

The GHES Newsletter

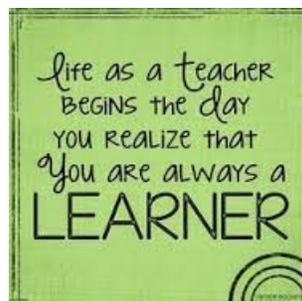
We respectfully acknowledge that we work within the traditional territories of Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Carcross Tagish First Nation.

Principal's Message

January 31, 2019

Happy New Year to our extended Golden Horn Family! It seems like yesterday was Christmas break where the days were filled with friends, food, laughter and long naps by the fire. Yet somehow, Spring Break is now just around the corner with bluer skies, warmer temperatures and vacations to sunnier destinations! The time and space between these longer school breaks means that students and staff are intensely focused on teaching, learning and assessment. We have an amazing staff of educators at Golden Horn Elementary School that provide authentic, experiential and high-quality learning opportunities for students to foster academic achievement and the development of core competencies.

One of my favourite things as principal is reading monthly classroom newsletters and getting a glimpse of student learning through pictures and captions that teachers provide; a picture really is worth a thousand words! I hope that parents also take time each month to read their child's classroom newsletter and to spy into the day-to-day school experience captured through pictures, which make student learning visible. Another opportunity to make student learning visible will be at the next student-parent-teacher conference on Thursday, February 28 or Friday, March 01 when students share evidence of recent learning. You will also meet with your child's teacher to discuss growth over time in literacy, numeracy and an area of core competency. The form to request a time for these conferences went home this week; a copy is also included in this newsletter. Please be sure to return the form to school by Wednesday, February 6, 2019. The Evidence of Learning and Student-Parent-Teacher conferences are two ways that we are Communicating Student Learning this year and will be familiar to families from the Fall.



As part of the changes to curriculum, assessment and reporting, as a school staff we are learners too and take time to reflect and respond to how we are Communicating Student Learning. As such, we have made changes to our plan for this year: we are shifting Interim Report #2 from March 07 to May 1 to replace the Celebration of Learning that was previously scheduled. This plan still meets the requirements of the Department of Education for communicating student learning under the new criteria for assessment and reporting. Revised dates can be found on our school website under the Communicating Student Learning tab.

Darcy LeBlanc
Principal

SCHOOL NEWS

Student Parent Teacher Conferences

Students are excited to again share with you evidence of their learning. This sharing will take place at the Student-Parent-Teacher Conference on Thursday, February 28, 2019 (evening) or Friday, March 01, 2019 (day). **There are no regularly scheduled classes on Friday, March 01, 2019.** Your child is expected to come to the scheduled conference time with you as they will be sharing evidence of their learning with you prior to meeting with the teacher.

Conference times will be scheduled for 30 minutes: 10 minutes outside of the classroom to first view evidence of your child's learning, followed by 20 minutes inside the classroom to meet with the teacher. **It is incredibly important that you and your child arrive promptly for your scheduled time.**

Please **complete and return the bottom part of the form to the classroom teacher by Wednesday, February 6, 2019.** If we are not notified of your preference, a time will be assigned to you. Please complete and return one form per family.

The school will send home notices with your confirmed scheduled conference time by Friday, February 22, 2019.

The scheduling form is found on the last page of this document and can be downloaded from <http://ghe.yukonschools.ca/>

Kindergarten Pre-registration

Kindergarten pre-registration for Whitehorse children opens February 11 at 9:00 a.m.

Kindergarten pre-registration for Whitehorse children born in 2014 opens on Monday, February 11 at 9:00 a.m. To pre-register your child for Kindergarten, visit the

Government of Yukon's website on Monday, February 11. The online form is available to view now, but cannot be submitted until the pre-registration date. **Pre-registration link:** <https://yukon.ca/en/education-and-schools/kindergarten-grade-12/register-your-child-kindergarten>

Heritage Fair

Are you a history buff looking to lend your knowledge towards a historical cause, or looking to learn more about our shared heritage? Help us by becoming a judge at our upcoming Golden Horn School Heritage Fair! We are looking for volunteers to judge student projects to help the school decide on our regional candidates for the upcoming the Stikne Regional Heritage Fair. Judging will be on March 5th during the first day of the school fair.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mr. Ward at Jesse.Ward@gov.yk.ca

General Heritage Fair information:

- The additional information on the Stikne Regional Heritage Fair, including the judging rubric, can be found at <https://www.heritageyukon.ca/sites/default/files/YSRHF-2019-SCHOOL-PACKAGE-FINAL.pdf>
- The Golden Horn School Heritage Fair will be on March 5th and March 6th with an Open House on Wednesday Night 3:30 to 6:00.
- All students are welcome to submit a project into the fair, however only intermediate students (Grades 4 – 7) are eligible for participating in the Stikne Regional Heritage Fair.

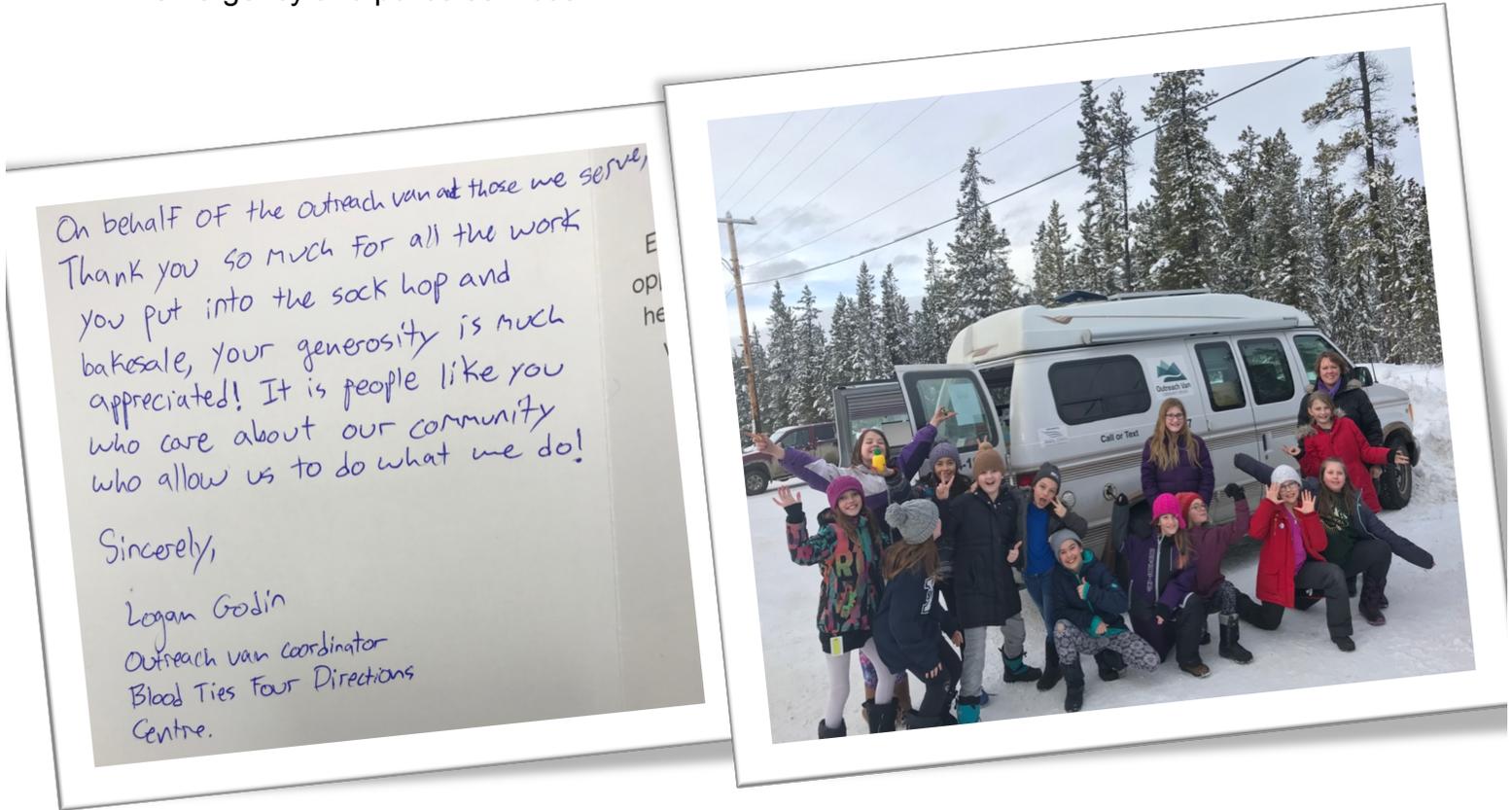
Practice of Emergency Procedures

All schools have emergency plans to respond in the unlikely event of something such as fire, earthquake, or other threats. As part of our school's emergency plan, we practice protocols for different emergency scenarios (we all remember practicing Fire Drills at school!).

This week, we will be practicing for a **School Lockdown**, an event that could be initiated by an unsafe presence in the school (e.g., a wild animal, a threatening person etc.). Your child may come home this week and talk about the experience. During the practice for a lockdown, an announcement is made: *This is a practice of emergency procedures. This is a practice and not a real threat. LOCKDOWN, LOCKDOWN, LOCKDOWN.* Upon the announcement, staff bring any students in hallways, common areas, washrooms etc. into the closest classroom, lock the classroom door and turn off the lights. Staff and students practice sitting silently along a wall away from open sight and/or windows. The front doors to the school are also locked. Once the *All Clear* signal is given, classes resume as normal. If students are outside during GOES, supervising staff would take students to a nearby safe house and report in to the main office.

*Please note that in the event of a real Lockdown, absolutely nobody is permitted to

enter or exit the school until the direction of police or emergency services. Communication between the school office is temporarily suspended other than that with emergency and police services.



Social Justice Club

The Social Justice Club, with the help of Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. Larkin-Boyle, organized a Sock Hop Dance and Bake Sale. Over 45 pairs of socks were collected and \$311.25 was raised and donated to the Outreach Van. Thank you to all of the families and students of Golden Horn School who supported this initiative.

Logan Godin, the Outreach Van Coordinator came to the school and met with the Club on January 29th, 2019. The students got to present their donation, ask questions and have a look inside the van.

It felt good to see how our efforts will help people in our community.

A Farewell from Ms. Quarton

Dear Golden Horn Families,

My love of sun, travel, teaching and children is taking me to Fiji!

On February 18, I will begin volunteering in a school in Suva, the capital of Fiji. I am excited about teaching in a kindergarten class in a place that couldn't be more different from my usual teaching assignment at Golden Horn! I expect that I will have some amazing new experiences and look forward to sending photos and messages from Fiji!

My understanding is that schools in Fiji have very limited resources. I have set up a Fundraising page online (www.fundandseek.com/777063a8 Open until March 1). However, I thought it would be more meaningful for my students to contribute in a tangible way. I have a suitcase that I am hoping to fill with supplies to take with me and need their help!

Suggested donations to fill the suitcase include:

Stickers (these are apparently impossible to get in Fiji and are very popular with teachers and children)

Glue sticks

Scissors (the fancy ones would be fun too!)

Chalk

Scrapbooking Paper

Craft supplies – pompoms, pipe cleaners, etc.

My last day will be Friday, February 1st. However, donations can be brought in until Friday, February 8th.

We are lucky in Canada - we have so many resources in our classrooms. It will be eye opening and challenging for me to teach (and learn!) in a classroom with few supplies or other resources. I hope to share some of my experiences with your children so they can see how children learn in other places and what I'm up to while I'm away.

Thank you so much for your support!

Emily Quarton

SCHOOL COUNCIL

GOLDEN HORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL FAMILY DANCE PARTY

Friday, February 1st from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM in the Golden Horn Elementary School Gym.

The Dace Party will feature:

- Blacklight (wear something white)
- Fog Machine
- Fireworks
- Door Prizes
- Canteen (bring cash)
- Raffle

COMMUNITY EVENTS

HOSPICE YUKON SUPPORT GROUP: LIVING WITH LOSS

An Introduction to Healthy Grieving

Grief is one of our most difficult experiences. And although it is hard, it is a natural response to loss and a normal part of life. In this workshop you will learn about the grief cycle that accompanies any kind of loss. We will talk about healthy grieving and share tools that will help you support yourself and others to heal and grow through times of loss. This is not a grief support group - participants will not be asked to share any personal information.

Wednesday February 6
6:30 – 8:30 PM
Whitehorse Public Library
To Register: 667-7429
[Hospice Yukon](#)

VISIBLE LEARNING

GRADE 7S



Mr. LeBlanc is shown the dance routine by the Grade 7 class during a Christmas Concert practice.



Learning survival skills in Grade 7 G.O.E.S. class.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Friday, February 01 – School Council Family Dance Party (6:30 PM – 8:00 PM)
- Thursday, February 21 – House Theme Day (Rendez-Vous/Klondike costumes)
- Friday, February 22 – Heritage Day stat holiday (School Closed)
- Thursday, February 28 – Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences (3:30 PM – 7:30 PM)
- Friday, March 01 – Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences (8:30 AM – 2:30 PM)
- Tuesday, March 05 – Heritage Fair
- Wednesday, March 06 – Heritage Fair Open House (3:30 PM – 6:30 PM)
- Friday, March 08 – Last day of school before Spring Break
- Monday, March 25 – First day back from Spring Break

STUDENT-PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE

Please **complete and return this notice to your child’s classroom teacher before Wednesday, February 6, 2019**. If we are not notified of your preference, a time will be assigned to you.

(If you have more than one child at GHES, please put down all names here.)

Student Name		Grade	
Parent/Guardian Name		Phone #	

Please circle your preference for student-parent-teacher conference date and time:

Thursday, February 28, 2019 (3:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.) OR
Friday, March 01, 2019 (8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.) OR Friday, March 01, 2019 (1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.)