



Glen Williams Public School

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



Newsletter - February 2015

Principal's Message

FAMILY STORIES

Children can develop better writing skills when they know that stories come from real people and are about real events. This also helps children see these oral stories as a resource for their written work.

When children listen to their family members tell stories, they also hear the voice of a storyteller. This helps them hear the words when they learn to read aloud or read silently. The storyteller's voice also helps them to visualize what is happening in the story.

Here are some activities that you can do with your child.

- > Tell your child stories about your parents and grandparents. You could show them pictures from photograph albums and tell the story behind the picture.
- > Have your child tell you stories about what happened on special days such as holidays, birthdays and family vacations. A photograph or a memento might serve as a great memory prompt.
- > Reminisce about when you were little. Tell your child about what happened at school and about your family members or friends.
- > Write a journal with your child to create a new family story. You could record the day's events and paste photographs into the journal or have your child draw pictures. The story could simply be about going to the grocery store or to the playground.

Student of Excellence Award

At this time of year, it is always a pleasure to announce the recipient of the Student of Excellence Award. This award is presented to one student in each Halton school who demonstrates commitment to academic achievement and citizenship. It is with great pleasure that I announce the 2015 recipient of the Student of Excellence Award for Glen Williams Public School, Joanna Wittich. Joanna was selected because of her exemplary effort, attitude and academic achievement. She demonstrates all the components of our Tribes agreements and treats everyone with respect and courtesy as well as being a positive role model for her peers. Congratulations, Joanna!

Principal—Mr. V. Cundari
Secretary—Mrs. A. Doraty
Secretary—Ms. B. Downton

Superintendent of Schools

Mr. S. Podrebarac

905 878-8451

Director of Education

Mr. D. Euale

905 878-8451

North Area Trustee

Mrs. Jeanne Gray

905-691-2328



How Can I Help My Child With Reading?

- ◆ Continue to read to your child every day. Vary the type of books read, e.g., short stories, poems, books of different genres, etc.
- ◆ Emphasize with your child the importance of making sense from their reading. Encourage them to take risks and 'have a go' at a word.
- ◆ De-emphasize the need to get 100% accuracy and try strategies other than sounding out.
- ◆ When reading to your child stop sometimes and ask 'what do you do next?' Accept the child's answers even though they may not seem right.
- ◆ Occasionally ask some 'why questions about the story, e.g., 'Why do you think the author put that bit in the story?'
- ◆ Talk about books your child has read at school.
- ◆ Take your child to the local library regularly and to any story telling sessions that are advertised.
- ◆ Buy books as presents to commemorate special occasions.
- ◆ Talk about the things you read; newspapers, magazines, books etc.
- ◆ Browse together in bookshops.
- ◆ Discuss and point out how to locate particular books in bookshops e.g., travel books, cooking books, computer texts.
- ◆ Talk about books you are reading together. Compare characters with real people.
- ◆ Accept your child's efforts with praise, concentrate on all the things he/she does right, not on the few errors.
- ◆ Have plenty of scrap paper, pencils, felt pens and crayons on the child's table or desk.
- ◆ Talk about illustrations to see if they match what is in the child's or your mind.
- ◆ Leave notes around the house or under your child's pillow.
- ◆ Point out the author's name before reading a book and encourage your child to read other books by that author.
- ◆ Encourage your child to write messages to other family members.
- ◆ Encourage your child to write letters, postcards, lists, messages. Accept spelling mistakes.
- ◆ Buy your child games that provide simple instructions to read and follow. Play word games.
- ◆ Look at the TV guide together and choose a program to watch.
- ◆ Encourage your child to keep a diary or journal when you go on holidays. This is particularly valuable if you are traveling and your child is missing school.
- ◆ Play number-plate games in the car, e.g., 'silly sentences' - FCF could be 'Fat Cows Flying'.
- ◆ Encourage children to retell stories. Involve the family in swapping stories, e.g., 'I'll tell you a story if you tell me one'.

Parent Council Meeting

Everyone is cordially invited to our February Parent Council meeting. We will be meeting on Wednesday, February 11 at 6:30 in the gym.

Family Day Holiday

Monday, February 16, 2015 is a statutory holiday, known as Family Day. As a result, all schools and school board offices will be closed. Friday, February 13, 2015 is also a P.A. Day.



Notice: Parking Lot Concerns

As I am sure everyone is aware, parking has always been a challenge at Glen Williams. This year with the on-going construction and due to congestion and community safety concerns all parents must park off school property and walk their children onto and off the school grounds until such time as construction is completed. My apologies for this temporary inconvenience.

Mary's Cold



Mary had a little cold, but wouldn't stay at home
And everywhere that Mary went, the cold was sure to roam;
It wandered into Mary's eyes and filled them full of tears.
It jumped from there to Bobby's nose, and thence to Jimmy's ears.
It painted Anna's throat bright red, and swelled poor Jenny's head.
Dora had a fever, and a cough put Jack to bed.
The moral of this little tale is very quickly said,
Mary could have saved a lot of pain with just one day in bed!
It can be expected that "cold" weather and "Mary's Cold" go together occasionally.



As important as regular attendance is, there are times when a day at home is the best cure.



Let's Explore Math! Activities for the Home

Mathematics is everywhere, and every day is filled with opportunities to help children experience it. The following activities are designed for home use so that you and your child can explore math and have fun at the same time. They are reproduced from the U.S. Department of Education publication, *Helping Your Child Learn Math*, and are available online at: www.ed.gov/pubs/parents/Math/

Total It Grades 3-5

Materials: License plates, paper, pencil and calculator

What to do:

1. As you are traveling in your car, or on a bus, each person takes turns calling out a license plate number.
2. All players try to add the numbers in their heads. Talk about what strategies were used in mental math addition. Were the numbers added by 10's like 2+8? Were doubles like 6+6 added?
3. Try different problems using the numbers in a license plate. For example, if you use the plate number 663M218, ask "Using the numbers on the plate, can you make 5?"



Movie Night

The first Glen Williams movie night of this year will take place on Friday, February 6th. Come out with your family and enjoy a great evening. Participants will have an opportunity to enjoy pizza and other food at 6:00 p.m. before they settle in to watch the movie, "Big Hero Six". Students are encouraged to bring sleeping bags and pillows to create a cozy viewing area. Order forms have already been sent out and are due back on Tuesday February 3rd.



Kindergarten Registration

The Halton District School Board is now accepting registrations for Junior Kindergarten for the 2015-2016 school year. Information is available on the Board's website – www.hdsb.ca > Programs & Services > Kindergarten

Programs. Parents/Guardians should pick up registration forms from the office. Registration forms are also available on the board website. Families who currently have students in the school and want to register a child for Kindergarten should also pick up and complete the registration forms. If you are aware of any families in the Glen Williams catchment area who have eligible children for Kindergarten and might not be aware of the registration process, please pass this information along.

Junior Kindergarten 2015-2016: Children must be 4 years old by December 31, 2015

Please bring the following *original* documents with you to register:

- proof of residency via lease, purchase agreement, property tax bill, car registration, utility bill, residential telephone bill.
- Birth certificate, passport or baptismal certificate for your child
- Proof of immunization, or philosophical or religious exemption forms (and completed medical authorization where necessary).

Please ensure your child is registered by February 12, 2015.

Please Note: The difference once again this year is a deadline of Friday Feb. 12th, 2015. Some families may register after that, but the hope is that the majority will register earlier giving all schools more information ahead of the staffing process.



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 Independent Work. 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:

- ◆ I will listen attentively so that I know what to do.
- ◆ I will follow instructions.
- ◆ I will think about my work and try it before I ask for help.

Safe Schools Action Team

Members of this committee are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Mrs. Boorman - Grade 5 Teacher | Mrs. Racinsky - Educational Assistant |
| Rev. Orear - Community Member | Mr. R. Preston - Parent Representative |
| Mr. V. Cundari - Principal | The Grade 5 Class as Student Representatives |

Foci for the SSAT include:

- A) Revisions to our 2014/ 2015 Safety and Well-Being School Improvement Plan.
- B) Submission of our Bullying Prevention and Intervention Action Plan Template.
- C) Re-distribution of the Glen Williams Bullying Prevention and Intervention Guidelines.

Special Lunches and Bus Cancellations

Please note that if busses are cancelled on a special lunch day, that particular special lunch day will be honored at a later date. If you intend to bring your child(ren) to school on bus cancellation days, please ensure a lunch is packed.

Pick Up of Students on Bus Cancellation Days

Please note that all students will assemble in the gym at the end of the school day, 2:35pm.

All parents will enter through the front doors to pick up their children from the gym.

YMCA and Bus Cancellation Days

Please note that the YMCA Program will still run on bus cancellation days. Contact the YMCA directly if you have any questions or concerns.

Changes in Bussing

Please be advised that parents are responsible for notifying the office at the school at least a week in advance of any bus change requests. The Halton Student Transportation Services needs this turn around time for the safety of our students. Thank you for your consideration to this matter.



Tribes Agreements

What tribes agreements mean to me. Learning the tribe agreements at Glen Williams will in the future help me be a better Global Citizen. Being a Global Citizen means that you are a good person to the world and yourself. And if you follow the tribes agreements you aren't only a good person you are a good friend and you will accomplish many things if you follow the tribes agreements. This is what the tribes agreements mean to me.

By :Quinn Maharaj

Inclement Weather

We remind parents and guardians that updated information regarding school closures and bus runs will be available on a number of radio and television stations. Please do not call the school—depend on radio station and TV updates. We would also ask that students who are walking to school to please use the pathways provided at the front. Walking on the driveway is dangerous, especially when a snowfall has restricted our space and busses and cars are everywhere. We will endeavor to keep the walkways clear, however, our first priority is to clear entrance points. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Reminder: The HDSB has updated the inclement weather policy. 4.6 When the temperature or wind chill reaches -20C (twenty degrees below zero, Celsius), students will be granted immediate entry to school upon arrival, and students will remain indoors during nutrition breaks. When temperature thresholds are in effect, students are required to keep their outdoor coats/jackets with them throughout the instructional day, in case of a need to evacuate the school.

Therefore, effective immediately, when the temperature drops to -20 degrees Celsius (including wind chill), students will not be outside. I will be monitoring the temperature via "The Weather Network".

In addition, grade 1-5 students will be keeping their coats on the back of the chairs while the -20 degree temperature threshold is in effect in case of an evacuation. Once it warms above -20, coats will be hung up on the hooks as usual. As our kindergarten friends do not use chairs like the older students, all coats will be placed into bins and taken outside where all available staff in addition to the kindergarten teachers will be helping to quickly dress the kindergartens. Please keep in mind that in the rare case of an evacuation, the priority is to evacuate all students safely and efficiently.



Boy's & Girl's Volleyball

For the month of January students interested in Volleyball have enjoyed participating in practices twice a week.

At this time, the volleyball teams have been selected for the season and we thank all participants for coming out.

The volleyball season runs from January until April. Practices will continue to take place twice a week, as well as weekly games and tournaments.

Coaches,

L.Boorman, R. Dowdell (Boys)

Madame Waitson, K. McKay (Girls)



Labels for Education

Our school has been participating in Campbell's rewards program, "Labels For Education". By saving and counting the labels/UPCs from eligible products, we amass points to be redeemed for books, art supplies and gym equipment. Kindly encourage your family and friends to help out with our project. Labels may be brought to the office.

Eligible Products:

Campbell's Condensed soup
Chunky soup
Campbell's Hearty Noodles
Campbell's/sauce & broth
Goldfish crackers

Habitant soup
Healthy Request/ ready to serve
Gardennay soups
Prego sauce
V8 vegetable cocktail

Glen Gathering

Our February Glen Gathering is scheduled for Friday, February 27 at 8:30am.

Everyone is welcome!!



February 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Movie Night	7
8	9	10	11	12 Spirit Day: Red, White and Pink Day	13 P.A. Day	14 
15	16 Family Day NO SCHOOL 	17	18 Volleyball: Boys at Limehouse. Girls at Glen Williams	19	20	21
22	23 Report Cards Home	24	25 Volleyball: Boys at Glen Wiliams. Girls at Mac- kenzie Smith Bennett	26	27 8:30—Glen Gathering	28

