



GLENBROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER



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

Administrator's Message:

March Break (March 13th-17th) and Spring is just around the corner. As we move towards Spring, Glenbrook classrooms continue to buzz with learning and activities.



Escarpment Outdoor Adventures Challenge Course

We are getting very excited about hosting this outstanding activity in our School from March 20th–March 24th. All students at Glenbrook will have two opportunities during the week to experience this challenge, building their physical strength, stamina and self-confidence. Student will be given opportunities to challenge themselves at their own comfort level. All activity instruction and training is provided through Escarpment Outdoor Adventures. All student must return signed permission forms prior to participating in this event. We will not be able to accept verbal permission for participation from parents.

Due to space limitations and safety concerns, spectators will not be permitted in the gym during these classes. Please encourage your child to share their experience with you through conversations, art and writing. For more information about this program, please go to <http://escarpmentclimbing.com/>. **Please be sure parents and students are aware that participants must be in athletic attire and running shoes. Students will not be permitted to wear hoodies with strings or jewelry (e.g., necklaces, earrings, bracelets). Medical Alerts will be taped in place.**

Should you have any questions about this activity, please contact your child's teacher or the school office.

EQAO

As May approaches, parents of Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will begin to hear more about the EQAO tests which are scheduled for the end of May (*May 24-26 - grade 3; May 29 – 31 - grade 6*). Teachers have been working hard to prepare children for this important test. EQAO assesses all students in Grade 3 and Grade 6 in reading, writing, and mathematics. The EQAO website (www.eqao.com) has some valuable resources for parents from frequently asked questions to sample tests. We will also be looking for scribes during this time. If you are able to volunteer your time on any of these dates, please contact the office.

Academic Excellence

Term 1 is over, reports have gone home and term 2 has begun. Please encourage your child(ren) to pay close attention to suggested "next steps" in their term 1 reports and strive for excellence. Remind them that effort is the most important quality that we need to achieve success. Success is always the result of practice and hard work. We call effort, and not giving up – grit. Ask your child how he/she got gritty today!

Please encourage your child to:

- Read each night
- Practice math facts each night (<https://xtramath.org/#/home/index>)
- Get a good night's sleep

It is important to remember that students with many absences and lates are not able to meet their academic potential. Please make sure that your child(ren) are given the best possible life chances. Thanks for your continued support with your child's educational experience, which is vital to the success.

Farewell and Welcome

We would like to take this time to announce the departure of Ms. Ingram. Ms. Ingram has been teaching grade 5 at Glenbrook while Ms. Schafer has been on maternity leave. Ms. Ingram has accepted a position at Laurelwoods and we wish her the very best. Glenbrook's loss is Laurelwoods gain! Please help us welcome Mr. Zettel who will be taking over from Ms. Ingram until Ms. Schafer's return on April 3rd.

Have a great March Break and enjoy some quality family time together.

Valerie Smith and Kaye Martin

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



Students in kindergarten- Grade 3 are continuing to read Blue Spruce Books in the library. So far we have read books about Vincent Van Gogh and bullying in The Artist and Me, what dogs think kids do all day in school in Stanley at School, a story on friendship between a small boy and an elderly man in Harry and Waler, how crows and wolves work together to survive in The Wolf Birds, and a story that looks at how technology affects family life in Invisi Bill. Students have been exploring books with a variety of activities and will vote for their favourite in April. Junior and Intermediate students are enjoying the Silver Birch and Red Maple book Clubs. Thank you to Parent Council for purchasing these Canadian books which will be available to all students in May. During March Break, book club students are encouraged to continue reading over the break as they need to have read 5 books to qualify to vote. Books are available at the Glenbrook and Shelburne libraries. Junior and Intermediate students can share their opinions about the books they have read by accessing the reading club Blogs at UG2GO and clicking on the club link. **Happy Reading!**

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 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.





MONTHLY ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES TO HELP CELEBRATE OUR PLANET

March 25th is Earth Hour!

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

Join the global Movement! Celebrate Earth Hour on March 25th at 8:30pm.

Earth Hour's mission is uniting people to protect the planet by raising awareness of about climate change and encouraging positive action.

"Earth Hour was famously started as a lights-off event in Sydney, Australia in 2007. Since then it has grown to engage more than 172 countries and territories worldwide."

Earth Hour is more than an event. It is a movement that has achieved massive environmental impact, including legislation changes by harnessing the power of the crowd."

Click [here](#) to see a short video clip of Earth Hour's story around the world and click [here](#) for highlights of 2015

Ideas for your family to do for Earth Hour!

Earth Hour belongs to you. Celebrate your commitment to the planet with your friends, family, community or at work - in your own way.

A simple event can be just turning off all non-essential lights on March 25th from 8:30-9:30 pm. For one hour, focus on your commitment to our planet. To celebrate, you can:

- *prepare a candle lit dinner,*
- *talk to your neighbours, or invite people over*
- *stargaze, or go camping in your backyard*
- *play board games, or charades*
- *host a concert, or a sing-a-long*
- *create or join your own community event*
- *have an Earth Hour every month*

The possibilities are endless!

Quotes and information taken from: <https://www.earthhour.org/>

Vision Health

If you suspect that your child is struggling with vision issues, there are several things that you can do. First, book an eye exam with an optometrist. Basic OHIP coverage for eye exams, is available free of charge, for children from birth to age 19. Speak with your child's teacher regarding your concerns and encourage your child to clearly express to the teacher the difficulties they are having (Are they having trouble seeing things on the board? Are they having trouble copying information? Are they having trouble seeing the information in novels/textbooks/notebooks etc.?) There are a number of accommodations that can be made to quickly address potential problems, including seating closer to the board or larger print on computers or photocopies. You can also discuss with the classroom teacher or SERT the possibility of making a referral to one of the Vision Itinerant Teachers who provide support to your school.





Me to We would love to help you do your spring cleaning!!! Bag2school specializes in good quality secondhand clothing that can be re-used. At Glenbrook we will be collecting bags of unwanted used adult and children's clothing, paired shoes, hats, belts, handbags, ties and soft toys. You can drop these off at Glenbrook before March 23rd. Bag2school will pay us for these items and the money raised will go toward supporting Me to We initiatives. Feel free to use your bags from home as well as bag2school bags. Drop off will be in the front hall from March 1 to 23rd. Me to We would like to thank you for your support.



The Children's Foundation of Guelph and Wellington is a local organization helping local families.

Food and Friends is the division that focuses on bringing healthy food to hungry minds. Under their direction, volunteers provide a Breakfast Program in Glenbrook E. S. and make lunches and snacks for children as needed.

Each year the Children's Foundation runs the LIVE FREE donation campaign to seek assistance from the school community. These funds stay within our school.

This year the Glenbrook campaign will run from March 6th to March 10th. Donations will be welcomed in loose change brought to school.

On behalf of the volunteers and students at the Glenbrook Breakfast Club we would like to offer our sincerest thanks to everyone contributing to our goal of providing a healthy learning environment. Whether you have taken part in the Shelburne Home Hardware Donate a Plate event, participated in Toonies for Tummies at the grocery store, given to the Live Free Campaign or sent in a box of cereal, we are extremely grateful and we celebrate living in such caring community with you.

Digital Saturday returns this March!

All parents in the UGDSB are invited to attend Digital Saturday, which will be hosted at JD Hogarth PS in Fergus. See a variety of technology used in the UGDSB. Meet with Special Education staff to learn more about how they support all students. Discover the rich online digital resources available to your children from home and at school. Presentations include: devices in our schools, Homework Help, Cospaces and Ozobot, Google Apps for Education, UG2GO, Coding in the Classroom, MIT App Inventor, Grandpals, Virtual Reality, SEA, and My Blueprint. Digital Saturday is on March 25 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Feedback welcome on draft policies

The Upper Grand District School Board is welcoming public input on draft policies. Currently under review is the **Website and Social Media Management** Policy 312. You are invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at www.ugdsb.on.ca/policy. The deadline for public input is March 16, 2017 at 4 p.m. EST. Persons without internet access may call 519-822-4420 (or toll-free 1-800-321-4025) ext. 723 to request a printed copy of the draft documents.

Parents are also invited to share feedback on **secondary French language instruction**. Do you have a child enrolled in high school? Parents/guardians with children in a UGDSB secondary school are asked to complete a short, confidential survey on French language instruction at the high school level, in both Core French and French Immersion. For more information and to complete the survey, please visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/secondaryFSLsurvey.

HEAD LICE

Head lice continues to be a community problem. While head lice are a nuisance, they are not a health hazard or communicable disease. The control of head lice requires the cooperative efforts of parents and schools.

How do I check for head lice?

To confirm a case of head lice you need to find lice. Children can have a few nits without actually having a case of head lice.

- Good lighting is important when you are checking
- Head lice move fast and are hard to see. They are usually found very close to the scalp, at the bottom of the neck and behind the ears.
- To look for nits, part hair in small sections, moving from one side of the head to the other. Check carefully, looking close to the scalp.

What do to when you find lice

- When lice are found, treat your child (see below)
- You can call Tele-health Ontario (1-866-797-0000)
- Consult your pharmacist for appropriate treatment and/or talk to your family doctor
- Check out www.carigforkids.cps.ca/handouts/head_lice

How can head lice be treated?

Buy a head lice product from the drugstore and **follow the directions carefully**. Usually you need to repeat the treatment after a week. (Check the recommendation on the box). Consult your pharmacist or doctor to make sure the product is appropriate for all of the people in your home.

Make sure it doesn't spread

- Teach children how head lice are spread and how to avoid them
- Keep long hair tied back
- Do not share headgear such as hats, scarves, hair clips, helmets or headphones and do not use other people's pillows, towels, combs, or brushes.
- Check your child's scalp once a week under good lighting.



UGDSB Dufferin Joint Council and the Ministry of Education Regional PRO Grant Present:

Are You As SOCIAL As Your Kids?
Getting on the same page as our kids when it comes to SOCIAL MEDIA.

Keynote Speaker: Chris Vollum
Seminar Presenters: Constable Scott Davis & Michelle Campbell (UGDSB)

*Social Media Responsibility *Internet Safety *FREE Educational Tools

This is a **FREE** event
for **ALL PARENTS** in the Orangeville/
Dufferin Area (and all parents in the UGDSB)

When
Saturday, April 8, 9:00—Noon

Where
Westside Secondary School (Theatre)

For More Information and to Register, go to:
www.ugdsb.on.ca/pic
and click on the "Events" page
(Students, 10+ are welcome to join in as well)



Door Prizes!



Will be provided
for school age
children — 4+

See registration
page for more
information.

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 Toonie for Tennis Ash Wednesday (Christian)	2 	3 Toonie for Tennis Glenbrook Spirit Wear Day!	4
5 Food and Friends Live Free week 	6 Gr. 8 Grad Meeting Sideline BasketBall Tournament	7 Parent Council Meeting 6:30pm	8 Crazy Hair Day! International Women's Day!	9  Pizza	10  Junior Skating	11
12 Purim (Judaism) Holi (Hinduism)	13	14 Sikh New Year	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day!	18
MARCH BREAK! HAVE FUN AND BE SAFE!						
19	20 ROPES CHALLENGE BEGINS!	21 International day for the elimination of Racial Discrimination (UN) D.A.R.E.	22 Maple Sugar Bush Trip (Nienhuis) World Water Day!	23 Maple Sugar Bush Trip (Muscat & Crago) Pizza 	24 ROPES CHALLENGE ENDS!	25 Celebrate Earth Hour! 
26	27	28	29 Career Spirit Day! D.A.R.E.	30	31 Grit Assembly	



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

@GlenbrookES

