

North Glenmore Gator Gazette



Phone: 250-762-3535

Website: www.nge.sd23.bc.ca

October 2013



PICTURE DAY ...

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15TH
RETAKES, NOVEMBER 13TH**

Picture Day - Oct. 15th

Bring your smiles :) Again, this year, your child's photo will be taken in front of the green screen (Do not dress in green or teal). This will allow for over 40 background options if you choose to order on-line. You still have the option of ordering the way we always have, with a choice of 5 background options.

The order forms will be sent home a couple weeks after picture day with instructions for ordering attached.



Kiss & Ride Program Parent Volunteers Needed!



Once again this year, we would like to try to create a formal "Kiss & Ride" program at NGE. Kiss & Ride is a program designed to provide safer traffic conditions and improved traffic flow during the peak periods of school entry (i.e. from 8:10-8:30am). Unfortunately, we have not been able to implement this program fully due to a lack of volunteers.

Many other schools in our district have a Kiss & Ride program in place and have seen great success in alleviating traffic congestion concerns in the morning.



In order to make this a reality at NGE, we need parent volunteers on a daily basis, as well as a program coordinator. We have a Kiss & Ride parent coordinator from a neighbouring school who is willing to help us get up and running, so no need to worry if you are hesitant when it comes to the ins and outs of the program.



We will need roughly 10-15 volunteer slots filled each week for the program to run. Please contact the school if you can participate and help us get this up and running.

Thank you!

Homework & Practice Policy



North Glenmore Elementary School has a homework & practice policy:

- to help foster academic achievement
- to assist students in developing routines of good work habits
- to assist students in developing a sense of responsibility that will be of benefit to them in their future years of schooling.

Home Practice can be assignments that are:

- based on skills and concepts learned in class that require additional practice (reading, writing, spelling or math facts)
- work not completed during regular allotted class time
- review of class work or studying for upcoming tests
- silent or shared reading.

Some students may receive increased opportunity for home practice based on the knowledge they demonstrated in class and how skilled they are at the task.

Homework & Practice Recommendations

Primary (K-3) 15-30 minutes daily

Intermediate (Grades 4 - 6) 30-45 minutes daily



If the homework or practice load becomes frustrating, please contact the classroom teacher to discuss possible solutions. Your assistance in helping establish effective homework & practice habits is much appreciated and will be of great benefit to your child(ren).

Terry Fox Run

Thanks to all the families and student who participated in our 30th annual Terry Fox Run on Monday, Sept 16th. Once again, our Grade 6 students did a great job of directing all of us on the 1km route. Thanks to Mrs. Weigel and her volunteers for providing us with juice and water at the end of the event. A big thank you to all of the people who helped make this event a huge success. With the help of Mrs. Hanson's Grade 3 class, who collected "Toonies for Terry," the NGE community raised over \$900 for cancer research. WOW!



Lunch Hour Music



At North Glenmore we know how important the lunch hour is to students and their learning. It is essential that students get in their daily physical activity, and that they recharge and refuel for a successful afternoon of learning. This year we have been playing some relaxing classical music during the eating portion of the lunch hour in order to create a calmer and more peaceful environment for students. The calmer atmosphere allows our students to focus on eating their full lunches, while also providing them some much needed downtime to recharge their brains for the afternoon. So far, students seem to quite enjoy their lunch hour music and will even come remind us to turn it on at the office if we accidentally forget to do so.



"Free the Children" We Day

This special event takes place in Vancouver on October 18th, bringing together 18,000 youth from around B.C. NGE has been invited to send at least 8 Gr 6 leaders (and potentially more) to a day of inspirational speakers and entertainers. The purpose of the day is to raise awareness of children in need, and to inspire and celebrate the youth movement for global change. These students will listen to special speakers, participate in activities, as well as learn how to motivate and encourage our community to help. Stay tuned as all of our Grade 6 leaders organize events for our school to help our community and the world. We look forward to having everyone at N.G.E. participating in making a difference and in a significant way!



Off the Shelf

Welcome to fall! We have had a busy start-up this year with a brand new library computer system. Thanks to everyone for their patience as we have learned the ins and outs of the new Insignia system!!

Scholastic Book Fair

is going on this week in the library! We will be open during all of the student-led conference times. Feel free to drop by before or after you meet with your child's teacher!



Battle of the Books will be starting in October for students in grades 3 - 6. Listen for the announcements for our first meeting coming soon!

In October, we will be running our annual **Fall Reading Club**. Student participants will receive a booklet to record their reading time. For every seven entries, students will receive a sticker. Once the booklet is completed, students will receive a prize. We will also do prize draws throughout the fall for participants. Students will receive more information in their classes.

Birthday Book Draw: Remember, if your child's birthday is this month, he/she can fill out the Birthday Book Draw form to be entered to win a free book. The winners for August were: Nathan T & Campbell Z and the winners for September were: Gavin K and Journee W.



STUDENT FEES

A reminder that student fees for school supplies, cultural performances and agendas (Gr 2-6) are now due. If you need special consideration regarding fees, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

Special thanks for using our new on-line process—most families **reported** that it was easy and efficient. There were a few glitches in September, so in fairness to all our families, we are extending our "Free Fees" promotion for one more week before we draw the winner.

Thank You!



Home/School Conferences

Teachers look forward to meeting parents at our upcoming student-led conferences to be held **October 3rd & 4th**. Please check the recent notice sent home for your family's times - also posted on our website. Early dismissal takes place on these dates at 12:30, and busses will run accordingly.



After School Plans & Play

- * If your child's after school plans change from the regular routine, please inform your classroom teacher.
- * If you stay and play on the school playground, please monitor your children and ensure they are using our equipment safety rules.
- * Our 2:45 bell signals that supervision is over and students should be making their way home.
- * For safety reasons, students still waiting for pick-up after the 2:45 bell must check in at the office.

Update our E-Mail List!

If you haven't been receiving our school emails over the past month, please ensure that we have your current email on file at the office. Newsletters are now on-line - we will be emailing our families each month to remind them to check out our website for the monthly newsletter.



Family Activity Night

City of Kelowna Recreation is once again offering a series of Family Floor Hockey nights for the NGE community. Our first event will be October 18th.



More information coming home soon. Enjoy a great family time getting active!

The Central Okanagan School District's Appeals Process

The School District Appeals Policy states that, "A student or a parent of a student who is entitled to an educational program in School District No. 23 may appeal a decision of an employee of the Board of Education which significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student."

For a complete description of the Appeals Policy along with the recommended steps to follow in attempting to solve a problem, please refer to Policy 460 - Appeals, that can be accessed from the "Policies" link under the Board of Education heading on the School District's homepage—www.sd23.bc.ca

The Central Okanagan School District's Hardship Clause

Within School District Policy 425—Student Fees (see www.sd23.bc.ca), the Board of Education has indicated "that a student will not be excluded from any educational program due to financial hardship." This clause in the policy provides for the provide and confidential consideration of financial circumstances of individual students and families, while preserving the dignity of families who may be unable to pay. Please contact the school principal if you are facing a financial hardship that may restrict the ability of your child to access a school program.



Watch for our October News Update later this month with more school information, including Hallowe'en activities.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our PAC meets for approximately one hour the second Tuesday of every month with the next meeting being held on **October 8th** in the library at 7:00 p.m. - babysitting is available. Our PAC provides many positive contributions to our school community. We hope you will attend to learn more about our school and how parents can help support their child's education.

Our PAC also organizes many special events ... We would like to say a BIG Thanks for the wonderful **Welcome Back to School Family Pizza Night...** It was a HUGE success! It is great to see so many families participate! Special thanks to Mrs. Crumb, Ms. White & Ms. Cornett for organizing and to all the wonderful parent and student volunteers. Thanks also for all the many creative cakes for our raffle!

We raised \$488 towards our long-term technology goal - and many happy children went home with a special sweet treat to share with their families.



Fire Prevention Week - October 6-12, 2013

During Fire Prevention Week, families are encouraged to review fire safety procedures and plan an escape route at home in case of an emergency. A special Fire Prevention pamphlet will go home with our primary students. In addition, each year, a Fire Chief for the Day is randomly selected from students in K-Gr. 3. The winning student, Ivan S., Gr 2, will be joining winners from other schools at the Kelowna Firehall on Wednesday, October 9th for a special evening of fun, food, games and prizes! Please take time during Fire Prevention Week to plan for a safe exit with everyone in your family.

Litterless Lunches

We are now in the second year of our Litterless Lunch program and we are seeing continued success with this eco-friendly initiative. As a school community we continue to see a drastic reduction in lunchtime litter (in and around the school), students being much more mindful when it comes to throwing out food, and a very clean and learner-friendly environment in all our classrooms.

We are seeing all students using a variety of excellent strategies to be successful with our program, including:

- * Packing food items with little to no man-made waste products
- * Cleaning out containers before packing them away
- * Using reusable utensils ... and using reusable containers to store any waste or left over food products

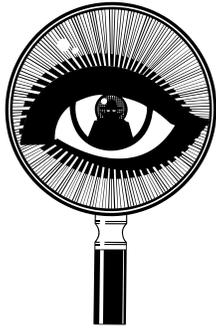


Our friends on the other side of the lake at Rose Valley Elementary have also started their own Litterless Lunch program this year. Please visit our Litterless Lunches parent page on our website to see the wonderful presentation that Mr. Snedden, the Principal at RVE, put together to launch their program:

<http://www.nge.sd23.bc.ca/Parents/litterlesslunches/Pages/default.aspx>.

Community News

CHILDREN'S EYE CHECK-UP's....are free at any local optometrist, up to age 18. No referrals needed. Please consider having your child's eyes checked on a regular



CANADA SAFETY COUNCIL

Babysitting Training & Home Alone Courses

Oct.19, Nov.16, Dec. 7

TO REGISTER:

babysittinghomealone@gmail.com
250-317-2868
250-575-5301



NGE Website Scavenger Hunt!

Each month we host an online website scavenger hunt, to encourage our families to visit our website, as well as to read all the important information in our monthly online newsletter.



MONTHLY SCAVENGER HUNT

OCTOBER'S WEBSITE SCAVENGER HUNT IS HERE! CLICK THE GATOR BELOW TO ENTER TO WIN THIS MONTH'S PRIZE!



September's scavenger hunt had the most entries of any scavenger hunt to date, with over 160 entries!
Way to Go, Gators!

Congratulations to the following participating students whose names were drawn:

K Olivia M.
Gr 1 Ayla L.
Gr 2 KJ M.
Gr 3 Gavin K.
Gr 4 Hinano H.
Gr 5 Anika N.
Gr 6 Tate B.