

The *Glenwood Gazette*

Glenwood School

150 Lower Horning Road

December 2013

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all of our Glenwood families and friends! As we head into this busy time of year, I'd like to take this opportunity, once again, to thank each of you for your support of the students and programs at Glenwood School. As I pause to reflect back, and look forward, I am amazed at how many wonderful things have happened and are being planned at this great school. Even today as I write this message our students from all classes have gathered in the gym to work on crafts and activities in class groups. Walking along the hall I see doors decorated creatively and colourfully. As I think back, as recently as last week we had a wonderful time at our Family Fun Night. (Unfortunately, some of you were missing from this great family event and we want to let you know that you were missed.)

We have appreciated the Mac students in the McMaster Arts Program and McMaster Make Believe who have been coming regularly to do special activities with our students. We will also be welcoming students from McMaster's Bachelor of Health Sciences Child Health Specialization program who will be volunteering their time to work with us. We are fortunate to have these resources so close to us.

As we look ahead, our weekly activities and events will continue, making things both interesting and exciting. Our Christmas Blizzard (formerly Christmas Shopping Spree) will soon be upon us. As in past, students will be able to make inexpensive purchases of gifts for family members. There are many other events and activities that will be taking place, and we would be remiss if we did not say a special "thank-you" to our School Council for their support in so many ways. Most notably, their financial contributions have allowed us to do, and to go, and to purchase and to invite special presenters to Glenwood. These hard working parents give many hours to make great things possible for our students. Thank-you Council!

This is a season in which there are many celebrations that take place. An important element of all of the celebrations during the month of December and the Christmas time is our family connections. Let's take time to enjoy "family". Every member of your family and mine is important. Each one is worthy of our love, courtesy, and care! Some good ways to do that is by giving them our time, and telling them how much they mean to us.

As we look ahead to the new year, 2014, we would like to extend our wishes to all of our families and our friends for a year filled with the best of health, prosperity and happiness.



Christmas BLIZZARD

Wednesday December 18



Gifts are priced from \$0.25 to \$2.00 each

Raffle Tickets for prizes can be purchased for \$0.25 each or 5 for \$1.00

Baked Goods will also be available.



Items being donated to the Christmas Blizzard are due to the school by December 6th please. Any donated baked goods can be sent in on December 17th or 18th as well. Our Glenwood Students thank you for your support of our Annual Christmas Blizzard.

Ways to Give This Holiday Season

City Kidz - Gift of Christmas

Gift of Christmas is

- the greater Hamilton community donating thousands of gifts for inner city children
- children gathering for energetic and interactive Christmas parties where they receive a hot meal, juice box and candy bag
- hundreds of volunteers sorting through toys for a personalized gift that will be perfect for each child
- those volunteers delivering those gifts to each child's door, days before Christmas
- a smile on a child's face, left knowing they are loved and that someone, who didn't have to, thought of them during one of the most important days of a child's year



This year, with your help, we're hoping that we can bring a smile to over 4000 children.
Join us in our effort.

Visit <http://citykidz.ca/campaigns/gift-of-christmas-2013/> for more information

Ronald McDonald House Charities Canada

Ronald McDonald House Charities Canada helps give sick children what they need most – their families. RMHC provide a home away from home for the families of seriously ill children who are staying at a nearby hospital. Their Houses offer families so much more than just a roof over their heads. They have qualified staff and dedicated volunteers who are committed to taking care of the day-to-day essentials of running a home, so families don't have to worry about them. They have programs that offer everything from education to meditation. And they are filled with many different families who all share a common bond – love for their sick child.

Financial Donations are always welcome but by visiting their website you will be able to see their wish list of items needed to help the house run and make life easier for these families. Everything from Food and Cleaning Supplies to Board Games and Toys.



Visit <http://www.rmhccanada.com/get-involved/house-wish-lists/> for the complete list and more info

Find Your Own

Every community has a number of families and non-profit organizations who could use our help during the holiday season and all year long. The best part is by offering our things like our time, money, food, toys or even just a hand to a neighbour everyone benefits including you!





For many of us December means holiday preparations, holiday shopping, and most importantly, holiday fun! For many people the holiday hustle and bustle is a fun change from every day routine. For some of our Glenwood students the holidays can be a time of high anxiety, either happy anticipation of traditions, visits and gifts, or uncertain anxiety based on a change in schedule, new things in their environments, seeing less familiar people, and the general feeling of stress that can be in the air.

Attached (after the December Calendar) is a Calendar you can use over the holidays, helping build anticipation of fun events, or reducing anxiety over the unknown next thing. Fill it in with what your family is up to over the holidays, and hang it on your fridge, your front entry way, or you child's bedroom. Fill it up with photos of the events that will come –are you going to Grandma's on Christmas Eve? Put a picture of Grandma there! Are you spending New Year's Day eating waffles and watching movies? Add a picture of waffles there! Don't have photos? Draw them, or cut them out of flyers! There are some symbols provided for you at the bottom of this page as well.

Put a check mark in the corner of each day when it is finished so that your child knows it is done, but can still see the pictures so they can remember what happened to tell you or others about them. You can send the calendar in with your child when school starts up again so that they can use it to help tell their friends what they did over the holidays.

Most importantly, enjoy December, and enjoy the holidays. Embrace the communication opportunities that arise, and embrace your loved ones. I look forward to your children telling me all about their holidays in the New Year!

P.S. Sending Christmas Cards this year? Here are some creative ways to have your children sign them, even if they can't write:



A rubber stamp of their name



They can dab a bingo dabber to sign, and when it's dry you can write their name over it



Personalized stickers



Sign with a thumbprint! Write their name underneath if you want!



News from Room 1

November is almost over already. Where is the time going? It was a fun month! We started with a focus on Real Super Heros leading into Remembrance Day and a lesson in respect. We are finishing the month with a look at Birds and have gone into business selling bird seed. A trip to the Hamilton Farmers Market was a true highlight and for the students who were able to come to the Family Fun Night, a good time was had by all!



We are looking forward to an exciting December. Our class is already wrapping holiday favors to hand out to seniors and shut-ins at St. Joe's Villa Nursing home. The halls are being decked and the spirit is building as we get ready for the holiday season.

Wishing you all the best,

The Staff and Students of Room 1

A GREAT BIG THANKS TO



VOLUNTEERS

**Glenwood School
Council**

**Glenwood
Staff**



FOR MAKING FAMILY FUN NIGHT SUCH A SUCCESS!

Thursday Activities

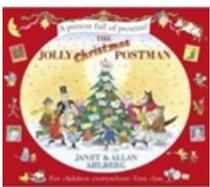


A great big thank you to School Council for your contributions to our weekly activities!

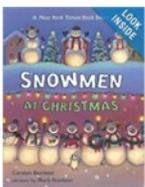
From Glenwood Library

With the holiday season approaching, here are some favourite picture books for the holiday season.

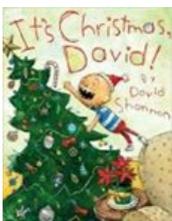
Book Shelf



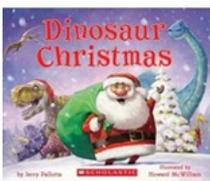
The Jolly Postman brings a batch of wonderful letters for Christmas, including notes from the Big Bad Wolf and all the King's men. Letters, notes and cards are actually tucked in envelopes within the book.



It's Christmas Eve and people are snug in their beds, but something is stirring outside. The snowmen are preparing to celebrate!



David's busy trying to peek at his Christmas presents, snatch holiday cookies, and grab the highest candy cane on the tree. How can anyone be calm when Christmas is right around the corner?



Santa Claus reminisces about "the good old days" when dinosaurs pulled his sleigh. The Tyrannosaurus Rex wouldn't stop licking Santa, the Pterosaurs flew too high, and the Maiasauras ate presents when no one was looking!

Holiday apps can be lots of fun. The following are a few recommendations

Apps for the iPad



Talking Santa for iPad HD
By Out Fit 7 Ltd, \$2.99

- Speak into your microphone & Santa repeats your message.
- Poke, swipe or tickle Santa to see his reactions.
- Run Santa over with a huge snowball or give him milk & cookies.
- Touch the bag to see your gifts.
- Send customized Santa Christmas Cards.



Christmas Fun - All In One Holiday Spirit HD
By Kids Games Club,
Free - (Full Version \$3.99)

- Christmas Fun app is filled with Christmas songs, games & exciting activities.
- Dress Up Games
 - Paint & Colouring Pages
 - Mix and Match, Memory Match, Puzzle Fun and Maze Challenge
 - Gingerbread Peekaboo
 - Christmas Train
 - Christmas Adventure
 - Simon Game



PopOut! The Night Before Christmas. By Loud Crow Interactive Inc, \$2.99

See William Denslow's masterful illustrations brought to life with innovative pull-tabs, spin-wheels & elements that bounce and spring with the touch of a finger. Read & Interact with each page of the book.



How the Grinch Stole Christmas! - Dr. Seuss
By Oceanhouse Media,
\$4.99

Join the bitter & grouchy Grinch in this interactive book app as he attempts to "keep Christmas from coming" to the land of Whoville. Explore pictures, learn new vocabulary & more!

GLENWOOD SCHOOL



**December
2013**

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5 <i>Thursday Activity</i> Door Judging/ Seasonal Planter	6 <i>Donations for Christmas Blizzard due to school</i>
9	10 Mary Moore – Westdale Library	11 School Council Meeting 7pm	12 <i>Thursday Activity</i> No Oven Bakeoff	13
16	17 Holiday Puppet Show  <i>Bake Goods for Bake Sale due to school</i>	18 Christmas Blizzard <i>Bake Goods for Bake Sale due to school</i>	19 <i>Last Day before Christmas Break</i> <i>Thursday Activity</i> Movie and Dance	20 PA DAY
23 NO SCHOOL	24 NO SCHOOL	25 Christmas Day NO SCHOOL	26 Boxing Day NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL
30 NO SCHOOL	31 New Years Eve NO SCHOOL			

My Holiday Calendar

 Sunday	 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Thursday	 Friday	 Saturday
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	
						