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MARCH 2021

# THE GEORGE JAY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



## Hello George Jay Community!

WRITTEN BY MELANIE CULLINS

Welcome to the George Jay Community newsletter! The PAC is bringing a new monthly newsletter to the community and we are so excited. The newsletter aims to bring community members together by sharing what makes George Jay shine. This is just one way we can highlight what this amazing community has to offer. It includes a small look into the school through fun child led staff interviews, a place to learn a few words and phrases in languages spoken throughout the community, art work and writing pieces we can enjoy, acts of kindness and activism within the community and from our young leaders, chuckles from the joke of the month and so much more!

We want to welcome all of you to participate in this community sharing. If any member of the community wishes to contribute something to future newsletters, please email [gjpacmember2@gmail.com](mailto:gjpacmember2@gmail.com) I look forward to hearing from you!

### Important Dates

**MARCH 8TH: DR. LISA  
GUNDERSON  
PRESENTATION VIA  
ZOOM.7-8PM**

**MARCH 10TH: PAC  
MEETING VIA ZOOM: 6:30-  
8PM.**

**MARCH 13TH-MARCH 28TH:  
SPRING BREAK!**

**MARCH 29TH: SCHOOL  
BACK IN SESSION**

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## Staff Features

Mrs. O'Keefe has been at George Jay for 16 years and is currently teaching a grade 2/3 class. Otis (Grade 5) and Afra (Grade 3) have prepared a few questions to help us get to know Mrs. O'Keefe!

**1) What is the funniest thing that has happened to you as a teacher?**

There have been so many funny teaching moments in my time as a teacher. My very first teaching day at George Jay was one to remember. It was a grade 3/4 class. We had gym first thing in the morning. I was giving instructions to a game while the kids were sitting in a circle. I took a step back (not realizing a kid had scooted behind me) and I lost my balance and landed right on top of him! If that wasn't bad enough, when we left the gym, I misstepped and fell and slid down the stairs! Not the best first day but the kids thought it was hilarious and I can laugh at it now!

**2) Would you rather live in a world with nothing sweet or nothing salty?**

If I had to pick, I would say I'd live without sweet things. I love Ruffles chips too much!

**3) What is your favourite art/craft project?**

Card making and scrapbooking. I LOVE patterned paper and cute stamps!

**4) What song makes you want to dance?**

Anything by Justin Bieber of course!!

**5) Were you naughty when you were in grade 3?**

Hmmmm, well I wasn't really naughty but I definitely talked waaaaayyyy too much. There was always a comment on my report card!



Mme. Rebecca has been teaching at George Jay for 7 years and is currently teaching Kindergarten French Immersion. Leon (Kindergarten) and Hannah (Grade 3) have prepared a few questions to help us get to know Mme. Rebecca!

**1) What is your favourite kind of flower, tree and ice cream flavour?**

My favourite kind of flower is any flower that is dried or pressed. I love cedar trees and my favourite flavour of ice cream is way too hard to answer, because I love so many different kinds!!

**2) What do you like to cook?**

My favourite thing to cook is anything that is simple and easy. Philip, my husband, is a great cook and cooks most of our meals!

**3) Do you want a dog?**

I would love to have a dog one day, but we live in a condo building so for us it would be a bit tricky right now. I wonder what our two cats would think about a dog!

**4) Where did you grow up?**

I was born in England and moved to Victoria when I was 1 year old. I grew up out on the Peninsula in Deep Cove.

**5) What is your favourite thing about teaching?**

Hands down the children!! I love building relationships with children and their families and staying connected with them over the years. Another favourite part of teaching is allowing children to share their curiosities, lead their learning and support them in developing a love for learning.

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# Language Lane

We have families at George Jay who speak many languages from around the world. This month our feature language is Spanish! We have created a small list of some Spanish words and phrases translated into English. You can practice at home and share what you've learned with members of your community!

**Hola** (o-la) / Hello

**¿Cómo estás?** (koh-moh-ehs-tahs) / How are you?

**Bien, gracias** (bien gra-cias)/ Good, thank you

**Gato** (ga-to)/ Cat

**Uno,dos, tres** (u-no, dos, tres)/ One, two, three

**Mucho gusto** (moo-choh goos-toh)/ Nice to meet you

**¡Que tengas un buen día!** (keh-tehng-gah oon bwehn dee-ah)/ Have a good day!

## Kindness and Activism Corner

Dr. Lisa Gunderson will be discussing the definitions of equity, anti-racism, racism, and racial prejudice followed by questions and answers on March 8th, from 7-8pm via zoom. The zoom link will be sent out via email and through the Facebook PAC group. Dr.

Gunderson is an award winning educator, community speaker/leader, and an anti-racist and anti-black racist equity consultant and trainer for various institutions in Canada and the US. To learn more, please visit her website at [www.oneloveconsulting.com](http://www.oneloveconsulting.com)



A student is running a save the earth contest! George Jay students can see Ms.Petrini in the library for more details!



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# Did you know?

Joke of the month:

Why did the music teacher need a ladder?

Answer: To reach the high notes!

That Henry B. Maclean was the first principal at George Jay Elementary in 1909. He developed the Maclean Method of handwriting in 1921! Maclean's method was used so much that in 1976, when he passed, the Vancouver Sun published an editorial entirely in longhand.



"A Parrot in the Night Sky"  
by Reina  
(Kindergarten)

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