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March 5, 2019

Glen Allan Elementary Principal's Message

Hard to believe it is already March and Spring Break is on the horizon. February has flown by and the weather has been unique with the up and down temperature throughout the month. We are all looking forward to some warmer weather and a well-deserved break before the final push to the end of the school year.

February 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 the month on the 11th and 12th. A big thank you to our parent council for running the book fair on those nights as well. We also wore pink on the 27th of February to support acceptance and anti-bullying. The grade 6's have been to the Provincial legislature examining our provincial government and democracy in action. We also had a lot of other in school visitors helping us explore all kinds of different learner outcomes in our learning commons and students' classrooms. A big thank you to all the parents that came and helped with all the fieldtrips and activities that have been going on. It was a great month for learning and growth for all of us here at Glen Allan Elementary.

March is also packed with lots of fun activities throughout the school. I am especially looking forward to the family dance coming up on Friday, March 13th. A reminder that our Report Cards are just around the corner, come out on Friday, March 20th. Then of course there is Spring Break from March 27th to April 6th. Wow, March is just going to fly by with all these cool activities too.

Well that's it for now. Have a great March and hopefully spring is just around the corner.

Thank you for your ongoing support.
Tracey Arbuthnott
Principal Glen Allan Elementary

UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

March

- 2 Bridge Building with Peter Caron - Class 32, 33
- 2 Bridge Building with Peter Caron - Class 31
- 2 Capital Care Visit - Class 42
- 4 Early Out / Staff Meeting - 2:15 PM
- 6 School Closure Day - Professional Learning Day
- 13 Family Dance
- 18 Class Picture Day - Kindergarten A
- 18 Ukrainian Village - Grade 3
- 19 Class Picture Day - Kindergarten B and Grades 1-6
- 20 Elder Wilson Visit
- 20 Report Cards Issued
- 20 School Spirit (Secret Theme) Day / Hot Lunch Day
- 26 Spell-A-Thon Kick Off!
- 26 Glen Allan Speech Competition
- 27 School Closure Day
- 30-31 Spring Break

April

- 1-3 Spring Break
- 6 Classes Resume
- 6 Dare - Grade 5
- 6 Running Club at the Butterdome
- 6 Beaverhill Bird Observatory - Grade 1
- 6 Capital Care - Class 41
- 8 Early Out / Staff Meeting - 2:15 PM
- 9 Salisbury Composite Fairy Tale Presentation
- 10 School Closure - Good Friday
- 13 School Closure - Easter Monday
- 15 Spell-A-Thon Day!
- 15 GASC Meeting
- 20 Dare - Grade 5
- 23 District Speech Competition
- 24 School Spirit (Sports) Day - Hot Lunch Day
- 27 DARE - Grade 5
- 27 Spell-A-Thon Pledge Money Deadline
- 30 Greg LeRock Concert - Grade 5
- 30 Kindergarten Information Night

Division News

Do more this summer!

Next Step Continuing Education Summer School and Camps:

Registration opens March 9

Summer School: Open to students entering grades 10-12 and mature students

With more than 25 credit courses, there are lots of ways to get ahead. Students can earn high school credits, upgrade marks and finish pre-requisite courses.

Courses include:

- CALM (in class or self-paced)
- Physical Education 10
- Extreme CALM and Physical Education 10 combined
- English – 10-, 20- and 30-levels
- Math – 10-, 20- and 30-levels
- Social – 10-, 20- and 30-levels
- Sciences – 10-, 20- and 30-levels
- Film Production
- Work Experience and RAP

Summer Camps: Open to participants in grades 5-9

From sports to cooking to babysitting, campers enjoy a fun-filled program while making friends and learning new skills.

Camps include:

- Sports – volleyball, basketball and handball
- computer gaming and design
- cooking and baking
- babysitting

Registration opens on March 9.

Related information:

[Summer School](#)
[Summer Camps](#)





Kindergarten Registration is Now Open!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2020? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at eips.ca/kindergarten.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit—available at 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 is available on our school website at www.glenallanelementary.ca

Have your say! EIPS Parent Survey Opens March 9

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you. Make sure to complete the 2020 Parent Survey—open from March 9-26.

Annually, EIPS conducts a parent survey to gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its Four-Year Education Plan. Families are asked a series of questions about their experiences with EIPS and the school their child attends, the overall performance of the Division, the quality of education being provided to students and areas for improvement. The survey feedback helps the Division develop new strategies to better serve students and the wider community.

VISIT WWW.EIPS.CA TO TAKE THE SURVEY

Survey opens March 9, 2020

Survey closes March 26, 2020

NOTE: The survey is anonymous and only takes a few minutes to complete. If you want to share the experience of more than one child attending an EIPS school, simply complete the survey again.

GASC News

Musical Treats

Thank you to all the parents who volunteered and brought in cakes and treats. All the kids had a wonderful time. A big Thank you to Amanda Trach for organizing the event.

GASC events

Spell-A-Thon

The Spell a Thon is quickly approaching, sponsorship sheets will be sent home with students March 26th. This fundraiser replaced the others in order to decrease the demand of parent volunteer hours in the school. The money raised by the Spell-a- Thon goes directly towards our school.

Last year the Math-a-Thon raised over \$9,000 for our school which was incredible, let's see if we can beat that number with this year's Spell-a-Thon!

Family Dance

The family dance will be held on Friday March 13th from 6:30 -9:00pm. There will be dancing, mingling, games and a photo booth.

As with any event volunteers are needed. If you are able to help out please contact Tara Spence by either email @ taraspence80@outlook.com or phone/text @ 780-934-4247.

Ticket order forms will be sent home soon. Please note that tickets will not be sent home. instead your name and the number of tickets purchased will be on a guest list at the front door. No change will be provided for tickets, please send in exact payment.



Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

March 2020

Glen Allan Elementary School



SHORT NOTES

Heads or tails logic

This brainteaser will encourage your youngster to think logically. Have each family member line up four pennies with heads facing up. The challenge is to turn them all to tails. The catch? Flip over exactly three pennies each time. Who can do it in the fewest number of tries?

A day in the life

What would life be like if your child were a shoe? How about a bicycle? Suggest that he write a diary entry from an object's point of view. Prompt him to imagine and write details about what the shoe or bike would see, hear, feel, and think.

Summer plans

Day camps and other summer programs often fill up fast. If you're looking for one for your child, consider signing up soon. Ask her school about programs—some may be free depending on your income. Also, browse the parks and recreation catalog or website for summer programs that match your youngster's interests.

Worth quoting

"The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you."
B. B. King

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What do you get if you cross a porcupine with an alligator?

A: I don't know, but you probably shouldn't hug it.



Standardized test success

Doing well on a standardized test starts way before your child's teacher says, "You may begin." Boost your youngster's confidence and help her do her best with these tips.

Focus on schoolwork

The work habits your child uses all year long are the same ones she'll need on test day. Have her keep a list of what she does well when she does schoolwork, such as double-checking math answers or proofreading her essay. The night before the test, she can give herself a "pep talk" by reviewing her list.

Try a strategy

Let your youngster practice a key test-taking strategy in a stress-free way. Make up imaginary questions like "What is a unicorn's favorite food?" List answer choices, including one that's "right" (A: rainbow sprinkles), one that seems wrong (B: coal), and two that sound possible (C: pasta, D: pizza). While the question isn't real, the strategy is—discard any



obviously wrong answers, then weigh your first instinct against the remaining choices.

Practice keyboarding

If your child will take tests on a computer, help her work on keyboarding. She might type a story she wrote or email a relative, for instance. She'll practice typing, using special keys (shift, enter), and pointing and clicking the mouse on commands (save, send). *Tip:* No computer at home? Head to the library where she can use one for free.♥

Sports: A winning attitude

Everyone likes winning. Losing? Not so much. Regardless, here are ways your youngster can be a good sport no matter the outcome:

- Cheer each other on when good things happen ("Nice catch!"), and sympathize when they don't ("You'll get the next one!").
- Shift your child's thinking. Instead of focusing on coming in first or scoring the most goals, suggest that he work on beating his personal best.
- When you watch sports together, point out examples of good sportsmanship. Perhaps his favorite basketball player helps an opponent up after a fall.♥



Learning as a family

Keep your youngster excited about learning by making it a family affair. With these ideas, he'll see that learning is a lifelong journey.

Interview relatives. Your child can learn from relatives who remember living through an event or a time period he's studying in history. The whole family could gather around to hear about a grandparent's experience watching the first moon landing on television.



Give a lesson. Let your child be the teacher! Say he's learning about states of matter in science. He might help you cook and point out that water turns into a gas (steam) when it boils. Or he could make ice pops to demonstrate that water changes to a solid in the freezer.

On the go. Find family outings related to what your child studies. A high school orchestra concert lets him hear more experienced musicians playing instruments he uses in music class. If he's learning ways to protect the environment, consider participating in a local watershed cleanup as a family.♥

PARENT TO PARENT

Money smarts

The first time a relative sent my daughter Lauren a gift card, she spent it right away. It occurred to me that she might find it harder to part with cash than a piece of plastic. So the next time she got a gift card, I traded her bills and coins for it.

Lauren put the money in a jar to keep on her dresser and labeled it with the total. Now when we go to the store, she thinks carefully about whether she wants to dip into her jar for a pack of trading cards or a stuffed emoji. If she does, she can take out the money before our next shopping trip and write the new total on her jar.



So far this strategy is working. Lauren immediately "sees" how much she's spending—and she doesn't want her jar to be empty.♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

Make an engineering lab

Let your child loose in her own engineering "lab" where she can design objects and solve problems as she builds them. Follow these steps.

1. Gather supplies. Help your youngster collect household objects, craft supplies, and recycling bin items to use for engineering projects. *Examples:* rubber bands, balloons, index cards, craft sticks, tape, glue, string, bottles, boxes.

2. Brainstorm projects. Together, list contraptions she might design in her lab. Can she dream up a way to create a balloon-powered boat? Or maybe she has an idea for building a marble maze.

3. Get to work. Encourage your youngster to set up her lab in a corner of the family room, pick a project from her list, and get started.

Idea: Spark new projects and solutions by having her add supplies from time to time, such as bubble wrap or a cut-up pool noodle.♥



Q & A

Anxiety in children

Q: *I've been hearing about kids being diagnosed with anxiety disorders. My son tends to worry a lot. How can I tell the difference between normal worrying and a serious problem?*

A: Some anxiety is just part of everyday life. For example, it's perfectly natural if your child is nervous about giving a speech in class or worries that a friend is angry with him over a disagreement.



With an anxiety disorder, those feelings interfere with daily life. Talk to your son's doctor if you notice any symptoms, which include difficulty sleeping, loss of appetite, unexplained stomachaches or headaches, irritability, trouble concentrating, and avoiding regular activities.

If the doctor suspects an anxiety disorder, your child may be referred to a therapist who will work with him on new ways to react to things that worry him.♥

OUR PURPOSE

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

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