

North Glenmore Elementary

"Home of the Gators"



November
2020



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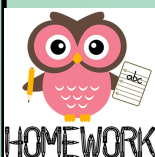
STUDENT ILLNESS

Thank you to parents for continuing to keep your children at home if they are feeling ill. At times children feel fine in the morning, but then feel poorly later in the day. In these cases, we are being diligent about sending students home. NGE has had it's share of colds/flu, however we do not have an abnormally high absenteeism at this time (good news)! Let's keep washing our hands and staying on top of illness during this flu season.



Ban the Statement, "I Don't have any homework tonight!"

Homework is too important to our students' success to be "hit and miss". It is a time to practice skills and reinforce concepts taught during the day at school. Helping your child is also a great way to connect and pass on your belief that your child's education is extremely important. In this way, a consistent homework routine helps to lay the necessary behavioral foundation for high achievement throughout high school and beyond. Following is a good tip from the book **Homework Without Tears** by Lee Canter:



"Institute Mandatory Homework Time. If your child still rushes [or doesn't bring homework home] it is probably because the faster it is done the more time he or she will have to play or watch TV. Mandatory Homework Time means that a child must use the entire scheduled Daily Homework Time for homework or other academic activities whether or not homework is completed. In other words, if an hour is allotted each night (7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., for instance), the entire hour must be spent on homework. If homework is finished, the rest of the time must be spent on other academic work such as reading, reviewing, or practicing math. When children learn that rushing [or forgetting] homework will not be rewarded with more free time, they will learn quickly [to bring their work home] to slow down, and do a better job".

This newsletter has a special cut out page near the end that is designed to be attached to the front of your fridge. It outlines basic homework guidelines and suggestions for each grade level. In the event that your student consistently has to spend more time on their homework than is suggested, or is having other difficulties, please contact your teacher immediately. Homework should not be a stressful time for you and your student!

Remembrance Day Assembly

Our 'virtual' Remembrance Assembly will begin at 10:30 am on Nov. 10th. Plans are still being made to create a meaningful Remembrance experience for students, which will take the form of a video watched in each classroom.



Families are encouraged to make donations to the Royal Canadian Legion in support of Veterans and their families. **Teachers will be collecting donations from students in their classrooms.**

Winter Concerts 2020



The COVID pandemic and safety measures we are working under have made the chances of a traditional winter concert impossible, but that is not going to stop us from sharing some holiday spirit with families! We are working on plans for classes to be involved in virtual performances that will help to kick-off the season - details to come!



Picture Retake Day Friday, November 6th

If your child is having their picture retaken, please send a note of permission to your child's classroom teacher on Picture Retake Day. This will confirm clear home communication to our photographer.

DROPPING OFF ITEMS & MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

This should take place for emergencies only. Helpful Hints:

- If the item to be dropped off can wait to be sent with the student the next day, please do
- Student Agendas are a great tool for clear communication.
- Family designated meeting spot (in case you are late for pick-up) . Students are supervised until 2:45pm. After this time, students who have not been picked up should come to the office to call home.
- Review after school arrangements before school starts. Play dates must be made from home before school begins. Please do not have the office arrange play dates for you.

Thank you to our families that have already established a routine for after school. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation.



PAC Meeting



The next PAC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 17th at 7:00pm** via Zoom.

All parents are invited to attend. We hope you'll join us!

Safety Drills

NGE conducts a number of safety drills to ensure that students and staff know what to do in case of an emergency. Fire Drills are scheduled throughout the year. Earthquake Drills and Lockdown Drills (what to do if there is a danger in the building or on the playground) are scheduled once in the fall and once again in the springtime. Teachers work to reassure students during these drills that it is unlikely we will have an actual event.

Parents may also want to reassure their children, particularly if you know they get nervous around safety issues. If your child is anxious about drills, please let your classroom teacher know so we can support if needed.



Liability

The school does not assume responsibility for loss or damage to personal property brought to school. Valuable items such as collectors, electronics or specialty clothes and jewelry should be left at home. Bicycles should be securely locked. **Please label student belongings.** This helps us to return lost items to rightful owners. Iron-on labels are recommended for clothing. These can be purchased at most fabric stores.

Proper Winter Wear



As the season is changing, getting colder and wetter, please remind students they need to dress appropriately for the playground. It is important for children to get fresh air and exercise during their day...so we need students to have the proper coats, hats, boots, etc. to enjoy themselves during their lunch (30 minute) and recess (15 minute) breaks.

Safe Play During Winter



The winter months often bring slippery sections on our playground. Students are continually reminded that they are not to slide on icy patches, and they are to stay off the adventure playground equipment if frosty or icy. Parents, please stay on the cleared paths, and help remind your children so that we can keep our "slip and fall" accidents to a minimum.

Off the Shelf...



Missing Books

As of October 29, we are still missing nearly \$1200 worth of library books. There are currently close to 100 students who have lost books or have fines showing in their library accounts. We will be sending out another set of reminders next week for those students who have lost or damaged books. Please take a few moments to check your homes again for any lost library books. You may also want to check with the Okanagan Regional Library if you often take out books from there. We recently received a package with several lost books from one of their branches. (these have been scanned and the families were notified).

If you are unable to find the lost books, you are required to pay for them. Library fines will stay in the system until a student graduates, so lost books from this year may cause issues for your child even if they transfer to another school or move on to middle school. We do NOT charge late fees for overdue books. The only fee is the replacement cost of the book (adjusted according to the age of the copy that is lost). Also, if you have paid for a book, and it is later returned to the library, we will refund the full amount that you paid for the book. If these payments will create a financial hardship for your family, please contact Mrs. Horning at the school to work out an alternate plan.

Please note that a number of students are currently unable to take books home because they have more than two lost books, or fines of more than \$25 owing. If your child is NOT bringing books home, it may be because of lost or damaged books. Please note that all students are able to sign out books to the classroom even if they cannot bring books home.

Returning Books

Mrs. D'Orazio and Mrs. Horning pick up library books from classrooms between 8:30 and 9:00 every morning. We are currently required to sanitize all library books before they can be put back on the shelf, so we do all scanning of books as soon as they arrive in order to leave enough time for cleaning. If your child is late or doesn't return their books when the library wagon comes to their class, they may not be able to sign out any books for that day. Books dropped off by parents during the day likely won't be scanned before your child's library block. There are simply too many books to sanitize and organize for us to allow for multiple drop-offs during the day. Any late books placed in the return wagon in the library will be scanned the following morning. Thank you for your understanding.

Please TURN OFF your Engines! School Zones are "NO Idling" zones - which includes our parking lot as well as surrounding streets. Please consider all the pollution you are creating for young lungs as you leave your car running while waiting for pick-up.



HOMework

During this term teachers have been working with the students to establish homework expectations. Developing this work habit is critical to student success and cannot be started too early. Parents are our partners in making sure that this life skill is reinforced.

As a rough guide, parents should be expecting their son or daughter to be completing up to 10 minutes per grade of homework four times a week. In the various grades, homework looks like:

Grade Level	Time (Up to): 3 or 4 sessions/week	Suggested Activities
K and Gr. 1	10 minutes	• read • play rhyming, letter and number games • memorize gr.1 basic math facts(+ - to 10)
Grade 2	10 - 20 minutes (or two 10 minute sessions)	• read with and listen to your child read • memorize gr.2 basic math facts(+ - to 18) • practice spelling lists
Grade 3	15 - 30 minutes (or two 15 minute sessions)	• read with and listen to your child • memorize gr. 3 basic math facts (+ - to 20 and x facts to x5) • practice weekly spelling lists • memorize spelling of common words
Grade 4 Grade 5 Grade 6	Gr. 4 – 30-40 minutes Gr. 5 – 30-50 minutes Gr. 6 – 30-60 minutes	• read with and listen to your child read • memorize basic math facts (to x9) • practice with money, especially if shopping, making change and estimating totals for purchase • memorize spelling of common words • work on weekly spelling words • unfinished classroom assignments and long term projects • time management skills



Please cut out this chart and post on your fridge as a reminder. If your child tells you that he or she does not have any assigned homework, please select from the chart's suggestions. Developing a routine is very important. If your child is finding that his or her homework is exceeding the suggested time amounts, please consult with the teacher right away.

NGE Parking



As a school community that is growing, we are all experiencing the difficulties that come with a lack of parking spaces in the morning (there are 39 spaces and 50+ staff!). This is just a reminder that **the school parking lot is for NGE staff only**. Parking is available on either side of Snowsell Street.

The Drop Zone is available for parents to drop off in the morning ("Kiss and Drop") or pick up in the afternoon. If picking up in the afternoon please do not leave your vehicle unattended – **this is not a parking area**. If you are not able to use the Drop Zone and must park to drop-off or pick-up, **parking is available on either side of Snowsell Street**.

For more information about parking at or around North Glenmore Elementary, please click this link to our web page: http://www.nge.sd23.bc.ca/about_our_school/parking_dropoff/Pages/default.aspx#/=

Thank you so much for your help.

