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December 3, 2018

### **Glen Allan Elementary Principal's Message**

Wow, hard to believe it is already December and the school is starting to get ready for the Christmas Concerts, Strathcona Christmas Bureau Food/Toy Drive as well as all the preparations before the break. Students have continued to focus on their studies and exhibit excellent behavior throughout the school. Busy times here at the school as we tie up lessons so that students can finish up their current curricular topics before the break and are ready start new curricular topics when they come back in January.

As the cold weather descends upon us, please be reminded that we do go outside for recess the majority of the time. Here are a few little reminders to help us provide the best care we can for your children.

- Please be sure your child has warm clothing before they leave for school.
- Students should have a toque and mittens/gloves with them
- It is also a great idea for students to have snow pants as students may head outside for daily physical education as well.
- Please make sure your child has a pair of indoor and outdoor shoes.

Have a super month and remember to have a relaxing and peaceful holiday with family and friends. On behalf of the entire staff at Glen Allan Elementary School we wish you and those you love a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season. Thank you for your continued support. When we work together, Great things happen!

Mr. Tracey Arbuthnott  
Principal  
Glen Allan Elementary

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

### December

- 4 DARE Grad - Grade 5 - 1:00PM
- 5 Staff Meeting - Dismissal - 2:15 PM
- 6 F.R. Haythorne Grade 9 Leadership visit
- 10 Christmas Concert - Park Church - 6:30PM
- 12 Smencil Sale
- 12 Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village - Grade 3
- 13 Smencil Sale
- 14 Smencil Delivery
- 14 Teacher's Pet - Grade 2 - PM
- 14 F.R. Haythorne Grade 9 Leadership visit
- 17 Elder Wilson visit
- 17 Capital Care - Class 43 - 1:00 PM
- 19 Pioneer Christmas Classroom - Grade 1 – 12:30 PM
- 21 School Spirit Day – Pajama Day
- 21 Hot Lunch Day
- 21 Last Instructional Day before Winter Break
- 24-31 Winter Break

### January

- 1-4 Winter Break
- 7 Classes Resume
- 9 Staff Meeting – Dismissal 2:15 PM
- 15 F.R. Haythorne Grade 9 Leadership visit
- 16 Teacher's Pet – Grade 3
- 21 Capital Care – Class 41 – 1:00 PM
- 23 F.R. Haythorne Grade 9 Leadership visit
- 23 GASC Meeting – 7:00 PM
- 24 School Spirit Day
- 28 Elder Wilson – Grade 5 Blanket Exercise
- 29 Alberta Opera – Pinocchio
- 31 Second Semester Begins

**\*\*\* Please note the Glen Allan Elementary School Christmas Concert will be on MONDAY, DECEMBER 10\*\*\***

## Glen Allan Bouquets

### **Remembrance Day Ceremony: November 9**

We would like to thank everyone who attended our Remembrance Day ceremony including our uniformed officers, our School Trustee Don Irvine, and of course, piper Becky Charette. Thank you to all our students in uniform who also participated in the service.

### **"If I Can" Chris Koch presentation: November 29**

Chris is a motivational speaker who came to talk to our students. Being born without arms or legs, his message of "If I Can" illustrated overcoming challenges and living a full life.

## Upcoming Events

### **DARE Graduation: December 4 at 1:00pm**

**D.A.R.E.**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Our Grade 5 D.A.R.E. program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) will soon be coming to a close. Over the last 8 weeks, our Grade 5 students have worked hard and learned a great deal under the instruction of Officer Jill Donaldson of the Strathcona County RCMP.

To celebrate this accomplishment, we will be having a D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony at 1:00pm on Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> in our school gymnasium.

We wish to invite family members of our Grade 5 graduates to attend our celebration.

Yours truly,

Mrs. S. Ganemtore  
Mr. F. Kerr  
Mrs. P. Melnyk

Grade 5 Teachers

### **School Christmas Concert: Monday, December 10**

**The Park Church @ 1 Brower Drive**

Please remember to leave a fire lane around the building and do not park on the grass.

The Doors will be open at 6:00PM Students in Kindergarten through grade 3 need to arrive by 6:15PM. Students in grades 4 to 6 should arrive by 7:15PM.

Students are asked to wear their special occasion attire. Clean indoor footwear is required for all students.

If your child will not be attending the Christmas concert, please advise their home room teacher in advance



## **Strathcona Christmas Bureau 2018: November 26-December 6**

Since 1979, the Strathcona Christmas Bureau has been bringing the joy of Christmas to those less fortunate. Each year, we provide qualifying residents of Strathcona County and area with a hamper of food and gifts. The contents of the hampers are collected through the generous donations of Strathcona County's residents and businesses. The Strathcona Christmas Bureau is a registered charity. As a non-profit organization, we rely on the time and effort of our amazing volunteers to make this possible.

The Strathcona Christmas Bureau wants to help as many families in need as possible, and this can only be accomplished with your help. Donations can consist of toys, gifts, non-perishable food or money. There is always a special need for donations for adults and teens.

### **Teenagers:**

books

purses/bags/backpacks

earphones/headphones

electronics

gift cards (Indigo, Walmart, Sherwood Park Mall, Subway, Wendy's, Dairy Queen, etc.) - maximum of \$25 per gift card please!

Art supplies (glue, markers, sketchbook, etc.)

Sports equipment (soccer balls, baseballs, etc.)

Skincare (face masks, bath bombs, lotion, etc.)

Hair care or hair supplies (blow dryer, shampoo, hair gel, etc.)

Blankets, slippers, socks

Stationary (such as nice notebooks)

### **Adults:**

books

toiletries

gift cards (fuel, coffee shops, McDonald's, Indigo, Subway, Dairy Queen, Wendy's, Walmart) - maximum of \$25 per gift card please!

We started collecting items on November 26<sup>th</sup> and will be able to take donations until the morning of December 6<sup>th</sup>. Items can be dropped off under the tree in the front entrance of the school. Thank you to everyone in our Glen Allan School Community for supporting the Strathcona Christmas Bureau! A very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone!

Glen Allan Elementary Student Council



STRATHCONA  
Christmas  
Bureau

## **FR Haythorne Junior High Band: December 14**

Returning this year is the Junior High Band from our fellow EIPS School, FR Haythorne. The students will be treated to a listen to a short concert from 11:25AM to 11:45AM.

## **Enjoy the Winter Break: December 22 - January 4**

Glen Allan Elementary will close for the winter break at the end of the day on Dec. 21, 2018 and will reopen on Jan. 7, 2019. During this time, if you have any school-related questions or concerns, contact Central Services at Elk Island Public Schools.

### **EIPS Central Services Winter Break Hours**

Closed                    December 22-January 1  
Open                     January 2-4, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*for location and contact information visit [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca).

From everyone at Elk Island Public Schools, we wish all of you a happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.



## Division News

### **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Board of Trustees**

As the holiday season approaches and we prepare for the winter break, I want to take the opportunity to extend warm wishes to all our students, staff and families on behalf of the Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees. We hope you and your loved ones have a wonderful and safe Christmas season, and a new year filled with joy.

We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday, Jan. 7, 2019.

Thank you and best wishes,

Trina Boymook, EIPS Board Chair



### **Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!**

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2019? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2019-20 school year on Feb. 1, 2019.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit—available at [www.eips.ca/kindergarten](http://www.eips.ca/kindergarten)—to make the transition as smooth as possible. The kit includes information on registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more.

Additional information regarding kindergarten can be found on our school website at [www.glenallanelementary.ca](http://www.glenallanelementary.ca)

### **Elk Island Public Schools 2019-20 Registration Drive**

All student registrations for the 2019-20 school year—including kindergarten registration, returning student registration and new student registration—will take place online commencing on **Feb. 1, 2019**.

- **Kindergarten:** Your child is eligible to enrol in kindergarten if he/she will be five years old on or before December 31, 2019.
- **Returning Students:** If your child will be returning to an EIPS school next fall, this is when you will confirm that registration and select your requested school—whether your child will attend your designated school or will request a non-designated school, your family will complete this process.
- **New Students:** Students new to EIPS for the 2019-20 school year will also complete their registration at this time.
- All registration forms will be online for families to complete. Additional information, including a list of schools with open and closed boundaries, will be posted on the Division website in the new year.

## GASC News

The Next GASC meeting will be held on Tuesday November 20th @ 7:00 in the school Library. All parents and guardians whose children attend Glen Allan are welcome.

### **Upcoming GASC Events**

#### **Hot Lunch**

GASC would like to hear from parents about how the new hot lunch is going. Please feel free to talk to a member of GASC. We will also be sending out a parent survey to get feedback on the hot lunch program in the new year.

Our next Hot Lunch will be held on Friday Dec 21st. Please go to [www.thelunchlady.ca](http://www.thelunchlady.ca) to order. Thank you to the volunteers that helped out at our last hot lunch, but we are still in need of a lot more volunteers. We are also looking for a Hot Lunch Coordinator to help run the Hot Lunch Program. If you are able to help out in any way, please contact Nicole at [Moorjinicole@gmail.com](mailto:Moorjinicole@gmail.com) or 780-718-7538

#### **Art Cards**

We are currently printing art cards and they are looking great. Some of you will already have received your orders. I thank everyone for their patience with the process as we continue to work to get everyone's orders completed. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Cecile Palm at [cecile@thepalms.ca](mailto:cecile@thepalms.ca) A big thank you to the volunteers who are so giving of their time to this project.

#### **Thank You Volunteers!**

We'd like to thank all of the volunteers who take the time to help out wherever they can. Every little bit of help really is appreciated.

We wish you all a wonderful holiday season. Thank you!

**Happy Holidays!**

# Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

December 2018

Glen Allan Elementary School

## SHORT NOTES

### Put memory to work

Many card games build *working*, or short-term, memory. This kind of memory lets your youngster remember and use information he learned recently. Play Go Fish or Crazy Eights together. By keeping track of which cards have been played, your child will make better moves!

### Taking the lead

You may have heard the phrase “a born leader.” But leadership skills, such as speaking up and taking initiative, can be learned. Encourage your youngster to practice during group projects. For example, she might suggest a way to divide up tasks or offer to give the introduction during the group’s class presentation.

### Busy parents can volunteer

Whether you have a little time or a lot, you can pitch in at your child’s school. Ask teachers and PTO or PTA officers for ways to volunteer that fit your schedule. Maybe you’ll listen to students read for 20 minutes during your lunch break or compile families’ book catalog orders on the weekend.

### Worth quoting

“If opportunity doesn’t knock, build a door.” *Milton Berle*

## JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** What does Wednesday have that no other day of the week has?

**A:** The letter W.



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## Smart discipline

Disciplining your child is all about guidance. You’re training her to follow rules and behave in an acceptable way—without your nagging or yelling. Consider these strategies to make discipline easier and more effective.

### Stay positive

Rather than telling your youngster what she *can’t* do, try explaining what she *can* do. Instead of “Don’t shove your brother,” you might say, “Keep your hands to yourself, and politely ask Billy to move out of the way.” Giving your child clear instructions will inspire her to cooperate.

### Watch body language

When you correct your youngster, speak face-to-face rather than calling to her from across the room or another part of the house. You could get down on her level, gently touch her shoulder, and speak softly. Sensing that you’re in control of yourself will keep her calm so she focuses on what you’re saying.



### Be consistent

If your child breaks a rule, announce a consequence right away. This helps her see cause and effect. For example, if she eats in the living room and that’s not allowed, ask her to vacuum up the crumbs right away. *Tip:* Being consistent with consequences shows that you’re serious. If she knows you won’t change your mind, she’ll be better about sticking to the rules.♥

## Engineering at play

Every time your youngster has fun on the playground swings, he has engineers to thank! Let him explore engineering for himself by constructing a play swing set.

He might use craft sticks for the frame, yarn for the chains, and cardboard for the seat.

How could he make a swing that gives a longer “ride”? Suggest that he adjust the length of the “chains,” and then test it each time. He can set a timer for one minute, pull back the seat, and count the swings per minute. What does he notice? (The shorter the chains, the more swings per minute.)♥



## “I love to learn”

Children devote more energy to learning when they're motivated. These ideas will boost your youngster's thirst for knowledge.

**Show enthusiasm.** Tell your child what you learn. (“I found out that about 90 percent of the world's population lives in the Northern Hemisphere!”) Also, ask him to teach you information he learns in school. If he's studying nocturnal animals, he might explain to you why his hamster runs on its wheel at night. He'll see learning as an



everyday activity for kids and grown-ups, and your attitude will be contagious.

**Inspire curiosity.** Express interest when your youngster poses questions. If he asks why we get the hiccups or whether owls really are wise, you could say, “That's a good question! Let's find out together.” Then, help him look up the topic in a library book or online. When you discover the answer, encourage him to share it with friends or relatives so they can learn more, too.♥



### ACTIVITY CORNER

#### Frosty science

With this experiment, your child can see frost and learn why people sprinkle salt on icy sidewalks and roads.

**How?** Have your youngster rinse out two empty soup cans, remove the labels, and fill each can halfway with ice. She should stir  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup salt into just one can and set both cans aside.



**What happens?** After 10 minutes, she'll notice frost on the “salty can” and water on the other one.

**Why?** Salt lowers the melting point of the ice, so the can with salt got colder than the other can. When water in the air condensed onto the cans, it froze into frost on the one with salt. That's why salt is useful in winter—it melts snow and ice, making it safer to walk or drive.♥

### Q & A

#### Grit: A family challenge

**Q:** My son wanted to learn to ice skate, but he changed his mind after he fell one time. How can I teach him not to give up when something is tough?

**A:** Children (and adults) may believe they should be able to easily do whatever they try right away. Understanding that setbacks are normal will help your son develop grit, or perseverance toward long-term goals.

Talk about times when you were successful even though you struggled at first. Maybe you were afraid to put your face in the water but you learned to swim by taking lessons and working hard to overcome your fear.

Then, consider having a “family grit challenge.” Each person can choose one thing to tackle that is hard for him and requires persistence, such as following a fitness routine or cutting back on screen time. Compare notes after a month, and then set your next goals!♥



### PARENT TO PARENT

#### Making a difference

I wanted my daughter, Charlotte, to learn about the importance of helping our community.

While grocery shopping one day, we saw a sign announcing that each customer could pick a favorite charity for the store to support. I let Charlotte choose, and she decided on a non-profit that benefits kids with cancer. Now every time we buy groceries, she reminds me that we're helping sick children.

That led us to think of other ways kids can make a difference. Recently, we decided to bake brownies and take them to the fire station. I explained that this would show appreciation for the hard work that firefighters do.

Charlotte felt proud when the firefighters thanked her. I realized that the more ways we can find to serve our community, the more likely it will become a habit as she gets older.♥



#### OUR PURPOSE

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

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