



GLENEAGLES CH'AXAY ELEMENTARY E-BULLETIN





September 28, 2023

Upcoming School Closures

A reminder to parents that schools in West Vancouver will be closed on **Monday, October 2nd** as we recognize the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation, and also on **Monday, October 9th** for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Please mark your calendars and enjoy the long weekends.

Orange Shirt Day & National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Gleneagles students will be wearing orange shirts at school on Friday, September 29th in recognition of Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30th.

Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process. Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led commemorative day that honours the children who survived the residential schooling experience and remembers those who did not as well as their



families. This day relates to the experience of Phyllis Webstad, a First Nation student, who arrived on her first day of school dressed in a new orange shirt which was taken from her. Please read Phyllis' story here.

Please remind your child to wear an orange shirt to school on Friday, September 29th.

Here are some good family resources:

Orange Shirt Day Website https://www.orangeshirtday.org/

Truth and Reconciliation Week (Sept 25-30) through the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation https://nctr.ca/education/coming-soon-truth-and-reconciliation-week-2023/

Resources and Learning through the West Vancouver Memorial Library
https://westvanlibrary.ca/news/whats-happening-at-the-library-for-national-day-of-truth-and-reconciliation/

Talking to kids about Residential Schools https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebOJ IMCVvk

Guide to First Peoples for Newcomers to Canada, from West Van Memorial Library https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/First-Peoples-A-Guide-for-Newcomers.pdf

DWF National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: A Conversation https://downiewenjack.ca/national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation/

Parent/Teacher In-Take Interviews

Parent-Teacher Interviews are scheduled for **October 11th & 12th** and the online scheduling system will open for parents on the morning of October 1st. *Please note that early dismissal is in effect on these days at 12:05pm and the Lions Bay bus will be departing GEC at approximately 12:15pm.*

All appointments will be held in-person in your child's classroom. If you are unable to attend one of these scheduled times, please contact your classroom teacher directly to make alternate arrangements. This is a formal reporting opportunity for parents/guardians to be involved in a one-on-one meeting with your child's classroom teacher; interview times are for <u>parents and teachers only</u> and we ask that students are not involved in this process in order to allow for effective and efficient interviews given the limited timeframe.

Please follow this link to schedule your appointment:

https://gleneagles.schoolappointments.com/admin/. An instruction sheet to assist you with this process can be found https://gleneagles.schoolappointments.com/admin/. An instruction sheet to assist you with this process can be found https://gleneagles.schoolappointments.com/admin/. An instruction sheet to assist you with this process can be found https://gleneagles.schoolappointments.com/admin/. If you are having difficulty, please contact Ms. Pistilli in the school office.

Student Photos

Photo proofs have arrived from our school photographer and will be sent home with students today. Please check your child's backpack for their proof sheet and place your order online at edgeimaging.ca/order. You will need the portrait codes listed on your child's proof sheet.

Orders should be placed by Thursday, October 5th to qualify for free shipping directly to school.

Please note that photo <u>retakes are scheduled Friday, October 27th</u> for any students who missed photo day or who would like to retake their photo.

School Forms – now overdue

At the start of each school year, parents are asked to complete an <u>online Policy & Procedures</u>

Form for each child in West Vancouver Schools. These online forms provide permissions for Internet Use, use of Devices, Google classroom, walking field trips within our community, and much more. Please complete this form as soon as possible.

In addition to the online form, a package of emergency forms has been sent home with all students. Please follow the instructions on these forms and return to school promptly.

Thank you. We are preparing for a full-scale Emergency Release Drill on Thursday, October 19th in conjunction with Shake Out BC drill and need these forms to help expedite our student release process.

Hot Lunch

Thank you to everyone who has placed their Hot Lunch orders – you are supporting our largest fundraiser!

Important: Please remember to pack reusable utensils for your child as the vendors will not be providing them and the school is unable to provide utensils for students.

The Munch-A-Lunch system will be re-opening soon to provide an opportunity for parents to make changes to current orders, or to place a new order. Stay tuned for more information next week!

BRING YOUR OWN CUTLERY
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If you have any questions or concerns regarding hot lunch, please connect with our Hot Lunch Coordinator, Gil Lopez @ gechotlunch@gmail.com.

Safety Training Courses with Sea 2 Sky

Our grade 7 parent committee has organized two courses (a Babysitting Course, ages 11-15; and a Stay Safe Course, ages 9-13) to be offered on an upcoming Pro-D Day – **Friday, October 20**th. These courses will be taught by instructors from Sea 2 Sky Safety Training Services and will be held on-site at Gleneagles Ch'axáý.

Please register through Munch-A-Lunch or use the attached registration form.

All payments should be e-transferred to gecgrad@gmail.com, or contact Kelly Kerklaan at this same email for more info.

Babysitting Course	Ages 11 to 15	\$75/student, 8:30 to 2:30 pm
Stay Safe Course	Ages 9 to 13	\$65/student, 8:30 to 2:30 pm

Grade 4/5 Outdoor School at Camp Elphinstone

A great time was had by all as our students in grades 4 and 5 enjoyed 3 days away at Camp Elphinstone this past week. Although the weather was a bit wet and windy at times, this did not deter the fun, camaraderie and team building experience for our GEC students as they participated in a number of team building and independence building activities such as high ropes and low ropes courses, archery, rock climbing, nature hikes, and even canoeing. Other highlights from Outdoor School included food served at Camp, evening campfire programs, and of course bunking with friends.

A big thank you goes out to our grade 4/5 teachers who attended camp — Mrs. Foster, Ms. Zandvliet and Ms. Maledy — this trip would not be possible without your energy, support and POWERful attitudes! A big thank you also goes out to our parent chaperones who volunteered their time to attend and were instrumental in supporting this program —Shevaun Brown, Mike Clark, Natalie Davies, Ryan Duffy, Dave Nelson, and Kirstie Simpson. THANK YOU!



Daily Health Checks

Parents are asked to do daily health checks of children before sending them to school. As flu and cold season is upon us, we ask for your assistance to ensure that your child is healthy and well enough to participate in normal school activities. If your child is unwell, please report their absence through the school Call Back Line at 604-981-1360.

Parents are also reminded that communicable diseases should be reported to your classroom teacher or to the school office. This would include lice, chicken pox, measles, etc.

TAKE A PEEK ONCE A WEEK: We have had several cases of lice reported in our classrooms recently, and parents are reminded to continue doing daily health checks of your child's hair and scalp before sending your child to school. Your assistance goes a long way in helping us to keep everyone healthy at school! Thank you for your assistance.



Winter Weather

Wet kids are not happy kids, especially when they are sitting in a busy classroom trying to focus on math! Don't forget that our students go outside for recess and lunch every day, RAIN or SHINE. Students are outside for at least 40 minutes each day and we want to make sure they are warm and dry.

We have many wet kids who are unprepared for the rainy weather – please ensure that your child/ren comes to school in appropriate waterproof clothing and footwear. It helps make our learning a lot more fun when we are dry, warm, and regulated! Thank you.

Reporting Updates from the Ministry

As communicated last Spring, the Ministry of Education and Child Care has implemented a new Learning Update Policy which defines and provides direction for the ways our school will be communicating your child's learning. The goal of the Learning Updates is to provide personalized, descriptive feedback to effectively communicate with students, parents, and caregivers about where students are in their learning, next steps, and how families and teachers can work together to support student growth.

The provincial Reporting Policy mandates that students in Kindergarten through Grade 9 will be assessed using the four-point proficiency scale and students in Grade 10 through Grade 12 courses will be assessed using letter grades and percentages. Each term, students at all levels will be sharing self-reflections and making goals around British Columbia's Core Competencies – Communication Skills, Thinking Skills, and Personal and Social Skills.

Teachers will be communicating and reporting throughout the year in the following formats:

- 3 Formal Written Learning Updates (2 Mid-year Learning Updates, and 1 Summary of Learning)
- 2 Informal Learning Updates (ex. Parent-Teacher Conferences, Student-Family-Teacher Conference, Interim Report)

The Ministry of Education and Child Care, responsible for creating reporting requirements, has provided <u>reporting information for parents and caregivers</u> in the following languages: <u>English</u>, <u>French</u>, <u>Chinese (Simplified and Traditional</u>, <u>Tagalog</u>, <u>Farsi</u>, <u>Urdu</u>, <u>Punjabi Gurmukhi</u>
Should you have any further questions, please reach out to our school Principal, Robyn Evans at <u>revans@wvschools.ca</u>.

After School Clubs

The following after school clubs will be held at Gleneagles for Term 1. Please follow the registration links below if you are interested in registering your child for one of these programs; space is still available!

Multi-Sport Club, K to grade 4 Wednesdays, Sept. 20 th to Nov. 22 nd 2:30 to 4:00 pm	This fun-filled program is held in the school gym (sometimes outdoors) and focuses on fun, physical literacy, and sport skill improvement. Register here: Gleneagles Multi-Sport
Zen Maker Labs, grade 4 to 7	3D Design & 3D Printing: Create a Chess Set!
Thursdays after school	Electronics: Build a decorative holiday LED Project
	Please register here: <u>Gleneagles Zen Maker Lab</u>
Mixed Media Arts Club, Gr. 1 to 5	Explore drawing and shading techniques, mindful
Mondays, Sept. 25 to Dec. 11 th	drawing exercises, painting with texture and much
2:45 to 4:15 pm	more!
	Please see <u>registration form here.</u>

Dates to Remember:

Friday, September 29 th	Orange Shirt Day	
Saturday, September 30 th	Truth & Reconciliation Day	
Monday, October 2 nd	Day in Lieu: Truth & Reconciliation Day – school	
	not in session	
Tuesday, October 3 rd	Cross Country Meet #3, 3:45 pm @ Ambleside	
Wednesday, October 4 th	GEC PAC Meeting, 6:30pm	
Thursday, October 5 th	World Teacher Day	
Friday, October 6 th	Spirit Day – wear your GEC Spirit Wear	
Monday, October 9 th	Thanksgiving – school not in session	
Wednesday, October 11 th	Intake Conferences – 12:05pm early dismissal	
Thursday, October 12 th	Intake Conferences – 12:05pm early dismissal	

Optional Accident Insurance for Families

Each year the school district reminds families that they have the option to purchase insurance coverage against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. There are many different voluntary plans that provide coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. Families are encouraged to do their due diligence when choosing a provider.

Fall Programs at West Vancouver Community Centre & Gleneagles Community Centre

Click here to view the programs and activities available

Want to learn languages, science, Lego, chess..., visit https://westvancouver.ca/learning

Live! Music Series, Thursday, October 19, 4-5pm, Free

Come enjoy the musical hour with Gergana Velinova Jazz Trio in the Atrium Event info

Are you new in West Vancouver? Come, discover and join us:

https://westvancouver.ca/newcomers

Opportunity for Grade 6 and 7 Students:

Have you ever wondered how technology products are built, what skills and abilities are required, and what the various career options are available in technology?

Join us at Game of Apps (season 07) where professional software developers and product designers teach and mentor students on a weekly basis. You will learn coding and design skills, as well as important soft skills such as teamwork, communication, critical thinking, problem solving, time management and much more.

General promo video: https://youtu.be/RUOK8HIWWd8

Intro to Coding program details: https://youtu.be/nWJq7T5bUis

Registration: https://gameofapps.org/register

Early-bird pricing is available before September 30. There are also two Info Sessions scheduled (details at gameofapps.org).

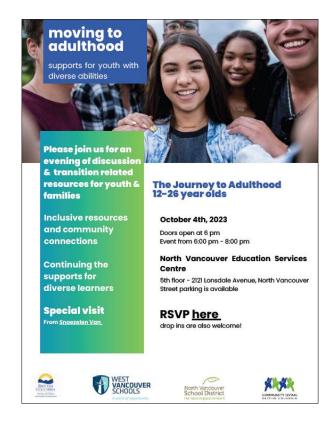
Opportunities for Families

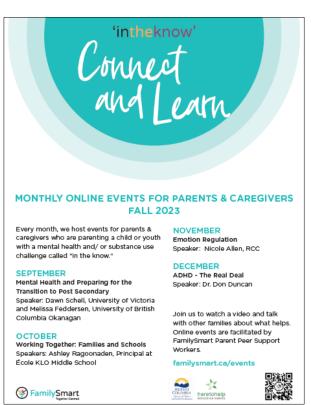
The following events are being offered for families and the community – please see the attached links:

Kindergarten Info Session: Kindergarten Info Session September 2023 (1).pdf

Family Smart Workshop Series and Information Sessions: <u>FamilySmart Monthly Online Events</u> - <u>Fall Series 2023.pdf</u> and <u>FamilySmart Workshop Open House for Professionals Fall 2023.pdf</u>

Moving to Adulthood Information Fair: Moving to Adulthood Fair October 2023 (1).pdf







Open House Information Session for Professionals

The Help for the Hard Times Workshop series provides a framework for parents/caregivers to consider as they support their child after a crisis. The workshop includes practical strategies, tips and tools that support caring, connected relationships.

Join this information session to learn more about Help for the Hard Times, and how you, as a Healthcare Provider, Service Provider, Educator, Police and RCMP can help connect families to this free workshop.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

How to support a safety plan at home How to take care of yourself and family after a crisis

How to find the resources you need

DATES

September 13th, October 4th, November 8th, December 13th

TIME: 12pm - 1pm (PST)

To register: familysmart.ca/events



familysmart.ca/workshops





