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NEWSLETTER

DEZEMBER 2023



Dear Students, Parents, Teachers, and Friends of the GHLS Community,

As we approach the beginning of a new year, we would like to extend our sincerest thank you and the warmest of wishes to all of our GHLS community members – whether you are a student in or a teacher of our children or adult classes, a parent who invests time and energy to drop your child(ren) off for their lesson each week, a newcomer who is just starting to learn about our wonderful school, or any of our own staff/board/school members – we thank you for being a part of and enriching our community, and we wish you nothing but the best in happiness and health for the new year. We have a lot to be thankful for as we leave 2023 behind, and we can't wait to create more memories with you all in 2024.

A Message from the Chair

Liebe GHLS Schulgemeinschaft,

Bald ist Weihnachten, mit hoffentlich freier und gemütlicher Zeit mit Familie und Freunden! Wie und wo Sie auch Weihnachten feiern, 2023 geht so langsam zu Ende und 2024 steht schon vor der Tür. Wir drücken allen die Daumen für ein gesundes und gutes Neues Jahr! Im Namen unserer Deutsch Schule möchte ich mich bei Ihnen für Ihr Interesse und für die viele Unterstützung, die wir in 2023 wieder erfahren haben, bedanken. Ich wünsche Ihnen und Ihrer Familie ein frohes Weihnachtsfest, eine gemütliche Zeit mit Keksen und allem, was für Sie dazu gehört. Wir freuen uns jetzt schon auf unserem ersten Schultag am 4. Januar 2024! Frohe Weihnachten und ein Guten Rutsch ins Neue Jahr.

Dear GHLS Community,

Soon it will be Christmas, with hopefully some free and relaxing time with family and friends! How ever and wherever you celebrate Christmas, 2023 is slowly coming to an end and 2024 is just around the corner. We keep our fingers crossed for a healthy and happy New Year. On behalf of the German school, I would like to thank you for your interest and support in 2023. I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas, a cozy time with cookies and all that goes with it. We are already looking forward to welcoming the students back to our school on January 4, 2024, our first day of school in 2024! Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

- Arne Martens

Term II – Winter Class Schedule

If you haven't already done so, please register for the upcoming Winter term by visiting our website here: <https://www.germanschool.ca/take-action>

January 4th - First class after holiday break for Thursday classes

January 8th - First class after holiday break for Monday classes

January 18th - First day of Term II for Thursday classes

January 29th - First day of Term II for Monday classes

March 14th - No in-person classes (March break)

May 2nd - Last day of Term II for Thursday classes

May 6th - Last day of Term II for Monday classes

Upcoming Events

Fasching

Thursday, February 8th 2024 @ Shambhala School (4:30pm-6:30pm)

We will hold a Faschingsfeier/celebration at the Shambhala school during class hours. Students are welcome (and encouraged) to wear costumes as part of this celebration. More details will be made available on our website/via email soon.

DSD Level 1 Examinations

March 13th 2024

Seven of our GHLS students will write the DSD Level 1 (Sprachdiplom) Examinations on March 13th 2024, and the oral/spoken Examinations (at a later date). We are proud of all students who are undertaking these examinations, and we wish them the very best. For more information about the DSD Classes and Examinations, please visit <https://www.germanschool.ca/sprachdiplom>

Ostereiersuche (Easter Egg Hunt)

Thursday, March 28th 2024 @ Shambhala School (4:30pm-6:30pm)

We will have a small Easter-Egg Hunt at the Shambhala school during class hours. More details will be made available on our website and via email soon.

GHLS Year-End Party

Saturday, May 25th 2024

Our end of year GHLS celebration is always a nice way to bring students, their parents, our staff, and our board members together before summer. More details will be made available on our website and via email soon.

GHLS Events in Review

The GHLS community has been fortunate to be able to enjoy a few in-person events over the past few months. These events are integral to who we are and to our commitment to fostering a vibrant German speaking community in Halifax and surrounding areas. There is no entrance fee to any of our events. Invitations to these events are sent out to our community via email. We want to emphasize that, even if you were unable to register this year, or if you have children too young to participate in an online class, you are still more than welcome to attend our events. If you are interested in receiving information and invitations, please contact engagement@germanschool.ca in order to be placed on our email list.

Laternenfest (November 2023)



As we do every year, we were happy to host our annual Laternenfest at the Christ Church Parish Hall in Dartmouth in November. We began our Laternenfest with an instrumental rendition of the story of Sankt Martin, which was performed by a few of our youngest GHLS students while our Director, Cornelia Schneider, read out the story. We had asked those attending to bring non-perishable items to donate for the Christ Church Food Bank, and we greatly appreciate all of the donations that were made. This year, we decided to make fresh waffles and provide warm Kinder-Punsch for attendees, at the low cost of \$2 each. The waffles were a hit! At last, we sang our German songs (Ich geh mit



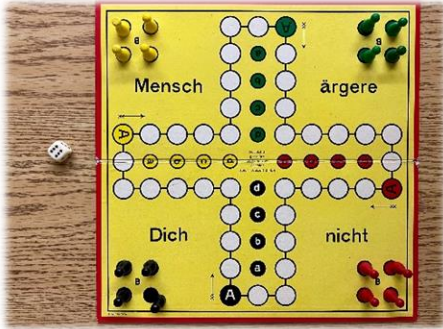
meiner Laterne and Laterne Laterne) as we walked around up to and around the Dartmouth Commons with many lanterns aglow (some of which were made in their GHLS classes the week prior). It was a wonderful atmosphere, and a few people living in the neighbourhood even watched us pass by.





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GHLS Brettspielabend (November 2023)

“Mensch, ärgere dich nicht!” - We were happy to host a board game night in November. It was a wonderful evening in a relaxed atmosphere as we enjoyed playing some games in good company surrounded by the German language. We aim to host a board game evening in years to come!



Nikolausfeier (December 2023)

Our annual Nikolausfeier, held at the Christ Church in Dartmouth, was a success once again! We had a very large attendance of both adults and children, and it was wonderful to see everyone together. Attendees were asked to bring a finger food to share for our potluck, there were some musical and some story-telling/play performances by some of our GHLS classes, students lit the Advents Kranz, we sang German Christmas carols, and we were even lucky enough to get a visit from the one and only Nikolaus, who gifted the children with small Nikolaus bags. We also held another German book exchange, which is always a hit. Thank you to all who helped plan, organize, and execute this wonderful annual event, and to all who attended!





Bake Sale Fundraiser (December 2023)

The GHLS held a bake sale at the Shambhala School during the 4:30-6:30pm Children's classes. GHLS students, staff, Admin, and other community members donated baked goods for a bake sale fundraiser. Funds raised during this bake sale will be used by the GHLS to enhance student learning (ie; learning aids, shared school and craft supplies, and much more).



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OTHER NEWS

Several of our GHLS students completed their DSD Level 1 written and oral examinations last spring. Congratulations to Nolwen Delarue, Anna Devred, Sarah Dantz, Thea Wirkus, and Felix Wirkus on their accomplishments.

CONTACT US AND KEEP INFORMED

Website: <https://www.germanschool.ca/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/germanlanguageschoolhalifax>

Email: admin@germanschool.ca

**** Please email Barbara Kluge at newsletter@germanschool.ca with any information or photos that you would like included in upcoming Newsletters. Any suggestions and submissions are welcome and appreciated ****