

The *Glenwood Gazette*

Glenwood School

150 Lower Horning Road

December 2014

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings and best wishes to all of our Glenwood families as we enter a time that, in Canada, is filled with celebration ... and shopping! Have you tried to get around the stores and malls lately? It's the time of year that I really like.. to avoid stores! However you feel about this month and all that will be happening, I am hopeful that you will take time to celebrate "family". Do not let all the activity and distractions cause you to forget the important things.

We would like to thank you for allowing us the privilege of working with your children! Your child is a unique individual with interests, likes, dislikes and things that they really want us all to know! That can sometimes be a cause for frustration for them and for us as we struggle with understanding what they want so badly to tell us. We try hard, as you do, to hear what they are saying and in hearing them we get to know things about each of our students. Let's always remember to keep listening to them.

That being said, please enjoy this season, and keep family central. Take care of those closest to you. Remember those that may not be so close. Let's try to renew or mend relationships. And let's remember those in our communities and around the world who are struggling with countless hardships that we as Canadians are blessed to not have to face. Thank-you, Canada!

There are numerous activities that are going on each month at Glenwood that provide learning opportunities and enjoyment for your children. I would like to thank the staff who work to plan and deliver these very special events and activities. This month there will be even more of them as our Day Four activities provide a weekly opportunity for everyone to do something special.

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Our Christmas Blizzard (formerly called the “shopping spree”) will give students an opportunity to do some convenient shopping for gifts to give to family members in the convenience of the school. That is always fun.

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School Band has been making annual visits to Glenwood at this time of year to play musical pieces and entertain students. These and other things make school a fun and exciting place to be.

As we move toward the Christmas Break and New Year, I would like to wish you all the best for both of these special celebrations. The last day of school in December is the 19th! Students will return to school on Monday, January 5th.

When students return to Glenwood in January they will have a new School Administrator, as Mr. Todd Graves comes to Glenwood to serve as our new Vice Principal. We would like to welcome Mr. Graves and wish him all the best in his new role with us.

Mr. Graves comes to us with a successful background of teaching in special classes and more recently in serving the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board as a Special Education Consultant. In fact, since September 2014, he has been Glenwood’s Consultant and has been gaining some familiarity with the great students and staff of this building for the past four months. I hope that you will have an opportunity to come to a school event, or School Council Meeting to meet Mr. Graves.

As you may have surmised, I will be leaving Glenwood at the end of December to move into a new phase in my life. I will be retiring. With me I will take some great memories of our students and an appreciation for the parents and staff who work with them daily. I wish everyone the very best as this transition takes place, and I trust that you will give to Mr. Graves the same wonderful support that you have given to me. I’ll miss you all!

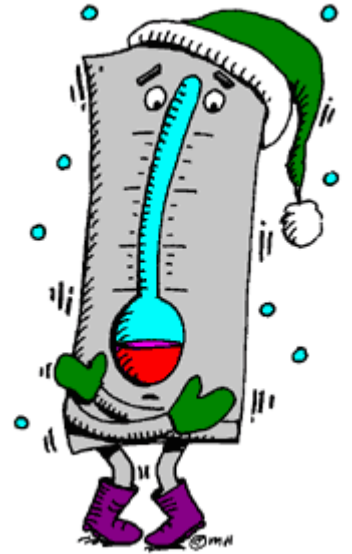


Cold Weather Reminder!

With the Winter months comes Cold Weather and Sickneses. This is a friendly reminder to please dress your child in layers. We do go outside whenever possible and want to ensure that our kids (and ourselves) are dressed for the weather.

With cold weather also comes coughs, sneezes, runny noses, etc. If your child is feeling under the weather and you are keeping them home please remember to call the office at 905-525-2140 and let us know. We worry about our students when they aren't here.

Stay warm and healthy this Winter.



Life Skills with Marc Johnson

Our Life Skills Program is in full effect. We have 3 students volunteering at the SPCA and many more participating in a variety of other programs (shopping program, recycling, mail collection, laundry and paper towel delivery).

Not only do our students enjoy participating in their life skills program, but our community enjoys interacting with everyone while completing their tasks. A win - win for everyone!

Congratulations to Alejo for being the Employee of the Month for November.




























Communication Corner

The holiday season is finally upon us! A time for family, celebrations, traditions fun and excitement! A time that can also be filled with anxiety and unpredictability.

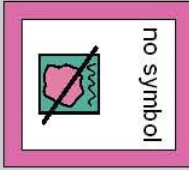
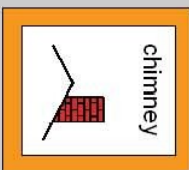
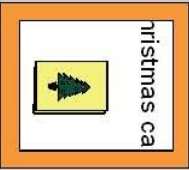
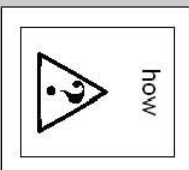
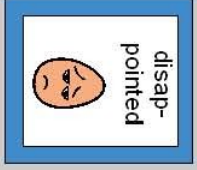
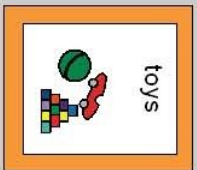
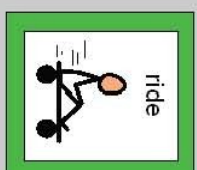
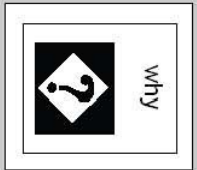
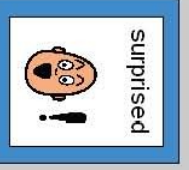
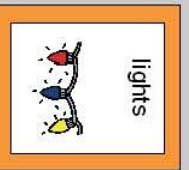
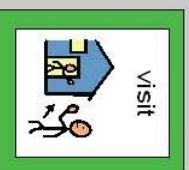
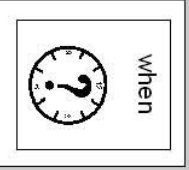
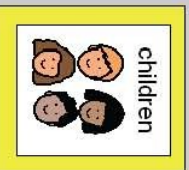
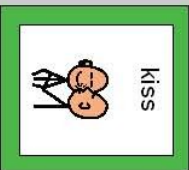
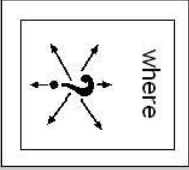
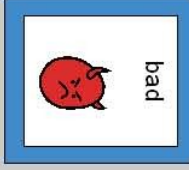
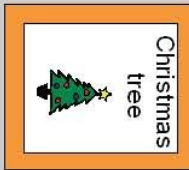
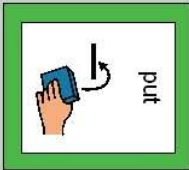
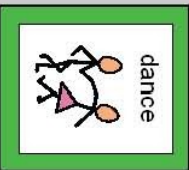
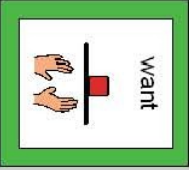
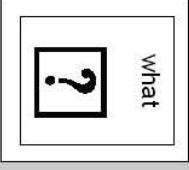
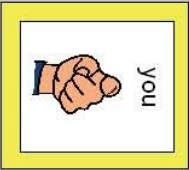
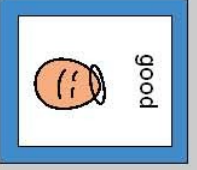
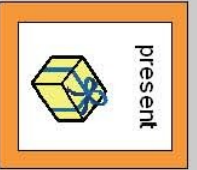
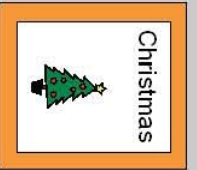
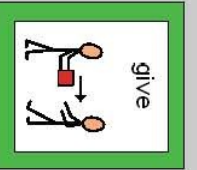
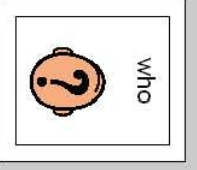
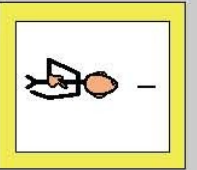
There are many ways that we can help alleviate some of the stress (good or bad) and unsettled feelings that are associated with this very busy season. We can use visuals such as pictures, calendars and schedules to help prepare our children for upcoming events, review and outline expectations and create new routines. Attached are 2 Christmas themed topic boards (found on speechroomnews.com and communication-innovations.com) that you can use with your child. These topic boards contain some of the vocabulary associated with holiday events and activities. Have these topic boards handy and have your family point to the pictures while trimming the tree, exchanging gifts and during visits with friends and family. There are many natural communication opportunities built into activities within our daily routine.

This season help your child make the most of it through communication!

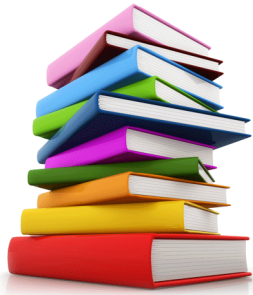
I want 	tree 	Christmas 	decorate tree 	yes 	no 
red 	green 	blue 	yellow 	orange 	pink 
ornament 	candy cane 	star 	lights 	present 	Santa Claus 
happy 	unhappy 	put on 	take off 		
help 	more 	don't know 			

Christmas: commercial

CCM



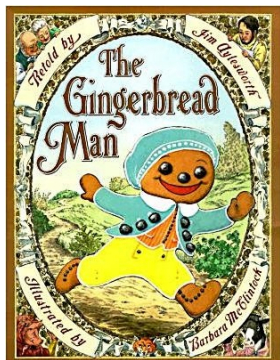
The Picture Communication Symbols © 1981, 2005 by Mayer-Johnson, LLC. All Rights Reserved Worldwide. Used with permission.



Latest Library Lookups

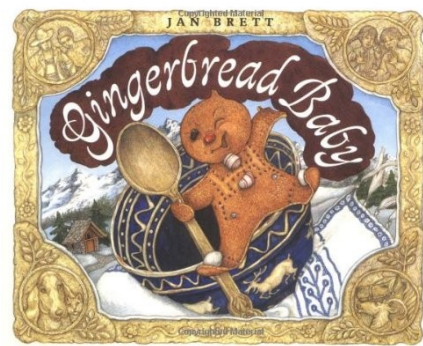
With the holiday season quickly approaching, many turn their thoughts towards baking.

This month, we thought we take a look at some books that feature everyone's favourite literary cookie: Gingerbread!



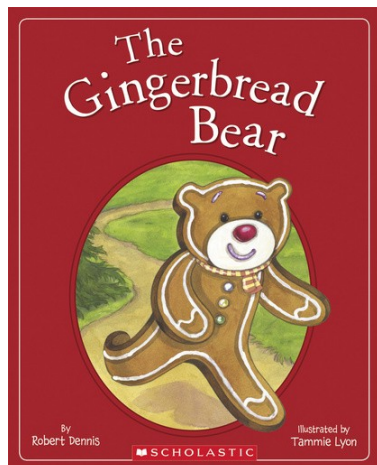
The Gingerbread Man

Retold By J. Aylesworth,
Illustrated By B. McClintock



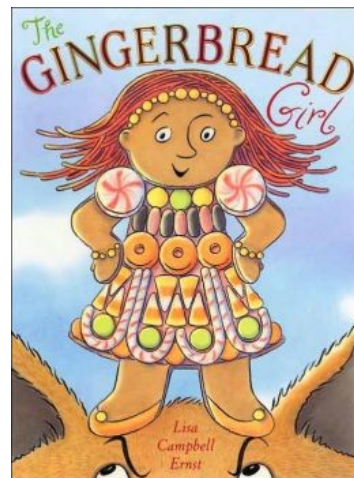
Gingerbread Baby

By Jan Brett



The Gingerbread Bear

By R. Dennis
Illustrated By T. Lyon



Gingerbread Girl

By L. Campbell Ernst





December



1	2	3 Day 4 - Door Decorating	4	5
8	9 Mary Moore	10 Day 4 - No Oven Bakeoff <i>School Council</i> 7pm	11	12
15 St Mary's	16 December Assembly	17 Christmas Blizzard	18	19 Christmas Dance/Movie
22 -Winter Break-	23 -Winter Break-	24 Christmas Eve -Winter Break-	25 Christmas Day -Winter Break-	26 Boxing Day -Winter Break-
29 -Winter Break-	30 -Winter Break-	31 -Winter Break-	 -Winter Break-	 -Winter Break-

JANUARY 5TH IS BACK TO SCHOOL