

Glen Williams School



March Newsletter

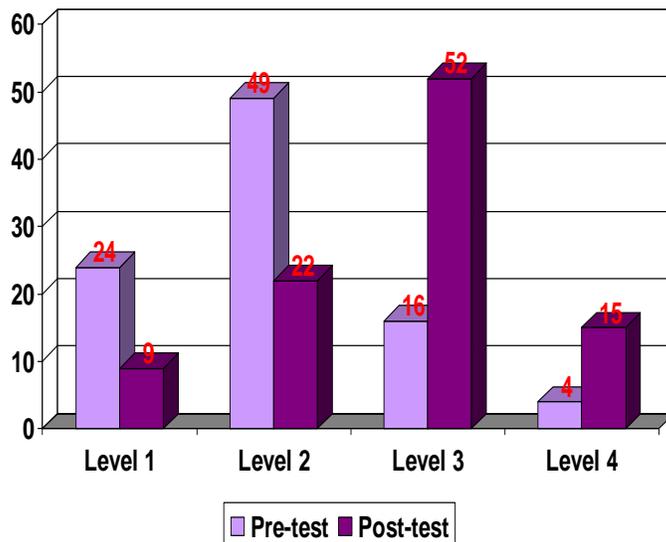


Principal's Message: The Teaching-Learning Critical Pathway

Our second TLCP (Teaching-Learning Critical Pathway) of this school year was dedicated to mathematics, specifically supporting students with answering Open Response type questions. When answering an open response question in Math, students are encouraged to self-select a skill or make a plan, communicate his/her ideas clearly using math language, and ultimately solve the question to the best of his/her ability. One thing to remember is that there are multiple ways to answer an open response question and that each and every way is valued equally. Thus, initially, 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 (levels 3 and 4 representing the provincial standard and above) it clearly demonstrates our growth as a school in the Math area of Open Response questions. Keep up the good work staff and students!

TLCP Cycle 2 School-level Results

Comparing Overall Student Achievement on the Pre- and Post-assessments (percentages)



Spring Break



March 12 to March 16

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

Superintendent of Schools
Mr. M. Zonneveld

Director of Education
Mr. D. Euale

North Area Trustee
Ms. G. Kutarna

But Johnny Doesn't Like To Read

Parents can get very discouraged when children do not want to read. These same children can get very discouraged about their reading abilities and truly dislike reading because they haven't MET many books they have liked. Here are some tips that might be helpful in increasing your child's interest in reading. **THINK ABOUT YOUR CHILD** - What are his/her interests? Write them down and put the list on your fridge.

Ask:

- ⇒ Do they like fiction or non-fiction?
- ⇒ Do they need pattern books? (similar words on each page)
- ⇒ How much picture support do they need/enjoy?
- ⇒ How many words can be on each page?
- ⇒ How long is the book?
- ⇒ What is a JUST RIGHT book for my child? (one that they enjoy/can read 95% of the words/understands)



GATHER/USE THE RESOURCES - What books in your child's interest areas do you already have? **PUT THEM IN A GOOD SPACE & A GOOD PLACE.** Are the books in a container that keeps them organized? Is the container highly visible (in a very well-used room in your house)?

WHERE CAN I GET MORE RESOURCES? Your local libraries are a great place to start. Feel free to ask the librarians...they will decrease your hunt time!! Bring in a book from home that shows your child's interest and ability level...that **JUST RIGHT** book. The librarians will show you sections for you to start your treasure hunt!

a. Check to see if the books are levelled (usually on the upper right hand corner of the front cover). The levels can be Step, Level or Grade. But these can range, two books at *Grade Two Level* can have very different difficulty levels. Ask...Can my child read this?

b. Does the book belong to a series?

You can also check out other local libraries to get different resources.

P.S. More boys are slower to show an interest in reading. Often they respond to non-fiction books (true life, fact) - especially science related information much better than fiction (pretend). Did you know that 80% of non-fiction books sold in large bookstores (i.e., Chapters) are sold to males?!!

Unfortunately, it is more difficult to find appropriate reading levels in our homes and even in local libraries that are non-fiction. However, much more of these types of books are in libraries now. Express your interest and needs to your librarians to see if they can put them on their purchasing list.

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 Organization. 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:

Organization

I will have the tools I need to do my work ready to go.

I will use my time wisely.

I will keep my desk and work books neat and tidy.

Glen Gathering

Our March Glen Gathering is scheduled for Friday, March 30 (B day) at 8:30am. All are welcome!

Canadian Federation of University Women—Georgetown Annual Used Book and Toy Sale
Saturday April 28th, 2012 9am—3pm Christ the King Secondary School *All proceeds go to local Scholarships* April 9-25 Drop-off Good Used books, toys DVD's at Curves—Main St. Georgetown
Georgetown Independent and Free Press (Mall) Herbal Magic—372 Queen St. Acton Metro—G'town South

Dogs on School Property

For the safety of our students, if you must bring your dog with you when picking up or dropping off your child at school, we require you to leash your dogs and keep them “close at hand”. Even well behaved dogs can become “argumentative” when they encounter another dog, and this can pose a serious problem when that encounter occurs on school property. This has already happened at least once and we encourage your co-operation in keeping our children safe. We would also like to remind the community that dogs **are not** allowed inside the school building (this includes doorways). It is our intent to keep all our students safe.

School and Student Safety

The increase in temperatures associated with this time of year brings potential danger. As the river ice begins to melt, it becomes less stable and children are at risk to fall in the water. The melting ice also creates a faster flow which makes playing anywhere near the river very dangerous. Let’s be extra careful during the March break and keep our children safe.

Late Students

When students arrive at school late, please remember to remind them that they are required to sign in at the office. This also applies to students leaving early. Parents must check into the office before picking up a child. Informing the office of the entrance or exit of a student helps us with our attendance records.

Moving???

If your son or daughter is not returning to Glen Williams for the September 2012-2013 school year, please notify the school office. This helps with our class building and planning for September. If you know of families with school age children moving into the Glen school area, please advise them to contact the school office.

Junior & Senior Kindergarten Registration

We are continuing to register 4 and 5 year olds for Kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year. Parent/Guardians will need to check out our school website to find out what documents need to be brought in. If you have friends or neighbours who have Kindergarten age children, please let them know.

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of parent volunteers to help with the following areas/programs for our school: Milk and Special Lunch Programs, Healthy Snack Program, maintaining garden by front door and office support. If interested in any of these support opportunities, please call or e-mail Mrs. Doraty and your name will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

Parent Council Meeting

Everyone is cordially invited to our March Parent Council meeting. We will be meeting on Tuesday, March 20 at 6:30 in the staffroom.



Lost and Not Yet 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 Wednesday, March 7 to Friday March 9 in the foyer. Items that remain will be donated to local charities. In addition, items are also out on display the last Friday of each month.

Our Tribes Agreements

Emily Jenkins writes:

L istening helps our students focus on learning.
I nside we are always trying to listen.
S ometimes we need to work on listening better.
T ogether as a school we listen with our eyes, ears, hearts and minds.
E ncouraging teachers help kids to listen.
N o one should talk when others are talking.
I nspire other people to listen as much as they can.
N ever stop listening because someone might be telling you something important.
G len Williams will do the best they can to listen.

Healthy Snack

Dates

The following are the Healthy Snack dates for the remainder of the year. This year we are alternating, Monday one week and Tuesday the next.

Tues Feb 7
Mon Feb 13
Tues Feb 21
Mon Feb 27

Tues Mar 6
Mon Mar 19
Tues Mar 27

Mon Apr 2
Tues Apr 10
Mon Apr 16
Tues Apr 24
Mon Apr 30

Tues May 8
Mon May 14
Tues May 22
Mon May 28

Tues June 5
Mon June 11
Tues June 19
Mon June 25.



Reminder

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 information to come home closer to March 2. 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

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).

You read then I read:

With this strategy, the coach reads a part of the story first and the student repeats the same part. This continues throughout the entire reading selection. The size of the segment can vary with the comfort and capability of the child. With this approach the child hears the pattern and phrasing that they are expected to reproduce. If the process works comfortably the child should be able to re-read the entire selection with little or no assistance.

Month At A Glance

Friday March 2	Pita Day and Live Free Of Campaign Fund-raiser
Friday, March 9	Pita Day
Friday March 23	Pita Day
Friday March 30	Pizza Day
Monday, March 12 to Friday, March 16	Spring Break
Tuesday, March 20	Parent Council Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
Friday, March 30	Glen Gathering at 8:30 ('B' Day)



MARCH 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Pita Day	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Pita Day	10
11	12 March Break	13 March Break	14 March Break	15 March Break	16 March Break	17
18	19	20 Parent Council at 6:30	21	22	23 Pita Day	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Pizza Day	31