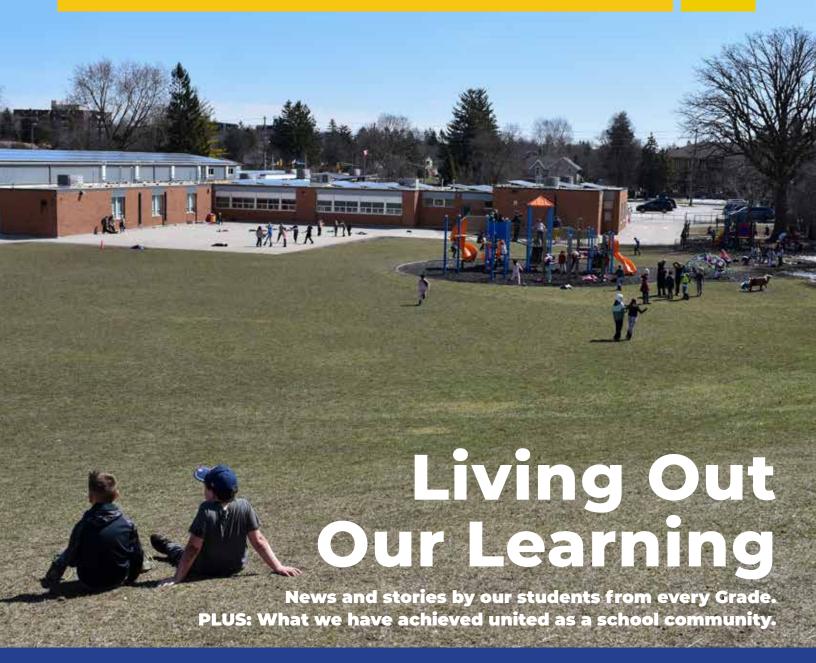
# SNAPSHOT

STORIES FROM OUR CLASSROOMS

**ISSUE THREE** 

Welcome to the third edition of our school magazine, where each page offers an insightful glimpse into some of the enriching experiences, achievements, and memorable moments that have been at the heart of our educational journey this term.

© CCCS



## **OUR THEME**

**FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT** 

### A NOTE FROM **OUR PRINCIPAL**

#### A Spring of Blessings!

This spring at GCCS we have been showered with blessings by our faithful God and Father. There have been many highlights including Student-Led Conferences, Spring Concert, Grandparents' & Grandfriends' Day, our Track & Field days, our 5th Annual Golf Tournament and also our first ever Fundraising Gala.

As this school year is coming to a close, it is amazing to look back and see clearly the way God has worked in and through it all!

Justin DeMoor, Principal



### THIS TERM WE **HAVE STUDIED...**



Galatians 5:22-23

#### WHAT IT MEANS

Faithfulness is to be reliable and trust worthy for a friend. - Aaron, Gr 4

Faithfulness is to be faithful - in what you do and who you are. - Abi, Gr 4

#### WHAT IT MEANS

- Abram. Gr 3/4

Gentleness is being kind and not being



IN CONCLUSION: Our theme this year has been the Fruit of the Spirit! Some of the ways that we've embraced our theme verse are chapels made by all the different grades, each focusing on a different Fruit of the Spirit; Grade 8's chapel on Faithfulness and Grade 4's chapel on Patience. We have assigned a Fruit of the Spirit to each month of the school year and at the start of each month, Mr. DeMoor gave the whole school a presentation demonstrating the Fruit of the Spirit that month. We also have had a fun theme song about the Fruit of the Spirit that we have regularly sung along to, which has also helped us memorize the different Fruits.

### **MEMORIES FROM OUR SPRING CONCERT:**

THE SEASON OF SINGING HAS COME





faithfulness

Ifeyth-fuhlnes) - noun

dependable

[Proverbs 3:3]

loyal & trusting

Gentleness means to not hurt someone.

Gentleness is being thoughtful to one another in our words and actions. - Aaron, Gr 4

a bully to someone. - Camden, Gr 1



Self control means keeping your body

Self control is controlling / disciplining

yourself when it is hard, knowing that it

will help you in the end. - Jessie, Gr 6

and mind in check. - Aaron. Gr 4

## KINDERGARTEN

We learned the parts of the plant, what a plant needs in order to live from larvae, to chrysalis and finally to butterfly. We concluded our unit,



A message for Mrs. Bomhof: Thank you for everything you have done for us while you have been at GCCS. We will miss you and value you so much. Your dedication and kindness have made a lasting impact on all of us. Wishing you all the best in your new class.























#### **CHAPEL: SELF CONTROL**

At the beginning of May, we took centre stage for our chapel performance focusing on the Fruit of the Spirit, self-control. We drew inspiration from the book, "What If Everyone Did That?" and showcased the power of self-control through a skit that we had a lot of fun practising. We aimed to demonstrate the ripple effect of actions - both positive and negative - to deliver a powerful message for everyone to think about.

We wanted to share our enthusiasm as we serenaded the audience with a heartfelt song, "Give Me Self-Control," asking God for guidance to be more like Him in our thoughts

and actions. We enjoyed adding actions to the song

Our chapel performance was a journey of emotions, from reflection to rejoicing, reminding everyone of the profound impact of self-control. We are so proud of what we achieved and the lessons we taught that day.







### I IT'S ALIVE

This term, we explored the fascinating differences between living and non-living things. We enjoyed discovering the variety of sounds, coverings, sizes, and foods that animals possess, marvelling at God's creativity. Our curiosity led us to ponder how God designed plants with different parts, each serving a unique and special purpose. We were amazed at how living things help each other, like bees pollinating flowers and jellyfish providing food for sea turtles.

To capture our learning, we created a book showcasing different homes and their inhabitants titled, 'A House is a Home for Me' - we were amazed at the similarities between animal structures and what people build. We also created a counting book about bugs titled, 'Our Bug Hotel'. Our studies have deepened our appreciation











GRANDPARENTS DAY

















### RECYCLED **TREASURES**

We repurposed items from our recycling bin into useful creations as part of our exploration into different materials and their life cycles, learning about where they come from and where they go after use. Through this hands-on experience, we gained insights into the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling in our daily lives to care for our environment.



### A ROCHA TRIP

During our Grade 1 school trip to A Rocha, we were fortunate to enjoy a lovely spring day outdoors. We spent the day immersed in learning about birds and their unique features, like beaks and feathers, designed by God for flying, soaring, and eating. The highlight of our adventure was crafting our own nests, which brought our learning to life in a hands-on and memorable way.







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#### **RIVER RUN VISIT**

In May we visited the River Run Centre to delve into diverse cultures, specifically learning from the Indigenous First Nations and enjoying a captivating show titled, "Spirit and Tradition." This performance intricately wove imagery, soundscape, and West Coastal Indigenous masked dance to depict the vibrant ecosystem of the Pacific Northwest Coast. With central themes of reciprocity and ecological sustainability, the show conveyed valuable teachings on balance, interconnectedness, and community, and reminded us of the importance of caring for God's world. The performance featured various animals, including bears, fish, grasshoppers, frogs, and killer whales.

**GRADE 1** NEWS CDADE 1 NEWS



#### I HOPE HOUSE UPDATE

The Grade 2 students have completed their 10th session of packing toilet rolls for Hope House, totaling over 14,700 rolls packed. Through this service project, we aim to instill in them the values of empathy and gratitude, reminding them of the importance of serving others and being thankful for what we have.















### STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

During our Grade 2 student-led conferences, the overarching theme was 'growth mindset.' Parents asked us questions like, "What are you most proud of?" and "What has been your greatest challenge?" We proudly showed them the Jan Brett-style book we created, which was a highlight of our achievements. This opportunity allowed us to reflect on our progress and share our learning journey with our families.



In honour of Earth Week, Grade 2 took part in cleaning our school

property, demonstrating our commitment to serving others and caring for our environment. This activity helped us understand the importance of looking after our school, city, and planet.



#### PE

In our recent Grade 2
PE sessions, we focused on learning how to skip, a fantastic cardio exercise, and practiced group skipping, which was both challenging and fun.

Apparently there are skipping songs we need to learn!?!





King of Kings - Ancient Hebrew Melody, Lyrics by Nomi Yah



#### **GRANDPARENTS DAY**









#### MOUNTSBERG TRIP

Our recent Grade 2 trip to Mountsberg Conservation was an adventure as we explored various animal habitats. We enjoyed great weather and saw a wide variety of animals in their natural environments. It was lots of fun and a fantastic learning experience for everyone as it brought to life so much of what we had been learning over this term.



### CANADA STUDIES

During Canada Studies Week in grade 2, we learned about the Canadian government, explored the geography of the provinces and fun facts, and delved into the vibrant world of Canadian art and sports. We also celebrated the works of Canadian and local author Robert Munsch. To show our Canadian spirit, we wore red and

white clothing.
We enjoyed fun
activities and
engaging lessons
alongside other
grades, making
the learning
experience even
more exciting and
memorable.



#### **ART PROJECTS**





# GRADE 3/4

#### HATCHING CHICKS ADVENTURES

Our chicks hatched in our classroom on May 6 after 21 days of careful rotation, temperature, and humidity monitoring. On day 10, we used a flashlight and darkness to perform an ultrasound, allowing us to see inside the eggs. We dissected the eggs that didn't hatch to examine their stage of development and learned from the process.

As the chicks grew, we handled them gently, observing how God gave them the instinct to thrive. We ensured our classroom stayed clean and hygienic while monitoring their well-being. We studied their features and habits, built homes and obstacle courses for them to play in, and invited others in our school to pet them and hear our story of learning.

We also created a Chick Newspaper about our experience, which will be sent home soon. Additionally, we shared the joy of our chicks with our grandparents and grandfriends. We thank God for creating chickens and allowing us to learn from them, praising Him for the wonderful way He put them in our world.



In Gr 3/4 at GCCS Ms. Pennings has been teaching the class about how chicks form and grow. They have also been hatching chicks in class. In total, they have hatched 16 chicks. They have named the chicks: Ethan Jr, Alvin, Mc Bobandy, Yellow, Frank, Mustard, Jelly Bean, CJ, Blobby, Lindus, Chick Fingers, Bobby, Cheeps, Jeffery, Luke Jr, and Coach DJ. Gr 3/4 have really outdone themselves this year. The Gr 3/4 class also dissected eggs which didn't hatch. Last year, one exploded! They are lucky THAT didn't happen this year! - Aaron, Gr 4 and Liam, Gr 3/4

DISSECTING







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CHILKS COMING SOON!







#### **OUR SPRING CONCERT PERFORMANCE:**

Zip Zing Ring Praise - by Brenda E. Austin

### **GRANDPARENTS DAY**



#### **STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES**

We loved having our parents come to visit our classroom. It was fun to show them everything we have been up to and all we have learned over the past months.



GRADE 3/4 NEWS



#### CANADA STUDIES

In the month of June Grades 1, 2 and 3/4 learn more about Canada in Canada Studies. During this time we go to three different classrooms to learn about 3 areas: the 'Art room' with Ms. Pennings, the 'Government room' with Mrs. Jones and 'Sports room' with Mrs. Klassan! My classroom was the art room but my favourite room is the sport room and we learned about lacrosse.

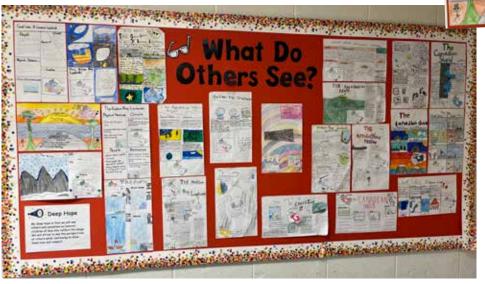


10 GRADE 3/4 NEWS

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Welcome to Grade 4. We have been up to so much over the past few months and we are excited to give you an insight into some of our highlights.

#### ADVERTISING REGIONS OF CANADA



We have been working individually on posters to advertise specific regions of Canada. Each of us were given a region to study by Mrs. Eshuis, and our posters had to include information about the region, like its population, characteristics, and why you should visit.

The goal was to highlight what makes each region special and unique from others. We focused on making our designs vibrant and eye-catching, suitable for display in places like the side of a bus, using lots of colour and eye-catching pictures to draw attention and share our message well. - *Aaron, Gr 4* 



### GRANDPARENTS DAY







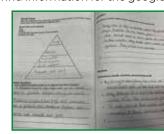


### **SPRING CONCERT**

#### ANCIENT CIVILIZATION

Our Grade 4 class recently worked on an ancient civilizations project. First we were learning about Medieval England. Medieval means a time of history a long time ago. While we were learning about Medieval England, I learned that there were different levels of society. First there are Kings and Queens, then there are Lords and Ladies and last but not least there are servants and peasants. Soon after, Mrs. Eshuis assigned each of us an ancient civilization to work on. We researched in books to find information for the google

slide we are going to make. When we were done finding information, we started making our slide. When we were done making our slide, we shared it with the rest of the class so we could all learn about each ancient civilization we had been assigned. - Elsa, Gr 4



### CIRCLE SQUARE RANCH

Our end of year class trip to Circle Square Ranch was amazing!



#### **OUR PERFORMANCE:**

Percussive Praise by Kevin McChesney
- performed tone chimes

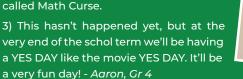


#### OUR AWESOME TEACHER

This year, our Grade 4 teacher, Mrs. Eshuis, has done many wacky things with our class. Here are some of the things that she has done.

1) Mrs. Eshuis brought in fossils and minerals for our science unit on rocks and minerals. Some of the minerals she brought in were from Israel. The fossils were from her friend, who is very interested in finding fossils.

2) Mrs. Eshuis let us have a preschooler day. We hung out with the preschoolers and wore PJs to school. We brought in blankets and stuffies. We read a book about math called Math Curse.











But the fruit of the Spirit is love, Joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law, Galetters 622

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12 GRADE 4 NEWS GRADE 4 NEWS

Our final months in Mrs Burton's class have been full of adventures!















In April our class chapel performance focused on gentleness and compassion. Through storytelling we showcased the transformative power of kindness and sought to remind everyone of the impact of our actions. We took on the characters and became animals and trees. The lion's decision to show mercy to the mice, despite his size and strength, spoke about the essence of gentleness. It served as a reminder that true strength lies not in dominance but in how we treat others, especially those who may seem small or powerless. We demonstrated the same with a tree protecting other creatures no matter who they were. The point of our chapel: to embrace gentleness in our words, actions, and interactions with others.



Every student selected the type of assessment they found most helpful for their learning, choosing from: a checklist, rubric, letter grades, or percentages, and then wrote a formal persuasive letter to a staff member explaining why their choice was the most effective. In their letters, they detailed how their selected assessment method best supports their learning. They then delivered to the staff members to read.



LEADERS OF OUR OWN LEARNING

As a class, we have been actively engaging in our own learning journey, which we demonstrated by our participation in student-led conferences. Through Google Slides, we confidently presented our progress and achievements to our parents. It was a gratifying experience for us to lead and share our presentations, and witnessing our parents' pride and genuine interest in our learning process was truly fulfilling. By guiding them through our learning journey, we demonstrated our capability as leaders in our own education.



| CHARTWELL

Our Grade 5 students recently visited

Chartwell Retirement Home for an

exercise class, teaching residents dance

moves to songs like "YMCA." Everyone

thoroughly enjoyed it, and turnout

always increases when our students

visit, as the residents eagerly anticipate

MOVES

their lively company.

















SPRING CONCERT

**Boomwhacker Battle** Arranged by Susanne Wood











At the spring concert, we performed a striking story about conflict versus working together



**GRANDPARENTS** DAY

#### **CHARTWELL VISIT US!**

We were so excited to welcome residents from Chartwell Retirement Home to our school to watch our amazing Spring concert performance in May. Afterwards they visited our classroom, admired our projects and reflected on their own school days with us. We even taught them how to play boomwhackers, which they all eagerly tried. The friendships that have been formed were evident through laughter and lively chatter. We will miss our monthly visits to Chartwell

Retirement Home, which began with nervousness and uncertainty but turned into a cherished experience of learning from the residents' stories and enjoying their company.













#### PE TEAM BUILDING: WORKING TOGETHER

In our Grade 5 PE team-building sessions, we've discovered that working together is not just fun, but essential. We often find ourselves saying, "It's fun working together to solve problems!" Whether it's overcoming obstacles or tackling challenges, we realize that we need each other's help to succeed. Amidst the laughter and occasional silliness, we're learning valuable lessons about trust and cooperation. These sessions aren't just about physical activity; they're about building relationships and strengthening our bond as a class.

As a class we have learned a lot, grown together, and gained valuable tools for our future. Thank you Mrs Burton for making this year a great success!









GRADE 5 NEWS **GRADE 5** NEWS

"I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."

- Psalm 9:1



**CHAPEL: WORDS VS ACTIONS** 



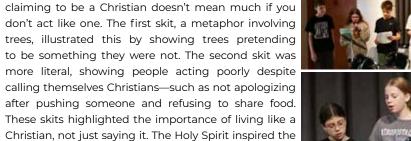












characters to change their ways, demonstrating true Christian behaviour. The chapel was both fun to perform and enjoyable for the audience. - Jessie, Gr 6

At the end of May our class led chapel. We performed two interconnected skits and

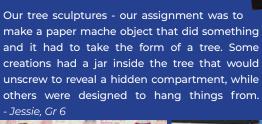
provided the music. The main message was that





Our latest painting project was to create beautiful watercolor paintings of an animal of our choosing, and use an upside down grid method to catch all the details of our animal.

make a paper mache object that did something and it had to take the form of a tree. Some creations had a jar inside the tree that would unscrew to reveal a hidden compartment, while others were designed to hang things from.







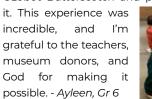














**OUR SPRING CONCERT PERFORMANCE:** 

'Rescue' by Lauren Daigle - performed with singing and tone chimes and ukuleles





**GRANDPARENTS DAY** 







#### THE MUSEUM **WORKSHOPS**

The most amazing day ever! As a science enthusiast, I was thrilled

when the Waterloo Museum visited our school with outstanding workshops. We started the day by making electrical circuits with coloured lights, guided by a museum employee who gave clear instructions. We customized our circuits with various coloured papers and markers. After recess, we experimented with Ozobots, small robots controlled by colour combinations instead of traditional coding. Working in pairs, we used special markers to create codes for the Ozobots to follow through mazes. I even named my Ozobot Butterscotch and plan to write stories about

#### **EARTH DAY CLEAN UP**

We spent an afternoon in April with our Grade 1 reading buddies to help the environment by cleaning

up garbage. We headed out with gloves and garbage bags. First, we went to our playground and above the hill and then went beyond the trees. Our buddies really enjoyed throwing garbage we found into our bags. We went into each nook and cranny to find garbage. It is truly saddening how much our beautiful earth has been littered, but we tried to do our best to clean as much as we could. - Ayleen, Gr 6







GRADE 7W/7P

THE WAR OF 1812:

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

#### | 1812 WAR

Grade 7P created newspaper articles on battles in the War of 1812. Our assignment, as part of our history class, was to write our article pretending that we were a reporter for 'The

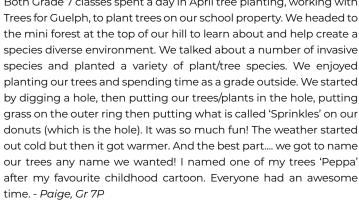
Upper Canada Chronicle'. First we researched the battle we had selected to write an article about. These included The Battle of Stoney Creek, The Battle at Beaver Dams and Crysler's Farm. We then wrote a rough draft of the article to make sure we were happy with what we had written, before putting all our information into a newspaper layout template design in Canva.

BREAKING NEWS! All the newspapers turned out great. - Kiarah, Gr 7P

#### I TREE PLANTING

Both Grade 7 classes spent a day in April tree planting, working with







On Friday May 24th our whole grade went to the Niagara Region to learn but mainly to BIKE! We had lots of fun. We learned more about the war of 1812 and the important components. We ate pizza for dinner and talked with our tour guides who were dressed up like British soldiers from the War of 1812 during our tours at the Brock Monument and Fort George. We biked about 14.7km, played soccer with Mr Wylie and our parent volunteers, and we had the best bus drive with the best bus driver, Mr Frank. We went on a nature walk led by Mr Wylie. It was an extra long day trip full of fun, excitement, and learning.

### **OUR SPRING CONCERT PERFORMANCE**

'Li'l Liza Jane' By Mike Story Conducted by Mr. Patrick







#### **GRANDPARENTS DAY**





#### PRESCHOOL BUDDIES **TEDDY BEARS PICNIC**

For our last morning of fun with our preschool buddies for the year, we joined them for a teddy bears picnic, games and storytime.





GRADE 7 NEWS **GRADE 7** NEWS

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.





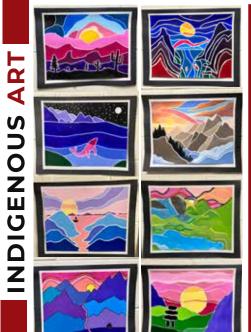


#### **EARTH CARE TREE PLANTING**

During one day in April Grade 8 planted trees to combat climate change and help our local ecosystem. They expanded the small forest on GCCS property with help from Trees for Guelph, who brought voung native trees and shrubs and taught the classes a special way of planting them that has an 80% survival rate. Trees for Guelph is a nonprofit organization that helps Guelph's environment by planting trees, educating others, and more. - by Eliana, Gr 8







#### WE ARE MOVING FORWARD

This year in Grade 8 we have felt very blessed to be part of this school community and lead our fellow students to soar on wings like eagles and spread the word of God. We, together as a class, will miss the friendships that we made here in these classrooms but know we have been provided with the tools to flourish in high school and create new friendships and make new memories and have new experiences. We have been part of this class for a long time and we have been through alot together, but the message we would like you to remember is that all the ups and downs only bring you closer together and help you create a sense of community and togetherness and friendship.

Now, with these short weeks we have left to remember, I want to share something with my classmates: this is not the end. Our journey still continues with God. We are just moving on to a new chapter in our lives. Change can be scary but doesn't mean we have to be scared, it is just an opportunity to get ourselves out there and to experience new things, make new memories and create new friendships. And it doesn't mean the friendships we made at GCCS are over, it just means we are going to experience new friends and create bonds that will last a lifetime, and the friendships we made we can learn and grow from and stay in touch with. Now going out into the summer, wherever

you are going, just know that the friendships you made over the years are strong and that the memories you made will stay with you forever. - Brooke, Gr 8



In Grade 8 we do many things to lead and serve in our school community. We deliver lunchbox orders to all the other classes every Friday; we make and deliver baked goodies to sell to students once a month as part of our fundraising efforts; we learn and read with our buddies in Grade 3/4; we help with event and chapel chair set ups; we patrol in the parking lot before and after school; and lead younger students during recess. It feels very rewarding to help others in our school and to serve in so many ways. - Eliana, Gr 8



#### **OUR SPRING CONCERT PERFORMANCE**

'Land of the Steel Birch' - by Douglas Court Band conducted by Mr. Patrick











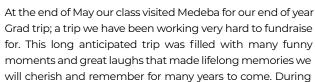












CDADE & NEWS

our trip, we participated in events such as archery, rock climbing, canoeing, milk crate madness and more. This trip has helped us develop relationships on a much deeper level, and has helped strengthen us as individuals and as a class. This helped us all open up to each other, explore more into our faith journey and our futures. We are so thankful for everyone who was involved and those who made our trip possible. - Abi C, Gr 8





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# **GCCS EVENTS**





TEACHER APPRECIATION















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# THANK YOU

To our School Community,

As we reach the end of this incredible school year, we wanted to take a moment to express our gratitude to each and every one of you. Your dedication, hard work, and unwavering support have made this year truly remarkable.

To our students, thank you for your enthusiasm, curiosity, and resilience. You have shown incredible growth and have made us all proud.

To our teachers and staff, your commitment to excellence and your passion for education have been the driving force behind our success. Your efforts have touched the lives of our students in countless ways.

To our parents and grandparents, your partnership and encouragement have been invaluable. Thank you for entrusting us with your children and for being an integral part of our school community.

As we look back on the memories we've created together, we also give thanks to God for His abundant blessings this year.

Have a wonderful summer filled with rest, joy, and new adventures. We look forward to welcoming you back in September for another year of learning, growth, and unforgettable moments.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." - Galatians 5: 22-23

#### **YRC: ABOUT US**

THIS MAGAZINE WAS WRITTEN BY STUDENTS AT GCCS WHO ATTEND THE YOUNG REPORTERS CLUB.

At the heart of our Young Reporters News Club is a passionate commitment to keeping our school community informed, connected and inspired. Our mission is simple yet powerful: to share the vibrant stories and happenings within our school, spanning different grades and age groups.



Scan here to read more of our articles on our YRC page, or visit our school's blog page for more school insights.