

North Glenmore Gator Gazette



Phone: 250-870-5128

Website: www.nge.sd23.bc.ca

October 2014



PICTURE DAY ...

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH
RETAKES, NOVEMBER 4TH

Kiss & Drop Program

Parent Volunteers Needed!

****Upper & Lower Parking Lot =
"Staff Only" This Year****



We are now entering our second year of our Kiss & Drop program, after a successful implementation in the spring last year. Our Kiss & Drop system (similar to the system being run at Watson Road Elementary) has provided safer traffic conditions and improved traffic flow during the peak periods of school entry (i.e. from 8:10-8:30am). Our program coordinator, Nikki Price and her team of fabulous and dedicated parent volunteers, have done an amazing job in getting our program up and running so smoothly.

Due to a significant increase in enrollment and staff over the past 2 years, our lower and upper parking lots will both be designated as "Staff Only" this year, similar to the majority of schools in our district. This will increase the importance of continuing to run our morning drop-off program.



In order to continue our success with this program, we are in need of more parent volunteers. Even helping out once every 2 weeks makes a huge difference! If you can help our team out, please contact the school and let us know!

Thank you!

Picture Day - Oct. 8th

Bring your smiles :) Once 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.



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



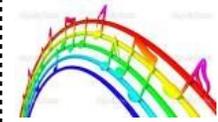
If the homework or practice load becomes frustrating, please contact the classroom teacher to discuss possible solutions. Your assistance in helping establish effective homework & practice habits is much appreciated and will be of great benefit to your child(ren).

Terry Fox Run

A big thanks to all the families and students who participated in our 31th annual Terry Fox Run Fund-raiser on Thursday, Sept 25th. With the late start to the school year, we missed our scheduled run date of Sept. 19th, however, our re-scheduled run provided us a unique and fun opportunity. Approx. 30 students from the Canadian Student Leadership Conference being held in Kelowna last week, visited NGE and supported our Terry Fox Run. These leaders shared beautiful stories from their hometowns and we're a big hit with our students during their visit. All together our Gators raised over \$500 in our Toonies for Terry One-Day Fundraiser. A big thanks to all our Gators families for your generosity to this wonderful cause.



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. Last year we began 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 allowed our students to focus on eating their full lunches, while also providing them some much needed downtime to recharge their brains for the afternoon. Students continue to enjoy their lunch hour music and will even come remind us to turn in on at the office is if we accidentally forget to do so.

We Day

This special event takes place in Vancouver on October 22nd, 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 back to our library! With the late start, we have had to make some changes to our fall library program.

We are hoping to have all classes do a library orientation during the week of Sept 29 – Oct 3. Students will then have regular library days and times starting the week of Oct 6. Your child's teacher will let you know your library day for the year.

We have decided to CANCEL the **Scholastic Book Fair** for this fall. Based on our original booking, the cases and boxes would have arrived in the library on Sept. 26 and remained here until the week of October 10th. This would have kept our library closed until mid-October. We also felt that there simply wasn't enough time to organize volunteers for a book fair. Because Scholastic is now based out of Surrey, we are very limited as to the dates we can book. All of the later fall dates were already booked, which meant we could only have had a "Box Fair" if we changed our dates. (none of the display cases, only what they can send us in boxes) As a result of all of this, we chose to cancel the fall fair altogether. We WILL still have a book fair at the beginning of February since that fair date was pre-booked last year. Look for winter book fair information in our January newsletter.

Battle of the Books will be starting in mid October for students in grades 3 - 6. We are starting a bit later because we are waiting for our book order to arrive. Once we get those books in our library and catalogued, we will call a meeting to get our readers started! If your reader is especially keen to get going, you can find the book lists on the Mosaic Books website, and also in displays at the Okanagan Regional Library.



Later in October, we will be starting 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 later this month.

Birthday Book Draw: This month, the book draw will have four winners! Because we did not get a chance to do the draw for our June and July birthdays, this month we will include those months AS WELL AS the August and September birthdays! Come on down and fill in a draw slip if you had a birthday in the past four months!!!



Home/School Conferences

Teachers look forward to meeting parents at our upcoming conferences to be held **October 2nd & 3rd**. Teachers will send home confirmation of your family's scheduled day & time. 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 17th**.



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 14th** 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.



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.

The link for the online payment system for fees is on the front page of our website. You can click the link below to go directly there as well:

[**STUDENT FEES ONLINE LINK**](#)



Fire Prevention Week - October 5-11, 2014

During Fire Prevention Week, families are encouraged to review fire safety procedures and plan an escape route at home in case of an emergency. This year's theme is "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives!" - be sure to test yours every month. 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 will be joining winners from other schools at the Kelowna Firehall 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 our third year of our Litterless Lunch program and we are seeing amazing results and 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. Our families are also seeing the benefit at home, as parents/guardians are more aware of what their children are and are not eating at school each day.



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

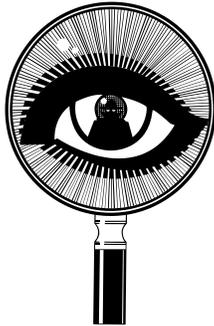
- * Packing food items with little to no man-made waste products
- * Cleaning out containers before packing them away
- * Using reusable utensils ... and using reusable containers to store any waste or left over food products

For more information and details on our program, please visit our website at:

http://www.nge.sd23.bc.ca/parents/litterless_lunch_program/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.11, Nov.15, Dec. 13

TO REGISTER:

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



NGE Website Scavenger Hunt!

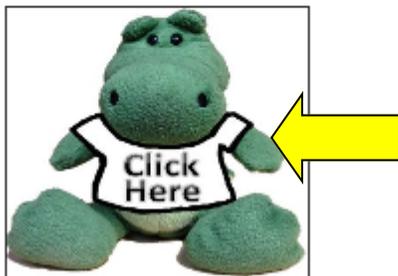
It's back this month!



Each month we host an online website scavenger hunt, to encourage our students and our families to visit our website and access the wide-variety of information and resources posted there.

NGE Monthly Website Scavenger Hunt

It's back! Click the Gator below to enter for a chance to win October's Website Scavenger Hunt!



October will be our first website scavenger hunt of the 2014-15 school year. To enter for a chance to win a Gator-chest prize, students need to simply click the Scavenger Hunt button on the main page of the website, enter their name and answer the scavenger hunt question for the month (note: only one entry per student is accepted and a prize is awarded to a student in each grade).

We will announce October's winners at the end of the month and post them as well in our November Newsletter. Best of luck, Gators!