



FRIDAY NEWSLETTER January 25, 2008

Noble deeds are most estimable when hidden.

—Blaise Pascal

Thank You!

- ◆ All people involved in giving Ms. Ogg a wonderful “**Baby Shower**” on Wednesday after school.
- ◆ Mr. and Mrs. Garrett for hosting the 9th grade **Parent Social**
- ◆ Drs. Croft and Walker for hosting the grade 7th and 8th grade **Parent Social**
- ◆ Tessa Nystrom for her diligent work with improving the school website, our promotional literature for Junior Kindergarten and with our marketing efforts
- ◆ Mrs. Bev. Smith for her wonderful **Bulletin Board** on our tubing and skiing day.
- ◆ Mrs. Nikki Johnson for her efforts already in the area of admissions
- ◆ Mr. Steffler for his assistance with the **Climbing Wall**

Climbing Wall Update

As most of you know, we have, with real anticipation, created a new climbing wall for our students to use in the gymnasium. We had hoped to be able to open the wall for general use by last Friday, but it now appears that it will take us just a little longer to get things set up exactly right. Safety issues are paramount with this situation and we need a few more weeks to ensure that the facility will operate precisely as it should.

The purpose of this brief note is simply to keep all our families posted on our progress. We anticipate that the wall will be operational by February 8th.

Many thanks for your patience.

Teacher Happenings

Changes-All to make Glenfir even better.....

Mr. Nick Korvin has been hired for P.E. and Outdoor Ed. and began with Mr. Ducharme on Wednesday. Please make him welcome into our community. Nick comes from Calgary and has climbing, track and field and biking experience and will surely be a great asset to Glenfir.

Mr. Ducharme will focus more on being Head of School and in planning new and exciting directions for Glenfir. He very much looks forward to having time to meet with parents in the school without feeling so rushed.

Ms. Cardin will become the grade nine homeroom advisor for the second half of the year. She has asked if she can have the opportunity since she did not get a homeroom in the first half. She is very excited to begin this new relationship with the G9's beginning Monday.

Ms. Baird will move into a shared homeroom teaching role with Ms. Grahame in G6. Ms. Grahame will also be helping to coordinate a new lunchtime structured intramural program with Mr. Korvin.

Ms. Ogg will be departing in the next month on a one year maternity leave. Please offer her best wishes if you have the chance.

Mrs. Jan Webb will be taking a one year leave from next September to travel around the world with her husband. We are all extremely envious of her opportunity and wish her well.

Mrs. Nikki Johnson has agreed to join us as our new **Director of Admissions**. She is already working very hard to help grow our school.

JK at Cherry Mall

Some students, and we hope their parents too, from our JK class will be in Cherry Lane Shopping Mall, Penticton this coming Saturday, January 26th from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. along with their teachers, Ms. Bootsma and Ms. Smith, and Mrs. Mary Taylor to help promote our JK programme and Glenfir in general. If you are in the area, please stop by and visit them. They would love to see you!

February 1st – Tubing K-5 and Skiing/Snowboarding 6-12

Apex Bus

The bus that will be going to Apex Mountain for the K-G5 tubing will leave the school at 9:00 AM on February 1st. It will make a stop at the Fast Gas Station on the corner of the Apex turnoff and the Channel Road at 9:15 AM. and then proceed to Apex Mountain. The bus will leave the mountain at 2:30 PM, stop at the Fast Gas Station at 3:00 PM, make a quick stop at Loco Landing at 3:10 PM and then proceed back to TGS.

Please note: If parents cannot be at the Fast Gas Station or Loco Landing at the appointed times, students will be taken back to the school.

Crystal Mountain

The bus that will be going to Crystal Mountain for the G 6-12 skiing/snowboarding day will leave the school at 8:30 AM. on February 1st. It will stop in Peachland at 8:50 AM. to pick up any students who are there on time. It will then continue on to Crystal Mountain for a day of fun. Students must be off the mountain and at the bus at 3:15 PM to be loaded and returned to The Glenfir School for 4:30 PM. On route, the bus will stop at the Peachland pottery stop, approximately 3:50 - 4:00 PM, to allow students, whose parents are there for pickup, to disembark. ***Please note:*** If the parents are not at the stop when the bus is ready to leave, the students will be taken back to The Glenfir School to load at their normal 'late bus time'. The late bus will leave TGS at the usual time, 4:40 PM. For either the Apex or Crystal Mountain event, if you plan to take your child up or back by private car, please call the office and let us know. We have to have a precise count of all the children whom we expect to be using the bus in each direction.

An Enlightened Assembly

On Monday, January 21st, 2008, students, staff, and visiting parents were treated to a special assembly to begin the week. The day was introduced by Mr. Ducharme as a memorial in recognition of Martin Luther King Junior. The proceedings were opened by a talk from senior English teacher Ms. Heather Cardin, in which highlights from Dr. King's life were mentioned, including his having been the youngest recipient ever for the Nobel Peace Prize, due to his work in the Civil Rights Movement in the United States. The assembled guests were delighted to hear grade-six student, Macgregor Tebbutt, deliver excerpts from the famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

Subsequently, former student Patrick King outlined his exceptional work towards assisting the plight of polar bears. Mr. King, whose name was noted in the context of the day, showed a short series of photographs of his trip to Churchill, Manitoba, where he had learned to operate cameras and had been somewhat "up close and personal" with the bears (fortunately from within the working trailer). Working under the auspices of prestigious organizations, including National Geographic, Mr. King then screened a video which he had produced on behalf of the bears, emphasizing the conservation elements and the need to do even the smallest actions to reduce global warming, which affects the bears' habitat.

In the question period which followed, science teacher Arthur Bakx underscored that both presentations were related, in that one individual who cared passionately about an issue, moved to action, could make, and had made, a significant difference. Dr. King had changed the world through his commitment to ending racism, despite having his young life cut tragically short. Patrick King, despite his youth, was able to demonstrate that a passion, saving polar bears, could ignite change one person at a time. Exhorting all those present to keep in mind the power of the individual towards change, Mr. Bakx's comments were reiterated and the Assembly was closed by Mr. Ducharme. It was a special way to begin a cold week in January.

Gr. 4 FSA Schedule

English:

Part I – 60 min.	Reading Comprehension	On-line	Monday, Feb. 4 th	Blocks 3&4
Part II- 30 min.	Reading Comp. II	Paper	Tuesday, Feb. 5 th	Block 4
Part III-30 min.	Short Write	Paper	Tuesday, Feb. 5 th	Block 5
Part VI-60 min.	Long Write	Paper	Wednesday, Feb. 13 th	Blocks 5&6

Math:

V 60 min.	Numeracy	On-line	Wednesday, Feb. 6 th	Blocks 5&6
VI 30 min.	Numeracy	Paper	Tuesday, Feb. 12 th	Block 1

Gr. 7 FSA Schedule

English:

Part I	Reading Comprehension	On-line	Tuesday, Feb. 5 th	Blocks 1&2
Part II	Reading Comp. II	Paper	Wednesday, Feb. 6 th	Blocks 5&6
Part III	Short Write	Paper	Wednesday, Feb. 6 th	Blocks 5&6
Part IV	Long Write	Paper	Wednesday, Feb. 13 th	Blocks 5&6

Math:

Part V	Numeracy	On-line	Monday, Feb. 4 th	Blocks 1&2
Part VI	Numeracy	Paper	Thursday, Feb. 7 th	Block 3

Parent/Teacher Interviews

The next scheduled night for interviews is on April 2nd. If you feel a need to meet with a teacher before that, please set up an interview through the main office.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

January 29	Spelling Bee – G4-8
February 1	K – 5 Tubing at Apex Mountain G6-12 – Skiing at Crystal Mountain
February 4	Afternoon Assembly-Grades 4-6 to host FSA – Gr. 4 - Reading Comprehension – Block 3&4 FSA- Gr. 7 Blocks 1 and 2 Numeracy [Part Five] (online)
February 5	FSA – Gr. 4 – Reading Comp. II – Block 4 FSA – Gr. 4 – Short Write – Block 5 FSA- Gr. 7 Blocks 1 and 2 Reading Comprehension [Part One] (online)
February 6	FSA – Gr. 4 – Numeracy – Block 5&6 FSA- Gr. 7 Block 5 and 6 Reading Comprehension [Part Two] and Short Write [Part Three]
February 7 th	FSA- Gr. 7 Block 3 Numeracy [Part Six]
February 8	Spirit Morning - lunch 12:00 – 12:30 -classes dismissed at 12:30; -busses pull out at 12:40. Teacher Appreciation Lunch 1:00 – 2:00 Teacher Planning Afternoon 2:00 – 4:00 Climbing Wall Grand Opening Date (Tentative)
February 11	Mid-Term Break
February 12	FSA – Gr. 4 – Numeracy – Block 1
February 13	FSA – Gr. 4 – Long Write – Block 5&6 FSA- Gr. 7 Blocks 5 and 6 Long Write [Part Four]
February 15	7-12 Outdoor Ed. Day: Mr. Mike Biden
February 18	Grade 9&10 to Okanagan College “Why to Stay in School Seminar”
February 20	G 6-9 Science Fair – 8:30 – Noon
February 21	High School Career Fair in Kelowna
February 25	Morning Assembly 7/8 to host
March 7	7-12 Outdoor Ed. Day: Mr. Mike Biden
March 10	Public Speaking Finals – Whole School – 9:00 – Noon
March 14	Morning Assembly Hoops for Heart and Jump Rope for Heart

For those families using the bus, we are asking parents to go over the following safety rules with their children. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school.

The Glenfir School Bus Safety Rules

- Be early at your bus stop and wait safely off the road.
- Be properly seated on the bus. Use seatbelts if provided.
- Do not distract the bus driver and always be polite.
- Talk quietly to other riders and do not be rowdy.
- Keep your hands and arms and head inside the bus windows.
- Do not throw anything in the bus or out the windows.
- Keep the aisles clear of your bags and your legs.
- Do not eat or drink on the bus, unless permission granted.
- Help keep the bus clean by removing your garbage.
- Be of good behaviour on the bus. No swearing or rough housing.
- Report any problems to the bus driver.
- Senior students should be responsible and help younger students.
- When leaving the bus, look both ways and watch out for traffic.

<u>JANUARY</u>	Monday, 28	Tuesday, 29	Wednesday 30	Thursday, 31	Friday, February 1
8:30 -10:30	NO ASSEMBLY Formal Uniform for all students				K-5 Tubing @ Apex Mtn. Lv. 9:00 a.m. Ret. 3:15. Additional pick up at Gas station – turn off to Apex 9:10 – ret. Drop off at 2:50 G6-12 Skiing at Crystal Mountain – Lv. 8:30 – return 4:30
10:30 -12:00					
Lunch 12:15 12:45	K-G3 Free Gym	G9-12 Free Gym JK/Leadership Buddies Lunch with Miss Tina and Miss Lindsey G4-6 Math Study Hall with Mrs. Orme	G4-8 Free Gym JK/G3-6 Buddies Lunch with Miss Tina and Miss Lindsey G2/3 French Study Hall with Mrs. Ogg G4-10 French Study Hall w/Ms. Grahame	G9-12 Free Gym Choir for ALL students with Mrs. Webb JK/Leadership Buddies Lunch with Miss Tina and Miss Lindsey	
12:45 - 3:30					
Late Buses	LATE BUS	LATE BUS	LATE BUS	LATE BUS	NO LATE BUS
3:40 –4:30	G4-10 Band with Mr. Gass K-3 Drama with Mrs. Ogbes	G5-12 Homework Study Hall with Mr. Johnson, Ms. Baird, Mrs. Cardin & Mr. Bakx G4-12 Film/Photography With Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Theodosakis And Mr. Moore K-G4 Games Night with Ms. Webb	G5-12 Basketball & Badminton with Mr. Ducharme, Ms. Baird, Mrs. Nelson & Mr. Bakx K-G6 Homework Help Study Hall with Mrs. Orme & Mrs. O’Sullivan	G4-12 Drama with Mrs. Cardin G5-12 Floor Hockey with Mr. Johnson	Climbing with Ms. Grahame & Mr. Ducharme Alternating: G4-6 Feb. 22 TBA G7-12 Feb. 29 TBA K-G3 Feb. 15 March 7 <u>Parents to pick up</u>