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# CGS NEWS

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## **A message from Mr. Malo**

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Hello everyone.

I am very pleased to be writing in the second student produced newsletter of the school year. Our first newsletter was well received and I am sure the following ones will be as well.

It was great to see all the girls returning, recharged and smiling, from the winter break. Many stories and laughs were shared on the first day back with more sharing each day.

We look forward to all the wonderful things the girls will do in 2018 for the second half of the school year. What is better still is that they can share those things here, in the newsletter, with you. We hope you enjoy reading the stories and updates about our school.

## **CGS Highlights**

- **The 2<sup>nd</sup> term clubs have been posted in the main hallway. Come check them out!**
- **We met our sock fundraising goal with 750 socks.**
- **7c filled the most crates for the Calgary Food Bank and Mr. Malo celebrated by wearing a wig. (Check out the photo gallery).**
- **Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Bentley have gone on maternity leave! Good luck to them and their babies!**
- **We would like to welcome two new teachers to our CGS community: Ms. Somaye Saeidi and Ms. Aimee Trudel**
- **The next used uniform sale is on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00. Mark your calendars!**

# An interview with Chair and Vice-Chair of the School Council

## A lot of people don't know what School Council is for, what is your role here at CGS?

**Nova:** We are a group of parents and some staff, like your principal and teacher liaison. We enhance student learning at the school by special events and...

**Amy:** funding different programs and coordinating programs like the fun lunch program and the fresh fruit program that's in the office at Bel Aire and Lakeview. We have parent volunteers who run these programs and we run some events and fundraisers to help fund those programs.

**Nova:** I should clarify you guys have also heard us being called Parent Council but, technically, our term is School Council. Every school has a school council of parents and teachers.

## What are some of the things that you have done and what are some of your plans for the future?

**Nova:** Some examples of what we have done are the furniture in the learning commons. The parents all came together to help fundraise for that. The back to school barbecue which we do annually and which we are doing again next year. The skate party which we always do.

**Amy:** The used uniform sale and one of our parent volunteers runs the career speaker series. So if you've seen professional women come in at lunch hour and give talks for what they do for a career, that's one of the committees at school council. We run casinos, that's one of the big fundraisers for the school. So every two years we have parents that volunteer and help at the casino, that funds big projects, like the library, the court yard enhancements that you'll see coming in this summer, new band instruments, big projects like that.

**Nova:** We have so many programs I don't know if you guys have heard of "feed the teacher" before, this is where we have parents bring in meals for teachers during student led conferences. Scholastic book sales, we have parent volunteers that coordinate that, and it actually goes to funding your maker space. You guys have your maker space which comes from selling books. You probably didn't know all these things that school council helped out with. Stuff like your 3D printers, your living wall, the TV screens by the tech deck were funded through school council.

## When and where does school council take place?

**Amy:** We meet one Friday a month, typically in the morning here at Lakeview and the dates vary. But our next meeting is February 9th at Lakeview at 9:30 in the morning and everyone is welcome, not just people that have a role on School Council. Any parent can come and the principal speaks, sometimes our superintendent speaks. Nova and I will often give updates, what's going on with projects around the school and the agenda is different every month. But we have one meeting every month typically.

**Nova:** The school principal is always part of the School Council. Mr. Malo helps us to help coordinate for special events and this year we are lucky enough to have Ms. Popow as the teacher liaison. She then will go back to the teachers to inform them about activities and events that are happening so that she can either get them to help volunteer or to just let them know what going on. It's really important that we have a teacher that comes to all our meetings.

**Amy:** And at the meetings she gives updates on what all the grades teams are doing, like if one grade is going on a field trip or whats going on in their gym curriculum or math curriculum. This way parents can stay informed with whats going on in the classroom.

## Every grade at CGS is always doing something new, here is what the grades are currently working on!

**Grade 4:** Grade 4's have been exploring simple machines and discovering that levers and gears live amongst us everywhere! We've built catapults, played with chopsticks and made gear trains. Such fun! In social we are designing an updated version of the Alberta crest, and we have added things that better represent our regions and Alberta's highlights. We soon will start diving into Alberta's small town settlements and their cultural heritages. We are eagerly anticipating our ski/snowboard days next week with the grade 5's and our fingers are crossed that it is not as shockingly cold as last year!

**Grade 5:** As we come to the end of our first term in grade 5 we are well into our learning and having a lot of fun! As part of our inquiry into Electricity we were very fortunate to have the some special guests from the Electrical Engineering Technology Department at SAIT come and explore circuits and their applications with us. Every girl had an opportunity to create their working switch and receptacle. As part of our Go Girls work, we are reading *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*. This is a wonderful story of a young girl who grows in her understanding of herself, her beliefs and values and her relationships with others and gets into a lot of mischief while doing it! We are creating our own visual journals journals as a way of recording our personal evolutions throughout the school year. In Social Studies we are beginning to learn about the many groups of people who have shaped Canada into the place it is today and finding commonalities and differences in the experiences of each of these groups. Finally, in Math we are focused on better understanding patterning and algebraic equations. All of this learning is being taken up through our conceptual lenses of Balance and Perspective. We continue to find so many connections and opportunities to understand situations from many different viewpoints.

**Grade 6:** We Grade six students have just finished up a few very big units. We have been exploring our Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and had a wonderful time acting as Supreme Court judges and deciding court cases based on our fundamental freedoms. In science we have been exploring flight adaptations in nature and about mechanical flight as well. In the beginning of January, the grade six teachers revealed to us what our big innovation project is going to be and we couldn't be more excited. Stay tuned to upcoming editions of CGS News for more information about our project!

**Grade 7:** The first week back from winter break the 7s explored Avonlea and all of the wonderful characters from *Anne of Green Gables* through studies of the play and film in humanities. We are now deepening our understanding even more through an inquiry in theatre production, including makeup, costuming, set design, and acting related to Anne. In science the girls are right back at it developing a plant species that can thrive and adapt to their unique "Planet X"s, which students designed before winter break, and are looking forward to dissecting different plants next week!

**Grade 8:** 'In grade Eight Science we are studying viscosity by betting on epic maple syrup, corn oil and water races. We are looking forward to buoyancy boat building competitions. In math we are working on maintaining balance as we explore Algebra. In Humanities we're exploring the unique worldview of the Aztecs, while investigating the themes that come from cultures colliding. The knowledge we gather will help us better understand conflicts in society, as we prepare to write compelling fiction.'

**Grade 9:** Grade Nine hit the ground running this new year. We have been exploring the diverse elements that make our planet and how they are organized in the Periodic Table. Check out our element cards in the hallways! We are refining our essay writing skills and are looking deeply into economics, labour and consumerism in our Humanities. Our teaching team presented about our STEM conference to our School Board, too!

# Griffins Sports

## Basketball

Basketball season is off to a great start! Come cheer on the Griffins at one of their games. You will find the schedule for the junior and both senior teams on the wiki under athletics.

## Badminton

The new 2<sup>nd</sup> term clubs are on the board and Badminton is one of them! If you are interested make sure to sign up. Better sooner than later!



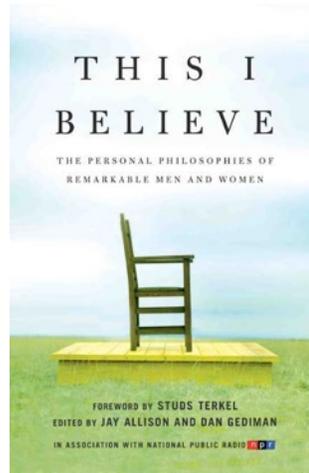
**\* Just a reminder that we still need more Physical Literacy Photos!**



**Leadership should be born out of the understanding of the needs of those who would be affected by it.**

**- Marian Anderson**

- Here is a list of clubs that students from grades 6-9 can participate in.
- Dodgeball Club
- Harry Potter Club
- Cheer Squad
- Badminton
- Gay-Straight Alliance
- Drawing Club
- Happiness Club
- Living Wall



“This I Believe” is a series of essays written by a variety of people. Based on the 1950 series, this book shows the thoughts and beliefs of many people. Some of the essays from the previous series are present in this book as well. “This I Believe”

gives perspective on many things, such as religion and belief, that change and grow. I suggest that anyone who reads this book read it slowly. “This I Believe” is appropriate for any age. I suggest that you read it.

By: Andrée-Anne Forbes

## Joke!

Where do snowmen keep their money?

In a snow bank!

# CGS Photo Gallery



One of the Griffins senior basketball teams



Mr. Malo rockin' his wig



The junior Griffins basketball team



The first Cheer Club meeting



Crazy socks and shoes day!

We want your feedback!

What did you think of the second edition? If you have any suggestions or comments about the CGS NEWS tell us!

Email us at:

[cgs.news@calgarygirlsschool.com](mailto:cgs.news@calgarygirlsschool.com)

Have any ideas for articles, riddles, or more? Email us your idea and maybe you will see it in the next edition. We are always glad to have guest writers and great ideas!

**We would like to thank Ella Forsythe-Rhyno for her support with the interview and André-Anne Forbes for doing a book review for the CGS NEWS.**