

GWA PARENTS WEEKLY

Week of Oct. 10 – 14



Your Weekly Lower and Upper Schools Communication

What parents need to know about this week @ GWA

ALL SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark your calendars

NOON DISMISSAL NEXT WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12th

GWA has calendared four days during the school year for the Professional Development of our staff. We call these days “PD days”. This is an opportunity for our teachers to engage in school wide initiatives for the mutual benefit of the school program and professional growth. This means your students will be dismissed promptly by 12 noon so our teachers can participate in their designated PD.

How does GWA define (PD) Professional Development? – GWA PD is a comprehensive, sustained and intensive approach to improving teachers’, instructional support staff and school administrators’ knowledge and skills toward greater effectiveness in raising student achievement.

Because this is a day when the entire school is released around the same time, please be prompt in collecting your student and exiting the campus. Thank you for being part of the solution.

Release Times

Nurs - K 11:45 am

1 - 5 11:50 am

6 - 12 Noon

For GWA,
David Welling
Head of School



SCHOOL NOTICES & EVENTS

Save the date

Oct. 12 All School Noon Dismissal -Professional Development

Oct. 14 MASAC-Middle School Soccer Tournament (TBC) @ GWA Field

Oct. 17-21 Fall Vacation - No School

Oct. 28 BOOfest Halloween/Fall Festival for Discovery/Pre Kinder/Kinder 3:15 pm - 4:45 pm @ Pre Kinder/Kinder Playground

Oct. 28 MTV: Fright Night 7:00 pm @ MPR & Stage

Please visit our [Master Calendar](#) or [Facebook](#) to see more events and updates! (ctrl, click on 'Master Calendar')

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ALL SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nurse:

Thank you for taking your children to see the doctor or pediatrician for their annual physical examination and to receive any necessary vaccinations!

I am very excited to announce that to date we have received:

93% of 1st Grade
86% of 4th Grade
98% of 7th Grade
89% of 10th Grade

**Parents please help GWA reach our goal of collecting 100% of our required mandatory medical forms by turning in your son or daughter's form directly to the nurse office as soon as possible.

Thank you!

For a healthy GWA,
Miss Hannah Hair, RN, BSN



Finance Department:

The GWA finance department sends out paper and email copies of your bill every quarter. Our cashier will be accepting quarterly payments during the dates listed below. Don't forget that your bill must be paid in full before classes begin each quarter:

Quarter 2: October 17-28, 2016

Quarter 3: January 9-20, 2017

Quarter 4: March 20-31, 2017



LOWER SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements:

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am looking forward to celebrating Ashura for the first time with the GWA community next week. The Day of Ashura is traditionally a day of celebration and joy. Its emphasis on children and the joy they bring to



Lower School Office

Principal: Kevin Brenner

Assistant Principal: Lu Edwards

ES Coordinator: Zakia El Harouchi

ES Coordinator: Kaoutar Benkaddi

Preschool Lead Teacher: Amal Hafidi Slaoui

all of our lives is inspiring. I count it a privilege to work with and amongst children each day. The opportunity to see the world through the eyes of a child provides perspective and hope. I encourage all of us as adults to pause and experience our world as a child whenever we have the opportunity. Our senses will be more sharp, our outlook more optimistic, and we will learn lessons we might have missed in the hustle and rush of our adult lives. Will you join me in this challenge? As always, it is an honor to partner with you in the education of your child(ren) at GWA each day. Together we will inspire, build, equip, and empower!

Kind regards,

Kevin Brenner

Lower School Principal



Dear Parents,

Achoura is a traditional Moroccan celebration. The Preschool and Kindergarten students are going to celebrate this occasion on Tuesday, October 11.

They may wear Moroccan outfits on that day. They will also receive a little tamtam that they will decorate with their teachers. As well, for any of students who would like to participate, there will be a henna professional who will decorate their hands.

Thank you for your support,

The Preschool and Kindergarten Teams

LOWER SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements:

Progress reports for first, second, and third graders come home on Friday, October 7. Fourth and fifth graders do not receive printed progress reports since fourth and fifth grade parents have access to Power School and can monitor progress throughout the quarter. Special classes do not report interim grades.



Parents have circulation privileges at the GWA library! We encourage parents to visit the library often (it is located on the second floor of the Upper School building). Parents may visit after school with their children.

It is essential that students are at school on time every day unless there is an unavoidable reason such as illness. Please note that three (3) tardies equals one absence, and twenty (20) unexcused absences in one school year is the limit. Planned absences require completion of a Pre-Approved Absence Request form found in the Lower School office. Students are tardy after the appointed start time for their grade level. Parents and drivers will be directed by the teacher to visit the office to obtain a tardy pass when arriving late. We ask that parents communicate this with drivers. Thank you for your cooperation.



If a child is enrolled in an ASA activity she/he must be with the ASA coach from the time the classroom teacher hands the student off until the activity begins at 3:30pm. Parents are not permitted to take a student to get a snack, take an AR test, or anywhere else on campus. Teachers are responsible for ensuring students get to their ASA coach, and that is where they need to remain until the activity has ended. Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring the safety of each student after school.

UPPER SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dear Parents:

I hope you had a happy New Year! Thank you to Better Together for putting on an amazing Moroccan Festival. The children had a wonderful time

as did the adults. The food was incredible. The singing, dancing, and henna were fabulous. The kids enjoyed the quizzes, dancing, and the beautiful pagent. Kudos to the parents who pulled this together! We all had an amazing time.

In this week's edition, I'd like to recognize Mr. Joshua Cooper who is a 6th/7th grade science teacher. On Thursday, Mr. Cooper's 6th grade class was learning about the structure, parts and functions of the plant cell. Mr. Cooper had students listen to a modern song and changed the lyrics to meet the learning objective. While students were listening to the song, they were singing and underlining the parts, structure and jobs of the plant cell. [Click here to see video.](#) The students thoroughly enjoyed this part of the lesson and as you can see, it's clear Mr. Cooper is a shoe in to be a contestant on Moroccan Idol :) Great job Mr. Cooper!

Until the next edition, I wish you all the best.

Dr. Audrey Menard
Upper School Principal



Upper School Office

Principal: Audrey Menard

HS Assistant Principal: Dusty Smith

MS Assistant Principal: Luke Kollasch

HS Coordinator: Badiaa Benchekroun

MS Coordinator: Rim Aboudane



This week the middle school students will take their MAP tests and high school students will take them on Friday and into next week. These tests help us plan how to better serve the students in the classroom. Please encourage your children to get a good night sleep, have a good breakfast, and to try their best on the tests.

UPPER SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements:

New Tardy Policy will go into effect after the October fall break. Students will no longer receive a punishment of ISS for their 2nd tardy. Instead, they will be required to come to an early morning study hall from 6:30 to 7:30 am. We do not want the students to miss valuable class time because of being tardy.

Uniforms will not be restocked until the end of October. We appreciate your patience with this.

Middle School Parents: The AR deadline is approaching quickly. Students can take their AR tests during lunch, recess and afterschool from 3:25- 4:30 Monday through Thursday.

PowerSchool is a great tool to track the progress of your students during the school year. If you would like to set up an account, or if you forgot your password, stop by the Upper School Office to get help.

Students need to leave school, or at least be in the parking lot, by 3:45 - unless in US office, Library, Computer lab, or MPR terrace. After 4:30, all students must leave school. Exceptions include athletes at practice, ASA program, and tutoring/teacher supervised events.

Progress Reports will come home on Monday



To All Parents of High School Students in Grades 9 and 10:

Next week all High School students in Grades 9-10 will continue taking MAP assessment tests. GWA has used the MAP program (an acronym in English for "Measure of Academic Progress") for several years to assess the math, reading, and language skills of students. Upper School testing -- done each fall and spring -- provides important data our teachers can use to tailor teaching to the specific needs of our students. High School students in Grades 9 and 10 will test on Monday and Tuesday. Students should not be absent from school on days when their grades are testing, and should get plenty of rest each night in order to perform at the best of their abilities. If you have questions about MAP testing, please feel free to contact Director of Curriculum & Program Development Brian Menard at bmenard@gwa.ac.ma or x131.

ATHLETICS

Mustangs Middle School Soccer Take on CAS

On Thursday September 29 and Friday September 30 the boys and girls middle school soccer teams played a friendly match on the campus of GWA against the Cobras of Casablanca American School. This was the second time within a week that the two schools matched up on the soccer pitch.

The first meeting took place a week earlier at CAS with both GWA teams losing 2-1 in very competitive matches. Both teams competed hard and represented GWA with class and great sportsmanship.

The boys rematch last Thursday (9/29) started out with GWA taking a 2-0 lead midway through the second half before the Cobras stormed back scoring three straight to win the game 3-2.

Last Friday (9/30) the girl's rematch had a different outcome. The Lady Mustangs played a solid game keeping constant pressure on the Cobra defense scoring twice to win 2-0 and avenge the loss that occurred a week earlier. Amira Jaques and Sabrina Bouchachia scored for the Lady Mustangs while Ahnika Johnston came up big as the keeper thwarted several attempts by the Cobras to score.

Red Johnston
Athletic Director



LIBRARY

Have we told you how much we love the first weeks of library lessons?!

Yes, it's always crazy and sometimes it gets really loud, but we love seeing the students excited about integrating games into library lessons. They had fun finding things around the library as they reacquainted themselves with the different sections and learn how to efficiently and independently run a search using both print and non-print resources.

This week was a continuation of last week library scavenger hunt; the kids were really excited to find out the winning team with the highest score. Here are pictures of the winning teams.

Asmaa Rias El Idrissi
Library Manager

"The library Scavenger Hunt is an opportunity to find book in a fun way. Me and my friends loved it a lot because we worked as team" by Rita Bouamrani, 5th grade (Mr. Sando's class)



"My experience in the library is special. Every single book in library has a story that makes you laugh, cry, get angry and happy. The most important part is to have fun reading your books. For me the library is something you will need for all your life. You learn about problems and solutions from the books. Reading a book from the library will make everybody's day. My experience will be ever-lasting" by Kyane Kettani



K2 - K5

WELCOME

PRESCHOOL & KINDER



TO THE MUSTANG ATHLETIC COUNCIL'S

BOO FEST

FRIDAY OCTOBER 28TH

FROM 3:15 - 4:45 PM

ON THE PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUND



80 DHS PER ENTRANCE

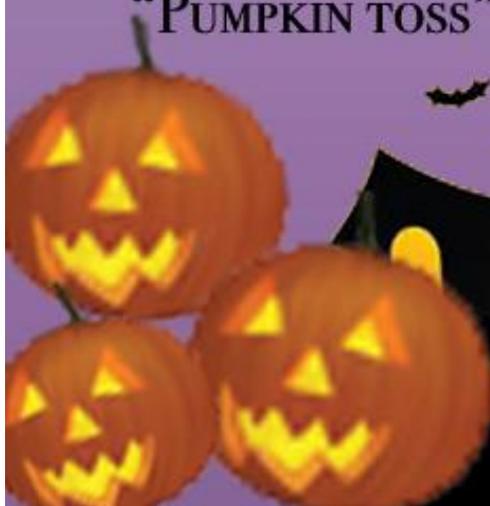


"BOO LOON POP"

"PUMPKIN TOSS"

"SENSORY PARK"

"SPIDER LAIR"



LUNCH MENU GRADES NURSERY - KINDER



Menu for Grades Nursery/Kinder

October

2016

Allergy Advice: May contain (gluten, milk, eggs, sesame, fish, nuts, wheat, soybeans, berries, shellfish, mustard, celery....)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
10	11	12	13	14		
*White bean soup *Pasta Fettuccini w/ Alfredo sauce / chicken *Steamed gourds and cauliflowers *Seasonal fruit *Yogurt	*Moroccan salad *Beef tagine w/ onions *Sautéed green peas and carrots *Chocolate cake *Seasonal fruit	*Harira soup *Baked fish with lemon sauce *Vegetable poele *Creme brulee *Seasonal fruit	*Waldorf salad *Deluxe beef burger w/ mushrooms and onions *Grilled vegetables *Baked potatoes *Fruit salad *Parfait	*Moroccan salad *Couscous with chicken *Squash, carrots, zucchini, chick peas, sweet onions and raisins *Eclair *Seasonal fruit		
*Soupe d'haricots blancs *Pâtes Fettuccini /sauce Alfredo *Poulet *Potiron et choux fleurs à la vapeur *Fruit de saison *Yaourt	*Salade marocaine *Tajine de bœuf aux oignons *Petit pois et carottes sautés *Gâteau au chocolat *Fruit de saison	*Harira *Poisson cuit au four /sauce citron *Poêlée de légumes *Crème brûlée *Fruit de saison	*Salade Waldorf *Hamburger deluxe avec champignons et oignons *Légumes grillés *Pommes de terre au four *Salade de fruits *Parfait	*Salade marocaine *Couscous au poulet *Carottes, courgettes, pois chiches, potiron, oignons et raisins *Eclair *Fruit de saison		

LUNCH MENU GRADES 1-12



Menu for Grades 1-12

October

2016

Allergy Advice: May contain (gluten, milk, eggs, sesame, fish, nuts, wheat, soybeans, berries, shellfish, mustard, celery....)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
10	11	12	13	14		
*White bean soup *Pasta Fettuccini w/ Alfredo sauce *Buffalo chicken wings w bleu cheese sauce *Steamed gourds and cauliflowers *Seasonal fruit *Yogurt	*Moroccan salad *Chicken tagine w/ preserved lemons and olives *Beef tagine w/ onions *Sautéed green peas and carrots *Chocolate cake *Seasonal fruit	*Harira soup *Chicken cacciatore *Baked fish with lemon sauce *Vegetable poele *Creme brulee *Seasonal fruit	*Waldorf salad *Deluxe beef burger w/ mushrooms and onions *Roasted lemon chicken *Grilled vegetables *Baked potatoes *Fruit salad *Parfait	*Moroccan salad *Couscous with beef *Couscous with chicken *Squash, carrots, zucchini, chick peas, sweet onions and raisins *Eclair *Seasonal fruit		
*Soupe d'haricots blancs *Pâtes Fettuccini /sauce Alfredo *Ailettes de poulet/sauce au fromage bleu *Potiron et choux fleurs à la vapeur *Fruit de saison *Yaourt	*Salade marocaine *Tajine de poulet avec citron confit et olives *Tajine de bœuf aux oignons *Petits pois et carottes sautés *Gâteau au chocolat *Fruit de saison	*Harira *Poulet cacciatore *Poisson cuit au four /sauce citron *Poêlée de légumes *Crème brûlée *Fruit de saison	*Salade Waldorf *Hamburger deluxe avec champignons et oignons *Poulet rôti *Légumes grillés *Pommes de terre au four *Salade de fruits *Parfait	*Salade marocaine *Couscous au poulet *Couscous au bœuf *Carottes, courgettes, pois chiches, potiron, oignons et raisins *Eclair *Fruit de saison		