We look forward to spring and the remainder of term two. Parents are asked to continue to monitor the weather and ensure that their children do come to school dressed appropriately for the weather and in accordance with our acceptable dress code policy as outlined in the student agenda. In addition, we ask that ALL students have indoor and outdoor footwear at school. During the spring, our fields can be quite muddy. A change of shoes will help keep our classrooms free of excess dirt and will provide for a healthier learning environment.

Our staff and students continue to be involved in a variety of teaching/learning activities that are aimed at improving student achievement. One example is the teaching of specific reading strategies to improve comprehension and critical thinking skills. As partners in your child’s education there are a number of things you can do to support your child’s success. For example, you can discuss your child’s goals for improvement, communicate with your child’s teacher and supervise and check homework. Thank you for your continued support as we work together, as a team, to improve the learning of all of our children.

Wednesday, April 8, 2015 is the “Day of Pink”. This is the International Day against bullying, discrimination, homophobia and transphobia in schools and communities. Students at Glenn Gould PS will be involved in age appropriate activities to recognize this important day and are encouraged to wear pink.

An important upcoming event is the EQAO Provincial Testing for grades 3 and 6 students in the area of Mathematics, Reading and Writing. The Ministry provides a window to administer the tests between May 25th and June 4th. Our school’s testing dates will take place over these two weeks. All testing will be conducted during the regular school day. Parents are asked to ensure that they do not schedule appointments during that time and to ensure that their children get adequate sleep and nutrition so that they can be as rested and prepared as possible in order to perform to the best of their ability.

There are many classroom and school initiatives taking place here at Glenn Gould to help our students grow and develop their skills. To address our students’ needs, we are focusing on open response questions, making connections, making inferences and multiple choice skills. In math, we are focusing on measurement, application, thinking skills and inquiry based learning. During meetings, teaching staff plan the activities and strategies to be used for instruction. We are very proud of the efforts of all, in working together to benefit our students.
Dear Parents/Guardians:

We look forward to spring and the melting of snow and ice from a long cold winter. The milder weather will help with the driving and parking experiences that we have been having this winter at our school.

Glenn Gould P.S. continues to be predominantly a “walking school” with most of our students within walking distance. There are a few bussing areas within our school area. We have grown tremendously since 2010 and our projected enrolment will be approximately 600 students for September of 2015.

To address the driving, dropping off and parking situation, there are a variety of alternatives to driving into the school parking lot which is too small to accommodate the amount of vehicle traffic that is occurring.

Please note, our parking lot is for **staff parking only** as we have a large number of staff which will also increase next year. We ask that you **do not park** in the staff parking area, nor enter into this area to stop behind vehicles, even for five minutes. If you need to park and come into the school, please **park on the street**.

Options available for drop off and pick up at any time that are safe and appropriate are:

- For students in grades 4-8, drop off near the crossing guard area or the north-east corner of Vellore Park Avenue area (north of the bus loop). These students can then walk on the sidewalk to their designated entry and exit doors of the school. Also, you may consider dropping off at the mailboxes across the field and the students can walk across the field to their entry/exit points.

- For kindergarten children, drop off or pick up by parking on Vellore Park Avenue on the side by the kindergarten tarmac area. Parents can walk their children to the sidewalks that leads to the tarmac.

- For students in grades 1-3, drop off and pick up at either of the above areas, as cars are **permitted to park on the streets** surrounding Glenn Gould P.S.

- For students eligible for bussing, we ask that parents send their children on the bus to reduce the amount of vehicle traffic.

- For lunch time, we ask that lunches be sent in the morning with your child(ren), so that you don’t have to drop off lunch at 12:45 p.m. Some children continue to go home for lunch and either walk or are picked up. Students who are picked up for lunch, please follow one of the above parking options.

Please note that the front of the school drop off is only for students who require to exit and enter the school immediately. **There is not enough room** for the number of cars entering into this area. Also, cars are not permitted to be in three lanes in this loop. It is a safety hazard to all of our community members, including our children.

As the warmer weather begins, we encourage our age appropriate students to walk and ride their bikes to and from school as this helps with promoting healthy kids.

**Please make sure you abide by the street laws and regulations, respect our neighbours’ property and driveway and watch out for students and parents crossing the streets.**

Thank you for your on-going support and understanding of this very important matter which affects all of us. If you wish to speak with us, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

D. Williams  
Principal

T. Yeates  
Vice-Principal
LIBRARY CORNER

Springtime Library News!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing March Break. We are looking forward to springtime in the library with an upcoming author visit and a Book Fair.

On Monday, April 13th we will be hosting author Michael Wade who is the author of the “And Then it Happened...” series of books. Mr. Wade will be visiting with students in grades 3-6 on that afternoon.

We are also excited to announce that the Spring Book Fair will arrive towards the end of this month! The Book Fair will take place from Monday, April 27th to Friday, May 1st. As in the Fall, students will have an opportunity to preview the books, create “Wish Lists” and purchase books at set times throughout the week. There will be a “Family Event” on the evening of Thursday, April 30th to coincide with the Junior/Intermediate concert. Families will have the opportunity to visit the book fair before the concert begins. The fair will be opened from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm for book purchases. The sales from the Book Fair will go towards providing new books for the library and for classrooms.

We hope you will be able to come and thank you for your continued support in helping us add to our collection!

Mrs. L. Cucullo, Librarian

A letter from the TERRY FOX FOUNDATION

More than 4,000 schools in Ontario hosted a Terry Fox Run in 2014, raising close to $7 million. Thank you so much to the staff and students of Glenn Gould Public School for raising $1,043.00 for cancer research. As an educator, you have instilled in your students the importance of helping others and working together for the greater good. Your school community changes lives for the better every day.

Making Sense of Math

At Glenn Gould P.S., we are focusing on math. What does critical thinking in Math look like? Some examples are:

- Problem-solving
- Open-ended problems
- Justifying solutions
- Authentic/real-life examples
- Different approaches to solving the same problem
- Three-part lesson

Volunteer Appreciation Tea

May 7th, 2015
10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

WHEN: Thursday, May 21, 2015
TIME: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
For new JKS only
The following students were recognized at our March Character Assembly:

**Junior Recipients**
Adrian O., Jeevan S., Mikayla I., Mathu T.,
Rishana S., Hadeya B.,
Senthini S., Shobhit D., Furkan G., Onyekachi I.,
Vlad C., Shobigaa J., Labeeb N., Alex V., Manya M.,
Christina R., Alice A., Malyka C., Ayesha K., Emily D.,
Livia L., Giselle Y.

**Intermediate Recipients**
Pallavi S., Sameer S., Mili P., Vivian T., Katherine T.,

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**EARTH HOUR**
Earth hour was on Saturday, March 28 from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. We hope parents and students participated at home by turning off the lights for one hour and enjoying family time together. Glenn Gould P.S. participated earth hour on March 27 from 12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. During this time, electricity was at 39 kilowatts in comparison to 71 kilowatts on a regular day.

A few Grade 7 students designed and painted a fantastic mural for Earth hour. We are very proud of their hard work. Their message "Global Warming is a Global Warning" was very effective. The mural was displayed at City Hall during Earth Hour celebrations Saturday, March 28th. The mural was entered in a contest and Glenn Gould won 1st place for the Eco club.

**EARTH DAY**
We celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd. During the week April 20 to 24th, Glenn Gould P.S will participate in a variety of Eco Initiatives (Operation Clean Up, Walk to School Challenge, Eco friendly crafts, and planting a Milk weed plant, to name a few). Glenn Gould is an Eco school with a Gold certification. Please continue to recycle, walk to school and turn off unused lights at home. Thank you for your Eco support!!

The kindergarten students had a great time building a snowman in their yard. Hopefully, this will be the last snowman for this year.

**Do you Want to Build a Snowman?**

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**World Autism Awareness Day**
Show your support for Autism by wearing blue on April 2, World Autism Awareness Day. This day brings the world's attention to Autism, a pervasive disorder that affects many people. Autism is a lifelong developmental disorder that affects the way people interact and communicate with those around them. Everyone with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is unique and has their own strengths, gifts and support needs. This day is celebrated all around the world, and iconic landmarks across the world "Light It Up Blue" to show their support. Let’s show our support by wearing blue on April 2nd.
Spring is a busy time for the GGPS Music Department. There are several events and performances that families and friends are welcome to attend.

**Monday, April 13**
Senior Concert Band performs as part of the MUSIC ALIVE festival
Hosted by Glenn Gould Public School 12:00p.m.-2:00p.m.

**Thursday, April 30**
Brass Ensemble and Flute Trio perform as part of the MUSIC ALIVE festival @ Cosmo Music 9:30p.m.-2:00p.m.
Spring Concert @ GGPS (Junior/Intermediate Divisions) 6:30p.m.-8:00p.m.

**Wednesday, May 6**
Junior Band performs as part of the MUSIC ALIVE festival @ Newmarket Theatre
9:30p.m.-11:30p.m.

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**Why Teach Music?**

**Music is a science**
It is exact, specific; it demands exact acoustics. A conductor’s full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.

**Music is mathematical**
It is rhythmically based on the subdivision of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

**Music is a foreign language**
Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French; and the notation is certainly not English – but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language. Also, many songs we study are from other cultures.

**Music is physical education**
It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lip, cheek, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragmatic, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

**Most of all, music is art.**
It allows a human being to take all these dry, technically boring (but difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion.

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**Countdown to June**

We have reached that time of the year when our Grade 8 students have completed option forms for secondary school and are working towards their last term in elementary school.

Expectations are our grade 8 students work to their utmost potential to achieve academic success for the final term’s report card. As well, students should be displaying mature, responsible behaviour to act as a model for students in lower grades.

Activities have been planned to better prepare them for this transitional phase to high school.
I want to take this opportunity to thank all the parent volunteers and the staff that took the time to help make our Xtreme Activity Days a huge success. This truly was a group effort. The importance of providing these experiences for our students is invaluable. As a result, some students had the opportunity to experience an activity for the first time and were able to experience it with their their peers. Staying active, building their self-confidence and memories are some of the benefits of this day. For most of our students it was the thrill of experiencing the professional venues with professional coaches and instructors, and for others it was the opportunity to meet new friends in the school which was important. With sore muscles, and a full day’s worth of exhaustion the overall consensus of the day was that it was ‘Xtremely’ fun!

Students were asked to fill out a survey reflecting on their experiences. When asked what new skills were learned the list was endless. For one student their list included, balance, strength and bravery. Below are some of the comments collected from students:

**Sky Zone Indoor Trampoline Park (Trampolining)**
‘Then I saw it! There was this place/activity where there was a trampoline and you would jump on it and jump in to blocks. That was my childhood dream and it came true thanks to Xtreme Activity Day.’

**Trio Sportsplex (Soccer)**
‘My day was very fun. I got to discover lots of skills that I didn’t know I had. Also, I got to work with people that were new to me.’

‘I think that soccer was a dream come true! The grass, coaches, the size, everything was perfect.’

**Maple Community Centre (Skating, Bowling, Basketball)**
‘At the beginning of the day I felt bored because I didn’t know how to skate, but by the end of skating I felt like I never wanted to leave the ice because I loved skating.’

**Northern Karate, Rutherford (Karate)**
‘The day was awesome. I always wanted to learn about karate and to show others that I can do it. My heart was beating fast and this was the longest time I have exercised for a long time.’

‘Karate was a fun experience. I enjoyed it. I’ve never done karate before so I wanted to try it so badly. I’m probably gonna join the karate school cause it looks fun. I never thought it would be fun.’

‘I felt pretty good because I could do the kicks and the punches. I felt strong and more confident then before.’

**PDA Performing Dance Arts (Dance)**
‘I felt very good and excited but also a little scared. I was scared because I thought I wouldn’t do the moves right. During the day, I was no longer scared because I realized that it didn’t matter how good you were and you could just have fun.’

There are three months left in the school year, and we have more initiatives planned to round out the term. In the next month, we will be providing an opportunity to purchase spirit wear. Help support our school fundraiser and your school pride by purchasing one of the many quality items. There will be sample sizes in the office. Stay tuned to our next newsletter for more exciting initiatives that will be announced.

**PIZZA LUNCH FRIDAYS**
Our second session of pizza lunch is currently underway. If you haven’t already sent in an order form for pizza, it’s never too late. Extra forms are available in the office. We also offer the option to purchase pizza and snacks on Fridays to our grades 1-8 students which can be purchased in the kitchenette between the times of 12:45 and 1:05pm.

**Prices are as follows:**
Pizza Slice $2.50 Juice $0.50 Snack Bag $1.25 Cookie $1.00

*Please bring exact change*

**Important dates for April:**
April 10, 17, 24 Pizza Lunch

**Next Council Meeting:**
Monday, May 25th at 6:30 p.m.
Why Study International Languages at High School?
Language is our connection with our community and the world. Through language we identify the world around us, express our concerns and hopes, and share our experiences and ideas.

So what are you waiting for Grade 8’s?! Now is the time to take advantage of this opportunity and register for a Level 1 YRDSB International Language CREDIT course of your choice! We offer CREDIT courses in 13 languages at 4 high schools.

Learning another language…
- can enhance intellectual functioning
- strengthens first language skills and facilitates learning additional languages
- creates pride in one’s own cultural background and better understanding of other cultures
- enhances career options (source: http://www.ilea.ca 03/11/15)

Register online via Career Cruising commencing May 4th, 2015. Students who have pre-registered will not need to register again in September. Attend the first class according to the above schedule and bring your signed Career Cruising Sign-off Sheet.

Course schedules will be posted in the foyer of the International Languages school on the first day of class.
**We're on the web!**
http://www.glenngould.ps.yrdsb.ca/

**Teacher Websites**

Ms. Monsier
http://teacherweb.com/ON/GlennGouldPublicSchool/Monsier/

Ms. Rowe
http://sites.google.com/a/gapps.yrdsb.ca/ms-rowe-s-class/

Mr. Vilardo
Edmodo.com

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**Glenn Gould**

“There is no greater community of spirit than that between the artist and the listener at home, communing with the music”

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**About Glenn Gould**

Glenn Gould was known as a writer, composer, conductor, and broadcaster. He was a prolific contributor to musical journals, in which he discussed musical theory and outlined his musical philosophy.

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**Student Bussing Eligibility**

Did you know that students’ bussing 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

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**YRDSB Student Surveys**

In order to provide information for Board and School planning, York Region District School Board students in Grades 5 to 12 will be invited to participate in a school survey. The survey, which is anonymous and confidential, will be conducted from **April 7 to May 15, 2015** and will take place at school. The information from this survey will be used to identify areas to be addressed, monitor progress and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being.

Aligned with Board priorities, the survey will address topics including equity and inclusion, school safety, learning environment, student well-being and other priorities. If you have questions, please contact the school office.

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**SUPERVISION BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL**

Staff members begin duty in the morning at 8:50 a.m. Students should not arrive at school before that time as there is no supervision for students. The bell rings at the end of the school day at 3:25 p.m. Students must be picked up at this time as there is no supervision available after school. **Students are not to be left on their own** on the back tarmac area. In the event that parents/guardians are not able to pick up at 3:25 p.m., we ask that you make alternate arrangements for pick up with a neighbour or friend and contact the school office to advise.
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