



FRIDAY NEWSLETTER
February 8, 2008

From Mr. Ducharme:

Reminders:

- ◆ No School Monday, February 11th
- ◆ Parent/Teacher Interviews April 2nd/ 1 Hour per family with homeroom teachers. Please plan ahead! 8:30-4:30 P.M. and there will therefore be no school for students on April 2nd.

* **Thank you!**

Thank you to Mr. Robert Charbonneau (G9) and Mrs. Gans (JK, K) for your work in and around the school during the past few weeks. Thank you to Mrs. Beggs for your Chinese New Year goodies. Thank you to all parents who assist with Friday hot lunch. Thank you to Ms. Miller (G 1, 2) and Mrs. Van Horlick (G 4) for your work in the library. Thank you to Mrs. Ferguson-Davie (G 2, 4) for your help with Ms. Webb to set up the Tube Day at Apex. The younger students and parents had so much fun. Thank you to the Parent's Guild for arranging a very delicious Staff Appreciation Lunch for this afternoon. Thank you to Mrs. Bonten for your help with setting up Crystal Mountain for the older students. They all had a great time. Thank you to Dr. Halperin (G7) for your assistance to Mr. Bakx in Biology.

* **Grade Two News**

The school welcomes Ms. Jennifer Corkin to G2. Ms. Corkin comes to us from Yellowknife and currently resides in Westbank with her husband and ten year old son. Ms. Corkin will begin at Glenfir on February, 18th and together with Ms. Ogg will assure a one to two week smooth transition for the G2 students. Please welcome her into our community. She will be with us through to summer.

* **Interim Reports**

Tonight, parents of students in G4 to G12 will receive interim reports. These are not report cards, but simply an assessment tool to let you know where your child is currently. Term two report cards will be sent home on March 14th. There will not be an interim report for JK-G3. Instead teachers will be making contact directly if necessary. As parents, if you have concerns in any grades, please set up an appointment.

Currently, report cards and interim reports are under review by the Academic Committee to insure that we best meet the needs of our families. Any changes that may occur as a result of our meetings will be implemented from fall 2008. If you have any input please share it with us at any time. You can do so by contacting any of the Grade Coordinators Ms. Webb, Mrs. O'Sullivan, Mr. Johnson or myself.

* **Climbing Wall**

What's happening?

The work on the climbing wall is virtually complete now. There will be a grand opening celebration on Monday February 25th. It will be tied into a formal assembly. We hope to have all students and parents and any friends or guests that would like to come too. The assembly will be at 8:40 AM and the opening of the wall at 9:30-11:10 AM. It will be a chance for a sampling of students, parents, teachers and community members to try a climb.

Friday, 15th, February is a scheduled day on the climbing wall for K-G3. We have ordered age appropriate harnesses and holds, so that the younger ones can easily adapt to the wall. We are hoping everything will be ready for that day. If all is not ready by then, we will have gym games with them. *Please note, parent pick up on that day at 5:00 p.m.*

All students must have a Liability/Waiver release form in order to use the wall. They will be sent home on Tuesday, February 12th. Please return them to homeroom teachers and then to Mr. Korvin.

Climbing Wall Rules

- 1. Students must obtain permission and be directly supervised by Mr. Korvin, Ms. Grahame or Mr. Ducharme.**
- 2. Helmets are mandatory for climbing. The school has eight helmets. Equipment brought in from home must be inspected.**
- 3. Shoes must be worn at all times.**
- 4. No food, water or gum is to be allowed in the gymnasium.**
- 5. Glenfir has the right to remove any participant judged to be behaving inappropriately.**
- 6. All harness knots are to be checked thoroughly by the belay instructor prior to climbing.**
- 7. Always be aware of the direction of the top rope. Sideways climbing from the top rope anchor is unsafe and therefore prohibited.**
- 8. All participants not climbing will need to stay well away in the properly designated area.**
- 9. Any jewellery needs to be removed.**
- 10. The use of non specific holds, exit signs, basketball hoops etc. is strictly prohibited.**
- 11. While bouldering (traversing sideways), climbers must have at least one spotter. Keep your hands below the indicated bouldering lines. Never boulder below roped climbers.**

* **Term Three Changes**

Forms will be coming home tonight for G4 to G12 in regard to changes the school will be implementing in term three. These changes have been explained to your child recently and I have also sent out a personal letter under separate e-mail cover to explain the program in general terms.

For JK-G3, new and exciting activities and field trips will be added in the areas of sport, fine arts and special projects. For G 4 to G12, a half day per week will be set aside. G4 to G6, two hours and G7-G12, four hours.

Please go over the form with your child and submit it to the school by Tuesday, February 12th of next week. This will then allow us to coordinate and prioritize activities according to student preference and staff and community expertise.

*** FSA (Foundation Skills Assessment) Testing**

Students in G 4&G7 have been going through their standardized tests during the past four days. These tests will continue next week too. If your child is to be away from school for any reason, please let your teacher know.

Have a relaxing extended weekend!

Dave Ducharme

Star of the Week

Tiana Ferlizza is our very first G1 'Star of the Week' for 2008.

Tiana is a graduate of our Glenfir Kindergarten program. She has extraordinary talent in the areas of academic, fine arts, sports and citizenship.

Tiana is an outgoing individual who loves to perform. She has excelled in our G1 public speaking program using an enormous amount of expression and clarity of voice. Tiana is currently pursuing her love for jazz dancing and figure skating.

Tiana would like to become a top Canadian fashion model when she grows up. She definitely is a triple threat with her abilities to act, dance and sing!

Tiana presented many talents throughout the week. Her star poster can be seen posted outside of the G1 room. She taught the class how to make beautiful wooden butterflies, digital photography, Karaoke singing and provided the G1 class to some outstanding food from her family's restaurant, the famous Zia's Stonehouse located right here in Summerland. We were treated like kings and queens.

Thank you Tiana for being such a fantastic 'star of the week'! We are very proud of you!

Donations

Spring Break means spring cleaning. If your child has outgrown books, board games, CD's, flash cards, leap frog talking books, lego, k-nex, building blocks, magnet sets and so forth, please consider donating these items to the G1 classroom. You can e-mail Ms. Webb at jindaleewebb@glenfir.com for more information.

Thank you for recycling!

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

February 11	Mid-Term Break – NO SCHOOL
February 12	FSA – G4 – Numeracy – Block 1
February 13	FSA – G4 – Long Write – Block 5&6 FSA – G7 Blocks 5 and 6 Long Write [Part Four]
February 15	G7 to G12 Outdoor Ed. Day: Mr. Mike Biden
February 18	G9 and G10 to Okanagan College, Penticton “Why to Stay in School Seminar”
February 20	G6 to G9 Science Fair – 8:30 – Noon – Parents and other visitors are welcome to visit - 11:00 a.m. - noon
February 21	G10 and G12 High School Career Fair at The Grand Okanagan, Kelowna (a.m.)
February 25	Morning Assembly - G7 and G8 to host – 8:40 a.m. Climbing Wall Grand Opening – 9:30 – 11:10 a.m.
February 27	JK Skating – 9:40 a.m. – 11:15
March 7	G7 to G12 Outdoor Ed. Day: Mr. Mike Biden
March 10	Public Speaking Finals – Whole School – 9:00 – Noon
March 10	Morning Assembly – G5 and G6 Drama Club play
March 14	Hoops for Heart and Jump Rope for Heart

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	Monday, 11	Tuesday, 12	Wednesday 13	Thursday, 14	Friday, 15
8:30 -10:30	NO SCHOOL Mid-term Break	FSA – G4 – Numeracy – Block 1		Happy St. Valentine’s Day	
10:30 -12:00					
Lunch 12:15 12:45		G4 to G8 Free Gym JK/Leadership Buddies Lunch with Miss Tina and Miss Lindsey G4 to G6 Math Study Hall with Mrs. Orme	G4 to G8 Free Gym JK/G3 to G6 Buddies Lunch with Miss Tina and Miss Lindsey G2 and G3 French Study Hall with Mrs. Ogg G4-10 French Study Hall w/Ms. Grahame	G9 to G12 Free Gym Choir for ALL students with Mrs. Webb JK/Leadership Buddies Lunch with Miss Tina and Miss Lindsey	G4 to G8 Free Gym Environmental Club with Mrs. Ducharme G4 to G10 Jazz Band with Mr. Gass
12:45 - 3:30			FSA – G4 – Long Write – Block 5&6 FSA – G7 – Long Write – Block 5&6		
Late Buses	NO BUS	LATE BUS	LATE BUS	LATE BUS	NO LATE BUS
3:40 –4:30		G5 to G12 Homework Study Hall with Mr. Johnson, Ms. Baird, Mrs. Cardin & Mr. Bakx G4 to G12 Film/Photography With Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Theodosakis And Mr. Moore K to G4 Games Night with Ms. Webb	G5 to G12 Basketball & Badminton with Mr. Ducharme, Ms. Baird, Mrs. Nelson & Mr. Bakx K-G6 Homework Help Study Hall with Mrs. Orme & Mrs. O’Sullivan	G4 to G12 Drama with Mrs. Cardin G5 to G12 Floor Hockey with Mr. Johnson	K to G3 Climbing with Ms. Grahame & Mr. Ducharme <u>Parents to pick-up at 5:00 p.m. at TGS.</u>