

Grand Valley & District Public School

APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER

School Emergency Response Training and Annual Drills

The safety and well-being of our students is our highest priority. Although we hope that an incident that requires response from emergency personnel will never occur in our school, we must be prepared to respond quickly and effectively in case it does.

Each year our school must conduct drills to ensure staff and students are prepared in the event of a real emergency.

The following number of drills is required each school year:

- Three (3) fire drills in the fall and three (3) fire drills in the spring
- Two (2) lockdown drills
- One (1) tornado drill
- One (1) bomb threat drill

For each of these drills, there is an education component to explain why they are necessary. All drills are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of our students.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

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 2nd. Many students and their families thought of something that they take for granted everyday and made a promise to give it up for March 2nd. All the funds raised will stay in our community and assist youth through our student nutrition programs. Congratulations Grand Valley, we raised over \$800 Thank you for all your support.

Moving

If you are planning to move out of the Grand Valley PS area over the summer, please stop by or call, to notify the school office as soon as possible. This will help us with our class placements of students for September.

Grade 8 Graduation

Plans are in place for the evening of Monday, June 25, 2018 for our 2017– 2018 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 16 at 6:30 pm.

April 11th, International Day of Pink

We would like to encourage all students and staff members to wear pink on April 11th, 2018 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!

Empowerment Day

What is Empowerment Day? Empowerment Day was initiated and developed by two very passionate students from Drayton Heights Student Council in 2015. DHPS Student Council has decided to continue this annual event, and invites students from all over UGDSB. World renowned motivational speakers, presenters and performers are brought together to share inspiring messages with our youth. Through this experience we want students within the UGDSB to know that they can make a positive difference in their communities and beyond. All of our grade 5-8 students will be attending this amazing event on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at the Sleeman Centre, Guelph.

Zumba for Students

Zumba is a high-energy fitness activity with specially choreographed routines and the latest music, like hip-hop, reggae and latin. Zumba is proven to increase focus and self-confidence, boost metabolism and improve coordination. More than that it is just a great reason to break a sweat, Zumba makes getting fit a fun experience. We are thrilled to offer Zumba by Liz for any students who want to join us on Mondays and Wednesdays during the second nutrition break. The students will get to join the Zumba class and then eat after. What a great way to spend the spring recess times. Having fun and getting the exercise. The kids will walk away feeling confident and with a smile. We are pleased to be able to offer this due to a rural school grant through the school board.

EQAO 2018 - Attention Parents of Grade 3 and 6 Students

During the weeks of May 22nd to June 4th 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 Wednesday, April 4th at 9:00 am. Our school's Jump Rope for Heart Event Day is on **Thursday, April 26th at 10 am**.

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 26th. Thank you for your support and happy skipping!

ECO Team Update

Our students have participated in a number of Eco events this past month in order to draw awareness to environmental issues. The “Big Crunch” was intended to remind students to choose fresh, local, healthy food. “No Lights & No Electronics” were adhered to while we recognized Earth Hour.

World Water Day was recognized as students wore blue and learned about water and how to conserve it.

Earth Week is from April 16th – 20th. Classes will continue to discuss environmental issues. Dufferin Waste Management will be visiting some classrooms on April 16th to present on proper waste sorting methods and Vermicomposting. April 19th is “wear Earth colours” day. April 20th is Earth Day when classes will be encouraged to go outside for earth play.

Please remember we are continuing to collect used markers and highlighters for repurposing for Crayola ColorCycle. We encourage the use of reusable flatware, water bottles and lunch containers. Please try to keep waste to a minimum.

School Council

Clothing Fundraiser

Back by Popular Demand! We will be hosting a Used Clothing Drive to help support Grand Valley PS. When cleaning out closets, bag up anything that is in good condition or any unsold clothing or linen items from garage sales.

Drop off dates are May 28th – May 31st, 2018

Please contact the school for answers to any questions. 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

Community Corner

Upper Grand Trailway Annual Spring Clean Up & Tree Plant Day.

Saturday May 5, 2018 10am – 12 noon Starting from the trailway parking lot, wear work boots and gloves, Please bring a shovel if you have one. Lunch provided. “Workdays” qualify as Community Service Time for high school students. For additional information please call Kim Davison at 519 928 2973 or Lisa Ashton at 519 928 5252.

Compass Run for Food

Compass Run for Food June 9th 2018

The fifth annual 5 km run/walk and 10 km run on groomed trails and bridges through beautiful Island Lake Conservation Area. All entry fees go to the Food Banks in Orangeville and Shelburne, and local elementary school breakfast programs. Includes Kids’ run, sponsored runners’ kit, shirt, on-bib chip timing, and refreshments.

You May enter as a School Team, an Individual or a family. Students who wish to be a part of a School Team of four are asked to pick up a registration and waiver in the office. Each student entry is \$5.00. Entry forms for School Teams are due by May 9th. For information go to the website: compassrun.com