

# 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

September 25, 2018



The changing colours of leaves outside and the chilly morning temperatures (not to mention the need to wear a touque) are definitely all signs that Fall is now here in Yukon. Our Fall Feast and Open House on Learning was such a great opportunity to gather in community to honour the start of a new school year. The beautiful opening and welcome from the *All Nation Dancers* was a special way to start the event. Thank you to our extended educational community for attending our Fall Feast and Open House on Learning and for supporting the important relationship between home, school and community, which are critical in the overall development of students and their learning.

Our school is moving forward with changes to teaching, learning, assessment and reporting with a re-designed curriculum and a different way of communicating student learning. These changes were discussed at our Fall Feast and Open House on Learning in September. For those of you unable to attend and for those that would like more detailed information, please visit our school website and the section on Communicating Student Learning: <http://ghe.yukonschools.ca/communicating-student-learning.html>. We

invite parents to stay informed and to connect with us with questions, comments and feedback at any time throughout the year. There will also be more formal ways to provide feedback during the year.

The changes to assessment, reporting and communicating student learning aim to more explicitly provide evidence of student learning and growth over time. Check out the following video, *Austin's Butterfly*, to get a sense of the big idea of what is meant by demonstrating growth and learning over time: <https://vimeo.com/38247060>. The first communication of student learning for 2018-2019 is the **Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences on October 11 & 12**. The conference is a three-way dialogue with student, parents, and teacher. Parents will have an opportunity to first view evidence of student learning, growth and achievement prior to meeting with the teacher. The meeting with the teacher will focus on literacy, numeracy and an area of core competency. The guiding questions in each area will be: *How is your child doing in this area? Where to next for their learning?* Parents will have an opportunity to ask questions and to determine how they can support their child's learning. Parents and students should also visit the Music Room, Gym and Library to see practical application of skills in these areas and to discuss progress with teachers.

I hope that you and your family take time to enjoy the beauty of Fall as it settles in and brings with it the reminder and possibility of change. Similarly, as a staff we are thinking critically about the changes to communicating student learning and continuing to challenge ourselves to learn, grow and be open to change.

Darcy LeBlanc  
Principal

## SCHOOL NEWS

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### **GHES Dress as a Super Hero Day Wednesday**

On Wednesday, September 26 Golden Horn Teachers, with the help of students, will take the Bucket Challenge to help in raising awareness and money for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD).

Two graduates from GHES, Ross and Finn Beaulieu, suffer from this debilitating disease which affects all the body's muscle systems and results in their progressive loss of strength. It is the most common fatal genetic childhood disorder and affects primarily boys across all races and cultures.

Ross and Finn are two brave, funny and adventurous Superheroes who provide inspiration for living everyday to its fullest. A group of Whitehorse women, including our own GHES teachers Michelle Beaulieu and Fran Nyman, are running in the Chicago

Marathon to raise money for research to find a cure for Ross and Finn and other boys with DMD. Golden Horn School is joining them in their fundraising efforts to GO THE DISTANCE TO END DUCHENNE!

**Bring a Donation and Your Own Bucket and you will get to dump cold water on the teachers!**

\$2.00 - 500mL size Container

\$5.00 - 1L Size Container

\$10.00 - 4L Ice Cream Size Bucket

**Wednesday, September 26 at 2:00 pm**

**Cold water is poured on the teachers/volunteers on the GHES PLAYGROUND (rain, snow, sleet or sun)**



## **GHES House Group Theme Days**

House groups help to create a sense of belonging and community within our school. There are four House groups at Golden Horn Elementary School: Salmon, Caribou, Eagle, Lynx. Each student is assigned to a House group when they first start at the school and is part of that House group until they leave in Grade 7. Each House group earns points for school-wide events and gather in their House group during special events. At the end of the year, the House group with the most points has their House group animal displayed on the end-of year cake and offers the cake up to the school community as the winning prize.

### **Theme Days 2018 - 2019**

A different class or staff member will host one of the monthly theme assemblies. The host(s) will decide what to include in the presentation. For example, a couple of students might write and present the big idea of the theme. A couple of other students might read a poem or story about the theme. The class might sing a song or show a video clip related to the theme. The class might make decorations related to the theme. The class might invite a special guest to speak. T

### **Theme Days Assembly Program:**

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory  
Assembly Host Presentation  
House Groups  
School Song

### **Theme Days:**

- September 26: Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) Fundraiser**  
Dress Up: Hero, Superhero, Notable Person
- October 02: Awareness of Residential Schools**  
Bring Awareness: Wear an Orange Shirt
- October 31: Halloween**  
Dress up: Halloween Costumes
- December 20: Christmas Vacation**  
Dress up: Pajama Day
- January 24: Retro Day**  
Dress Up: Clothing from any decade: 40s, 50s, 60s, 70, 80s, 90s...
- February 21: Heritage Day/Rendez-vous**  
Dress Up: Klondike Theme
- April 18: Crazy Colour Day**  
Dress Up: Crazy Colour combinations
- May 10: Pine Grove Run**  
Dress Up: Crazy/cool hair day
- June TBA: Grade 7 Farewell**  
Dress Up: Fancy Dress Day

## **From the Ground Up Fundraiser**

**From the Ground Up** is back! Students are out selling boxes of vegetables to fundraise for the school and support local farmers. Envelopes are due back to the classroom teachers on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Pick up of vegetables is on October 19 between 3:00pm to 6:00om. Please visit the website for more information:

<http://www.yukonfromthegroundup.ca/>

## Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences

Students have been working hard so far this year and they are excited to share with you some evidence of their learning. This sharing will take place at the Student-Parent-Teacher Conference on **Thursday, October 11 (evening) or Friday, October 12 (day)**. There are no regularly scheduled classes on Friday, October 12. Your child is expected to come to the scheduled conference 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 to view evidence of your child's learning and 20 minutes to meet with the teacher. It is important that you and your child arrive promptly for your scheduled conference time.

**Please complete the [Student-Parent-Teacher Conference Form](#) and return it to the classroom teacher by Monday, October 1. Conference form is also available on the school website: <http://ghe.yukonschools.ca/> 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, October 5.**

## School Emergency Notice

At the beginning of each school year, our school prepares a School Emergency Response Plan to ensure we can act immediately to protect the health and safety of students should a school emergency arise.

Please make sure the school has your current contact information (physical address, phone number and e-mail), so that we can reach you should there be an emergency.

**Please Read:** the Department of Education's [School Emergency Response Plan](#) as it outlines how school staff would respond to emergencies such as a fire, earthquake, threat, medical incidents, issues with the school building or other situation.

**School Emergency Plan is also available on the school website:**  
<http://ghe.yukonschools.ca/>

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

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### Annual General Meeting

Please join us for the School Council AGM, to be held from 6:30-7:30 pm on Wednesday, Oct 3rd in the GHES library. Light snacks and refreshments will be served. Child care is available - please let us know in advance if you need childcare so that we can book babysitters accordingly.

<http://ghe.yukonschools.ca/school-council.html>

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

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### Golden Horn Judo

Golden Horn Judo will begin this year on **Friday, October 5th**. The practices are 3:30-5pm most Fridays. Fee for the season is \$250; this includes Judo Yukon membership, Judo Canada membership, approximately 18 practices, 2 inter club tournaments and the use of a Golden Horn Club gi (judo uniform). The season goes from Oct. to the end of April. All are welcome to come after school to try it out, learn about Judo and see if it is for you. **Registration to follow after practice at 5pm.**

### Free LDay Workshops: Using Brain Science for Motivation and Organization

#### Encouraging Words

Tuesday, October 16

Learn ways to motivate and foster a growth mindset in children and youth.

#### Scattered to Skilled

Wednesday, October 17

Tools for helping your family get organized and share responsibility.

More info: <https://ldayukon.com/new-events>

### Square 1 Volleyball Program

Grassroots 10-week program where young athletes are taught FUNDamental volleyball skills followed by modified games. Cost \$125.00 Register online:

<http://www.heatyukonvc.com/>

# VISIBLE LEARNING

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## GRADE 1S



Ms. Sutton-Olson and Ms. Merrick's Grade One Classes are learning lots and enjoying Cultural Days at G.H.E.S. They loved learning about hand games, First Nations Dancing, trapping, medicinal plants, orienteering, crafts and yummy bannock! What a wonderful day they had!

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

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- Wednesday, September 26 – Super Hero Dress Up Day (DMD Fundraiser)
- Tuesday, October 02 - Orange Shirt Day (Residential School Awareness/House Group Theme Day)
- Wednesday, October 03 – School Council AGM (6:30)
- Monday, October 08 – SCHOOL CLOSED (Thanksgiving)
- **Thursday, October 11 (night) – Evidence of Learning and Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences (3:30pm – 7:30pm)**
- **Friday, October 12 (Day)– Evidence of Learning and Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences (8:30pm – 3:00pm) \*No Regular Classes\***
- Tuesday October 16 – School Photo Day
- Thursday, October 18 – Earthquake Drill (10:10 am)
- Wednesday, October 31 – Halloween Dress Up (House Group Theme Day)
- Friday, November 02 – PD Day (School Closed)