

Welcome to another season of the GAB. To refresh your memory, this is a monthly publication for parents of Guido students in which we provide some news and information about events happening here at school. We want to share this with parents so that they can be as invested in the school as we and the students are.

Welcomes

We began this school year with 432 students, 37 teachers (full and part time), 7 EAs, 1 (hard-working custodian), 2 secretaries, and a host of behind the scenes people who manage all the other things that make for a successfully operating school. Along with a number of new students, and 117 Gr. 9 students, we also would like to welcome Mrs. Carolyn Bouwman as our newest EA, Mr. Stephen Redwood who is teaching History and Geography this semester, and Mr. Matthew VanAmerongen who is looking after History and Bible classes. We're confident that all of you will soon feel quite comfortable here and find a spot in this school. A special welcome also to the many new families who have either enrolled their child in Gr. 9, or whose child has begun classes here in a different grade. We're glad to have you!

Dutch Students

We are, once again, hosting Dutch Students from the Netherlands. As part of their English program, Greijdanus School in Groningen sends students to various English-speaking countries where they get to practice English, but also to experience a different culture. Mrs. Scott will be in charge of guiding these six students through a bunch of activities here, including a three day trip (with host students!) to Ottawa. Many thanks also to those six families (students and parents) who offered their time and home as accommodation for the Dutch students. We know that sometimes great friendships have developed out of these occasions.

Belize Trip

Students in their senior year would have started to hear about the Edu-Deo work trip to the country of Belize in March (not sure where Belize is? - check it out!) Last spring, after several COVID years of not being involved, we explained the concept of a working trip for a group of high school students. This past week, interested students could pick up an application form and submit it to the office by Thanksgiving weekend. We hope to choose 12 mostly senior students who will be travelling to Belize, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Rich and Jody Tomlin, where they will assist in the actual building of a Christian school called Presbyterian Day School. Such teams are now termed Co-Impact teams, and are designed to help students see God's work in different countries and through different experiences around the world. So, encourage your Gr. 11 or 12 son or daughter to apply and in this way, make a difference in his life and in the lives of others.

R&D (Research and Development)

Many of you are aware that our teachers are engaged in an R&D (Research and Development) program each fall and spring. For eight Wednesday afternoons (from 2:15-4:00), teachers engage in professional development here at school and students are dismissed early. For those of you new to the school, buses will leave about 2:10, so it's important to adjust your calendars accordingly. Our first R&D begins on Oct. 5. This year, teachers are preparing for a bi-annual inspection this spring, as well as working within their own departments to develop their curriculum. Part of that means continuing to find ways to better teach the new Gr. 9 destreamed classes.

Athletics Council Report

High school athletics is an important outlet for so many students that we try to share its impact on the school with a regular report. This year, Caleb Bosveld, a member of Guido's Athletics Council, hopes to inform

THE GUIDO GAB

parents regularly about what's happening. His first report follows:

As yet another school year begins, so does another year of Guido Gryphons Athletics. We got right down to business this September, with tryouts for boys' volleyball, girls' basketball, and cross-country taking place in week one, and all teams were made by the second week.

Despite September's abrupt start to sports, our teams hit the court ready to play. All four of our indoor sports teams opened the season with a win, a tremendous start! Senior girls basketball had a strong game against Henderson, and the junior girls showed their strength in back-to-back wins over Saltfleet and Westmount. Guido played Saltfleet in two more season openers, taking them both, but this time around in the boys' volleyball department. The seniors swept, while the juniors took it home in a tight three-set game.

In October, the regular season for the boys' volleyball and girls' basketball will come to a close, and they will head into the playoffs.

On the cross-country side of things, you could definitely say the Gryphs have hit the ground running. One session a week is spent at nearby McQueston Park where the team runs 1km and 500m repeats to build their speed while the second session is usually spent running up and down hills on the beautiful trails in the Dundas Valley. Ask any XC runner (current or alumni!) about the Three Sisters or the infamous Martin Road Hill...they're brutal! On Wednesday, September 28th, the team participated in a highly competitive invitational meet at Christie's Conservation Area. The team performed very well. A special shout out to Marieke Da Silva who finished 10th in the Novice Girls race, the Novice Boys who as a team finished 5th, and Albert Lanting who finished 11th in a very fast senior boys race. The team is looking forward to its next meet on Tuesday, October 4, the Christian High School meet, which is held in Cambridge.

Aside from the Guido sports teams, the athletics council has been hard at work ensuring that our student body stays engaged athletically! Intramurals are in full swing, beginning with the very popular game "spikeball". Students signed up in duos to compete in either the competitive or recreational division. Although no champions have been crowned yet, there has certainly been some fantastic competition!

We can't wait to see what the future holds for Guido athletics - if this September is any indication, there are great things in store!

SLT Report

Our big group of "organizers" is the active Student Leadership Team (or SLT). This is a group of 22 senior students who work hard to develop activities for all students here. This year, Zoe Smith and Juliana VanPopta will keep us updated as to their work, progress and plans. Let me share with they want to say:

Hello from Guido's Student Leadership Team! We have done a number of things in the last few weeks. We've had a successful Grade Nine Day, where the newest students at Guido got the chance to get to know their classmates as well as their peer mentorship leaders. They participated in various games and activities and had a lot of fun. Also for the grade nines, peer mentorship sessions will be starting up soon. This is a program where SLT leaders meet with groups of grade nines to talk with them and help them feel comfortable at Guido. Recently, we have had a retreat together as the SLT, where we planned for future events such as Fall Fest and the upcoming banquet in November. We've also had our first theme day! Sports Day has come and gone and the next theme day is coming up soon. Next month we'll be hosting Fall Fest here at school for all the students. It'll be a day full of games, a fall cafe, and activities.

The SLT is very excited to see what God does through the students of Guido this year!

THE GUIDO GAB

So our first GAB of the new year shows clearly that all systems are going, activities are humming along, and students are happy to be involved in a number of activities and extra-curricular events.

Ronn Van Andel

October at a Glance

Wed. Oct 5 First R and D day for teachers;
Early dismissal for students
Fri. Oct 7 Thanksgiving Assembly, 9:00am
Wed. Oct 26 Parent Teacher Conferences
Thu. Oct.27 Parent Teacher Conferences
Fri. Oct. 28 Teacher Convention; no classes