



GLAD NEWS

GLAD PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

300 GLAD PARK AVE., STOUFFVILLE, ON., (905) 642-0224



DECEMBER, 2011

THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK...

Primary Winter Concert

We will be having our Primary Winter Concerts (Grades 1-3 and Intermediate Band) on Tuesday, December 20th. The afternoon performance for students and parents will be at 1:15, with the evening performance starting at 6:30 p.m. In order to comply with fire code regulations in our gymnasium, each family will be given two tickets for the evening concert. These tickets will be distributed on Friday, December 9th - look out for them and remember to bring them to the concert!

Quarters for Kids!

We will once again be supporting the Sick Kids' Hospital during the holiday season. Most of you will remember that last year as a community, we raised an impressive \$4000 by "filling the jar." With the money, we purchased items to fill our Bravery Bins. The Bravery Bins contain toys for all ages with special attention paid to the unique needs of children who are patients of Sick Kids' Hospital.

Our goal once again this year is to raise enough quarters to "fill the jar". Let's continue to make a difference in the lives of so many children this holiday season. We will be filling the jar from December 5th to the 9th.

Weather Watch at Glad Park

With the colder weather upon us, we would like to share our protocol for outdoor recess on extremely cold days. All students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 are expected to go out for recess unless the weather conditions are deemed to be

severe. We always monitor the weather, and in extreme conditions (e.g., wind chill) we will keep the students inside or shorten the recess breaks. *Please make sure that your child is dressed properly for our winter days. Boots, hats, mittens/gloves, jackets, snow pants, and scarves will help make recess an enjoyable time* (please be sure to label all clothing).

Lost & Found Items

On December 8th & 9th, all lost and found items from the fall will be on display in the hallway (1st floor) - please take your items! All items that are not claimed will be sent to a local charity.

Prompt Arrival

We are asking parents to please help alleviate our traffic flow along Glad Park Ave. and through our Kiss n' Ride by arriving between 7:55 and 8:10 am. This will also cut down on the number of late arrivals and interruptions to class programming.

Arts Program @ Baythorn P.S.

Students currently in grades four and five who are interested in learning through the Arts (Drama, Dance, Music, Visual Arts) are invited to audition for the Integrated Arts Program at Baythorn Public School located in Thornhill. The Arts Information Evening is on **Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Gym at Baythorn Public School. Applications will be available on our school website at : www.baythorn.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca (beginning on January 13th 2012).

Information regarding the audition process will be shared at the information evening. **Auditions will be held in February 2012.** Please call us at Baythorn Public School if you have any questions. 905-889-7992

T. McElrea, Principal

G. Sadaka, Vice-Principal

**S. Boyuk & J. Rose,
Office Administration**

**K. Witherow, Superintendent
(905) 895-5155**

**L. Carruthers, Trustee
(905) 953-0562**

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What Do I Do If My Bus is Late?

Now that the winter months are coming there are times when the bus is late due to weather or mechanical problems. If the school bus has not shown up 15 minutes after the scheduled time please ensure that your children know where to go i.e. home, neighbor for assistance. If you go on www.schoolbuscity.com under "Late Report" any late buses will be listed. As we all know this is not always possible so every child should have an emergency plan in place so that they are safe until they can arrive at school. All students should be at their assigned bus stop 5 – 10 minutes before the scheduled pick up time. Thank you for helping us our students/children safe.



SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

TIME FOR FAMILY



Winter break is almost upon us. There is a chill in the air, but a warmth is in the hearts of many.

This is the time family and friends get together, to celebrate, to laugh, to reflect on another year....on the joy, the pain, the victories, the love. All the things that keep us close, and all the things that keep up dependant on each other through the seasons of life. As you take time to be with your family of over this break. Count all the blessings you have. The news is filled with tragedy, bad predictions about economies and violence, natural disasters, and all the evils of this word. But we need to remember that each day is a gift, and should not be taken for granted. You never know what tomorrow will bring. We need to remember that there is always, always something to be thankful for, and a hope for what is to come.



I wish you and your family a peaceful, love filled and blessed winter break. May 2012 bring you nothing but great things!

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OUR WRITING CONTEST HAS BEGUN

The Literacy Committee of Glad Park School Council is preparing for another year of celebrating our students writing with the Annual Writing Contest. The dates are:

SUBMISSIONS : Each student is required to put their submissions in the "Writing Contest Box" that will be available in each classroom during the month that the contest is running for that grade. Submissions need to be in the box on or before the due date

Grades	Due Date	Monthly Assembly
7 & 8	Thursday, December 15 th	Friday, December 23 rd
5 & 6	Thursday, January 19 th	Friday, January 27 th
3 & 4	Thursday, February 16 th	Friday, February 24 th
1 & 2	Thursday, April 19 th	Friday, April 27 th
JK & SK	Thursday, May 17 th	Friday, May 25 th

LENGTH OF SUBMISSION

Grades K-2- max. 50 words
Grades 3-5- max. 150 words
Grades 6-8- max. 250 words

SUBMISSIONS MUST INCLUDE

Student's name; Teacher's name; Grade; Phone number so that we may contact the parent(s) of the winner

ENGLISH OR FRENCH

Students are welcome to write their submissions in either French or English

JUDGING

French and English submissions will be judged separately.
There will be prizes for both the French and the English submissions in each grade.
Students will be judged on a 4 point Scoring Rubric in the following Categories:

Kindergarten -Grade 2

Ideas- the meaning and the development of the message
Organization- the internal structure of the piece
Voice- the way the writer brings the topic to life

Grades 3-8

Ideas- the meaning and the development of the message
Organization- the internal structure of the piece
Voice- the way the writer brings the topic to life
Word Choice- the specific vocabulary the writer uses to convey the meaning
Conventions- the mechanical correctness of the piece
Presentation- the overall appearance of the piece



PRIZES

A variety of prizes, which may include a certificate of achievement, books, pencils, journals, Glad Park Wear and more will be presented to the winner of each grade at the monthly assembly.



SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



IDEAS FOR TEACHER GIFTS

Many families like to give teacher gifts around the holiday season. Many teachers would appreciate items for their classroom and students that the classroom allotted budget does not cover.

Teachers have expressed the need for items like:
power cords, CD players, DVD players, world maps, individual white boards and magazine subscriptions

Get involved in making our school a Healthy School!



Healthy Schools are places where children are supported by their school community to make healthy lifestyle choices. The entire school community – students, school staff, parents and community partners – work together.

The Healthy Schools approach gives students many opportunities to see and learn healthy attitudes and behaviours. Healthy choices are promoted not only in the class but in the whole school community to encourage values, skills and actions that can increase the healthy development of students.

As parents, you know your children's needs better than anyone. Ask an administrator or School Council member how you can get involved in making our school a Healthy School, to enhance student learning and well-being!

York Region Community and Health Services, Elementary School Services has resources and a tool kit available to help.
For more information visit www.york.ca/healthyschools.



For health-related information call York Region *Health Connection* at 1-800-361-5653, TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit www.york.ca/healthyschools

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HEALTH
&
SAFETY
NEWS

A memorable evening – Jim Thomas



Thanks to the leadership of staff teachers **Lisa Taylor, Melissa King and Janet Mann**, 80 Glad Park students enjoyed a memorable evening on November 18.

The primary choir and the musical theatre group participated in the 19th annual Student Music Scholarship Concert at Stouffville District Secondary School.

The choir comprised 40 students from grades 2 and 3. The theatre club included 40 students from grades 4, 5 and 6. The two groups combined to sing and perform two songs from the musical 'Annie'. The presentations were enthusiastically applauded by a standing room-only audience.

Altogether, seven Whitchurch-Stouffville schools were represented. Receipts from donations and admissions exceeded \$4,000, bringing the total raised over the past 19 years to more than \$80,000. All proceeds are divided among participating schools to aid their music programs.

An event highlight was the presentation of a \$200 scholarship to Colton Carrick, a Glad Park graduate now in grade 12 at Stouffville Secondary.

The concert was hosted by Stouffville's St. James Presbyterian Church



ECO CLUB UPDATE

You may have noticed a bird feeder has been placed in the front garden of the school.

The Eco Club has joined the **Backyard Feeder Count**.

The Eco Club will count and identify the birds they see eating at the feeder and report back to Bird Studies Canada.

If you would like to donate birdseed please do. (Leave us on message on the School Council line)

Ban the Baggie and **Stash Your Trash** campaigns are starting soon.

Whenever possible please try to use a reusable container for your child's snack and lunch.

Our schoolyard is littered with Baggies and snack wrappers and we would like to try and reduce our negative impact on the environment.

Please talk to your child about making sure they throw their snack wrappers in the garbage and not on the ground.

The Eco Club will also launch their **Stash Your Trash** initiative and we hope to see a lot less garbage on our school grounds.



CUPCAKES



CUPCAKE DAY:

Wed., December 21st

Cupcakes are 50 cents each

Arts Performance Package

You may have realized that you did not have to pay for the annual "Art Package" this year?

Usually when you got your child's agenda, you also get the notice about the Arts Package for the year.

BUT, this year thanks to your support of fundraising programs and initiatives at the school, we, as a council, were able to fund that package!

October 21st @ 1:30 pm; (Gr. 3-5) Jim Dalling's **Loki's Big Dream**

November 3rd @ 10:30 am; (K-2) Canadian Opera Company's **Hansel and Gretel**

April 13th @ 1:30 pm; (Gr. 6-8) **Ballet Creole**

April 19th @ 1:30 pm; (Gr. 6-8) **Ache Brasil**

April 26th @ 1:30 pm; (Gr. 3-5) **Ballet Jorgen Canada**

May 4th @ 1:30 pm; (Gr. 6-8) **The Blues Berries**;

Our next School Council meeting is on Monday, December 5th, 2011

The Council will vote on the teacher wishlist at the December meeting.

There is no School Council meeting in January

We will have our first meeting of 2012 on Monday, February 6th, 2012

School Council meetings take place at 7pm in the Glad Park School Library

All are welcome to attend.



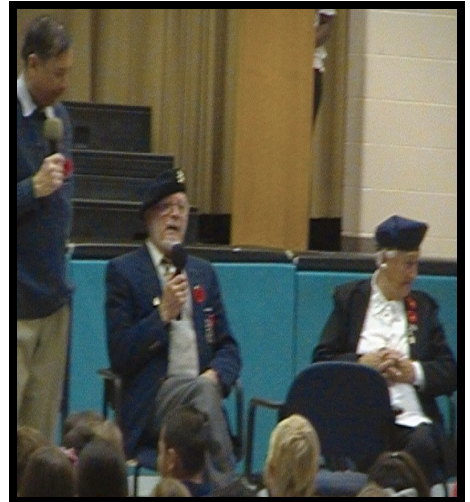
QSP UPDATE

If you ordered magazines during the QSP fundraising campaign, remember that your subscriptions should start arriving anywhere from 12 - 16 weeks from Thanksgiving order deadline date.

If you have any questions about your orders please call QSP Customer Service at 1.800.667.2536

Enjoy your Winter Break

Remembrance Day at GPPS, November 11, 2011



Our Grade One's at Sibbald's Point and the Orthodontist's Office

In November, we had a field trip to Sibbald Point. We learned about water pollution. We had a game. The teachers put up signs. If we found one, we stamped our paper. Soon two persons needed to catch the students. I was one of them. When I got somebody, they gave me a stamp and I stamped their paper. *Frank C.*



We went on a field trip to Sibbald Point. It was so much fun. We played lots of games. We played the game where you had to hide in the forest and somebody was the bird. You had to hide from the bird. It was really fun. *Madison G*



On November 14th, our class went on a visit to an Orthodontist's Office in Stouffville. We learned about sugar bugs and how they lead to cavities. We liked going in the x-ray machine. Wanda showed us how you make different colours on braces. We loved the way the colours changed when we made our thumb prints. They gave us Apple Juice and Loot Bags. Some of us even read the magazines too! *Mrs. Griffin's Gr. 1/2 class.*

CYBER BULLYING AND INTERNET SAFETY

As young people embrace the Internet and other mobile communication technologies, bullying has manifested itself in a new and potentially more dangerous way - through cyber bullying. Cyber bullying can generally be defined as sending or posting harmful or malicious messages or images through e-mail, instant messages, cell phones and/or websites. It is emerging as one of the more challenging issues facing educators, since it has a direct impact on students, but often occurs away from school property.

Victims of cyber bullying should be encouraged to:

- Not reply to messages from cyber bullies
 - Tell an adult they know and trust, as ignoring it often leads to escalation
 - Use call or dial *69 to identify the phone number and have it tracked through a cell phone/pager service provider
 - Instruct their e-mail program to block messages from anonymous accounts from which threatening or bullying messages are received and inform their internet Service Provider (ISP)
 - Keep copies of all messages from cyber bullies as evidence for the police, the ISP and/or telephone company and
- If necessary, get a new phone number, account or e-mail address and give it out to only one person at a time.



Suggestions for Parents:

- Make sure your children understand how vast and public the Internet is. Remind them that anything they post or send in a message is virtually available to be seen or read by anyone in the world.
- Talk to your children about cyber bullying. Make sure they understand what it is. Let them know that cyber bullying is no less serious and unacceptable than other forms of bullying.
- Set up the family computer in an open, common area so that you can monitor what your child is sending and receiving.
- Inform your ISP or cell phone service provider of any abuse. Although it can take a lot of time and effort to get providers to respond and deal with your complaints about cyber bullying, it is necessary in order to try to stop it from re-occurring.

Purchase software that can help track activity. There are parental controls that filter both instant messaging (IM) and chat rooms.

Student Busing Eligibility

Did you know that students' busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your son/daughter's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680:

- All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation.

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.

Helping your child succeed in school is as easy as 1, 2, 3, 4 . . .

In August 2011, People for Education released a report, [Doing what matters most: How parents can help their children succeed in school](#). We reviewed 30 years of research about what has the greatest impact on student achievement, and the evidence is clear: Parents make a difference!

And it's what you do at home that counts most:

1. Have high expectations for your children. Let them know that you think it is important that they do well in school.
2. Talk about school. Talk with your children every day about their school activities and programs.
3. Help your children develop a positive attitude and good work habits. You can help your children succeed by helping shape your children's attitude, their sense of personal competence and work habits, including persistence, seeking help and planning.
4. Read together (in any language). Reading is one of the foundations of all education, and you can make a big difference by reading and talking about books and stories with your children.



Among the things that don't make a difference? Nagging about homework, making kids "sound out the words" when you're reading to them or doing that grade 6 project.

French Immersion Information Sessions

- Parents considering registering their children for the French Immersion program are encouraged to attend the information session being held at *Glad Park P.S.* on *Wednesday, January 18, 2012, at 6:30 pm.*
- Online registration will take place from February 1st, 2012 until February 15th, 2012. Registrations will be accepted online only, if you require assistance or do not have access to the internet, please contact your child's current school. Staff members at any York Region District School Board site can assist you with the online registration process.
- Please note that where demand exceeds capacity, students for the designated attendance area school will be selected using a computerized random ranking process. French Immersion may take place in a single track (French only) or dual track school environment. Students may begin the French Immersion program in one location/track, but may be required to continue in a different location/track as the program evolves.
- Parents looking for more information can visit the Board's website at www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Back to the Future?

Here are some of the students from Mr. Vakharia's grade 8 French class who have just finished a unit called "Expo 1900". They studied the lives of some famous characters in the history of France such as Napoleon, Louis Braille, and others. For their final project they posed and dressed up like their favourite character and gave a presentation entitled, "Je Me Présente". They are trying on "for size" what it would be like to be one of the characters as a possibility for their future careers!



Muskoka Woods 2011



Celebrating Student Success, November
Tree of Respect

Student	Teacher
Cameron Grosse	Mrs. Saunders
Brenna Barton	Ms Ratti
Aidan Henderson	Mrs. Nepriily
George Wang	Mme Gidaris
Abby Champion	Mme Flear
Alexandra Grammenopoulos	Mrs. Driedger
Clayton Danyshyn	Mrs. Robinson
Sophie Gelinas	Mme Dupuis
Harry Harding	Mme Umnikova
Clare Chen	Ms Chapkin
Sarah Fedash	Mrs. Turner
Jack Lynch	Mme Berlatie
Jami-lyn McMahon	Mrs. Gujol
Cole McIlmoyle	Mrs. Dare
Trevor Wilson	Mme Tchadouwa
Zainideen Juman	Mrs. Gillingham
Alex Laas	Mrs. Goad
James Cairns	Mme Elkhoury
Spencer Brown	Mrs. McGrath
Amelia Passifume	Mrs. Griffin
Ethan Moreton	Ms Cottes
Michael Fang	Mme L. Robert
Shelby Oldh	Ms Duberry
Emma Hardman	Mlle Martial
Ziyanna Safraj	Mlle Setacci
Erika Spagnuolo	Mlle Derry
Tiana Campbell	Mme Nunkoo
Evan Williams	Ms Mann
Jack Fang	Mrs. Taylor
Brianna Barrette	Mr. Attwell
Odin McGee	Ms Morrow
Jack Macleod	Mr. Hamilton
Porscha Whitten	Mr. Singh
Joel Somers	Mme. Thurgood

The traits that support respect and represent our criteria for this recognition include: Courage, Empathy, and Responsibility.

Celebrating Student Success, November
Academic Achievement

Student	Teacher
Abiesha Guruparan	Mrs. Saunders
Alana Ivens	Ms Ratti
Alex Geense	Mr. Sinclair
Conor Jackson	Mrs. Nepriily
Olivia Chan	Mme Gidaris
Sinead Lune	Mme Flear
Sofia Caicedo	Mrs. Driedger
Chance Pryce	Mrs. Robinson
Stephie Liu	Mme Dupuis
Liam Sutton	Mme Umnikova
Sloan Tompkins	Ms Chapkin
Jack Alejandria	Mrs. Turner
Isabella Salvagna	Mme Berlatie
Robbie Harder	Mrs. Gujol
Jesse Scott	Mrs. Dare
Hiroko Yasui	Mme Tchadouwa
Brandon Fowler	Mrs. Gillingham
Sam Roy	Mrs. Goad
Jordan Leyland	Mme Elkhoury
Anastasia Daskalopoulos	Mrs. McGrath
Velavan W	Mrs. Griffin
Caitlyn McIlmoyle	Ms Cottes
Anthony Colello	Mme L. Robert
Mateo Fernandez-Stoll	Ms Duberry
Sierra Morin	Mlle Martial
Miriam Boukin	Mlle Setacci
Jordan Hrynewich	Mme Derry
Isaac Barclay	Mme Nunkoo
Nabiha Shah	Ms Mann
Kendall Jones	Mrs. Taylor
Megan James	Mr. Vakharia
Nathan Wong	Mr. Attwell
Sweta Pahirathan	Ms Morrow
Cheyene Scott	Mr. Hamilton
Devin Gros	Mr. Singh
Catherine Power	Mme. Thurgood

The following areas are considered when recognizing students for the Academic Achievement Certificates: subject performance, learning skills development, and effort.



DECEMBER 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Day 4 Area Sr. Boys Volleyball 	2 Day 5 Area Sr. Girls Volleyball Pizza Day	3 
4	5 Day 1 Quarters for Kids Area Jr. Boys Volleyball Duberry - Scientists in the School 3:00 pm: Staff Mtg. 7:00 pm: School Council Mtg.	6 Day 2 Quarters for Kids 	7 Day 3 Quarters for Kids Special Education Information Session for Parents (10:00 am - Library)	8 Day 4 Quarters for Kids Area Jr. Girls Volleyball 10:50 am: SDSS Arts Performance for Gr. 8's	9 Day 5 Quarters for Kids 10:50 am: SDSS Arts Performance for Gr. 7's Sub Day	10 
11	12 Day 1	13 Day 32	14 Day 3	15 Day 4 	16 Day 5 Pizza Day	17
18	19 Day 1 	20 Day 2 1:15 pm & 6:30 pm: Gr. 1-3 Holiday Concert	21 Day 3 Cupcake Day 	22 Day 4 Sinclair & Gillingham's Christmas Trip to the Roxy	23 Day 5 Success Assembly Elkhoury / B-Nunkoo to Sibbald's Point January Newsletter goes home. Sub Day Last day before Holiday Break!	24 
25	26 Winter Holidays	27	28 	29	30	31 