

GLADSTONE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

Mar 9 – Family Library Night
(3:30 pm - 5:00 pm)

Mar 17 – St. Patrick's Day

Mar 19 – Student Led
Conferences (4-7 pm)

Mar 20 – NO CLASSES
(Student Led Conferences)

Mar 23 – Family Library Night
(3:30 pm - 5:00 pm)

Mar 24 – Mixed Matched
Monday

Mar 25 – Turtle Tuesday

Mar 26 – Whacky Wednesday

Mar 27 – Thoughtful Thursday

Mar 28 – Fashion Forward
Friday

Mar 27 – Last day before Spring
Break

Classes resume April 6

Dear Gladstone Families,

Well, we have made it through February! I know many of you were not able to attend our first Coffee with the Principal last week. Those that did brave the chilly evening, participated in a lively talk around numeracy. We started by looking at the results of an extensive study of 35,000 preschoolers across Canada, the U.S., tracked the impact of students' skills in the areas of math, reading and attention on a child's success in these areas five years later. The study found that rudimentary math skills had:

- more than double the impact of reading skill
- four times the impact of attention related behaviours

When I first read this, I was shocked to see that early math skills have twice the impact on future learning success than early reading skills. I want to note that students who were confident in math early on had success in all subject areas – not just math. The researcher's summary stated:

"Mastery of early math skills predicts not only future math achievement, it also predicts future reading achievement."

– Dr. Greg Duncan, Northwestern University

We looked at some of the work that teachers have been doing in order to build strong number foundations for our students. One key to growing student success is explicit teaching of key number skills and strategies. At our meeting we looked at a basic subtraction problem together ($73 - 37$). Most of us were taught to use the basic algorithm but few of us were shown why it works. Our practice at Gladstone is to help students not only get the right answer but understand what is happening as we seek to find it. We do this through various models such as number lines, Cuisenaire Rods, and by taking numbers apart in a variety of ways to make them easier to work with. I encourage you to check in with your child at home and during Student Led Conferences to see what they would do with the above problem.

Sincerely,

- Mr. Nikkel

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MARCH



Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
1	2 Day 2	3 Day 3	4 Day 4	5 Day 5	6 Day 6	7
8	9 Day 1 LIBRARY NIGHT (3:30-5:00 pm)	10 Day 2	11 Day 3	12 Day 4	13 Day 5	14
15	16 Day 6	17 Day 1 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 	18 Day 2	19 Day 3 STUDENT LED CONFERENCES (4:00-7:00 pm)	20 Day 4 NO CLASSES STUDENT LED CONFERENCES (9:00 am -12:00 pm)	21
22	23 Day 5 MIXED MATCHED MONDAY LIBRARY NIGHT (3:30-5:00 pm)	24 Day 6 TURTLE TUESDAY	25 Day 1 WHACKY WEDNESDAY	26 Day 2 THOUGHTFUL THURSDAY TALENT SHOW (Grades 3-6)	27 Day 3 FASHION FORWARD FRIDAY LAST DAY BEFORE SPRING BREAK	28
29	30	31	*APRIL 6th RETURN TO CLASSES			

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AROUND THE SCHOOL

Performing Arts

Congratulations to Rooms 11, 13 & 16 on their performance of Toy Symphony with the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra! Under the guidance of Ms. Suzu and Ms. CD, students performed with rhythm sticks and egg shakers. Ms. Suzu from the MCO will continue her collaboration with Gladstone throughout this school year.



Note: After Spring Break, we will be shifting our focus to Dance. Students will need to come to class prepared to move. This means clothing they can dance easily in, indoor running shoes and a water bottle.

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SPECIAL NOTES

We are hosting auditions for the upcoming Gladstone Talent Show on March 13th and 16th. Interested students can pick up an intention/permission slip from the office and return it to Ms. Cook-dowsett (Ms. Cd) before March 11th.

The talent show itself is on Thursday, March 26th.



The poster features a teal background with a spotlight on the left and a microphone on the right. The title 'GLADSTONE SCHOOL TALENT SHOW' is prominently displayed in purple and yellow. A yellow starburst contains the text 'GRADES 3-6'. A teal box lists the audition dates: 'Friday, March 13th & Monday, March 16th'. A purple box lists four steps to participate. A dark purple box specifies performance length: '30 seconds & 2 minutes in length'. A teal calendar icon shows 'MARCH 26'. Illustrations include a spotlight, a microphone, a drum, and two masks.

GLADSTONE SCHOOL
TALENT SHOW

GRADES 3-6

Auditions
In Room 9 at Lunch on
Friday, March 13th &
Monday, March 16th

Steps to be in the talent show

- 1) pick your talent
- 2) prepare, practice, rehearse, refine
- 3) Fill out & return audition permission slip
- 4) write your name in a time slot to audition

Talent performances must
be between
30 seconds & 2 minutes
in length

MARCH 26

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SPECIAL NOTES

GLADSTONE

SPIRIT WEEK

March 23rd - 27th!

	<p>MONDAY</p> <p>MIX MATCHED MONDAY.</p> <p>Wear different Socks for World Down Syndrome Day</p>	<p>TUESDAY</p> <p>TURTLE TUESDAY</p> <p>Dress at your favourite animal</p>	
	<p>WEDNESDAY</p> <p>WACKY WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Wear wacky hair, hat or clothes</p>	<p>THURSDAY</p> <p>THOUGHTFUL THURSDAY</p> <p>Spread kindness to others. Dress in your favourite colour or as a twin with a friend</p>	
	<p>FRIDAY</p> <p>FASHION FORWARD FRIDAY.</p> <p>Dress in your best or favourite outfit!</p>		

Let's make this a week to remember!

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