

**OCTOBER:**

9 - THANKSGIVING

**NOVEMBER:**

3 - PA DAY

**THE  
GAZETTE**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Glenwood Special Day School is not just “a special place to learn”, it is also a very busy place. This is a very productive and positive business as it supports student achievement and a positive culture for both students and staff. Even as I sit at my computer to write this, Leigh, our wonderful Office Administrator is welcoming support staff and community partners to Glenwood. One of the 5 Strategic Directions of the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board is **Partnerships**. I am very proud of the numerous partnerships we have to support our students as they strive to develop their **Communication, Independence, Life skills** and their ability to **Transition**. Within our school board, Glenwood is heavily support by System support teams. It would be impossible to comment on all the supports that we are fortunate to receive here from the System in this note. I will mention only few that worked with us this week. The **Intensive Support Service team** met this week with every teacher and myself to support them in their IEP development. Monica, the Speech Pathologist on this team also has been teaching all the Educational Assistants and many of our teachers Savy Signing on Tuesdays after the buses all leave with our students to assist us in communication. Even Leigh, our Office Administrator, is taking this training so that she can communicate with many of our students when they come by the office! Stephanie, from the **Deaf and Hard of Hearing team**, was in yesterday supporting our staff as they work with students with hearing issues. At our next staff meeting, she will be providing information to us on cochlear implants and how to best support these learners.

Our partnerships are continuing to be developed with our community partners. This week, we had meetings with representatives from **Lynwood Charlton**, to share the strategies that we are using at Glenwood with their respite workers who support some of our students during the evenings and on weekends. It was wonderful to provide the visuals to them that the students use for communication here. We also made arrangements this week for staff from **CPRI in London** to come to Glenwood to support the transition of students in and out of their programs. We are also very fortunate to have regular communication with the support staff from the **Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre** as they provide a wealth of services and resources to our community.

We continue to develop our partnerships with our educational partners at **Mohawk College** and **McMaster University**. Over the course of two weeks, we have provide 2 group tours of Glenwood to over 50 Educational Assistant students from Mohawk College and their instructors. We followed the tours by highlighting the excellent work that our Glenwood EAs do on a daily basis. Our EAs got to pair off with students and share their challenges and celebrations and specific programs here at Glenwood. Next week, 3 EA students from Mohawk, will bring their student placements here for the next term, as we have done in the past. From McMaster University, three groups of students have also started volunteering at Glenwood.

There are many other partnerships that support the learning of your child here at Glenwood, from within Glenwood itself, to our HWDSB System Supports, to our community partners. You will hear more about some of those partnerships in the classroom section of this newsletter. However, the most valuable partnership we can develop is with you, the **parent and guardian**. Thank you for the trust that you give us on a daily basis to instruct your child and support their learning. As your child's **Individual Education Plan** is being developed, please continue to collaborate with your child's classroom teacher. The IEP is a working document that will evolved over the year as goals and learning expectations are met. Another way to continue this partnership would be through School Council. Our first **School Council meeting will be October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm** at the school. If you are interested in joining the Council, please come to our meeting or contact me to discuss this opportunity.

It is as if I planned it. The school door bell just rang and our second set of 4 McMaster students just arrived to volunteer! So, please enjoy reading the our October Newsletter and all of wonderful partnerships we have here at Glenwood, **'a special place to learn.'**

Sincerely,

Todd Graves

Vice Principal



Happy Thanksgiving



## Room 3 - Back to Basics!

It has been quite busy in Room 3 as both students and staff are settling into routine. Thank you to our families for your partnership with us and regularly checking their Communication Books. This allows for us to share important information, events and concerns, as well as ask any questions that we may have. It also provides a great opportunity for parent/guardians to do the same and share insight into home life! Our students love hearing notes their parent(s) wrote as this allows them to let us know what they did the previous night or over the weekend. As home-school communication continues to develop and strengthen, we are mindful that this is only one of the many tools available and that we can be reached by e-mail ([iquach@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:iquach@hwdsb.on.ca)) too! - *Ivan*

## Life Skills - Student Apartment

The Life Skills' Program at Glenwood which is based out of our "Student Apartment" is grateful for it's partnership with the **HWDSB Foundation**. We are fortunate to be able to provide furnishings that make our classroom feel more like a living space thanks to the generous grant from the Foundation last year. Having this room appear more like an actual living environment with a kitchen table, single bed, dresser with clothing items, night table and rugs, with allow our students to develop real life skills. We hope to continue with this relationship by applying for additional funds that will help to add a leisure component to our "apartment" area. ~ *Katy and Elyse*

## “So How was Your Day at School?”

In Room 14 , students are an active part of telling their caregivers how their day was at school. Students use visual supports to share all the wonderful things they did at school . The daily Communication Book is a great tool to build the **partnerships between home, school, group home facilities and support workers**. We are able to share concerns, celebrate successes and give details about daily events. We love to see students tell us about their night by circling the items in their book. Working together builds a great network for our students. ~ *Penny*

## ROOM 10 Getting in the Groove!

September has flown by and we are looking forward to an exciting fall season. Routines have been re-established, assessments underway and goals are being set for our students within their IEPs. It is also a time to reconnect with our community partners. We are fortunate to have many community partners that are involved in our student's lives in room 10. We know it is important to keep close contact with these human resources as a way to stay in touch with current practices and information. Some of the community partners I have been in contact with recently are the Ron Joyce Center and Forest Avenue Group Home. Both agencies are helpful, insightful and willing to communicate openly. Amazing community partners! ~ *Amanda Z*

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE!

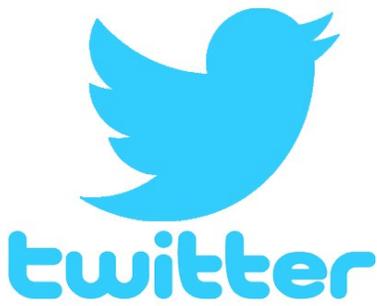
It takes a village to raise a child at both home and school! You as the parent/guardian are the #1 teacher in your child's life and we are so thankful for the hard work you do. In Room 2, myself and our Educational Assistants have many great partnerships with others who participate in the education of your child. While I can think of at least 10 partnerships we have with school board personnel and community partners who work directly with students in our class, the one I would like to focus on today is the **Orientation and Mobility Specialist**. Karen Wood supports both students at our school with students who have unique vision needs. She helps students where they are at - whether they use a cane or walker for example, and she trains staff within our school so that we all use the same strategies and techniques. We are fortunate to have her expertise! ~ *Angela*

## Helping Us Communicate - Room 6

This school year has brought us a few new faces in room 6, and we have reached out to partner with some of our HWDSB System Supports to meet new needs in our class. This includes meeting the needs of **English Language Learners** by consulting and planning with members of our English as a Second Language department, and contacting a **settlement worker** to act as a translator when necessary. This helps to ensure that parents can be more aware of what their student is learning in Room 6. It also means that we are implementing suggestions from the **Intensive Support Services Support team**, our **Learning Resource Teacher**, and others in the school community. By enlisting all of these services, we are positioning ourselves to meet the needs of all our students! ~ *Ken*

## Mac is coming to Room 4!

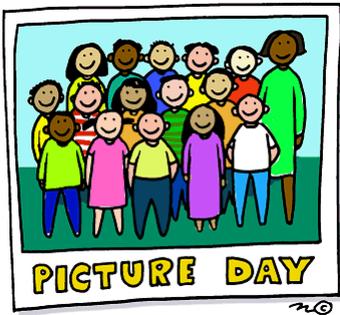
This term, the students and staff in Room 4 are looking forward to starting our partnership with **McMaster Arts for Children** (MAFC) through McMaster University. This wonderful group of university students plan and carry out creative, fun and engaging art activities with our students here at Glenwood! We are excited for this valuable experience. ~ *Sherri*



Glenwood now has its Twitter page on the Glenwood website!

Follow us @GlenwoodHWDSB to see some of the amazing things going on!

# 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 or stop by our Meeting. We look forward to seeing you!

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

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

Contact Info: Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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



<b>2</b> Day 4 - Let's Build a Scarecrow	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>9</b> Thanksgiving	<b>10</b> Day 4 - Design an Obstacle Course	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> School Council 6pm	<b>13</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Day 4 - Pumpkin Carving	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Day 4 - Halloween Movie	<b>25</b> Autism Ontario Family Night	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Picture Day
<b>30</b>	<b>30</b> Day 4 - Halloween Dance/Parade			

Upcoming Important Dates:

PA Day November 3