

The GHES Newsletter

The Golden Horn Elementary School Newsletter

September 20, 2016

VOLUME 2

Principal's Message:

Welcome to Week Four! Our start to the 2016 – 2017 school year has certainly been eventful.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the August 31st Open House/Volunteer Sign up/Disc Golf Grand Opening. It was great to see everyone! The volunteer sign up was a huge success.

Our first big event was our Fall Camp and we really appreciated all of the support we received from our Golden Horn Family with baking, making chili and stew, help in the camp kitchen, activity support and much more.

If you are interested in signing up for future events please contact the school at 667 – 8130 or email me at wendy.close@gov.yk.ca.

Our next event is Wednesday, September 21st beginning at 6:00 pm with the Annual Book Fair/Open House and School Council Annual General Meeting! See you there! **Childcare is provided for the School Council Annual General Meeting at 7:30 pm.**

One last thing...Mother Nature turned down the heat this week and the temperatures in the morning indicates that it is time to find the gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, warm jackets and snow pants!

Wendy Close



BOOK FAIR/OPEN HOUSE/AGM

Please join us on Wednesday, September 21st for the following events:

Book Fair (in the gym)	6:00 – 7:00 pm
Open House in the classrooms	6:30 – 7:30 pm
School Council AGM (library)	7:30 pm

SCHOOL HOURS



School is in session from 8:45 am to 3:07 pm.

Morning recess is from 10:25 to 10:40 am.

Outside noon recess is from 12:00 – 12:25 pm.

Lunch is from 12:25 – 12:50 pm.

Teachers are on duty outside in the morning beginning at 8:20 am and in the afternoon until 3:20 pm.

OFFICE HOURS

Office hours are 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. The administrative assistant is on lunch break from 11:30 am to 12:00 pm.

Photography in Open Media Zones

When a school invites parents to an event or when a school hosts a larger event open to community members, this is considered a public event. This means the parents, the public and the media have the right to attend and take photographs because the school has become a public space. The media is expected to behave responsibly and to cooperate with the school.

When a school hosts this type of event, we will put up Open Media Zone posters so that parents and students know that their photo may be taken and shared publicly from this event by other parents, staff, the media and the general public.

Please note that if your child is participating in a school activity that takes place in public, such as at tournaments, games, competitions or other bigger events at a school or outdoors, we are not able to control whether or not your child is photographed.



FALL CAMP 2016!

Fall camp took place at Skookies Camp located about 3 km past Carcross from September 7th to 9th. Students in Grades 4 to 6 were at camp all three days and students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 were at camp on Thursday, September 8th! This year our students participated in a variety of educational experiential learning activities including: developing team songs, canoeing, archery, beading, willow art with blown glass pieces, fish camp, fire building and tea boiling, trapping display, outdoor games, First Nation storytelling, historical drama presentations, and much more. Thank you to all of our participants, volunteers and staff for ensuring that Fall Camp 2016 was a success.

Thank you!



SCHOOL GOAL FOR 2016 – 2017

“Through the use of explicit strategies and Assessment for Learning (AFL), the quality of writing and engagement will improve for all learners.”

CONTACTING STAFF

Please be aware that staff are not always able to access their school and personal devices during the school day. Be sure to connect with the teacher(s) to find out how best to communicate with them. If you need to leave a message for your child/children or speak with a staff member please call the school at 667 – 8130.

TERRY FOX RUN SEPT. 28 @ 2 PM

Our annual “Toonie for Terry” Fox Run takes place on September 28th at 2 pm. We are raising funds for the Terry Fox Foundation. We hope you can join us for the run. The event begins with a presentation in the gym.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Greetings students, staff and families. Our school council members are: Jenn Bugg, Amber Hirsch, Kirsten Hogan, Michelle Sicotte and Drew Whittaker. Drew is the newest member of the school council. Welcome Drew! If you would like to contact council please email us at goldenhorncouncil@gmail.com. To keep up to date on our events check out our NEW website www.goldenhorncouncil.weebly.com as well find us on Facebook.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held in the school library on September 21, 2015 at 7:30 pm after the Open House and Book Fair. Snacks and childcare will be provided. If you missed the volunteer boot camp but would like to lend a hand, please contact the school at 667 – 8130 or email dawna.davey@gov.yk.ca.

We want to hear from you!

Last year the school council and the school administration updated the **Personally Owned Electronic Device Policy** and developed a new **Photography and Privacy Policy**. These policies are intended to guide the use of personal devices at school and clarify roles and responsibilities of all members of the school community when it comes to taking and sharing photos of students. We have reviewed these draft policies with teachers and the Department of Education.

The school council is seeking your input on these draft policies. Please forward any comments or suggestions to goldenhorncouncil@gmail.com by October 11th. Thank you!

DRAFT PHOTOGRAPHY AND PRIVACY POLICY

Privacy laws require that we protect the safety and privacy of students and their information, including photos, videos, interviews of the student and any “student work”, i.e. the assignments that students create as part of their school work such as essays, presentations, crafts, etc. Please note that any student information that appears online (e.g. on a school website) is considered to be issued to the public.

Schools must obtain permission from the parents/guardians to share any student information. If the consent is not provided, the student’s information (photo, interview, projects) cannot be posted online or shared with the media.

Roles and Responsibilities

Staff and School Council: Parents/guardians provide permission to use or share their child’s image and information to promote school programs at the start of the school year through the Department of Education consent form. If a parent/guardian has not provided consent or has not returned the form, photos or videos of that child are not permitted to be taken during school programs.

Students: In class students may use electronic devices provided by the school as part of their supervised classroom activities. Personally owned electronic devices are not permitted in class unless specifically sanctioned by the teacher for a class or event. Students must check with teachers and their friends and classmates before they share or post photos or information about other kids that they have taken at school (e.g. sharing a photo taken in class on Snapchat or quoting a friend on Tumblr).

Parents/Guardians: Parents must check with staff and other parents/guardians before sharing or posting photos or information about students during school programs (e.g. posting a photo of your child with classmates on Facebook). Parents are expected to check with the teacher before taking photos in the classroom.

Media: When the media is invited to visit a school program, the staff will make sure we have the parents/guardians permission for those children to be photographed, interviewed, or videotaped. Students will not be photographed, interviewed, or videoed without parent/guardian permission.

Public events at the school

A public event occurs when parents/guardians are invited to the school for an event or when the school hosts an event open to community members. During a public event, parents/guardians, the public, and the media have the right to attend and take photographs as the school has become a public space. The media is expected to behave responsibly and to cooperate with the school.

At a public event, we will post Open Media Zone posters to advise parents/guardians and students





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that their photo from the event may be taken and shared publicly by other parents/guardians, staff, the media and the public. If your child is participating in a public event at the school we are not able to control whether or not your child is photographed.

At all events at our school we expect parents/guardians, staff, and the media to model responsible and respectful use of electronic devices.

Developed by the GHES Staff and School Council, following the Department of Education guidelines May, 2016

DRAFT PERSONALLY OWNED ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY

At Golden Horn Elementary School, one way we encourage healthy social interaction and active play is through eliminating the use of personally owned electronic devices during school hours or at school events. Golden Horn students use electronic devices provided by the school as part of their supervised classroom activities and the responsible use of these devices is part of their learning experience.

The following personally owned electronic devices are included under this policy:

- iPods;
- Hand held games;
- Tablets;
- Cell phones; and/or
- Digital cameras

Personally owned electronic devices may be used:

- On the bus to and from school; and
- On school trips longer than one hour **if** permitted by the teacher(s).

Personally owned electronic devices may not be used during school hours, including:

- After getting off the bus in the morning;
- Before getting on the bus at the end of the school day;
- Morning recess;
- Noon recess;
- Lunch time; and/or
- Class time.

Devices must be stored in the student's locker or backpack. If students are uncomfortable leaving their devices in their backpack, they can be left at the office for safe keeping.

Misuse of personally owned electronic devices:

If students misuse an electronic device it will be confiscated by a staff member.

- First misuse: the item will be taken to the office and may be collected by the student at the end of the day.
- Subsequent misuse: the item will be taken to the office and must be collected by a parent or guardian.
- Chronic misuse: the student will not be allowed to have the item at school.

We believe staff and parents/guardians play an important role in modelling the responsible use of personally owned electronic devices while participating in school events. As such staff, parents/guardians are encouraged to limit the use of personally owned electronic devices at school or at school events to activities that support educational programs and/or for emergency purposes.

Developed by the GHES Staff and School Council
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FROM THE GROUND UP PROGRAM



The '***From the Ground Up Program***' was an amazing success again this year at Golden Horn Elementary School. ***The food boxes will be available for pick up from 3:00 – 6:00 pm on Monday, October 3rd***. The money fundraised will be used to support our GOES program. Thank you again for supporting our school, our programming, our community and our local farmers.

SAFETY PROCESS IN SCHOOLS

To keep you up to date we have provided below the dates and times of the safety drills to be conducted at Golden Horn Elementary School in 2016 – 2017. Please help us by discussing with your child/ren the importance of safety drills.



DATE	DRILL	TIME
Sept. 13	Fire #1	9:00 AM
Oct. 22	Earthquake/Fire #2	10:20 AM
Nov. 22	Bomb Threat/Fire #3	10:16 AM
Dec. 1	Lockdown	TBD
Feb. 7	Fire #4	TBD
Apr. 4	Fire #5	TBD
May 2	Fire #6	TBD

Dates to Remember:

- Sept. 21 Book Fair/Open House/SC AGM
- Sept. 28 Terry Fox Run at 2 pm
- Sept. 29 – 30 YTA Conference: School Closed
- Oct. 7 PD Day—School Closed
- Oct. 10 Thanksgiving Day – School Closed
- Oct. 31 Halloween Parade
- Nov. 10 Remembrance Ceremony @11 am
- Nov. 11 Remembrance Day: No School
- Dec. 9 Christmas Bazaar
- Dec. 15 Christmas Event
- Dec. 21-Jan. 2 Christmas Break
- Jan. 3 First day back after the break

WE'RE NIT PICKING AGAIN!

Fall and the return to school bring children back into close contact again and with that come the possibility of the spread of head lice. Head lice are tiny insects that live on warm heads. They do not spread disease, however it can be a nuisance and uncomfortable when they decide to take up residence on your head!

Head lice can be spread by close head to head contact and sharing items that have been in contact with a head that has head lice. They do not jump or fly.

Head lice should only be treated if you identify live lice on your head. The goal of the treatment is to kill the live lice.



Some treatments also work to prevent the hatching of any eggs the lice have laid, also known as nits. However, the most effective way of preventing the hatching of eggs is to physically remove all of the nits. This is time consuming, yes, but really the only effective way of ending the life cycle of the lice. We need to get nit picking!

If you think your child may have head lice, check their head for live lice. Remember they move fast so you'll need to look closely with good lighting. Especially check at the hairline at the neck and behind the ears.

If you identify that your child has head lice, please speak to your pharmacist and check out this website for further advice about how to treat it.

<http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/headlice%20%20>

You can help prevent the spread of head lice by teaching your child to avoid head to head

contact with other children and not to share combs, brushes, hair ornaments, and hats.

Whitehorse Health Centre nurses recommend that parents check their children's heads weekly to help you identify head lice as soon as possible. If you do identify head lice, please remember that they are just as happy living on a nice clean warm head as on a dirty one. This is no reflection on your family's hygiene. However, if you let the school know that your child has head lice, they will be able to notify the other parents in your child's class so they can be sure to check their child's head more frequently.

They also do not recommend that your child be excluded from school because head lice are common and do not spread disease. It is important for your child to be present at school to maximize their learning - especially at the beginning of the school year.

If you would like more information about head lice or would like help confirming your child has head lice before treating them, please contact your school nurse by calling 667-8865. You may also request a copy of our head lice pamphlet from your school's office or check it out on the web. <http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/pdf/headlice.pdf>

PUZZLE OF THE MONTH



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." Winston Churchill

