

# NEWSLETTER



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

We have reached the end of yet another wonderful school year, and are so proud of all of our students for their work and dedication to learning the German language; so thankful to all of our GHLS teachers for their hard work and dedication to teaching it, and to our Board Members and Admin, for helping to make it all run smoothly!

During this 2021-2022 school year, all classes were once again held online. It has been an adjustment, but students and teachers made the very best of it all, and we are proud of a successful year of learning. We have also been fortunate to hold a number of events in person this past year, including the end of year Fest this past May, which brought together a good number of our community members.

We are very excited to announce that classes will once again be held in person for the 2022-2023 school year. Classes will take place every Thursday evening at the *Shambhala School* in downtown Halifax, as has been tradition for several years past. There has been a slight time change for in-person classes; the Children classes will now be held from 4:30pm-6:30pm, and the Adult classes will now be held from 6:45pm-8:45pm. This change has been made in order to allow all students a few extra minutes to get to classes on time.

Below, you will find some of our Term II events, information about the upcoming 2022-2023 class registration, GHLS scholarships announcements and congratulations, some great resources to help with German language exposure through the summer, and more. We wish you all a very happy, safe, and relaxing summer, and we cannot wait to see you all in person in the fall!

# A Message from the Director

#### Geschafft! We did it!

Another year of online learning has come to an end. This 2-year online-only experience brought challenges but also opportunities. We are grateful for your continued understanding and for staying with us, even though online learning may not have been your preference. For students and teachers living outside Halifax our online classes were the only way to take part in our school community, which is why we will continue to offer some select online classes in addition to in-person classes. These additional online classes will be Adult 1, Adult 2 and our fun preschool class with our wonderful teacher Rebecca from Bonn, Germany. As with the in-person classes, we will need to have enough registrations to make those happen, so please spread the word!

We are also excited to offer a new youth class, which will focus on debating current issues and topics of interest for that age group. We will practice debating, find joy in expressing one's opinion in German and have fun! In the second term, this group may enter the "Jugend debattiert" competition with the aim of entering the finals, which are held in the US and provide an amazing experience.



In addition to offering German classes we are striving to facilitate a sense of community and sharing stories and good times in person again. Parents dropping off their children for lessons will now have the opportunity to enjoy coffee and have a warm place to hang out together in the upstairs kitchen of the Shambhala school. Hooray! No more walking to Hydrostone restaurants on cold, wet and dark evenings with younger siblings in tow. Adult students are welcome to come early to join the 'Kaffeeklatsch' in the kitchen!

On that happy note, I wish you a relaxing and joyful summer!

Schöne Ferien!

Christine van der Stege

# Registration for 2022-2023 School Year

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year will open on **July 18<sup>th</sup> 2022**. Classes will be held in person at the Shambhala School (5450 Russell Street) every Thursday evening from 4:30pm-6:30pm (Children classes) and 6:45pm-8:45pm (Adult classes). The anticipated first day of classes will be **Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022**.

Please register as soon as possible, so that we can organize classes accordingly. Please note that registrants after August 28<sup>th</sup> 2022 will not be guaranteed to receive books in time for their first class!

Please go to <a href="https://www.germanschool.ca/take-action">https://www.germanschool.ca/take-action</a> to register.

# **Class Schedule**

**TERM I - FALL 2022 (SEPT 22<sup>ND</sup> 2022-JAN 12<sup>TH</sup> 2023)** September 22: First day of classes December 15: Last day before Christmas break (No classes Dec 22 and 29) January 12: Last day of Term I classes

**TERM II - WINTER 2023 (JAN 19<sup>TH</sup> 2023-MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> 2023)** January 19: First day of Term II classes May 11: Last day of Term II classes NO CLASSES ON MARCH 16 2023 (MARCH BREAK)



# **GHLS** Events in Review

The GHLS community has been fortunate to be able to enjoy a few in-person events over the past four months. We have enjoyed seeing new and old GHLS members and their families at each event. These events are integral to who we are and to our commitment to fostering a vibrant German speaking community. 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 and do not already receive our emails, please contact: engagement@germanschool.ca in order to be placed on our email list.

## **Teacher Appreciation Potluck**



Potluck Night was a great way of saying Thank you to the teachers of the German Heritage Language School. We are grateful for their amazing work. Thank you again!

Der Potluck Abend war eine schöne Gelegenheit den Lehrern der deutschen Schule zu danken. Wir sind sehr glücklich über die hervorragende Arbeit. Nochmals vielen Dank.









# End of Year Fest at Point Pleasant Park

So much fun was had at our End of Year Fest at Point Pleasant Park at the end of May! It was a gorgeous, sunny afternoon with crafts, games, picnic food, and the sound of the German language!









#### German Forest School Camp

During the first week of July, a number of children were lucky enough to take part in a week-long German Forest School Summer camp through Roots and Boots Forest School at Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park. The camp was organized and run by GHLS Director Christine van der



Stege, along with GHLS teacher Marco Roenz. Children camped out in the forest every day from Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm, to learn about and enjoy nature, build connections with other German-speaking or learning children, all while being exposed to the German language. Hammocks and swings in the trees, lake swimming, canoeing, widdling sticks, reading German books and singing German songs, and much more; it was a wonderful week in the woods!









## **GHLS NEWS**

#### **35 YEARS GHLS**

The German Heritage Language School started in September 1987 under the direction of Mrs. Gerta Josenhans. After a few years of successfully teaching German language skills to children of various ages, the school expanded its program from two groups into five different age groups and levels of teaching. Students can also complete their DSD Level Sprachdiplomas through the school. We will be sure to celebrate our 35 years throughout the coming school year!

#### **NEW CHAIR**

We would like to thank our outgoing Chair Paula Minnikin for her dedicated work during the recent challenging years. Our school never stopped teaching, something we couldn't have achieved without Paula's leadership. Thank you, Paula, for your incredible service!

A warm welcome to our new Chair Arne Martens, who many of you in our school community already know as a long-time teacher, parent and board member. We look forward to transitioning back to in-person teaching and to face-to-face events under Arne's guidance working hand-in-hand with our board members, administration and dedicated school volunteers.

#### DSD LEVEL 1 EXAMINATION DIPLOMAS

Congratulations to **Luisa Ensslin, Jacob Weise,** and **Kai Retter**, on successfully completing the DSD Level 1 (Sprachdiplom) Examinations! Your hard work and your dedication has paid off, and we are all very proud of you!

For more information about the DSD Classes and Examinations, please visit https://www.germanschool.ca/sprachdiplom

#### JOSENHANS FOUNDERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to **Annina Kluge-Rodgers** for being the Josenhans Founders Memorial Scholarship recipient for the 2021-2022 school year.



Congratulations to **Emma Anne Kehoe** for being this year's Eva Huber Memorial Scholarship recipient for the 2021-2022 school year.

For more information about the GHLS scholarships, please visit <a href="https://www.germanschool.ca/new-page">https://www.germanschool.ca/new-page</a>





# GERMAN LANGUAGE LEARNING RESOURCES

Here are some German language resources (mainly for children) that may be of interest to you, and helpful to continue exposing your children to the German language throughout the summer and during the school year at home! These resources are all FREE and easy use!

#### Websites

Sing Kinderlieder: Wonderful website for kids with wonderful German songs and videos: <u>https://www.singkinderlieder.de/video/</u>

Kikaninchen: Free interactive website for children with games, videos, colouring activities, and songs: <u>https://www.kikaninchen.de/index.html</u>

#### Interactive German Apps

Der Elefant Kikaninchen Flik Flak (German app to learn how to tell time) Duolingo (Extensive German-learning app for adults, but easy for kids to use)

#### Youtube Channels and Children's Series/Videos

Annas und Pias Tiere (Wonderful Nature Documentaries for children): https://www.youtube.com/c/AnnasundPiasTiere

Der Elefant (Mixed animated/non-animated shows such as "Die Sendung mit dem Elefanten"): <u>https://www.youtube.com/c/derelefant</u>

ZDFchen: <u>https://www.youtube.com/c/ZDFchen</u> (mostly animated children's shows such as Jonalu, Moin Piet, Meine Freundin Connie, und Kinderlieder)

KIKA von ARD und ZDF: <u>https://www.youtube.com/user/meinKiKA</u> (shows for younger and older kids; Baumhaus, Ene Mene Bu, Feuerwehrmann Sam, Schloss Einstein fuer aeltere, etc.).

Logo Nachrichten fuer kids (News channel for kids): https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuziK4bUFRr3z62bE7FMDPQ

Willi Wills Wissen (Informational documentary series for kids): https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC31kVxV0ArRAYHIQC1KrWoA

Kurz Geschichten fuer Kinder (short stories for children): https://www.youtube.com/c/GESCHICHTENF%C3%9CRKINDER

Sing mit mir Kinderlieder: https://www.youtube.com/c/SingKinderlieder



Did you know ...

- Halifax Public Libraries also have some German books on the shelves?
- If you have a Netflix account, you can set your language preference to German in order to watch a select few of shows in German?
- If you have an Amazon Prime account, you can go to Amazon.de and find some adult and children's shows that you can watch (Im Aussland anschauen)?



# CONTACT US AND KEEP UP TO DATE

Website: <u>https://www.germanschool.ca/</u> Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/germanlanguageschoolhalifax</u> Email: <u>admin@germanschool.ca</u>

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