



# GL ROBERTS CVI

NEWSLETTER 2023-2024, Volume 2

Welcome to Semester 2 here at GL Roberts!



We have had many exciting things happening in our school and community. Enjoy reading about them all in this Newsletter.

Congratulations to our students for the completion of a successful semester. Report cards from Semester 1 are available on the Parent Portal as of February 14. If you need any support with accessing the parent portal please reach out to the school.

We are so pleased and thankful to ALL staff who are leading and helping with activities that engage our students and provide a sense of belonging to our school. Sports are up and running including lunch time intramurals. The affinity groups and student council are each planning great activities for our students and school community recognizing and celebrating student identities.

This February GLR will be celebrating Black History Month in a variety of ways. The Black Student Association has a variety of initiatives and activities planned in order to highlight and celebrate Black Excellence and contributions to society, both past and present. Each morning students will learn about Black inventors who have gifted society with everything from the traffic light to the super soaker; then they have the opportunity to participate in our weekly trivia. Other activities include Black History Month Family Feud at lunchtime, flag day and a school wide scavenger hunt. Then we'll end the month off with a taste of Caribbean culture, enjoying a jerk chicken and rice & peas lunch for all those who participated in at least one BHM initiative throughout February. We are looking forward to learning and celebrating together this month!

As we stand at the threshold for a new semester, there is one other big change happening. It is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to our principal Dawn White. Mrs. White is moving into a System Lead position as our **Indigenous Education and Outdoor Environmental Education Lead**. Although we are deeply saddened to see her go, we know that she'll bring her love and passion for student identities to the role. With Mrs. White's departure, we are excited to have **Jon Lepage** join our team as **Principal**. Mr. Lepage is looking forward to getting to know the staff and students and working with the larger



Follow us on TikTok @GLRobertsCVI. You can still follow us on Twitter @GLRobertsCVI and on Instagram @glrobertscvioshawa to see all the exciting events happening. As always if you have any questions, concerns or praise, reach out and contact us at 905-728-7594.

*- Mrs. White, Mrs. Twitchin, Mrs. Yellowlees*

# RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY & EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS!

Here at G.L. Roberts, we like to acknowledge students who work hard and go the 'extra mile' in their efforts and actions. Our staff members nominate students and three recipients are chosen twice a semester who exemplify respect, responsibility and excellence. We are proud to announce our second set of winners!

## RESPECT

**Ashe** shows respect to all their peers and has stepped up as a co-leader of GLG. Ashe regularly shows care and kindness towards fellow classmates, and is always willing to help others.



## RESPONSIBILITY

**Toby** has demonstrated great responsibility in both English and Environmental Science this semester! Even under stressful circumstances, Toby was able to juggle things to be successful!



## EXCELLENCE

**Brandon** is very committed to doing his best each and every day, and this high level of achievement has been very evident in his woodworking and horticulture projects!



**Zak** has worked very hard all semester in biology and horticulture classes! He also has been committed to earning his SHSM certifications for Environmental Science!

## YEARBOOK 2023/2024

Get your yearbook before it is gone! This is the last year to buy a hard copy of the yearbook. We will be going digital next year. Yearbooks are a great way to remember events that have happened in the past year and are a memorable keepsake of our high school journeys.

Yearbooks are on sale now for \$50. You can purchase through cash on-line or see Ms. Beresford. A booth will be set up in the pit at lunch to buy starting the third week of February (February 20th).



**Did you know....**GLR offers our students an amazing and FREE breakfast program? Students are welcome to stop by the pit every morning starting at 9:00 am. Stay and hang out, or grab and go before heading to class! Thank you

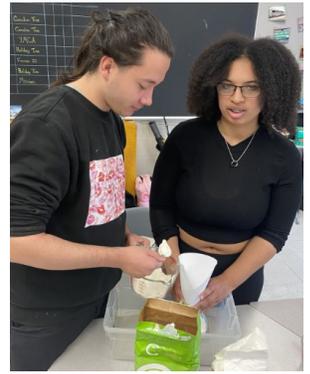


We would like to recognize the gracious donations supporting our Student Breakfast and Lunch programs. Sincere thanks for your generosity....Cobs Bakery, Durham Child Nutrition, Peterborough Child Nutrition, Feed the Need, the Ignite Learning Foundation, Nancy and Agostino's No Frills, Make a Difference Depot, and Independent Community Donors.

# HOLIDAY SPIRIT

## School to Work Program

Mr. Kane's School to Work Students took some time to make Christmas cookie plates and put together the ingredients for 'bake your own chocolate chip cookie kits', which they gifted to loved ones. Super Sweet!



## Holiday Turkey Draw

Once again GLR participated in the Annual Turkey Drive organized by Durhamchc. Congratulations to our student winners of the Turkey Draw and sincere thanks to Durhamchc for their great efforts, and to GLR staff for volunteering your time and making deliveries. It's so heartwarming to see our community come together to share a Happy Holiday.



## Will the Wave

### Holiday Celebrations

Ms. Kavitsky's class wished Will the Wave Happy Holidays before our Winter Break. Will watched a slideshow featuring student art which even featured a beautiful vocal performance by Kaitlyn D.!

Of course, Will participated in a conga line and was very grateful to see all of Ms. K's students before the holidays. He hopes to be back on Valentine's Day!



# STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

## First Nations, Metis, Inuit Voice



We were honoured to have Tammy and Bernard Nelson of “Teach for Canada” visit with us November 28th. They shared traditional knowledge of medicines and the drum. Bernard is a long time Men’s Traditional Dancer and Sun-dancer, and a member of the Eabametoong First Nation. He is Wolf Clan and his ancestry is Cree and Ojibwe. Bernard is a survivor

of the Pelican Lake Indian Residential School and is currently an Elder at the Royal Military College in the Aboriginal Leadership Opportunity Year program. He works with First Nations, Metis and Inuit students throughout Canada.

Tammy Nelson is a long time Women’s Traditional Dancer. She is Ojibwee from N’bissing First Nation, married to Bernard, and into Wolf Clan.

Together, Bernard and Tammy follow the Seven Grandfather Teachings, **Love, Respect, Bravery, Truth, Honesty, Humility, and Wisdom**. They provide cultural awareness, bedding, crafts, singing, and drumming to various school boards.

Bernard and Tammy were awarded the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal for their inspirational leadership and community service.

We are so thankful for the time they spent with us.



**MAKE TOMORROW BRIGHTER FOR OUR STUDENTS!**

## Ignite Durham Learning Foundation

The Ignite Durham Learning Foundation is a charitable community organization that supports DDSB students facing financial barriers to success. It could be a student that doesn’t come to school on cold days because they don’t have a winter coat, or a child who can’t concentrate in class because they’re hungry. There are countless ways that poverty shows up in Durham schools and creates barriers to learning. The Durham District School board is responding to the challenge with this new foundation that now has charitable status. Donations can be made online at [ignitedurhamlearningfoundation.ddsb.ca](http://ignitedurhamlearningfoundation.ddsb.ca).

# BSA

## Black Student Associa-

This past semester the Black Student Association met twice a month (the first and third Thursday of the month).

On the first Thursday of the month

we enjoyed our Black Professionals Speaker Series, where we heard from lawyers, government workers, healthcare professionals and more.



On the third Thursday, the association would meet and enjoy Pizza and games to build connections and a sense of community. New members are always welcome.

We are looking forward to semester two as we continue to build and develop the BSA, beginning with a variety of activities we have planned to celebrate Black History Month this February.

We will be doing a variety of activities throughout the month, one of which is a scavenger hunt. We are looking for some help and this would be an easy way for you to support the BSA and all of our students learn a little more about Black History. The scavenger hunt will be held on Thursday, February 22 from 12:10pm to 12:45 pm. Students will access clues, gathering information from posters and videos in a classroom (location is yet to be determined).



# EXCURSIONS COURT HOUSE

On December 1st Mr. Harris lead his Law class on a trip to the Oshawa Courthouse. The students had the opportunity to talk with two judges, two crown attorneys, and one defense attorney, as well as the court clerk and reporter. They learned a great deal about law in a practical aspect, and were very well behaved and fantastic representatives of the school.



# OSHAWA CENTRE

Ms. Vanderkooi's PLP Adapted Art class took a trip to the Oshawa Centre during our exam days. Our students had so much fun! They learned how to take public transit (most of the students were more seasoned than Ms. Vanderkooi! Great job!!) . They enjoyed spending time in the food court having lunch together, and checking out many stores in the mall. Each student had budgeted some spending money, allowing them to enjoy one of their favourite items. Favourite stores include Sugar Rush, Gamestop and Indigo. Thank you so much to Ms. Campbell and Ms. Sharif who helped to supervise the outing!

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Leading into Winter break our grade 10, 11 and 12 phys-ed classes competed in our Winter Wonderland Olympics, where each day of the week they participated in various fun activities. These included Survivor, Minute to Win it and other fun games. Teams were given names and 'Green Beans' were our winners for the week. Congratulations to Tehryn, Ethan, Latayjah, D'Onte and Bronson.



# SHSM - Physical Education



Our Sport SHSM ran our annual Teachers vs. Students basketball and volleyball games on the last day before the holiday break. The Senior boys and girls basketball teams took on the teachers along with the Senior boys and girls volleyball teams. Unfortunately for the teachers, they lost both games. **Well done students!** Everyone enjoyed the games and lots of prizes were handed out.



# EXTRA-CURRICULARS

## Happening now...

### Junior Boys Basketball Team



Great news, we have a team this year! The junior boys have been putting in great practices and are working on perfecting their skills along with mastering teamwork. The team unfortunately has not secured a win yet but we are hopeful that they will be able to put it all together and have some success in February on the court. Team members include: Emmanuel, Keston, Daquan, Eric, Ta'Haile, Justin, Adam, Jackson, Edris, Richard, D'Onite, Tayshaun and Jashaun. Coach: Mr. J. Barrett

### Senior Boys Basketball Team

The senior boys team is going strong, and despite some injuries and illness before the holidays, the boys have been resilient in their play on the court. Hopefully February brings a win for them. Team members are: Vince, Tayshawn, Jazhire, Tehryn, Majeed, Aiden, Jahsiah, Cameron, Christian, Shaun-Carter and Lucas. Coach: Ms. N. Salmers



### Junior Girls Volleyball Team



The junior girls have had some success so far this season. The team is working hard on their passing skills and rotational positions. They had a tournament on Friday February 2<sup>nd</sup> and will go into the last weeks of play before playoffs which are the second week of February. Team members include: Sydney, Katie, La'Shae, Victoria, Ava, Jayla, Luwam, Mariam, Anniyah, Mya, Atandwa, Lydia, and Shiquana. Coaches: Ms. L. Burkholder, Ms. J. Slugg and Grade 12 Student Noah

### Senior Girls Volleyball Team

The senior girls season started off on a rough note, with some injuries that prevented them from playing their best volleyball. After the holiday break, the team came alive and have been on a winning streak, beating some teams along with splitting some games too. The girls are hitting their peak and will make the playoffs which are set for the middle of February. Team members are: Danielle, Vanessa, Hailey, Becky, Hergiely, Bella, Void and Zuleyma. Coaches: Ms. K. Beresford and Grade 12 Student, Malakai



# GUIDANCE NEWS



## WHAT'S NEW

### Grade 8 to 9 Transition Recap

The GLR Guidance department has been working hard to ensure our future Lakers are ready to begin grade 9 in September. We have visited each of our elementary schools, hosted a family information night, and have hosted students and their teachers from all of our elementary schools for tours and presentations of GL as well. The current grade 8s are both excited and nervous to begin high school in September!



### Community Involvement Hours

The Guidance department has organized several opportunities already throughout the school year for students to earn some community involvement hours. As a reminder, all students must earn at least 40 hours of service, as part of the requirement to earn their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Students are able to begin earning their hours the summer before Grade 9 starts. Additionally, students are recommended to set realistic goals for themselves by earning 10 hours per year, to achieve the goal of 40 hours, before the end of Grade 12. **If you are in grade 12, ensure you complete your hours as soon as possible!** Do not leave these to the last minute. Opportunities available at G.L. Roberts are posted on our Guidance Google Classroom. Here is the join code: kucksgy



### Online Learning Graduation Requirements

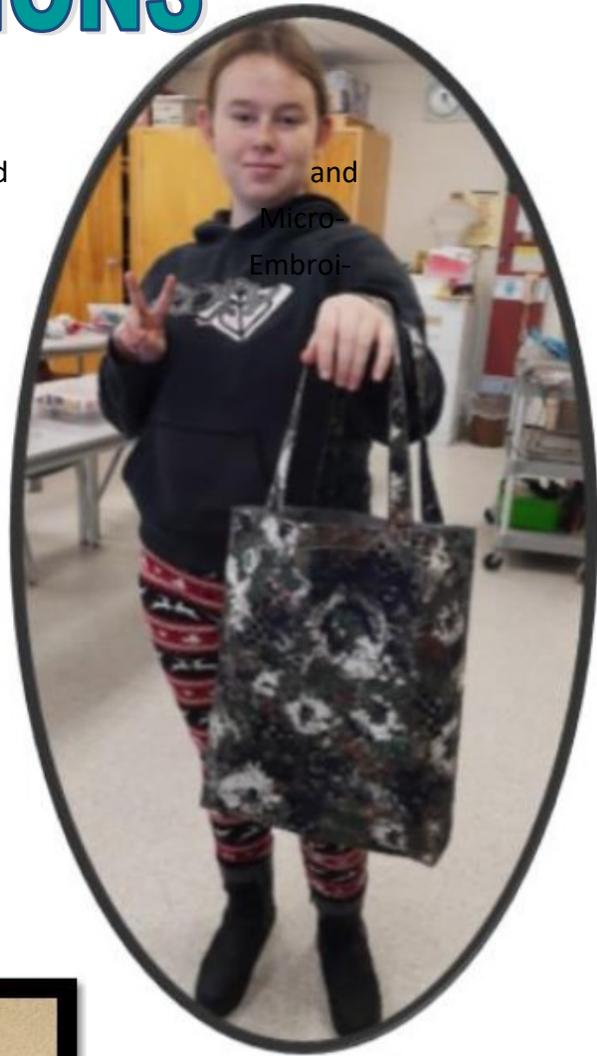
A friendly reminder that students are required to earn two online learning credits to graduate from secondary school with an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year. Parents/guardians may choose to opt their child out of the mandatory online courses required for graduation. If you would like to opt-out your child from the mandatory online learning you will need to complete and submit an opt out form to the Guidance Office. Opt Out Forms are available in the Guidance office.



# ARTISTIC IMPRESSIONS

## Sew What?

Ms. Davis' HFN201 and HNC301 students made some sewtastic hand machine sewn projects. They developed new skills creating wave Bowl Cozies, Zippered Bags, Tote Bags, Felt Ornamental, dered Designs, needle Biiks and the always popular .... Sock Monkey!



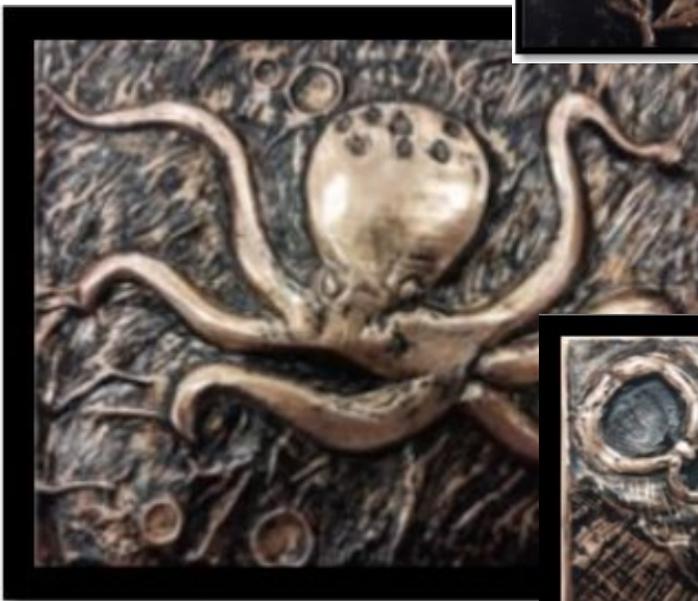
# Art Matters

Great art was created in room 103 during semester

1. Students from Ms. Davis' AVI101 and AVI301 focussed on learning traditional drawing techniques and eagerly studied copper repousse.



Keep your eyes out for more creative activities from room 103!



NOW CANADA-WIDE!

Black Youth Helpline is pleased to announce that our STAY-IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM & SUPPORT SERVICES for Canadian Youth is available Canada-wide!

REACH US AT 416-285-9944 or 416-739-8989 Toll Free 1-833-294-8650/1-833-BYH-8650

## BUSSING UPDATE



### Secondary School Bus Cancellations

With colder temperatures approaching, we are sharing information on how the DDSB is handling the cancellation of buses due to winter weather in order to ensure everyone remains safe.

In the event that transportation services are cancelled due to inclement weather, secondary schools located within the affected cancellation zone(s) will switch to a virtual learning day for all students. **All secondary students will be required to stay at home.** Students will be taught virtually in RealTime by their teacher with the exception of the “Study Hall” period where students will be supported through FlexTime (asynchronous) learning. If any students arrive at school, we will ensure that they can return home safely.

How will I be notified if transportation services are cancelled and/or schools are closed?

Families will be notified as soon as possible (no later than 7:00am) through a posting on the DDSB website, social media and where possible, through local radio stations.

What zone am I in?

**Students at GL Roberts are in Zone 4.**



DDSB considers well-being & positive mental health fundamental to student achievement. We've developed a 3-year Action Plan focussing on creating the foundational conditions to support positive mental health & well-being for students & staff.

Learn more about how we're supporting positive well-being and mental health for students and staff by entering the following link into your internet browser <https://bit.ly/3tJYZI9>

# CHROMEBOOK SUPPORT MESSAGES



Students learning *in-person* should report any Chromebook or other device damage to their teacher. From there, the teacher will generate a help ticket and direct the student to the main office for the LAN Technician to assess the device and plan a repair/replacement strategy. The LAN Tech is available to support students from **9am to 1pm in Tech HUB Tuesdays, Thursdays and alternate Fridays**. While student devices are being fixed, they may borrow a temporary replacement for use while in the school from the Library. Intentional damage to DDSB assigned devices may result in an invoice which will require repayment. Parents of students enrolled in **DDSB@Home** in Grade K-6, please note that a DDSB device is not required as any web-enabled device can be used to access DDSB@Home lessons and resources. DDSB@Home students and parents can access troubleshooting tips by visiting DDSB@Home Elementary or DDSB@Home Secondary websites. If the problem persists, students should report their device to their teacher. From there, schools will submit an IT Incident as per the standard process. The family will be contacted via email to book an appointment for a curbside swap at the Education Centre.

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS



**Tech Support Days—Tuesday/Thursday/Alternate Fridays:**

### **Dates to Remember**

Thurs. Feb. 8—Grad Photo Retakes  
Wed. Feb. 14—Student Vaccination Clinic @ GLR; Report Card's to Parent Portal  
Fri. Feb. 16—PD Day  
Mon. Feb. 19—Family Day Holiday  
Tues. Feb. 27—OSAP Presentation pd. 2  
Fri. March 8—Fri. March 15—March Break  
Thurs. March 21—Parent/Teacher Interviews  
Wed. March 27—OSSLT Prep.  
Fri. March 29—Good Friday  
Mon. April 1—Easter Monday  
Wed. April 3—Fri. April 5—EQAO Literacy  
Mon. April 8—PD Day  
Wed. April 17—Semester 2, Term 2 begins  
Wed. April 17—Thurs. April 18—Gowns for Grads  
Fri. May 3—Plant Sales begin at lunch hour  
Mon. May 20—Victoria Day Holiday  
Tues. May 21—Wed., May 22—Leadership Camp overnight  
Thurs. May 30—GSA Night  
Mon. June 3—Fri. June 7—Senior Stress Relief @ lunch  
Tues. June 4—Thurs. June 6—Special Olympics  
Wed., June 12—Thurs. June 13—EQAO Math  
Thurs. June 13—Grad Formal @ Tosca  
Wed. June 19—Tues. June 25—EXAMS  
Wed. June 26—Commencement @ 1:00 pm, GLR  
Thurs. June 27 & Fri. June 28—PD Days

**BELL TIMES  
@GLR**



### **WEEK 1 SCHEDULE**

Period 1: 9:30-10:50  
Period 2: 10:55-12:10  
LUNCH: 12:10-12:55  
Period 3: 12:55-2:10  
Period 4: 2:15-3:30



We would like to recognize the gracious donations supporting our Student Breakfast and Lunch programs. Sincere thanks for your generosity....**Cobs Bakery, Durham Child Nutrition, Peterborough Child Nutrition, the Ignite Learning Foundation and Make a Difference Depot, Nancy and Agostino's No Frills, and Independent Community Donors.**