

# The *Glenwood Gazette*

*Glenwood School*

*150 Lower Horning Road*

*June 2014*

## ***PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE***

I would like to say hello and welcome back to school to our students and their families. For some it is a return to a familiar environment. For others, who are new to Glenwood, we'd like to welcome you to this very special school and community. Our common focus and purpose is programming and caring for our students...your children, so that they can achieve their full potential. Let's continue to work together to that end.

So, to those returning, we say, "Welcome Back!"

To those joining us for the first time we say, "Welcome, to the Glenwood Family!"

I hope that your summer provided a time of rest, and enjoyment, but more importantly, I hope that you were able to spend quality time as a family. As we embark on our 2014-2015 school year we look forward to a great year, one that sees families and the school working together to promote student achievement, success and well-being.

### **WORKING TOGETHER (It's not a new message)**

**Serving our students is a team effort** - We can't "do it" along. We would like to encourage ongoing communication, co-operation and understanding as we seek to do what is best for "our (your) kids". One special thing about Glenwood is the wonderful way in which parents, caregivers and staff collaborate to do great things for the students. Students enjoy coming to school and we enjoy having them here.

Watch for announcements regarding a **WELCOME BACK BARBEQUE** later in the month (Thursday, September 18 is tentatively set). Hopefully we will be able to meet and chat with many of you at that time. Please consider this our invitation to you and your family to attend with more information on it's way.

### **CUSTODIAL STAFF have done a great job!**

One of the stand out features of Glenwood when one enters are the sparkling floors and the bright, colourful halls. Diane Babineau and Stephen Clarkin, our custodians, have the school wonderfully clean and we'd like to thank them for their great work again this summer despite numerous renovations that were taking place. We have great custodial support at Glenwood.

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Included in this package you will find a list of dates and events. Both the even and the date are tentative at this time, but may provide you some measure of guidance as you plan your year. Check the calendar that will come out in each month's newsletter for up to date events.

## **COMMUNICATION with the OFFICE**

We appreciate the work of our "bubbly and enthusiastic" Administrative Assistant, Leigh Boyter in serving as our link with the community in the front office and by telephone. She has a wealth of experience and knowledge and can answer many of your questions (and ours). 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.

**Children** - "Children are a living message we send to a time we will not see." This is a quote from Neil Postman. I firmly believe this, and try to keep it in mind in all that I do. We need to think beyond ourselves and beyond our lifetime to future generations that will be profoundly affected by what you and I do today.

**What Really Matters** - Author Unknown

A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove - but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child.

### **STAFF at GLENWOOD**

There have been a number of staff changes from last year. Teachers, Jordan Fox and Jackie Kurtz have moved on to other positions with the Board. New to our teaching staff are Stefanie Kolkin and Terri Densmore, and we welcome them to Glenwood. We are also pleased to welcome Adrian Campbell to the Glenwood EA staff. We are also looking forward to the return of our Communication Disorders Assistant at the end of September. As we begin the year, we have five EA Long Term Occasionals with us. These placements are for EAs on Leaves of Absence or to provide extra support. Our LTOs are, Janelle Vedder, Becky Keefe, Melissa Thorne, Shannon Toltesi and Rebecca Fairburn. We welcome all of these ladies to Glenwood.

### **Teaching Staff**

Room 1 - Mrs Rowe

Room 2 - Mrs Saccomano

Room 3 - Mrs Perry

Room 4 - Mrs Moyer

Room 6 - Mrs Jones

Room 10 - Mr Davidge

Room 11 - Mrs Kolkin (nee Zagorac)

Room 12 - Mrs Bruch

Room 14 - Mrs Densmore

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

*It takes a special person, with patience and wisdom to share,  
to unlock the treasure awaiting within children everywhere!*

### **SPECIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

Attached you will find a set of dates, tentatively set, for activities that will take place during the year. The dates should be viewed keeping in mind that “things do change” and so do dates sometimes. It will give you a general idea of that is coming and approximately when.

### **WELCOME BACK BARBEQUE**

We are looking forward to our WELCOME BACK BARBECUE. Come as a family and enjoy food and refreshments (compliments of School Council). It will take place on September 18 from 5:30 to 7:00pm. IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS (you can't eat hot dogs, etc) PLEASE INFORM US SO THAT WE CAN SUBSTITUTE SOMETHING ELSE.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

We are planning to hold our School Council Meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month where schedules and calendar dates will allow. We are in need of new individuals to join with our existing outstanding committee members. Please plan to attend our Welcome Back Barbeque in the early evening on September 18. You will have an opportunity to meet other parents and their children, and speak with Council members about becoming involved. Please plan to join us.

We would like to say a special word of thanks to the Council of 2013-2014 for their dedication and hard work. With the support of many Glenwood families and others in the community some great things have been achieved over the past few years. It is not easy, and those who have worked so hard deserve our thanks for all that they have done.

## ***CONSIDER HELPING!***

We look for new members, annually. Please consider joining us on the Council. The council's focus is on addressing student needs and programs, so since you, as parents and caregivers of young people with special needs, have both the understanding of, and heart for them, we'd love to have you join us.

The calendar you receive with this newsletter will have tentative dates for meetings as well as special activities and events. Here's what to do:

1. Attend our Welcome Back / Meet the Teacher BBQ (food is free) and meet the teachers, parents and students.
2. You are invited to attend the October 8th School Council Meeting (7:00pm at the school)
3. Give some thought to becoming a regular member of Council and/or possibly assisting with initiatives over the course of the year.

We are looking forward to working with you to make life and the educational experience of our children better this year.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON SCHOOL COUNCIL THIS YEAR, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM AT THE END OF THIS NEWSLETTER AND SEND IT BACK TO THE SCHOOL RIGHT AWAY.**

### **WHEN YOU VISIT GLENWOOD**

We have wonderful neighbours here at Glenwood. We would ask that you show consideration for them by not using their driveways for turning around or blocking them in anyway. This can create a traffic problem and frustration for our neighbours. Thanks!

## **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 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 dropoff 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 dropoff 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 "Dropoff" each day.

If you need to cancel BUS transportation for your child, please contact Attridge Transportation early in the morning or even the night before.

Their phone number is **905-690-2632**

## **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**" / We will cover the cost of this check for those planning to join us. (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 Muldoon. You are always welcome.

### **INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLANS (IEPs)**

Teachers will be reviewing and writing the 2014-2015 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.

### **REPORT CARDS**

There will be three reporting periods this year, as in past. A progress report will be sent home in November, with additional reports going home in early February and at the end of June. There will be an Interview Day (no school for students) on November 21. While only one official day has been given for the purpose of holding interviews, you are welcome, at anytime, to call or request a time to speak with your child's teacher. Teachers attempt to maintain contact with home with a book that is passed to and from home daily, They are also very willing to have you come in for a meeting at a mutually convenient time.

### **SCHOOL TRIPS**

Throughout the school year various school trips may be approved. These trips have a definite purpose and are related to the classroom or student program. It is the intent to give sufficient lead time to allow for proper planning and arrangements. These trips are considered to be part of the school program. Permission forms will be sent home informing you of the purpose of the trip, the date, the departure and arrival times and the nature of the activities in which your child will be involved.

**One special form** you may receive is a GENERIC school community "walk about" trip form. It will enable us to walk around the school neighbourhood periodically as needed, Please be sure to sign and return this and other forms promptly.

### **STUDENT INSURANCE**

You will be receiving 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

### **INCLUDED IN THIS PACKAGE**

A number of items have been presented to us for distribution to families. Some are simply interesting. Some require a response. Some present opportunities and possibilities for activities and programs. Please take a few moments to review these items and identify those of greatest interest and use to you.

Thank you for your continued support in this very special work of teaching, training and preparing our young people to be all that they can be.

~ K. Muldoon, Principal

**Events Calendar/Dates for 2014 – 2015** (as of September 4, 2014)

(\* = events that are ongoing throughout the year). Additional activities and events will be added throughout the year and some dates may need to be changed. If there are any errors or omissions, let me know.

SEPTEMBER	
Sept 2	First day of school - Assembly at 9:30am
Sept 10	School Council Meeting (BBQ Planning) 7:00pm
Sept 18	Welcome BBQ for School families, All staff and Neighbours (5:30 - 7:00pm)
Sept 19	PD DAY (no school for students)
Sept 23	We welcome back Mary Moore—Westdale Library
OCTOBER	
Oct 5	Glenwood's 2nd Annual Wine Tour Fundraiser
Oct 7	Mary Moore—Westdale Library
Oct 8	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Oct 13	Thanksgiving - School Closed
Oct 15	Bus Driver Appreciation Day (The week of 13 - 17)
Oct 16	Buster the Bus comes to Glenwood (Bus Safety Assembly) 1:30pm
Oct 28	SMILE! It's Picture Day at Glenwood
Oct 31	Hallowe'en Assembly and Dance
NOVEMBER	
Nov 2	Glenwood Comedy Night at Tracie's Place (Fundraiser for Glenwood)
Nov 4	Mary Moore—Westdale Library
Nov 11	Remembrance Day
Nov 12	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Nov 19	SMILE.....AGAIN! Picture ReTake Day at Glenwood
Nov 21	PD DAY (No school for students)
DECEMBER	
Dec 9	Mary Moore—Westdale Library
Dec 10	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Dec 19	Last Instructional Day before Christmas Break



JANUARY	
Jan 5	First Day Back to School from Christmas Break
Jan 6	Mary Moore—Westdale Library
Jan 7	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Jan 23	PD DAY (no school for Students)
FEBRUARY	
Feb 10	Mary Moore—Westdale Library
Feb 11	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Feb 12	Valentine’s Assembly & Dance
Feb 13	PD DAY (no school for Students)
Feb 16	Family Day (School Closed)
MARCH	
Mar 10	Mary Moore—Westdale Library
Mar 11	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Mar 16-20	MARCH BREAK (School Closed)
APRIL	
Apr 3	Good Friday (School Closed)
Apr 6	Easter Monday (School Closed)
Apr 7	Mary Moore—Westdale Library
Apr 8	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
MAY	
May 5	Mary Moore—Westdale Library
May 13	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
May 18	Victoria Day (School Closed)
JUNE	
Jun 5	PD DAY (no school for Students)
Jun 9	Mary Moore—Westdale Library
Jun 10	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Jun 24	Graduation (more information to follow)
Jun 25	Awards Assembly—Last Day for Students
Jun 26	PD DAY (no school for Students)

# **SCHOOL COUNCIL 2014-2015**

Please return this form to the school as soon as possible with your child. As we head into the new school year, we would like to invite your participation in School Council. Council meets on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month 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. Please plan to attend our Welcome Back/Meet the Teacher Barbeque on September 20 and our next Council Meeting on October 8, 2014. We look forward to seeing you!

Thanks-you!

K. Muldoon, Principal

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*Please detach and send the bottom portion to K. Muldoon*

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL - 2014-2015**

I am interested in participating in School Council this year (2014-2015)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s) at which you might be contacted:

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# *Glenwood's* 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wine Tour

**Sunday October 5, 2014**

*Supporting the Unique Needs of Glenwood Special Day School Students!*

This full day event will begin and end at Liuna Gardens in Stoney Creek and take you and your guests on a tasting tour of three of Twenty Valley's beautiful wineries. Your ticket includes lunch, transportation, tastings and a fabulous dinner and silent auction event.

Tickets for just the dinner and silent auction portion of the evening are also available.

Can't participate? You could be a sponsor.  
See the attached Sponsor information and form for more information.

Besides having a great time, who are you supporting?

Glenwood Special Day School. During the school day Glenwood is home to some pretty amazing students. See the attached sheet entitled What is Glenwood? Who am I supporting?



# Comedy Night

## Fundraiser

November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

Tracie's Place Restaurant & Karaoke Bar - 592 Upper James

Seating @ 7:00pm Show @ 8:00pm

Featuring Donnie Coy & Friends \*\*\*Adult Content\*\*\*

Karaoke to Follow Show

Show Tickets - \$15/person

50/50 Tickets available!

Contact Glenwood for Show Tickets

