



**Griffiths-Scott School**  
**"A Journey of Learning"**  
June 2021



**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><u>Values</u></b>	
<b>Honesty</b>	<b>Integrity</b>	<b>Respect</b>
	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>

It doesn't seem possible that we have just 10 days left in this school year! This has been an incredible year full of new challenges. Yet through it all, our students demonstrated their Griffin values and focused on their learning. I would like to thank all of our staff members for their perseverance, hard work and dedication to our students. Thank you to our custodians, Tara, Tammy and Darlene, for their careful attention to keeping our school clean and safe. Thank you also to parents, families and the community of Millet for all of your support. We have all worked together to make this year a success, a year to remember!

Thank you to our dedicated Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) and Helpers at GSS Society (HAGSS) for all of their hard work this year! We appreciate everything they do for our school. Even in a year of Covid challenges they supported our staff and students through a number of initiatives and fundraisers. They are currently working on choosing some outdoor furniture for the outdoor classroom area in front of our school. All parents and guardians are welcome to join PAC / HAGSS next year. Our annual general meeting is Thursday, October 14, 2021. Watch for some possible fundraising events in September as the school year begins!

The school flags were lowered to half mast yesterday and will remain lowered until the end of the day on June 8th. "Last week, unmarked graves containing the remains of 215 Indigenous children were discovered at a former residential school in Kamloops, BC. In memory of these children and to honour their lives, The Wetaskiwin School Division will fly flags at half-mast for 215 hours—an hour for each child—from May 31 to June 8 inclusively." Please see the [WRPS STATEMENT: Graves Found at Former Residential School in Kamloops](#) for more information.

On behalf of our shared belief that Every Child Matters, all GSS students and staff are invited to wear orange shirts on Wednesday, June 2.

Thursday, June 3 has been declared Mental Wellness Day for Schools. Our classes may be participating in some virtual events. Please see [Mental Wellness Day for Schools | Alberta.ca](#) for more information. There is an online presentation for parents, by Dr. Jody Carrington, called Connection Matters at 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Our usual year end events are once again affected by Covid. Our student award winners (grades 5 - 8) will be announced on our regular announcements during our last week of school. The awards and certificates will be sent home with students. We are finalizing plans for a small in-school celebration of our grade 8 class. On June 14th we will have some final day celebration events outside (if the weather cooperates) for students and staff only. Classes will remain in their cohorts and all AHS protocols will be followed by students and staff. Thank you to the PAC for providing a small year end treat for students on our last day of school. Report cards will be sent home on June 14th with students.

As this year ends we are in the midst of planning for 21-22. This year we have some goodbyes to say and will be welcoming some new staff in the fall.

We wish Ms. Saunders all the best as she transfers to become vice principal of Centennial School in Wetaskiwin. The "queen of PE" will be missed and we would like to thank her for all of her years at GSS! (Once a Griffin, always a Griffin at heart!)

We are also sad to say goodbye to Mrs. Harden and Mrs. Kadyk as they transfer to new positions in WRPS. Mrs. Harden has always helped out whenever and wherever she was needed at Millet School and GSS. This year she did a fantastic job as our grade 3 teacher. Mrs. Kadyk has been an EA at Millet School and GSS for the past 5 years. We wish them all the best in their new ventures!

Congratulations to Mrs. Buhler as she moves into her retirement after over 20 years at GSS! She started working as an EA and has spent many years in the GSS office as an administrative assistant. We would also like to thank Mrs. Sebastian for coming back this year as an EA in Kindergarten. We wish her well in her continued retirement! Thank you to both Mrs. Buhler and Mrs. Sebastian for their years of service and dedication to our students.

Along with goodbyes, we are welcoming some new staff to GSS. Welcome to Ms. Micklich, who will be our new vice principal! Ms. Micklich worked at GSS before the new school was built and is now returning. Welcome also to Mrs. Sendeki, who will be transferring to GSS and joining our elementary team. Mr. Tindall has been our part time band and music teacher for the past few years and will now be at GSS full time. He will teach some classes in Junior High along with music and band. We are also happy that Mrs. Kirk will be returning to GSS full time as our Kindergarten teacher. We are looking forward to our new Griffin Staff joining us in the fall!

Our classroom configurations and class lists will be finalized in the fall. Students will be placed in their classrooms in late August 2021. Our projected student enrollment often changes

during the summer and we will make final decisions in the fall to ensure that we best meet students' needs in our classroom configurations.

Supply lists for 21-22 will be posted on our website and a paper copy will be sent home in your child's report card. You will also have the option to purchase your students' supplies online through Staples and have them delivered to a Staples store or directly to your home. You will receive more information about that in your child's report card.

WRPS schools will be implementing BYOD (Bring Your Own Device / Chromebook) as an option for students. It is not mandatory as WRPS will still be providing Chromebooks for student use at school. However, if you are interested in this option please go to our school website for more information.

<https://www.griffithsscott.ca/home/news/post/bring-your-own-device-byod>

With the nice 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.***

Please use the [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist - updated February 2021](#) 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>

We wish all of our Griffins and their families a safe, restful and fun summer! 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.

[susan.coleman@wrps11.ca](mailto:susan.coleman@wrps11.ca)

Mrs. Coleman

[charlene.saunders@wrps11.ca](mailto:charlene.saunders@wrps11.ca)

Ms. Saunders