

North Glenmore Gator Gazette



Phone: 250-870-5128

Website: www.nge.sd23.bc.ca

December 2015

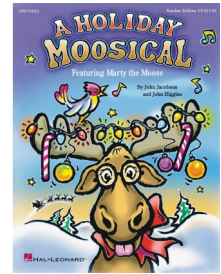
NGE is pleased to present ...

Christmas 2015

Our Gators continue to grow in the NGE Swamp!
We are very excited to have two special concerts again this year!

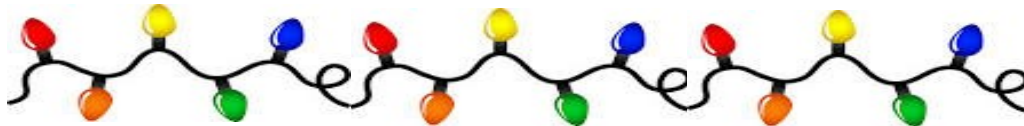


Our Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes will be performing
'A Gingerbread Christmas'
being held on Thursday, December 10th from 12:30-1:15pm
in our very own NGE gymnasium.



Our Grade 2-6 classes will be performing
'A Holiday Moosical'
on Wednesday, December 16th in the Dr. Knox gymnasium:
RED GROUP (last names L-Z) at 5:30-6:00pm
GREEN GROUP (last names A-K) at 6:45-7:15pm

Please stay tuned, as more information will be sent home in December,
regarding clothing/costumes for these concerts and a new Preferred Seating draw.



A Special Treat for Students... from North Glenmore PAC

The PAC will host their traditional holiday movies
and snack (oranges and candy canes) for
students on Friday, December 18th.

Gr. 3-6 students will gather in the gym in the
morning; K-Gr. 2 students will gather in the after-
noon.

**Special THANKS to our PAC volunteers
who help to organize and supervise!**



Salvation Army Hampers

Students will be collecting **non-
perishable food items, toys and
personal hygiene items** for the Salvation
Army.

Tuesday, Dec. 1st - Thursday Dec. 16th

Donated items can be brought to your child's
classroom.

Friday, December 11th

The Santa Bus arrives at NGE to pick up
donations. Santa will come with the bus to visit
our Grade 1 students. ***HO*HO*HO***

December 10th and 16th

Donated items can be dropped at the school
entrance during the Christmas Concerts.

Thank you for your generosity!

Post-Summit Updates

Over the past couple of months, a lot of great work has been done by staff, parents, students and the community around the initiatives that came from our Whole-School Community Summit on Oct. 9th. Here are just a few highlights we'd like to share about each of the 4 targeted initiatives:



(1) Whole School Kindness Missions

- ⇒ Some notable additions since the Summit are: parent information notices on taking on the missions at home and in the community, random recess challenges to promote the mission, students posting stories on the website, sharing of stories over the morning announcements, and more!

(2) Parent/Community Resource Bank

- ⇒ The committee working on this initiative is currently developing a survey that will come home to families in the near future to help us learn more about the unique careers, skills and passions that we could potentially access to enhance student learning. In the meantime, if you have a unique passion, hobby/skillset, that you'd like to share with our students, please contact the school and let us know!

(3) Easily Accessible Community Services

- ⇒ We are in the early stages of work on this initiative. Currently we are partnering with Canadian Youth Mental Health to map out our next steps in this work. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please contact the school.

(4) Welcoming School Environment

- ⇒ NGE Parent, Josh Milner, is helping us build a reflection tree in our front foyer that will serve as a learning wall for our Whole-School Kindness Missions. Eventually this wall will be covered in sticky notes from all 480+ students! The wall will change every 4 weeks as we begin new monthly kindness missions. This project will certainly build our already strong welcoming school environment.
- ⇒ Also noteworthy, is that we now have a staff picture wall to help parents and community members identify all the various staff around the building.

We'll continue to share updates with everyone and we welcome and invite all of you to be involved in any of our post-Summit initiatives!

PAC News

Welcome to the recently elected Special Events Coordinators, Jane Hardy & Teresa Caldwell!

Fundraising

Thank you to all the Gator families who participated in the Annual NGE PAC Family Photo Fundraiser and/or recently purchased gift cards in support of your NGE PAC. \$1100 was raised through the family photos and \$803 was raised from gift card orders. Way to go!!

PAC Funding Approval was recently given towards the following:

- 26 new iPads
- Document Camera and projector for the library
- The purchase of black lights to be used at assemblies & school performances
- \$1000 annually towards props & costumes for the December concerts



Save the Date!

NGE Family Dance: Feb. 18th. Free for all NGE Families! Music by DJ Super Dave. More details in January.

PAC Meeting

No December PAC meeting. Our next PAC meeting will be Tuesday, January 12th at 7pm in the Library. All parents/guardians welcome. Babysitting/child-minding available!

Watch your emails for a request for volunteers for the upcoming NGE PAC Movie Day on December 18th. Please feel free to email your NGE PAC executive at nge.pac@sd23.bc.ca with any questions or comments.

Off the Shelf

Now that the weather is colder and everyone is spending more time indoors, it's a great time to think about signing out some books from the library! We have a lot of new books including the latest *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* book, *Old School*. Come and check out what's new at the library!



Our Library Reading Club is going on right now. Students can enter the weekly draw every time they add a sticker to their reading logs. They also win a prize once they complete their reading log! Reading club will continue until the end of January, so let's see how many prizes we can give away!



Our Battle of the Books participants have been very busy reading this fall. We will begin practices in January to prepare for the April competition. Students in Gr. 3-6 are still welcome to join Battle of the Books. See Mrs. Horning for the reading list!

Make sure to sign out some new books for the Christmas holidays. And don't forget to enter the birthday book draw if your birthday is in December! We will do the birthday book draw just before Christmas holidays. The winners for the November book draw were: Chaz Z. (primary), and Emma C. (intermediate).

Fun Lunch Program



A few things to note for the New Year:

- If your child is sick on the day of Fun Lunch and you wish to pick it up, please call the school and arrange to pick up your child's meal between 12 and 2pm. We are unable to store lunches overnight. Leftover lunches will be donated.
- Minimum payment for ordering will continue to be \$6.
- You will be able to place orders for the New Year starting Dec 15th.
- Order cut-off is Friday, January 8th. Orders must be placed and paid in full or they will not be submitted.
- Gr. 6 pizza/Goji's lunch ordering starts Dec. 15th.

Volunteers are still needed. Please email ngehotlunch@gmail.com if you are able to help!

Thanks again for all your support!

REMINDERS TO PARENTS....

Washrooms:

Hallway washrooms are for student use only. We teach students to be cautious of strangers. Please use the Adult Washrooms at the office if needed.

Driver Declaration Forms:

During Volleyball & Basketball season, many of our parents are volunteering to help transport team members to other schools. **THANK YOU!** Just a reminder that the DDF must be filled out by the registered owner as well as the driver. Stop by the office a few days before driving in case this form needs to go home for a signature.

Volunteering:

A special thank you to all the parents & community members who have been able to volunteer some of your time at North Glenmore Elementary. **It makes such a difference and we really appreciate you!**

First Term Report Cards



Report Cards will be sent home on **Thursday, Dec. 10th**. Parents may keep the report card inserts but must sign and **return the envelope** to their classroom teacher by **Monday, Dec. 14th**.

Parent/Teacher Conferences occur mid-term rather than at report card time. Should you have concerns or questions related to your child's progress, please email or call your child's teacher at 250-870-5128.

Work Ethic Awards For Intermediate Grades 4-6

We continue to celebrate positive work ethic at NGE, using the criteria as posted on our website under the STUDENTS tab.

Intermediate students have an opportunity to earn a Work Ethic Certificate each term. These special keepsakes are sent home with report cards. Students who earn a WE Award for all 3 terms will earn a special Gator Pin at the end of the school year.



The “NO” Snowball Rule



Please play safe!



No!

Consequences:

1. Warning with notice to parents; time spent in school service.
2. In-school suspension – matter of record.
3. Suspension at home.

Winter Reminders

- ☆ Supervision is provided only after 8:10 in the morning, and until 2:45 in the afternoon. Students should not be on the playground outside those times without parents.
- ☆ Students need to dress warmly for their daily outdoor play breaks. Students are expected to be outside during all non-instructional times unless the weather is extremely inclement. **Snowpants are required for sliding on the hills** and students must have a **pair of dry shoes for indoor wear**. Winter boots should not be worn in the classroom.
- ☆ It's a good idea to keep an **extra set of dry clothes** at school... just in case.
- ☆ **Throwing snow**, kicking slush and “face washing” are prohibited on the school grounds, walk routes and bus routes. Parents, please take the time to help your child(ren) understand that following this rule will make our community a safer place. Consequences for Code of Conduct violations range from letters of warning to suspension from school.
- ☆ For safety reasons **only soft sliders** are allowed at school. Crazy carpets have proven to be too brittle in the cold, often cracking and cutting students. Snowboards, saucers, sleds, skis and skates are not permitted. Please ensure that your son/daughter is properly dressed for sliding. Snowpants, a warm winter jacket, gloves or mitts, winter boots and a hat or toque are required.
- ☆ Students are reminded that sliding is **only allowed on the center back field**. Unfortunately, due to the construction of the new Glenmore Bypass, we now have minimal hills that are safe to slide on. The center back field has a gentle slope, but the children seem to enjoy sliding on it just the same!
- ☆ **Tunneling** into snow drifts is not allowed due to the danger of collapsing.
- ☆ There is no strict policy about “In-Days”, however we monitor the weather conditions every day. Generally speaking, when the temperature gets to -20°C , we consider keeping the students indoors, especially if there is high wind and/or precipitation. On many cold occasions, we will shorten the play time during the lunch hour to allow the students some activity time in the fresh air. Staff is always considerate of individual students who are not prepared to be outdoors on some days and will offer an inside activity.

Thank you parents for your continued support!



SPIRIT DAY! - PAJAMA DAY

On Friday, Dec. 18th, we're inviting students and staff to sleep in a bit longer....don't worry about picking out an outfit and just come to school in your "jammies"! Why? It's PAJAMA DAY of course! Wear your pajamas to school, Gators! A great way to start-off your Christmas holiday! You can also bring a blanket, pillow or stuffy for our PAC's special movie.



Fruit & Veggie Program

It's getting cold outside and the holiday season is approaching which means it's that time of year again for mandarin oranges! On Dec 1st NGE classrooms will receive mandarin oranges from the BC School Fruit and Vegetable program. Did you know mandarin oranges descended from wild oranges that grew in northeast India 3000 years ago. In Canada, we have been enjoying mandarin oranges for over 120 years. They first came to Canada with Japanese immigrants and soon became a Canadian favourite. Mandarin oranges are wrapped in festive paper to keep them fresh, just like they were 120 years ago. Like other oranges, they are a great source of vitamin C. Choose mandarins that are heavy for their size and are blemish free. There are 9 to 12 segments in each mandarin orange, how many did you get today?

Community News

CANADA SAFETY COUNCIL Babysitting Training & Home Alone Courses

Saturday, December 12th

TO REGISTER:

Margaret Boake - 250-317-2868

m_boake@telus.net

Cheryl Stone - 250-575-5301

cstonekelowna@gmail.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.babysittingkelowna.com



Big White After School Program

Big White After School Program makes an excellent Christmas gift.

Lock in last season's price, before December 15th, 2015, of \$139.00 for transportation, lift tickets, lessons and meals for 3 consecutive weeks (\$24.00 for Season Pass Holders). Register online at: <http://www.bigwhite.com/ski-school/ski-camps-special-programs/after-school-program>



Merry Christmas to All!
From NGE Staff and
Little Gators Preschool

Have a Safe & Happy Holiday
See you on Monday, Jan. 4th, 2016





Healthy Tips and Treats for the Holiday Season

Carolyn Frail, PHEc, BASc

The holiday season is upon us! Amidst the festivities, parents are faced with the challenge of trying to keep up with their children's healthy eating habits, while still indulging in the delicious foods that the holiday season has to offer. Many store-bought kid-friendly holiday treats are loaded with fat and sugar. However, here are some easy tips to keep your holiday treats healthy:

- When baking cookies or other traditional baked goods, try experimenting with whole-wheat flour instead of white flour.
- Keep lots of cut up fruit and veggies on hand for easy grab and go snacking. Get your children involved with the shopping and ask them to choose at least one fruit and vegetable to try.
- If the kids are looking for something salty, try air popped popcorn. Adding your own toppings such as cinnamon means you can control how much salt and butter is added.

It's Party Time!

It's that time of year when classrooms are having their holiday parties and parents are trying to figure out what to send to school with their children. Party snacks do not have to be unhealthy. You can make holiday snacks that are fun and festive, and that will still give kids the nourishment they need.

There are so many holiday items you can create with healthy foods and your kids can be of great help by using their imagination to come up with



- **Fruit and Veggie Christmas Tree:** Try creating a Christmas tree with vegetables like broccoli, cucumbers and cherry tomatoes, or with fruits such as grapes, strawberries, kiwi, star fruit and bananas. Children will have lots of fun eating the fruit and vegetables right off the tree!
<http://www.breakfastforlearning.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Grape-Christmas-Tree.pdf>
- **Rudolph the Red-nosed Muffin:** Use your favourite muffin recipe and decorate it like a reindeer or elf.
<http://www.breakfastforlearning.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Rudolph-the-Red-Nosed-Muffin.pdf>

Breakfast for Learning is a national charity committed to helping children across Canada realize their full potential by funding breakfast, lunch and snack programs. Check out Breakfast for Learning's Nutrition Corner for more Holiday Recipe ideas: <http://www.breakfastforlearning.ca/services-info/nutrition-corner/>

Happy Healthy Holidays!