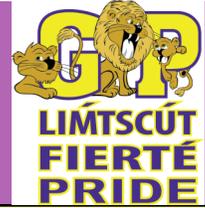


December 4, 2018



NEWS FROM THE DEN

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Did you know that some of our classes are trying to be more flexible and creative with their cooperative teaching and cooperative planning? For example, many of the flexible learning spaces within their classes are intentionally

designed to promote student curiosity, provide students more

choice, and to amplify learning. Hence, why one sees more carpet, low stools, various size tables, and interesting seating in the learning spaces. Research helps us understand that students



learn best through 'thinking', 'wondering and through 'natural curiosity' inside and outside the classroom. Hence, why one see more students doing 'Maker Type' activities, learning outside, taking hikes in Glen Canyon Regional Park, and doing gardening activities in our community plot.

Yours in education, Janet Williams



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Wash your Hands!



Remember the #1 best guard against colds and flu is to WASH YOUR HANDS!!

DATES TO NOTE:

- Dec. 10th—Term 2 begins
- Dec. 13th PAC Meeting
- Dec. 14th—Report cards distributed
- Lost and Found on display last week
- Dec. 18—K/1 only Christmas Show
- Dec. 19—K only Christmas Show
- Dec. 20th—Christmas Concert (for students in gr. 1—6)
- Dec. 21st—PJ Day
- Dec. 22nd—Jan. 6th - Christmas holidays



Our **GPE Christmas Concert** will be in our school gym for students in gr. 1—gr. 6 at 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm on December . 20th. Our three kindergarten classes will be performing on Dec. 19th in the theatre at 12:00 and 1:30 pm. And our two K/1 classes will be performing on Dec. 18th in the evening @ 6:30 pm. Please confirm with your child's teachers which show your child will be in!

BAKE SALE—*at our performances on Dec. 20th, our gr. 5/6 parents will be hosting a sale to support the year-end trip.*

GPE for the final day of school before the holiday break will be a PJ Day!



fresh
grade
Student

Is your child's teacher using FreshGrade this year to communicate learning? Are you wondering how to respond to your child's postings?

When student work is uploaded to their portfolio, we encourage parents to take a moment to do the following:

Make a **positive feedback** comment

- Your brain was focused when you were...
- You put in amazing speed and effort into...
- You pronounced every word on the page perfectly
- You put a lot of thought and effort into your ideas
- I like your ideas/story/enthusiasm

Make an **encouraging** comment

- Keep up the great work/effort
- I see that you are always trying to do your best
- Make a **supporting** comment
- I look forward to doing math games with you
- I can't wait to try this activity at home

Your comments over FreshGrade are a celebration of your child's learning. If you have any questions or concerns, taking a moment with your child and having a conversation about the assignments will provide clarity.

If you have questions and concerns for the teacher, please email the teacher or schedule an appointment.

Your child values your input and support. Thank you for taking your time to visit your child's FreshGrade portfolio.

fresh
grade
Parent



Big
White
After
School
Ski /
Board
Program

Dates for the After School Ski/ Board Program at Big White are set! Currently there are three sessions set for George Pringle students. The first session runs January 30th, Feb.6th and 13th. Registration and payment is online. EARLY BIRD RATES UNTIL DEC. 16TH .

WINTER RULES: Please Play Safe!

When our white stuff arrives—just a reminder that we have a —NO Snowball Rule at GPE. Throwing snow, kicking slush and face washing are prohibited on school grounds, and walking routes home. Throwing snowballs is prohibited by School Board policy due to the potential risk of injury. This means throwing snowballs on the school grounds, at bus stops and on the way to and from school is not permitted. We request that parents remind students of school snow safety guidelines. Students at GPE are regularly reminded by staff and over the PA in the morning to dress warmly for their daily outdoor play breaks. Snow pants are required for playing in deep snow. Students must have a pair of dry shoes for indoor wear. Winter boots should not be worn in the classroom. It is a good idea to keep an extra set of dry clothes at school... just in case. Children are encouraged to enjoy the snow, to be creative in building structures . For safety, students need to go straight home after school, unless they are with their parents who can supervise them on the playground. **Parents, thank you for your continued support!**



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Next Meeting:

**Thursday,
December
13th @ 6:30
pm in our Staff
Room.**

**All parents &
guardians
welcome to
attend!**

- **Staff Appreciation Luncheon** was held on Tuesday, Dec. 4th. Thank you to the volunteers who helped set up, serve, brought in items, decorated and cleaned-up. It was so fantastic!!!
- **Gr. 5/6 Fundraiser:** FundScrip—last day to order is Dec. 5th
- **Code of Conduct:** We encourage parents to review the school [Code of Conduct](#). This will be a topic at the next PAC meeting as it is a document that needs to be reviewed yearly.
- **Gr. 5/6 Fundraiser:** Raffle tickets (3 for \$5.00) will be for sale each Wednesday at the 'Parent Board' in the kindergarten wing at the end of the day.—1st prize \$500.00/2nd prize \$250/3rd prize \$125
Great stocking stuffers!

**PAC would like to wish all GPE families a safe and happy
Holiday Season! See you in the New Year!!!**



REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS: Written reports are scheduled to be issued to students on Dec. 14th. There are no conferences scheduled with these reports. Parents are asked to confirm their receipt of the report cards by signing and returning the envelope by Thursday, Dec. 20th. Please do not seal the envelope as it is used again for Terms 2 and 3 report cards. Although the next parent/student/teacher conferences are not scheduled until the end of Term 2, parents are most welcome to contact their child's teacher if they have questions or concerns about progress, or wish to set up a meeting to discuss their child's learning.

As usual, B.C. report cards use a provincial data base to enter marks and comments. The primary report cards indicate if students are not yet meeting, meeting or exceeding expectations for their grade level. The intermediate report cards provide comparative marks (A, B,C+, C, C-) which indicate a student's progress in relation to the curriculum and to other students within the same grade. Teachers will provide summary comments at the end of each report as in the past, except if they are using Fresh Grade, and these will be included throughout the posts. We encourage you read these together with your child to celebrate their efforts.

Many teachers have posted a [Parent Preview](#) outlining the first term outcomes for their class. We hope this information is helpful to you in supporting your children's learning. If you would like to receive an extra copy of the learning outcomes at report card time, **please contact your classroom teacher.**



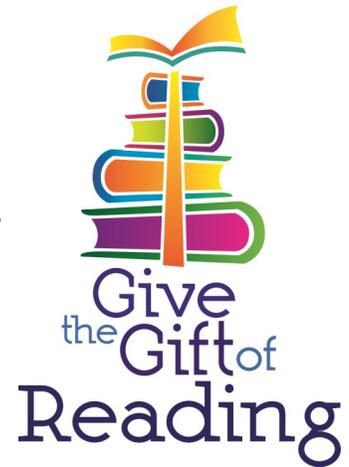
I encourage all students to renew their commitment to their studies to approach Term 2 with energy and a desire to continue to improve. Each student should set a goal to improve in some area and focus on attaining that goal throughout the winter months.

LIBRARY

Full STEAM ahead! Throughout the year, our Library is used for a variety of large and small group activities. During the month of December and January, students are exploring in the areas of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. STEAM is an integrated approach to learning that encourages students to think about real-world problems by asking questions, problem solving and thinking creatively.

Literacy At Home...

"The greatest gift is the passion for reading. It is cheap, it consoles, it distracts, it excites. It gives you knowledge of the world and experience of a wide kind." ~Elizabeth Hardwick~



Here are some ideas to keep children interested in learning and reading over the holidays:

- ⇒ Make a list, check it twice: ask the kids to help you make a grocery list of all the goodies you will need.
- ⇒ Books under the tree: give the gift of reading by putting a few books or a subscription to a high quality magazine under the tree. Having a variety of reading materials is an important factor in creating life long readers.
- ⇒ Tis better to give than receive: give the gift of words this year by boxing some old books and donating them to your local library or literacy organization. Perhaps this will give new meaning to Boxing Day and become an annual tradition in your home.



At this time I would like to recognize our many student leaders for taking the challenge and providing service to the school from morning announcers, Kindergarten PALS, sports leaders, lunch monitors, recycling, and safety patrolling, And, a BIG thank you to the many staff members who volunteer their time to sponsor our students' activities and sports. As well, I would like to thank our PAC for their enthusiasm, energy and support of school programs and special events. From hot lunch volunteers, classroom helpers, BC Fruit and Veggie Program vol-

unteers, One to One Readers, book fair help, and field trip volunteers, we simply could not do it all without your support. Our staff and students appreciate your efforts! We all feel fortunate and very thankful to be part of the GPE learning community. Together we are continuing to make a positive difference in the lives of our children on a daily basis. **From all of us at GPE, we wish you and your family a Merry Christmas, and a festive holiday season filled with warmth and good cheer!**



GPE Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Guidelines



DROP OFF ZONE: This looped area is located in front of the main doors in the upper parking lot. We ask that parents adhere to the request not to park or wait in the drop off loop, as this causes congestion. It is the only area where cars can drop off and go. Please say "Good morning to Mrs. Kaupp" and ask her to assist if you need help getting little ones out of your vehicle. When dropping your child off, or picking your child up, remember to teach your child to exit/enter your car from the side closest to the walkway, not the busy traffic side of the driveway.

(Drop off infers drop, kiss good bye, drive away – adults do not leave the vehicle).

PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK: We have **adults at our pedestrian crosswalks** which follow into the front area of our school on Elliott and Ingram Road. Please respect our Safety Patrol Crossing Guard. It is always important to drive slowly and attentively.

DESIGNATED BUS ZONE: These are areas not for the general public parking, or access. Please do not park in front of the red curbs at the front of our school at any time.

It is all of our responsibility to ensure that we have a safe environment, both in and outside our school. Thank you for respecting our school parking lot rules.

CHRISTMAS ON A 'STRING'



Our GPE String students will be performing on Tuesday, December 11th @ 2:00 pm in our Multipurpose Room—family, friends, and classes are invited to attend the performance.

Just a reminder that fees are due next week for Term 1's lessons, and the final lesson before the break will be on Thursday, December 13th.

Keep practicing over the break !!!