



Glen Williams Public School

512 Main Street, Glen Williams, ON L7G 3S8 905.877.9112



Newsletter - December 2012



Please consider ways to support those less fortunate this holiday season in lieu of gifts to staff. There are many worthy causes and opportunities available. Please see page 2.

I recently read a little story. It struck me with its message:

Often the wisdom and compassion of children may be greater than that of their elders. In the Christmas rush, a crowd waited impatiently for the elevator in a large department store. One small child was very cranky. The sullen faces of many adults could be read clearly. "Why doesn't that child behave? What's wrong with his mother that she can't keep him quiet?"

Then a tiny girl pulled on her mother's sleeve and spoke in a clear voice, "Mommy, that little boy must be tired." Suddenly, the crowd relaxed. Looks of disapproval changed to warm smiles of concern. Someone said a few kind words to the boy's mother and she, too, relaxed. Several people began chatting amiably. That little girl saw with her heart.

We know that families will be celebrating throughout the month in many ways. Christmas, Eid-UIAdha, Kwanzaa and Chanukah are but a few of the cultural and faith celebrations taking place.

As we approach the Christmas season, let us remember that message. We live in troubled times of global, national and sometimes personal problems. Yet the gifts of friendship, caring and love are what nurture us. In this season of giving and receiving, hopefully we will take time to reflect on these precious gifts and how they are truly the most valuable gifts of all.

From all of us here in the Glen Williams School family, best wishes for the holiday season. We wish you hope, peace, joy and love.

V. Cundari - Principal

Parent Council Meeting

Everyone is cordially invited to our December Parent Council meeting. We will be meeting on Wednesday, December 12 at 6:30 in the staffroom.

Early Morning Supervision

Early morning supervision does not start until **8:00 a.m.** Thus parents who drop off students in the morning are asked to respect that time and not bring the students earlier. This also keeps us in line with bus arrival times.

Santa will once again be making a jolly appearance at the Glen Williams Town Hall for the annual **Glen Children's Christmas Party**. Come and join Santa and his many helpers on Sunday, December 9th from 2 PM - 4 PM for some holiday treats, crafts, music and lots of good cheer. This annual holiday tradition is brought to you by the Glen Williams Town Hall. Come and join the fun!



Principal - Mr. V. Cundari
Secretary - Mrs. A. Doraty

Superintendent of Schools
Mr. M. Zonnaveid
905 335 3663
1 877 618 3456

Director of Education
Mr. D. Euale
905 335 3663
1 877 618 3456

North Area Trustee
Mrs. Alice Strachan
905 703 1873 Cell
905 702 0995 Office



Being Green Over the Holidays

The Green Eagles came up with some great ways to be green over the holidays. Here are some ways that we can be eco-friendly during our gift giving season:

- ◆ Make your own Christmas ornaments or gifts from reusable materials at home or the natural world.
- ◆ Reuse gift bags, wrapping paper, ribbon, bows and boxes.
- ◆ Decorate paper bags and use them for gift bags.
- ◆ Save paper scraps for Christmas crafts.
- ◆ Take the time to separate your holiday garbage into recyclables, garbage and reusables.
- ◆ Use Kleenex boxes or other boxes you don't need anymore to put your gifts into before wrapping instead of purchasing a new box.
- ◆ Put timers on your outdoor lights.
- ◆ Use power saving LED lights in your decorating.
- ◆ Use solar lights instead of electric lights when you can.
- ◆ When doing holiday baking, bake several things at the same time. This way the oven is already hot and you use less energy.
- ◆ Decorate using natural materials such as a twig tree decorated with lights outside.
- ◆ Reuse decorations from year to year.
- ◆ Trade decorations with family and friends if you want to have a new look every year instead of purchasing new decorations.
- ◆ When traveling long distances to visit family and friends, carpool.



Elementary Optional Attendance

Halton students seeking placement at schools other than their home schools, do so by way of Optional Attendance. Applications are being accepted at your home school from

December 1- January 31, 2013

Not all schools are open to Optional Attendance. For a list of schools open to Optional Attendance and to obtain a copy of the registration form (located in the Optional Attendance Procedure) you can go to our website at www.hdsb.ca and click on Parent Info, Optional Attendance

FOOD DRIVE & TOY MOUNTAIN

Once again this holiday season, we will be conducting a **FOOD DRIVE** (non-perishable food items) for the Georgetown Food Bank for the month of December. Please help us help others.



In addition, this December we will be collecting new Toy donations as part of our own **TOY MOUNTAIN** initiative. These will be then picked up by the Salvation Army Church and donated to needy families within our surrounding community during the holidays. Please send in unwrapped donations by December 17th.

Thank you.



Trade and Save



Thank you to all who participated in our Trade and Save at school on November 30th. It was a successful day when students brought in gently used toys, books, games, dolls and puzzles that they exchange for something new to them! Together we reduced the amount of items going to our landfill, we revitalized our "toy" rooms, everyone involved saved some money swapping instead of buying, we saved a significant amount of energy and resources it would have taken to make new items and it looked like students had fun doing it. Thank you for helping the planet by re-using instead of buying new!

Attendance

If your child is going to be absent or late please report it to the office before 8:00am. We have an answering machine you can leave a message on. We do encourage prompt arrival to school. If arriving late cannot be avoided please keep in mind that it does disrupt class time for your child, the other children in the classroom and the teacher. Thank you for your cooperation.



Inclement Weather

It may be necessary for the Halton District School Board to cancel busses and/or close schools due to inclement weather. These decisions are made by Board personnel, usually prior to 6:30 a.m. Check the Board's website and/or the radio/television stations for updates. If busses have been cancelled, and the school remains open parents are responsible for getting students to and from school.

Learning Skills and Work Habits

As we all know, Learning Skills are an integral part of student achievement. One of the six learning skills on the Progress Report Card and the Provincial Report Card is **Self Regulation**. Each classroom has a poster and teachers speak to it and students can access it to remind themselves of what they can do to demonstrate this skill to their teachers. Here is what is posted in each classroom:

Self Regulation

- I will work hard to meet the class learning goals and my personal goals.
- I will use criteria to help me reach my goals.
- I will ask questions when I need help.

Early Dismissal



On Friday, December 21st, Glen Williams will have an early dismissal. The day will unfold as it usually does and we will have our regular nutrition breaks. The entry bell for the second nutrition break will ring at 12:55 p.m. Students will enter the school and prepare for dismissal. The dismissal bell will sound at 1:05 p.m. Bus drivers and Crossing Guards have been informed of this change and will adjust accordingly. The Christmas Break will run from Monday, December 24th through to Friday, January 4th. Classes will resume on Monday, January 7, 2013.





J. Dupuis

V. Cundari

K. Belcher

L. Romain

L. Boorman

S. Knighton

J. Hancock

K. McKay

A. Doraty

K. Nowack

S. Longworth

D. Waitson

Happy Holiday

B. Milne

S. Whitehead

E. Burke

R. Dowdell

D. Mackenzie

N. Chalaturnyk

L. Beeler

M. Bailey-Ford

C. Sawa-Armstrong

R. Racinsky



Glen Gathering

Our December Glen Gathering is scheduled for Friday, December 14 at 8:30am. This is an 'A' day for our kindergarten friends.

Everyone is welcome!!

Tribes Agreements

Mutual Respect

Means standing up for a friend in trouble.

Means always wanting to help.

Means taking care of other's belongings.

Means sharing ideas respectfully.

Means contributing our part.

Means forgiving other peoples mistakes.

means taking responsibility for our own learning.

Lost and Not Yet Found

LOST & FOUND

Unclaimed clothing is piling up in the Lost and Not Yet Found box located in the gymnasium. Please take a look when you have a moment. Items will be displayed from Tuesday, December 18 to Friday December 21. Items that remain will be donated to local charities. In addition, items are also out on display the last Friday of each month.



Winter is coming - Idle Not!



Transportation is a leading cause of CO₂ emissions in Canada, and a major source of the air pollutants that cause smog. Children are particularly vulnerable to air pollution. They breathe faster than adults and inhale more air per pound of body weight. Halton Student Transportation Services (school buses) has an anti-idling policy - but what about private vehicles? Sadly a study in the City of Toronto found that more than a third (35-45%) of parents idle their vehicles while waiting to pick up their children.

How much is too much?

The study found that in the peak of winter, Canadians **voluntarily** idle their vehicles for a combined total of more than 75 million minutes a day. This is equivalent to one vehicle idling for 144 years!

If every driver of a light duty vehicle avoided idling by three minutes a day, collectively over the year, we would save 630 million litres of fuel, over 1.4 million tonnes of GHG emissions, and more than \$780 million annually in fuel costs (assuming fuel costs are \$1.25/L). So what's stopping us?

Myth: The engine should be warmed up before driving.

Reality: The best way to warm up your vehicle is to drive it gently. Even in cold weather you need no more than 30 seconds of idling before driving your vehicle.

Myth: Idling is good for your engine.

Reality: An idling engine will leave soot deposits that can build up and cause oil contamination.

Myth: Shutting off and restarting your vehicle is hard on the engine and uses more gas than if you leave it running.

Reality: Frequent restarting has little impact on engine components like the battery and the starter motor. Idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting your engine.

Idling Cost Calculator:

<http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/transportation/tools/calculators/idling/idlingimpact-individual.cfm?attr=8>

Think about it - but first - *please* turn off the engine.

Suzanne Burwell
Environmental Sustainability Coordinator
HDSB
(905) 335-3663 ext 3366





Let's Explore Math! Activities for the Home

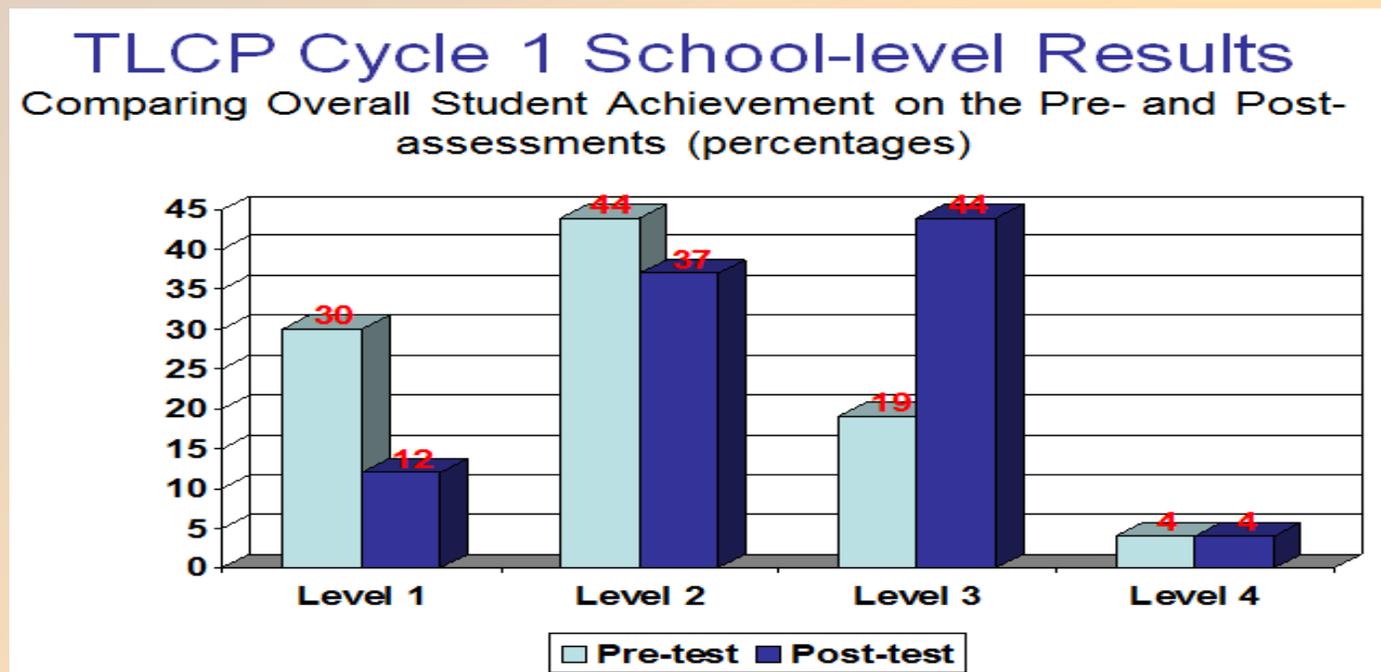
Get Into Shapes: Grades 2-4

What to do:

1. Before going to the grocery store, show your child pictures of the following shapes: cone, cylinder, square boxes, and rectangular prism. This will help your child identify them when you get to the store.
2. At the store, ask your child questions to generate interest in the shapes. Which items are solid? Which shapes have flat sides? Which have circles for faces? Which have rectangles? Do any have points at the top?
3. Point out shapes and talk about their qualities and their use in daily life. Look to see what shapes stack easily. Why do they? Try to find some cones. How many can you find? Look for stacks that look like a pyramid. Determine which solids take up a lot of space and which ones stack well. Discuss why space is important to the grocer and why the grocer cares about what stacks well. (More space allows for more products to be stored).

TLCP Cycle 1 School-level Results

Comparing Overall Student Achievement on the Pre- and Post-assessments (percentages) in the area of Making Connections/Inferring



Our first TLCP (Teaching-Learning Critical Pathway) of this school year was dedicated to the area of reading and more specifically to Making Connections and Inferring. Making Connections refers to the students' ability to make connections from a text they are reading to another text they have read, to their personal life and/or to the world around them. Inferring refers to using stated and implied information and ideas in texts, initially with support and direction, to make simple inferences and reasonable predictions about them. First, our primary and junior students were given a pre-assessment task. Students independently performed the task, as best as he/she could, given his/her current skill level. The tasks were marked by grade (e.g., Grade 1, 2 etc.). After moderating (collaborative marking by grade divisions) the teachers identified the students' strengths as well as areas of need. Then, the teachers target taught those specific areas of need in whole group, small group and individual settings. At the end of the TLCP, students were given a post-assessment task. The tasks were moderated and as you can see by the graph, it clearly demonstrates our student growth between the pre and post assessment tasks in the Reading areas of Making Connections and Inferring. Keep up the good work staff and students!



December 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Sub Day	8
9	10	11	12 Parent Council Meeting 6:30pm	13 Fund-raiser Pick up 2:30-5:00	14 Pizza Day 8:30 Glen Gathering	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Early Dismissal at 1:05 p.m.	22
23	24 Winter Break 	25 Winter Break 	26 Winter Break 	27 Winter Break	28 Winter Break	29
30	31 Winter Break 	Winter Break 2013 	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break Return January 7	