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|  | Glen Falls School  NEWSLETTER  December 2023 |



**VISION**

To provide students with essential knowledge and skills to become the leaders of tomorrow.

**Important Dates**

Dec. 4th – Report Cards sent home.

Dec. 4th-8th – Ring a Bell for Mental Health

Dec. 5th – Santa Pictures at the school (order online Cashless Schools)

Dec. 6th – Kick Off to Kindergarten 7:00pm

Dec. 7th – Parent Teacher 4-7pm

Dec. 8th – Parent Teacher 9:00-11:00am (**No school for students**)

Dec. 8th - Draw date for “Best Seats in the House” for Christmas Concert

Dec. 11th – Christmas Concert (snow date of Dec. 15th) K-2 families 8:30-9:30 & 3-5 families 10:30-11:30

Dec. 19th – Christmas Bazaar

Dec. 14th – Christmas Turkey Dinner at the school (this is for students only)

December 22nd Last day before Christmas break. **This is a half day for students**.

**NOTE: 1st day back after Christmas break is January 8th.**

**Report Cards and Parent Teacher** – Report Cards will be sent home on Monday, Dec. 4th. Parent Teacher will take place on Thursday, Dec. 7th, from 4:00-7:00pm and Friday, Dec. 8th, from 9:00-11:00am. Sign-up sheets for Parent Teacher will be sent home in your child’s Report Card. We encourage all families to attend these meetings, as it gives the teachers an opportunity to share the wonderful work your child has been doing at school. Showing your child, you care about their learning helps to build strong connections and has a positive impact on their future learning.

As a reminder to parents, the Department of Education released the new Holistic Curriculum this fall. Some of the outcomes for students have changed at grade levels and in subjects. As a staff we are aligning our grading practices with the new curriculum, and you may see changes in the grades your child normally receives. This will be common among the students and should not be something to alarm you. If you have questions about the report card you can address them with the teacher at a Parent Teacher conference.

**Lunch Program -** Lunch order forms for January 15th – February 2nd, will be online on November 27th until January 10th. For this reason, there will be **no hot lunch January 8th – 12th, (first week back after Christmas vacation). All students will need to bring in their lunches for the first week back.**

\*\*\*NOTE: There will be no hot lunch Friday, December 23rd as it is a half day for students.

On Friday, December 8th people across New Brunswick will be celebrating **Ring a Bell for Mental Health Day**. This campaign is part of a grassroots movement that has been empowering youth, family, and community to take positive actions in support of kids’ mental health since 2010. Additional information can be found at <http://www.partnersforyouth.ca/dotsnb/ring-a-bell/> .

**Christmas Concert** - This year’s **Christmas concert** will be held on **Monday, December 11th**, and the storm date will be Friday, Dec. 15th.  **We are going to hold the same concert twice.** We are inviting all the K-2 families to attend the first concert from 8:30-9:30am, and all the grade 3-5 families to attend the second concert from 10:30-11:30am. If you have children at both levels, you can select which concert you would like to attend.

**“Best Seats in the House”** tickets, for our Christmas Concert, will be sold until Thursday Dec. 7th. The tickets are $2 each or 3 for $5. This year we will have two winners, one for each of the concerts. The winner will have reserved parking near the front door and will have two front row seats with treats. Tickets can be purchased online on Cashless Schools.

Leading up to the concert there are several items we would like to bring to everyone’s attention:

1. Parking- We are aware parking is limited. Please remember that you need to follow all the city parking regulations (no blocking of the fire hydrants or local driveways). We also ask that you not park in the lots of neighbouring businesses.
2. The gym doors will not be opened until 30 minutes prior to the concert.
3. We ask that you refrain from interrupting the classes before and during the concert. While the concert is going on our students will be working in class. Also, for security reasons, we do not want adults walking in the hallways.
4. We are aware that many of you like to take your child home at the end of the concert, however, with the two concerts we ask that no children leave after the first concert as they will be needed for the second concert. For those of you who do choose to take your child home following the concert, we would like to remind you to sign your child out in the office before leaving with them and let your child’s teacher know you are taking them. We need to keep track of all the students and if they are not signed out in the office, we do not have accurate records.
5. Finally, we want to remind parents that this is a public concert, and several parents will be taking pictures of the children while they are on stage. Because it is a public event, children who have not given consent to be photographed may end up in pictures. If you want to ensure that your child does not get photographed, you may want to choose to have them not participate in the concert. If this is the case, please let your child’s teacher know in advance of the concert date.

This year’s **Christmas Turkey Dinner** will be taking place on December 14th. This is a turkey dinner for our students and staff. We will be welcoming several volunteers into the school for a wonderful dinner hosted by our PALS and Community Volunteers.

**Santa Pictures** – We are very fortunate that Santa takes the time out of his busy day to visit with our students at Glen Falls and takes some pictures with the students. Students can pre-purchase pictures by completing the order online at Cashless Schools. Pictures are $5 each (Multiple copies can be ordered for an additional $1/copy). This year Santa will visit on Tuesday Dec. 5th, first thing in the morning!

Every year our students can take part in our **Christmas Bazaar** where they can purchase Christmas Gifts for loved ones.  The price of the gifts is $.25, and children can purchase up to four gifts. If you have any gently used items that you can donate to the Bazaar, please drop them off to Glen Falls during school hours before December 15th. If you are interested in volunteering (8AM-12PM) to help students shop, wrap, and make cards, please contact Jill Nylen [jill.nylen@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:jill.nylen@nbed.nb.ca)

Here are the resources available to families this Christmas:

1. The Christmas Exchange – see list below. We are asking individuals/families needing help to register early at a church or agency in your neighborhood. Check with them to see when their registrations start, as some churches start and end registrations early. You can register for the Christmas Exchange at only one place. Churches/agencies will require a current Government ID for each household member. Register everyone living in your home. The Exchange checks all those registered for duplication. Duplication of registrations will result in delays. The church/agency where you register provides for you and will advise when you can pick up your Gift Card or Basket.
2. Holiday Hampers – Glen Falls School families can contact Mrs. Nylen if they would like to be signed up to receive a Holiday Hamper.
3. Operation Feed SJ – families who would like a turkey dinner prepared by Vito’s can register for it on Operation Feed SJ’s FB Page.

Churches for Christmas Exchange Registration (**registration closes Dec. 1**): Forest Hills Baptist Church 506-633-7515, Harmony United 506-696-3773, St Mary & St Bartholomew 506-645-7517 or 506-696-1347, Lakewood Head Start 506-650-1249, Full Gospel Assembly 506 633-4956, Harbour Church 506-652-4330, Stella Maris 506-653-6850, St. Joachim/St. Ann 506-653-6870, Mission Point 506-633-0010

Our **Scholastic Book Fair** was a huge success! We were able to purchase over $800 in new books for our library. Thank you to everyone who was able to take part in this great event and special thanks to Mrs. Loughery for donating her time.

**Clothing Room** – GFS has a clothing room available to all our students. We have some winter clothing including hats, mittens, coats and snowpants. If you need any items, please don’t hesitate to contact the school.

We are starting to run into the winter season and there may be days when school is closed. For information on School Closures, you can look on the District Website, <http://web1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-S/Pages/Welcome.aspx> , and click on the Inclement Weather Icon or call 1-855-535-7669.

The school theme for the month of December is “Generosity”. The theme for the month of January is “Honesty”.

**School Motto**

**At Glen Falls School we are shooting for the**

**S Safe**

**T Team Spirit**

**A At My Best**MC900093405[1]

**R Responsible Citizens**

**S Shooting for Success**

**MISSION**

At Glen Falls Elementary School we are committed to providing a positive, safe learning and working environment. Students are supported in their individual development to become well-rounded, productive, responsible citizens and lifelong learners. We enable students to attain the knowledge and skills to thrive in the 21st century, including communication, collaboration, and independence. Recognizing that it takes a community to raise a child, we value our partnerships with parents, businesses, and other community members. Together we celebrate our successes.

***MERRY CHRISTMAS***

**Attention Students: Please have your parents sign this form and return to your teacher for a chance to win a prize!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_