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April 6, 2018

Glen Allan Elementary Principal's Message

Hard to believe it is already April and spring break has already passed us by. March has flown by and the weather has been unique with little cold snaps here and there. Hopefully spring is here soon and the weather will be taking a turn for the better. We sure are looking forward to some warmer weather as we push towards the end of the school year.

March has been a very busy month with all kinds of great learning activities for both students and staff. We had our parent teacher conferences at the beginning of February and then followed up with the report cards on March 16th. We had hot lunch for our students and a big thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped out. Without your help and support, we wouldn't be able to do half of the great things we do, so thank you! We had the amazing family dance. Wow, what a great time that was! There has also been several field trips and other activities going on. A big thank you to all the parents that came and helped out with fieldtrips and activities that have been going on. All in all it was a great month for the learning and growth for all of us.

April is packed with lots of fun activities throughout the school. I am especially looking forward to our Volunteer Tea on the 19th at 11:30. Our Spring Carnival is just around the corner on Friday, April 20th. Then of course there are many other field trips coming up as well. Wow, April is just going to fly by with all of these cool activities.

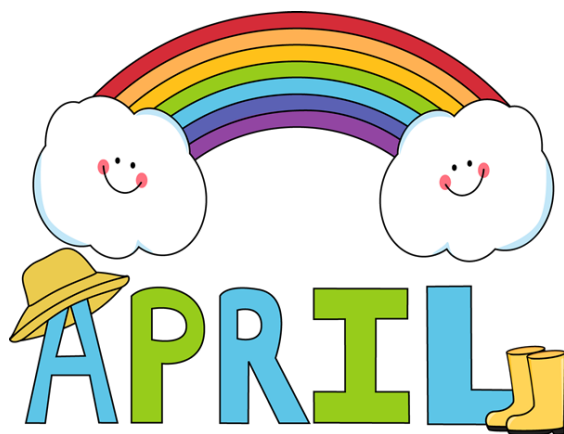
Well that's it for now. Have a great April and hopefully spring has sprung as the flowers and grass start to bloom and turn green.

Mr. Tracey Arbuthnott
Principal
Glen Allan Elementary

UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

April

- 4 Early Dismissal 2:15PM - No Kindergarten or PALS - Staff Meeting
- 5 Class/Group Pictures
- 6 Elder Wilson Presentation - Music
- 9 Spellathon Test
- 10 Spellathon Test
- 10 Klondike Relays at the Butterdome 3:30PM
- 11 Teacher's Pet - Pioneer Log Cabin 1:00pm Grade 1-1
- 12 Jim Higgs from Historical Society - Grade 5-1
- 12 Teacher's Pet - Pioneer Log Cabin 1:00PM Grade 1-3
- 13 Elder Wilson Presentation - Grade 5
- 16-20 National Volunteer Week
- 17 GASC Meeting - 7:00PM
- 19 Volunteer Tea - 11:30AM-12:30PM
- 19 Teacher's Pet - Pioneer Log Cabin - 1:00PM Grade 1-2
- 19 Set up Carnival - 3:30PM
- 20 Hot Lunch Day
- 20 School Spirit Day - Beach Day
- 20 Spring Carnival
- 23 Edmonton Valley Zoo - ECS
- 23 Capital Care - 2:45PM Grade 4-1
- 24 Edmonton Valley Zoo - ECS
- 26 Speech Finals
- 27 Professional Learning Day - No School
- 30 Elder Wilson - Grade 1 in the PM



UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

May

- 2 Early Dismissal 2:15PM - No Kindergarten or PALS - Staff Meeting
- 4 Arbor Day - Grade 1
- 4 Elk Island Honour Choir - 10:00AM
- 8 Kindergarten Orientation - 6:30PM - 7:30PM
- 8 Bennett Centre - 8:30AM - 3:15PM - Grade 5
- 9 RCMP Horse Visit
- 10 Jim Higgs from Historical Society - Grade 5-1
- 15 GASC Meeting - 7:00PM
- 15 Peoples of the North - Grade 4
- 16 Horowitz Theatre - 11:15AM - Grade 5
- 17-18 School Closure Days- No School
- 21 Victoria Day - No School
- 25 Hot Lunch Day
- 25 School Spirit Day - Secret theme
- 28 Capital Care - 1:45PM-2:45PM - Grade 4-2



Glen Allan Boquets

District Battle of the Books

The Glen Allan staff, students and parents would like to Thank Mrs Gauchier and Mrs. Miles da Silva for all their hard work planning and hosting the district Battle of the Books again. All of the students did a fantastic job, and our students deserve an extra congratulation for their win!

Family Dance/Silent Auction

Our Parent Council pulled off another awesome Family Dance and Silent Auction! There was dancing, prizes, fundraising and all kinds of fun! Thank you for everything you do!

Speech Competition

We held our Glen Allan speech competition in March and we would like to thank our parents, participants, teachers, judges and visitors who attended for making it a success! Congratulations to all our participants and winners!

School News

Write-On Stationary - April 6

Order forms for 2018-19 school supplies will be coming home today! If you would like to order your supplies from Write-On you can do so online at www.write-on.ca before May 1. Alternatively, you can return the order form to the school office by April 20. All orders will arrive at Glen Allan Elementary on June 14.



Volunteer Tea - April 19

At Glen Allan we greatly value our volunteers! So much of what makes Glen Allan great comes out of the hard work they do. We would like to invite these special members of our school to a tea just for them on April 19.

Spring Carnival - April 20

Our grade 6 students will again be hosting a Spring Carnival for all the other students in our school. The kids will be able to come, play games and have lots of fun!



Division News

National Volunteer Week

A big *THANK YOU* to all of our volunteers

On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), thank you to all of our volunteers within the Division who help make our schools and programs successful. Whether it's assisting at an athletic competition, co-ordinating a fundraising initiative or helping at a school event, the impact you make within our school community is profound. Together, we've built a positive relationships that has allowed us to rally behind one clear vision: Provide exceptional education for all students.

In recognition of National Volunteer Week, which runs April 15-21, EIPS extends a heartfelt thanks and celebrates the hundreds of volunteers across EIPS who dedicate countless hours of their time in our schools.

Trina Boymook
Chair, Board of Trustees



Gearing Up For Kindergarten

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? If so, make sure to attend our upcoming Kindergarten Information Night on **May 8, 2018** at **6:30PM - 7:15PM**:

- tour the school;
- meet the teachers;
- gain insight on play-based learning; and
- see what a typical day looks like.

Elk Island Public Schools has also put together an online toolkit to make the transition to school as smooth as possible. The kit includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more. Find it by

visiting www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten.

Additional information regarding Glen Allan Elementary's kindergarten program, can be found on our school website at www.glenallanelementary.ca

NOTE: To be eligible to attend kindergarten in the 2018-19 school year, children must be five years of age on or before Dec. 31, 2018.

GASC

Our next GASC meeting will be held on April 17th at 7:00pm in the Glen Allan Library. All parents and guardians that have children in the school are encouraged to attend a meeting and see what we do.

GASC will be holding elections at the May 15 meeting for the following positions:

Chair

Programs Vice-Chair

Budget Vice-Chair

Treasurer

Secretary

Fund Development Committee Co-Chair

Any interested parent is welcome to put their name forward. If interested please contact Jessica Winship, Chair, by April 11th at Jessica.winship@gmail.com or 780 819 7258.

Upcoming GASC events

New Fundraising Plan for Next Year

Due to the busy lifestyles of families, GASC is going to discontinue most fundraising events in favor of doing the Annual Spell/Math-a-thon instead. This fundraiser will replace the others in order to decrease the demand of parent volunteer hours in the school, hopefully easing everyone's stress level. We will continue to offer students the book fair to promote literacy and the art card program.

We thank you for your support as we move forward with this transition.

Hot Lunch

Our next Hot Lunch will be on Friday April 20th, if you are free on the 20th over lunch time and can help us out that would be wonderful, please contact Nicole @ moorjinicole@gmail.com

Spell-a-thon

Spell-a-thon word lists and pledge sheets were sent home before the break. Please return the pledge sheet to the school for tallying on April the 4th (The date on the pledge sheet has the 9th but should be the 4th, sorry for the inconvenience. We will accept sheets on the 9th as well).

The pledge sheets will be returned to the students after the spelling test so they can collect their pledges. Don't forget that there are prizes for the best spellers and for most fundraised. Good Luck to everyone

Thank you!

Silent Auction

Thank you to all the donors and to the volunteers who helped out at the silent auction. There were a lot of great things to bid on. I hope you were able to get the item you were hoping for.

Family Dance

Thank you to everyone that joined us at the Family Dance this year. And a huge thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this year's dance possible.

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

April 2018



SHORT NOTES

"I remember that!"

Your child may recall information better if she uses strategies to cement facts and details in her mind. For example, she might close her eyes and visualize each type of coin with its value written on it. Or she could silently repeat instructions immediately after the teacher gives them.

Learn about birds

Making a bird feeder will encourage your youngster to observe nature. Have him coat an empty toilet paper tube with peanut butter and roll it in birdseed. Hang it from a tree branch. Then, your child can sketch his feathered visitors and try to identify them using a library book or website.

DID YOU KNOW?

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day is April 26. If your employer allows it, give your youngster an on-site glimpse of your job. Show her what you do, and try to assign her a special job. She might help with a window display or organize your files, for instance.

Worth quoting

"We all live with the objective of being happy; our lives are all different and yet the same." *Anne Frank*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: You can see me in water, but I never get wet. What am I?

A: My reflection.



In charge of me

If your child knows how to manage his emotions and behavior, he'll do better at getting along with others and handling the ups and downs of everyday life. These skills, in turn, can make him more successful in school and at home. Help your youngster take charge of himself with these ideas.

Encourage self-control

- Play games that require your child to think before he acts. For instance, try Red Light, Green Light. Name a way for him to cross the room or yard (skip, hop, tiptoe). He'll have to resist the urge to move unless you give him the "Green light" and make himself stop when you say "Red light."
- Tell your youngster what you expect before heading into situations that are hard for him. Maybe he tends to put random items in the grocery cart. Describe what you want him to do instead, such as getting permission before taking groceries off a shelf. Then, let him know you notice when he does what you asked.



Be a coach

- Ask questions or make gentle suggestions when your child is frustrated. Say he's upset because he can't solve a math problem for homework. You could ask, "Where could you find help?" Or recommend that he take a break or temporarily switch to another assignment.
- Talk about how you deal with your own feelings. You might say, "I'm aggravated about this notice from the cable company. I'll call customer service once I've had a chance to calm down."♥

Play it safe

Visiting playgrounds gives your youngster a chance to be active and social. Keep her safe with these precautions.

Supervision. Watch your child closely as she plays. Or consider taking turns with a neighbor who has kids—that gives your youngster the added benefit of having a playmate.

Equipment use. Remind her to go down the slide instead of up it and to swing from monkey bars rather than climbing on top of them. Also, she should stand or walk a safe distance away from swings that other children are using.

Note: Tell your youngster never to chase after a ball that rolls into the street. She can ask you or another adult to get it for her.♥



Kindness: Spring into action

Being kind is always in season—and it can give your child a more positive outlook and help her think of others. Try these tips for encouraging kindness.

Surprise, surprise! Together, brainstorm ways your youngster could surprise someone with kindness. She might leave a cheerful message for a neighbor (“You



brighten my day”) with sidewalk chalk and sign her name. Or perhaps she’ll make a list of things she admires about a sibling and put it where he will find it. At school, maybe she’ll let a classmate go ahead of her at the water fountain.

Reach out. As a family, think about how to show

kindness in your community. Deliver Meals on Wheels, and have your child decorate place mats to include. Or save spare change in a jar—when it’s full, buy crayons and coloring books from the dollar store and donate them to a children’s hospital.♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

A passion for hobbies

Having a hobby gives your youngster a productive way to spend free time while building skills he can apply in school. Encourage him to develop a hobby with this advice.

Find a good fit

Notice what your child is interested in. If he likes putting on puppet shows or building things, look for supplies at home or visit a craft store. He might discover odds and ends to make a puppet theater or discover a robot-building kit.



Provide opportunity

Make sure your youngster has time to explore his hobby—limiting screen time can help! Also, give him a portable container for storing supplies or his collection of trading cards or stamps. He’ll have an easy way to enjoy his hobby wherever he goes.

Boost knowledge

Suggest that your child read books or watch how-to videos. A hobby shop may offer free classes. Or the school, library, or community center might have a club or class related to his hobby.♥

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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PARENT TO PARENT

How to give effective feedback

My third grader, Jack, gets speech therapy to help him say his Rs. His therapist shared ideas for giving him feedback when I work with him at home—and her suggestions are useful for more than just speech practice.

First, she recommended that I be specific so Jack knows exactly what he did well. I might tell him, “You said your Rs correctly at the beginning *and* the end of *river*.” I’ve been trying out the therapist’s advice in other situations, too. Recently, I said, “It was nice of you to help your brother reach that toy,” instead of, “You’re a good brother.”

I also encourage Jack by being positive. When he mispronounces a word, I’ll say something like, “You’ve almost got it! Try again.” That strategy also comes in handy when he wipes down the kitchen table but leaves a few crumbs, for example.

The more I use these techniques, the more natural they feel. Jack’s speech is improving, and I feel like my parenting is, too.♥



Reading between the lines

Q: My daughter’s teacher said the class is learning to make inferences—or, as Sadie explained it, “read between the lines.” What are fun ways to work on this at home?

A: Try using everyday situations to let your child practice inferring. You might have family members put umbrellas and rain boots by the door before bed and ask, “What can you infer?” (It’s supposed to rain

tomorrow.) Or set out a colander, and boil a pot of water. She might infer that you’re making macaroni for dinner.

When your daughter makes a statement like “The dog sure doesn’t like thunder!” say, “How can you tell?” She may point out that he hides under the table or is glued to your side during storms.

Ask these same questions when you read together: “What can you infer?” and “How can you tell?” Her real-life practice is sure to come in handy.♥



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