

GOVERNOR SEMPLE SCHOOL

OCT./NOV. 2012 NEWSLETTER

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It seems I say this every time I start a newsletter but once again I can't believe how fast the time is going by this year. I guess the busier you are the faster time slips away and we certainly have had a busy October and are looking forward to November with anticipation. October saw students participating in Cross Country, picture day, hot lunch, a theme day, painting decorative art for our playground fence, and lots of Hallowe'en fun including a fantastic Hallowe'en family night dance.

On the second of October several students from grades 3, 4, and 5 along with a couple of dedicated runners from grade 2 participated in the fall divisional cross country run at Little Mountain Park. Fortunately, the weather was good enough to go ahead even if it was a bit windy and our students proved once again to be great ambassadors for our school. Their performance was great and their behavior was exemplary at this event. Thanks to Mr. Flett for coaching and supervising the students again this year, your dedication means the students are able to have a wonderful experience. Congratulations to you all! There will be another opportunity for them to participate in the spring and I'm sure the students are looking forward to that day as well.



Ms. Bigourdin capably organized another hot lunch for students on the 11th of October and I know the students look forward to those days. Thanks for taking on this role. **Thank you** to the grade 5's for the distributions.

This year each of the classes is choosing a theme day and inviting students to participate by dressing in an unusual way just to develop school spirit. In October our theme was royalty day and there were several princesses and princes to be seen walking the hall adorned with costumes or homemade crowns. They all looked great.

The theme day happened on the same day as our Family Night Hallowe'en Dance which was organized by an energetic group of parents headed up by Tammy Chopp. This group decorated the gym, secured silent auction prizes, set up a canteen and had a photographer on hand to take family pictures. This is the second year for this event and it has become something that everyone looks forward to with great excitement. This year we had 262 people at the dance and the parents raised nearly \$1000 dollars toward our fund for ongoing development of our outdoor spaces. We thank you for your organization and commitment to the students of Governor Semple School. We know the students both present and in the years to come will enjoy our playground more fully and we look forward to this winter when our students will be sliding down the new hill your fundraising efforts last year built. We are also looking forward to the installation of our natural tree climber which is delayed due to the lack of the right kind of trees being available. I am confident that it will be put in place in the spring.



In the meanwhile, we will be talking about future plans of how to spend this year's money at family nights throughout this year. Just as a reminder our next family night is coming up on November 28th, watch for information coming home later in the month.

Speaking of our playground have you seen the beautiful butterflies, dragonflies and chameleons adorning our playground fence? These were created by every student in the school. This would not have been possible without the super-human effort of Ms. Bigourdin and Ms. Shukster and the support of the classroom teachers. The art is truly beautiful and adds a flash of color and happiness to our school yard. They are almost all in place and the rest should be by the end of the week, weather permitting, and each one has the students name on the front. See if you can find your child's, I know they are very proud.

The student pictures are in and retakes are scheduled for November 16th. Remember that you will need to return your pictures to the photographer on that day in order to get retakes. As well at that time we will take pictures for anyone who was away the first time around and we will also be taking some of the group photos that we were unable to take because teachers were away on the original date. If you are wondering if that affects your child's class please ask their teacher if they had their class photo taken.

Finally, thank you to everyone who participated in our fundraising sale at the end of the month. We have sent the orders in and expect the delivery of your items before the Christmas break. I will keep you updated with information as we get it and will let you know how much money was raised when the final invoice arrives. All this money will also be put toward play space development.

Wow, quite a month for October and November is just as full. By now you will have received your November calendar but I would like to highlight a few important dates:

- November 9th Remembrance Day assembly @ 10:30, all are welcome.
- November 16th report cards go home and the following week there is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's teacher to discuss progress and future plans. We encourage everyone to make an appointment because your involvement in your child's education is integral to their success.
- November 23rd - **no school**, due to parent/teacher/student/triad conferences.
- November 26th - **no school**, due to our annual divisional all staff professional development conference.



These are just a few whole school events upcoming but there are a number of classroom activities for students ongoing throughout the month filling students' days with opportunity, excitement, and learning. You will hear all about it in our next newsletter. Have a great November everyone!



**Don't
FORGET!**



Important Dates to Remember

November	8	Lunch orders due
	9	Picture orders due
	9	Parent/Teacher forms due
	10	Remembrance Day Service @ 10:30 a.m. Families are welcome to attend
	11	Remembrance Day
	16	Picture re-takes (a.m.)
	16	Report Cards sent home
	17	Team Handball Tournament
	22	No Heritage Language class
	Week of 19 -23	Student, Parent, Teacher Triad Conference
	23	NO SCHOOL – Student, Parent, Teacher Triad Conference
	26	NO SCHOOL - Divisional PD Day
	Week of 26-30	Vision Screening
	30	Wacky Hair Day & Assembly
December	13	Hot Lunch
	14	NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
	19	School Concert (Time TBA)
	20	Last Heritage Lang. Class before Winter Break
	21	Theme Day
	21	Last Day of School
Week of Dec.24-Jan.4-	Winter Break	
January	7	First Day back from Winter Break
	23	Hep. B. Dose 2 – gr. 4's @ 1:00 p.m.
	24	Hot Lunch
	25	Theme Day

NOTE: PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME DATES MAY CHANGE FOR INSERVICE DAYS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED.
PLEASE CHECK THIS LIST MONTHLY. THANK YOU

Parents of Kinders and School Age Children

Governor Semple Children's Place currently has spaces open for enrolment. If you or someone you know is in need of child care, please drop by room 5 in the school or call our program @ 290-8517 between 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. You can ask for Anita or Cecilia. You may also call our main center Sunny Mountain Daycare @ 290-7980 after 9:00 a.m. and ask to speak with Patrisha.

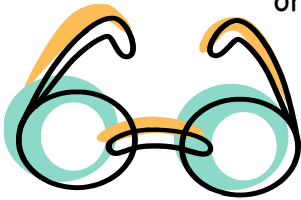
PENNIES

Save your pennies as we are collecting pennies for "Pennies for Manitoba's Polar Bears".



GLASSES

Governor Semple is also collecting used or unwanted prescription glasses to send to Third World Countries.



Please drop them off at the office.



INK CARTRIDGES

We have a yellow container in the front hallway of the school. It is specifically to recycle ink cartridges. So please feel free to drop off your old cartridges and we will send them away to be recycled.

MILK PROGRAM

The milk program is up and running. We have about 40 students drinking milk. If you are interested in getting a milk card please



send \$7.00 or \$14.00 in an envelope with a milk form, with the child's name, teacher and choice of white or chocolate milk. Thank you to the milk helpers for a great start.

Louise Bigourdin

PICTURE RETAKES

Picture retakes are on Friday, November 19th @ 9:00 a.m. If your child has already had their



picture taken, and you want their retakes taken, they must bring their entire

package on the day of the retakes and give it back to the photographer.

TABS

Governor Semple is still collecting tabs for a wheelchair. We have a bin located at the front doors.



CHILDREN'S LUNCHES

Please be reminded to send forks & spoons with your child for their snacks and lunches.

VISION SCREENING

Week of Nov. 27th to Nov. 30th

We need 3 or 4 volunteers.

Please call the school if you can help us out.

204-339-7112

COMMUNITY COORDINATOR NEWS

When is the right time for your child to start with social media? For every family and each child, there is probably a different answer. I came across the following article in the October 2012 edition of Today's Parent.

You've Got Mail – Building a digital presence – and getting that first email account – is part of growing up.

The request for an email account came right after Susanna Clarke's* daughter, Leah, turned nine, which was about three years early for the Toronto mom's liking. One of Leah's grandparents in another province had brought up the idea of email as a way to keep in touch, but Clarke held off. This year, though, Leah has been using the computer more to play Moshi Monsters and visit educational television sites. Perhaps more significantly, some of Leah's friends are now starting to get email accounts.

In a world flooded with online communication, i-Tunes, smart phones and tablets, parents are trying to work out when to allow their children to begin building a digital identity. Some parents register Gmail addresses, website URLs and Twitter handles for newborns, or even before the baby is born (as soon as they settle on the name). Others try to delay until the teenage years. The irony is that teenagers see email in particular as old-fashioned, preferring the immediacy of text messaging, Twitter, Tumblr and online chats. It's tweens, who can't yet sign up for Facebook (you have to be 13), who want email accounts.



After struggling to find much guidance, Clarke and her husband took the plunge, and allowed Leah to sign up. "I think it depends on the kid," Clarke says. "Leah's very mature and she follows the rules." Psychologist Jim Taylor, author of the recently released book *Raising Generation Tech*, says there are no clear age minimums for email. He believes email is a good introduction to the media world, as it allows greater parental control than text messaging. "There's reasonable value in allowing a child to use email as a social tool, if it's used in moderation and with supervision," he advises. "This is a generation of digital natives, so they have to learn to live in the digital world in a safe way."

Parents should discuss the risks of email and online safety, and stress that email is a privilege that can be taken away. Monitor your child's inbox and outbox by making sure you have password access, or set up the account so all messages are forwarded to your own account. Taylor also recommends setting time limits, such as no email after 9 p.m., or only after homework is done.

For Betsy Bauer* in Waterloo Ont., email arrived via her daughter Chloe's grade five class, which has an internal email system for students and teachers. Within a few months, a then-10-year-old Chloe wanted a Gmail address, too, like a growing number of her friends.

"I said 'I suppose, but the stipulation is that I know the password,'" Bauer recounted. Chloe balked, saying her email should be private. But once Bauer explained the risk of spam and online viruses, Chloe came around.

Both Bauer and Clarke are now monitoring their daughters' emails regularly. Bauer logs into Chloe's account, while Clarke had Leah's emails forwarded to her.

When asked what preadolescent girls are emailing about, the moms had to stifle their giggles. Clarke reports that when Leah was home sick from school recently, her best friend kept her up to date on all the schoolyard happenings. "The emails are full of emotions, and lots of 'oh my goshness' and all this silly talk. It's all nonsensical!"

In the end, Clarke and her husband decided that email is an inevitable step for their daughter. “We can’t keep her from it,” says Clarke. “So we’ve embraced it as a tool, and not a big, scary thing.” –

TENILLE BONOGRUPE

*NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED



I just don’t understand people texting or using their techno gadgets every 5 seconds, or at times that in my opinion, are just not socially appropriate, like at the dinner table for example. I think we are going through a huge shift in the way we communicate – how we do it, when we do it, and how soon we expect to get a reply. I know new technology is important, has a purpose and can be very useful, but do we need to have electronic devices attached to us every second of the day?

What I consider ‘inappropriate’ for when it’s used is quickly becoming the social norm. Like it or not, I will have to accept it, maybe even embrace it - if not, I will get left behind.

I’d love to hear from you. Please send me your thoughts or comments about technology via email david.mathers@7oaks.org I will read it and reply, (just not instantly).

If you are interested in reading other articles from Today’s Parent, you are welcome to borrow them from our preschool program. (You don’t have to have a preschooler to drop in and use our resources!)

Dave Mathers, Community Coordinator

Governor Semple School is hosting a new program.

- WHAT:** It’s called: **Activity Time**
- WHEN:** It runs from 2:30 -3:00 p.m. each day.
- WHERE:** In various locations within our school, but it usually meets in Ms. Shukster’s kindergarten room.
- WHO:** One child from each classroom is chosen to attend. Everyone in the school gets a turn.
- WHY:** This small social group participates in a variety of hands on activities. Some of the activities include: cooking, WII, science experiments, clay plasticine or small art projects.

Having this small group of children of all ages allows for a special time for social interaction and conversation. There are usually one or two adults present. We are hoping that new relationships are made among mixed ages. This will benefit all of our students inside the school and outside on our playground. The focus will be on learning to take turns, using our manners, respecting others’ ideas and having a fun and active time.

We began running this program during May and June of last year and the response from students was extremely positive.

When your child comes home talking about ‘Activity Time’ you will have an understanding about the program.

Any questions please contact Ms. Shukster or Mrs. Bigourdin.

We are looking forward to another great year at Governor Semple School.

Ms. Shukster & Mrs. Bigourdin



FREE

“Activities in Community Places”

Everyone is invited to get “in motion” with **Seven Oaks Healthy Living!** All ages are welcome to join in the Open Gym times on the schedule below (equipment provided).

All activities are offered FREE of charge

Day	Location	Time Slot	Activity
Thursdays	Elwick School	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Open Gym
October 4- December 13, 2012	30 Maberley Road	<u>Students please attend with an adult</u>	
<u>Adults Welcome!</u>			

**Join us for Skating every Tuesday at Elwick from 4 – 6pm
starting January 2013
Free giveaways for all participants!**

For more information call Sandee @ 204-223-3499

Free Snacks and information every week

MANITOBA ANAPHYLAXIS INFORMATION NETWORK (MAIN)

A local affiliate of Allergy/Asthma Information Association (AAIA)

Phone: 204-654-2676 Email: mainmanitoba@shaw.ca

MAIN will hold an information session on Tuesday Nov 20, 2012 7:00 – 8:30 pm.

Please register by contacting Nancy at 654-2676 or email mainmanitoba@shaw.ca

Eating Safely with Food Allergies: understanding the new food labeling regulations

Our evening will include an information session on Health Canada's new food labeling regulations. These regulations came into effect on August 4, 2012. We will offer details to ensure there is a clear understanding of the regulations. The common misunderstandings about allergens and labeling of food products will be discussed.

Although the majority of our attendees are parents of children with allergies we also invite staff and volunteers working in the schools with students who have life threatening allergies to attend.

This meeting will take place at The Gray Academy at 123 Doncaster Street
(room number will be posted)

Enter the building through the main doors of the Asper Jewish Community Campus located at 123 Doncaster Street. Free visitor parking is located across the street from the doors. Upon entering you must check in with the security desk. Identification may be requested.

The Gray Academy is located off Kenaston Blvd near Academy Road. For directions go to: http://www.grayacademy.ca/about_visiting_directions.html

Call or send an email with any questions.

Nancy Boni
Manitoba Anaphylaxis Information Network (MAIN)
mainmanitoba@shaw.ca
1-204-654-267

Talk with your child about what she is learning at school.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

The temperature is starting to drop. Please remind your children to put on their mitts, scarves, hats and boots as they get ready to come to school. These items will keep them warm and happy during recesses.



November 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
GOVERNOR SEMPLE – GS (8) ECOLE SEVEN OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL – ESOMS (42) EDMUND PATRIDGE – EP (36) FOREST PARK – FP (7.5) RIVERBEND – RB (23)				1 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	2 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm	3 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm
4 <u>KYAC is</u> <u>CLOSED</u>	5 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	6 KYAC @ RB 3:15-5:15pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	7 KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	8 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	9 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm	10 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm
11 <u>KYAC is</u> <u>CLOSED</u>	12 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	13 KYAC @ RB 3:15-5:15pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	14 KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	15 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	16 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm	17 <u>KYAC IS</u> <u>CLOSED @</u> <u>ESOMS</u>
18 <u>KYAC is</u> <u>CLOSED</u>	19 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	20 P/T Conferences! KYAC @ RB 3:15-5:15pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	21 KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	22 P/T Conferences! KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	23 P/T Conferences! <u>KYAC CLOSED</u> <u>@ EP</u> KYAC @ RB 6-9pm	24 KYAC @ ESOMS 12-5pm
25 <u>KYAC is</u> <u>CLOSED</u>	26 <u>Divisional</u> <u>PD Day</u> KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	27 KYAC @ RB 3:15-5:15pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	28 KYAC @ GS 330-530pm KYAC @ EP 6-9pm	29 KYAC @ FP 330-5pm KYAC @ ESOMS 6-9pm	30 KYAC @ EP 6-9pm KYAC @ RB 6-9pm	

NOVEMBER INFO

KYAC is FREE all school year long!

Important dates:

November 11th – Remembrance Day, KYAC CLOSED

November 17th – KYAC CLOSED @ ESOMS

November 23rd – Parent/Teacher Conferences, KYAC OPEN @ RB!

November 23rd – Parent/Teacher Conferences, KYAC CLOSED @ EP

November 26th – Divisional PD Day, KYAC OPEN!

Check out our website:

<http://www.7oaks.org/Programs/KYAC/Pages/default.aspx>

We are looking for parent representatives on the KYAC board council, email us!

Have a suggestion for KYAC programming?? Let us know!

Register w/ KYAC - Email us kyac@7oaks.org for more details!**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Subject to cancel if there are not enough participants

‘Like’ our page on facebook, search: KYAC
Follow us on twitter → @kyac7oaks for daily updates

For more information, contact Pierre Feng, KYAC Program Coordinator, at

586-0327 or

by email at pierre.feng@7oaks.org.