

The *Glenwood Gazette*

Glenwood School

150 Lower Horning Road

September 2015

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The front steps of Glenwood Special Day School was an exciting place to be on September 8th as students arrived. It was wonderful to see the familiar smiles of our returning students and the excitement on the faces of our new students. Every student received a wonderful welcome by our Glenwood staff. The enthusiasm shared by all was contagious. It struck me again how our team of drivers, nurses, Educational Assistants, teachers, custodians, and office administrator make Glenwood ***'a special place to learn'***.

At Glenwood, we continue our commitment to ***'all students achieving their full potential'*** with a focus on **COMMUNICATION, LIFE AND SOCIAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSITIONAL SKILLS.**

Together with our school team, we are fortunate to partners with parent(s) and caregivers. We will continue to strive for open and regular communication as this is key to our students learning experience. Please consider joining our vibrant School Council this year to add your voice to our plans.

Glenwood works very closely with the HWDSB system teams. Already this year, we have had frequent visits by our ASD and Augmentative Communication Teams to support our students programming. Shelley Woon, Superintendent of Leadership and Learning and Glenwood has also visited this September to welcome our students and staff.

Please enjoy reading our Newsletter. If you want to follow up on any of the opportunities or have any questions about any of the material, please contact me. I really enjoy connecting with those who care and support our students.

Sincerely,
Mr. Graves

COMMUNICATION with the OFFICE

Please be sure that you have the school phone number readily available (905-525-2140). If we need to be aware of a situation regarding your child, call us. If your child is absent or will be coming from or going to “Alternative Care” let us know. ***Calls regarding absences can be made anytime, while the office is open from 8:00-3:30 our voicemail is 24 hours.***

VERY IMPORTANT

Be sure that we have ALL the phone numbers we will need to contact you and any other caregivers who work with your child. And be sure to pass along “NEW” numbers (yours and those of emergency contacts) if there is a change.

Glenwood’s Phone Number is: 905-525-2140

Please note that when you call, your child’s teacher may not be able to come to the phone immediately to speak with you. The class is his or her first responsibility and getting to a phone may not be possible. However, we welcome your call. Teachers will make an effort to get back to you as soon as possible.

STAFF at GLENWOOD

There have been a number of staff changes from last year. Teacher, Stefanie Kolkin has moved on to another position with the Board. New to our teaching staff is Karen Schmidt, and we welcome her to Glenwood as well as Tierney Kovljenic and Amanda Zacharewicz who both join us as Long Term Occasional teachers this fall. We are also pleased to welcome Amanda Hodder, Alison Slack and Becky Keefe to the Glenwood EA staff. As we begin the year, we have eight EA Long Term Occasionals with us. These placements are for EAs on Leaves of Absence or to provide extra support. Our LTOs are, Abdul Farah, Melissa Mullin, Shannon Toltesi, Rebecca Fairburn, Sarah Bradt, Christine LeBlanc, Amber McAleer and Chantelle Robertson. We welcome all of these new and returning faces to Glenwood.

Teaching Staff

Room 1 - Mrs Cathy Rowe
Room 2 - Mrs Angela Saccomano
Room 3 - Mrs Terri Densmore
Room 4 - Mrs Brenda Moyer
Room 6 - Mrs Jane Jones
Room 10 - Ms Tierney Kovljenic
(Mr Steve Davidge)
Room 11 - Mrs Karen Schmidt
Room 12 - Mrs Laura Bruch
Room 14 - Mrs Penny Parry
Prep - Mrs Katy Gurman
Prep - Ms. Amanda Zacharewicz
(Mrs. Gail Wilkins)

Classroom teachers will, at some point, introduce the EAs working in their classrooms by way of a class newsletter or a later school newsletter.

STUDENT EMERGENCY INFORMATION AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

You should have received some forms at the end of June (or beginning of September) to be completed and returned to school for the start of school in September. Among them were requests for **CONTACT/EMERGENCY INFORMATION (NAMES, PHONE NUMBERS, ETC), SEIZURE PROTOCOL INFORMATION AND MEDICAL INFORMATION**. A critical part of that package was a form authorizing us to **ADMINISTER MEDICATION**. It should have been signed by the doctor, and included important details related to the administration of medications for those who require them. **SOME HAVE NOT BEEN RETURNED**. If you did not give us the necessary forms and permission to administer medications, please send them in right away along with the medication, if it has not already been sent in, (Remember that medication should be received in its **original container** with the **pharmacy label naming the patient, doctor, medication, dosage and time to administer**) **PLEASE SEND THIS INFORMATION TO THE SCHOOL IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO! THANKS!**

SCHOOL BUSES

Please be aware that with the many special needs of students being transported occasional delays may occur in the transportation process. You are asked to have your child ready for pick-up in the morning approximately ten minutes before the assigned pick-up time. At the end of the day **SOMEONE MUST BE READY AND AVAILABLE TO RECEIVE THE STUDENT AT THE BUS/TAXI DROP OFF LOCATION**. Note: *This is a requirement, not a suggestion!*

NOTE - Transportation is a service that is provided to Hamilton Wentworth students according to the Board's Transportation Policy. Occasionally, service must be withdrawn either temporarily or permanently because of student safety concerns. Every effort is made to work with families to respond to needs as they arise, Whether it is another child or your own, problems may occasionally arise. We encourage your patience and understanding.

GREAT BUS DRIVERS AND SERVICE

We want to acknowledge Attridge Transportation and our bus drivers for the great care and concern they show for our students daily. It is a tremendous responsibility to drive a bus loaded with students with special needs and ensure their safety.

As many of you are well aware, it is NOT possible to give everyone "the optimum" pickup or drop off time. While efforts are sometimes made to accommodate needs and requests, it is not always possible. With so many students to gather from over such a wide area your patience and understanding will be necessary at times. This may well mean that families will need to make special arrangements to facilitate the assigned pickup and drop off times.

REMINDER - Attridge is a business that is impacted directly and greatly by the cost of fuel. Also, there is a tremendous environmental push to discourage vehicles stopped and idling. For these reasons, buses will not be able to sit waiting for extended periods of time for students, nor will there be a lot of flexibility of routing. ***Be prepared for both the "pickup" and "Drop off" each day.***

**If your child is absent please remember to call and cancel transportation.
It may require calling BOTH the before and after school carriers
if they are different.**

Picture Day

Picture Day will be October 27th. More information to follow!

LUNCH AT SCHOOL

At Glenwood **students bring their own lunches** and snacks (am and pm). We would encourage you to do two things:

1. Provide a nourishing and substantial lunch/snack for your child
2. Discuss size/amount of food that your child is eating/not eating with the teacher.

This communication will help you to know if more, less or different food should be considered. Don't take this as criticism when it occurs...it is simply an effort to align consumption needs with what students are bringing. Invariable questions do arise about this, but while we do encourage students to eat their lunch in the best way possible, we do not force them to eat everything in their lunch bag.

Pupils stay for lunch and will eat in the lunchroom or a designated area. At approximately 12:25 students go outside for a noon recess time and an opportunity for exercise and fresh air.

PARENT VISITS TO THE SCHOOL

Parents are welcome in the school at any time and we value your input. However, you are asked to plan your visit ahead of time if you are hoping to speak with a teacher or to the principal. Most of the time staff are busy with classes and other tasks and, unfortunately, may not be readily available to speak with you on a "walk-in" basis.

SIGN IN - When you come to the school please ring the doorbell at the front door. Be patient as someone makes his or her way to let you in. (Doors are locked for the safety of students and the security of the building) Upon entry to and exit from the school please go to the office and sign in and out. Wear the VISITOR TAG provided at the office. This is your authorization to be in the building and provides a record of your visit.

VOLUNTEERS

We have appreciated, so much, our volunteers at Glenwood over the years. Our Board now requires that all volunteers working with students receive a satisfactory "**police record check**" (Parents also require this check) If you or someone you know would like to spend a few hours per week helping out we would very much appreciate your assistance. Please call, send a note, or drop by to see Mr Graves. You are always welcome.

INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLANS (IEPs)

Teachers will be reviewing and writing the 2015-2016 Individual Education Plans and will contact parents to discuss and fine tune the IEP during September and early October. You are invited to be a part of this process, if only to ask questions and make recommendations.

STUDENT INSURANCE

You will have received packages to be used to enroll for Student Insurance again this year, If you plan to take it, please complete it and return to the Reliable Insurance Company. DO NOT SEND THEM TO THE SCHOOL.

SCHOOL HOURS

The school office is open from 8am - 3:30pm daily

8:45	School Entry
8:45 - 10:15	Instructional Time
10:15 - 10:30	Recess
10:30 - 12:00	Instructional Time
12:00 - 12:45	Lunch
12:45 - 2:45	Instructional Time
2:45	Buses/Dismissal

School Phone # 905-525-2140

Voicemail available 24/7

Please detach and send the bottom portion to T. Graves

SCHOOL COUNCIL 2015-2016

As we head into the new school year, we would like to invite your participation in School Council. The first meeting is being held on Monday September 28th at 7:00pm. We have had a wonderful team of individuals who have demonstrated a heart for the students of Glenwood, programs that benefit students and the Health and Safety of everyone in the building. If you are interested in serving on council in any capacity please complete the following information and return it to school. We look forward to seeing you!

Your Name: _____ Your Child's Name: _____

Contact Info: Phone: _____

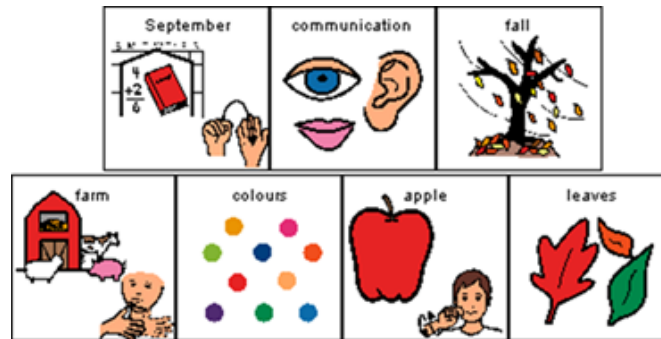
Email: _____



Hello and Welcome Back to the 2015-2016 School year! I'm looking forward to working with the students at Glenwood School once again and help them achieve their communication potential!

Our communication program continues to be supported by both the Augmentative and Alternative Communication Team (AACT) and the Autism Spectrum Disorders Team (ASD). This year we would like to welcome Nancy Herrell as our supporting Speech Language Pathologist and Piero Evfremidis as our supporting Itinerant Resource Teacher on the ASD Team. We are very excited to have them as a resource for our school!

This term, the communication program's theme include all things Fall! Leaves, Farms, Apples and Fall clothing, By incorporating themes, we can encourage communication on relevant topics, exposure to new vocabulary, support social interactions and further develop the senses.



During the school year I will be sending home some tips and activities to help encourage communication during your daily routine at home or within the community for students involved in one-to-one programming. Updates as needed and progress reports will also be sent home at the end of the terms for those students. Please feel free to contact me at any time throughout the year with questions or comments.

I'm looking forward to another wonderful year full of communication, learning and fun!




Shazia Warnica

Communicative Disorders Assistant
Glenwood School
Email: srehman@hwdsb.on.ca
Phone: 905-525-2140

September



	1	2	3	4
7 Labour Day	8 First Day of School!	9	10	11 Campfire Sing Along 
14	15	16 Mary  Moore	17	18  Painting to Music 
21	22	23	24	25 Fall Craft  
28 School Council 7:00pm	29	30		

Upcoming Important Dates:

Thanksgiving October 12

Picture Day October 27