



# Glen Ridge News



Volume 2, Issue 1  
October, 2011

## Principal's Message...

Glen Ridge is once again a buzz of activity. Students are engaged in many exciting academic, athletic and artistic activities that enhance their educational experience.

The school's annual "Welcome Back" barbeque was very successful. We were pleased to see the many parents and students in attendance. Your presence indicates an interest in the partnership between home and school. This partnership is essential in reaching educational objectives the staff have set for the school. We invite you to participate in school activities with your child on special assignments and maintain ongoing communication with your school as the year progresses.

A special thanks goes to all those parents who have assisted with our school opening. We all know our numerous forms are often laborious and repetitive however, we appreciate you taking the time to complete them carefully and returning them so promptly.

Please contact us at the school if you have any questions or concerns. By working together, we will ensure an exciting and successful year for each student at Glen Ridge Public School.

Educationally yours,

B. Harley  
Principal



### Glance Ahead to November Events

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Volleyball begins                      | 1        |
| Ice Dogs Game                          | 5        |
| Carft Club— Mondays                    | 7—<br>28 |
| Remembrance Day                        | 11       |
| Progress Reports home                  | 15       |
| Silent Auction                         | 18       |
| Grade 3 Swim Program "Swim to Survive" | 29       |
| Character Ed. Assembly—a.m.— Hero Day  | 28       |



## Plans For The Future ...

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As part of our School Growth Plan, staff and students will use the tools of quality learning to create an environment that emphasizes continuous improvement, goal setting, an aptitude for problem solving, enthusiasm for learning and a sense of responsibility and healthy self-esteem.

Regularly, the staff attend workshops to share data and ideas and to develop new strategies that will improve student learning. This year, our focus will be our continual commitment to our school goals in numeracy, literacy and social skills.

## PA Day ...

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Friday October 7th, is a system-wide Professional Activity Day for all teachers. There will be no school for students on this day.

## Terry Fox Run/Walk ...

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WOW, what an amazing day!

A big thanks goes out to everyone who helped our students during this day.

Congratulations to all students, staff and parents for their generosity.



A single dream. A world of hope.  
The Terry Fox Foundation  
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## From the Front Office ...

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We receive a number of messages in the school office concerning lunch arrangements, play dates, reminders to students about picking up siblings, how children are getting home, etc. We ask that you try and organize your day in the morning before your children leave for school, where possible. The office can get very busy and sometimes messages do not get delivered before dismissal time. We appreciate your help and will endeavour to be prompt in delivering any urgent messages. As well, our phone system now allows calls for staff to be left in their personal voice mail boxes. To access staff extensions, press 1 when prompted for connection to their mailbox extension.

## Lost and Found ...

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All lost and found items can be collected in a box on the stage. Please identify all your child's clothing (update from past siblings) and personal items with labels or permanent laundry markers and remind them to check the lost and found on a regular basis if they are missing any articles. and found items not claimed will be donated several times a year to a local charity.



**Soccer ...****... Mrs. Pohorly**

The Grizzly soccer team practised hard since the first week in school in preparation for our tournament. Although we all missed Coach Meesters, players focussed on developing their individual soccer skills as well as their abilities to work together as a team. This still was evident in the games we played on October 3rd.

**Volleyball ...****... Ms Meesters**

Volleyball season is fast approaching, and try-outs will soon be taking place. Any junior student (and enthusiastic gr. 3's) are welcome to attend try-outs. Please see Mrs. Pohorly (Girls' Coach) or Ms. Meesters (Boys' coach) to sign up. Try-out dates and times will be announced shortly. Stay Tuned!

**Green Team****... Mr. Neufeld**

In October we will have the return of "The Green Team". Starting the week of October 17th, we will meet once a week. The scheduled meeting day will be announced soon. Mrs. S. Vaughn will be returning to help Mr. Neufeld make Glen Ridge a greener place. Watch for the sign-up list outside Mr. Neufeld's room.

Also—"Jersey Day" - Thursday, October 6th. Wear your favourite sports jersey!

**From the Library ...**

Thank you to Mrs. Loucks, Mrs. G. Voelkner and our newest volunteer addition Mrs. Finnie. Your efforts are truly appreciated by the students and staff at Glen Ridge.

**Crawford Lake****... Mrs. Pohorly**

Students in grades 3-4 will be heading to Crawford Lake on September 28th to take part in several hands-on learning experiences. Crawford Lake Conservation Area includes many natural and cultural resources that are rarely found in a single location. Within the park there is a meromictic lake, a 15th century Iroquoian village as well as some of the most spectacular, scenic sections of the Niagara Escarpment. Each class will participate in a guided education programme designed to suit the specific curricular needs of each group as well as to connect several classroom studies within a "real" context.

**EQAO ...**

This past year, Glen Ridge really rose to the challenge.

Achieving marks in all areas equal to or higher than the provincial mandate. Congratulations to all the students, staff and parents for a great job!

Preliminary Detailed School Results

Glen Ridge PS (217956)



# Preliminary Detailed School Results



Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics  
Primary Division (Grades 1–3) and Junior Division (Grades 4–6), 2010–2011

School: Glen Ridge PS (217956)

Board: DSB of Niagara (66150)

On behalf of EQAO, I am pleased to provide you with this report on the results of the 2010–2011 Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics for the primary and junior divisions. Enclosed you will find student results for both the 2010–2011 school year and previous years, so that you can gauge progress over time. You will also find demographic and attitudinal information about the student population assessed, which will support deeper analysis and provide an important context for these results.

Since the creation of this agency, EQAO data have been a catalyst for improving student learning and achievement at all levels of the education system. From Ontario's classrooms and staff rooms to its school boards and Ministry, educators and education professionals from across the province have become increasingly sophisticated at using EQAO data as an integral part of their continuous improvement efforts.

Within schools, EQAO data are used regularly to guide school improvement initiatives by helping to identify areas of strength and areas needing improvement and by helping to support changes in instructional practices that may be required. The provincial test results can also help schools engage in meaningful discussions about student achievement with their parent community. We all know that parents can and do exert a powerful influence on their children's work habits, behaviour, attitudes toward school and, ultimately, learning and achievement. EQAO is pleased to help strengthen the partnership between home and school by offering a series of resources for parents and educators, available on the agency's Web site, to help school communities engage in the kind of meaningful, data-based dialogue that supports student success.

Of course, EQAO data are only one of the sources of information that should be used to assess student achievement. Provincial testing results should always be considered alongside other school and school board-based information.

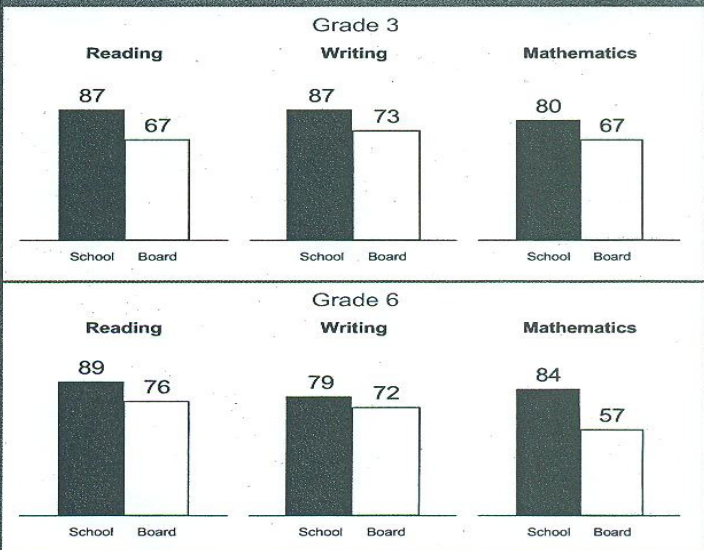
At EQAO, we are proud to deliver powerful information that supports Ontario's parents, educators and administrators in their efforts to improve student achievement. I trust that this report will provide you with a valuable set of tools to further support the drive toward excellence in your school community. I am confident that the information in the report will contribute to our shared commitment and purposeful actions toward helping each student reach his or her highest potential.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Jackson  
Chief Executive Officer  
Education Quality and Accountability Office

| WHERE TO FIND . . .  | PAGE    |         |
|--|---------|---------|
|  | Grade 3 | Grade 6 |
| Percentages of all students at or above the provincial standard: |         |         |
| • 2010–2011 .....  | 1       | 1       |
| • Over time .....  | 2       | 3       |
| Tips for using this report .....                                 | 4       | 4       |
| Contextual information: 2010–2011 .....                          | 5, 6    | 13, 14  |
| Results for groups of students: 2010–2011                        |         |         |
| • All students .....   | 7       | 15      |
| • Participating students .....                                   | 8       | 16      |
| • Students by gender .....                                       | 9       | 17      |
| • English language learners .....                                | 10      | 18      |
| • Students with special education needs .....                    | 11      | 19      |
| • Students enrolled in French Immersion .....                    | 12      | N/A     |
| Contextual information: Over time .....                          | 20      | 24      |
| Results for all students: Over time .....                        | 21–23   | 25–27   |
| Results for all students: Over time by gender .....              | 28      | 29      |
| Student questionnaire results .....                              | 30–36   | 37–43   |
| Explanation of terms .....                                       | 44      | 44      |

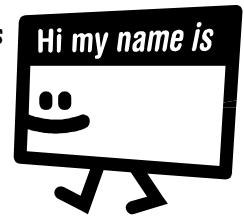
**PERCENTAGE OF ALL STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE THE PROVINCIAL STANDARD (LEVELS 3 AND 4), 2010–2011**



## School Visitors ...

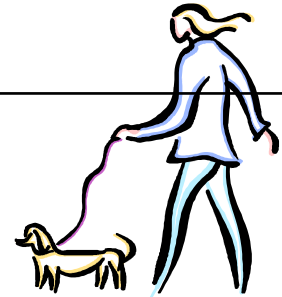
If you need to drop off something for your child or if you would like to meet with your child's teacher, please see Ms. Izzo in the office to leave items or to establish an appointment time with the teacher.

Unannounced classroom visits are always disturbing. We appreciate your support in this matter; always striving to ensure a safe and positive learning environment for your children.



## Dogs on School Property ...

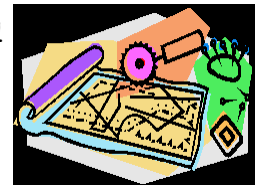
The District School Board of Niagara has always allowed community members to use school property after school hours, however, community members have been neglecting to "pick up" after their pets. Please enjoy the green space around Glen Ridge School, but be responsible and clean up after your pet.



## Primary Craft Club

... Mrs. Boccinfuso

The primary craft club has started up once again. The club is open to students in grades 1 to 3 and will run on Mondays from 3:30 to 4:00 in Mrs. Boccinfuso's room. The club started on October 3rd and run until November 28th. We look forward to seeing some interesting creations!



## Niagara Falls Artists and Scientists in Schools Workshops... Mrs. Pohorly

Throughout the school year, Glen Ridge will be welcoming local artists and scientists to work with students in half day workshops. Each class will receive 3 half day art sessions as well as 2 half day hands-on science sessions. Dates will vary from class to class, although all Grizzlies can look forward to our first art workshops on October 13th.

## School Advisory Council

... Mrs. Neilson, Chair

As parents here at Glen Ridge, we are encouraged to participate in any way we can to make our school a better place. School council offers many opportunities throughout the year to assist on a variety of events we organize to raise money for our school / children. This year will be no different; we will enhance the experience our children receive at Glen Ridge. I welcome parents to please approach council members with ideas, concerns or willingness to be a part of the school council.

Let me take this time to introduce you to the 2011/2012 School Advisory Council:

|                |                    |                 |               |                 |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Carrie Neilson | Laurielle Allan    | Cheryl Cook     | Michelle Daly | Julia Eckert    |
| Tony Rupnik    | Paul Sebastianelli | Stacy Robillard | Robin Izzo    | Breanne Pohorly |
| Lisa Raham     | Tara Beauchamp     | Linda Bowden    | Katie Freure  | Penny Easey     |

We all act as "reps" and are here to work together with parents to share and bring forth input/ concerns to Council. Please feel free to speak to any of us (about anything)! We all have the same goal - Our Children!!

Mark you calendars for November 11<sup>th</sup> - Glen Ridge once again will be hosting the Silent Auction, this year it will be at the St Catharines Golf & Country Club. We are looking for donations for the auction tables as well as tickets being sold for 10.00 per ticket. Tickets will be available soon, feel free to contact Ms. Izzo in the office or any of the council members!!! A night filled with food, munchies & fun!!!! Let's bring back the "neighbourhood to Glen Ridge" - it surely will be a night to remember!

Next council meeting has been set for October 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 in the school library. The meeting is open to all parents of Glen Ridge & all are welcome to participate!!!

## Book Fair

... Mrs. Anderson

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school!

We invite you to share in this celebration of books and reading with us.

Students will visit the Book Fair during class time and can purchase books during that visit. Join us for a special Family Event where you'll find books for every person in your family. Don't forget to enter our Family Event Draw. You could win \$50 in books—\$25 for your family and \$25 for your child's classroom!

Look for the Classroom Wish List display for parents interested in helping build classroom libraries. By purchasing requested books and donating them to your child's teacher, you give students even great access to books.

We hope you will join us at the Book Fair!

P.S. Did you know that for every \$10 you spend at the Book Fair, up to \$6 goes back to our school? This allows us to purchase needed books and educational resources.

Book Fair Dates: Tuesday October 25—Thursday October 27th, 2011

Times: 8:00—4:00 p.m.

Location: Glen Ridge School Library

Family Event Date / Times: draw will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Friday October 28th, 2011.

## Sniffles ...

### Sniffles

We all know it is coming, for some it is here,  
No, it's no holiday season or reason to cheer.  
Can you guess what it is? Do you have any clue?  
Let me give you a hint - it ends in ACHOOO!

Yes! Cold season is here, it has finally arrived,  
In those warm little bodies, our flu germs just thrive.  
Did you just hear a sniffle? Who sneezed that big sneeze?  
Oh no! Bobby don't! Please Bobby...don't use your sleeve!

So that's where it starts, and that's how it is spread,  
Aah...the pesky little cold that sends so many to bed.  
Indeed we all dread it, even wonder what it is we can do...  
The answer is simple...please send a box of tissue or two.

The Glen Ridge staff reminds you that cold and flue season is quickly approaching, and that we could really use some help in keeping our family (and yours) happy and healthy this year. To this end, we ask that every student bring in a box of kleenex. These will be stockpiled in your child's classroom and be used as the need arises. To help prevent the spread of germs even further, bottles of hand sanitizer (health and safety approved) have been purchased and placed in every classroom. We thank you in advance for your support and co-operation.



## Behaviour Problems in Children and Adolescents

"Nobody's perfect and all children have bouts of bad behaviour. They may have temper tantrums, or talk back to their parents or teachers. When things start to get out of hand, however, it may be a clue that something in the child's or teen's life needs attention".

Children misbehave for a wide variety of reasons. Life events such as divorce, death, financial stress, or bullying can put a tremendous amount of stress on a child. Children need reassurance and extra care to help them through these stressful times.

Misbehaviour can also be a sign of other things such as childhood depression, A.D.H.D., or Conduct Disorders. In cases like these, medical attention is necessary.

Good communication with your child's school is also important. Teachers can pay extra attention to a child if they know the child is experiencing an especially difficult time. Do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher.

If problems persist for long and are starting to interfere with your child's relationships or grades, don't hesitate to go for help. Each school has a Youth Counsellor and they can provide support for your child at school.

## YMCA Child Care ...

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The YMCA is pleased to be able to provide quality licensed child care for your children within Glen Ridge Public School. We offer child care for children 4–12 years of age, Monday–Friday from 7:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m. For registration information, please contact Crystal at 905-684-4770.

## Head Lice ...

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Head lice continues to be a problem, especially in school-aged children. Anyone can get head lice. It has nothing to do with whether you have clean or dirty hair, or the cleanliness of your home. Head lice mainly spread by head to head contact. Head lice can spread at school and during after school activities. This can be a frustrating year-long problem, unless we have everyone's co-operation to eliminate them properly.

### **Whose job is it anyway?**

Head lice control works best when everyone co-operates. Parents, schools, students and Public Health Nurses all have a part to play in controlling this on going problem.

### **Role of Parents**

- become educated regarding head lice; aware of symptoms which indicate head lice problem, able to identify head lice and eggs
- examine child's head regularly for head lice, e.g. once a week as part of regular hygiene routine
- notify school if child has head lice
- check all family members
- carry out treatment immediately, accurately and completely for all family members with head lice
- clean home, e.g. wash clothing, bedding and vacuum
- accompany child to school for readmission; notify principal that proper and full treatment has taken place
- take child home again and continue treatment if head lice/nits found on re-check
- consider participation as a volunteer parent at school for head lice prevention and control

If you are interested in assisting with this, please contact Mr. B. Harley at 905-685-9586.

## 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

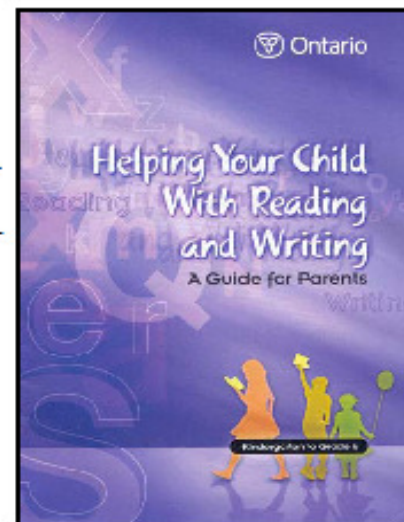
**Tip #3 Make reading enjoyable by:**

- 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)



This article is available in Word Perfect format in *First Class* through: *Educational Services - Curriculum Services Literacy K-8 - Home School Partnerships*, so that it may be included in your school's newsletter.

## Public Health Department Info ...

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### Halloween Safety

Some pointers to keep the trick or treaters safe.

- Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.
- Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic. Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. It is important they walk on the sidewalk, or walk facing the traffic if there is no sidewalk.
- Bright coloured costumes make your child easier to see. You can use reflective tape on a costume to make your child more visible. Face paint instead of a mask helps them to see well. Have your child carry a flashlight.
- When they get home, check all of their treats carefully. Throw out any treats that aren't wrapped, if the wrapping is torn or loose, or if the wrapper has a hole. Remember that small treats can cause your child to choke.
- You might want to offer an alternative to sugar based treats. Stickers or multicoloured pencils can be a nice surprise in place of, or in addition to, traditional treats.

