

# North Glenmore Gator Gazette



Phone: 250-762-3535

Website: [www.nge.sd23.bc.ca](http://www.nge.sd23.bc.ca)

January 2014

Happy New Year

We hope all of our North Glenmore families enjoyed a happy, healthy holiday! We're ready to start the New Year with another successful term of learning. A special "thanks" to all of our parents for your continued support. Looking forward to a great second term!



## Work Ethic Awards



At North Glenmore, we are proud to celebrate the great efforts of our students!

In the intermediate grades (Grades 4-6), students have an opportunity to earn a **Work Ethic Award** by meeting or exceeding our work ethic criteria (posted on our website).

Students achieving a Work Ethic Award should have received a stamp on their first term reports. If a student feels he/she has been missed, it is important for them to discuss this with their classroom teacher.

Work Ethic achievers will be presented with a special certificate and Work Ethic pencil right after our next Celebration Assembly on **Friday, January 31st at 8:45am**

**Parents are Welcome to join us!**

**On-Line School Registration for 2014-2015 begins on Monday, February 3rd through to Friday, March 7th**



### Online Registration Process Approved by Board of Education

At the December 11, 2013 public meeting of the Board of Education, school trustees approved the adoption of an Online Registration Process to replace the former 'paper-based' system. There has been a long history in the Central Okanagan of parents lining up well in advance for the opening of the registration period. The new online program is intended to "virtualize the standing in line process", providing a common specific time across the District to register on the opening day of registration (February 3, 2014).

New parents with no access to technology will be able to visit their neighbourhood school and register online at the school. Parents with their own technology and access to the internet, may complete this process from any location using the device of their choice (computer, tablet or smartphone). Moving to this online system will introduce a level of efficiency into the system, while also eliminating the need for parents to line up for long periods of time or in inclement weather.

It is important to note that this new registration system will be used for both parents of new students (Kindergarten to Grade 12), as well as for parents wishing to register their child(ren) in a school of their choice outside their catchment area.

Student  
Registration

**Further information will be distributed to parents in January explaining how to access the online registration link as well as the steps to be followed in completing the application process.**



### Food and Toy Drive

WOW! Our NGE community is absolutely AMAZING! During December we collected food and toy donations to support our Kelowna community. We brought in **762.8 pounds** of food and toys! The generosity of everyone here at NGE is truly incredible. Thank you for your support and your help. We are so thrilled to have made such an outstanding difference for people in need. Thank you!

### Home/School Conferences

We look forward to meeting with you and your North Glenmore Elementary student(s) at our next conferences:

**Thursday, February 6th, 2014**

**Friday, February 7th, 2014**

Both these days will be **early dismissal for students at 12:30 pm** (busses will run accordingly).

More information will be sent home later this month regarding scheduling for your child's class.



**ONLINE MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS** ... you can continue to support this NGE fundraiser throughout the year by simply logging on to [www.ccrp.ca](http://www.ccrp.ca) to order or renew magazines. Our school's campaign code is BC289. Proceeds go towards special school projects and events. Thanks for your support!

## NGE – Upcoming Parents as Partners Sessions ~ Esteem Building for Girls ~

Did you know that 47% of girls between the ages of 10-17 will stop swimming lessons, skip PE class, drop out of ballet, avoid social activities, etc... because they feel bad about how they look? Starting in January, North Glenmore will be hosting a 3 part series for our parent community:



### **ESTEEM – Conversations About Self-Image**

These 3 sessions (Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> and Mar. 13<sup>th</sup> - all at 6:30pm) will focus on fostering an open relationship and strengthening the connection between mothers and their daughters as they take on social issues affecting their daily lives. The sessions are intended for mothers with **daughters in Gr. 5 or Gr.6** and will touch upon topics such as: self-image, true beauty, media influences, discovering your values, and much, much more.

[CLICK HERE](#) or visit the Central Zone Parent Network website (link on main NGE webpage) for more details on this event. \*Child-minding is available if needed\*

**Registration is almost full!** So please be sure to register as soon as possible!

[CLICK HERE](#) to go directly to the Central Zone Parent Network - Events & Registration page to register for these sessions.

**Note: although it is encouraged, you do not need to attend all 3 sessions to participate in this opportunity.**

**LUNCH TIME SHOWCASE**



If your child has a talent or special skill that they would like to share, particularly if they are taking lessons outside of school, you may wish to sign them up for our Lunch Time Showcase!

On **Friday, January 24th** students will have an opportunity to perform over the lunch hour for children and parents who wish to attend. Because we may not have time for all students who are interested in performing, we will draw a number of primary and intermediate entries. Any child who wishes to perform may fill out an entry form, which will include parental consent. **Thank you in advance for helping your child make a wise choice of material! No "lip sync's" or "air bands" please.**

Entry forms are available at the office and will require information regarding type and/or title of performance, time required, and accompanying equipment needs. Entries need to be returned by the previous Thursday, January 16th. Students whose names have not been drawn will be given first opportunity for another Lunch Time Showcase scheduled later in the year.



**Grade 6 Basketball!**

Mr. Smith, Mrs. Collinson, Mrs. Hanson and Mr. Kleckner are looking forward to coaching the grade 6 boys and girls basketball teams in the coming months. Our

schedule will include both home and away games. If you are able to help with the transportation of students to and from away games, please check in with the office to ensure that the proper paperwork is in order. Thank you in advance for your support, it is very much appreciated. Practice will be starting up during the first week in January and we're all super excited for the coming season!



**ROCKETS VISIT NGE LEADERS!**



As a "Thank You!" to our Gr 6 students for their great leadership in our school, we have invited the Rockets to play a special floor hockey game... just with them during lunch on Monday, January 20th!

After a "Thank You!" pizza luncheon, members of the Rockets team will join the Gr 6 students for their gym classes.



**NGE Website Scavenger Hunt!**

Last month we had over 50 students share some wonderful "acts of kindness" stories to enter for a chance to win December's website scavenger hunt. The first scavenger hunt for 2014 is already up on the webpage. Click the gator for a chance to win!

**ONLINE SCAVENGER HUNT**

Check here to enter for a chance to win our first website scavenger hunt of 2014!



**December's Scavenger Hunt Winners:**

- K Bryleigh R.
- Gr 1 Tallula F.
- Gr 2 Luke K.
- Gr 3 Clarissa R.
- Gr 4 Hannah R.
- Gr 5 Mitchell D.
- Gr 6 Kaya R.



\*If you do not have access to a computer at home we will provide you with time on our school computers.



## Off the Shelf

### Welcome back!!

Happy New Year! We have lots of exciting things happening in the library over the next few weeks!

Lunch times in the library are very busy. Students are welcome to come and hang out with us if they have a library pass from their teacher and something to do! They can read, play with Lego, play board games or chess, work on homework, color pictures, draw, or sign out books.

We will be starting our regular meetings for the Battle of the Books in the next few days. Groups will be meeting at lunch or recess once a week to talk about the books and try out some practice questions. Listen for announcements to find out when your practices will be!

Our second Scholastic Book Fair will be taking place the first week of February. There will be a notice coming home asking for parent volunteers to help us out. Remember that volunteers will receive a discount off of their book purchases as a special thank you!

Our birthday book draw winners for December were Lukas D. (primary) and Landon H. (intermediate).



## CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students should NOT bring electronic devices, games, iPods, cell phones to school - they are known to be the cause of great distraction, and there is always the concern that such costly items may go missing. Students have been asked to leave them at home. The school cannot take responsibility for the safety of these items or any inappropriate actions that may occur with their use. Due to privacy concerns, these items should never be used to take pictures at school. If your family has a special reason that your child must have a phone available, please contact Ms. Buckley or Mr. Kleckner directly.



## School-Based Team Meetings: What are They? Why do We Have them?

The purpose of a **School-Based Team Meeting** is an opportunity to discuss issues that arise for a student and, as a team, brainstorm solutions.

When the school observes academic, behavioural or social issues that continue to be a concern for a student, a decision is often made to schedule a School-Based Team meeting to further support that student. The parents are included as a part of the team and are invited to join the meeting (parents are generally contacted by phone by the classroom teacher.) The school team consists of the classroom teacher, the Learning Assistance Teacher (who is usually the chairperson or facilitator), one or two members of the school administration, the school counsellor and any other support services involved with the student, such as the Speech and Language Pathologist, the teacher of the Hearing Impaired or Vision Impaired.

Our goal is to work together as a team to help the student become more successful. Support strategies are identified and an Action Plan is developed. A further meeting may be scheduled to review the plan.

This is an important partnership process that helps students understand that home and school are working together on their behalf to overcome difficulties.

## PAC Meeting

The next PAC meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on **Tuesday, January 14th, 2014 in the library.** All parents/guardians are invited to attend. Babysitting is available at the school.

Your PAC invites you to dance the night away on Thursday February 14th from 6pm to 8pm with DJ Haymaker in the NGE Gym.

More information will be sent home in February.

## THANK YOU PAC

A **Big Thank you** to our PAC for hosting a special holiday movie for students on the last day before the Christmas break. The movie, the nutritious snack and holiday treat were enjoyed by all!







## 60 Minute Kids Club

We are pleased to announce that NGE students Grades 1-6 will be participating in the 60 Minute Kids Club (60 MKC) Winter Challenge from January 15<sup>th</sup>- March 15<sup>th</sup>.

The 60 Minute Kids Club platform is designed to increase healthy lifestyle engagement in children aged 5-12 years old. It offers healthy challenges, accountability, and incentives. Students will be able to track their daily healthy habits such as: eating healthy meals, physical activity, hours of sleep and minutes of reading. They will receive feedback on their own individual progress via points earned which will be accumulated for our school. Please go to our school website to register and participate. If you have any questions, please email Coach Collinson at [Janine.Collinson@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:Janine.Collinson@sd23.bc.ca).

## School Goals: Literacy, Numeracy and Parents as Partners



Each year, NGE joins SD#23 in our goals to improve literacy and numeracy skills for our students. We are always proud of the efforts of our staff and students in continuing to achieve these goals.

Last year, through our School Planning Council process, we have added an additional goal: **Parents as Partners**. With support from our PAC, NGE plans to increase our communication to parents related to learning activities for home. What a wonderful way to increase the partnership between home and school in support of our students!

Related to this goal, we have added a few new features to our NGE website under the Parents tab on our Home Page:

- ☆ **Home and School Connection** is filled with easy, fun learning activities along with many simple parenting tips.
- ☆ **Foundations for Success** parent information guides. NGE hosts a series of Social Responsibility assemblies each year. Last year, these assemblies focussed on our District Values: Honesty, Responsibility, Respect, Empathy and Fairness. This year, our District's Attributes of a Learner will be featured. These assemblies are hosted by Chantelle Adams, who provides parents with an information page on each of the topics explored with the students, and ways to further support these themes at home.

Together with the NGE PAC, we will be offering a number of unique learning opportunities for parents. Three **Parents as Partners Information Evenings** will take place further expanded our parent opportunities by formulating a **Central Zone Parent Network** (see our website for more information.)



We hope that these new Parents as Partners features are helpful to you at home. We look forward to hearing your feedback!



## STUDENT HEADPHONES

In partnership with our NGE PAC, we have purchased headphones for each student at NGE. This decision was made for a few reasons:

**Health Concerns.** Separate and labelled headphones for every student should support the prevention and transfer of colds, flus and transferable items such as head lice.

**Flexibility of Use.** Students and teachers will now have greater access to headphones (computer lab, library, classroom, etc). With portable devices such as iPod Touches and iPads being used in various classrooms throughout the school, this flexibility in headphone use should greatly support learning! **Note: headphones are to be used and stored at school only.**

**Responsibility & Replacement Costs.** We've found over the years that headphones in the computer lab and library are not always taken care of properly and that we are replacing them too often due to neglectful use. Students having ownership over their very own pair of headphones will promote personal responsibility and hopefully increase the lifespan of each set.

Teachers will be supporting students with the use, transportation and storage of student headphones. If a pair malfunctions or is damaged through unforeseen circumstances, we will be sure to provide the student with another set. However, if a pair of headphones is broken / damaged through negligent student use, we will ask that families replace the broken set. The school can provide another set for a very reasonable cost of \$3, or families in this situation can feel free to provide their child with another set from home. If you should have any questions, please contact the school.

We look forward to the added benefits that these headphones will bring to students and their learning.



## LITTERLESS LUNCHES UPDATE

We are now a year and a half into our eco-friendly lunch initiative and we are very pleased to share that as an entire school we have been and we continue to do a fabulous job in taking care of our learning environment. With the continued help of our student lunchtime monitors, we are happy to report that we continue to observe the following:

- A drastic reduction in our lunchtime litter (by over 90% from 2 years ago)!
- Significantly less littering around the school (inside and outside)
- Students being much more mindful when it comes to throwing out food
- Students developing eco-friendly skills (such as Pack-In-Pack-Out)
- A significant increase in custodial time spent on cleaning around the school
- ... and last, but not least, a very clean & tidy work environment for all of us at NGE!

Special "thanks" to all our families for their great efforts! We are happy to also report that many other schools around our district have connected with us as they start up their very own litterless lunch programs at their schools ([Click here](#) to read more info from our website).

Some helpful tips from our families that have been very successful:

- Purchase food items with little to no man-made waste products, and store them in reusable containers (ex. Vegetables, sandwiches, sushi, any leftovers...)
- Use reusable containers to store any waste or left over food products
- Use reusable utensils
- Plan your lunch for school the same way you'd pack your lunch for a hike (i.e. whatever you pack in... you pack out).

Thank you all for your continued efforts in making our school a clean and happy place for learning!



### Winter Reminders.....

Parents please discuss these matters with your child (ren):

1. The "no snowball" rule is in effect. While throwing snow seems like a perfectly natural activity, the potential exists for injury to others. We continue to remind students that throwing snow at school, or to and from school may lead to suspension.

2. Students should be dressed warmly so they can fully participate in the fresh outdoors. It is a good idea to send along some extra clothing during the wet/slushy season.

**\*\*Please label your child's clothes\*\***

3. When the weather warms then returns to cold, we find a lot of ice on our fields! We continually caution students (and parents) to stay away from icy patches and walk along the cleared pathways.

4. Sliding is permitted on the mid-field hill only. Only "soft sliders" are permitted. It is quite a gentle slope, but the children seem to enjoy it all the same!

5. During particularly icy days, both sliding and use of the Adventure Playground equipment will be cancelled. A reminder that running on the Adventure Playground is NOT safe at any time and is not allowed.

6. Snow "tunnelling" is not allowed due to the possibility of "cave-ins."

### Winter Weather Is Here!!!

Slippery winter sidewalks create a hazard for children making their way to and from school.

This is one of the reasons that our local municipalities have bylaws and policies requiring residents to clear snow and ice from sidewalks, walkways, and stairways bordering their property after each snowfall. We would ask that all community members that live in areas where students travel to and from school be on the lookout for slip hazards, and help make the commute to school a safe one.



## Community News



### Free Kinsmen Learn to Play Lacrosse

Date: Jan 29 & Feb 26

Where: Capital News Centre

Time: 6:15-7:45pm

Registration begins January 15th online  
@ [www.kelownalacrosse.ca](http://www.kelownalacrosse.ca)

Bring a helmet, gloves, and sport jock.  
Sticks are supplied if needed.

Open to boys & girls born 2009-1998

## CENTRAL SCHOOL IS 100 YEARS OLD!



Come Help Us Celebrate

Saturday, January 18, 2014

10am - 3pm

1825 Richter Street

Includes: entertainment, special guests, brown bag lunches, student artwork and much more!

If you are a former staff member of Central School, please contact Mike Dornian at [Michael.Dornian@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:Michael.Dornian@sd23.bc.ca) or 250-862-6555 or if you have any photos to share, please contact Diane Bertram at 250-870-5120 ext. 4257.