



Education today for tomorrow...

Glen Hills Primary School



Head Teacher: Mr T J Sutcliffe
Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs R L Wesley
Assistant Head Teachers: Mrs J de Voil and Miss A Smith

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Glen Hills Newsletter – September 2013

Welcome back to another year at Glen Hills and a special welcome to all our new children and staff!

SO WHAT'S NEW?

With retirements in July and the expansion of the school from September onwards, we welcome a number of new members of staff and some existing staff now have new roles. **Mrs de Voil** and **Miss Smith** take up their new roles as Assistant Headteachers from the start of this term, **Miss Pau** has joined our year 2 team, **Miss Walker** has joined our year 4 team, **Mr Storey** has joined us in year 5 and **Mr Robertson** and **Mrs Parker** have joined us in year 6. **Miss Crowther** and **Mr Ellis** have joined our year 2 and 3 teams respectively on graduate teaching placements and **Mrs Bill**, **Mrs Blackwell**, **Miss Kyle** and **Miss Bent** join our classroom support teams. **Mrs Howard** has joined our Midday Supervisor team and **Miss Chapman** joins us as a Sports Apprentice for the year. We have a truly fantastic staff ready to keep Glen Hills going from strength to strength and welcome to them all.

GOVERNOR POSITIONS

Due to some terms of office coming to an end, we have four vacancies for parent governor positions. As Glen Hills is an academy and therefore registered at Company House, certain restrictions do apply on parent governors regarding their profession (ie. – as we are a registered company, we can only have a certain

number of governors with a 'local authority' affiliation). I will be sending further details soon and if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

My thanks to two of our outgoing parent governors, **Dr Barnett** and **Miss Nesbitt**, who have both supported myself and the school superbly during their time as governors.

NEW BUILDING WORK!

Well, it's been a busy summer for us all! On the next side are photos of our brand new year 6 building, our brand new 4+ kitchen area and our new junior corridor reading area! We also had two of our infant toilet blocks refurbished as well!

SCHOOL DINNERS

To help us collect dinner money efficiently can you please put the correct amount of money into an envelope (or film canister) and mark it with the name of the child and the amount of money enclosed. **It also helps us if you can ensure that dinners are paid for at the start of the week (£2.05 per day)**

The amount for a normal week of dinners is now £10.25

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Did you know that registering for free school meals brings more benefits than a free lunch for your child? Each year the school receives a "pupil premium" in respect of every child registered for free school meals. This additional funding enables us to invest in additional resources and learning opportunities which may otherwise be denied to children.

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Registered No: 07941899



www.glen-hills.leics.sch.uk



@GlenHillsSchool



Children who are registered for free school meals **are not obliged** to take the school lunches; you can still send a packed lunch every day / some days if you wish, without affecting the pupil premium. We would therefore like to encourage all eligible families to register their children for free school meals. More details about eligibility for free school meals and details of how to apply are available from the school office or from County Hall (0116 305 6588 / 7093 or www.leics.gov.uk/free_school_lunches)

WELL DONE TO US!

In July, Glen Hills achieved the Sainsbury's School Games Silver Award which is testament to the unrivalled sporting opportunities we provide...and with year 6 now at Glen Hills, nothing will stop us!



THANK YOU!

Last year, you raised nearly £2,300 for various charity initiatives! The majority is going to our two main 2012/13 school charities, **OCD Action UK and Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity** – thanks to you all! This year, together with our support for Faraja, the orphanage in Tanzania, our school charity will be the **NSPCC** which is obviously close to everyone's hearts.

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 2014?

If you have a child or you know someone who is due / would like their child to start in the 4+ next September, please pass this information on. Application forms are sent out to parents.

All parents must apply even if it is for the catchment area school. The deadline for applications to be returned to the Allocations Section is early in 2014. Parents can return the paper application form to Admissions at County Hall or apply online at www.leics.gov.uk/admissions. Parents will not be able to make a telephone application this year. As with the last eight years, places will be at a premium so please act quickly if you need to.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

At the start of each year, I write to thank you for your excellent efforts in sending your

children to Glen Hills in our distinctive school uniform. Virtually all children wear the uniform and I feel this shows immense support for the school from parents and children. The children are proud to wear it and **I feel it underlines our high standards of respect and discipline.**

As a reminder, all uniform is available from Reception and we also have a 'nearly new' section in the atrium next to the 4+ building. Don't forget those 'extras' – book bags, school scarves etc! **Can all clothing please be named with a permanent pen please – it gives us (and you!) a sporting chance of identifying who owns a misplaced school jumper!**

WELL DONE TO CORK HOUSE!

... who won the 2012/13 House Trophy!

PARENTS EVENINGS...

The 4+ will have a separate letter organising their first parents' evening very soon... for all other year groups, this term's parents' evenings will be just before half term which gives more opportunity to discuss your child's progress. More details soon.

SAFETY

At the start of the year can I remind everyone about the importance of safety around the area when taking children to and from school and outside the school:

- Please remember to use the PSA suggested One-Way system if you have to come to school by car (for new parents, this would be driving down Featherby Drive with the school on your left).
- Please do not park in the school gateway.
- Please do not park on corners or blocking residents' driveways. There are now double-yellow lines in many areas surrounding the school and traffic wardens will be at school on a regular basis.
- Please do not block Bellamy Close, as this is needed for emergency access to Birch Court.
- Please do not walk or cycle down the school service road by the hall or through the car park.
- PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD NEAR TO YOU OUTSIDE SCHOOL OUTSIDE RECEPTION – WE SOMETIMES HAVE TAXIS COMING THROUGH THE SCHOOL GATES.
- As a healthier alternative why not walk or if you need your car why not try our **PARK AND STRIDE!** The Parish Council have very kindly agreed to let parents park in the **Memorial Hall Car Park** off Dorothy

Avenue when dropping children off. This means that you can park there and then stride across the park to school! This way, Featherby Drive does not become blocked and you keep fit by walking part of the way to school! (This also means that at the end of the day you can let the children play on the park before going home!)

Cycling: - We have a cycle rack that can take a considerable number of bikes around the back of the school. If you wish to be allocated one of the spaces then please call in and collect and return an application form from the office. A responsible adult *must* accompany your child into school with their bike, they *must* wear a helmet and the school can not take any responsibility for the security and safety of the bike.

ATTENDANCE AND HOLIDAY ABSENCE

Thanks to everybody's commitment, our attendance levels are continually rising! As an Academy, we have a private Attendance Company working for ourselves, Fairfield and South Wigston and they will be very proactive in chasing up parents of children who have less than **90%** attendance from now onwards. Headteachers are now not permitted to authorise *any* holiday attendance unless there are exceptional circumstances. We are unable to authorise holidays in term time if price is given as the reason. **All term dates on the back of this newsletter.**

BE PART OF GLEN HILLS!

Very soon, we will be sending out details of our next PSA (Parents and Staff Association) meeting. Basically, the PSA is there to raise money for the school and every penny raised helps your child. Money goes to cutting the costs of trips and visitors, resources for the playground, extra classroom resources etc. We always need new members to come along and it is a great way of being part of Glen Hills; there isn't a huge time commitment involved so don't worry! If you are interested, drop me a line via the office and I'll make sure you get the letters!

**T J Sutcliffe
Headteacher**

Year 6 classrooms 'floating in'!



Our new Junior corridor reading area



Our new 4+ kitchen



