



# GMS WEEKLY

## NEWSLETTER #1

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September 11, 2023

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MESSAGE FROM MRS. JOHNSON -

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We've had a great start this week. Even the weather has quickly become fall. Students are settling in, learning to open their lockers, figuring out their schedules, and meeting their new teachers.

This newsletter will be sent out each Friday evening with the events for the coming week. Hopefully, it will help your family plan for the coming busy week.

I want to remind everyone the importance of all students coming to school every day and being on time. The side gate will be open by 7:30 each morning. Students may enter and go directly to the back gym. Classes start at 8:00 am. Should your child be late for school they will need to enter through the front door and check in with the office and get a tardy slip to enter class. This is to help keep the attendance correct.

If your child is marked absent, a robo call will be made home to notify you. I know this can be a pain if you have already notified the school, but this is a safety measure for both you and your child.

Make sure you read all the way through the information - Each week we will add a note from our counselor, Ms. Aloha at the bottom.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have a question or concern. Here is my email address: [toni\\_johnsongervais.k12.or.us](mailto:toni_johnsongervais.k12.or.us) or phone number at GMS 503-792-3803 ext. 2020.

Proud to be a Wolverine!

Mrs. Johnson

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### **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES: September 11-15**

- Monday, Sept. 11 - Regular Schedule / Dismissed @ 3:00

- Home volleyball game in the gym against Mt. Angel @ 4:00 pm
  - Tuesday, Sept. 12 - Regular Schedule /Dismissed @ 3:00
  - Wednesday, Sept. 13 - Early Release Schedule / Dismissed @ 1:00 pm
  - Thursday, Sept. 14 - Regular Schedule / Dismissed @ 3:00
  - Friday, Sept. 15 - Regular Schedule / Dismissed @ 3:00
    - Visions Screening for all students
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### **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES/UPDATES FOR September 11-15**

- **GMS Sports:**
  - Volleyball has started - open for all 6-8 graders. Practice in GMS gym after school Monday -Thursday.
  - Soccer - A student meeting was on Thursday, Sept. 7th at lunch. Practice starts Monday the 11th after school.
  - Football - All 7th and 8th grade students will start practice on Monday the 11th.
- **New PE participation Format:**
  - Most of the PE grade is based on class participation. If your child is not able to participate for any reason, and is in school, they will have a form to complete during PE. They will get half credit for their day's participation IF the paperwork is returned signed by a parent or guardian.
- **Cell Phone Policy:**
  - The students are all doing great with leaving their cell phones in their lockers. They are putting them in their locker at 8:00 am and retrieving them at the end of school. If your child is staying for sports they are allowed to have their phones with them for practice.
- **Vision Screening:**
  - On Friday, Sept. 15th all students will have a quick vision screen to see if they may need glasses. This is free to all students. If you do not want your child to receive this free service, please call the office by Thursday to opt out of the eye screening.
- **Class DoJo:**

- You should have gotten several Class DoJo invites from your child's many teachers at the middle school. This is a great communication tool that the elementary school has used for years and now the middle school will also take advantage of this system. This is another way for you to contact your child's teacher and for them to speak to you. I am excited to start using it.
- Notes From Ms. Aloha:
  - Aloha!!! Welcome back to a new school year. I am Aloha Yoshinaga, the Gervais Middle School Counselor, and I am excited to see new faces and familiar faces. We have a lot of amazing changes and programs that will enhance your child's learning and social/emotional experience. For September, it is Suicide prevention month and Willamette Education Service District is offering a training. Here is some information about the training. Please contact me if you have any questions:  
aloha\_yoshinaga@gervais.k12.or.us or 503-792-3803 x2024.
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  - Willamette ESD is also offering QPR Plus for the first time. QPR Plus is a suicide prevention training specifically for **students and their family members**. We will be offering two FREE Saturday sessions this fall.
  - **QPR Plus** – Suicide Prevention (In-Person)
  - Audience: Students & their family members
  - Registration Password: wesdSav3s
  - [October 7](#) - Salem
  - [December 2](#) - McMinnville
  - Please click on the date to register.

Thanks,  
Ms. Aloha