



GIS NEWSLETTER

26 April 2022

Gjøvikregionen International School
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BOOK WEEK UPDATES

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the parents, staff and students that came out to participate in the annual GIS Book Swap Sale. Thank you to the generous community members who made today possible by donating books to our sale. We successfully raised 1000kr for new books for the library!

DEADLINE POSTPONED

Unfortunately, the Disguise Your Gingerbread Man Competition has had to postpone their due date. Students are encouraged to disguise their Gingerbread Man as a character or symbol of a book. The cutouts were delayed, and the templates will be handed out on Wednesday to those that wish to participate. Please return completed Gingerbread Man to the office by **MONDAY 02 MAY** to claim your prize.

WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL

- **THEME: Traditional Dress Day**
- **READING IN UNUSUAL PLACES COMPETITION DUE:** Email photos to Mrs Rasen gwynne.rasen@gjovikis.no or upload to Seesaw- please ensure photos are in the Library folder.
- **SPIRIT WEEK:** Students may dress up in their traditional costumes/colours. They may bring in a short Powerpoint about their country to show their class. They may bring in a small traditional snack (no nuts please) to share or bring in a book in their native language to read aloud to others.

THURSDAY 28 APRIL:

- **THEME: Pyjama Day**
- **SPIRIT WEEK:** Students may wear pyjamas, bathrobes, and slippers as well as bring along one item- a soft toy or a pillow. All items must fit into a bag and all clothing must be able to fit into either their outdoor gear or be worn outside.
- **GINGERBREAD MAN COMPETITION:** Postponed until Monday 02 MAY

FRIDAY 29 APRIL:

- **THEME: Favourite Character Day**
- **SPIRIT WEEK:** Students may dress up as their favourite book characters. No scary masks or weapons, please. Please remember that costumes must be able to fit into either their outdoor gear or be worn outside.
- **PYP READING CHALLENGE CARDS DUE:** Due in to Mrs Rasen
- **NORWEGIAN BOOK REVIEWS DUE:** Due in to Mrs Haavi
- **14.20-15.00: SCHOOL ASSEMBLY:** Book Character Parade.

MONDAY 02 MAY:

- **PYP AWARDS:** Mr Bentley to present
- **GINGERBREAD MAN DUE:** Hand in completed Gingerbread men to the office.

MYP REMINDER

Study time in the library has been cancelled for next week (02-06 MAY) as Mrs Rasen is in Bergen with GR10. Study time is back to its regularly scheduled time the following week (Monday 09 MAY)

Parent satisfaction survey

Every year after the Easter Break, we ask parents to give us feedback on their experience of GIS. All parents received links to PYP and MYP surveys on 20 April. We would be grateful if you could take some time to answer a set of questions, which will help us make plans for next academic year.

Report from UDIR

Please find attached a copy of the letter to parents and students following the UDIR inspection. The letter has already been shared with the Student Council.

The matters to be addressed include:

1. Representation on the school board

The report points out that local authorities, parents, students and staff should have their representatives on the school board. The status of the representatives should be that of an observer, not member. This was the original arrangement when the school opened in 2015. However, later it was considered advantageous to 'promote' the parent and teacher observers to become members of the board with voting rights. It was felt that as members both representatives have more influence in the decision-making process. The fact that parent and staff representatives were members, not just observers, was praised by the IB PYP verification visit team. However, the UDIR inspection pointed out that the role of a member is different than that of an observer and that both representatives should be observers on the board. This will be addressed in tomorrow's extraordinary annual meeting. As regards the student representative as well as a representative of local authorities, they have attended board meetings since 1 February 2022.

2. Calls for board meeting

The inspection concluded that calls for board meetings had been sent too close to the meetings and should be sent out at least seven days prior to each meeting. Case documents should be sent out 4 days prior to a meeting. No participant in a board meeting has ever raised this as an issue that might have an impact on the operations of the board. However, we have already implemented the recommendation since January 2022.

3. Informing parents and students of their rights regarding school environment

The report states that the school has not informed parents and students about their rights regarding school environment, including the right to file a complaint with the state administrator.

As you may remember, this information was communicated to parents by homeroom teachers during the Meet the Teacher evening. Similarly, students were informed by the head of school in the first meeting with the Student Council this academic year. We are open to any suggestions you may have to make our communication more effective. Please contact Mr Armanski if you want to share suggestions.

4. School board practices

The report states that the board needs to review its processes to ensure they are effective. This work is also underway.

The school has until 24 May to address the matters outlined in the report.

Bake sale

We, students from Grade 7 at GIS, are going to have a bake sale on 29th and 30th of April. We are doing it to donate the money to Ukraine and Yemen. We will sell cakes, cupcakes, muffins and more. We are doing it on Storgata street. We really hope everyone buys something to donate! The time for the sale is from 13:00 to 18:00. If you know more people who might want to support us, it would be nice if you tell them! We are really looking forward to it!

Grade 7

SFO

This is to remind you that we still accept applications for children to use SFO next academic year. You can access the application form [here](#).

School support contact details

If you have any questions about the matters below, please contact the relevant person:

Taxi (GIS)	Dennis Wanda	dennis.wanda@gjovikis.no
Taxi/bus (Kommune)	Ingrid Raasholm	ingrid.raasholm@gjovik.kommune.no
SFO	Deepika Senthilkumar	sfo@gjovikis.no
Nurse (MYP)	Ingrid Julie Stadler	Ingrid-Julie.Stadtler@gjovik.kommune.no Tel. 903 65 394
Covid-19 testing	Gjøvik Town Hall	Tel. 61 15 89 11