



**Mission:** To provide a creative and caring environment in which each student achieves optimal learning.

**Vision:** Together we embrace UNESCO values and learn in respectful, positive ways.

|                |                  |                       |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
|                | <b>Values</b>    |                       |
| <b>Honesty</b> | <b>Integrity</b> | <b>Respect</b>        |
|                | <b>Reason</b>    | <b>Responsibility</b> |

The arrival of May means that we have just six weeks of school left in this school year. Six weeks of time to focus on student learning in a year that has been full of change and unknowns. Six weeks to continue our protocols and stay healthy. Six weeks to be a community of Griffins as we continue our Journey of Learning in 20-21!

Please use the [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist - updated February 2021](https://www.wrps11.ca/download/303327) with your children every day before they leave home. Use this document to Respond to your Child's symptoms. <https://www.wrps11.ca/download/303327>

This week is an important week at GSS, as we recognize Mental Health Week from May 3 - 9th. I would like to thank Mrs. Ganske, our Wellness Coach, and the WRPS MHCB (Mental Health Capacity Building) Wellness Team for all of their resources and support for this week.

The topics for each day are:

- May 3, 2021 → #GetReal
- May 4, 2021 → Walking for Wellness
- May 5, 2021 → Hats On! For Mental Health
- May 6, 2021 → Chalk it Out
- May 7, 2021 → Noticing Nature
- May 8 to 9, 2021 → Family Time

We noticed some mysterious elephants that appeared on the walls in classrooms and hallways at GSS last week. They created a lot of questions and conversations about the "elephants in the room". One of the messages of Mental Health Week is the importance of talking about our mental health, even if it is part of a hard conversation. That's true for all of us at any age. This week the students will hear a video message from Tyler Smith, from the Humboldt Broncos, about some of the strategies he uses to support his mental health. Classes will also be involved in a variety of other events in their classrooms throughout the week to

promote the awareness of mental health. **Wednesday, May 5th, is Hats On! for Mental Health.** Students and staff are welcome to wear a special hat to school that day. This week's focus on Mental Health will help our students understand their emotions and how to cope in a healthy way whenever challenges arise.

We will continue enjoying Phys Ed. and all recesses outside in the fresh air. Being outside is good for everyone's mental health! This week all classes will spend some time outside as we "Pitch In" and help clean up garbage in Millet. Thank you to the Town of Millet for supporting us as we do our share in caring for our community.

Two of our Griffin values are respect and responsibility which apply to caring about others and our world. We honoured Earth Day (April 22) at GSS with a showcase of student work in our front foyer. Through their artwork and writing, students demonstrated their deep respect and understanding of the importance of caring for our environment. Our planet Earth is in good hands in the future!

With the spring weather, our bike racks are full each day. **Please note that all students must wear helmets if they are riding scooters, bikes, skateboards, roller blades etc. to and from school.** We care about our students' safety and it is consistent with the Legislation in the Vehicle Equipment Regulations as stated below.

■ ***Division 5: Bicycles: Bicycle safety helmet***

***111(1) No person who is less than 18 years old shall operate or ride as a passenger on a bicycle unless that person is properly wearing a safety helmet.***

***(2) A parent or guardian of a person who is less than 18 years old shall not authorize or knowingly permit the person to operate or ride as a passenger on a bicycle unless that person is properly wearing a safety helmet.***

***(3) No person shall operate a bicycle on which a passenger who is less than 18 years old is riding unless the passenger is properly wearing a safety helmet.***

Our final PAC online Zoom meeting is on Thursday, May 13 at 7:00 p.m. All parents are welcome to attend. Email Mrs. Coleman if you would like the meeting link which will be sent out on the day of the meeting.

Thank you to our families for your continued support of your children's learning and our school. Please contact us if you have any questions.

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