

The Glenwood Gazette

Glenwood School

150 Lower Horning Road

March 2016

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Every Day 4, our whole school comes together for wonderful event to celebrate our Glenwood community. Some of the events we have had include; Campfire Sing Song (which often includes hot chocolate and s'mores), Paint to Music, Winter Scavenger Hunt and so many more special events. These events are weekly highlights for both our students and staff. Not only are the events exciting and interactive, but they build upon our direction of increasing student's **COMMUNICATION, INDEPENDENCE, TRANSITION AND LIFE SKILLS.**

Last Day 4, each class produced a Band production and either performed a live act or a video. One of the videos included the students in Penny Parry's room 'Taking Care of Business' as they performed some of their life skill that included; washing their hands, baking muffins, cleaning up afterwards, sweeping and vacuuming. I was so impressed with all the performances and the joy on our students faces as they engaged in the music and their performances. Who knew doing chores could be so much fun!

I have also enjoyed meeting with parents, community partners and staff as we complete our students' IPRC Annual Reviews. This is a wonderful time to reflect on our students' gains and plan next steps together. We also use this time to plan for the transitioning of our graduating students and ensure that all necessary documentation and connections are made for the DSO. For those who were unable to attend the Reviews, please know that we can arrange meetings on an ongoing basis to review programming.

Our Glenwood Newsletter is full of many more exciting highlights, descriptions of ongoing programs, 'take home' strategies and even a recipe for vegetable soup that our student made in Katy's Kitchen. On behalf of our staff, we wish you a wonderful March Break and thank you again for all your support. Together we continue to make Glenwood **"a special place to learn."**



Communicating with our CDA

March break is quickly approaching! The break is a great opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends. A time to experience new activities or places. A time for a change in routine and perhaps a time for anxiety and frustration. We can help reduce those feelings and prepare our students for what to expect. A great way to help support our students is through the use of visuals. Cut out the visuals pictured on the next page and add them to the family calendar. Show students where they will be on which day. Talk about what will happen when they are there. Who will they see? Visuals paired with scripts can help prepare our students before and event and support them during an event.

Below is some more information from Linda Hogdgon on supporting students during the holidays:

“Holidays invite change and that can be difficult to manage whether they are very young or teens or even adults. Sometimes unexpected surprises, either good or bad, produce anxiety or stress or fear. Something that others perceive as “good” can result in a meltdown for children who don’t understand what everyone else understands.

Here’s an essential

Avoid unexpected surprises. Preparing students ahead of time for what will be happening or what will be changing can easily make the difference between a successful celebration or a major disaster. The easiest way to do that is to provide information. The challenge is figuring out what students need to know. Here’s an example.

What is “assumed”

Consider what everyone else already knows. It’s easy to assume this targeted student understands what others understand. Maybe not. That is one of the autism difficulties. The challenge for parents and teachers is to anticipate what information to give the student.

Guess how?

Of course, visual strategies work really well. This is another time where writing it down can become a simple solution. Another option is to use a photo. It’s a really simple solution to avoid a possible problem. Many times the solutions for potentially major problems are really simple.

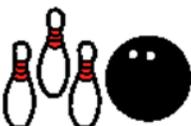
Just remember. . .

The biggest challenge is remembering to prepare the child. Thinking ahead can help avoid fear, anxiety or a major meltdown, depending on how well a child adjusts to new things.

Providing information is one of the essentials for achieving enjoyable holiday experiences.”

Happy Communicating!

Shazia Warnica,
Communicative Disorders Assistant

no school 	no school 	no school 	no school 	no school 
home 	home 	home 	home 	home 
visit 	visit 	visit 	visit 	visit 
special activity 	special activity 	special activity 	special activity 	special activity 
restaurant 	movie theatre 	bowling 	swimming 	school 

Classroom Update: Room 4

Room four students and staff have had a very busy February. We looked at Groundhogs at the beginning of February to see if we would end up with six more weeks of winter.

Our class was in-charge of the February Assembly where we combined the Valentine's Day theme with our assembly theme, 'Love of Family'. Students posed for pictures to be used in a video, during the assembly. Our monthly award winner, was Aleesha, for her excellence in climbing stairs.

Sukhman helped write one limerick for each classroom in the school, and this limerick was placed on gift bags decorated by Caitlin, Jessica, Bryan, Rishi and Aleesha. At the end of our assembly Aleesha helped hand-out the Valentine's Day treat bags to each class as they left the gymnasium.

During the last week of February we prepared to participate in the Glenwood Band Production.

Our version of the Bay City Rollers, SATURDAY NIGHT, saw room four dressed in our tartan finest.

Looking forward to March programmes and activities.

Students and Staff of Room 4

Life Skills with Marc Johnson

Congratulations to Aleesha Kynast as she became the Employee of the Month for February. Aleesha has been participating in the School's Mail Collection and Delivery Program.

Great job Aleesha!



Cold Weather Reminder!

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.

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.

Katy's Cooking Corner



Winter is a great time for soup! This past month in our cooking–life skill classes we enjoyed making and eating vegetable soup. We also enjoyed a breakfast of pancakes.

Vegetable Soup (adapted from *weelicious.com*)

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 small onion, finely diced
- 1 stalk celery, finely chopped
- 1 large carrot, finely chopped
- 1 potato, peeled and chopped
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups canned diced tomatoes
- 6 cups chicken stock
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 cup small pasta
- 1/2 cup frozen corn
- 1/2 frozen peas

Instructions:

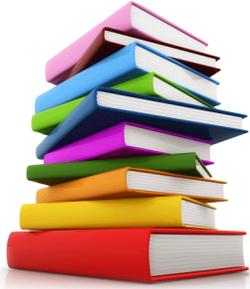
1. Heat the oil in a medium sized pot and sauté the onion, celery, carrot, potatoes and salt for 4 minutes.
2. Add the tomatoes, stock and bay leaf and bring to a boil. Cover, reduce and cook for 15 minutes.
3. Bring the heat back to a boil, add the pasta and cook for 5 minutes. Add the corn and peas and cook for an additional 5-6 minutes or until pasta is tender.



Life Skills

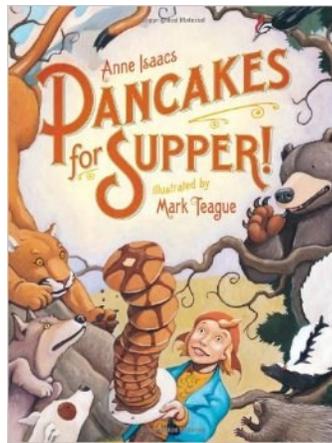
The Life Skills classroom is becoming busy with many students trying their hand at vacuuming, setting the table, sweeping, hanging laundry and the cleaning of tables.





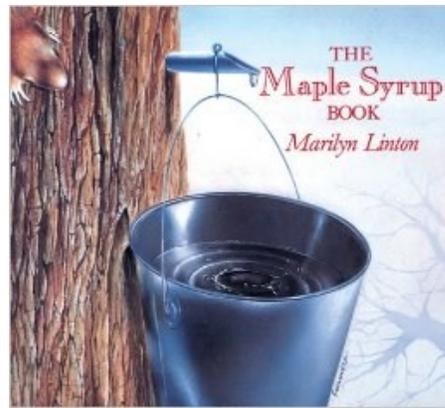
Latest Library Lookups

To celebrate the month of March, here are a few books about maple syrup that are great for sharing.



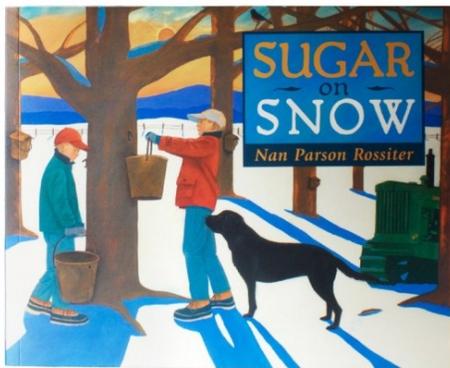
Pancakes for Supper

By Anne Isaacs



The Maple Syrup Book

By Marilyn Linton



Sugar on Snow

By Nan Rossiter



Sugarbush Spring

By Marsha Wilson Chall



Taffy Time

By Jennifer Lloyd



March



	1	2	3 IPRC Meetings	4 Day 4 Activity - Movie
7	8 IPRC Meetings	9 Pancakes with East Hamilton Optimists Club	10 IPRC Meetings	11 Day 4 - Hawaiian Luau Dance
14 MARCH BREAK	15 MARCH BREAK	16 MARCH BREAK	 17 MARCH BREAK	 18 MARCH BREAK
21	22	23	24	25 Good Friday
28  Easter Monday	29 Day 4 Activity - Spring Bingo	30	31	