



# GLENDALE REVIEW

September 2011

## Glendale Public School

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PATRICE JOHNSON  
Principal

SUE GREER  
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Trustee  
905-228-3132

### Welcome to the 2011 - 2012 School Year at Glendale School!

I hope you had a healthy and relaxing summer with your children.

As a principal at a new school, I am feeling like a new student. I hope those of you who have been here in previous years will be able to help me with "the hard parts". I have heard so many wonderful things about this community and am excited to be here. I am sure you are as curious about me as I am of each of you. So be sure to stop by the office or catch me in the yard and we can get to know each other.

We welcome new teachers to our school – Mr. Rumsby is our Grade 5 teacher, Mr. Winskill will be teaching Primary music and Mrs. Bendlis is our Itinerant Instructional Coach. We are sure that everyone will welcome them warmly to the Glendale family.

I'd like to welcome all the families who are new to the Glendale area. I'm sure that as you visit and become involved with your child's education you'll find that it is a great place to educate your child. Education should be an exciting partnership amongst the students, parents, teachers and the community at large. If all of these partners do their best I guarantee that every student will develop to his/her potential. Research indicates that children whose parents show a strong interest and support for their child's education will be more successful. If we expect our children to be the best they can be, we owe it to them to be the best parents and teachers we can be! Never hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have a question, concerns or compliments. It has been my experience that volunteering is a way to understand the workings of a school. Consider becoming involved! This includes, yet is not limited to, volunteering in a classroom, chaperoning on a trip, attending School Council Meetings, and attending our school's special events, such as assemblies and sports activities, etc. Be sure to support the daily habit of reading by modeling reading for your child. Turn everyday activities such as planning and preparing meals or managing the laundry into a learning experience. With your support, this will be your child's best year ever!

I urge everyone to let me know how I can support you in your child's education. I am passionate about ensuring success for all!

We have two updates to our school. There is now a new wheelchair accessible washroom located near Mrs. Jakibchuk's office. In addition, our photocopier has been replaced with a new one which we hope serves us well for several years.

Our teaching and support staff have been working hard to prepare the classrooms, lessons and materials for the children's return. Mr. Villella has prepared the building inside and out for our students' arrival. Ms Robinson has been completing all the administrative tasks in anticipation of the beginning of a new school year. I thank all the Glendale School Staff for their efforts in preparing for a smooth opening!

Please be sure to attend our "Meet the Staff" Open House on Tuesday, September 13, from 4 – 6 p.m. where you will have an opportunity to meet the staff and visit your child's classroom.

Yours in education,

Mrs. Patrice Johnson  
Principal

*"Proudly Soaring toward success with Spirit, Strength & Responsibility"*

## ACHIEVING SUCCESS TOGETHER

September is an exciting time for students because they are entering a new grade, usually with a new teacher or possibly a new division. Students and parents alike may be a little nervous about some of these changes with the new school year.

Parents, the following are some tips for success that you can implement to assist your child(ren) to have a successful year:



- ✓ Talk to your child(ren) about their first day. Nervousness about new situations and new people is a natural occurrence. Be positive with them and let them know that you and the school staff are here to help and are always ready to answer questions.
- ✓ Set a regular “homework time” which occurs, as much as possible, at the same time each day. Amounts of homework differ from grade to grade, but a solid routine for any homework will only add to your child’s success. This may include regular homework in the older grades such as projects or studying for tests. In the younger grades, this may be a time to share a favourite book with your child. Make sure to ask questions about how a student’s day went at school.
- ✓ It’s important that students have a quiet, distraction-free area. This needs to be well lit and comfortable with minimal interruptions. Remember that it does not need to be fancy, but conducive to a student’s concentration.
- ✓ Review your child(ren)’s organizer each day for notes from the teacher. Organizers are a great communication tool for parents and teachers.
- ✓ Get involved! Please stay current with phone calls to your child’s teacher. Come in and volunteer at the school. Offer to chaperone on school trips when there is a need. Show interest in projects and work that is brought home to build your child(ren)’s confidence. Join the active and supportive School Council at Glendale and support your child(ren).



## HOMework

The purpose of homework is to extend and reinforce what has been learned in class and to develop a sense of self-discipline, personal responsibility and independent thinking. In the interest of variety and in order to give students an opportunity to develop different kinds of skills, not all assignments need to be written. Some may be to read, to interview, to cut art, to collect, to study, to research, to listen or to watch a special television program.

Teachers try not to give homework on weekends (other than project completion, etc) in order to allow students to engage more fully in family activities. However, if a student falls behind in their work, it is their responsibility to get the work completed whether it is a weekend or not.

The following is a guideline for homework time allotment:

- Primary Students (Grades 1-3) - 15 minutes per day
- Junior Students (Grades 4-6) - 30-35 minutes per day
- Intermediate Students (Grades 7 & 8) - 60-90 minutes per day.

Classroom teachers will follow up with more information to the students.

## GLENDALE GETS GREENER

In an effort to reduce paper and photocopying costs, as well as be more environmentally friendly, we are asking parents to access our monthly newsletter and calendar on the internet. Beginning with this newsletter and calendar, as well as the attached brochures and forms, our website will have all of these items for your reference, necessitating a change from our previous format. Individual classroom teachers may also choose to send their classroom newsletters or messages this way. If you do not have access to the internet, simply complete the form at the back of this newsletter and we will ensure you continue to receive a paper copy each month.



## USE OF PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY AT SCHOOL

Electronic devices such as iPods, MP3 players, and cameras are very popular with adolescents today. However, the staff of Glendale believe that these items do not have a place in our school. Many of these items are very expensive, contain personal information and they are the target of theft. These items should not be brought to school as we cannot be responsible if they are lost or stolen. Photographs of students or staff are not permitted without the express written consent of the appropriate person.

Students may bring cell phones to school. *However*, doing so must be in compliance with the District School Board of Niagara's policy in this regard which states that



- all cell phones are required to be turned off as soon as students arrive on school property
- all cell phones must be stored in the student's backpack until dismissal
- cell phones are not to be used during the school day, including any features of the phone, eg games, texting, camera ...

Students will be permitted to use the office telephone, for the purpose of communicating with home, provided they have the proper hall/phone pass from their teacher.

## ***NO CHILD WITHOUT***

Our school is involved in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's **No Child Without** program. There is no cost for students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday to join MedicAlert through this program. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis, then you should consider this program. A child's MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur.

For further information, go to [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca).

If your child is already part of the **No Child Without** program and there have been changes to their medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call MedicAlert at 1-800-668-1507 to update your child's file.

## **ACCIDENTS CAN HAPPEN**

Each year a Student Accident Insurance Plan is made available for all students on a voluntary basis. The plan provides protection for **DENTAL DAMAGE DUE TO ACCIDENTS, FRACTURE BENEFITS AND OTHER IMPORTANT COVERAGES**, which are **NOT** covered under the Provincial Health Plan. Some parents may have Dental Plan coverage through their work but many of these plans are limited in one way or another, while this accident coverage is not. You should compare to make sure you have the coverage you need or desire.

**UNDER THE EDUCATION ACT THE BOARD IS NOT PERMITTED TO PROVIDE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ACCIDENTS TO PUPILS, THEREFORE**, the Board recommends consideration of this plan to any parent who wishes to obtain this kind of insurance. Although the policy has all the advantages of a group plan, it is essentially a direct contract between the parent and the insurance company.

Details of these plans are described on the application form which we should be receiving soon. If you require further information, you may contact **Reliable Life at Box 2046, Hamilton, L8N 9Z9** or call toll free at **1-800-465-0661**. If you wish to subscribe to this insurance, please complete the form and mail it *directly* to Reliable Life Insurance Company in the enclosed stamped envelope immediately, but preferably before **September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009**. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.**

You may also enroll online at [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com) (for all plans except the basic plan).

If the enrolment form for the Student Accident Insurance Plan has not been received or it has been misplaced, please contact your school office.

## **FOR SAFETY'S SAKE**



☎ Please call the school before 8:30 a.m. (or 12:30 for afternoon students) if your child is going to be absent.

This will reduce the number of call backs Ms Robinson needs to make. She tracks the attendance of all our students twice daily. If we don't hear from you, and your child is not in school, we will make every attempt to reach an adult on your contact list to ensure the safety of our students.

📎 If your child is in danger of suffering a severe anaphylactic reaction to bee stings, nuts or other allergies, please inform the office immediately so that an emergency plan can be put in place to ensure that your child's medical needs are met immediately.

❖ Please inform the school if there are special custody orders for your child.

☞ Please do not send medication to school with your child or do not place it in your child's backpack. All medication, including over-the-counter drugs, must be stored at the office with your written instructions for administration. Please contact Mrs. Johnson for further information.

☺ A crossing guard will be at First & Trent from 8:15-8:55 am, 12:50-1:40 pm and 3:10 pm- 3:55 pm (A note to our morning kindergarten parents: there will be no crossing guards at 11:30 a.m.)

☺ Kindergarten students will be dismissed to their parents or a designated adult only.

## PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please observe the directional arrows for entering and exiting our parking lot. As well, we are instructing the children to walk on the sidewalk and not through the parking lot. Please do not park in the areas not designated as such. We have several buses and parking in those areas will restrict movement of the buses, interfering with our students' routines.

Some suggestions to ease the congestion:

- ☆ Walk your child to school. The exercise and fresh air is beneficial.
- ☆ Car pool if driving is absolutely necessary.
- ☆ When dropping off students, use the "kiss & ride" system of letting them off at the open gates at the northwest corner of our visitors parking lot.



Your co-operation in making Glendale School a safe place for your children is appreciated by everyone.

## GYM SHOES / INDOOR SHOES

Our custodians have worked extremely hard this summer to make our school sparkle and shine. We can show our appreciation by ensuring that our students have clean shoes to wear inside the building. In addition, for safety reasons and to help develop positive attitudes and total involvement in physical education classes, students need proper footwear for the gym.

## VISITOR SIGN IN & SCHOOL SECURITY

Most visitors are welcome to the school. Should you have to pick up a student early, or drop something off for your child, during school hours, we ask that you enter through the front door, using the call button in the front vestibule. Items which you are dropping off may be left with the office and we will call down your child at the next class break. Please write a note in the student organizer for the teacher if you need to pick up your child early. All visitors who wish to enter the school will need to sign in and wear a visitor's tag. Wearing the visitor's tag signifies to staff and students that you have stopped by the office before walking through the school.

At regular entry times, we ask that your child wait outside their assigned entry door and refrain from using the front door. At dismissal, if you are picking up your child, we ask that you wait outside your child's assigned exit door. Students should not exit or enter through the front door because of congestion in the hallway. Students who walk home with a younger sibling are encouraged to meet them outside their dismissal door. Kindergarten students will be dismissed to their parent or to a designated adult.

## NUT ALLERGIES



We are asking students to only bring nut free snacks and foods to school. We are trying to make the school a "Nut-Free Zone" for several reasons. Peanut and nut allergies are usually severe and can be fatal. Even tiny amounts of nut particles or residue can cause someone with a nut allergy to have a strong reaction. Without treatment, this person could die within minutes. Glendale School can only be a "nut free" school with your commitment and co-operation. Please read labels to see if peanut or nut products are present. Try to avoid products that do not carry a list of ingredients. If foods containing nuts are inadvertently sent to school, they will be stored at the office for a short period of time. If you do not pick them up, they will then be discarded. Thank you for your help.

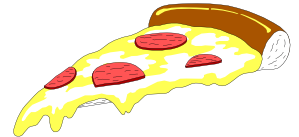
## MILK PROGRAM & OUR CANTEEN

Chocolate and white milk will be available at a cost of 75¢ for 250 ml. We will be accepting pre-orders every month. Payments are made at that time for the whole month - no more searching for change in the morning. Please return the enclosed milk order form as soon as possible, hopefully by Friday, September 9. Please do not combine milk payments with other money such as pizza or trip money. One cheque payable to the school for several milk orders is welcomed. We use different volunteers for different programs and we like to make their job as easy as possible. Pre-orders will be delivered to the student's room just prior to second nutrition break. As always, juice and water are available from the vending machine for \$1.00 each. Once a decision has been made about which snacks might be appropriate for sale in our canteen, we will inform the students.



## PIZZA DAYS

Our first Pizza Day will be Tuesday, September 13. As with milk, we will only be accepting pre-orders for Pizza Day. Attached is a pizza order form. Kindly return it with payment no later than Friday, September 9. Please do not combine pizza payments with other money such as milk or trip money. One cheque payable to the school for several pizza orders is welcomed. We use different volunteers for different programs and we like to make their job as easy as possible.



### ***Things to know:***

If you have a child in Grade 3 or Grade 6, please do not book any holidays or doctor's appointments from May 23 through June 6, 2012. EQAO, the provincial assessment, will take place during this time span (specific dates for Glendale School will follow). EQAO testing is mandatory for all Grade 3 and 6 students in the Province of Ontario

This year, our school photographer will be *Edge Photography*. **Our school photo day will be Friday, October 14, 2011.**

Glendale student organizers will be distributed the first week of school to all students in Grades 1 through 8. The Glendale School Code of Conduct is included in the organizer. Please take the time to read through the organizer with your child to establish a clear understanding of the school's policies and procedures. The **cost of the organizer is \$6.00**. Please send this in as soon as possible to your child's teacher.

The "**Glendale Stars**" program will continue this year with a few new and exciting changes. We will again be aligning the character traits recognized at our assemblies with the DSBN's "Character in Action" initiative attributes which will be displayed at the front of the school on the Glendale School banner. They are:

*Respect*

*Responsibility*

*Integrity & Honesty*

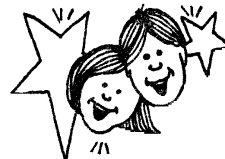
*Tolerance & Caring*

*Optimism*

*Perseverance*

*Courage*

*Cooperation*



We will be focussing on one character attribute at each assembly, usually on the first Tuesday of the month, beginning in October. Students who have best demonstrated this trait will be recognized at the next month's assembly. We look forward to much more student involvement at our assemblies, in presenting their understanding of the character attributes through a variety of multi-media presentations.

## EARLY RELEASE DAYS

Friday, September 23rd is our first early release day. Following that, our next one is on Friday, February 17.

☉ Students who walk to and from school will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m. (after period 3).

☉ Students who are bussed will be dismissed when their bus arrives - around 12:30 p.m.

- ⊗ Morning kindergarten students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. There will be no bus pick up at this time. Please make arrangements to have your child picked up at 11:30 a.m.
- ⊗ There are NO AFTERNOON KINDERGARTEN classes that day.

Regarding students in Grades 1 through 8, on the dates list above, all buses and taxis providing service to the District School Board of Niagara will arrive at their respective schools three (3) hours earlier than the regularly scheduled bus departure time.

Historically, working on a fixed three-hour advanced schedule across the Board provides parents with greater clarity in knowing that their children should be arriving home three hours earlier than normal on these days. Also, as many of the school buses are now double or triple run, logistically we need to shift the schedules forward in order to service these days as safely as possible.

With respect to Junior and Senior Kindergarten Students, for the purpose of kindergarten safety, on these days it is essential that morning kindergarten students do not ride home on the grade 1-8 bus routes since these buses follow the afternoon school-to-home route. These routes may not go by or near the home addresses of kindergarten students who are scheduled on the mid-day school to home buses.



Morning JK and SK students may ride their scheduled buses to school on these days, but parents will be required to pick up their child at the end of the morning class. If a parent cannot commit to picking up their child, they should not send their child to school on these dates.

The municipal clerk of Welland, who oversees the Crossing Guards, has been notified in writing of the 2011-12 School Year Calendar, and specifically the early release days. Crossing guards will be on duty for the student's morning trip to school and their trip to home following the three hour early release schedule.

## **GLENDALE SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Glendale School Council members would like to remind our returning families and also inform our new families that School Council elections will be held at our first meeting on Wednesday, September 28 at 6:30 p.m. Any parent or guardian of a child attending Glendale School is able to become a member of School Council. Nomination forms are attached. Please return a completed form to the Principal by September 20. Glendale School has enjoyed the participation of an active School Council. We look forward to the continued support of our parent community. Please make an effort to attend our first meeting of the school year.

## **School-Based Immunization Clinics**

Did you know that every year in Canada, 1,400 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and more than 400 will die from it?

Almost all cervical cancers are caused by a Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection. The HPV vaccine is an important medical advancement that makes cervical cancer a preventable disease.

Once again this year, the HPV vaccine called Gardasil® will be offered free to **all female Grade 8 students** through Niagara Region Public Health's school-based immunization clinics. In addition, the Hepatitis B vaccine and the Meningococcal vaccine called Menactra® will be offered free to **all Grade 7 students**.

Parent/student information packages will be coming home with your child in September. Clinic dates and times will be announced through your child's school.

For more information, speak to your school nurse or call the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.



## **TODAY'S CORRESPONDENCE**

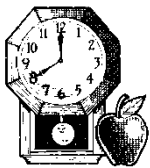
Today your child will bring home a number of important forms which need to be completed. Please return the completed and signed forms to your child's teacher as soon as possible (at least by Friday, September 9, please).

It is vital to keep student information up to date throughout the year. In the unfortunate event that your child takes ill or is injured, we will make every effort to reach you, but we also need additional names and numbers in case we cannot contact you. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Not** included in this package are:

**VOLUNTEER DRIVER FORM** If you anticipate driving students to school functions this year at all, please request this form from the office as soon as possible. Each volunteer driver must complete this form each year (one form per driver, per vehicle, per year).

**MEDICATION FORM:** If any medication is to be dispensed at school, a form must be completed by the parent and the attending physician. All medication included on one of these forms must arrive at the school with the prescription label on the container, with the label information matching the completed form. Please see Mrs. Johnson or Mr. Simons if you have any further questions.



### **BELL TIMES**

Included in the “Back to School Package” is a copy our daily scheduled for you to keep on hand. Yard supervision begins at 8:35 a.m. each day. Students should **not** arrive before that time. Students should leave the school promptly at dismissal. There is no yard supervision after 3:10 p.m.

### **MAGAZINE RENEWAL AND SALES**

Our annual magazine fundraiser will begin soon. New orders and renewals will be accepted. Profits are used to support special events, activities and sports teams. Thank you for your ongoing support. More details will follow in the weeks to come.

### **TELUS WALK TO CURE DIABETES – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2011**

Please join in the Walk to Cure Diabetes happening on Merritt Island on Sunday September 25. We have students affected by this disease here at Glendale School and it would be wonderful to see a large contingent of Glendale Griffins showing their support for this worthwhile cause. For more information or to volunteer call:

JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) toll-free at 1-866-602-6662

or email

[burlham@jdrf.ca](mailto:burlham@jdrf.ca)

or register on line

[www.jdrf.ca/walk](http://www.jdrf.ca/walk)

Wear your Griffin blue & gold proudly while helping find a cure! See you there.

### **TENTATIVE CLASS ORGANIZATION AND STAFF ASSIGNMENTS**

Jolliffe .....Junior & Senior Kindergarten  
Mrs. Fisher .....Grade 1  
Mrs. Caron .....Grade 2  
Mrs. DiCenso .....Grade 3  
Mrs. Perry .....Grade 4  
Mr. Rumsby.....Grade 5  
Mr. Neuman..... Grades 6 and 7  
Mrs. Clarke ..... Grades 7 and 8  
Mme Moccia ..... French and Library  
Mr. Winskill .....Music  
Mrs. Jakibchuk ..... Learning Resource Teacher

Mrs. Bendlis.....Itinerant Instructional Coach  
Mr. Villella .....Head Caretaker  
Mrs. Cusovich ..... Assistant Caretaker  
Mr. Moore ..... Assistant Caretaker  
Mr. Simon..... Educational Assistant  
Mr. Gaspich ..... Lunchroom Supervisor  
Mr. Romano ..... Lunchroom Supervisor  
Mrs. Hamilton ..... Youth Counsellor  
Ms Robinson..... Secretary  
Mrs. Johnson .....Principal

**SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DRAW**

Fill in the answers to the following "skill-testing" questions, then hand into your teacher who will ensure it is placed in the draw box at the office for a prize

Name a new staff member: \_\_\_\_\_

When is the next Early Release Day? \_\_\_\_\_

When is the *Meet the Staff* event? \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

***Newsletter Questions and Answers***

Do you have any questions about the school or curriculum that you would like to see answered in our newsletter? If so, send it in with the newsletter draw form and we will do our best to provide the answer in next month's edition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**We Need Parent Volunteers! Can You Help?**

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

My Child(ren): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Days I can assist: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help in the following areas (*please check as many as you wish*):

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> assisting in the classroom, working with a small group of students    | <input type="checkbox"/> being a mentor for students                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> library assistance, shelving and sorting books                        | <input type="checkbox"/> assisting with special lunch days                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> transporting students   | <input type="checkbox"/> assisting with lice checks of students               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> assisting with a book fair and/or Scholastic Book orders              | <input type="checkbox"/> assisting with Green Club, environmental initiatives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> assisting with fundraising efforts                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> being interviewed about my job as a _____                             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> being a reading coach, reading individually with students once a week |   |

September 2011

WEB-BASED NEWSLETTER SURVEY

I/We prefer to receive a paper copy of the monthly Glendale Review and school calendar, sent home with our youngest child.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_