



“THE GWYNNE GAB”

“The Country School with a Big Heart!”

General Delivery, Gwynne, Alberta T0C 1L0 – Ph: (780) 352-3029 – Fax: (780) 352-3027

Principal: Karen Elgert

December 2009

Winter Wonderland

The Christmas concert
will be held on
Wednesday, December
16, 2009
At 7:00 p.m.

- * Plan on attending
and having a great
time.
- * Please bring your
social cards!

Food Bank Donations
will be accepted at the
door.



Wetaskiwin
Regional
Public
Schools

From the Office

Seasons Greetings! The festive season is upon us and the excitement is building at Gwynne. It is at this time of year that we reflect on what a wonderful learning community we have. Gwynne is extremely fortunate to have such hard working and dedicated staff members. We are also blessed with very committed parents, who work along side us in providing the best possible educational experience for our children. I would like to take this time to thank everyone for helping to make Gwynne School a wonderful place to be! With the Holiday Season approaching it is sometimes difficult to realize that there are others who are not as fortunate. My congratulations go out to the many students and staff who contributed to the Operation Christmas Child Program and donated 76 shoeboxes full of essential items to the Samaritan's Purse organization. Thank you to Mrs. Rupertus for organizing this worthwhile activity.

I would, at this time like to send out a little reminder to please make sure that your child is dressed properly for the weather. Extra mitts and toques are always a good idea. Lastly, our Christmas concert is planned for Wednesday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m. We will be having a food hamper box at the Christmas Concert for families to bring donations that we will forward to the Wetaskiwin Food Bank. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Mrs. K. Elgert

Important Dates to Remember

December

Dec 7-10 – School Spirit Candy Gram on Sale
Dec 11 – School Spirit Candy Grams Delivered
Dec 11 – 50/50 tickets to be returned to school
Dec 15 – Panago Hot Lunch
Dec 16 – Christmas Concert @ 7:00pm
Dec 18 – Kindergarten – Gr. 5 Swimming & Gr. 6-9 Bowling in Wetaskiwin
Dec 19 – Jan 1 – NO SCHOOL – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

January

Jan 4 – Students Return to school from Christmas break
Jan 27 – Awards Day



Lates and Absences

Please phone the school office by 9:00 a.m. when your child will be late or absent.

Healthy Interactions

From time to time an issue may arise concerning something in a class, which your child is in, or on the playground, or about the school in general. The established protocol is that you start your discussion with the classroom teacher. If the problem still persists then you would see the school principal, Mrs. Elgert. We have found that most problems are solved in step one. We use an approach called Healthy Interactions within our district to help us solve these problems.

Phone Messages

We realize that occasionally plans change throughout the day and you may need to inform your child if they are to get on the bus as normal at the end of a day or that you have decided to pick them up from the school at the end of the day. Please feel free to call the school and leave a message either with a staff member or on the answering machine. However, we do ask that you phone before 3:15pm, if you call later than this time we cannot guarantee that your child will receive the message, as the end of the day is a very busy time and there is not always someone at the phone. Also, because of the rush that happens, we ask that students not use the phone at the end of the day. Phone calls from students will be limited to emergencies only.

Moving? New Phone #?

Don't forget to call the school office and let us know of any new contact information as it comes up through the year.

After School Pick-up Reminder

Please call the office or write a note to your child's teacher whenever there is a change to your child's regular after school arrangements. Students will be put on the bus unless officially notified.

Administration of Medication

According to the WRPS Administrative Procedures Manual, school staff are not authorized to administer medication to students. In any case where your child needs to take medication during school hours, an Authorization of Administration of Medication form must be completed and returned to the school. The forms can be picked up at the school office or from your child's teacher as needed. (For more information on the administration of medication, see the WRPS Board Policy Handbook posted on the web

http://www.wrps.ab.ca/do/AdminPro/Docs/AP300/300_Students.html)

Campbell's Labels for Education

Gwynne School participates in the above program in which, we ask that you send the entire label from any Campbell's soup can, V8 Splash drink, or Goldfish crackers box (we just need the flap with the UPC), including the UPC with your child to school. In turn, we collect them and send them in for free books, educational supplies, computers, etc. We thank you in advance for your participation.

School Spirit Candy Grams

School spirit will be selling Candy Grams beginning December 7th and ending on December 10th during lunch recess. Candy Grams will sell at 25 cents per candy gram. School Spirit members will be delivering the Candy Grams on December 11th.



Gwynne Parent Council Association

The Gwynne Parent Council Association is still looking for a Fundraising Coordinator. There will be no Parent Council meeting in December. The next Parent Council meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2010 at 7:00pm.

Mundare Sausage

Thank you for supporting another successful fundraiser. Thanks to Carrie Leeb, VIP and the Mundare Sausage volunteers for helping sort the sausage & perogy orders. There are still two bags of cheddar cheese perogy and two packages of pepperoni. Anyone interested in purchasing any of these items please contact Carrie Leeb at 780-352-5803.

Annual Christmas 50-50 Draw

The 50/50 Christmas Cash Draw tickets went home with your child(ren) on November 26, 2009. Thank you to everyone who signed up to sell tickets. Some of you may notice that you did not receive all of the tickets that you had requested. Due to the overwhelming response, we had to try to accommodate as many people as possible who requested tickets. If you are having trouble selling your tickets, please return them to the school as soon as possible as there are a number of families who requested numerous books to sell. **Please remember that all ticket sales and the unsold tickets must be returned to the school no later that FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2009.**

Hot Lunch

We had another busy hot dog day on November 19th. Sorry I had to miss the Kindergarten class. Next time for sure!!

Special thanks to Carmen Weis, Carol Senz, Heather Rasmusson, Kristy Geddes and Jannetje Dewar for coming to help. I really appreciate it.

Please be advised that if orders are late, students will have to wait until everyone is served. We will announce any leftovers. I always make extra, but paid orders are always the priority. I thank you for your cooperation.

Next hot dog lunch will be announced at a later date.

JoAnn Mason

Also, thank you to all of the volunteers who helped on the Pizza day. The next hot lunch day will be December 15, 2009. Anyone able to help with distributing the food, and can be at the school between 11:10 and 12:00, please call Kristy Geddes @ 780-352-8504 or Heather Rasmusson @ 361-3813. Thank you!

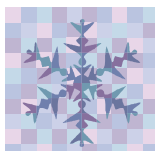
Thank you to the Boeve Family for donating a fridge!

Inclement Weather

Just a reminder that winter is going to be here any day. So please make sure your children are prepared for cold weather (hats, mitts, ski pants). In the case of inclement weather, schools may close. For information about school closures in our area, please listen to one of the following radio stations in the morning:

CKJR AM 1440 Wetaskiwin
CFCW AM 790 Camrose

CBC AM 740 Edmonton
CHED AM 630 Edmonton



News from the FSLW

Coping with Crisis

I came across a four- step process that can help us cope with times in our life when it feels like things are falling apart. This stress can be felt during the upcoming Holiday season as well.

1. Identify and acknowledge your feelings.

It is important to be in touch with the feelings that arise during a crisis. Only when we recognize feelings can we begin to deal with them. Here are some pointers:

- Be specific.
- Be accepting.
- Give yourself time.
- Be aware of excessive self-consciousness.

2. Evaluate your assumptions and expectations.

Often, feelings of unhappiness and hopelessness are based on ideas that simply are not true. It can help to question your basic assumptions about a situation.

3. Do activities that make you feel good about yourself.

Think about the things that make you feel happy and “right” – sports, hobbies, club activities. Have you done them lately?

4. Think of solutions to your problem, and then try one.

- Use brainstorming. Work on your own or with a friend, come up with as many different ideas as you can.
- List pros and cons. When you narrowed your choices down to only a few, write down the pros and cons for each- both short-term and long-term.
- Don't forget feelings. As with any decision, the solution you choose has to feel right. Choices are not always neat. Weigh pros and cons, but trust your feelings too!

I wish you all a wonderful holiday season.



Congratulations You Did It

The Gwynne School collected a grand total of 76 shoeboxes this year.

This is 14 more than last year!

Hats off to you guys.

Awesome Job!

