



# Woody's Turtle Times

Glen Lake School  
A Great Place to Start!  
603-497-3550

December 14, 2023

## Principal's Corner



Hello! I'd like to thank all who attended parent teacher conferences in person, or via videoconference or phone. Parents and teachers together make a powerful team. We appreciate the opportunity to share your child's progress, and to learn more about your child from your perspective. You are an important part of your child's success in school. Thanks for your support!

***Information about inclement weather days, distance learning days, and emergency closings is included in this issue! Please look at pages 4-6! Tuesday, January 23rd is Primary Day in New Hampshire and it will be a Distance Learning Day.***

Next week will be our Winter Wonderland Week. This school wide event focuses on the joys of the winter season. Preschool students will stay in their own classrooms and enjoy a variety of seasonal activities throughout the week. Kindergarten students will enjoy school spirit days throughout the week and will have a Winter Wonderland Day on Thursday the 21st, rotating from class to class to participate in a variety of activities. Winter Wonderland is busy with hands on activities and active play. Preschool and kindergarten teachers sent home information about spirit days next week. These are a little different for preschool and kindergarten, so please be sure you checked your child's folder for more information. The school will supply popcorn and juice for snack for all classes on Thursday. Our School Nurse, Mrs. Winkfield, will be communicating with parents of children with known food allergies. If you do not want your child to eat the school-supplied snack, please let Mrs. Winkfield and your child's teacher know. In that case you are welcome to send a snack to school with your child.



Please send your student with appropriate outdoor clothing each day, as they will be going outside through the winter whenever possible! If you need help obtaining snow appropriate clothing for your child, please reach out to School Nurse, Olivia Winkfield at 603-660-5952. We will do our best to help you get what you need.

I hope this finds you enjoying a happy December filled with fun family times. As we talk with parents this time of year, we are often asked about toys for young children that would reinforce their learning and provide enjoyment. In response to those inquiries, I offer the following. As educators and parents, we value simple toys... inexpensive board games (like Candy Land or Chutes and Ladders, which reinforce matching, counting, and turn-taking skills), a deck of cards, play dough, crayons and paper (to practice fine motor skills), or even an empty box and other items for creating that spark thinking and imagination. (Never underestimate the cool things kids can do with empty boxes, and other clean recyclables!) The classic building toys are still valuable and help children learn real-life math, engineering, and problem-solving skills. Reading a book together is such a wonderful way to connect and build a variety of literacy skills. (The Goffstown Public Library is a great source for free reading material.) So many rich childhood experiences can be had for very little expense and can be enjoyed right at home. At this time when technology has become such a critical part of staying connected, these inexpensive childhood experiences can help balance things out. As with so many things in life, we find we get the best results when everything is in balance.

Whatever holidays you may be celebrating at this time of year, or if you are just celebrating each day here on this beautiful planet, I wish you happy days with your little one!

*Kathy Stoye, Principal*

## **GLEN LAKE SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP**

Thank you to everyone who sent in volunteer forms and donations! It's not too late to send yours in! We had a small, but energetic and productive meeting on December 6th. Lots of great ideas and things to work on in the new year- including Spirit Wear! Our biggest need right now is a treasurer.

Please email me at [kate.l.russ@gmail.com](mailto:kate.l.russ@gmail.com) if this is something you could help with.

**GLSP  
UPDATE**

# Nurse's Corner

We continue to go outside in the winter with the students so make sure they come with a warm coat, hats, and gloves every day. When we come back from break, when snow is on the ground, please have your child bring snow gear. If you need a winter coat or other gear, please e-mail me at [olivia.winkfield@sau19.org](mailto:olivia.winkfield@sau19.org). We have had donations of winter coats for Glen Lake School and would love to help.

The Goffstown Food Network continues to provide weekend food bags for kids. There is open enrollment all year. Please e-mail me at [olivia.winkfield@sau19.org](mailto:olivia.winkfield@sau19.org) if you would like your child to participate. The food pantry is open from 6:00 – 7:30 pm on Wednesday evenings and 10:00 – 11:30 am on Saturday mornings.

Thank you for keeping your kids home when they are not feeling well. Many viruses have been circling through the school. If you are keeping your child home, please contact the office. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions.

Be well,

Mrs. Winkfield

Glen Lake School Nurse



## Upcoming Events

### December

**Monday 12/18-Thursday 12/21:** Preschool Winter Wonderland Week, Spirit Week

**Thursday 12/21:** Kindergarten Winter Wonderland Day

**Friday 12/22:** Early Release (no PM session)

**Monday 12/25-Monday 1/1:** Winter Break (no school)

### January

**Tuesday 1/2:** Welcome Back!

**Monday 1/15:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (no school)

**Tuesday 1/23:** NH Primary Day (distance learning day for all)



# Important Information About Inclement Weather Days, Distance Learning Days and Emergency Closings

*This year the school district will again utilize distance learning days for inclement weather days or emergency closings when there are not widespread power/internet outages. **This will also be used for Primary Day on Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024.** What does this mean for you and your student? Glen Lake students have brought home activity packets to have on hand in case of a Distance Learning Day. The first of these packets went home before Thanksgiving with information from the teacher. Please see the attached **FAQs** for more information!*

**Glen Lake School**  
*Distance Learning Day*  
**Frequently Asked Questions for Parents/Guardians**  
**2023 - 2024**

**Emergency Closing/Snow Day** – A “distance learning day” will take place when in-person school is not feasible due to an emergency closing. *\*The Superintendent will make the determination on whether the emergency closing is a distance learning day or a traditional closure. **This will also be used on the New Hampshire Primary Day on Tuesday, January 23rd.***

## **What is a distance learning day?**

A distance learning day is an “at home school day” during which students will receive attendance credit for completing assignments provided by their teachers. The materials for students will be sent home prior to a school closing. **The first packet was sent home in student folders before Thanksgiving** with information from the teacher.

### ***How will I know if it is a distance learning day?***

The Superintendent will make the determination on whether the emergency closing is a distance learning day or a traditional closure. Parents and guardians will be notified via School Messenger. Classroom teachers will also send an email notification and an electronic version of any materials needed. Tuesday, January 23rd (New Hampshire Primary Day) WILL BE a distance learning day!

### ***How does my child know what to do?***

Prior to the distance learning day, materials for students to complete independently will be sent home as hard copy packets. Teachers will tell students about them, but directions for parents/guardians will be included.

### ***Will my child need access to a computer or the internet to participate?***

No, all assignments will be on paper. There will be motor activities for each distance learning day, as well. There will be enrichment activities offered in an online format along with a list of enrichment ideas, but these will not be required for attendance credit.

### ***What will my student need to complete the activities?***

Your student may need the following supplies:

Safety scissors   Glue   Pencil

Something to color with (Crayons/Markers/Colored Pencils)

*(If your child does not have these supplies, they will be provided. Please contact your child's teacher in advance (ASAP) and supplies will be sent home with your child.)*

### ***How long should my child be working on the activities?***

The schedule should be flexible, with 20-minute work periods with breaks in between. We suggest that students not exceed 1- 1½ hours of school work during the day (less for younger students). During a typical school day, students have many opportunities for group work, movement, and breaks. Keeping the distance learning day under 1 ½ hours will likely result in a more focused and productive experience.

### ***Do I need to help my child?***

Students will likely need some support to understand the directions for each activity. If clarification is needed, a parent/guardian can contact the teacher via email during the school hours (8:15am-3:00pm).

***When are teachers available?***

Teachers will be available via email during the regular school hours (8:15am-3:00pm).

***When will assignments be due?***

Students will be expected to return completed assignments on the next school day or photos of completed work can be uploaded via Schoology. Extensions or other arrangements can be made directly with the classroom teacher.

***Will my child be marked absent if he/she doesn't do the work?***

Yes, attendance credit is based on completion of the assignments. If there are extenuating circumstances, our policies on absences will be followed.

***My child has special needs. How will he/she work on assignments?***

Special education teachers will work with classroom teachers to adjust assignments as needed. Special educators and related service providers (speech/language, OT, counselors, etc....) will also be available via email during the day.

***Will my child receive special education and/or related services on a distance learning day?***

Because students at this level do best with in-person services, special educators and related service providers will make up missed sessions when students are in the building as necessary to meet the services prescribed in the IEP. Special Educators and Related Service Providers will be available via email during the day. If you need to reach the School Counselor, Mr. Kurant will be available by email, as well.

***Who do I contact if I have additional questions or concerns?***

Please contact the classroom teacher for most questions. The building administration will also be available via email or phone.