

Good Friday to all! Welcome to our second semester. We always feel a sense of fresh beginnings and new opportunities at this time of year - we hope our students feel the same.

New Staff

We welcome Mr. Oliver and Mr. Zietsma back to our school. Each was busy with other activities during the first semester but are ready to teach this semester. We're appreciating his teaching two Business classes this year, while Mr. Oliver takes on both senior Science and Gr. 9 Math. One other notable change is that Mr. VanBarneveld is responsible for this year's Coop students and is already busy prepping the students for their work assignments. We wish all teachers and students a safe and productive semester in 2020.

Banquet

Arrangements are proceeding well for this year's Banquet. SLT has chosen "Frosty Night" as their theme, Fri. Feb. 21 as the night (6:30-10:00), and has chosen some musical talents for entertainment. The plan is to host this extravagant event at Michelangelo's Banquet Hall on Hamilton Mountain. We salute their organizing talents and industry as they make their preparations. Ask your child if he or she plans to attend.

Parent Information Evening

We are beginning to plan for and to consider next year's courses and students. Online course requests opened this afternoon. After completing the online process, please get the printed confirmation forms into the office ASAP.... the deadline is Feb. 14. Just head to the website, follow the links and you'll see the relevant documents.

Next Monday, we plan to meet with parents with students in Gr. 8. Our main aim is to speak about course selections, student services, special needs and leadership development. We'd love to see you in the Guido Music room, ready to begin at 8. Come a bit earlier if you'd like a tour of the school.

Sports Report

Elliott once again reports, "January was certainly a short month - just two weeks of classes. This left a brief window of opportunity for Guido sports, but that didn't deter the various teams from continuing with their seasons. The Guido hockey team finished its tryouts and the team is set. It played an awesome game against HDCH in the Hometown Showdown and took the victory by a large margin. Thanks to all the supporters who came out to the game - it was great to see so many there cheering Guido on!

The volleyball and basketball teams continued with their practises, but unfortunately missed out on a number of games due to the labour conflicts in the public schools. The annual Ping-Pong tournament wrapped up, and the students even took the teachers on in an 8 vs 8 tournament, with each teacher matched against a student. A close score but students took the victory! Finally, intramurals continue into February."

Art Club

In our efforts to introduce parents to the clubs in this school, let me say a bit about the Art Club. Each year, this club operates to allow students to practise other skills outside a structured art environment. It also gives an opportunity for students who can't fit art into their schedule, but who love to draw and paint. Assembly murals are yearly events and once the idea is decided upon, the work begins.

The real work gears up in February where the focus for the next few months is either the school play or Arts Alive. Arts Alive is on this year and this is a great opportunity for students to work with others, and to share creative inspirations. We have a theme for this year's Arts Alive (April 30 and May 1) but what the end result will look like, will depend on this year's art club members. Be sure to come out to view the results!

Volunteer Opportunity!

We are looking for someone who is willing to work with a few refugee students on reading and writing. They are wonderful students to work with, eager to learn, and have excellent conversational English. If you have time in the morning and are willing and able to volunteer on a regular basis, we would love to have you. Just contact the office and we will answer any questions you may have.

Wishing you all the Lord's blessing in the month ahead,

Mr. R. VanAndel

For Your Calendar

Mon. Feb. 3	Gr. 9 Information Evening; Music Room
Tues. Feb. 4	Semester I Report go out
Mon. Feb. 10	Gr. 8 Day
Wed. Feb. 12	Public Health Vaccination Day (school)
Tues. Feb. 18	Vision Evening (gym)
Wed. Feb. 19	First R&D Day; students home early
Fri. Feb. 21	Winter Banquet (6:30-10:00) @ Michelangelos