We made it! The sun is shining, the birds are chirping, and the 2015-2016 school year is wrapping up. It’s always amazing to me how quickly each year passes, how much gets accomplished, and how much each child progresses.

As we finish the final units in the next 8 weeks and as students take their final exams, I’m excited for all the students to track and see their growth. Between reading and writing, students have significantly progressed in their own ways, and I hope that they can all celebrate their individual successes.

Finishing up the year, students will be learning a variety of skills that will help them transition to the next year in the MYP or DP program. As grade 10 closes out the Holocaust unit, they will be learning different annotating and close-reading strategies to help them prepare for grade 11. The grade 9s will be discussing themes and characterization in their final unit, Romeo and Juliet. Doing so will help them prepare for comparative analyses in grade 10. Grade 8 will be taking a closer look at how the criteria progresses into Grade 9, preparing them for deeper analytical writing and more rigorous texts. And finally, Grade 7 will be delving into drama and short stories, with the hope of creatively writing their own short story to prepare them for the start of Grade 8.

While it may be the end of the year, the pace sure isn’t slowing down, as there is much that still needs to be accomplished! If you or your child has a question or concern as we approach exams or the end of the year, please don’t hesitate to ask.

Otherwise, I would like to give a big thank you for all your support this year and welcoming me into the Southbank family. I’ve grown in many ways as an educator because of your wonderful children and their insights, so I appreciate you sharing them with me this year ☺.

A Word from Your Teacher…

What’s the Scoop?
Get the inside scoop on Mrs. Goffi’s classroom!
Southbank International School ★ May-June 2016

Home stretch!

Reminders

- Students, please be sure to check my website if you are absent or unsure of what is due for homefun: www.mrs.goffi.weebly.com. This will help you to keep on track with ongoing assignments, like the Skill of the Week.
- Grade 10, please continue with the Holocaust readings and following along with your individual reading calendars, as I will be checking this.
- All grades, please see the message below about exams.
- Parents, thank you for your time during conferences; it was a pleasure to see many of you again to discuss how your child has progressed throughout this year!

Parents

Each month, I’ll feature different questions you can ask your child to start a conversation. Some questions may be recurring, since they are activities or themes we will discuss throughout the year. Happy conversing ☺!

1. G9: How are the relationships in R+J similar and/or different to the relationships you have with loved ones?
2. G10: What is the most impactful way to memorialize the Holocaust (graphic novel, memoir, film, poetry, documentary)?
3. G7: How do author’s build suspense in a text?
4. G8: What themes are applicable to society today in Roll of Thunder?

Mark Your Calendar!

- May 2: Bank holiday, no school
- May 30: Bank holiday, no school
- May 23-27: Exam week
- June 24: Last day of school!
School and District News

**G7-10 Exams:**
- Students will not know the exam questions ahead of time; however, the questions will cover a variety of skills we learned throughout the year and can be applied to any of the texts we read.
- You will not be allowed to prepare a draft or outline ahead of time in order to practice for the exam-like conditions. Therefore, you will be expected to paraphrase examples from the texts we’ve read this year, but you do not need to have quotes memorized.
- That means, to prepare for exams, you should have a good idea about setting, character, theme, and language from the novels we’ve read this year. We will discuss this further in class as we study and review for exams.

- For updated school news, please visit www.southbank.org or watch out for parent mailings each week. For updates on Mrs. G’s classroom activities and curriculum, please visit my individual teacher page: www.mrs.goffi.weebly.com (also linked to Firefly).

Happy Birthday Shout Outs!

**A special happy birthday to the SUMMER birthdays in Mrs. Goffi’s class:**

**Grade 10:**
- Nora H: July 24
- Francesca R: August 19
- Idan G: Aug. 20
- Jaime M: August 29
- Jordon T: August 29

**Grade 9:**
- Ali C: June 22
- Nazima K: July 18

**Grade 8:**
- Guy K: June 11
- Cammie W: June 25
- Bruno L: June 21
- Alex N: July 16

**Grade 7:**
- Andrea C: July 11
- Esme A: August 12
- Robert D: August 15

During each month, I will be observing students who have shown outstanding growth, who have upheld Southbank’s character values, and/or who have helped to strengthen our classroom community. One student from each grade will be awarded student of the month in Mrs. Goffi’s class.

- **Grade 7:** Alex, for her consistent dedication and enthusiasm for learning and Clara, for her overall progression throughout the year.
- **Grade 8:** Guy, for his consistent enthusiasm for learning and Dana for her consistent progress and dedication throughout the year.
- **Grade 9:** Jorge, for his consistent dedication and Adam for his overall progress throughout the year in skill and effort.
- **Grade 10:** Jordon, for his consistent dedication and Mia for her dedication and desire to improve

Teacher Contact Information

**Office:** 305 // **Classroom:** 201

**Email:** Danielle.Goffi@southbank.org

**Available Meeting Time:** 8AM, lunch, or after school by appointment