

**SEPTEMBER:**

22 - PA DAY

27 - Autism Ontario Family Night

**OCTOBER:**

9 - THANKSGIVING

**THE GAZETTE**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**Happy New Year!** No, it is not January 1st, but rather September 2017 but many of the feelings are the same. Each September is marked by new beginnings, reconnections and exciting plans to move forward. For some of you, your connection to Glenwood Special Day School is new and we welcome you. We have welcomed 10 new students to our school this fall as well as their families and community partners. Over the summer 5 new teachers were hired, 10 full-time EA positions were filled, and 1 LTO teacher. This year also marks the first time Glenwood has had a Learning Resource Teacher added to our staffing, for afternoons only. We are starting this year with 47 students which is an increase from last year. I am very excited about the team that we are continuing to build here at Glenwood.

Over the summer many of our staff continued their professional development by taking courses to support their instructional practice. During the last week of August, over 10 Glenwood staff attended a 3 day training program on **Structured TEACCH** at the Education Centre. Instructors from Structured TEACCH in North Carolina partnered with our Intensive Support Services team to provide outstanding training that will continue to support our programming model. We are starting this school year with 6 of our classes implementing a Structured TEACCH model to support our students' learning goals, through their Individual Education Plans. This programming model creates a learning structure that has less distractions and with purposeful areas for teaching, independent work, leisure and group activities. Through the implementation of Structured TEACCH by our teachers and EAs, we have seen wonderful gains being made by our students.

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With our 3 Multiple classes, our students will continue to learn according to their Individual Education Plans, with many students focusing their learning on **COMMUNICATION** through the use of **MyGaze** technology and portable communication systems.

It is so exciting to see our students **TRANSITIONING** throughout the entire school and accessing the Discovery Room, the Snoezelen Room and developing **LIFESKILLS** in the Glenwood Apartment.

Beginning this fall and continuing throughout the school year we will be planning together with a focus on developing and improving our students skill set in the areas of **COMMUNICATION, LIFESKILLS, TRANSITIONS AND INDEPENDENCE**. Our teachers are presently working on developing your child's **Individual Education Plan**. It is critical that this is done collaboratively with those involved in your child's life.

As you read our September Newsletter, please join me in having great optimism for the learning that will occur during the 2017-2018 school year here at Glenwood. **'a special place to learn.'**

*Todd Graves*

Vice Principal, Glenwood Special Day School



# COMMUNICATION with the OFFICE

Please be sure that you have the school phone number readily available. 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. Instructing the class is the teacher's 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. Teachers, Brenda Moyer, Gail Wilkins and Terri Densmore have retired. New to our teaching staff is Ivan Quach, Sherri Wilson, Elyse Pelletier, Kim Procyshyn, and Long Term Occasional teacher Sarah Theaker who will be joining us this fall. We are also pleased to welcome Phil Balsor, Derek Brown, Clarissa Barr, Joanna Kisiel, Sarah Whaling, Steve Chase, Lianne Kirkham, Melissa Flynn, and Olivia Slota to the Glenwood EA staff. As we begin the year, we have 6 Long Term Occasional EAs with us. These placements are for EAs on Leaves of Absence or to provide extra support. Our LTOs are Jordan, Chelsea, Brittnay, Sonya, Rachel, and Jackie. A great big welcome to all of these new and returning faces to Glenwood.

### TEACHING STAFF

Room 1 - Ms. Sarah Theaker  
Room 2 - Mrs. Angela Saccomano  
Room 3 - Mr. Ivan Quach  
Room 4 - Mrs. Sherri Wilson  
Room 6 - Mr. Ken Cameron  
Room 10 - Ms. Amanda Zacharewicz  
Room 11 - Mrs. Karen Schmidt  
Room 12 - Mrs. Laura Bruch  
Room 14 - Mrs. Penny Parry  
Prep - Mrs. Katy Gurman  
Prep - Ms. Elyse Pelletier  
LRT - Ms. Kim Procyshyn

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. **WE CAN NOT ADMINISTER MEDICATION WITHOUT THESE COMPLETED FORMS.**



## 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 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 - Be prepared for both the "Pickup" and "Drop off" each day.**

**If your child is absent please remember to call and cancel transportation.**

**Attridge: 905-690-2632**

**Hamilton Cab: 905-777-7777**

## 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 the office lets 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.

## INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLANS (IEPs)

Teachers will be reviewing and writing the 2017-2018 Individual Education Plans and will contact parents to discuss and fine tune the IEP during September and early October. You are encouraged to be a part of this process.

## 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.**

## 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. Invariably, 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 designated area. At approximately 12:30 students go outside for a noon recess time and an opportunity for exercise and fresh air.



## SCHOOL HOURS

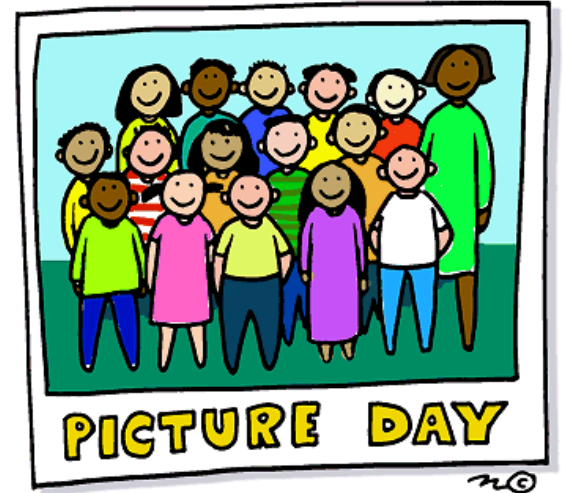
The school office is open from 8am - 3:30pm daily

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

# Picture Day



## Friday

## October

## 27<sup>th</sup>

## 2017



### More info to

### follow.

### Stay tuned for

### details.



Please detach and send to Mr. Graves

## SCHOOL COUNCIL 2017-2018

As we head into the new school year, we would like to invite your participation in School Council. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

# September



				<b>1</b>
<b>4</b> Labour Day	<b>5</b> First Day of School!	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Day 4 - Painting to Music
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>PA DAY</b>
<b>25</b> Day 4 - Fall Bingo	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Autism Ontario Family Night	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

**Upcoming Important Dates:**

Thanksgiving October 9

Picture Day October 27

School Council October 5