

Glenbrook Elementary School

Newsletter



November 2015

Principal's Message:

Glenbrook students and staff have been busy! We have enjoyed a wide variety of fall activities in classrooms including math with apples, making apple sauce, carving pumpkins, cooking with pumpkins and "inspired by nature" works of art. The "Arts" came to life as our staff and students became "dramatic" in their Halloween costumes.

Our grade three students completed the CCAT assessments this month. Parents will be receiving those results in the upcoming weeks.

Glenbrook READS has started! Students are enjoying wonderful stories of GRIT and determination. We have also celebrated our first Glenbrook GRIT assembly and will continue, each month, to recognize students for their resiliency and perseverance. Congratulations to our cross-country runners! Coaches and athletes both represented Glenbrook well. We are all proud of their accomplishments. Thank you students, staff and parents for your continuous support of Glenbrook academics and activities!

School Photos /



School photo proofs were sent home with students last week. Photo orders are due back at Glenbrook no later than Friday November 6th, 2015.

Edge Imaging photographers will be returning to our school on Tuesday, November 10th for photo retakes.

If your child was absent for our original photo day, or if your child requires a photo retake, please make sure that he/she attends in the morning of Monday, November 10th.

Attendance:

8:30am Start Time:

While we recognize there are a number of reasons a child may occasionally arrive to school late, we are asking for your commitment and cooperation in assisting your children to arrive promptly for our 8:30am start time.



Students arriving late often miss important information provided through daily announcements and the early morning instructions given by classroom teachers.

If your child does arrive to school after the 8:30am bell, they will be held in the hallways until after the National Anthem and morning announcements are completed. They will be direct to classrooms where the classroom teacher will mark them late. Students arriving after announcements are completed will be required to sign in at the office and obtain an admit slip prior to going to class. Parents will be notified in the case of persistent lateness.

2:50pm End Time:

If for any reason you need to pick your child up prior to the end of our school day, we kindly ask that you write a note in your child's agenda or contact the office **prior to 2:15pm** to make these arrangements. This will allow us to limit the number of classroom interruptions. The office is very busy at the end of the day. As a result, calls received after 2:15pm may not be relayed to students prior to our dismissal.

Progress Reports Update:

The Upper Grand District School Board would like to inform parents and guardians that due to the impact of province wide job action, Elementary Progress Report Cards will not be going out as scheduled.

Like most public school boards in Ontario, Upper Grand is postponing Elementary Progress Reports, which were scheduled to go out in November. If the current labour situation is resolved, we will reassess the status of the fall Progress Reports. However, if job action continues, there would likely be insufficient time for completion of the reports, as school staff will be focused on completing and distributing Term 1 Report Cards.

The Board will continue to monitor the situation and its impact on elementary students. For updates please visit the UGDSB board website at www.ugdsb.on.ca

GRIT ~ The raw endurance, perseverance and passion that keeps you going despite obstacles.

(Anonymous)

Ready for Recess:

As colder and sometimes damp weather continues, please ensure your child is dressed for outdoor play. This may mean winter coats, hats, mittens, rain coats, and/or boots. It is best to plan on your child having an outdoor recess everyday. It is very important that children are always dressed to stay warm and dry outside. During light rain, we will continue with our outdoor plans. When weather is severe we will of course plan for indoor recess.



Glenbrook Intramural Hockey:

Our ball hockey/mini-stick hockey intramural opportunities will begin this month.

There will be an information meeting for intermediate students on Tuesday, November 3rd at 1st Nutrition Break. Students in grades 4-6 are invited to join in a ball hockey information meeting on Wednesday, November 4th during 1st recess.

Our primary students, grades 1-3 will learn more about a mini-stick league by attending a meeting on Wednesday, November 4th during 2nd Nutrition Break.

All students must attend the meeting and return completed permission forms prior to participating in these opportunities.



Welcome!



We are happy to welcome Justin Hamilton to the Glenbrook team! Justin has accepted the 0.6 Planning Time position that had been covered by Adam Hawkins. Justin will be working with our Kindergarten, Primary and Junior students. We look forward to having Justin's enthusiasm and skill at Glenbrook.

A Message From Mrs. Stewart in The School Library:

Glenbrook READS! Following reading and two days of voting, this marvelous event will end on Monday November 9th where Glenbrook's favourite book will be announced and read by Mrs. Kennedy. The Glenbrook READS! Extravaganza will culminate with five surprise book "give aways". A HUGE "Thank You" to our Parent Council for supporting this school wide literacy event.



Lockdown Drill:

Glenbrook Elementary School will be holding a lockdown drill on Friday, November 20th at 9:00 a.m. This is part of our school's Emergency Procedures Plan. The Shelburne Police Department have been made aware of this drill and a representative may join us while we practice this procedure.

School staff will review lockdown procedures with our students prior to this drill. If you have any questions about our lockdown drill, please contact the school (519) 925-0580.

Canadian Tire Collection Box:

Glenbrook School continues to collect Canadian Tire money. A collection box has been placed in the front office of the school. Canadian Tire will match all monies collected up to a total of \$300.00.



We have managed to collect approximately \$150 since the beginning of this fundraising initiative. This money will be used to provide recess equipment for our students. If you have Canadian Tire money that you would be willing to donate, please place it in the designated drop-off box in the school office. We appreciate any contributions that can be made to our school.

Read This Newsletter and Win a Prize!!!

Win a hockey stick

After your family has read this newsletter, please sign and detach this coupon. "Our family" must include at least one parent/guardian who has read the newsletter. This coupon must be placed in the yellow mailbox in the front office at Glenbrook school. A ballot will be drawn from the yellow mailbox each month indicating the winning family for the month. This month's draw will be held on Friday, November 27th, 2015.

Our family has read the newsletter corresponding to this draw.

Family Name: _____ **Parent's Signature:** _____

Inclement Weather Procedures for Glenbrook Students:

Glenbrook will be open when buses are cancelled. This is due to the fact that our school is not dependent on bus transportation and all of our students can walk to school. **It is very important for parents/guardians to report student absences from school on the attendance line before 8:30 am**, should you believe that weather conditions are such that it is unsafe for your child(ren) to walk to school, and you have made the decision to keep your child(ren) at home.

Glenbrook does have an "information" mailbox. **It is an "Inclement Weather Information Mailbox" that can be reached by dialing 519-925-0580, ext 350.**

Another alternative is to access our Board's Transportation website: www.stwdsts.ca/ Scroll down to the bottom of the page and read the transportation information in the green box for Dufferin County.



Glenbrook Natural Playground

Glenbrook's Playground construction has begun! You will see a construction crew and equipment working throughout the next few weeks to install the "natural playground" in the Junior / Senior Kindergarten playground area at the school. We are all excitedly watching as the JK/SK playground is transformed from a fenced in concrete pad into a natural and interactive play setting. This area will provide an extension of the classroom and opportunity a hands-on, fun and dynamic learning environment.

A very big thank you to all of those involved in the fund raising efforts which were essential to the creation of this playground. A project like this takes an entire community effort and Glenbrook is fortunate to have both the leadership and commitment of many people to make ideas reality.

The construction of the playground is expected to take several weeks to complete. A Grand Opening of the playground is scheduled for Mid-November. Details of this event will be announced closer to the completion of the construction.

Safety: During our construction phase, we are asking all students and parents to use the **west entrance** into our tarmac area. Parents accompanying our Kindergarten students are asked to also use the **west tarmac entrance** to access the south door of the gymnasium at drop off and pick up times.

Glenbrook Travel Survey Results October 2015

	Driving		Bus		Walking	
	Dec 2014	Oct 2015	Dec 2014	Oct 2015	Dec 2014	Oct 2015
TO School	53%	35%	1%	1%	45%	59%
FROM School	38%	29%	1%	0%	59%	65%

Thank you to Mr. Long's class for conducting our School Travel Survey. Glenbrook is designed to be a walking school and we strongly encourage this healthy life habit. Through our School Travel Planning, we will be sharing a map showing safe and active routes to school in the upcoming days. We will also be undergoing some changes in our school parking arrangements and traffic flow to improve safety for our students.

The results from October's survey include our "**Walk To School Day**" which was organized by our Parent Council and well supported by our students and families! Our survey shows that as winter approaches fewer children continue to walk to school. Please consider how you might enable your child to walk to and from school throughout the year.

Please contact the school or Parent Council if you are interested in becoming involved in the creation of **Glenbrook's Walking School Bus Routes**. This initiative is designed to further increase the number of students choosing to walk to school.



Updates of Support for Students Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

"I Feel Good!" A Guide to Support the Mental Health and Well-Being of Children and Youth Who Are deaf and Hard of Hearing

Although advances in hearing technology and early intervention programs have made it possible for greater numbers of children with hearing loss to access sound in order to develop spoken language, some parents continue to express concern that their children are experiencing challenges in their social relationships. To assist families and professionals in supporting the mental health and developing the social skills of children and youth with hearing loss, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children has produced "I Feel Good!" A Guide to Support the Mental Health and Well-Being of Children and Youth Who Are deaf and Hard of Hearing in Ontario's schools. This publication was developed in collaboration with the Canadian Hearing Society and with input from researchers at Universities of Toronto and Western Ontario as well as clinical psychologists. This resource highlights typical social developmental milestones, the impact hearing loss may have on social interactions and provides suggestions to support developing social skills. The goal of the guide and these proactive strategies is to assist children and youth with hearing loss to develop the skills they need to successfully integrate with peers at school and in the community at large. Be sure to access both the French & English versions on our website www.voicefordeafkids.com

"Sounds for Success" e-learning course

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children has also launched a new series of videos and resources that support the unique needs of deaf and hard of hearing students. Our new resources were created to assist educators in Kindergarten to grade 2 in providing an inclusive environment for their students with hearing loss. Visit the VOICE website to view courses and resources, in both English and French, on a variety of topics including Laying the Foundation for Literacy, Developing Social Skills and Effective use of Classroom Amplification Systems. We encourage parents to share this information with their child's school and classroom teachers and invite them to take advantage of these free and informative resources, as they plan for a successful year for students with hearing loss. See the Resources for Professionals section on the new VOICE website www.voicefordeafkids.com



November's Environmental Theme: Air Pollution



Air pollution is a big problem. But we can solve it. Know that all over the world, steps are being taken to stop the damage to our environment from air pollution. Scientists study the damaging effects and make recommendations. Governments write laws to control emissions. Canada has a Clean Air Act. And the good news is that recently Ontario became the first province in Canada to no longer make electricity using coal-fired power plants! Perhaps most importantly, teachers in schools and universities are educating our youth to understand the problem and make a difference.

What are some of the ways we can reduce air pollution? Planting trees is a great way to help filter our air and make it clean. If cars are producing too much carbon dioxide then trees will help convert it back into essential pure oxygen. Also, use a push mower instead of a gas-powered mower, or use a snow shovel instead of a power snow remover. Bike and walk more, and look into purchasing a more fuel-efficient car. If you buy locally produced food, trucks won't need to make as many far away deliveries and use as much fuel. You can even help indoor air quality by growing plants indoors, especially spider plants, the peace lily, or bamboo palms to help take toxins out of the air inside.

Scientists are also working on how to use energy in a cleaner way. For one example, an alternate fuel source that emits fewer greenhouse gases than conventional fossil fuels comes from an unexpected source - vegetable oil! Type "Run Your Car on Vegetable Oil" into Google and find out the pros and cons of this alternative fuel source.

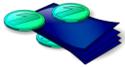
Slogan of the month: Keep our air healthy - plant a tree!

School Council Meetings:

Our School Council will be holding its next meeting at **6:20 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10th**. We invite all Glenbrook parents, guardians and community members to attend this meeting. Please come and hear about the initiatives that our Council is taking on this year and learn about other initiatives that are happening at our school or stay connected by accessing the Glenbrook School Parent Council Group on Facebook.



November 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Check your Alarm!</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Intramural Ball-Hockey Meeting (Intermediate)</p> 	<p>4 Intramural Ball Hockey Meetings (Junior/Primary)</p> 	<p>5 Pizza Day  Glenbrook Reads Voting Camp Quality Puppet Shows (Primary & Junior students)</p>	<p>6 Picture Orders Due  Glenbrook Reads Voting</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>9 Glenbrook Reads Assembly </p>	<p>10  Picture Retake Day Parent Council Meeting 6:20pm </p>	<p>11 Remembrance Day Observations and Assembly </p>	<p>12 Gr. 7 & 8 Vaccinations</p>	<p>13 Spirit Wear Orders Due </p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 Anti-Bullying Week Begins </p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Fresh From the Farm Orders Arriving  LP Stage Productions</p>	<p>19 Pizza Day  Tentative Opening Ceremony for Playground. </p>	<p>20 Lockdown Drill 9:00am</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 PD Day No Classes</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Grey Cup 2015 </p>	<p>30</p>					

Professional Development Day - November 27st, 2015