

Glen Williams School February Newsletter



Art Program at the Williams Mill Visual Arts Centre

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As mentioned in the November newsletter, plans are now almost finalized for all our students to participate in an exciting new art-based initiative in partnership with the Williams Mill Visual Arts Centre located across the street from the school. The program is designed to increase the exposure to various artistic elements, develop an appreciation and love for the arts and develop social skills while providing our young learners with fun filled, hands-on artistic experiences.

Students in grades K-5 will participate once a week for between six to eight-weeks in organized art activities/experiences with instructors from the Williams Mill starting the week of February 27. The program will run as much as possible during students' regularly scheduled art periods. The cost to participate in this wonderful learning opportunity is yet to be determined, but I am hoping to keep the costs to between \$15.00 - \$25.00 per student for all sessions, which includes supply costs, room rental and instructor fees. This cost will be subsidized by the school budget and I am applying for a grant named "Welcome to the S'Cool Life FUNd!" However, should you have any financial concerns about the cost of the program, please contact the office and we will arrange some payment options.

Details of the program for each class will be sent out once everything is finalized.

Also, we are looking for volunteers to assist with the program. If you are interested in lending a hand to the instructors, please indicate this on the permission form when it comes home.

For more information about the Williams Mill go to: www.williamsmill.com

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 2012 recipient of the Student of Excellence Award for Glen Williams Public School, Emily Jenkins. Emily 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, Emily!!

Principal - Mr. V. Cundari

Secretary - Mrs. A. Doraty

Superintendent of Education

Mr. M. Zonneveld

Director of Education

Mr. E. Euale

Trustee

Ms. G Kutarna

How Can I Help My Child With Reading?

Principal's Message

- ◆ 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.

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.



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	Habitant soup	Chunky soup
Healthy Request/ ready to serve	Campbell's Hearty Noodles	
Gardennay soups	Campbell's/sauce & broth	
Prego sauce	Goldfish crackers	
V8 vegetable cocktail	Pace salsa	
V8 Splash juice drinks		

Student Activities

A number of our students are keeping busy this winter through participation in a variety of activities. Currently, we have the following clubs/activities available for students:

Green Eagles (Eco-club), Benchball, Junior boys and girls volleyball, Library Helpers, Music Club and Battle of the Books.

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. 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 entry bell rings at 8:10 a.m. unless they are directed inside by the supervisor due to weather conditions.



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.

Parent Council Meeting

Everyone is cordially invited to our February Parent Council meeting. We will be meeting on Tuesday, February 21 at 6:30 in the staffroom.



Family Day Holiday

Monday, February 20, 2012 is a statutory holiday, known as Family Day. As a result, all schools and school board offices will be closed.

Reading Strategies

As mentioned in previous month's newsletters, over the next several months, I will be sending along reading strategies that are part of the All Star Reading concept. Share/try these to help support student literacy skills (if appropriate).

Shadow me:

With shadow reading, the coach reads at the same time as the student. The coach slowly lowers his/her voice and allows the child's voice to be louder. When unknown words are encountered the child will hear the coach/parent say the word

Halton Hills Library News

The Halton Hills Public Library runs a number of programs throughout the year for parents and preschool children. Programs that support our students' literacy are also ongoing. For those of you who will be at home for the holidays, the library will offer programs for our students during the March break. To check out all the great programs offered by the Halton Hills Library, go to www.library.hhpl.on.ca or call 905 873-2681.

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.
- ◆ I will focus on my work and let others focus on their work.

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

Foci for the SSAT include:

- A) Revisions to our 2011/ 2012 Safety and Well-Being School Improvement Plan.
- B) In conjunction with Parent Council, coordinating a cyber bullying presentation for parents, students and the broader community .
- C) Submit a proposal to the board for promoting a positive school climate resulting in as much as \$400.00 being allocated to the school.

Belongingness Survey

In late 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 (119 students took the survey.) 57% were boys. 43% girls were girls.
- B) Overall, 84% of students indicated that they feel safe at Glen Williams. This is up 4% from the March 2011 survey.
- C) Exclusion and Gossiping were the most prevalent types of behaviour identified by both boys and girls. Of note is that although exclusion is one of the two areas identified by our student body as a concern, it did drop by 5 % from the March survey. (March 2011 at 24%, October 2011 at 19%)
- D) The playground continues to be the most prevalent area of concern regarding safety in specific school locations. However, although the playground is still the area of most concern, it did drop by 6% since the March survey. (March 2011 at 12%, October 2011 at 6%)

Tribes Agreements

Attentive listening means to listen with your eyes, ears, heart and your mind.

Appreciation means saying nice comments to other people like giving them a compliment or appreciating what they do for you.

Participation means that when you are playing a group game everyone joins.

If we all follow the tribes agreements it will make our school a better place.

By Julia Kerr in Grade 5

Kindergarten Registration

The Halton District School Board is now accepting registrations for Junior Kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year. Parents/Guardians should pick up registration packages 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 package. Parents/Guardians will need to bring proof of age and the immunization record of the child to the school when they register. The Board is requesting that registrations be completed by Friday, February 17, 2012. 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.

2012 Live Free Campaign.

On **March 2, 2012**, 56 schools including Glen Williams will join together and raise funds for breakfast, snack or emergency lunch, High School Meal Card and Farm to School programs throughout Halton. In the 2011 – 2012 school year, **Halton Food for Thought** will allocate more than \$305,500 to 103 Halton schools running 140 student nutrition programs. Live Free asks students to donate a toonie or donate online in support of Halton Food for Thought.

Look for a flyer to come home closer to March 2.

We truly appreciate your participation in Live Free, our largest fundraising event. If you have any questions about Live Free, please contact our Community Relations Manager, Lena Bassford at 289-239-9734 or lena@haltonfoodforthought.ca.

Thank you in advance for your generous contributions!!

Live Free Campaign, will you live free for those that live without?

www.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.

Glen Gathering

Our February Glen Gathering is scheduled for Friday, February 24 at 8:30am. This is an 'A' say for our kindergarten friends. Everyone is welcome!!

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.

Photography at the Glen

And yet another avenue to expose our young learners to the "Art" of photography!! On Tuesday, February 7, one of our parents, Mrs. McDonald, will be doing a presentation about Photography to our grades 2-5 students. Here is some advance information. PhotoArt is a local photography competition & exhibition run by the Halton Hills Camera Club of which Mrs. McDonald is a member. The competition offers two children's categories for kids 12 & under (split by age group). Children can enter up to 3-4x6 photos based on this year theme "My Favourite Things". There will be prizes for all the kids who enter as well as a chance for friends & family to see their images displayed at the Georgetown Mall for a weekend in March 2012.

And thus, the deadline for PhotoArt 2012 is fast approaching. Children ages 12 & under can submit photos of any topic that captures their favourite moments or things. Entry submissions run Feb. 24, 25 & 26 at the Georgetown Marketplace Mall.

For a full description of entry guidelines as well as an entry form please see the PDF attachment that accompanied your newsletter. Don't forget, parents can enter too!



**5th Annual
PIC Conference**

Parents/guardians are invited to attend the
5th annual PIC Conference on
Saturday, October 20, 2012
8:00 a.m – 2:30 p.m.

MM Robinson High School
(2425 Upper Middle Rd., Burlington L7P 3N9)

Key Note Speaker:
David Booth

Registration opens in August
<http://registrations.hdsb.ca/picreg/>

Free child-minding available on request.

For more information contact Denise Pearson at
905-335-3663 ext. 3307 or pearsonde@hdsb.ca.

PIC
Parent • Involvement • Committee

Special Lunch Days - February to June 2012

The following is a schedule of the special lunch days from February until June 2012

February 10 (B day)	Pita
February 17 (A day)	Pita
February 24 (A day)	Pizza
March 2 (B day)	Pita
March 9 (A day)	Pita
March 23 (A day)	Pita
March 30 (B day)	Pizza
April 13 (A day)	Pizza
April 20 (B day)	Pita
May 4 (A day)	Pita
May 11 (B day)	Pizza
May 18 (A day)	Pita
May 25 (A day)	Pizza
June 1 (B day)	Pita
June 15 (A day)	Pizza
June 22 (A day)	Pita

Thank you for your support!!

Month at a Glance

Friday, February 3	P.A. Day - No school for students
Monday, February 6	Author Visit at 1:00
Friday, February 10	Special Lunch Day - Pita Day
Friday, February 17	Special Lunch Day - Pita Day
Monday, February 20	Family Day Holiday - No School
Tuesday, February 21	Parent Council Meeting
Thursday, February 23	Report Cards Home
Friday, February 24	Special Lunch Day - Pizza Day



February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2	3 <i>PD Day</i>	4
5	6	7 <i>8:30 Photog- raphy Presen- tation</i>	8	9 <i>French Play for Jun- iors</i>	10 <i>Pita Day</i>	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 <i>Pita Day</i>	18
19	20 <i>Family Day</i>	21 <i>Parent Council at 6:30</i>	22	23 <i>Reports Home</i>	24 <i>Glen Gathering Pizza Day</i> 	25
26	27	28	29	<i>March 1</i>	<i>March 2 Pita Day Live Free Campaign</i>	