



GISCOME ELEMENTARY NEWS

Prepared/Accountable/Cooperative/Kind

OCTOBER 30, 2020

NEWSLETTER #3
WE ARE NUT AND SCENT AWARE!



Newsletters are sent via email and posted on our school website ([https://www.sd57.bc.ca/school/gisc/Pages/default.aspx#/="](https://www.sd57.bc.ca/school/gisc/Pages/default.aspx#/=)). Please contact the office @ (250) 963-7060 to have your email added to our contact list!



PRINCIPAL / VICE PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

I'm certain that I was not the only one surprised by the early snow this month – this has changed the focus on the playground from wet and muddy to slippery and snow covered. Thanks to our maintenance department for snow plowing the bus routes, parking lot and for staff helping with the shoveling of entrances. It's always a team effort at Giscome to ensure that we keep the school safe for our students. Busses have been slightly delayed on the heavy snow days we have received – but the focus is always on arriving safe, even if a few minutes late.

Please ensure your child is coming to school prepared to participate in all parts of the day (including outdoor recess) – wearing winter boots, mitts, hats, scarves, earmuffs, winter jacket and/or snowpants make for a more enjoyable experience when outside playing with their peers. A change of indoor shoes is required for the health and safety of everyone.

Please note that the responsibility for bus discipline has been passed from the bus drivers to school based administrators. That means the bus drivers will write up and incident, and I will be dealing with the behaviours and assigning consequences or problem solving as needed. I have also been working within the Health and Safety parameters I have been given to work on seating plans when seating by drop off and pick up location is not working. Let me know if you have questions or concerns. My goal is to be as proactive and preventative as possible.

A **HUGE** thanks to the PAC parents involved for the first two hot lunch days we received over October. The students talk very highly of the food and I know how much everyone appreciates the efforts put into having an optional hot lunch over a bagged lunch every few weeks. The parents involved deserve a lot of compliments and appreciation for their perseverance ... it really is great to have you in the school and for the students to observe your presence in modelling great community connections. Future hot lunch dates will be sent home when PAC confirms these dates. If you would like to help out during a hot lunch or wish to be part of the PAC meetings monthly please contact Michelle Dunphy.

On November 10th we will have our annual Remembrance Day school based ceremony with the students. This will take place at 10:45 and end at 11:00 am. Highlights will include educating the students of why we observe this holiday, the sacrifices of our men and women during world conflicts past and present and demonstrating utmost respect for those who lost their lives for our freedom that we all cherish today in our country. There will be a slideshow presentation and a recital of "In Flander's Fields" by the Intermediate class.

On a final note, we are pleased to announce that Mr. Forster will be with us an extra day each week. His schedule will now be Tuesday to Friday at Giscome supporting our students with ESL/ELL, Library, Counselling, and Resource and on Thursday's teaching a full day in the classroom to allow me (Mr. S) to have an Admin Day to do the day-to-day administrative duties that come with running a school remotely.

Yours truly,
Sarah J. Petrisor , Principal
Jason Schwartz, Vice Principal

Friday, Oct. 30th
Halloween Activity
Day

**Tuesday, Nov.
10th**
Remembrance Day
Ceremony

**Wednesday, Nov.
11th**
Remembrance Day
**No school for
students**

Friday, Nov. 20th
Non-Instructional
Day
**No school for
students**

**Monday, Nov.
30th**
Primary Report
Writing Day
**No school for K-
3's**

*Note: this date
was moved from
Nov. 2 to Nov. 30

Changes with bus protocol/discipline

Bus drivers will now be writing up any issues that are taking place on the bus and our principal Mrs. Petrisor will deal with the discipline part here at the school.



LOST & FOUND – NEW LOCATION

Lost and found items will now be located along the hallway on the boot rack.

Please remind your children to take a moment to look for items belonging to them.



Office Hours:

7:45 am – 3:00 pm
Monday-Friday

Contact Us:

21840 Upper Fraser Rd.
Prince George, BC,
V0J 3C0

Phone: 250-568-2204

Website:

<http://www.sd57.bc.ca/school/gisc>

Newsletters are sent home via email and the website!

We are NUT and SCENT Aware!

Need to Knows:

Animals on School Property

With the start of another school year, it is important for us to review our guidelines and procedures that support safe learning environments.

Please remember that under the School District 57's Administrative Procedures and Guidelines and Bylaw 2, animals in our school or on our property are not permitted without the pre-approved permission of the school Principal or designate and only for educational purposes. This approval does not supersede the regulations set under the city Bylaws. We appreciate your cooperation as we work together to support safe spaces at school.

Medical Alerts

Please inform the school of any emergent medical issues regarding your child **ASAP**.

Safe Start

If your child is going to be **late or absent**, please call the school and leave a message, complete with your child's full name, grade, and teacher. Office staff make calls home for those students not in attendance to ensure their safety and whereabouts.

PAC Elections

Elections current executive members for this year are the following:

Chair- Michelle Dunphy
Vice Chair- Pirie MacDonald
Treasurer – Autumn Ford
Secretary – Keisha McMaster

**Check us out on Facebook
Giscome Elementary School PAC
PG**

Upcoming Fundraisers for the school:

1. Purdy's (October / November)
2. Pointsettia (December)
3. Hunniford's (January / February)

School District 57 Policies:

Please take some time to review the following important policies. The links are provided to review the entire policies. These links can also be found on the School District 57 website.

Policy 5131: District Code of Student Conduct

<http://www.sd57.bc.ca/Board/Policies/Policylisting/Documents/5131%20District%20Code%20of%20Student%20Conduct.pdf>

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School District No. 57 (Prince George) believes that schools and school-related activities must provide a safe, caring and orderly environment for learning and working.

The District Code of Student Conduct formalizes the expectations for student behavior that provide the best possible learning environment. Individual school codes of conduct are developed within this framework in a collaborative process that includes administration, staff, students and parent/guardian(s).

Students have the responsibility for conducting themselves in accordance with the codes of conduct established by the school district and by their schools.

Policy 6179: Acceptable Use of Networks

www.sd57.bc.ca/Board/Policies/Policylisting/Documents/6179.pdf

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Access to electronic resources, including computer equipment, communications equipment, software, e-mail and the Internet provided by the district is a privilege, not a right. Students, employees, volunteers and others must use these resources appropriately and responsibly, and only for purposes that support the goals, objectives and activities prescribed by the school district.

Policy 3541.35: Winter Weather

<http://www.sd57.bc.ca/Board/Policies/Documents/3541.35%20Winter%20Weather.pdf>

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School operational procedures and expectations regarding staff and student attendance during severe winter weather must be clarified.

Policy 3542.3: Healthy Food Choices in Schools

www.sd57.bc.ca/Board/Policies/Documents/3542.3%20Healthy%20Food%20Choices%20in%20Schools.pdf

PREAMBLE

This policy reflects the Board's belief in the role that schools have to play in ensuring that students are offered food choices that are healthy and nutritious. This belief has evolved in light of research concerning the long-term impact of diet on children's health and well-being.

Good nutrition can promote brain development, increase immune function, raise self-esteem, reduce anxiety, depression and hyperactivity, increase attendance, increase cognitive development and reduce the risk of health problems such as those associated with obesity.

The policy outlines steps that must be taken in order to provide such healthy choices.

Policy 5101: Financial Hardship

<http://www.sd57.bc.ca/Board/Policies/Documents/5101%20Financial%20Hardship.pdf>

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Section 82 (3) of the *School Act* authorizes a board of education to levy fees for goods and services provided by the board. This authorization is subject to Section 82 (4) of the Act, which requires a board to have "established policies and procedures to facilitate participation by students of school age ordinarily resident in British Columbia who would otherwise be excluded from the course, class or program because of financial hardship."