



Glen Williams Public School

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



Newsletter - September 2013



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.

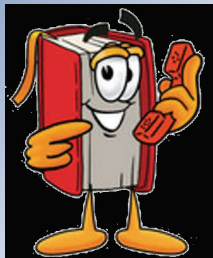
I would also like to welcome Ms. O'Neill our new kindergarten teacher and Ms. Craig our planning time teacher to the Glen family. Miss Dowdell who was our teacher-librarian last year will be teaching grade 2. Mme. Waitson will be assuming the role of teacher-librarian as well as continuing as our Core French teacher.

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.

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.

School Hours...

... are as follows:

Entry Bell
8:15 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.

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



New Safe Welcome system beginning Fall 2013
(Message from the Halton District School Board)

Beginning September 2013, elementary schools in Ontario including the Halton District School Board will be implementing a safe welcome system. Funding for this program has been provided by the Ministry of Education and enhances initiatives under the current Board/Police safe schools protocols.

This safe welcome system will provide increased safety in our schools by ensuring all visitors use the same entry doors and sign in. Buzzer access and security cameras will be installed at the main door while other school doors will remain locked. However, there may be certain times of the day where the primary and junior doors remain open. New swipe access devices will be installed at select doors, including doors accessed by students and staff in portables. During the past school year this system was piloted at six elementary schools where it was well received by parents and staff.

We thank parents/guardians for their understanding as we move ahead with this initiative in order to make our schools safer and more welcoming places to learn.

Also, 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. Please Note: As an office staff, we will do our best to monitor/manage the comings and goings of the main door as we implement this policy. Being a single administrator/single secretary school, longer response times may be experienced. I ask for your patience as we work through all the intricacies. Input is welcome.



Glen Gatherings

These Tribes based assemblies are held once a month on a Friday morning beginning at 8:30am. Practice is that teachers contact the parents of students who will be receiving Tribes certificates. However the assembly is open to all parents of all children. The September Glen Gathering is scheduled Friday, September 27 at 8:30.

JungleSport is coming to the Glen !!!

Look for more information as **JungleSport** transforms our gym into a climbing and adventurous activities wonderland for all students. Plans are underway to provide this thrilling opportunity!!!



News From The Green Eagles

"Walk to School Wednesdays"

Watch for future information on our "Walk to School Wednesdays". The first one will be on Wed. Oct.9, 2013 to coincide with the International Walk to School Day.

And as returning families are already aware Glen Williams is an Eco-School. To this end, students are encouraged to bring litter-free lunches daily! Thank-you for your support in this area. Watch for updates on our progress in future newsletters.



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.





September Parent Council Meeting

Everyone is cordially invited to our September Parent Council meeting. We will be meeting on Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 in the staff room.

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.

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.



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 **8:00 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. **This year students are asked to go directly to the back and not hang around the chain fence. A painted line will guide the kids and at the same time improve supervision sight lines.** 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.





Terry Fox Run

The Terry Fox run has become a tradition at Glen Williams. We will host the run this year on Thursday September 26th 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 25th. This year we will maintain the same format as two year ago 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.



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 it...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.



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.

Note: There are two files regarding head lice posted on the school website. They are also posted on the Board website.





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.

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.





Swim Program

I am pleased to announce that this fall our grades 1-3 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.



September 2013

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---|--|---|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Term 1 Milk Money is due | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 Optimist Run @ Cedarville Park 4:15. Grades 3-5. | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Meet The Teacher BBQ | 26 Terry Fox Run | 27 Glen Gathering | 28 |
| 29 | 30 Cross Country Meet @ Sherwood Park (Burlington) 10:00am - Grades 3-5 | | | | |  |