



GLENBROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

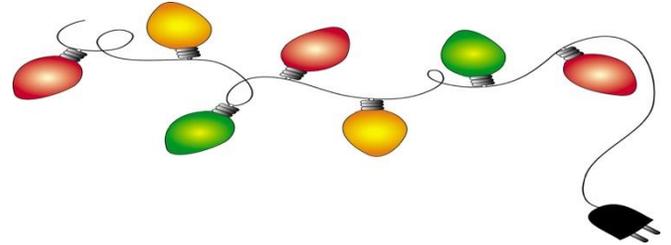
December NEWSLETTER



Valerie Smith, Principal * Kaye Martin, Vice-Principal * Sandi Mitchell, Office Coordinator

Administrator's Message:

It is hard to believe that December is here already and that we are so close to Christmas. December brings the joy of giving and we would like to thank our parents for all their time and support they give to teachers, staff, and students. It makes Glenbrook a great place to learn!



At Glenbrook, we love to get Gritty! Grit is all about hard work and perseverance. Students are learning about changing from a **fixed mindset** (our brains are set at birth, and we only have a certain amount of smarts) to a **growth mindset** (effort, and practice will help me improve in whatever area I choose). Practicing certain skills over and over helps our brains 'grow' and enables us to solve problems in and outside of school. Instead of saying, "I don't understand this work, I give up!" tell yourself, "I don't understand this, YET!" Below are a few ideas of how you can create a growth mindset environment at home:

- We can't expect our children to have a growth mindset if we don't have one. Recognize fixed mindset thinking in yourself and talk yourself into a growth mindset. This can also be done out loud so that your child can hear how you are changing your mindset.
- Be aware of your own fixed mindset statements such as "I'm a terrible cook", "I was never good at math either", or "I wish I could play the piano like you do" (You can, with practice and perseverance!)
- Be aware of blaming genetics for anything – both positive and negative.
- Be careful about comparing your kids to their siblings or other kids.
- We want our children to enjoy the process of learning – not just be successful. Model this concept at home. For example, after a less than desirable outcome trying to bake something challenging, you might say "I really learned a lot making those cookies" rather than "Ugghh, what a waste of time. That was an epic fail. I will never try that recipe again."

With December being a busy month, we hope you take the time to enjoy your family and focus on the moments rather than the gifts being received. In the words of Dr. Seuss, "It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes, or bags. Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more!" Whatever you are celebrating this holiday, be it Diwali, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Chinese New Year or other winter holiday celebrations, we wish you a safe and healthy holiday and look forward to seeing you in the New Year 😊

Valerie Smith and Kaye Martin

NOON HOUR SUPERVISOR



Glenbrook is looking for Supervisors to help with duty before and after school (8:15am-8:30am and 2:50pm-3:05pm). Also, we are in need of substitute supervisors to help cover both nutrition breaks. Both positions are paid. An updated police check will be required. If this is something that may interest you, please contact the office for more information.

Start of the Day Reminders

A friendly reminder that when you are dropping of your child(ren) in the mornings, please make sure they use the rear entrances and not the front door, as the office area often gets congested. If you arrive late and are escorting your child into the school, you must report to the office. Please do not walk your child to class.

The front parking lot is closed in the morning till 9am and till 3:10pm at the end of the day. This area must be kept clear for bussing, and for the safety of students arriving and leaving the school. If you need to come to the office, please use the rear parking lot.

If you are using the Kiss and Ride, please make sure you pull up as far as you can, before dropping your child(ren) off. Please do not leave your car unattended at anytime. Thank you for your cooperation!

Attendance

If you know that your child will be late or absent, please call the office (519)-925-0580 (ext:100) before 8:30 a.m. When students are absent and we have not been informed as to the reason, we attempt to contact parents/guardians.

If we are unsuccessful in reaching a parent, guardian, and/or emergency contact, we contact the police to report missing students, if we believe a child to be at risk.

Please make sure you update your contact information, with the office, if there have been any changes.



Learning Commons News



Glenbrook READS! ends on Friday December 2nd with an assembly where Glenbrook's favourite book, *Salt In His Shoes*, by Deloris Jordan and Roslyn M. Jordan, will be read by Mrs. Smith. Congratulations to the winners of copies of all the nominated books and A HUGE Thank you to our Parent Council for supporting this school wide literacy event.

In addition, the grades 3-6 had the opportunity to learn how to become a writer from the author Michael Wade. His books are funny and entertaining, as was his presentation. Another huge thank you to parent council for funding this visit. He had all the students laughing in minutes and engaged and motivated them to continue reading and writing.

Throughout the month of December, the kindergarten, grade 1 and 2 classes will be finishing their author studies and making a class book which will remain in their classroom. In January, we will begin our Forest of Reading Book Club. The primary students will be reading the Blue Spruce selections during library time; Junior and Intermediate students will have the option to join this club in January. The Forest of Reading Book Club is Canada's largest reading program with participants from across Canada and the world. If you would like more information on the titles, please visit

www.accessola.org



FOOD & FRIENDS PROGRAM
DUFFERIN · WELLINGTON · GUELPH

Give a gift with special meaning. This year, instead of purchasing a gift, why not honour your teacher with a donation to the Children's Foundation's Food & Friends program? The Children's Foundation would be pleased to provide a tax receipt for donations over \$20 and the individual(s) with a card to notify them that you have made the donation in honour of this holiday season. Click [here](#) to make your donation today.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE:

Please register before JANUARY 2017!!

Parents - please register for School Cash Online!

ONLINE PAYMENTS NOW AVAILABLE!

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into our school. School related expenses such as pizza days, field trips, spirit wear, yearbooks, etc. will be available for online purchase. Please take a few minutes to register so you can enjoy the convenience of online shopping.

Here's how to register:

- Step 1:** Go to this website: ugdsb.schoolcashonline.com
- Step 2:** Register by selecting "Get Started Now" and following the steps.
- Step 3:** Respond to the confirmation email, select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account.

Benefits:

- Convenient:** Make payments 24/7
- Easy to Use:** Fill a shopping cart and checkout
- Safe:** No need to send Cash or Cheques
- Secure:** Website is protected and encrypted
- Save Time:** It takes less than 5 minutes to register



Please note:

Pizza orders for January, February, and March can be ordered online up to December 16th. We strongly encourage families to sign up for our online payment program. If you need assistance with registering or do not have access to the internet, please contact the office and we will gladly assist you.

Feedback welcome on draft policies

The Upper Grand District School Board is welcoming public input on draft policies. Currently under review are **Code of Conduct** Policy 213 and **Child Abuse and Protection** Policy 502 (submit feedback by January 13, 2017). You are invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at www.ugdsb.on.ca/policy.

Monthly Environmental Activities to help celebrate our planet



December 10th is Human Rights Day!

It is vital to teach our children to respect and take care of the environment.

Celebrate Human Rights Day on December 10th!

“This year, Human Rights Day calls on everyone to stand up for someone's rights. It starts with each of us.” Step forward and defend the rights of someone whose voice is not being heard. Demonstrate an understanding of equality, human dignity and justice. Consider and be respectful of the rights and opinions of others, especially if they are different from yours. Recognize that human rights include the right for all of us to have access to clean water, unpolluted air and healthy food.

“There is no action that is too small: wherever you are, you can make a difference. Together, let’s take a stand for more humanity.”

-- UN High Commissioner for Human Rights: Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein”

<http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsdav/>



<http://calendarholidavs.xvz/holidav/168/human-rights-dav.>

Simple yet meaningful ways for your family to celebrate the rights and responsibilities that we all share as human beings!

- **Learn about how children live in other parts of the world.** Look at pictures on the web and discuss how we are the same and how we are different.
- **Read the book: We Are All Born Free: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Pictures** by Amnesty International
- **Read the Ontario Environmental Bill of Rights.** Decide if there is a cause your family wants to support, or an Ecojustice action you want to take on.
- **Talk to someone you know who is from another country.** Where are they from? What was their life like there? What language did they speak? Did they go to school? What do they miss? What do they like about their new country?
- **Start a tradition of doing a family service project on Human Rights Day.** There are many opportunities to volunteer, such as preparing and serving meals at a local homeless shelter or simply gathering enough to put together a bunch of care packages of simple needs and necessities. <https://humanrightswarrior.com>

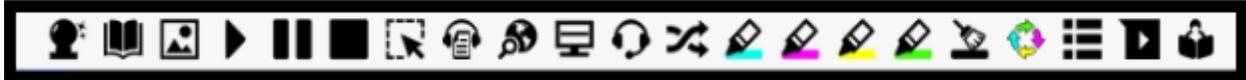
“For the bigger picture we can (and should) do what we can to fight injustice. But on a smaller scale, in the day-to-day, practicing kindness can help knit a web of compassion to give humanity a boost of resilience”

Junior Kindergarten registration

Junior Kindergarten registration for the 2017-18 school year begins on January 9, 2017. Children born in 2013 are eligible to begin Junior Kindergarten in September 2017.

Please note that the **registration process for the upcoming school year has changed**. This includes changes to the French Immersion registration and selection process. Information nights are currently underway at all of our JK French Immersion sites. For more information about this process or to find the time and date of our JK FI registration process information nights at a school near you, please visit www.ugdsb.on.ca/jkfi

Discover the Awesome Tools that Students Can Access in the Read & Write Toolbar



Every student in the Upper Grand District School Board has access to a handful of incredible tools via an app called **Read & Write** that can help them with reading, comprehension, written expression, & gathering research.

Read & Write is attached to student accounts, so students need to be logged into Chrome to use this feature.

Check it out! ... Supports on the R&W toolbar include;



Word Prediction



Quick access to dictionary tools



Having text read out loud in English or in French



A tracking tool that provides a focus when reading



The ability to turn your speech to text



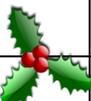
Highlight and collect text, & build vocabulary lists



Changes to Voice, Speed & Language can be made easily in Settings

Read & Write tools are powerful for **ALL kids**, but they make a huge difference for those with **learning disabilities**. These tools allow students to read independently, comprehend more of what they are reading, and demonstrate their understanding; allowing them to work smarter, not harder.

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1  Pizza Day	2 Glenbrook Reads Assembly	3 International day of Persons with Disabilities
4	5	6	7 Hat Day! 	8 Primary Trip to see 'Oliver' Bodhi Day (Buddhism)	9 Glenbrook Wear Day!	10 Human Rights Day
11 Milad-un-Nabi (Islam)	12	13 Staff and Student Hockey Game 9am 	14	15  Pizza Day	16 Jr Skating 	17
18 	19 Alice in Wonderland Play – 7pm	20 Wear Green and Red Day! Primary Concert 9am	21	22	23 Holiday Pajama Day!	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day Chanukah (25 th -Jan.1)	26 Boxing Day Kawanzaa (26 th -Jan.1)	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve



**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER FOR REMINDERS OF
UPCOMING EVENTS**

@GlenbrookES

