

# Glen Ridge News



Volume 6, Issue 1  
February, 2010

## Principal's Message....

It is very difficult to believe that we are well into the second term of the school year. With the amount of work being covered and the many activities in which staff and students are involved (Chess Club, Cosom Hockey, Boys' Book Club, Robotics, skating), the month of January has passed almost unnoticed.

Academically, this is a very important term for all students. The students are being encouraged to work hard at their assignments and actively participate in all class activities in order that they may work to their fullest potential. The results achieved during the second term are very important in the final assessment of each student. Parents are encouraged to monitor homework by checking their child's organizer on a daily basis to ensure completion of all assignments and due dates. By working together, we can ensure a successful term 2 for all students.

As you can see from the attached calendar, "FAMILY DAY" will be FEBRUARY 15TH, 2010. There will be no school on this day.

In closing, I once again want to extend a big thank you for your support, co-operation and assistance with our activities in January. Your continual willingness to work collaboratively with staff assists us in reaching the goals and expectations we have set for your children and in continuing to improve the learning environment at Glen Ridge School.



Educationally yours,

B. Harley,  
Principal

## CAT's CABOOSE SOCIAL / SILENT AUCTION

Glen Ridge will be having their 1st Annual Valentine's Social / Silent Auction Fundraiser at Cat's Caboose on February 11th at 7:00pm and hopefully we will see everyone out to support the school and it's students. It is sure to be a fun filled night with the auction, food and entertainment. Get your tickets at the office.

### A Glance Ahead to March 2010...

Skating	6
March Break	15-19
Gr. 4 Swim Program Begins	25
Report Cards T2	26
Green Team will continue to meet Wednesdays	
Robotics will continue on Thursdays	

## Kindergarten Registration....

Do you know a child who's turning 4 or 5 in 2010? Help them get ready for their first day of school with the DSBN's Kindergarten Countdown. Five easy steps will help parents and new students get ready to blast off to their first day of school.

We're counting down to the **February Open House**. Ours is on **Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.** This is a great opportunity to visit the school and classroom, meet the staff, learn more about a day in Kindergarten and ask questions. You can even register your child at the open house.

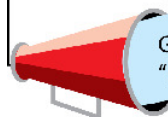
Don't forget that there's also plenty of helpful information on how to register and get ready for that first big day of school on the DSBN website at [www.dsbnet.edu.on.ca](http://www.dsbnet.edu.on.ca).

## KINDERGARTEN COUNTDOWN

Do you know a child who is turning 4 or 5 in 2010? Help them get ready for their big first day of school with the DSBN's Kindergarten Countdown Open House!

Parents and children are invited to our KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE on Thursday, February 4, 2010 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Families can tour our school, meet the kindergarten teacher, receive a gift bag filled with fun learning resources and information that will help children develop school readiness skills, and register for the coming school year.



Go to [www.dsbnet.org](http://www.dsbnet.org) and click on "Kindergarten Countdown" for details!

## Dance-a-thon ...

On **Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**, we will be having our dance-a-thon. Hopefully everyone is getting lots of pledges. It will be a great activity to come out and watch some staff and students "boogie" to the tunes and at the same time, help raise some extra money for our school. We want to announce some special incentives to encourage you to get out and raise some more pledges:

The top total fund-raising done by one primary class and one junior class will enjoy a pizza lunch.

Thank you to our School Council for providing this opportunity for the students at Glen Ridge.



**Let's Go Glen Ridge!**

## Robotics

**...Mrs. Alcox**

This month we have an exciting opportunity to send two teams of four grades 4-6 students to the DSBN Robotics Challenge on January 29<sup>th</sup>. In this day long event the students will compete with robotics teams from across the region, demonstrating skills and knowledge in building and programming Mindstorms robots. This is a first for Glen Ridge and we cheer on our talented team members: Sam H., Josh D., Pierce I., Matt G., Isaiah K., Reece W-P., Cody R., Theo H. Go Grizzlies! A special thank you to Brandon Alcox for his on-going support and intriguing new challenges for our students.

## Lost and Found ...

We have accumulated quite a collection of winter clothing, especially hats and mittens. Please drop by to see if you recognize some of the items in our Lost and Found. The Lost and Found bin is located on the stage in the gym.



## Scrapbooking

...Mrs. Boccinfuso

Scrapbooking club will be starting up again starting February 1st and will run for four Mondays (no session on Family Day). Junior students that are interested please get signed permission forms and the materials fee to Mrs. Boccinfuso by Jan. 29th. If you have joined the club before we will be doing new and exciting projects. I look forward to seeing you there!

## Green Team

... Mrs. Willey / Mrs. Vaughn

The Green Team has been under way since the beginning of November. We had an AMAZING turn out of 28 students, who attend weekly meetings, which are held every Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. The team has begun daily composting, and daily recycling, energy conservation, and garbage monitoring. They also take part in crafts and activities in order to enhance their learning about our environment. Daily eco tips are read over the morning announcements, and LITTERLESS LUNCHESES begin Monday, February 1st (and will continue every Monday thereafter until May). Prize tickets will be given out every Monday during lunchtime, with winners being drawn at monthly Character Education assemblies. Our Team t-shirts will soon return with our team name on them. Be Clean! Go Green!

## Basketball—Junior Boys and Girls ...

Both teams are in the try-out stage, and all junior girls and boys interested may try-out. For the boys: students should see Mr. Harley & Miss Meesters for more information about practices. For the girls: please see Mr. Purdie.

Junior Girls basketball practices will take place on Mondays and Thursday after school, from 3:45 pm until 4:45 pm. The season begins after the March break, so the team has lots of time to learn some new skills and get ready for the games. See you at practice, girls!

## Parking around Glen Ridge ...

The safety of our children is of prime importance. With the volume of traffic arriving and leaving the front of the school, your vigilance is essential—especially at this time of year with the snow banks. Parents are urged to park *away from the crosswalk areas*, allowing students to pass safely, without having to manoeuvre around cars in harms way.



## Lollipop Shoppe

... Mr. Purdie

The Grade 4/5 class sold lollipops at lunch as part of their Math work on Measurement. The 4/5 Lollipop Shoppe, with the support of the Glen Ridge students at lunch, raised \$187.50. The 4/5 class will be making a decision about what the money will be used for--helping those people affected by the earthquake in Haiti is one of our main priorities. Thanks to all students, and especially the 4/5 class, for improving your Math, and for supporting the Lollipop Shoppe!

**Greg LeRock****...Mr. Purdie**

Grade 4/5 and 5/6 French classes are off to Brock University on February 23rd to see Gregg LeRock, a Juno nominated French singer, who uses his own version of high energy rock music to help teach the French language. The students have a wonderful opportunity to see and hear French used in a cool rockin' way -- please remember to send in your permission forms and \$ to your homeroom teachers for this trip ASAP!! Merci!

**Strengthen the Heart of Your Family ... Start with Your Soles**

Making a family commitment to regular physical activity will not only strengthen each member's bones, muscles, brains, and hearts, but may even tighten your family's heart strings and soul! Active families can learn new skills together and support each other in learning those new skills.

Canada's Physical Activity Guides for Children and Youth recommend 90 minutes of physical activity per day (60 at a moderate pace and 30 at a vigorous pace). While many kids play organized sports, this doesn't ensure that they are meeting this recommendation. Some practice and game time is not actually physically active time.

Here are some ideas to increase your child's physical activity:

- ☉ Go on a walk together everyday.
- ☉ Walk to and from school or after dinner.
- ☉ Limit screen time to a maximum of 1-2 hours of TV/computer time per day.
- ☉ Walk or cycle to visit friends, pick up groceries, or mail letters.
- ☉ Create play areas where rolling, climbing, and jumping, are encouraged inside and outside.
- ☉ Take active vacations.
- ☉ Provide bikes, roller blades, balls, skipping ropes, hula hoops, etc.
- ☉ Use physical activity as a reward instead of food.
- ☉ Never discipline by taking away physical activity.
- ☉ Try a new activity each season: snowshoe, curl, hike, or bowl.
- ☉ Set family physical activity goals.
- ☉ Choose activities that make you and your children feel successful.

*Written by Hamilton Public Health Services in 2006.*

**YMCA Child Care ...**

With kindergarten registration beginning this month, we are taking children on a waiting list for September, 2010. If you are interested or would like information, please call 905-684-4770 and we would be glad to help. In addition, Kim will be available on Thursday February 4, 2010, until 6:00 p.m. for the JK/SK information night to answer any questions you may have.

## Knitting Club

...Mrs. Pohorly

Glen Ridge's Knitting Club continues to meet each Wednesday at lunch. WE have already learned to cast on and off and how to make regular stitches. Many members have already made scarves and are learning to make mittens. A big thank you to Mrs. N. Jenkins for her time and expertise!

## Valentine's Social / Silent Auction ...

It's hard to believe that we are into February already! We have been very busy with preparations for our 1st Annual Valentine's Social / Silent Auction Fundraiser at Cat's Caboose. Have you bought your tickets yet? If not there is still time to get them. Please fill out your ticket order forms and send them in or , contact the school office at 905-685-9586 for tickets. If anyone is unable to attend the fundraiser we would miss you, however just purchasing a ticket would be a great help as well.



We are still collecting donations for the silent auction. If you or anyone you know have something to donate please contact the office or bring it on in. Thanks to all who have donated to our fundraiser thus far...it is appreciated!

This is one of our major fundraisers for the school and promises to be fun filled event so please come on out and have some fun! The band "Flat Broke Duo" will be performing that night so put on your dancing shoes! It's a chance to meet new parents, meet up with friends and to **support our kids!**

## School Council ...

As always, there is a lot happening at Glen Ridge Public School, home of the Grizzlies. This month, we have our Valentine's Day Dance-a-thon on February 11. It is great to see so many parents volunteering to help out. The same day, we have our First Annual Silent Auction / Social at Cat's Caboose. A fun night out for all Glen Ridge parents and community members, to help raise funds for your school. On February 16th, we have our next School Council meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the library. We look forward to having all council members and any interested parents join us to discuss upcoming events like: A spaghetti dinner, magazine fundraiser, bottle drive, the annual fun fair and our fall artisan show.

And now for a special report from the Artisan Show Committee ... the search for 2010 artisans and sponsors has begun. This year's show will be on Saturday, September 18th and be bigger than last year. Information and applications can be downloaded at [www.glenridgeartisanshow.webs.com](http://www.glenridgeartisanshow.webs.com). If you have ideas or suggestions, want to refer an artisan, or wish to be a sponsor or part of the committee, please contact the school or Manisha at [glenridgeartisans@gmail.com](mailto:glenridgeartisans@gmail.com).

A big Grizzly hug to all of the parents who work together with one goal in mind, "it is all for the kids".

## School Health Information ...

# Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara

**New for January 2010: 4 Program Locations!!!  
Thorold, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne & Beamsville**

*Each of our sites will offer the following 2 programs:*

### **SOAR TO INDEPENDENCE & TEEN TRANSITION**

**Date:** *Monday* January 25<sup>th</sup>, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, April 12<sup>th</sup> 2010

**Location:** Port Colborne- Oakwood Public School & Beamsville- Senator Gibson Public School

**Time:** 6:00PM-8:00PM (Volunteers need to be there for 5:30pm)!

**SOAR Focus:** Literacy, social skills & fine motor skills  
One to one tutoring with Post Secondary education student  
(8 Week Sessions).

**Ages:** Children 5-12 Years

**Teen Focus:** Life skills, social skills, literacy skills including: organization skills, study skills, & learning styles.  
(8 Week Sessions)

**Ages:** Youths 13-18 Years

### **SOAR TO INDEPENDENCE & TEEN TRANSITION**

**Date:** *Tuesday* January 26<sup>th</sup>, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> 2010

**Location:** Thorold- Richmond Street Public School & Niagara Falls- Forestview Public School

**Time:** 6:00PM-8:00PM (Volunteers need to be there for 5:30pm)!

**SOAR Focus:** Literacy, social skills & fine motor skills  
One to one tutoring with Post Secondary education student  
(8 Week Sessions).

**Ages:** Children 5-12 Years

**Teen Focus:** Life skills, social skills, literacy skills including: organization skills, study skills, & learning styles.  
(8 Week Sessions)

**Ages:** Youths 13-18 Years

### **Reading Rocks & Homework Club:**

To inquire about these other programs that will also be offered in January, please contact the office for start date, time, and location!

ldao

For more information, please contact:  
905-641-1021 or [ldaniagara@cogeco.net](mailto:ldaniagara@cogeco.net)  
Visit our website at [www.ldaniagara.org](http://www.ldaniagara.org)



## School Health Information ...

# HOPE (Helping Others Parent Effectively)

## Family Support Group - ADHD St. Catharines Chapter ~ 2010 Meetings



St. Catharines Regional Child Care Centre  
179 Carlton Street, St. Catharines  
(Next to St. Denis School)

TIME	DATES	TENTATIVE TOPICS
Morning Meetings 10-11:30 a.m.	Jan 13	Understanding how the ADHD brain works and how medication and evidence-based alternatives help
	Feb 10	HELP- What's available at school and how to get it
	March 3	Practical parenting tips - Encourage, Discipline, Coach life skills
Evening Meetings 7-8:30 p.m.	Jan 20	Proud to be ADHD- Improving self esteem & focusing on strengths
	Feb 17	HELP- What's available at school and how to get it
	March 10	Understanding how the ADHD brain works and how medication & evidence-based alternatives help
	April 7	Practical parenting tips - Encourage, Discipline, Coach life skills
	April 28	What About Me! Meeting the needs of all family members
	May 19	Improving Relationships - tips for managing anger, frustration, anxiety
	June 9	Planning a great summer and the best start for the 2010/11 school year

For other group locations near you,  
as well as support, resources and information -  
visit [www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca) and search ADHD  
email us at: [hope@niagararegion.ca](mailto:hope@niagararegion.ca)  
Call the HOPE FAMILY SUPPORT LINE at 905-688-8248 ext. 7400  
Call Glenda Kerrigan (Public Health Nurse) at 905-688-8248 ext. 7583  
(toll free: 1-888-505-6074)



Share what's working well in your family  
Get suggestions for managing the challenges!

## Literacy ...

### LINKING THROUGH LITERACY

## Nonfiction Reading: How Families Can Help

Literacy development requires a partnership between home, school and community. Since nonfiction text is one of the most effective tools for developing reading skills, it is essential that children have ample opportunities at school, in the community, and at home to read a variety of nonfiction.

When reading nonfiction texts, what are some ways families can build literacy skills?

### **Tip #1 Help your child understand what he or she reads using comprehension strategies such as:**

- asking questions while reading to help your child provide detail and to organize thoughts
- determining important points from interesting details
- making connections to things he or she already knows
- reading "between the lines" and
- discovering meaning that is not stated outright

### **Tip #2 Talk with your child by:**

- having your child retell the main parts of the text
- encouraging him or her to express and justify opinions and
- showing interest in what your child is saying by being a good listener

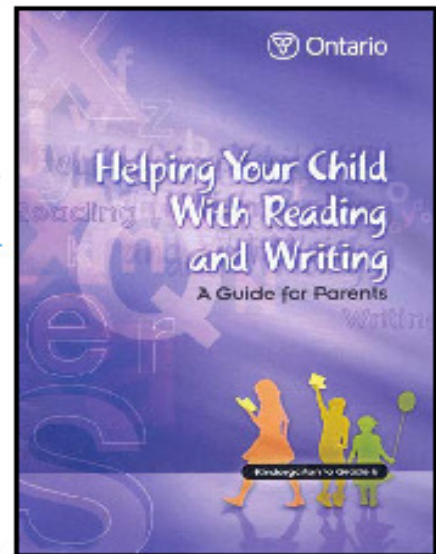
### **Tip #3 Make reading enjoyable by:**

- making sure that you have a variety of books, magazines and other non-fiction reading materials on hand and
- browsing together in libraries and book stores looking at the graphic features in reading materials (e.g., photos, illustrations and charts) and identifying how they are used and what their purposes are

Many children like to read materials such as:

- stories that reflect their image of themselves
- articles about their heroes
- information on science and nature
- song lyrics or scripts that appeal to their musical and artistic tastes
- newspapers and magazines
- materials with both print and pictures (e.g., baseball cards)
- things they can read with others (e.g., game scores)
- books or articles that contain powerful ideas about our world

*(Adapted from *Helping Your Child With Reading and Writing: A Guide for Parents* from the Ministry of Education)*



# February 2010

Character Trait: “Perseverance”

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 First Litterless Lunch Scrapbooking Club 3:30—4:30	2 Green Team 3:30—4:15 	3 JK/SK Open House Robotics	4 JK/SK Open House Robotics	5
8 Litterless Lunch Scrapbooking Club	9 Student Dance-a-thon Pizza Day Cat's Caboose Auction / Social 7:00 p.m.	10 Student Dance-a-thon Pizza Day Cat's Caboose Auction / Social 7:00 p.m.	11 Student Dance-a-thon Pizza Day Cat's Caboose Auction / Social 7:00 p.m.	12 Early Release Day
15 Family Day—NO SCHOOL National Flag Day	16 School Council Meeting 6:30	17 Green Team 3:30—4:15 	18 Order forms home for MacMillans Fundraiser Robotics	19
22 Litterless Lunch Scrapbooking	23 Scholastic Book Fair AND MacMillans Fundraiser AND Scholastic Greg LeRock Gr. 4-6	24 JK/SK Gr. 1 Children's Museum Sub Lunch Green Team 	25 Skating—1:15—2:15 Robotics 	26 Character Education Olympic Day