



FRIDAY NEWSLETTER
April 11, 2008

Special Activities – Friday afternoon

It was wonderful to see the excited faces as students returned from their very first Special Activity afternoon last week. Chefs were cooking up a storm in the faculty staffroom, (and if you were lucky enough to be passing, you were offered a sample of the goods), and this week crepes are on the menu, so there are sure to be a few visitors up in the staffroom. The students returning from Critteraid had lots of fun too, and came back with binders full of interesting material and plans for the coming weeks. Golfers, track athletes and tennis enthusiasts were wearing equally broad smiles, and the rock climbers are all anxious to try out new moves this week. All in all, a great time was had, and the children are finding their sundry choices to be very worthwhile ventures. Can you believe that there are only eight short weeks of school remaining? Stretching ahead of us afterwards is a leisurely and glorious summer to enjoy in our beautiful Okanagan Valley. Now is a good time to be sorting binders and putting those notes into a cohesive, chronologically-based unit to facilitate review and study, so do encourage your child to bring home binders on a weekend, so that a little time can be spent in this activity. Many students will also find it a worthwhile endeavour to attend our weekly study hall - there is sure to be one night that accommodates your child - if for no other reason than to have homework completed, allowing for an evening of freedom and relaxation afterwards. If your child is struggling with a concept, this is an excellent opportunity for some one-on-one help from a willing teacher, so we do encourage you to take advantage of it. In the meantime, enjoy this glorious weather, and some longer, lighter days.....Summer is just around the corner.

Your Son/daughter's Masterpieces For Sale

To all parents and friends of Glenfir: at the upcoming party on Saturday, April 12, in addition to all the other wonderful things available for sale, there will be greeting cards and bookmarks available that are original student artworks in acrylic or water colours. Greeting cards average about \$2.00 each, or six for \$10.00, with larger ones, suitable for framing, at \$5.00 each. Bookmarks are \$0.25 or \$0.50 each (paper or cloth). Additionally, the upper school has prepared Mandalas for sale. These are original artworks by all Glenfir students in Grades Seven through Ten. Three will be donated to the silent auction; the rest will be offered at \$15.00 each. These are very lovely and a treasure for years to come. Do support these student works of art!

The senior English classroom would be very grateful for the contribution of latex paint leftovers, just small amounts of primary colours and paint sticks. We would also like to request some unusual materials for the English classroom. We need a *boat!* It can be a derelict, anywhere from four to eight feet long. Wood is good but metal is also fine. Its purpose: to become a model for the Grade Eight boys' project on the Hemingway classic, *The Old Man and the Sea*. Thanks!

Other useful materials for a reading project: cloth remnants, dressmaker pins, beads, buttons and Styrofoam balls (all sizes). Thank you!

Provincial Rowing Coach

On Monday, April 14th students on the rowing team and/or interested in rowing will be participating in a rowing workshop put on by the Provincial Rowing Coach, Chuck McDiarmid from 1:00pm to 2:00pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

Heart & Stroke Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart

The grand total that was given to the Heart & Stroke Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart project is \$1,429.00. Well done, Glenfir!

Thank You

Many thanks to the Belmonte family for their contribution of a DVD of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* to the Glenfir Library.

A huge thank you to Ms. Vunak, Ms. Avery, Mrs. Ogbes, Ms. Webb, Mrs. Ducharme and Mrs. Corkin for taking the K-G3 students bowling on Friday. The students were very well behaved and had an awesome time!

An extra special thank you to Ms. Vunak who supplied bottle water for everyone! We appreciate her generosity!

Science World On The Road

On Wednesday we had an exciting presentation by the travelling Science World Duo. The performance was very interesting and your child should be able to describe some body functions and the sounds they make. The best part of the presentation appeared to be the "snot machine" and the "vomit" demonstrations! Ask your child to describe them to you! If they want to recreate any of these experiments at home, you may want to listen carefully as the results could be messy!

Assemblies

For term three, we will be having an assembly every week, usually on Monday – Tuesdays if Monday is a holiday. Assemblies start promptly at 8:30am. They are informative and fun. We offer a warm welcome to all parents who wish to attend the assemblies but we do, however, please ask that you sit in the library or stand in the hallways. Standing in the foyer at the top of the stairs in conversation is very distracting both to our students and the faculty. Thank you for your cooperation.

Star of the Week

Lara M. is our new Glenfir G1 "Star of the Week". This is Lara's first year at Glenfir. She is new to the Okanagan having lived in Vancouver, Edmonton, and Ontario.

Lara's favourite subject at school is *EVERYTHING!* At home, she enjoys beading. Lara would like to be a grade 1 teacher when she grows up. She wants to help kids learn how to read and do math.

Lara demonstrated many of her wonderful talents this week. She performed the song "Part of your World" from the Disney classic *The Little Mermaid*. Lara has a beautiful voice. She also taught the class a really cool beading project and played the piano. Lara demonstrated how to bake one of her favourite foods.

Lara is a welcome addition to the Glenfir School. She is a hard working, dedicated, and kind individual. Thank you Lara for being our super Star of the Week. We are so very proud of you and all of your accomplishments this year!

Earth Day Volunteers

We are looking for some parent volunteers that would be available during the day on Tuesday, April 22nd for Earth Day. We have a list of jobs (gardening, raking, weeding, sweeping, etc.) that need to be done around the school grounds getting Glenfir ready for the spring and the next open house. We are also looking for any tools or supplies (shovels, wheelbarrows, gloves, etc.) that you may be able to bring. Please contact Mrs. Lisa Scott or Mrs. Ogbes if you are able to help out.

Kids on the Black

On May 9th, students from K to G6 will enjoy a presentation at the school entitled “Kids on the Black” which deals with bullying in schools. The performance will start at 11:15 p.m. and finish at 12:15 p.m.

Extra Curricular Activity

Due to demand, gym space and fast approaching summer weather, Mr. Korvin has decided it is important to offer a second physical activity oriented extra-curricular activity on Thursday afternoons. A primarily “Outdoor Games” activity will take place, focusing on games such as ultimate Frisbee, six sticks, capture the flag, touch football, soccer, etc. If your son or daughter (G5 to G12) is interested in joining Mr. Korvin on Thursday afternoons, please inform or see Mrs. Bonten immediately for sign up.

Adopt-a-Highway

Our Adopt-a-Highway designated day this year was noted as April 26th in our calendar. Due to an unforeseen circumstance, we have had to postpone this date. It will be announced at a later date.

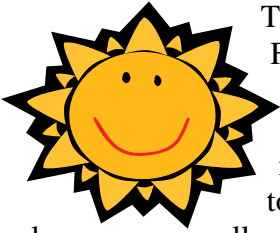
Regional Science Fair

Three Glenfir students went off to the Regional Science Fair and three came home with awards. Hearty congratulations to the following students:

Heather H.	Silver for G7/G8 category
Kelvin P.	Silver for G9/G10 category and The Transportation Award
Taylor C.	The Gartrell Agricultural Award

Well done everyone!

Glenfir Summer Camps Update



The Glenfir Summer Camps 2008 brochure was sent out electronically on March 14th. Each Friday, an update will be given, so that parents are kept informed as to how many students are registered, and how many more we need to feasibly run the programmes (typically five or six students needed for each programme). While parents do have until June 6th to register their child (ren) for summer classes, I strongly encourage anyone that is interested to get their registration forms in. This not only reserves a space for you child (ren), but it also allows for instructors to be confirmed, supplies to be purchased, and for course plans to be in place. Knowing our registration numbers in advance will undoubtedly contribute to each child's experience in the Glenfir Summer Camps programme.

As of Thursday, the registrations that have been received are as follows:

JK Summer Fun Camp (Pre-Summer)	3 students registered
TGS Junior Enrichment Camp (Pre-Summer)	2 students registered
Junior Camper's Programme	2 students registered
Fencing	1 student registered
Kindercamp	3 students registered
Karate	1 student registered
Digital Photography/Fine Arts	1 student registered
All-Star Sports Camp	1 student registered
Tennis/Jr. Camper's Programme (Combo)	1 student registered
Tennis/All-Star Sports (Combo)	1 student registered

If you require another copy of the brochure, you can either pick one up at the main office, or download one off of the Glenfir website www.glenfir.com/summercamps. Nikki Johnson would also be happy to answer any questions you might have about any of the programmes offered nikkijohnson@glenfir.com.

We look forward to an exciting and fun-filled summer programme at Glenfir!

Message from the Upper School – by Mr. Rick Johnson

Perseverance was the topic of Mr. Gass' assembly on Monday. I felt it was fitting coming off a weekend in Vancouver with the Grade Eights. Work can feel like a lot at times. To give something everything you've got mentally and physically can be draining, but it is also rewarding when you believe in the cause. The Vancouver trip was fantastic, but I returned tired, feeling insufficiently planned for the week ahead, and missing my family. I looked at my list of things to do and thought – how am I going to make it to Friday? Then I heard Mr. Gass's speech and thought, it'll get done.

We've got a lot going on at the school right now with Rock Our World, special projects such as Critteraid and golfing, the Duke of Edinburgh trip, the history adventure trip, the Gala on Saturday, and the upcoming Open House, and the Glenfir Summer Camps to name just a few. It's easy to assume that you might be the only one working away, but it doesn't take long at Glenfir to be overwhelmed with an appreciation of the others working just as hard around you. Mr. Korvin and the remodelling of the fitness room and the climbing wall, Ms. Grahame and the rowing, Mrs. Nelson and the yearbook (which is truly fantastic – and thanks to Mrs. Van Horlick for helping there), Mrs. Baird with the success that many of our students are discovering in math, Mrs. Webb and her choir, Mrs. Cardin and the mandalas, Mr. Gass and his assemblies, Mr. Bakx and the success his students had at the Regional Science Fair, plus parents like Mrs. Davies and her team who have the Spring Party and the baskets coming together... This is not an exhaustive list, but rather the first names that came into my head in a short span. There are so many people working together towards improving this school. I spend a lot of time at Glenfir, but still find myself discovering evidence of new improvements as well as new examples of student achievement on a daily basis. It is truly rewarding to work in this environment. I urge everyone to come to the Open House on May 3rd to take in some of the results of the hard work of the many talented members of the Glenfir community. At the same time, I'd like to thank everyone I have mentioned, as well as those who I have not for their dedication and perseverance.

I wanted to share a sample of student work that fits the theme of my week. Derrill A., grade 8, wrote this in English class as a spontaneous writing assignment. He had just 35 minutes to complete it. As I read it I felt a sense of passion and determination to not only work hard, but to see this school achieve its goals for the benefit of students like Derrill who have so much potential. I also felt, as I read, that at times I feel like the dog. I don't think that is necessarily a bad thing at times.

Reprinted with Derrill's permission:

Perseverance

By Derrill A.

(A spontaneous in-class writing finished in 35 minutes flat)

In order to be in the living world and stay in it, you need to have perseverance. Whether you are human or animal, lucky or unlucky you need to have perseverance.

My parents have perseverance because they both went through hard times. My mom had a plane accident. She was learning how to fly a plane when there was something wrong with the fuel. They ended up crashing on a road upside down, almost hitting a house. The plane lit on fire, and the instructor cut his seat belt but not my mom's. This resulted that my mom was left in the plane, burning to death, until luckily, someone driving past saw the plane and saved her. My mom went to the hospital and got many skin grafts to cover the burns. For a year, my mom had to wear a space-suit looking thing and stay in bed. How did she live through this? She had perseverance. She would never let herself die.

My dad's story is very similar to my mom's. He was being a fire-fighter in Alaska when he drove into a moose. Back then there were no seatbelts so he smashed his face on the steering wheel. He had shattered his face. He lost all his teeth, and punctured a lung. He was just like mom, in a sense, because he never let himself die.

Those two cases were a bit extreme but here's another case. My dog loves to swim and we have our own beach. He would look like a speck of black on the crest of a shiny blue wave until he disappeared in the trough. Where we live, there are many birds and they would fly across the water at ninety miles an hour. Well, my dog tries to chase them at twenty miles an hour. Of course, we humans know that that is impossible to do but my dog thinks he can.

The same thing happens on land. There are marmots in the ground. My dog tries to chase them by digging, which of course we know is impossible, but dogs think anything is possible.

These were good examples of perseverance but I think that the best one is being written on this sheet of paper. That's right. It's writing this paper in English class. To learn English you have to have perseverance to stop you from giving up because of hitting a blank or running on an empty mind.

You need perseverance for everything, whether you are good or evil, strong or weak, you need perseverance to live and stay alive, and to be successful at everything you do.

Upcoming Dates to Remember in April:

April 12	The Best Party this Spring – Guild Fundraiser at the Penticton Lakeside Hotel
April 14	Full Assembly 8:30 a.m. Full Dress Uniform
	Junior Choir to Kiwanis Music Festival – 12:30 p.m.
April 16	G7-G12 CAPP – Duke of Ed trip prep
April 18	G5 to G10 Mr. Gass to Sun Peaks for Music Festival – 11:00 a.m. departure from school
	JK to SS Sicamous 9:10 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.
	K to G3 “Drumming the Land” ECO studies about the Earth: 1:00 p.m.
April 19	G4 – Mind Grind
	Glenfir Promotional Day at Cherry Lane Mall
April 21	Full Assembly 8:30 a.m. Full Dress Uniform
	Concert Band to Kiwanis Music Festival 8:45 a.m. Full Dress uniform for participants
April 22	Assembly 8:30 a.m. - Earth Day Celebrations. Full Dress. Hosted by Environmental Club.
April 23	G7-G12 CAPP – Duke of Ed trip prep
	K-G5 to Parkway musical “Music of the 50’s”
April 25	K to G3 sleepover with “Big Horn Sheep” ECO studies and art exploration
April 28	Full Assembly 8:30 a.m. Full Dress Uniform
April 29	G7 to G12 Duke of Ed trip
April 30	G7 to G12 Duke of Ed trip
	K-G3 Columbia School’s Musical at Cleland Theatre.
May 1	G7 to G12 Duke of Ed trip

Colour Legend:

- All Students
- JK
- Junior and Primary Schools (K-6)
- Senior School (7-12)
- Concert Band (5-12)
- Special Events

Please note: We have changed the look of the upcoming events calendar for your convenience. Please let us know if this change makes it easier to find the dates that apply to your child (ren). We welcome your suggestions for improvement, thank you.

APRIL	Monday 14	Tuesday 15	Wednesday 16	Thursday 17	Friday 18
8:15-11:05	Formal Dress for ALL students Full Assembly 8:30 a.m.	Dry Land (Rowing) 6:30 a.m. at school Ms. Grahame and Mrs. Corbin			
10:05-12:30	Jr. Choir to Kiwanis Festival Lv. 12:30 p.m.		G7 to G12 CAPP – Duke of Ed trip prep		9:10 -11:35 JK to SS Sicamous 11:00 departure - G5 to G10 to Sun Peaks Music Festival – returning Sunday afternoon
Lunch 12:45-1:15	JK – G3 Gym Ms. Tina and Ms. Lindsey	Intramurals Mr. Korvin/Rick S. *Single and double table tennis tournaments 12:50 p.m. Jewellery Making Mrs. Nelson & Mrs. Ogbes	Intramurals Mr. Korvin/Rick S. *Single and double table tennis tournaments 12:50 p.m. JK Buddies K-G3 from the Puppet Club G5 to G10 Band practice	Intramurals Mr. Korvin/Rick S. *Single and double table tennis tournaments 12:50 p.m. Jr. Choir Mrs. Webb French Tutorial G4 to G10 with Ms. Grahame	Intramurals Mr. Korvin/Rick S. *Single and double table tennis tournaments 12:50 p.m. Environmental Club Mrs. Ducharme Mr. Bakx
1:15-3:25			.		K to G3 ECO studies
Late Buses	LATE BUS	LATE BUS	LATE BUS	LATE BUS	NO LATE BUS
3:40–4:30	Study Hall Mrs. Ogbes Mr. Bakx G4 to G10 Band with Mr. Gass Ms. Tina and Ms. Lindsey Puppeteering K to G3	Study Hall Mrs. Ducharme Ms. Baird Floor Hockey G4 to G12 Mr. Korvin Mr. Johnson Outside Soccer JK – G4 Ms. Webb	Study Hall Mrs. O’Sullivan Mrs. Cardin G1 to G5 Sketching/painting Club with Ms. Webb	Study Hall Mrs. Orme Mr. Johnson Drama G4 and up Mrs. Cardin G5 to G12 Outdoor Games with Mr. Korvin	<u>Saturday, April 19</u> G4 Mind Grind TGS Promo Day at Cherry Lane Mall