessment is administered province-wide and is developed by Ontario teachers and assessment experts to reflect curriculum expectations. EQAO has developed a "Parent's Guide to EQAO Tests" and "Questions and Answers for Parents" (available in 20 languages) to give you more information about the assessments and an understanding of what to expect. To access these resources, go to the EQAO Web site (www.eqao.com), click "Parent Resources" and then select "Primary Division (Grades 1–3) and Junior Division (Grades 4–6)." If you have any questions, please call your child's teacher.

Jump Rope for Heart

This month our school will be participating in the Heart and Stroke's Jump Rope for Heart! Jump Rope for Heart gets our kids physically active and raises vital funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Our school's Jump Rope for Heart kick off assembly is on **Thursday, April 7th at 8:45am**. Our school's Jump Rope for Heart Event Day is on **Thursday, April 28th at 8:45am**.

During our Jump Rope for Heart journey, our school will be promoting health choices, getting active and having fun. Learning some new skipping moves will also be lots of fun and a great confidence booster! On our event day we will set aside special time to have our students participating in fun activities that get their hearts jumping! Students are asked to collect their pledges in the envelope provided (or register to fundraise online at www.jumpropeforheart.ca). Collection envelopes and all pledges must be returned to the school by Thursday April 28th. Thank you for your support and happy skipping!

April 13th, International Day of Pink

The Beyond the Hurt Team would like to encourage all students and staff members to wear pink on April 13th, 2016 to celebrate International Day of Pink. Each year on the second Wednesday of April, millions of people wear pink and take a stand. The Day of Pink is a symbol, a spark that empowers and inspires youth across Canada to create amazing social change!

Concussion Awareness Workshops

Concussions can have a serious effect on a young, developing brain. Proper recognition and response to concussion can prevent further injury and help with recovery. Children and adolescents are among those at greater risk for concussions due to body trauma at any time. Although falls and motor vehicle accidents are the leading causes of concussion, physical activity and sports can also cause a concussion. To address the risk of concussion and to assist parents and students to identify the signs and symptoms of concussion, the Board is presenting free workshops to increase awareness.

Wednesday April 20 th	7-8:30pm Westside SS, Library, 300 Alder St, Orangeville
Tuesday May 10 th Palmerston	7- 8:30pm Norwell DSS, Library, corner of Main and Cumberland St.
Wednesday May 11 th	7-8:30 pm Centennial CVI, Lecture Room, 289 College Ave W, Guelph

ECO Team Update

Earth Day April 22nd

Earth Day is a day that is intended to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's natural environment. Earth day was a day founded as an environmental teach-in first held on April 22, 1970. While this first Earth Day was focused on the United States, an organization took it international in 1990 and organized events in 141 nations. Earth Day activities in 1990 shone a spotlight on important environmental issues like species extinction, water and energy conservation and pollution on the worldwide stage. Earth Day is now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network, and is celebrated in more than 180 countries every year. Numerous communities also celebrate Earth Week, an entire week of activities focused on environmental initiatives.

Lights Out Canada as Part of Earth Day

This year our school as registered to participate in Lights Out Canada.

Lights Out Canada is an annual event during which schools across the country turn off their lights and spend the day engaging with climate change awareness and action. Through Lights Out, participants:

- Engage with the science of climate change, why it is occurring and its consequences.
- Consider how to change everyday habits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Identify opportunities to green schools, homes and communities.
- Are empowered to act on these opportunities, lead more sustainable lifestyles and model positive change.

Crayola ColorCycle

Our school is now collecting used markers, and highlighters for repurposing. These will be shipped to a facility for repurposing. Stay tuned for further details and announcements.

It's All About The Kids

On Saturday May 7, community members are invited to Grand Valley and District Public School for an event that will showcase supports for students that they can access throughout their school lives.

The event is a free drop-in session to connect with local groups in Dufferin County that offer support to students from pre-school to high school. The organizations involved work to help children socially, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

The organizations participating represent a range of services, from health and crisis services, to fitness and cultural groups. Participating groups include: Air Cadets, Art as Therapy, Big Brothers/Sisters, Choices Youth Shelter, Community Living Dufferin, Dufferin County OPP, Grand Valley Breakfast Clubs, Kids Help Phone and more.

The event will also feature a BBQ and silent auction, with all proceeds going to Grand Valley Splash Pad, Skate Park and the Door.

EVENT DETAILS:

- **DATE:** Saturday, May 7, 2016
- **TIME:** 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- **PLACE:** Grand Valley & District Public School, 120 Main St N, Grand Valley
- **COST:** Free

School Council

Bag2School Fundraiser

Back by Popular Demand! We will be hosting a Bag 2 School Used Clothing Drive in the Spring! When cleaning out closets bag up anything that is in good condition and save it for the spring fund raiser. Monday, May 30th – Wednesday, Jun 1st, 2016. Any questions, please contact the school, or Susan Stevenson 519-939-7382. Last year together we brought in 1 ton of used clothing raising \$200. Let's try to beat that number!!

- Help the environment by reducing landfill waste while promoting the 3 R's, especially Re-use
- Support affordable second-hand clothing markets, in both North America and abroad

Yearbooks

Making Memories!! Yearbooks are in the process of being put together. Pictures are being taken on the school yard and during school events to help create this book. The yearbook cover contest is coming in the near future, please watch your child's agenda for more information on this. Order forms for yearbooks will be coming home around the beginning of May.

Community Corner

Grand Valley Minor Softball 2015 Registration

Sunday April 10, 2016 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

At the Grand Valley Arena

Questions? Please contact Grandvalleyminorsoftball@hotmail.com or Alliejordan26@yahoo.ca

Grand Valley Minor Soccer

Registration Wednesday, April 13th 5 pm – 7 pm at the Grand Valley Arena

Ages 2 & 3 \$60.00. Ages 4 – 16 \$80.00.

Payment plans are available please call Darlene 519-928-9676 or email gvmsoccer@gmail.com

[Http://www.eteamz.com/grandvalleyminorsoccerclub](http://www.eteamz.com/grandvalleyminorsoccerclub).

Pre-Teen Video Dance

A fundraiser for the 85 Tornado Air Cadet Squadron.

Friday, April 8, 2016 7pm – 10pm at the Grand Valley Community Centre

Grades 3 – 8, Admission \$10 per person.

Tickets available at the door or online at www.videodanceparty.ca.

Glow in the Dark, Contests, Prizes, Snack Bar.

Grand Valley Public Library

Teen Café Presents ... Rembrandt's Rubiks Cubes

Calling all teens ages 12 – 18 to join us for a night of fun, food and friends while designing your own "Rubik's" cube. Saturday, April 23rd, 2016 7:30 pm

Space is limited please sign up at Grand Valley Library.

A Note from the UGDSB Orangeville School Board Trustee—Barb White



I would like to invite families and staff from our UGDSB Orangeville—Dufferin Schools, who have a Facebook page, to “LIKE” my new “**INFORMATION ONLY**” page. This page has been designed to help keep you current on things that are happening within the UGDSB that impact families in the Orangeville/Dufferin County area. It will also highlight events that are happening within our community that have special significance to families within our schools. Please note that this is an **INFORMATION ONLY PAGE** and all comments will be removed. If you need to connect with me concerning a post, please use the message option. You can find my page using “Barb White Trustee”. Thanks! 😊