

Glen Ridge News



Volume 5, Issue 1
January, 2010

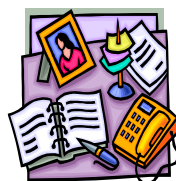
Principal's Message....

With December behind us, we look forward to January and Term 2 of the 2009-2010 school year. It seems like only yesterday that the staff at Glen Ridge were anticipating the arrival of our students for the first day of school. Many activities / events have been planned for your children during this term and we encourage all students to get involved in the activities that are offered academically, athletically, musically and artistically.

Last year, parents asked us what they could do at home to help their children. One of the most important things you can do is read with them. The reading habit is best modeled and encouraged, not enforced. In addition to daily reading, the mastery of basic math facts is very helpful. These facts require drill and practice and most children would benefit from extra practice at home. A few minutes of practice every day will go a long way. Try to make the practice session short and fun.

As always, we extend a big thank you to all of our community members for their support in 2009. We hope to continue to work together to make Glen Ridge an exciting and fun filled educational experience for your children.

Educationally yours
B. Harley
Principal



A Glance Ahead to February 2010... "PERSEVERANCE"

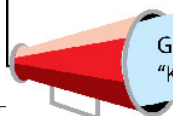
Robotics Club	Thursdays
Green Team	Wednesdays
JK/SK Open House	4
Dance-a-thon	11
Pizza Day	11
Valentine's Social / Auction Cat's Caboose	11
Early Release Day	12
Family Day—No School	15
School Council	16
Book Fair	22—26
Sub Day	24
Skating—p.m.	25
Character Ed. Assembly—p.m.	26

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.dsb.org and click on "Kindergarten Countdown" for details!

Extended French Program ...

Grade 6 students interested in the Extended French Program had an opportunity to meet with the teachers and administrators from Oakridge School on Wednesday, January 6th. Information packages were sent home with students.

Indoor Shoes / Outdoor Clothing ...

For safety reasons, students must wear indoor shoes in the halls and classrooms, especially during boot season.

All students should dress for the cold weather with hats, hoods, scarves, coats and boots. Children will be outside for recesses unless extreme weather advisories are in effect.

Snowballs ...

For safety reasons, we have a strict no tolerance policy for snowballs at school. We appreciate parent support in reinforcing our expectations. Please remind your child of the rule "throw no snow".

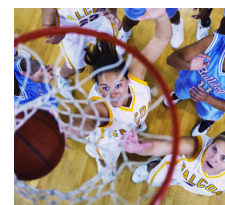


Community Outreach ...

Once again the Glen Ridge community helped out and supported those less fortunate families. On behalf of Community Care, thank you for your support.

Basketball ...

Tryouts for both girls and boys teams will begin soon. A big thanks to Miss Meesters, Mr. Purdie, Mr. Krzeczowski, and Mr. Harley for coaching our teams this year. Games begin in March.



Thank yous to ...

Mrs. Crawford & Mrs. G. Voelkner for their ongoing work in our library.

YMCA Child Care—Glen Ridge ...

The YMCA is pleased to be able to provide quality licensed child care for your children within Glen Ridge. We offer child care for children 4 to 12 years of age, Monday—Friday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. We still have space for before school and after school. For registration, information, please contact Kim at 905-684-4770.



Scholastic Book Fair ...

We are having a Scholastic Book Fair from February 22 through the 26th, 2010. More information will follow shortly.

Dogs ...

A new year reminder to all pet owners - please do not allow your pets on school property during school hours (8:00 - 4:00).

Also, please be a responsible pet owner and pick up after your pet.



Don't Smoke in My Space ...

Even if your kids don't smoke, they are still at risk for tobacco-related diseases because of second-hand smoke. Children breathe in second-hand smoke in their own homes and in the family vehicle if there are smokers in the family.

Second-hand smoke causes coughing, eye irritation, sore throat, shortness of breath and nausea. Long term exposure can lead to heart disease and lung cancer, and may worsen conditions like asthma and allergies.

What can you do?

- Don't let anyone smoke in your home or car. Tell them to take it outside.
- If you smoke - call the Smoker's Helpline at 1-877-513-5333 for free information, advice and support to quit from the Canadian Cancer Society.

From your Public Health Nurse

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Glen Ridge Public School Parent Valentine's Auction / Social ...

Details have been finalized for our 1st annual Valentine's Auction / Social. Tickets are now available at the school office for \$20.00 pp. There are a limited number of tickets so get them before it is sold out!!! The cost includes finger foods, silent auction, and live band, featuring "Flat Broke Duo". The festivities begin at 7:00 p.m. at Cat's Caboose.

Cat's Caboose will be donating monies back from each bar drink purchased, which they have extended to the entire restaurant for our event. If you are able to donate or locate any items for the silent auction, please contact Cheryl Cook at 905-329-6515 or Carrie Neilson at 905-984-6524, to arrange for pick/up.

Thank you for your continued support of the organized school functions.

School Council—Valentine's Dance-a-thon ...

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all enjoyed the time with your friends and loved ones. With a new year comes fresh new ideas for fundraising. The Parent Council have decided on some new "fun" events, so mark them on your calendar!



- Night at Cat's - Valentine's Social / Silent Auction. February 11th, 7:00 pm at Cat's Caboose. The cost of tickets for this event will be \$20. Come on out, bring your friends and enjoy the band, "Flat Broke Duo." Tickets are available from the school's office.

- Spaghetti Dinner - to be held in April. More information will come home.

- MacMillan's Fundraiser - cookie dough (*there are some that are peanut and nut free) and meats can be purchased. Order forms will be sent home February 19th. We will run this from February 22 - March 11, at which time orders will be confirmed. Delivery will happen March 31, 2010.

- Last but certainly not least. The Annual Fun Fair - This has been one of our biggest fundraisers in the past and we would like to continue this tradition. It will be held on June 9th. More information will be sent home.

We'll need some more volunteers for these events to be successful so if your thinking that you would like to be involved and help out in any way for these events please contact myself at keithjen54@hotmail.com or the school office. Everyone is encouraged and most welcome to come on out and volunteer their time.

The school raised \$618.00 in poinsettia sales in December. Once again this proved to be a very successful fundraiser. We also had our basket raffle, which raised \$607. Thank you to all who promoted and participated in these events.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the fundraiser events!

Jennifer Cawood-Fleury
Parent Council Advisory, Chair

Literacy Tip of the Month ...

Higher Order Thinking Skills: How Families Can Help

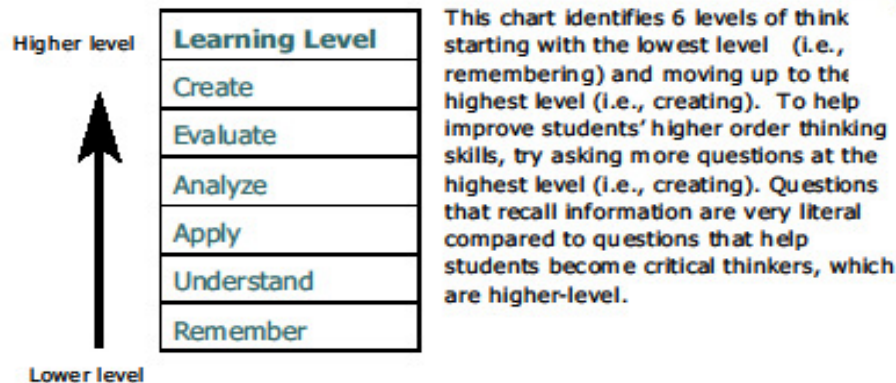
Literacy development requires a partnership between home, school and community. Families can help their children to develop higher-order thinking skills by:

- thinking aloud with children as they read, write, and solve problems
- encouraging children to think metacognitively (i.e., to think about their thinking and to reflect on their learning)
- asking open-ended questions that require more thinking

(Adapted from Literacy for Learning, 2004)



Asking Higher Order Thinking Questions - Aiming High!



Example Using the story Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Remember - List the items used by Goldilocks while she was in the Bears' house.

Understand - Explain why Goldilocks liked Baby Bear's chair the best.

Apply - Demonstrate what Goldilocks would use if she came to your house.

Analyze - Compare this story to reality. What events could not really happen?

Evaluate - Judge whether Goldilocks' actions were good or bad. Defend your opinion.

Create - Propose how the story would be different if it were Goldilocks and the Three Fish.





joining our voices

Parent Engagement in the Early Years

A Collaborative Community Workshop
Thursday, January 21, 2010

Research on early learning and child care is conclusive: a child's experiences during the first five years of her/his life can set a critical direction for future success in school and for living a healthy and fulfilling life (Pascal's Early Learning Report, 2009; Canadian Council on Learning, 2007). The research on parent engagement is equally as conclusive: when parents are engaged in their children's schooling, children stay in school longer, do better in school, and like school more (Henderson & Mapp, 2002).

What this research means for us is that when we join our voices as parents, educators, and staff, right from the start of our children's lives and through the school years, we can make a significant difference to their health and security; emotional, social and academic competence; and their interest, confidence, and success as learners.



Dr. Debbie Pushor graduated from the University of Alberta in 2001 with a PhD in elementary education and is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum Studies in the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan. She completed a major research project funded by the Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching, which explored how schools can move from practices of parent involvement to practices of parent engagement and leadership. Debbie is currently writing a book arising from research funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada on what parent knowledge is and how it is held and used.

In this session, Dr. Debbie Pushor will share knowledge, insights and experiences explored from her research on parent engagement and parent knowledge and from her experiences working in early learning settings. She will discuss what parent engagement is, beliefs and assumptions that underlie it, and the trust, relationships and the welcoming hospitality that it takes to make it happen. Debbie will share many concrete examples and stories of successful efforts to shape both policies and practices which create meaningful space and voice for parents' in their young children's learning and care. The session will provide opportunities for participants to share their voices as well, as they interact with Debbie and with one another. Discussions will be recorded and provided to attendees following the session.

This session will be relevant for early childhood educators, Kindergarten and Grade 1 teachers, early learning and child care support agency staff, parents, students enrolled in ECE or Child and Youth Studies programs, School Council members, principals, senior administrators, and policymakers.

Thursday, January 21, 2010 from 6:00 to 8:30 pm

Quality Parkway Hotel & Convention Centre, 325 Ontario Street, St. Catharines ON

No cost, however registration is required by Monday, January 18, 2010

To register please contact the ECCDC at 905.646.7311 ext. 304 or email eccdc@eccdc.org














eccdc
early childhood community development centre


NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD


DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
DSBN
Advancing Success Together
School Support Services

January 2010

Character Trait—"Optimism"

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
4 First Day of School	5	6 Extended French Presentation Green Team 3:30—4:15 p.m. 	7  Robotics Club 3:30—5:00 p.m.	1 
11 NF Art Gallery—gr. 1 (a.m.) High School Open House—5:00—7:00 p.m. 	12 Boys BBall practice 7:45 a.m. 	13 NF Art Gallery—whole school Green Team 3:30—4:15 p.m. 	14  Pizza Day Robotics 3:30—5:00 p.m. Extended French Meeting at Oakridge 7:00 p.m.	15 
18	19	20 Green Team 3:30—4:15 p.m. School Council 6:30 p.m. 	21 Scientist in School (a.m.) gr. 5/6 Robotics 3:30—5:00 p.m. 	22
25 Family Literacy Week Character Ed. Assembly p.m. Dress as your Fav. Book Character Day	26 Grade 4—6 to Woodend all day 	27 Sub Day Green Team 3:30—4:15 p.m. 	28 Skating—a.m. Presswood Pep Rally 1:00 p.m. Robotics 3:30—5:00 p.m. 	29 DSBN Robotics Competition