



Glen Hills Primary School

Home of the Symphony Learning Trust

SLT Chief Executive Officer: Mr T Sutcliffe

Head Teacher: Mrs R Wesley

Deputy Head: Miss A Smith

Deputy Head: Mr B Storey



MARCH NEWSLETTER 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

SPORTS UPDATE

This month we have played in three football matches, continued our hockey club for Year 4/5 pupils, re-started our girls football club and introduced a target club for Year 3/4 pupils. Glen Hills won the Key Stage 2 Sportsability festival and also attended an inclusion festival where pupils got to try many new and inclusive sports like wheelchair basketball, quidditch and archery.



Well done to all pupils that were involved and congratulations to the Rice Bowl football team which progressed to the semi-finals of the competition. One more game until the finals!

EASTER CHOIR EXTRAVAGANZA

A huge thank you to the choir children who performed this week after school on Wednesday to showcase their wonderful singing. Their performance was brilliant and we could see they really enjoyed sharing their concert with all those that came to support after school. Thank you also to Mrs de Voil who has been working with the choir this term and rehearsing with them every Wednesday. It is a club that our children really look forward to!

HEAT DECARBONISATION PLAN

Energy use in schools is a key contributor of greenhouse gas emissions which effect changes in our climate. The UK has committed to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, compared with the previous target of at least 80% reduction from 1990 levels. Carbon Trust CTV019 – Schools document states that 'UK schools could reduce energy costs by around £44 million per year which would prevent 625,000 tonnes of CO2 from entering the atmosphere.' Understanding the impact energy usage in schools has on costs and greenhouse gas emissions could help facilitate reductions in energy usage. This will result in lower costs and less CO2 emissions produced by schools which would be a vital contribution to achieving the UK net zero emission target by 2050.

Our Academy Trust is aiming to reduce its carbon emissions, in particular its direct emissions, which arise predominantly as a result of heating. The starting point is to develop a heat decarbonisation plan, to demonstrate how the organisation will reduce its emissions. The plan will outline what would need to be completed to achieve net zero, which links with the Government ambition by 2050.

As you will be aware from previous newsletters, as part of the Government grant we were awarded last year, work has been taking place over the last few months to move the school's heating to a decarbonised heat source. We are now coming to the end of this project and our new heat sourced pump is up and running. We are pleased to say that Glen Hills is therefore well on its way to achieving the first step of this journey.

SCIENCE WEEK 2023

School has been busy recently with lots of fun Science Week activities. Thank you to Katie Griffiths and Darren Player, who are both parents that responded to our January Newsletter request, and



who came in to talk to the children about their scientific jobs. The children loved meeting you!

We have had the University of Leicester's STEM Outreach department in also working with Year 3 to 6 on various workshops – such as Biology in a Box and Life of the International Space Station!

Mrs Grant, a well known face at Glen Hills, came in to speak to the EYFS about her role as community allotment manager. It was lovely to see her again as Mrs Grant was a teacher at Glen Hills for a number of years.



Finally, the week ended with the Invasion of the Flingatrons! Various workshops happened across the day where the children helped time travellers save the day in the battle against the Flingatrons by reducing, reusing and recycling!

Overall, a very busy but memorable week of Science celebrations!

SCIENCE POSTER COMPETITION - 'CONNECTIONS'

We had some INCREDIBLE posters for the Symphony Learning Trust poster competition that was set up for Science Week this year, all around the theme of Connections! The Science Ambassadors helped Miss Smith pick the winning entries for EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Lower and Upper Key Stage 2. They did a brilliant job and the winning class entries were fabulous!

Congratulations to Sienna (Blue class), Evelyn (1SK), Evan (3RP) and Charlie (6DB) who all won their categories and got put forward for the Trust Competition which was a VERY closely judged competition against children from 11 other schools.

Finally, a HUGE congratulations to Evan (3RP) from Glen Hills who was the overall winner across all 11 schools for his entry. His entry was in the final 4 posters chosen from a total of over 3000 children's work! His voucher prize will be finding its way to him soon!



We are very proud of ALL the children who took part and their hard work in producing such lovely posters.

YEAR 5 DRUMMING

On Thursday 30th March, parents and carers were invited to school to watch the Year 5 children showcase their work on the Djembe drums so far this year. The children were fantastic and we were really proud of their hard work and amazing drumming skills. They used Bravery, Listening and Cooperation and put on a super show! Thanks to Mr Bailey also for his continued work with our children and for all those that came to support their child.

HOME NEWS - SUPER STARS!

Congratulations to Ruby and Niamh on their first ever musical performance this month! Both girls joined Levitate in September last year and have been working hard on rehearsals ever since. They performed two OUTSTANDING Matilda the Musical JR shows with their theatre group at Countesthorpe College on Mother's Day. Well done to both girls for this fantastic achievement! We are very proud of them.



If you want to share any news from home, please email the school office.

DT WEEK

Today, marks the last day of the Spring term and the last day of our Design and Technology week! There has been an electric atmosphere in school, the children have been very excited to use a wide range of media including textiles, electronics and healthy food ingredients. We have lots of budding designers with a positive mindset, using their Perseverance and Resilience Character Muscles to create and continually modify their items to fit the set criteria for their designs. Ask your child about what they have made, we are sure they will have lots of fun telling you.

ARTIST AFTERNOON

Artist Katharine Wright is working with local school children to design a mural for the South Wigston train bridge. A group of our Year 5 and 6 children spent an afternoon with her recently, producing designs for the mural. We look forward to seeing their work re-produced on the bridge in the summer!

CHARITY DAY 2023

Glen Hills celebrated our fantastically talented pupils (and staff!) in the morning in the annual Talent Show. The Four Plus staff put on a real show with their YMCA routine that had everyone joining in!



Next, the Juniors (Year 3 upwards)



held their charity stalls. They had spent time during the week planning them – we saw super teamwork and effort from them all and were really proud of them. The EYFS and Infants children loved visiting them. Overall, a super day all round! Thanks to everyone at home also for supporting this memorable day.

YEAR 2 VISIT LEICESTER SYNAGOGUE

Yesterday, the Year 2 children were lucky enough to spend the morning at Leicester synagogue. The children (and staff) were so excited to visit as we had been learning all about Judaism in our RE lessons. We spent half of the morning on a wonderful tour of the synagogue and the children showed off all of their fabulous knowledge of Judaism. After the tour, the children really enjoyed spending time looking at all of the special artefacts that we had learnt about in our lessons. The children really showed off their Respect and Listening Character Muscles.

What a super way to end the Year 2 topic and thank you again to the parents who supported the trip and came along with our Year 2s.

EASTER ASSEMBLY

We were delighted to end this term with our annual Easter Assembly this morning. We enjoyed listening to the children singing songs about Holy Week and Easter. Some of the Juniors also read the Easter story to remind us about the reasons for this important Christian celebration. Reverend Jane kindly attended and explained the significance of Easter and how it is celebrated in Blaby Church.

COMMUNITY RECOVERY WORKER

James White is our local Community Recovery Worker. The County Council has appointed him to support individuals and families struggling with isolation, loneliness, lack of confidence, fear of going out, and health and well-being. James can provide advice and guidance to help keep individuals and families safe, happy, and well. Please take a look at the leaflet (sent with this Newsletter) which gives you more information about his role.

James works independently of our school and the information shared with him will be confidential. Please contact James, even if you are unsure as he can direct you to the appropriate services which are currently available.

BOOK DONATION MONEY

A BIG thank you to the Women’s Institute (WI) for a recent donation to the school. The WI in Glen Parva has recently closed down and they have generously donated £200 to the school to buy some new books for the children.

GLOBAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

Tuesday 28th March was Global Day, where we celebrated each other’s cultural identity and learnt about other countries around the world. The children learnt lots about each other and showed great interest. There was even a special in-house performance by Miss Kaur, who showcased her Bhangra dancing talents! Many thanks for those who supported such as getting outfits ready for the day. It was a very positive, enjoyable day all round.

READING UPDATE

It has been another successful month of reading at GH. Lots of children have been discovering and enjoying the books of David Walliams! Next month, will be the launch of our Reading Ambassadors newsletter for children which is really exciting. Happy Easter and keep reading everyone.

We hope you have a wonderful break and look forward to seeing the children again on Monday 17th April 2023.

Thanks for your continued support,

**Mrs Wesley
Head Teacher**

**Miss Smith
Deputy Head**

GOVERNOR NEWS

The governors meet monthly and offer an oversight in the big decisions and strategic running of the school. We also do subject specific school visits and have recently been privileged to observe the fantastic teaching of Art, Handwriting and Science within the school.

Currently, we have a vacancy for a finance governor. If you have or know of somebody who is professionally qualified within this field and would like to have a direct and significant impact on the management of Glen Hills, the governors would be very pleased to hear from them (via the school office).

R James and C Smith

