



Glen Williams Public School

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



Newsletter - February 2014

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.

Glen Williams Is Going Cashless

Starting mid to late of February 2014 Glen Williams Public School will be implementing CashlessSchools, an online payment solution. For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into our school. The Parent Center is an easy and secure website for parents, guardians, family and employees to pay fees and purchase items from the school with convenience. We are asking parents to please take 5 minutes to visit <https://halton.cashlesschools.com> to register. For questions or support please contact support@cashlesschools.com or call 1-866-231-3322.

Please see the attached brochure.

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Secretary - Mrs. A. Doraty

Superintendent of Schools
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Director of Education
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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 **Tuesday, February 4** at 6:30 in the staffroom.

Family Day Holiday

Monday, February 17, 2014 is a statutory holiday, known as Family Day. As a result, all schools and school board offices will be closed.



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, citizenship, and extra-curricular activities. It is with great pleasure that I announce the 2014 recipient of the Student of Excellence Award for Glen Williams Public School, Ailish McDonald. Ailish was selected because of her exemplary effort, attitude and high 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 and leader within the school. In addition, Ailish is one of our student representatives on our Safe Schools Action Team. Congratulations, Ailish!!

Reminder Notice: Parking Lot Concerns

As I am sure you are aware, our parking lot space is very tight at Glen Williams. We have many cars and busses trying to negotiate their way around and we have children and parents walking to school and then home again. This all makes for a busy lot. To help alleviate congestion and to ensure the safety of our children, I encourage parents to park off school property when dropping off and/or picking up their child. Parents can then accompany their children onto or off the school grounds. Furthermore, I am asking that all drivers follow the correct entry and exit signs and procedures. Entry to and exit from the parking lot must be through the appropriate areas only. No one should be backing in to the exit area. Thank you for keeping our children safe within the confines of the parking lot.

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.





Movie Night

The second Glen Williams movie night of this year will take place on Friday, February 28th. 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, "Frozen". Students are encouraged to bring sleeping bags and pillows to create a cozy viewing area. Order forms will be sent home soon.



Kindergarten Registration

Please note that Glen Williams Public School will have full day every day Kindergarten beginning September 2014.

The Halton District School Board is now accepting registrations for Junior Kindergarten for the 2014-2015 school year. The ad regarding Kindergarten registration will be in newspapers the week of January 13th, 2014. The ad and initial information will also be made available on the Board's website – www.hdsb.ca > Programs & Services > Kindergarten Programs. Parents/Guardians should pick up registration forms from the office beginning January 20. 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 2014-2015: Children must be 4 years old by December 31, 2014

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 14, 2014.

Please Note: The difference once again this year is a deadline of Friday Feb. 14th, 2014. 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 | Alexandra Jenkins/Ailish McDonald-Student Representatives |

Foci for the SSAT include:

- A) Revisions to our 2013/ 2014 Safety and Well-Being School Improvement Plan.
- B) Submission of our Bullying Prevention and Intervention Action Plan Template

Belongingness Survey

In October, our grade 2-5 student body took part in a school generated Belongingness Survey and Questionnaire (grade appropriate). This is part of our School Improvement Plan for Safety and Well-Being and serves as a pre-assessment piece which will help guide future decision making at our school. Here are some findings:

- A) Overall Participation: Grades 2-5 (127 students took the survey.) 56% were boys. 44% girls were girls.
- B) Overall, 86% of students indicated that they feel safe at Glen Williams. This represents an increase of 2% from the May 2013 survey finding.
- C) Teasing and Name Calling was the most prevalent type of behaviour identified by our students, down actually 1.6% from the May 2013 survey. (May 2013 at 17.3%, October 2014 at 15.7%)
- D) The playground is still an area of concern, however the results rose by only 0.2% since the May survey. (May 2013 at 6.3%, October 2014 at 6.5%)

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

By: Madalyn Henry and Kaileigh Bastedo

Appreciation-No put downs

No kicking, punching and pinching people when you are mad at them.

When you hurt someone do not walk away and said that you did not do anything. Help them and ask them if they are okay.

Don't swear to the teachers or at kids.

Don't throw stuff at people, hard things or soft things not unless you are allowed.

Respect

Respect for others (staff, students and volunteers)

Respect for things (teachers supplies, your supplies and other student supplies)

Not making fun of people's names and people

Respect yourself

Participation

Always let people participate in games, snow forts and club groups. Participate in the classroom and anywhere else. Participate in your work. Participate in your gym/DPA class to work your heart

Attentive Listening

Make eye contact when talking to teachers, friends and family. Listen with your ears, eyes and heart. Don't talk when someone is speaking to you. When listening, don't talk right when someone is talking.

2014 Live Free Campaign.

On **Friday, February 28, 2014**, Glen Williams will be once again participating in the Live Free Campaign. This year all funds raised will go directly to support our school's Healthy Snack Program. Live Free asks students to donate a toonie or donate online in support of Halton Food for Thought. The Live Free website address for donations is: <http://www.livefreehalton.ca>. Simply click on the 'Canada Helps donate now' button and it will direct you to the Canada Helps page. Look for a flyer sent via an email blast and/or posted on our website *closer* to February 28. We truly appreciate your participation in this Live Free event. If you have any questions about Live Free, please contact our Community Relations Manager, Kelly Stronach at 905.315.6842 x5515 or Kelly@haltonfoodforthought.ca.

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. **In addition, on days when the school board cancels transportation, parents of after-school daycares are encouraged to call the day care provider and verify whether their transportation services are running on days when Halton school buses are cancelled.**

Philippines Relief

The International Club would like to thank the Glen Williams community for contributing to their Philippines relief fund efforts. We are quite proud to announce that the club and the community raised \$300.00 for the Philippines and the with the government input- contributed \$600.00 to the Canadian Red Cross aid to the typhoon affected areas.

Soccer Uniform Drive

Clean out your closets and drawers! Recycle your gently used soccer uniforms to provide an opportunity for children and youth in developing countries and across Canada a chance to play soccer. This drive will be taking place on Friday, February 28. In the past 3 years, Chance to Play has collected and delivered soccer gear to Tanzania, The Philippines, Dominican Republic, and Nicaragua.

Help us provide more opportunities for children and youth to play soccer in Ghana, Indonesia, Sierra Leone and Northern Reserves in Manitoba. Please bring in your gently used soccer jerseys, soccer shorts, soccer socks, and soccer shoes and drop them off in the front foyer.

Glen Gathering

Our February Glen Gathering is scheduled for Friday, February 28 at 8:30am. This is an 'B' day for our kindergarten friends.

Everyone is welcome!!

Student Drop-off

A reminder that parents who are dropping off students for grades 1-5 are to do so at the Junior doors where supervision is provided beginning at 8:00am. Cars should pull over to the side to quickly let out students. This will help to keep traffic flowing. Parents are also reminded that students are to remain outside the school until the bell rings at 8:15 a.m. unless they are directed inside by the supervisor due to weather conditions.

SEAC meeting Feb. 4 to learn about Special Education Program

Parents/guardians encouraged to attend meeting at Irma Coulson Public School

At its upcoming **Tuesday, February 4, 2014** meeting, the Halton District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) will be hosting a Special Education Program and Services evening instead of its regular meeting format. It will be held at Irma Coulson Public School in Milton (625 Sauve St.) starting at 7 p.m.

Members of the public are invited to attend this special SEAC event.

Attendees will have an opportunity to learn about Special Education programs and services with SEAC members and Student Services staff through a series of interactive stations. Experts will be available to discuss special programs and placements, support in the regular classroom, use of specialized equipment, professional support services and mental health.

For additional information, contact:

David Boag, Superintendent of Education-Student Services

Halton District School Board

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 deposited in the box outside the office door.

Eligible Products:

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

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

February 2014



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Parent Council at 6:30pm	5	6	7 Sub Day	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Red/White/Pink Day Pizza 	15
16	17 Family Day 	18	19	20	21 Pita Day	22
23	24 Report Cards Coming Home	25	26	27	28 Glen Gathering Live Free Cam- paign/Uniform Drive Pizza Day	