

# Glen Williams School



## September Newsletter



I hope everyone had a restful, enjoyable and safe summer holiday. I look forward to working with all of our returning students and community members and I would like to welcome our new students and families.

I would also like to welcome Miss Dowdell, our new teacher-librarian, Ms. Romain our new kindergarten teacher and our new educational assistant Mrs. Armstrong to the Glen family.

Thanks to Mrs. Burke for her efforts to clean and prepare the school for another year. I know everyone will respect our working environment and work cooperatively to keep it clean and safe.

Please keep the communication lines open with us at school through the use of agendas, the phone, emails or visits. Regular communication helps to keep everyone informed, reduce misunderstandings and resolve potential issues.

Have a great year, everybody!

### Glen Gathering

Our first Glen Gathering is scheduled for Friday, September 28 at 8:30am. This is a 'B' day for our kindergarten friends. Everyone is welcome!!



### Student Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the office before 8:15 am and let us know. For your convenience, there is an answering machine available before and after office hours. Call 905- 877-9112.

Students who arrive late or leave early are to report to the office and sign in or out.

Principal - Mr. V. Cundari

Secretary - Mrs. A. Doraty

Superintendent of Schools

Mr. M. Zonneveld  
(905) 878-8451

Director of Education

Mr. D. Euale  
(905) 878-8451

North Area Trustee  
Ms. Alice Strachan

## The Outdoor Classroom

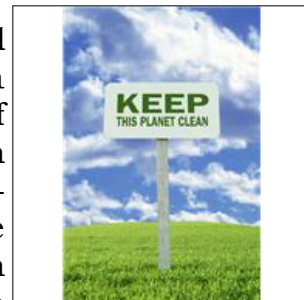
On behalf of the Glen Williams staff, an enormous **Thank You** to our school community for your generous donations totaling \$2,765.00 towards the development and construction of our Outdoor Classroom. Staff and students will soon enjoy ‘ Learning in the Great Outdoors’.

I would like to recognize the contribution of Mr. Philip Milne, family and crew who were responsible for the design and construction of the outdoor classroom. Many thanks for his time and effort. We will all appreciate this outdoor classroom for years to come.



## Environmental News

P.O.W.E.R. (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources) awarded Glen Williams Public School a plaque in late June for participating in support of mainstreaming Biodiversity as part of the Green Wave event. P.O.W.E.R. generously donated a variety of native shrubs (e.g., nannyberry) to provide shade, attract birds and other wildlife, and act as an eventual buffer for the river. Classes each took a turn going outside to learn about the benefits of native plantings and the threat of invasive species. After, the students eagerly dug, planted, mulched and watered the planting. You can view their green thumb work near the fence at the primary doors. We would like to thank P.O.W.E.R. for helping Glen Williams Public School with our school ground greening and helping to further instill an environmental conscience in our children.



Green Eagles are proud that Glen Williams School has again achieved Gold Ecoschools certification. Way to go everyone!

## Safe Schools School Newsletter Message

On June 5, 2012, the [Accepting Schools Act](#) passed third and final reading in the Ontario Legislature. This Act requires all school boards to take preventative measures against bullying, issue tougher consequences for bullying, and support students who want to promote understanding and respect for all. The legislation builds upon the Equity and Inclusive Education, and Safe Schools Strategies that help make Ontario schools safe, inclusive and accepting places to learn. The Ministry of Education has developed an implementation plan for the Accepting Schools Act that will span the 2012 - 2013 school year. Many of the components of the Accepting Schools Act are already found in Halton's Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy, Behaviour Discipline School Safety Policy and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Guidelines.

Throughout the upcoming school year, we will update our policies and guidelines to ensure our implementation of this Act is comprehensive. In addition, each school in Halton will reconvene their Safe Schools Action Team. Teams will be responsible for creating and implementing a ***Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan***. These plans will be shared with students, staff members, School Councils and posted on school websites. To this end, the Glen Williams Safe School Action Team has revised, printed and one year ago published our revised Bullying Prevention and Intervention Guidelines Brochure and associated link pages.

To learn more about the Accepting Schools Act, please visit the Ministry of Education's Parent Information site at:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/safeschools.html>



## Entrance to the School

All visitors are asked to report to the office first when entering Glen Williams. Parents who are picking up and dropping off students outside of the regular times are to let the office know. This allows us to monitor all of our students and know who is in attendance. If parents are dropping off lunches, clothing, etc. please bring them to the office and we will be happy to deliver them for you. This minimizes disruptions to our classes.

### Tribes

For those families new to TRIBES, it is a process that creates a culture that maximizes learning and human development within our community. The purpose of this process is to assure the healthy development of every child in the school community so that each has the knowledge, skills and resilient strengths to be successful in a world of rapid change. There are four TRIBES agreements. The four agreements we honour are entitled: ATTENTIVE LISTENING, MUTUAL RESPECT, APPRECIATION/NO PUTDOWNS and THE RIGHT TO PASS. Every monthly newsletter will include a little something about one of our four Tribes agreements.

### School Hours

The school hours are as follows:

Entry Bell 8:10 a.m.

1st Nutrition Break 9:55-10:35 a.m.

2nd Nutrition Break 12:15-12:55 p.m.

Dismissal 2:35 p.m.



## Student Drop Off And Pickup

Students are encouraged to walk to school whenever possible. This is good exercise and it reduces the congestion and pollution contributed by vehicles. Parents who drop off students in the morning are reminded that supervision will not start until 7:55 a.m. so **please respect that time and do not bring the students earlier**. The students are to be dropped off near the East door (junior) where the supervisor will be stationed. Kindergarten students are to be dropped off at the Kindergarten play area. Parking has always been a challenge at the Glen so we ask that parents drop students off quickly then exit in a timely and careful fashion from the horseshoe driveway.

Parents who are picking students up at the end of the day are asked to park on the street or at the Mill as we have a limited number of spaces. Parents can then walk to the appropriate exit door and meet the students. We have to keep the horseshoe driveway clear for the busses and this can be problematic if too many cars park along the side. Students and parents who are walking are reminded to use the walkway in the middle of the horseshoe driveway and to cross over to the school at the two designated spots (junior doors, front door). Compliance with these rules will do much to keep our students safe.

## Lost and Found

Our "lost and found" box is located in the gym equipment room. All items will be displayed in the front foyer area the last Friday of each month from 8:00am until 5:00pm. Students and parents may look for missing items at these times. Parents may check for lost items at any time. All personal items should be clearly labeled with your child's name to ensure their return if lost. Any unclaimed items will be donated to charity in December, March and June.

## Terry Fox Run

The Terry Fox run has become a tradition at Glen Williams. We will host the run this year on Thursday September 27th immediately after the second nutrition break. Our Monday-Wednesday Kindergarten students will be notified about their run date. Community members are welcome to join us in the run, volunteer to help or to make a donation. We look forward to seeing many of you at this event in the Glen Williams park across the road from the school.



## Community Night

We would like to invite our students and their families to the Glen Williams Community Building Evening to be held Wednesday September 26th. This year we will maintain the same format as last year and will include a BBQ, class visit and a “wellness activity”. Watch for a memo coming home in the very near future. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

## Anaphylaxis Protocol

There are a number of our students who have serious food allergies. In response, the school has developed a protocol. We ask that parents refrain from sending nut products as part of a lunch or snack. In addition, if parents would like to provide students with treats, they should contact the teacher of the class first to discuss safe and healthy options. We appreciate the inconvenience this might cause, however, we know you understand the importance of making our school safe for everyone.

## Head Lice

Just a reminder with school beginning to be on “head lice alert”. Parents are advised to check their child’s head on a regular basis, and if you notice your child continually scratching their head it may be a sign to check for lice. It is important that children not share combs, hats etc.

Please remember to notify the school if your child has head lice.

In the near future there will be three files regarding head lice posted on the school website. They are also posted on the Board website.



## The Home/School Connection Reading With Your Child

Read all kinds of books (stories...information books...poetry).

Choose books together. Ham it up! The more you enjoy yourself, the more your child will enjoy the experience...and reading in general, hopefully!

Talk about the pictures...ask your child to find things, discuss what is happening and to guess what might happen next.

Run your fingers underneath the words as you read to show your child that print matches with the spoken word.

Invite your child to join in whenever there is a repeated part, e.g., “Run, run as fast as you can...”

If your child asks a question or makes a comment, STOP and talk about...books are often a window into a child’s thoughts and feelings!

Keep reading to your child even after he or she can read to you! Research tells us that reading aloud is the most valuable thing that we can do to help.

## **Swim Program**

I am pleased to announce that once again this fall our grades 1-5 students will have an opportunity to participate in a Swim Program. Information about what day of the week this will happen and the cost will arrive home by the end of the first or second week.

## **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.

### **Play Dates Between Friends**

Although play dates amongst school children are a wonderful opportunity for students to make and enrich friendships, please note that bus services are not to be used to transport students for play dates. Please arrange this in advance so that arrangements can start from the respective home bases after the children get home from school. The reason HSTS (the school board's transportation department) does not approve it is because they have to manage 150 schools and transport 30 thousand eligible students and cannot possibly keep track of 1 or 2 students here and there. For liability reasons they need to know at all times what students are on which bus. If the bus were to ever be involved in an accident they need to be able to print out a list of students on the bus so they can account for the students and contact family members.

Under exceptional circumstances only, I, in consultation with the board's transportation department will entertain such requests. **However, play dates amongst students does not meet the board expectation of 'exceptional circumstances'.**

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

# Month at a Glance

Friday, September 14	First Day for "B" Day Kindergarten
Friday, September 14	Term One Milk Orders Due
Monday September 17	First Day for "A" Day Kindergarten
Wednesday, September 26	Community Evening - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, September 27	Terry Fox Run - 1:00 p.m.
Friday, September 28	Glen Gathering — 8:30am. Term 1 milk starts.
Wednesday, October 3	Walk To School Day
Friday, October 5	PA Day
Wednesday, October 10	Picture Day for "A" Day Kindergarten
Thursday, October 11	Picture Day for "B" Day Kindergarten and Grades 1-5

# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 First Day of School	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Milk Orders Due	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Community Evening	27 Terry Fox Run	28 Glen Gath- ering Milk Begins	29