

Glen Avon Kindergarten Handbook

2021-2022

Teachers: Mrs. Jody Looy/Mrs. Pamela Skoreyko

Kindergarten Purpose:

Kindergarten is a wonderful way for your child to discover what school is like and to have fun while learning new things. In this exciting new community, children's natural curiosity and eagerness to learn are structured through organized activities and purposeful play. Your child will interact, imagine, experiment, and explore to add to their knowledge, learn new skills and practise what they've learned. (Learn Alberta- Kindergarten Overview)



Registration

-If you have not already done so, a registration form will need to be filled out and left at the office. Please do this on or before **June 1**, if at all possible. A copy of your child's **Birth Certificate** and **Alberta Health Care Card** will need to be provided.

- A registration fee is collected to cover insurance. This fee is due at the end of August and is payable to the school office. Also, we will be collecting \$17.00 from each kindergarten student when fees are collected which will cover the cost of such supplies as pencils erasers, crayons, markers, glue sticks and scissors.

Items that parents are still required to supply. Please label all of the items on this list:

- 1 pair of indoor VELCRO running shoes (to stay at school)
- 1 school bag (large enough to hold a duo tang)
- 1 lunch box/bag
- 1 water bottle
- 1 change of clothes in a large sealable bag (t-shirt, pants, underwear, socks)
- 1 box plastic spoons
- 2 boxes of Kleenex tissues (not labeled)

First Day of School- Date

Your child will be assigned to a class at the beginning of September. There is a new system in place that will rotate our days on a 6 day cycle. If your child is placed in Kindergarten 1, they will be attending on 'odd' days- Day 1, 3, and 5. If your child is placed in Kindergarten 2, they will be attending on 'even' days- Day 2, 4, and 6.

The first day of school for Kindergarten 1 students is:

Tuesday September 7, 2021 : These students will attend Day 1, 3, 5

The first day of school of Kindergarten 2 students is:

Wednesday, September 8, 2020: These students will attend Day 2, 4, 6



Attendance

Your child's progress, both academically and socially, is influenced to a great extent by daily participation. **Regular, prompt attendance is key.** Please inform the school or teacher if your child is to be absent for any reason.

You can call 780-645-3237 or text 780-547-5772.

- 8:15 am the Kindergarten doors will be open.
- 8:29 the first bell rings for the students to be in the classroom and prepare themselves for the day.
- 8:38 am school begins
- 3:17 pm school ends

WARNING BELL	8:29
HOME RM/PERIOD 1	8:38 – 9:20
PERIOD 2	9:20 – 9:59
RECESS	9:59 – 10:09
PERIOD 3	10:09 – 10:48
PERIOD 4	10:48 – 11:27
HOMEROOM/STS	11:27 – 11:57
LUNCH	11:57 – 12:14
RECESS	12:14 – 12:31
PERIOD 5	12:31 – 1:10
PERIOD 6	1:10 – 1:49
RECESS	1:49 – 1:59
PERIOD 7	1:59 – 2:38
PERIOD 8	2:38 – 3:17

Communication

Communication is key between parents and teachers. I like to provide parents with a few ways that they can connect with me.



- Home-to-School Duotangs
 - We ask that parents check the duotang daily.
If there is a message, please initial or sign beside it to indicate that you have seen the message. We also check daily. Duotangs are checked every morning for parent information (milk money, bussing info, questions, etc) and will be initialed when seen.
- Class Dojo
 - This is a FREE app. A “how to” sign-up sheet will be sent home within the first week of school. I will follow up to see how things are going.
- Email (looyjody@sperd.ca)
- Telephone: 780-645-3237
- All of these methods of communication will allow for:
 - The teacher to share classroom events with you.
 - The teacher to share any highlights or concerns about your child.
 - Parents to share information about your child and/or home happenings (successes, frustrations) and interests.
 - Parents to ask questions about your child or about the program.
 - Parents to ask for a meeting, conference, or a scheduled classroom visit
 - Parents to make suggestions

Take Home Bags

To improve communication and to support your child more effectively, I will be providing you with a “Take Home” bag. This take home bag will include:

- Your child’s work or crafts
- Monthly Kindergarten Calendar and information
 - Both of the calendars above will be very helpful for your planning.
A copy of the School Newsletter is on the website (glenavonschool.ca).
- Important Letters or Information
- Scholastic Book Orders

Money

If your child is bringing money for milk, lunch, and/or something else please send it in a ziploc bag and place it in the clear sleeve at the front of the agenda . Please include a note within the agenda of the amount, your child's name and what the money is being used for.

Transportation

If your child is to have different after school transportation arrangements, **you must send a written note or contact the school office**. You can do this in the agenda. Please do not rely on your child to tell us this information. **If no written note is received, your child will be sent home by his/her usual method of transportation.**



Clothing

Please send a full change of clothing, in case of any emergencies, in a labelled plastic Ziploc bag. These extra clothes will be sent back home at the Christmas break for parents to check if they still fit. They will be sent home again at the end of the year.

- Clothing Checklist:

- Underwear
- Socks
- Pants
- T-shirt

Weather

Check the weather forecast before sending your child to school. We ask parents to ensure their child is dressed appropriately for the weather and school. Throughout winter students will remain indoors if the temperature is below -25 with or without the wind chill factor.



Lunch and Snacks

We have two snacks within a day. Our first (morning snack) is a HEALTHY snack; as a school we strongly encourage healthy and nutritious eating. Please know that we do not have the tools to cut up fruit such as apples. This is something we ask parents to do at home.



Ideas for First Snack:

- Fruit
- Yogurt (drinkable/cup)
- Cheese
- Goldfish/Crackers
- Muffins (not cupcakes)
- Applesauce/Fruit sauce

Our second snack (afternoon snack) students have the opportunity to eat their “treat” in their lunch but are also encouraged to eat healthy items.

Ideas for Second Snack:

- Sweet Baked Goods (cupcakes, cookies)
- Gummy snacks
- Pre-packed Cookies
- Popcorn/Chips
- Mini chocolate bars (please do not send a full chocolate bar)

Kindergarten lunch is from 11:15 am- 12:15 pm.

- There is a microwave in the classroom and we will warm up food. However, please keep in mind that depending on how many students have warmable lunches, the wait can be long.
- We will not prepare items that require adding very hot water and cooking time such as Kraft Dinner cups or Noodle bowls. We ask parents to pre-cook these items at home and send them in a thermos or container that can be warmed.
- Students are to drink their juice boxes during lunch time. They will not be allowed to have juice during snack or keep it throughout the day.
- Water is available throughout the day.



******There are a few items that students will not be able to have throughout the school day. If a student is to bring one of these items, we will ask that they place it back in their bag and they can have it at home. These are:

- Pop
- Gatorade/Powerade
- Gum

Hot Lunch/Milk

Hot Lunch: Our school has a hot lunch program. The hot lunch calendar is attached to the school newsletter and is on the school website. Parents can purchase their child's hot lunch. We do ask that you look at the calendar prior to and write what you would like to purchase for your child. Be specific.

- For example: Hot lunch today: ½ ham and cheddar sub with small soup.

Milk: Our school has a milk program. We offer 2% white milk and chocolate milk. There are two options to purchase milk.

1. Send money in the agenda and write a note that your child is wanting milk
2. Purchase a milk card for up to \$30.00 and we will ask your child at the beginning of the day if they would like milk.
3. Snackbar cards are available for purchase as well for \$25.00.

It is also possible to purchase milk cards and snack bar cards online to be kept at the school. Go to <https://sperd.schoolcashionline.com/> to set up an account.

Birthdays

Birthdays are announced by the office every morning. Birthday cakes/cupcakes are not allowed to be shared by the class at this time.



Parties/ Events

We will have class parties and events throughout the year for various holidays and celebrations. These days will be identified on the calendar and a note will be sent home in regards to the party or event.

Parent Volunteers

Throughout the year, we may ask for volunteers within the classroom. If you are interested in volunteering, can you please let the teacher know and I will put your name on the volunteer list and contact you, if in need. There is a volunteer form that needs to be signed and approved by our principal prior to you volunteering in the classroom.

Book Orders



Your child will have the opportunity to order books for your home library. We order books through Scholastic Canada. You will receive a paper copy of the book order each month. The money for book orders must be paid at the time of the order, otherwise the books will not be ordered for your child. There are two options for purchasing books:

1. Cheque-made payable to Scholastic Canada
2. Setting up an account online and paying via credit card. A paper of the “how to” process will be sent home within the first week of school.

Please know, when you make a book order purchase, you will also benefit the classroom library.

General Glen Avon School Information

-Monthly Newsletter: The school will email out a monthly newsletter. Be sure the office has your email address. It will consist of the monthly events and important information pertaining to the entire school.

- School website: The school has a website (www.glenavonschool.ca) which is updated frequently

-’Like’ us on Facebook & Instagram: Check out the Glen Avon School SPERD social media platforms for up-to-date information and photos.



Supporting your Child through Kindergarten

First Day of School- Do's and Don'ts

Do:

- Do come in and help them get ready. (Identify their locker, ask them to hang their coat, help to unpack their bag, ask them to put on indoor shoes.)
- Do try to hold back the tears.
- Do give them a big hug.
- Do reassure them that you will see them at the end of the day
- Do know that they are safe and cared for.
- Leave them a special note in their lunch kit.
- Do ask them how their day was.

Don't:

- Linger; we understand this transition can be hard. We ask that you help them feel supported and then leave for your day.
- Do everything for them. Independence is learned. We ask you to guide them with the tasks (ex: putting on their shoes).
- Worry; they are going to have a great day: learning new things, making new friends, trying new things.

Daily Tips:

- **Morning Routine:** As time progresses, your child will become more independent and will be able to prepare themselves on their own. We ask you to give them a big hug, open the kindergarten door, and allow them to independently get ready for the day.
- **After School Routine:** we will send your child out to you. Please wait outside the kindergarten doors. There is a lot of hustle and bustle going on within our boot room and we ask parents to wait outside so that we can accurately track our students' departures.

Ways to help your child throughout the school year?

- Read. Reading a book with your child daily.
- Playing board games, cooperative games, seeking games.
- Talk with them about their day. Be specific with prompting questions.
 - For example: What did you like most? What did you learn about?
What did you play with today?