



## Gleneagles Ch'axáy Elementary School

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Dear Families of Incoming Gr 4 Students,

Technology plays a central role in our information rich world. Knowing how and when to use technology and how to think critically about what information technology opens up to us, are important life skills. It is with this understanding, that we encourage Gleneagles Ch'axáy students in Grades 4-7 bring in their own personal device for use in the classroom as a tool to aid instruction and learning.

All students in grades 4 through 7 are asked to bring their own device to school to support student learning in the classroom through the use and integration of [Google Apps for Education](#). The Google learning platform is provided throughout all of our West Vancouver School District Schools and will be available to our students as they progress through their grades. This cloud-based system is Canadian based, as well as secure and private; monitored and administered by our District IT staff.

Students at GEC are encouraged to bring a laptop computer to school, rather than a tablet (iPad). Laptops are much more conducive to the learning activities and tasks that the students will be involved in while integrating their device into the classroom. Laptops also provide a realistic introduction to keyboarding skills at this young age. A very reasonable option for families is a [Chromebook](#). This device is a very affordable and durable laptop option that has all of the required features that students will need, including a full keyboard and access to the School District Google Apps for Education Platform.

### Digital Citizenship:

We will continue to implement a strong emphasis and focus on Digital Citizenship, where students, staff and parents will be engaged in learning how, and when, to navigate the digital world in an ethical and safe manner. All students in Gr 4-7 and their parents sign a detailed **Acceptable Use Policy** at the beginning of the school year, agreeing to the expectations of responsibility and respect granted to those students who have their own device at school. We plan to include future speakers in the coming year to share with our students the importance of creating a safe and responsible *digital footprint*.

### Security & Risk:

In accordance with West Vancouver Schools, [AP 370](#), we encourage student devices to be secured in available storage carts within the classroom during breaks throughout the day and we also encourage students to take their device home at the end of each day. Please note that school devices will be available for students without their own personally owned device, although they may not meet the expectations regarding speed and memory. Also, all personally owned devices are brought to school at the risk of the student and their family.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.  
As always, thank you for your support.

Robyn Evans, Principal  
Gleneagles Ch'axáy Elementary