



# Glen Williams Public School

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



## Newsletter - March 2013

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



### MY CHILD, THE WINNER

The greatest gift we can give children is the knowledge that they can first rely on themselves for the answers to their problems. A child who develops an attitude that says, "I can probably find my own solutions, and if not, adults will be willing to give me some advice," becomes successful. This child usually has the edge in learning, relating to others and making his or her way in the world.

People often ask how they can support their children to ensure they excel. This often means, "What can I do to make sure my child gets ahead or is a winner?" Sometimes, it means, "What can I do to help my child be successful, feel secure and lead a happy life?" It doesn't matter which question is asked. The answer is the same.

The foundation for success lies in the belief that the best solution to any problem comes from within. Then if you don't find the answers ask for advice from others.

Parents and teachers can help children develop this attitude by being understanding and sympathetic each time a child has a problem. This can be done in a variety of ways such as, "I bet that really bothered you," or "Wow! I bet that makes you feel mad," or "If that happened to me, I would really feel..."

These types of statements usually bring about some kind of response that conveys that the child is relieved that we understand. As soon as we see that response, it is time to ask one of the most important questions children ever hear, "What do you think you are going to do about it?" This is a powerful statement because it implies that we know the child is capable of doing his or her own thinking.

This question is often answered by, "I don't know." This is a good time to offer some different kinds of solutions. We discuss the possible consequences with the child, and then allow him/her to choose the solution he/she likes best, even if it means that the child decides not to solve his/her problem.

Children have too few opportunities to learn about and practice for the real world. These opportunities present themselves most often as problems to solve or decisions to make. Each time I move into the situation, solve the problem or rescue the child, **I have taken away one of my child's growth experiences.** He or she is now less prepared to face the real world than if I had been there with understanding and the question, "What are you going to do about it?"

#### STEPS

1. Show understanding.
2. Ask, "How are you going to solve the problem?"
3. Share some choices.
4. Help him/her look at the consequences.
5. Give permission to solve it or not solve it.

### Parent Council Meeting

Everyone is cordially invited to our March Parent Council meeting.

We will be meeting on Wednesday, March 20 at 6:30 in the staffroom.



March 11  
To  
March 15



## 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 leveled (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 Collaboration. 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:

#### **Collaboration**

- I will share ideas and materials in a nice way.
- I will speak politely to others.
- I will do my share of the work when working in groups.



### 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 late to school, 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 and the teacher of the entrance (e.g., late arrival) or exit (early) of a student helps us with our attendance records.

#### **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.



**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 Mar 5
- Tues Mar 19
- Mon Mar 25

- Mon Apr 2
- Mon Apr 8
- Tues Apr 16
- Mon Apr 22
- Tues Apr 30

- Mon May 6
- Tues May 14
- Tues May 21
- Mon May 27

- Tues June 4
- Mon June 10
- Tues June 18

**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 6 to Friday March 8 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.



**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 (doraty@hdsb.ca) and your name will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

**Moving???**

If your son or daughter is not returning to Glen Williams for the September 2013- 2014 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.





### Our Tribes Agreements

#### The Right to Pass/The Right to Participate

This agreement means that a student has the right to choose when and to what extent he/she will participate in a **group** activity. If choosing not to participate actively at that time, students are expected to observe quietly and then choose whether to offer observations later to a **group** when asked to do so. The right to pass does not apply to test taking or when an adult asks a student to do something. The more that students participate in all facets of school life the richer their experiences at school will become!! Being a silent observer is still a form of participation and can also lead to great learning.



#### 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/](http://www.ed.gov/pubs/parents/Math/)

#### Card Smarts Grades 3-5

Materials: Number cards, pencil and paper

What to do:

How many numbers can we make? Give each player a piece of paper and a pencil. Using the cards from 1 to 9, deal 4 cards out with the numbers showing. Using all 4 cards and a choice of any combination of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, have each player see how many different numbers a person can get in 5 minutes. Players get one point for each answer. For example, suppose the cards drawn are 4, 8, 9 and 2. What numbers can be made?

#### Comparing Things Around the Home



#### Benefits

Just by comparing items around the home, your child can begin to understand some basic principles of measurement:

- Sometimes, we can estimate an amount. We don't always need an exact measure.
- The same object can be measured in different ways.
- A measuring tool needs to be used the same way each time.



### **Earth Hour Events**

#### **Earth Hour: Saturday March 23, 2013 @ 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.**

Celebrate Earth Hour on Saturday March 23, 2013 between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. The global Earth Hour event highlights the need to conserve energy and taking action on climate change. Everyone is encouraged to take simple steps to reduce energy use, including turning off any unnecessary lights, while staying safe. Since starting to participate in Earth Hour, the Halton Hills community has saved enough electricity to power about 17,200 homes for one hour!

For tips on how to participate, connect via: Website: [www.haltonhills.ca/initiatives/earthHour.php](http://www.haltonhills.ca/initiatives/earthHour.php)

Twitter: @ImagineHH      Facebook: ImagineHaltonHills      e-mail: [sustainability@haltonhills.ca](mailto:sustainability@haltonhills.ca)

Phone: 905.873.2601 ext. 2290.

#### **Star Gazing Event: Saturday March 23, 2013 @ 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

You are invited! Celebrate Earth Hour by enjoying a FREE family star gazing event! Sponsored by Halton Hills Hydro, the Town of Halton Hills and Gardiner Public School are proud to present an interactive star gazing presentation. On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, take advantage of the dark skies to enjoy a free, fun and interactive Star Gazing Event. The presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Gardiner Public School. It will include an indoor presentation followed by an outdoor telescope viewing session. Space is limited. Please RSVP at 905.873.2601 ext. 2290 or e-mail [jennifers@haltonhills.ca](mailto:jennifers@haltonhills.ca)

### ***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](http://www.library.hhpl.on.ca) or call 905 873-2681.

### **2013 Live Free Campaign**

On February 22, 2013, Glen Williams raised funds to support the Halton Food for Thought's various programs e.g., for breakfast, snack or emergency lunch, High School Meal Card and Farm to School programs. Your generosity in the amount of \$141.00 allowed us to support these wonderful initiatives of which our school partakes. Thank you once again!!

# March 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Pizza Day Movie Night— Wreck It Ralph @6:00pm	2
3	4	5 Health Snack	6	7	8 Sub Day	9
10	11 	12 	13 	14 	15 	16
17 St.Patty's	18	19 Health Snack	20	21  The First Day Of Spring	22 Pita Day	23 Earth Hour
24	25 Health Snack	26	27	28	29 Good Friday	30
31	April 1 Easter Monday					

