

SEPTEMBER:

23 - PA DAY

OCTOBER:

10 - THANKSGIVING

THE GAZETTE

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I have always felt like September is similar to New Years. It marks a time of new beginnings, fresh starts, reconnecting, and making plans to move forward. For some of you, your connection with Glenwood Special Day School is new and we welcome you. We have some new students, families, teachers and EAs joining Glenwood. Over the summer 2 LTO teachers were hired, 7 full time EA positions were filled, and 1 full time teacher joined us. We are starting our year with 41 students and 47 staff. I am very excited about the team we are building here at Glenwood.

During the summer, renovations continued to take place at the school to align with the **Structured TEACCH** programming model. Another classroom was completely renovated (bring our total to 4 classrooms) and 2 other classes had significant work done to them. A component of Structured TEACCH is to create a learning environment that is calm, with less distractions and with purposeful areas that allow for teaching, independent work, leisure and relaxation and group activities. In partnership with our new Intensive Support Services team (formerly the ASD and AAC team), we are continuing to move forward with increasing our students' **COMMUNICATION, INDEPENDENCE, TRANSITION** and **LIFE SKILLS**.

I was very fortunate this summer to attend a week of Structured TEACCH training in North Carolina. It was amazing to learn more and to celebrate how well we are already implementing this program at Glenwood. Most importantly, it was wonderful to see the gains our students have made and how quickly they have adjusted back to our school routine.

Another part of September involves planning together. As with any school, it is critical to have a strong partnership with our parents and guardian. Glenwood has a strong history in this area and we are very fortunate.

Our **first Parent Council meeting** will be on **October 5, at 6-7 pm**. If you are interested in joining, please come out and learn more.

As you read our September Newsletter, please join me in having great optimism for our 2016-17 school year and the meaningful student and staff learning at Glenwood, **'a special place to learn.'**

Todd Graves

Vice Principal, Glenwood Special Day School

A DAY AT GLENWOOD

I would like to invite you to 'A Day at Glenwood'. It is actually only going to be an hour but I liked the title! On **October 3rd**, we are inviting you come and learn more about the school, meet the staff, enjoy seeing your child as they learn at Glenwood. We will run 2 sessions, from 9:30-10:30 am and again from 1:30 – 2:30 pm. Please pick the one that works for you. The plan will be;

9:30 – 9:45 (1:30-1:45)

Join our Day 4 activity with our students

in the gym. The students will be doing a Fall activity.

9:45- 10:15 (1:45-2:15)

A tour will be lead around the school describing our programming.

10:15-10:30 (2:15-2:30)

Returning to the gym and to be amazed at our students wonderful Fall creations.

We are excited about opening our doors for parents and caregivers to see, hear and experience the special learning that occurs here at Glenwood in real time! If you have any questions about 'A Day at Glenwood', please call me to chat.

- Mr. Graves

LIFE SKILLS WITH MARC



I am very excited to have the opportunity to work with our students again this year. Our goal each and every year is to develop and improve life skills & independence with our

students. These skills are developed in the classroom, Life Skills Room, around the school and in the community. Can't wait to get started!
~ Marc

ROOM 3 NEWS

Room 3 staff and students are ready for an adventure in learning! Kim, Andrea (our wonderful EAs) and myself are excited to be back and re-charged,. We have 5 fabulous men and boys in the Boys Club this year. We have

had a fantastic start, implementing technology such as the Smart Board, Clicker 6, iPads and the Sound beam. More to follow as I describe each of these electronic devices, and how the Boys Club uses them to enhance their learning on a daily basis.

Terri Densmore, OCT

ROOM 4's BACK

Students seem to be very happy to be back to school. In room four, we welcome back our returning students and staff and are excited to have a couple new faces joining the room four crew for this school year. A great big welcome!!! We are looking forward to another exciting year.

~ Brenda, Carole and Wendy

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. Teacher, Cathy Rowe has retired. We'd like to welcome back Amanda Zacharewicz who is returning as our Long Term Occasional Prep teacher. New to our teaching staff is Terry Laufman, and Long Term Occasional teacher Sandra Ireland who will be joining us this fall. We are also pleased to welcome Amber McAleer, Melissa Mullin, Colin Bailey, Christine Leblanc, Vanessa Mitic, Manisha Kumar and Heather Atkinson-Rossi to the Glenwood EA staff. As we begin the year, we have 3 Long Term Occasional EAs with us. These placements are for EAs on Leaves of Absence or to provide extra support. Our LTOs are Alyssa Sweet, Joanna Kisiel and Andrea Clark. A great big welcome to all of these new and returning faces to Glenwood.

TEACHING STAFF

- Room 1 - Mrs. Terry Laufman
- Room 2 - Mrs. Angela Saccomano
- Room 3 - Mrs. Terri Densmore
- Room 4 - Mrs. Brenda Moyer
- Room 6 - Mr. Ken Cameron
- Room 10 - Mrs. Sandra Ireland
- Room 11 - Mrs. Karen Schmidt
- Room 12 - Mrs. Laura Bruch
- Room 14 - Mrs. Penny Parry
- Prep - Mrs. Katy Gurman
- Prep - Ms. Amanda Zacharewicz

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



Note: This is a requirement, not a suggestion!

NOTE - Transportation is a service that is provided to Hamilton Wentworth students according to the

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.**

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. It may require calling BOTH the before and after school carriers if they are different.

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 2016-2017 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



Thursday

October

27th

2016



**More info to
follow. Stay
tuned for
details.**



Please detach and send to Mr. Graves

SCHOOL COUNCIL 2016-2017

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 Wednesday October 5th at 6:00pm**. 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: _____

September



			1	2
5 Labour Day	6 First Day of School!	7	8	9 Day 4 - Campfire Sing-Along
12	13 Jenny the Library Lady	14	15	16 Day 4 - Wii Dance
19	20	21	22	23 PA DAY
26 Day 4 - Fall Bingo	27	28	29	30

Upcoming Important Dates:

Thanksgiving October 10

Picture Day October 27

School Council October 5