





# Week of Dec. 11th - 15th

Good evening Glen Arden families,

We are still collecting new, unwrapped toys for the St. Nicholas Project. We would love to fill our toy box to the top! If you would like to donate a new, unwrapped toy, please have your student bring it to the box in the front lobby. Thank you in advance for helping to brighten the holidays for children in our area!

Our next Holiday Meal will take place this Wednesday, December 13th. To be able to accommodate the number of people for this holiday meal, we are inviting families of 1st grade students. Thanks to everyone who sent in their RSVPs. These are due by tomorrow, Monday, December 11th. The holiday meal will take place during students' lunchtimes. Families of Kindergarten, 2nd grade, and our Intensive Intervention classes enjoyed a holiday meal in November. Families of students in 3rd and 4th grades will be invited to our next holiday meal in the spring.

Next week, December 11th-15th, Glen Arden Elementary will have a Holiday Spirit Week for students. Please see the schedule below. We encourage students to participate each day as we enjoy some festive fun.





The Glen Arden PTO will be treating our wonderful staff to a December Staff Appreciation next week. If you would like to sign up to donate items for this special treat, please click the following link. Thank you in advance for supporting our school and staff!

Here is the sign up for the event next week

As we enter cold and flu season, please be reminded that students must be fever, vomit, and diarrhea free for 24 hours (without the assistance of medication) before returning to school when they are sick. We want to keep all our Glen Arden students and staff healthy. Also, please be sure to communicate with your student's teacher when your student is sick and send in a note regarding absences. Thank you in advance for your help! Families, please mark your calendars. Students and staff will be out of school December 20th-January 2nd for Winter Break.

Buncombe County Schools students have the opportunity to check out books from their school library. As an additional service, we offer parents the opportunity to OPT IN for a NC Digital Public Library card for their student. Students are then allowed to check out up to 10 books or 10 audiobooks (or a combination of both that adds up to 10 total) at a time from anywhere in the collections of the public library. They are not leveled, so students have access to all titles within the public library system. If you would like for your student to have a public library card, please fill out this form by December 15, 2023. The next opportunity to opt in will not be until the 2024-25 school year. If you have more than one student in Buncombe County Schools, a separate form must be filled out for each student. If you have questions, please email janet.frazier@bcsemail.org. See the QR code below to sign up!





I would like to share with you some information about inclement weather as winter months are quickly approaching.

### What happens when we must close our buildings to students due to inclement weather?

- If a weather event is truly severe and impacts power or the internet in our area, the day would be a 'no school' day where no instruction would occur.
- For significant but less severe weather events, we are able to utilize a certain number of remote learning days that will count toward our state-mandated instruction per year. This means we will not have to make up those days later in the school year.

#### What happens during a delayed start?

Should a minor weather event cause us to delay starting school for students, you will receive more specific instructions that day to let you know when to drop your child off or have them at the bus stop.

- The bus schedule and campus opening adjust to match the time delay.
- For example if we are on a two hour delay, bus pick up times are two hours later and the building opens at 9:15 am for student drop off.
- Breakfast is served on a two hour delay but not on a three hour delay.

## What happens during an early dismissal?

- Should we have to send students home early due to a weather event, students will eat lunch before they leave. The district will let families know when they can begin picking up students or expect them on the bus. We'll also include information for after-school activities.
- Please note that it is our policy that if weather is impacting more than two districts, the schedule change will impact ALL BCS Schools.

#### We want to remind you of the various ways you can receive weather and emergency notifications.

- The fastest way to receive notifications is through the Buncombe County Schools app for your smartphone or tablet. Simply download the app and turn on push notifications. Visit <u>buncombeschools.org/app</u> to download the app for iOS or Android.
- Please follow Buncombe County Schools on social media. (@BuncombeSchools)
- Also, our local TV stations post the most up-to-date closings and delays on-air and online via their weather ticker.
- Please ensure your phone number and email address are correct. This information should be verified each school year. You can check that in the <u>PowerSchool Parent Portal</u>.
- Finally, if you don't have internet access, you can call our weather hotlines for updates: 828-255-5939 (English) or 828-255-5948 (Spanish).



Please log on to <u>buncombeschools.org/notifications</u> to learn more about the ways you can stay informed during severe weather or emergency situations.

Remote Learning can be used during inclement weather events to keep students learning even when they are at home. Remote learning would be asynchronous on the first day of the weather event and synchronous on all subsequent days of that weather event. Any work assigned must be made up within five days.

- Asynchronous means that the teacher will assign tasks that will be completed online or on paper and there will be no live teaching.
- Synchronous means that there will be a blend of live virtual instruction and independent work.
- Should an isolated area of the county be severely impacted by a storm or your family has extenuating circumstances, please contact our school and your student's teacher to make up the work.
- If we expect a weather event, all students will bring home their school-issued device.
- This year we are using Google Meet for any live teaching on synchronous learning days.
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As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions by calling our front office at 654-1800. We will be happy to assist you.

Have a great week ahead! Go Rams!